

C A S E S

ARGUED and DETERMINED,

IN THE

High Court of Chancery,

IN THE TIME OF

Lord Chancellor HARDWICKE,

From the YEAR 1746-7, to 1755.

With TABLES, NOTES, and REFERENCES.

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BARRISTER at LAW.

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In the Second Volume.

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C A S E S

Argued and Determined in the TIME of

Lord Chancellor HARDWICKE.

Lord Towshend *versus* Windham, July 13, 1750. Case 1.

THIS bill was by the creditors of *Joseph Windham Esq* for an account and satisfaction out of his assets, and to have the several claims of the defendants discussed.

The first claim was by *John Windham*, executor and son-in-law of the testator as creditor by judgment in two instances: the first to secure to him payment of 5000*l.* the portion of his wife, the testator's daughter; the other was given by way of security for the balance of an account, stated with *John Windham* by the testator in 1746. about eleven days before his death.

The next claim was by *Catherine Windham*, the testator's daughter. He being intitled to a very large estate for life, remainder to his first and every other son in tail male, remainder to his nephew *William Windham* in tail, with limitations over, and having only daughters, no sons, nor a probability of any, in 1734. after the marriage of *William*, executed an indenture of demise in performance (as it set forth)

C A S E S Argued and Determined

forth) of certain promises and agreements made by testator before the marriage; and in consideration of natural love and affection to his nephew he let him have possession immediately of part of his estate, without paying any thing for it; but *William* thereby covenanted, that if by testator's death without issue-male it should happen, that *William* or any of the heirs of his body should come into possession of this estate, he would permit such person as the testator should by deed or will in his lifetime appoint for that purpose, to enter and receive the rents and profits of the estate for so long a time as *William* should enjoy it in the testator's life. In 1742. the testator by a deed directs all and singular the lands, tenements, manors, and hereditaments, and all his estate, title right, and interest, to *St. Comyns*, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns to take the rents and profits thereof from and immediately after death of testator, in trust nevertheless to and for the sole and separate use of *Catherine*, her heirs, executors, and administrators; and died in 1746.

The question was, whether this twelve years interest in *William's* estate was part of the assets of testator, or a good appointment to his daughter?

For plaintiffs: This is part of his personal assets; a general power is so considered in this court, if executed without valuable consideration (let it be to whatever persons or uses) because it is that over which he has an absolute property, and shall not therefore give away from his creditors after his death: if it is to limit only to particular persons or uses; that, when exercised, is not assets; because to a particular use. *Lascelles v. Lady Cornwallis*, 2 Ver. 465. Pre. Chan. 232. but more precisely laid down in several subsequent determinations, the strongest of which was *Shirly v. Lord Ferrers*; where, though appointed to a daughter, it was held assets; because it was a general power over 5000*l.* and no more valuable consideration as to this appointee, than there. In *Bainton v. Ward*, 20 April 1741. *Gec. Ward*, having power by deed or will to charge the premises with any sum not exceeding 2000*l.* by will taking notice thereof, devises to his mother 500*l.* to the plaintiffs 1000*l.* to his wife the other 500*l.* with the residue of his real estate, making her executrix, charging according to his power. Your Lordship held, that being a general power to raise the money as he pleased, it was part of his personal estate in respect of the general creditors, notwithstanding he had appointed to particular persons; who could only take specific legacies to have the other personal estate first applied; and that *Shirly v. Lord Ferrers* was in point. No power can be more general than the present, as to persons and uses; and he might have sold or mortgaged this property, though he could not actually enjoy it in his life: if no appointment, it would have gone to the general assignees at law of testator; the old ownership resulting.

For

For defendant *Catherine*: This being to arise on a contingency after testator's death, there are no words in the conveyance reserving the estate to him, nor of covenant to his executors, but merely to such as he shall appoint; which alone makes it different from the cases cited. If no appointment, it could not devolve on his representatives. Tenant for life with power to charge with 100 *l.* becoming bankrupt, Lord *King* held it was merely a power, not such an interest as would pass to the assignees. But supposing it might be called his estate by his power of appointment, it will not fall under those cases, because he determined his power in his life, and could make no subsequent appointment. It was the same, as if he had given so much money to his daughter, appointing the benefit of it to her immediately on the contingency. In all the cases there was a subsisting estate in the party; in this the whole is passed away. One, though indebted, may dispose of part of his personal estate to a child. If there is no authority in point, this is the severest case to make one: it was long before the court would determine the trust of term for years to be assets; though now, this court following the law, it is so. Here the daughter may be said to be a creditor; as it cannot be made assets in point of law, so that they must come here, the court will not act at all, nor take this away in so hard a case from a daughter otherwise unprovided for. It is to be considered as if an action was brought, and whether within the statute of *Elizabeth*, as made through fraud to retard recovery of debts; nothing of which is here; for if the original deed is not fraudulent, the derivative cannot be so. 2 *Bul.* 218. There is no suspicion from the situation of testator or his daughter, or the transaction itself; he not continuing to receive the profits, nor retaining possession, nor a power of revocation, nor made without intervention of a third person; nor could the creditors affect it, if no appointment was made at all. It is only a contingent interest, not forfeitable for treason: the ground of the claim is, that the court will decree execution of the power if the appointment was out of the case; but it falls not within the rules to decree such a power as this. There is a difference between a non-execution and a defective execution; nor are powers of equitable jurisdiction, unless as it is a better remedy. In *Lascelles v. Lady Cornwallis* the money was actually raised, and *in transitu* the court will lay hands on it, when it comes into executors hands, having all the quality of assets. If this appointment had been executed by will, it might be assets, having all the qualities of a will; but being by deed, has all qualities of a deed; it is irrevocable, no lapse, &c.

The next claim was by defendant Mr. *Pratt*, to a particular kind of security on certain arrears of rent and dividends, due at testator's death, under a deed executed by testator, 17 Dec. 1745.

Pratt

Pratt was a considerable creditor of testator, arising on a breach of trust upon not having accounted with him for the residuary estate of his uncle; which debt amounted to 6472 *l.* and by the said indenture the testator assigned to *Comyns*, his executors, &c. for 21 years, if the testator should so long live; from *Christmas* then next, on trust to receive the rents and profits of his estate, and dividends that should arise on his funds, and to pay thereout particular instalments of 1500 *l. per ann.* to *Pratt*, toward satisfaction of that debt, and afterward for the testator; but if the testator died before the whole sum was paid, by this particular provision, the trustee should stand entrusted to apply the rest and residue of the dividends, rents, and profits of the estate and funds, that were due at making the assignment, and that should accrue due after the time of making the conveyance, toward satisfaction of the residue of the debt. It was insisted, he was intitled to whatever arrears were due, as vested in his trustee for him; for that those, which were not received by testator, were no part of his personal assets: that this was a covenant on contingency; and being the case of a personalty, it was not like land, where a precise form is necessary to give a right; and there was a case before Sir *Joseph Jekyl* of a covenant to pay out of a chance, arrears which should arise at his death.

For plaintiffs the assignment was not disputed, so far as it took place as to the 1500 *l. per ann.* but as to the arrears due at and after the assignment over and above the 1500 *l.* it rested merely on the covenant: there was no assignment thereof; nor to take place against general creditors; not creating a specifick lien for the security. But if it should be considered as an assignment, it is of something so uncertain as to convey no right; leaving it in the debtor's power to receive this fund as he pleased. It is saying, if I do not spend these arrears you shall have them; but none can say, that at his death one shall be paid out of his assets before the other creditors; there must be an actual assignment for that, and the absolute property not to be kept in himself till then. None can covenant to alter the order of distribution. He had power to spend or assign it, and no limitation over after an absolute property can be good; nor will the court ever give such a priority in an instant as to cause inequality or a losing fund for assets.

Another claim was by the widow of some jewels as her *paraphernalia* given by her husband; and further, that a real estate being left to trustees (of which her husband was one) to her sole and separate use, he entered, and for several years received the rents and profits, and spent them without paying over any part to her separate use; and therefore she ought to retain the jewels.

For plaintiffs: she cannot retain *paraphernalia* against creditors, though the court will help her by marshalling assets, if there are other funds. She can at most be but a simple contract creditor; and it will be presumed, she consented to his receiving her separate estate, as in the case of pin-money.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The relief sought is the general and common relief; and so is the decree. The only questions are made on the particular points in the cause, either to extend or restrain the *quantum* of these assets liable to payment: whether they are intitled to retain by way of specifick lien or preference, or whether as general assets they are to be applied for all the creditors in common course of administration?

The first question is not in respect of a specifick lien, but a preference; and it is clear, that *John Windham* is intitled to that right and preference arising on articles previous to marriage (which is the best consideration, that can be) for that sum is secured by the first judgment. As to the other judgment, the account is only proved by the signature of the parties; but it appearing to be an account stated between father and son in law (who are called in another law conjunct and confident persons) on which some suspicion arises; and it not being verified, that there are any debts due; and there being some extraordinary *items*, the master must look into that account, and the judgment confessed must stand as a security, on what shall appear due on the balance; and for that he will have a preference, and it will follow of course, that he may retain as executor.

The next point, (at least as I shall take it, being clear in my opinion) regards the defendant *Pratt*. The testator was only tenant for life of his estate, and of particular funds assigned which were real estate, and of orphan and *South Sea* stock, only to receive for life out of them all; and could therefore make a security only on the rents and profits which should accrue during his life, and so on the dividends and funds. Something arises on the nature of the security made; being as to the real estate a conveyance of an estate *pour auter vie* to the trustee in trust; so also are the stocks assigned: but as to the lands, the estate passed in the lands. The parties had this in view; the creditor saw, he had no interest in this longer than the testator's life, who appears then to have been in a bad state of health, and died the *July* following, so that he had reason to say, it was a precarious security, if he was to depend absolutely on the 1500 *l.* payment during testator's life, and therefore agrees upon that further advantage. No case of this kind ever came before the court; but

Tenant for life assigns rents and dividends for 21 years in trust to pay a debt by instalments, and if he died before payment, the arrears due at and after, should be so applied; a specifick lien on the arrears for that debt, and they are not part of the general assets,

it arises in the case of a very fair and just creditor for valuable consideration; so that, unless there is a strong reason or authority against it, I will support it as far as I can, and here the plaintiffs, who are creditors, combat with a creditor. It is no more, as this was to arise at testator's death, than a covenant to give a particular preference to one creditor before another, out of part of the general assets of the debtor. The general reasoning is right, that no debtor can by will

Debtor cannot prefer one creditor out of the general assets, but may specifically lay hold of part for that, tho' a contingency.

or other act give another creditor a preference, different from what the rule of law or equity would, before the rest, out of his general assets; but the question is, whether that will lie in the present case?

First, as to there being no assignment, a distinction arises there between the arrears due before this conveyance made, and such as became due after making the assignment. As to the latter, the estate itself is assigned; therefore as to the rents and profits and dividends accruing, after the assignment made the interest in them, (though it can hardly be called the legal interest in the dividend of the stock) but as to the profits of the land, the legal interest was vested in trustees, and this covenant must be taken as a declaration of the trust of that, for benefit of *Pratt* the creditor. The question next arises on such of these arrears as were not formerly assigned, but rest merely on the covenant; that is, such as were due at the time of making the assignment: and it is to be considered whether this covenant does not amount to an assignment in equity, being for valuable consideration?

Chose in action assignable in equity for valuable consideration, and the covenant operates as an assignment.

and I am of opinion it does. In equity a *chose in action* may be assigned for valuable consideration, and that covenant being for valuable consideration, this court will consider, as if it had been done, and as an assignment of the thing itself. There are several instances where covenants of *choses in action* are considered as assignments; often in the case of lands, as was the great case of *Lord Coventry*.

A covenant therefore for valuable consideration will operate in this court as an assignment. Then as to the objection from uncertainty, leaving it in the power of the covenantor to receive or to dispose of it. In this court it is in the power of a man to prefer one fair and just creditor before another, and there may be just reason to do it from the nature of the debts and demands; and there can hardly happen a stronger case where it is incumbent on a man to provide for the payment of a debt, than this. None can prefer one creditor by covenant out of his general assets, but he may lay hold specifically of part of his assets, and that though it is to become part of his estate after his death, or *eo instante* part of his assets; as he may assign *bottomry* bonds, or policies of insurance, or any interest, without any objection from being a contingency, which may be assigned as well as any thing else. Suppose it was an *interesse termini* not to take place until after his death, he might assign it without its being said to interrupt the course of administration. I am of opinion upon this covenant he could only receive the money, but he could not assign it *de novo* by notes on the tenants, so as to defeat a prior assignee

or

or covenantee. But, consider to what this is applied, it arising from the nature of the thing, from the ordinary course of payment of the rents and profits, not upon the intent to leave it fraudulently in the debtor's power to receive or not; and for that a letter written by the testator to the trustee will be material, the meaning of which letter was, that there would be, whatever industry used, a great arrear in the hands of the tenants, and he would assign the benefit of that arrear, in case of death before the debt paid by the 1500 *l. per ann.* There was no unfairness in this; nor is there any rule of law or equity, that a man may not make an assignment to a real creditor for valuable consideration of such arrears, as shall be due at his death upon such a particular farm. What reason is there for a court of equity to set it aside, unless some apparent intention to leave it in the power of the testator to do otherwise with it. The assignment, therefore will take effect as to the 1500 *l. per ann.* and the arrears due at making the assignment, and afterward over and above, (although I fear they will fall greatly short of paying the debt) and they are not part of the general assets.

As to the *paraphernalia*, the rule of law is, that where the husband dies indebted, the wife is not intitled thereto. In *Cr. C.* there is a case that the wife was intitled only to one gown. This court has gone in a more favourable rule, and reasonably so, to let the wife in upon other funds: but there is no other fund here upon which she can come at it, unless this, as a creditor for the arrears of her separate estate received by her husband, who was indiscreetly made one of the trustees. But she must be a creditor by simple contract, and as the estate comes out, that would not help her much. As in the case of pin-money, a wife suffering her husband to receive the rents and profits of her separate estate, cannot come for it afterward, and is allowed only to come in as a creditor for one year's arrear of pin-money; the same holds as to this. But it is said, he bought jewels, and if the husband in possession of the rents and profits of her separate estate bought and gave to her the jewels, I should take it the equitable construction would be, that it was like paying her the money of her separate estate: if indeed he bought them before he was in receipt of her estate, it would not do certainly. I cannot follow the money to be sure. She is not intitled to retain these jewels as her *paraphernalia*; unless there should be any after-payment of the debts; but let the master inquire at what time the husband came into possession of her separate estate, the yearly value thereof, and also whether he gave her any and what jewels, while he was so in receipt, at what time given, and their value?

No paraphernalia where husband dies indebted, but court will let wife in on other funds, if any.

Wife a creditor only for one year's arrear of pin-money.

So for her separate estate received by husband.

I own, as to the other part of the case relating to *Catherine Windham*, I am in doubt. This court has certainly (and it is its office) extended the remedy of creditors as far as consistent with justice; and

and the cases have gone a great way on that. I have generally taken it, that *Shirley v. Lord Ferrers* went farther than the former cases; but as it was an authority of Lord *Talbot's*, and in favour of creditors, I have followed it since, but should not be willing to go farther than that; nor am I quite satisfied that this falls directly within it. I do not know but this may be an interest in the land itself, and then that authority is out of the case. But I have not formed an opinion, and will look into the cases and authorities. It may be a hard case upon her, should it be against her, but I must not make a precedent that men may make a provision for their families in prejudice of creditors.

His Lordship delivered his opinion *July 16, 1750.*

Tenant for life, remainder to his sons in tail, remainder to his nephew, lets in the nephew immediately on his agreeing to permit his uncle's appointee to receive the rents for so long as the nephew enjoyed in his life. Uncle lives 12 years, and being in debt appoints to his daughter this interest, in part of his general assets for creditors.

The general question is, whether the defendant *Catherine* is intitled in this court to retain the appointment made to trustees for her benefit out of the estate of *William Windham*; or whether that interest or power that had been acquired by the testator, is, notwithstanding that particular appointment, to be considered as part of the general assets of the testator? To determine this it must be considered, what is the nature of the interest or power the testator had in that part of his estate. It arises on a very particular transaction; such as there is not a likelihood of another of the kind: but as to this question, it will depend on the general rule; and whatever inclination one might have to preserve the benefit of a transaction of this kind to a daughter, said to be left unprovided for, (though there is no proof of that) it must not be done so as to break in upon principles and rules established, which would be perilous in future instances. The testator had a mind to do something for his nephew in his life; yet not absolutely without leaving it by way of retribution. The nephew's interest in the estate was a remainder in tail, expectant upon an estate for life in the testator, subject to let in the contingent remainders to his sons, if there should be any. The method taken was this, to let the nephew into possession of part of this large estate immediately, not paying any thing for it; but if he or any heirs of his body happened to come into possession of the estate upon the testator's death, the testator should have power of taking back so long a time as *William* should enjoy it in the testator's life; it was an uncertain term, and uncertain profits. The testator intended to make a provision for his daughter out of it, as part of her fortune, and for her preferment, which he does in trust for her separate use. It is insisted for the plaintiffs, that this is such a kind of interest granted, as the testator would be intitled to the benefit of, although he had made no particular appointment; but on consideration I am of opinion, that without making a particular appointment, neither he, nor any in his place, could have had any benefit of this covenant;

nant; for, taking it in any light, it must be considered as a covenant or grant of the interest in the land. Perhaps it partakes of both; but considering it as a covenant, what action of covenant could have been maintained by the executors of the testator upon this deed, until appointment made by the testator? The very words shew there could be none. Considering it in another light, as a grant of the interest in the land, it was such, as could not take effect until he made an appointment; for until then there was really no grant. If there had been a person named appointee in the deed, as if it was to deliver possession, and let any other particular person receive the rents and profits, I should have been of opinion, that this had operated not barely as a covenant, but as a grant or kind of demise of the term or chattel interest to take effect in possession out of his remainder in tail, when that remainder took effect in possession: and that has ^{A covenant may operate as a grant.} been determined in several instances; that though it is by way of covenant, it operates the other way: which was Lord *Montjoy's* case in 4 *Leo.* 147, so in 3 *Leo.* 305, in *Pollexfen's* time, that it was a grant of a way, not operating as a covenant. But here no person was named at the time: but when the testator came to execute the power, and nominate an appointee, then it became complete, and operated as a grant of the land for that chattel interest, to take effect out of his remainder in tail from that time; and, like all other powers where there is a conveyance of an estate to such uses, as another shall appoint, when appointed it takes effect out of the original grant. This being the nature of the interest granted, it falls in with the intent of the parties; which was not on either side, that in all events the uncle should take so much out of the nephew's estate, as the nephew had the benefit of out of his estate for life. If that was the meaning, they would not have put it in this shape, but made it so directly; but the meaning was to leave it in the uncle's power or option to make use of it or not; for perhaps his circumstances might be such, as he would have no occasion to do it. The next consideration is, supposing this was not such an interest as could take effect until the power was executed, and that without particular appointment the executors of the testator could have no benefit, whether this differs from the other cases on the execution of general powers, where executed by the party; as *Shirley v. Lord Ferrers*, and others, which have established the doctrine, that where there is ^{General power of appointment executed voluntarily; affects, though to a daughter.} a general power of appointment of a sum of money to charge the estate of a third person, which it is absolutely in his pleasure to execute or not, he may do it for any purpose whatever, and appoint the money to be paid to himself or his executors, if he pleases. If he executes it voluntarily without consideration, for benefit of a third person, this shall be considered as part of his assets, and his creditors have the benefit of it. Nor does it differ, whether it is a power to charge a sum of money on land, or to create a chattel interest out of land; for it will depend on the same foundation, provided it is a general

neral power, which he may execute for any purpose; for if it is a power to appoint a sum among other persons, who are at all described by the power, so that it is not absolutely in his power to do it for himself, there is no pretence that his creditors could have the benefit of it. Consider how the present differs from any of those cases; and notwithstanding I have endeavoured to find a difference, I do not see a substantial one to ground a different rule upon in point of justice. The rules of this court are established as far as they can, in favour of just creditors, and to prevent persons having powers from disposing thereof voluntarily to defeat creditors; and the court has extended it of late; and though an unfortunate case may arise in the case of children, for whom parents are bound by nature to provide, it is impossible to say, the consideration in respect of them is of so high a nature as that of paying just debts; and therefore the court never preferred them to just creditors, who might otherwise be defeated of a satisfaction for their debts. On that ground was *Shirley v. Lord Ferrers*, which has been allowed ever since, and is agreeable to *Lafcelles v. Lady Cornwallis*. A distinction was endeavoured, that the appointment by Lord *Ferrers* was by will, this by deed; because whoever takes by will, takes as a legacy; but that is not a material distinction; for if established, the justice intended by the court in these cases would be avoided in every instance; as then it would be putting it barely on the form of the conveyance, and elude the rule of justice. Nor is there any substantial ground for this distinction; for if there is a power to execute by will or deed, though executed by will, it operates not as a will to that purpose, but as an appointment; not as an appointment of his own assets, but of the estate of another, and takes not place by force of the will; it is therefore a slight and shadow of distinction only. Then consider the result. This is rather stronger in favour of creditors, than those cases where there has been barely an appointment of sums under a power; this appointment operating as a conveyance of the chattel interest in the land to *Catherine Windham*, to trustees for her benefit, the testator being indebted at that time. If so (and so it is taken by the drawers of the deed) how does it stand on the foot of the statutes? There is no case, where a person indebted makes a conveyance of a real or chattel interest for benefit of a child without the consideration of marriage or other valuable consideration; and dying indebted afterwards, that that shall take place. There is certainly a difference between the statutes of fraud, of the 13 *Eliz.* which is in favour of creditors, and the 27th *Eliz.* which is in favour of purchasers. But that difference was never suffered by way of general rule to go farther than this: on the 27th *Eliz.* every voluntary conveyance made, where afterward there is a subsequent conveyance for valuable consideration, though no fraud in that voluntary conveyance, nor the person making it all indebted, yet the determinations are, that such mere voluntary conveyance is void at law by the sub-

Voluntary conveyance, tho' no fraud, void against subsequent purchase for valuable consideration, and also against creditors, if indebted at the time. But if to a child, and no fraud, good against subsequent creditors.

subsequent purchase for valuable consideration. But the difference between that and the 13th *Eliz.* is this; if there is a voluntary conveyance of real estate or chattel interest by one not indebted at the time, though he afterward becomes indebted, if that voluntary conveyance was for a child, and no particular evidence or badge of fraud to deceive or defraud subsequent creditors, that will be good; but if any mark of fraud, collusion, or intent to deceive subsequent creditors appears, that will make it void; otherwise not, but it will stand, though afterward he becomes indebted. But I know no case on the 13th *Eliz.* where a man indebted at the time makes a mere voluntary conveyance to a child without consideration, and dies indebted, but that it shall be considered as part of his estate for benefit of his creditors; and on that foundation, I take it, this court has grounded their opinion in the execution of powers, when they stop *in transitu*, (as it is called) and says, it shall not be given away from creditors; therefore I am not warranted to do otherwise. There is a case shewing the ground and reason of this at law, and that this is considered as part of the estate of the testator at the time of his death, *viz.* 2 *Rol. R.* 173. It was an odd case; one hardly knows how it came in question. A man actually indebted, and conveying voluntarily, always means to be in fraud of creditors, as I take it. Here the testator had a power to appoint the benefit of the covenant, or in the other light this chattel interest in the land, to take effect out of the remainder in tail, generally to any person, or to take it to himself: he appoints it not to himself, but merely voluntarily to a daughter to take effect after his death, as it could not be otherwise: in respect of his creditors it must be considered as part of his estate at the time of his death; he having executed it so as to gain the interest to himself, and attempted to pass it at the same time to his daughter: the court will not suffer it; saying he has been guilty of a fraud as to them, being indebted at the time. This is an unfortunate case; but I cannot help it; for I must not lay down a rule, which will make the rights of creditors precarious.

I must therefore declare, that she cannot have any specifick lien upon this fund, unless any surplus after debts; which, I fear, will be nothing: but the testator being indebted at the time of making the appointment, it is void as against his creditors; for whose benefit, whatever arises by that deed out of the estate of *William Windham*, ought to be considered as part of the general assets of the testator: and if a recovery has not been suffered to make good this interest out of this estate, I should think *William Windham* would be bound to do it, for the heirs of his body would not be bound, if he did not, and left no assets.

Boughton

Case 2. Boughton *versus* Boughton, July 18, 1750.

Contingent legacy to heir, and express condition not to dispute the will; which is not executed according to the statute. Heir put to election when of age, to claim the legacy or the lands devised away.

A Freeman of *London* devised his real estate to his younger son *Stephen Boughton*; and all his personal estate among his children; among the rest 1200*l.* upon some contingencies to *Grace*, the daughter of his eldest son; adding this clause, “ If any child or children of mine, or any in their right, or any who may receive benefit by my will, shall any way litigate, dispute, or controvert the whole or any part thereof, or the codicils thereto belonging, or not give such discharges as my will requires, or not comply with the whole, and all and every condition and conditions therein contained, both as to real and personal estate, such child or children, so far as it relates to them severally, shall forfeit all claim and pretence whatever under my will, and shall have no more than the orphanage part of the personal estate I die possessed of; revoking what I gave to them, I give it to my residuary legatees.”

The testator underwrote to this instrument an attestation in the common form; but it was not subscribed by him, nor did any witness subscribe it at all.

There was a codicil without date; but signed by him; therein taking notice of and reciting, that in further consideration of this his last will he makes a codicil thereto, and gives directions therein.

Grace, by the death of her father happened to become heir at law to her grandfather, and so intitled to whatever he left to descend, or ought to descend from the invalidity of his disposition.

She being an infant of tender years, this bill was brought by *Stephen*, in order that she might make her election, whether she would have the 1200*l.* or the land which happened to descend to her; for that she could not claim both; but, if she chose the legacy, must let the real estate go according to the intent; and that on the general reasoning and foundation of the court in *Noys v. Mordaunt*, it *Streatfield v. Streatfield*, *Talb.* 176, and in *Jenkins v. Jenkins*, Nov. 20, 1736, where Lord *Talbot* put the party to his election upon an implied condition to be added tacitly to the testator's bequest, whereas here an express condition is annexed.

For defendant *Grace*: The question is, Whether by taking benefit of the descent she breaks the condition, on which the contingent legacy of 1200*l.* is given? For she certainly must take it in the form given,

given, whether the condition is expressed or implied; which is the same, because it is implied on evidence of testator's intent, which may be without express words; so that where different parts are given to different persons, it is implied, that no one who does not comply with the whole shall receive benefit from any part; which was the foundation of *Noys v. Mordaunt*, and several other cases. To shew that defendant breaks this condition by taking the real estate, it must be shewn, that by the will the estate is devised to other purposes, and that she does not suffer it to go according to the will. It must first be established, that there is a will made; and next, what is the meaning of it. The condition is to abide by the whole will; but there is no will as to the land, any more than if by word of mouth; the probate cannot be read to shew the real estate devised; nor this writing to a jury, if an issue should be directed to try whether he devised these lands, the instrument failing. This is not like the case, where testator gives personal estate on condition to convey a real estate; there the condition must be performed; here the condition is, that his will should be performed; the construction of which is, his will so far as it is valid and executed properly. She does abide by the will so far; for there is no will as to the real estate. This is not a want of power in testator; and all the cases go to his doing that which he had no power to do. *Harle v. Greenbank. August 3, 1749.* (where this came solemnly ^{Ante.} under consideration) is exactly the same as the present, only there the condition was implied, here it is expressed; and your Lordship there would not put the party to election, there being no will as to the land. But it is impossible this election can be made for the infant before her coming of age; for the gift depends on such contingencies, that there is no rule for the court to go by, to know what is for her benefit.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am satisfied, the infant ought not to take the benefit of this personal legacy, without at some time or other waving any right to these lands claimed by descent; and that it is very different from *Herle v. Greenbank*. The testator made one instrument; in which he has used words, expressions and clauses, relative both to real and personal estate; and in it is contained a clause importing in words, though not by force of the instrument, to be a devise of the real to the plaintiff, gives 1200 l. to his granddaughter; and has taken upon him to dispose of his whole personal estate among his children, who would not be bound thereby, as he was a freeman; he then adds the express clause, which is the sole ground of distinction between this and other cases; and in the codicil takes notice of this very instrument as a will; which codicil is signed, and puts that difficulty, which might otherwise have arisen from the imperfection of

the instrument, out of the case ; but notwithstanding this, it is a will only by force of the instrument to pass personal estate ; for neither the will or codicil is so executed as to pass real. The plaintiff insists, that defendant having a legacy by the will, which is undoubtedly good, shall have no benefit thereof, unless she suffers the disposition of the land to take effect. *Noys v. Mordaunt* (which was the first case) was, where the testator was disposing of land. The subsequent cases till *Streatfield v. Streatfield*, I believe, were all in case of a devise of a real estate. Had the rule gone no further, but been confined to real estate, this objection had never arisen ; because the instrument must be effectual as well to one real estate as another ; so that this difficulty could never have arisen to make the point come in question. Lord *Talbot* went so far as, that where the will comprised both real and personal, and the land, to which one child was intitled in tail, was thereby given to another, and a personal legacy to the tenant in tail ; to consider it as an implied intent, that whoever took by that will, should comply with the whole ; so that he put the party to an election ; but neither in *Jenkins v. Jenkins*, nor in *Streatfield v. Streatfield* was there a question of the defect of the instrument. Then came *Herle v. Greenbank* ; which I believe was the first case, in which the difficulty arose. There Mrs. *Winfmore* was a feme covert and an infant, and had by her father's will a power to dispose of real and personal estate ; and being above 17, disposed of the personal estate of her father for her daughter, and her real estate to two collateral relations ; and died under age. I was of opinion, that as to the personal it was a good will, because of her power, which took off the disability from being married, leaving her in the same condition as a feme sole ; in which case, being above 17, she might make a will of personal ; but that as to the real, her will was void because of her infancy, as it would if she had been a feme sole : which gave rise to the other question now mentioned, whether on the authority of the aforesaid cases, still her daughter should not be put to make her election, whether she would abide by the whole will, or wave the whole will ? My opinion was grounded upon there being no instrument executed sufficient to pass land ; and there were none of the cases, in which it was determined, there should be such election, but where there was a will concerning the land ; but that there was no ground for the court to imply a condition to abide by a will of land, when there was none ; and that it would be dangerous to break in on the statute of frauds to make an estate pass by an instrument not sufficient to pass real estate, not by the words of the testator, but by a condition implied by construction of the court ; therefore it could not be, nor was it warranted by any precedent ; for it was only guessing at the intent of the testator who might leave it for that very view. But the question is, whether this case does not differ from that from the express clause in the will. It is very candidly admitted, that if there

Where heir
not put to
election.

there is no devise of a real estate, but a personal legacy is given on express condition, that the legatee should not enjoy it, unless within a certain time he conveys a real estate, whether coming from the testator or not, he shall not enjoy it but on those terms; the lands not passing by force of the bill, but from the operation of the clause. The legatee has it in his power, whether he will part with the land or not; if not, he forfeits the condition; for any lawful condition may be annexed. The case may be put a little farther (though it is almost the same with the present :) as suppose in the same instrument there is a devise both of real and personal; the will executed only sufficient to pass the personal, not the real; but a condition annexed, that the personal legatee should permit the same persons, to whom the land is given, to hold to them and their heirs: the condition annexed would take place, though the devise was void as to the lands according to the statute of frauds; for the legatee cannot take it in contradiction to the testator's words; and the devise in this will amounts to the same, as if testator had annexed a condition to permit *Stephen* to enjoy the land. This clause is imperfect as well as the whole will; and the court must put a reasonable construction; which is, that none of the devisees should receive any benefit by this will, unless they suffered the whole instrument to take effect; not having regard to the validity or force of it according to the statute of frauds, but to the clauses and expressions used. The construction put on the words *my will*, (*viz.* so far as valid and executed properly) is much too narrow; and this makes a material distinction between this case and *Herle v. Greenbank*, where there was no condition in the will, it resting singly on the construction the court was to make, that it was an implied condition in the will, that those claiming benefit by it should suffer the whole to take effect; and then it must necessarily refer to the validity of the will: for it is rightly argued, this will cannot be read so as to support a will of real estate, not being an instrument for that. In that case, when the court was to make such a construction by implication from the force of the instrument itself, the court must see the will, and could not know or take notice, that that was a will of real estate; but here, if there is such a condition annexed to a personal legacy, the court must consider every part of that, whether it is a matter relating to real estate or not. You must read the whole will relating to the personal legacy, let it relate to what it will, which is a substantial difference, and will prevent going too far to break in on the statute of frauds, and at the same time will attain natural justice; which requires, as far as may be, such a construction to be made; otherwise the intent of the testator may be overturned. And here is a circumstance bringing it more within the reasoning of Lord Cowper in *Noys v. Mordaunt*, than there was in *Herle v. Greenbank*; that it is a disposition among his children, and it is desirable it should take effect, if it can;

whereas

whereas in that case the further disposition was among collateral relations ; which therefore did not come within the reasoning of Lord *Cowper*, though I allow, that was but auxiliary reasoning. This differs, being an express condition annexed to a personal legacy ; and therefore the defendant cannot take both real and personal.

But there may be a difficulty how to carry it into execution ; for, being an infant of tender years, she cannot judge for herself ; nor can the Master judge for her ; it being on several contingencies ; so that until she comes of age, no election can be made ; till when, the plaintiff must receive the rents and profits of the estate subject to further order of the court ; but must be restrained from committing waste. If the infant shall elect to have the land, then, whatever the plaintiff shall be intitled to as his orphanage part of testator's personal estate, will be liable to make satisfaction for what he shall have received out of the rents and profits of the real, as the court shall direct.

Costs out of the personal estate.

Note : In *Brudenell v. Bowton* (as cited) the testator by will executed according to the statute, gave 800 *l.* to be laid out in land for one for life, and then for her children ; and gave his estate by way of residue, so as to be a charge for debts and legacies on the real estate in default of the personal ; he made a codicil, not executed according to the statute of frauds, revoking all former wills, and revoking the 800 *l.* legacy, and giving 400 *l.* where his Lordship held, that could not revoke the disposition made for payment of debts and legacies ; therefore the real estate was still chargeable therewith. But the question was, whether that 400 *l.* by the codicil giving it does not charge the real ? His Lordship held, it was a revocation of the 800 *l.* as originally charged ; and was of opinion, that the 400 *l.* was charged by the former charge on the real estate by virtue only of the original will.

Case 3.

Ward versus Shallet, July 26, 1750.

Settlement by husband on wife and children, on her agreeing with her friends privily, to part with her contingent interest ; good against his creditors.

A Wife having a contingent interest under a bond given by husband on the marriage, but no judgment entered up, nor any trustees added for her, had also a lease of the cornmeter's office left her by the will of her father, whose executor would not assent to the husband's sale thereof, unless he made a further provision for her. But on a meeting with her friends, she agrees, that upon settling part of the money arising from the sale for her separate use during her husband's

husband's life, and afterward for the children of the marriage, she will part with her interest under the bond ; the other part of the money to go to the husband ; who becomes bankrupt.

The bill was brought by the assignees under the commission to subject her separate property ; that the transaction was not to secure the bond, but to protect the husband's estate against creditors. No consideration from the wife's joining ; for the office vesting in the husband, he might have disposed of it without her, which would have bound her. In the case of *Richardson, August 1749*, Deputy Marshal for life becoming bankrupt, as he might by his acts anticipate the profits, though not dispose of the office directly, his Lordship, though he did not take away the office (because that was in the power of the city) yet appropriated the profits for the assignees. So of the profits of *Blackerby's* office of taking care of the House of Lords, held assets for his creditors. In almost every case of this kind there is something hard, where the wife is in danger of losing all her provision, as his Lordship thought in *Fitser v. Fitser, February 22, 1742*, yet could not help it. There a wife had an annuity of 50 l. for life charged on land : her husband on agreement to live separate, assigned this annuity during their joint lives, in trust to pay her part for her separate maintenance, and part for her infant child ; and agreed, that if he was sued for her separate debts, the trust for her should be void ; he became insolvent, and assigned over all his estate to his creditors : on a bill by the wife, the question was, whether this assignment was voluntary and fraudulent as to creditors ; and so held, and that this maintenance for his wife was not such a valuable consideration, as should defeat the creditors ; and this though not under the acts of bankruptcy, which is stronger. Otherwise any thing of the wife's might be so appropriated for a trifling consideration, wherever she has a fortune, which is in the husband during their joint lives. A court of equity, where a husband cannot come at a trust-estate of his wife, and has not before made a sufficient provision for her, will say, he shall do so ; but not where he wants not assistance of equity.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It is improper to give relief in equity in this case. To be sure it is the duty of assignees under the commission to endeavour to encrease the estate for benefit of creditors, and to inquire into any family transaction, especially between husband and wife, which is liable to most suspicion. But the court must not carry it so far as to set aside an act for valuable consideration ; and if this was to prevail, it is one of the hardest demands I ever saw. First to the con- Husband obli-
siderations ; the wife's joining in the sale is rather the weaker part ; ged to make
perhaps the husband might have disposed of it without her, and further provi-
bound her thereby ; but if her father had acted more cautiously, and sion upon get-
ting wife's
added trust estate.

added trustees for his daughter on her marriage, the court would not have let the husband take it from her without making some further provision, if she insisted on it. The father did not do so; but his executor held his hand, and therein did reasonably. It is true he might have been compelled to assent to the legacy; and in that case of a bare assent to a legacy by an executor, I do not know that the court would put terms on the husband. But on the second part here is a clear consideration arising from the wife and her friends; the parting with her contingent interest under the bond; which may be a consideration as well as a certain interest; and the wife insisting on the benefit of it, I think, is barred from any claim under the bond; for it is a transaction between husband and wife with privity and consent of her friends. To shew that by such an agreement, and claiming the benefit of it for her separate use, she is barred; *Theobald v. Defoy* is a very strong authority, where the wife was barred of a possibility by such an act. Then if this is a consideration, it takes it out of all the statutes; out of the statute of *Eliz.* in respect of creditors; to bring it within which it must be proved, he was indebted at the time of the act; as it was in Miss *Windham's* case * the other day, where I put them to the proof of that; but the contrary rather appears here. Then how does it stand as to the statutes of bankruptcy? They do not extend to cases, where there is a consideration; therefore if the father or a collateral relation, advanced a sum of money by way of new portion, in consideration of which the husband made a new settlement, it would be good against the creditors under the commission; unless proved that the settlement vastly exceeded the consideration; so that from the inadequateness a collusion or fraud was intended on the creditors; in which case, I believe the court has sometimes so considered it: but nothing of that appears in this case, which brings it to the reasonableness of it. And having married this woman so incautiously, taking no judgment on the bond, nor any present security, (so that if the husband became a bankrupt, there was no possibility of her coming in as a creditor, nor could she have any satisfaction for this, unless the husband gained a new estate) the settling part for the wife and children has nothing exorbitant or unreasonable in it; and there being a consideration for it, which takes it out of the statutes, it is improper for the court to interpose and set it aside. This was a reasonable act for her and her friends to do; it not appearing to be done with a view to the bankruptcy, nor that he was in debt at the time.

* Case 1.

New settlement by husband in consideration of a new portion, if no fraud, nor inadequate, is good against his creditors.

Therefore the bill must be dismissed, so far as it seeks to impeach and set aside this deed; but with liberty for the assignees to apply in case that contingency happens, on which the husband would be intitled to it.

Without costs on either side.

Cox versus Bateman, August 1, 1750.

Case 4.

JOHN LONG BATEMAN having purchased a real estate in ^{Land in Ire-} Ireland, with 1500*l.* trust-money; Lord Chancellor said, He ^{land purchased} could not follow the money and charge his real estate therewith: ^{with trust mo-} there being no act of parliament in Ireland for that purpose, al- ^{ney, the per-} though there was to charge the real estate of bankers with their ^{sonalestate on-} notes, *viz.* 8*G.* 1. which was the foundation of the appeal to the Lords in the case of *Burton* the banker: but that act extended only to bankers. It was an unfortunate case; but it could not help it; nor could he vary the rule, and make a law to subject the real estate. It was a breach of trust, and must be a charge on his personal estate: but he would help it as far as he could; and therefore if any specialty-creditors exhaust the personal, let the simple contract creditors stand in their place, to have satisfaction out of the real estate.

Clavey versus How, August 1, 1750.

Case 5.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

A Deed, though in favour of creditors, may be evidence of an ^{Deed, though} act of bankruptcy; as it may be fraudulent, though for cre- ^{for creditors,} ditors, if the possession was left with the bankrupt; according to ^{may be evi-} *Twine's* case which was a deed in favour of a creditor. And that ^{dence of act of} was the case in *Jacob v. Sheppard*; where, on appeal, Lord King ^{bankruptcy.} directed it to be tried, whether a deed in favour of a creditor was not an act of bankruptcy, although on the circumstances it was found not to be so. I cannot make an equitable bankruptcy; but a trial must be directed.

Travers and Others, Executors of Lord Powis, versus Case 6.

Lord Stafford and Mr. Furness, Oct. 15, 1750.

A Bill had been brought by Lord *Powis*, to stay proceedings at ^{Injunction on} law by the representatives of *Cantillon* against him, as being ^{praying time} surety for Mr. *Gage*, who was indebted to the estate of *Cantillon* ^{to answer, if} and *Hughes*, bankers at *Paris*; on which bill Lord *Powis* had an ^{dissolved on} injunction: and after an answer an order was made in 1731. conti- ^{the merits, a} nuing the injunction upon certain and special terms. It was afterward, ^{new one can-} by consent of all parties, referred to Mr. *Fazakerly*, who awarded ^{not be applied} 15,470*l.* due to the estate of *Cantillon*. A motion was afterward ^{for of course} made by the defendant to dissolve the injunction; upon which spe- ^{on an amended} cial liberty was given to take out execution for the sum awarded due. ^{or supplement-}

After

Irregularity in obtaining injunction not waved by applying for time to answer. After this a new bill was brought in 1743. to stay the proceedings on suggesting several equitable circumstances at large, relative to the account, and praying an injunction: a plea was put in by the representatives of Mr. *Chantillon*, of this order and award; which plea was allowed in *March* 1745. In 1749. a bill was brought to stay the proceedings at law on this 15,470 *l.* and for an allowance and set off for what was due from the estate of *Cantillon* to *Gage* the principal; on which a bill of injunction was obtained, on motion to stay proceedings at law until answer and further order.

To discharge this injunction a motion was now made by the defendants; for that upon no amended or supplemental, much less on a new original bill, between the same parties, can an injunction, once dissolved on the merits on a bill to stay proceedings at law, be revived for want of an answer as of course.

For plaintiffs: Perhaps this might be the rule; but it is not applicable: for the demand in the last bill by the representatives of Lord *Powis* is for a different equity, from what it was before, and a new right. But if any irregularity, the defendants by suffering such a length of time, and by repeated applications for further time to answer, have submitted to and waved it.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The fundamental question is, of the regularity or irregularity; but attended with so many particular circumstances, as perhaps it is not to be governed by the general course of the court as to such injunctions, but by the discretion of the court. The jurisdiction of the court, as to injunctions, is a most useful one; without which the benefit of any equity against proceedings at law cannot be had; yet may they be made use of as handles to delay the obtaining justice at law; and therefore it is the duty of this court to prevent the abuse of that jurisdiction as much as possible.

There are three points in the considering this cause: 1st, upon the nature of these proceedings, as it stands on the former abstracted from the particularity of the order in 1743, by which a special liberty was given to take out execution. Next as it stands strictly on the foot of the order. Next as to the length of time and acquiescence of the defendants, (plaintiffs at law) and what is suggested to be a waving of the irregularity.

As to the first; abstracted from that order, and supposing it had been only a general order, dissolving the former injunction; several things on that head are plain. That a bill may be in this court originally on equitable circumstances for an injunction; and on filing it, if

if answer, plea, or demurrer, comes not in within a time limited by the course of the court, which is very short, (and hardly a cause in which it is not necessary to pray further time) if the defendant stands in contempt, or prays time beyond the ordinary time, an injunction may be until answer. But though there is liberty to do this, and that often tends to great delay (which cannot be avoided) yet if once an injunction is dissolved on the merits upon the answer put in, whether by decree of the court on dismissing the bill, or on motion upon coming in of the answer on arguing of the merits as they appear on the oath only of the defendant; if the plaintiff amends that bill, or files a supplemental bill with new matter, which is part of the old cause, he cannot apply as of course for a new injunction to stay proceedings until answer or further order, (though perhaps it may be done on special motion); and orders so obtained have been always discharged, when applied for, as irregular and as obtained by surprize. The ground of that course of the court is, that the plaintiff ought to state his case on filing the original bill as to the merits of his equity; the court not giving him liberty to split and retail out his equity to apply upon another head for another injunction after his former is dissolved. To apply this to the first point. The motion to dissolve the injunction was solemnly argued; and the court held the order of reference by consent an order of the court; therefore the determination of the arbitrator, when made an order of the court, was within the terms of the order for continuing the injunction; and therefore they should have the benefit of it, as if it had been decreed. It was rather stronger; because where there is a reference to a judge of the parties own chusing, it supercedes all errors, except corruption or partiality, which are not pretended in this case; and it is fit it should be so, otherwise there never would be an end of things. The injunction was not indeed dissolved on that motion; because then execution might be taken for the whole penalty; and then the plaintiffs might be put to bring a new bill; and therefore special liberty was given to take out execution for the sum awarded. The plea put into the bill, which was to open the award, was also very solemnly argued. I allowed the plea of the award; in consequence of which, the injunction, if there was one, was dissolved of course. One would have thought, there would then have been an end of it; but a new bill was brought, and a motion for injunction thereon. I am of opinion, that within the reason of the cases above-mentioned, and the course of the court, it was not regular, and that such motion ought not to have been made; at least it should have been a motion bringing the whole circumstances before the court. Suppose, the former injunction had been dissolved by a decree, at the same time dismissing the bill; there could not be a new bill and injunction without a special motion laying the whole circumstances before the court; for then it would be in the power of any one to obtain an injunction. If the answer is not suf-

ficient, exceptions are shewn for cause; and if any one is allowed, it would keep up the injunction. It is said to be a new equity vested in the representatives of Lord *Powis* subsequent to the time of the former bill, and therefore they should have the benefit of it in this ordinary shape; if so, upon arguing the plea the bill ought to have been amended; or rather (as it was subsequent matter) a supplemental bill charging it; which would have put the plea out of the case, so that a new plea should have been put in: but I deny the principle, that this is a new right. The plaintiffs had exactly the same right, when the bill was filed in 1743; for if Lord *Powis* was only a security for *Gage*, the surety is certainly intitled to the whole equity his principal had; and therefore, if they had an assignment from *Gage*, they might have made use of the debt or demand due from the estate of *Cantillon* to *Gage*, to defend themselves against this demand by the representatives of *Cantillon* on them as sureties for *Gage* by having an account taken, and then set off. I cannot believe they did not know they had that demand; because it is now admitted, that a bill had been brought by *Gage* in 1740, founded on that; so that there was a *lis pendens* concerning these demands at the time of their bill in 1743: then why were not these demands stated in that bill? If they did not know it, it would rather be a foundation for a bill of review, as not known to Lord *Powis* or his representatives. If therefore the course of the court had been, that on exception for cause to maintain the injunction, a material exception should be opened (as was the course formerly) I should not have thought this an exception to maintain that injunction.

But I shall ground my opinion particularly on the 2d point, the circumstances of that order in 1743. It would be dangerous, that, after what has been done, the parties might file a new bill, and move for an injunction until answer, without taking notice of that order. If so, it would be granting an injunction by the court not only against proceedings at law, but their own proceedings; for this is an order made in direct contradiction to the order in 1743, without discharging it; which is irregular: so that it depends not in all the parts of it upon the strict course of the court as to injunctions, but in the court's discretion. The whole should have been brought before the court, and then it would have appeared, this new bill was founded on an equity existing materially at the time of the former order; the surety being intitled to any equity the principal had. This order is therefore irregular.

As to the last question, I agree with the plaintiffs that the irregularity may be submitted to and waved by the parties affirming it by his own act, though at first irregular: but nothing of that was done by the defendants, any act founded on the injunction would certainly be a waiver of that irregularity, affirming that a regular in-

junction subsisted. The defendant has applied for time to answer, but that may be applied for, whether there is an injunction or not, to avoid process of contempt. This order then in 1749, ought to be discharged; and it would be an imputation upon the proceedings of this court, if it should hold so strict a hand as to say, these forms of the court as to injunctions, which are necessary in general, should go to that extent as to be allowed without the merits entered into, after examined by an arbitrator which on a plea of the award was allowed; especially when grounded on an equity, which if not connected with the original proceedings would be no equity at all: and, when tacked to the other proceedings, an answer arises thereto, that, if so, it was an equity subsisting at the time of their bringing the former bill in 1743.

————— October 15, 1750.

Case 7.

MOTION that service of *subpœna* to hear judgment on a person who acted as solicitor for one of the defendants, Mrs. Pamfollen, might be deemed good service; her clerk in court not being to be found, nor any one attending at his office, nor the defendant, but they had found the last place of her abode. Orders for service discretionary.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I never knew it done, especially upon a solicitor, who says he knows not where his client lives. But as these orders for service are pretty much discretionary, it will be no great harm to allow it together with leaving a copy of the present order with some person in the house, which was the defendant's last place of abode.

Taylor *versus* Philips. October 17, 1750.

Case 8.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

THERE is no instance of this court's binding the inheritance of an infant by any discretionary act of the court. As to personal things, as in the composition of debts, it has been done; but never as to the inheritance; for that would be taking on the court a legislative authority, doing that which is properly the subject of a private bill. Infant's inheritance not bound by act of the court.

It was urged, that the court had gone a good way, and Mr. Chetwynd's case by Lord Talbot mentioned.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There was an election to be made; something was necessary to be done. I remember I was of opinion with the decree, when it came afterward in the House of Lords.

Case 9. Fenhoulet *versus* Passavant, October 17, 1750.

Scandal includes impertinence; not e con'. **E**XCEPTION to the master's report that the bill was impertinent only; the reference being whether scandalous and impertinent.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Nothing relevant, scandalous. Scandal may be taken advantage of at any time, impertinence not; if reported scandalous, it must be impertinent of course; but it may be impertinent without being scandalous. The single question is, whether these charges, referred for scandal and impertinence, may be relevant to the merits: and the *major* or *minus* of the relevancy is not material; which turns on this, whether plaintiff has any ground for this suit or not; for if relevant, it cannot be said they are scandalous or impertinent. Otherwise it would be laying down a rule, that all charges of fraud are scandalous; which would be dangerous, and cannot be the rule; for nothing pertinent to the cause can be said to be scandalous. So in a bill to set aside deeds for fraud, there are often gross charges, which may be as well said to be scandalous as this.

Case 10. Meliorucchy *versus* Meliorucchy, Oct. 19, 1750.

Security for costs by plaintiff beyond sea should be applied for before praying time to answer, if it appears on face of bill, or is in defendant's knowledge. **M**OTION on part of defendant, after applying for time to answer, that the plaintiff, who in his bill charged himself to be resident at *Florence*, should give security to answer costs: and the case of *Glamorgan v. Rugby* was cited, where his Lordship held it pretty much in discretion of the court, and might be taken advantage of at any time on the circumstances.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This has come once or twice before me. If on the face of the bill the plaintiff appears to be beyond sea, as it does here, or if at the time of filing the bill it appears you knew it, you may apply for security to answer costs; but advantage should be taken of it in the first instance before answer, or time prayed to answer; otherwise it is waved. If indeed you are strangers to it, and it comes to your knowledge at any time in the course of the cause, it may be prayed; but here it is waved, it appearing on the face of the bill.

Ex

Ex parte Wright, *Oct.* 20, 1750.

Case 11.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

IN passing the accounts from time to time of a lunatick's estate, notice should be always given to such of the lunatick's relations to attend before the Master to check the account, as would be intitled to a share of his estate, if he had been dead intestate: but they are not to be allowed the costs thereof, unless some special case laid before the court; as that they were at expence on some extraordinary litigation as to the account. Otherwise if every such relation, who thought he had an interest to attend, should have the costs, it would bring a great burthen on the lunatick's estate.

No costs of attending on lunatick's estate.

Ex parte Stanley, *Oct.* 20, 1750.

Case 12.

PETITION to supersede a commission of lunacy preferred by the nearest relations of the party.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It should always be in the name of the person, who has recovered a sound mind.

—————. *Oct.* 22, 1750.

Case 13.

PETITION by *Owen* to be discharged from a contempt and custody for non-payment of costs taxed for scandal and impertinence against *F. Lister*, who had executed a release to *Owen*; which release, it was insisted, should bind *Broom* the clerk in court, who carried on the prosecution against the petitioner.

Voluntary release by client not to defeat the clerk of his lien for costs.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The clerk in court has a general lien on the duty recovered by his diligence and expence; which extends as well to collateral proceedings as to a decree. But it is objected, that the client has released it to his adversary, and that that binds his solicitor or clerk in court; who, though they have originally a lien, on what has been recovered by their expence, diligence, and costs, yet that is not to extend to that degree as to prevent the client fairly and honestly from making an end with his adversary. I am of that opinion, provided any thing appeared to be paid. If the client had by composition, or any

reasonable consideration for the costs, made an end with his adversary, I would not suffer this equity to be set up: but if a clerk in court, having this equity, shall be discharged by a mere voluntary release executed by his client and his adversary, he might be defeated by a collusion; like the case arising out of *Hertfordshire* about a year ago on motion. This is the distinction; the costs are not paid; no composition or consideration; but a mere voluntary release set up to defeat the clerk in court; which might be done in any case, if the court should suffer this. Had there been any consideration, I should have laid weight thereon; but no such appears on evidence.

As to this contempt therefore, and the attachment thereon, let the petitioner be discharged on payment to *Broom*; it appearing that *F. Lister* has executed a release.

Case 14.

Ex parte Lord, *Oct.* 22, 1750.

PETITION to set aside a commission of bankruptcy as fraudulently obtained.

Fraudulent
bankruptcy.

Against which it was urged, that this petition was founded on the affidavit of three persons, who by their voluntary affidavit came now into a court of justice, and said, they were perjured; having sworn themselves creditors, when they were none. Then the rule of the civil law held, *semel malus semper præsumitur esse malus in eodem genere*; and it appearing to the court, they ought to be prosecuted for perjury on the late act of parliament.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

On contradictory affidavits of same person, personal examination required.

The general rule is, that whoever produces the affidavit of a person to contradict a former made by that person, should produce him in court; a personal examination being required: of which there was the strongest instance in Lord *King*'s time, when I was Attorney-General. There were several persons, who had been induced into this practice; and in consideration of 2 s. 6 d. a-piece came and swore themselves creditors under the commission, and signed the certificate; which was obtained thereon. The matter was discovered, and they attended in court: Lord *King* recommended it to me to prosecute them for perjury; which I did. Here the persons made the discovery; which was not in that case; and there is something weaker here, for none of them swear to any reward.

Let the commissioners inquire, whether these three persons were creditors of the bankrupt, and for what consideration; and at what time the several notes, under which they have proved their debts

under

under the commission, were given by the bankrupt ; and whether any consideration ; and at whose instance or solicitation they were given ; and inquire into the reality of any other debt, as they shall see cause.

This is a proceeding, which if allowed, it would be better, the statutes of bankruptcy did not stand as a law: the court should not in the least give way to it.

Blinkhorn versus Feast, October 24, 1750.

Case 15.

A Man by his will gave to two persons particular specifick legacies, severally to each by name, and in the last clause made them joint and sole executors, saying nothing of the residue. The executors were infants.

The next of kin brought this bill, claiming the surplus as a resulting trust within the rule, where executors have something given: and that the next of kin will be assisted here as well as an heir at law. The court in these cases has gone upon general rules ; not distinguishing between one joint legacy to the executors, or giving different legacies : but from giving these distinct and severally, testator could not intend they should take the residue jointly ; and though these are specifick legacies, it is settled, that, if given absolutely, it is the same as if pecuniary.

For defendants: The executors have a legal right. By the rule of law the making an executor is putting him in testator's place ; so that he cannot be witness for the will, not even in a court of equity, because he is interested. The ground, on which the court goes in the above rule, is, that testator intended him this and no more ; and therefore the residue should be looked on as undisposed. *Foster v. Munt*, 1 Ver. 473. 2 Ver. 648, was determined on very particular circumstances, and a very strong implication that the residue was not given ; there being a legacy to executor for care and pains. From that case a general rule was set up in this court, and several years before it was brought back to common sense and reason ; for it was at first contended for, wherever a legacy was given, any how, and whatever other difficulties arose. At last the rule was established, that wherever a particular legacy was given by express words, so as to shew that particular gift was unnecessary, if testator intended the legatee should take the residue by making him executor, he should consequently be trustee for next of kin: but that equity may be rebutted by parol evidence, that testator meant it. It is now settled, that the barely being a wife executrix takes away the presumption, so that she is not excluded. So where the particular legacy to the executor is subject to a contingency or limitation over, that does not exclude

exclude from the residue; because it was necessary to give him the particular legacy expressly, in order to ingraft thereon. So where the legacy is with an exception, that will not afford a presumption: also where one executor has a legacy, the other none. Where there is any thing shewing, that it was proper for testator to do this, and yet to intend them the residue, the implication fails, and there is a strong reason here, *viz.* testator's intending to prefer one executor to the other, and to make a difference between them: but no presumption arises thence, that he intended them nothing else. In *Buffart v. Bradford*, Nov. 27, 1741, testator gave one executor a considerable legacy, and to the other, his wife and children, a legacy for mourning: your Lordship held it clear, that a legacy to one of two executors excludes neither from the residue; and that you should think it hard to exclude an executor by a legacy for mourning. It is the act of parliament, which gives this to the next of kin; not that they are favoured in this court; and the above rule has gone far enough already. Beside, these executors are infants, and must be intended to be made executors for their own benefit; and testator has given his whole estate between both of them, but the residue is not particularly given. But, if it was necessary, there is parol evidence sufficient, that testator intended to leave the whole to them; and that is admitted in case of fraud, to ascertain identity, and rebut an equity.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There is but one question: whether on the construction of the will here is a resulting trust of the residue of the personal estate, over and above debts and legacies, for the next of kin?

There might have been another incidental question upon the reading the parol evidence: and it is certain, that it has been read to rebut an equity arising from a resulting trust; as in *Littlebury v. Buckley*. * 2 Ver. 667. But since *Brown v. Selwyn*. † I have been extremely tender of admitting it in questions of this kind; though I never doubted it, where it was to ascertain identity; or, in case of collateral satisfaction where there was a legacy by a father, and afterward a portion given. Not that what was done there was final; for Lord *Talbot* changed his opinion in the course of the cause. At first he read the evidence; and took time to consider of the point on the will; and next morning declared, he had changed his opinion as to the admission of the parol evidence, and had it struck out of the minutes; which might possibly be from his going on the words in the will, as has been said. This is only to explain and introduce this declaration, that I do not give an opinion to reject this evidence in all events, but to lay it out of the case, as there is no necessity to enter into it at present.

This brings it to the question of resulting trust; for there is no pretence of an intestacy; for he has died testate as to his whole estate,

estate, from his having made executors; as to which I remember a motion in *B. R.* (when I was a student) for a prohibition to a suit in the ecclesiastical court to compel a distribution of such a surplus; which was granted; for certainly he was dead testate, by making a will and executors, as to his whole estate, and could not be dead intestate at the same time. I have not a good while had a case before me on the head of resulting trust; and was glad of it, in hopes that people were grown so wise as to dispose of their whole residue in favour of their executors. The question is, whether each of these executors having distinct particular legacies, not to both jointly, excludes them from the surplus of the personal estate? I am of opinion, it does not create a resulting trust for the next of kin. The cases on this head have been various. Lord *Harcourt* in general leaned in opinion to the executors; but these cases have gone by steps. The first was *Foster v. Mount*: and it was a good while before the grounds thereof were settled; for the vehemence with which Lord *Jefferies* unfortunately used to deliver himself, made it thought a case of fraud; but being afterward inquired into in another case, it appeared there was no colour of fraud. From that time it was taken, that where a legacy was given to an executor for his care and trouble, and no residuary bequest, there was a resulting trust for the next of kin; and a plain reason for it; for there was something more than the implication arising from giving him the legacy only. Afterward it came to be a maxim, that it was absurd to give all and some; and thence an implication, that by giving part expressly, he did not mean to give the whole impliedly; and therefore it has been determined, that any legacy generally to the executor excludes him from the benefit of the surplus, and makes him trustee for the next of kin. But all these cases have been to prevent the testator's being surprized into giving away a great surplus of the personal estate unadvisedly, merely by naming an executor. But several limitations have been introduced on this rule; as where the legacy, whether specifick or pecuniary, is given to the executor for life, that does not exclude him from the residue; because he meant to take that particular legacy out of the residue for the sake of giving him a limited interest. Further, if testator has given a legacy for life or years, and the residuary interest over to another, (which was the Duchess of *Beaufort's* case) the court has said, that is not sufficient to exclude executor from the surplus; because that might be for the sake of taking out the interest given over. So where a legacy, with an exception out of it, as in a gift of a personal thing, with some exception, of which there was a case before me and Lord *Talbot*, and we both held, that would not exclude the executor; as that legacy was inserted, not for the sake of the executor, but to introduce the exception. Afterward came *Buffart v. Bradford*, where I held, that it excluded neither; because there was a plain reason, for which the testator might give that legacy to one executor, for the sake of giving him a preference

in value to the other; as from the implication of law, in making them executors, they must take jointly and equally; which is within the ground of the other cases. So far has been settled in this court: now comes a case, in which two infants are made executors; who, it is unlikely, should be made executors for the sake of administration of his estate only, (which is a circumstance strengthening it, though I do not rely on that), and each has particular legacies out of his personal estate. I am of opinion, that will not exclude them from the benefit of the surplus for two reasons. First, he might give these legacies for the sake of the inequality of division of his personal estate among these executors; which is plain; for if it rested on the force of making them executors, it would be equally divided among them; to prevent which he takes out so much by way of particular legacies, giving such a mortgage to one, and such a mortgage to the other, the value of which is unequal. But, secondly, another reason might be given, for the sake of their having this by way of distinct interests to themselves in severalty, not liable to survivorship by death of one. Consequently no implication can arise from hence, that by giving these particular legacies he meant to make them trustees; and this is strengthened by both being infants, who cannot be intended to be executors in trust for strangers.

The bill therefore must be dismissed, so far as it seeks relief concerning the testator's personal estate, without costs.

Lord *Chancellor* afterward said, he had looked into *Brown v. Selwyn*, and that there was no express bequest there of the testator's debts, as was apprehended, but a general bequest of the rest and residue, &c. which he mentioned, that the state of that case might not be mistaken.

Case 16.

East versus Cook, October 30, 1750.

JEREMIAH GOFF by his will gave 1000*l.* for the benefit of his daughter for life; and afterward to be divided among such child or children as his daughter should leave at the time of her decease. That daughter had married *William East*; who by his will recited, That "*Goff* had agreed to give his daughter 1000*l.* in marriage, but did not, but by his will gave 1000*l.* to his daughter for life and afterwards to go among our children." Afterward he says, "*Goff* was a worthy and honourable gentleman; and, I believe, was persuaded, his giving the 1000*l.* in that manner was performing the agreement; which 1000*l.* with other money I have laid out in bank stock: now, in honour of his memory, and to make good his intent and will, I give to my wife 1000*l.* and after her death equally to my two sons *William* and *Gilbert*; my daughter

" Lady

“ Lady *Parker Long* having, in her marriage-settlement, released her right under the will of *Goff*, if she had any.”

Gilbert, as surviving his mother, brought this bill against the representatives of his father to have a transfer of this 1000*l.* bank stock.

Defendants insisted, the plaintiff was intitled only to half; because his father's will had made a variation from his grandfather's: and next, that this claim being in contradiction to his father's will, if he insisted on it, he must give up the beneficial legacies and portions therein, according to *Noys v. Mordaunt*, and *Billing v. Dacres*; by the late *Master of the Rolls* in 1743, where the use of jewels were devised to the wife during widowhood, and then over; also money-legacies, coach and horses: she marrying again, claimed the jewels under a settlement, whereby she was intitled to them absolutely. It was held, that if she insisted on that claim, she must relinquish her legacies under the will.

For plaintiff: *William East* intended the will of *Goff* should be performed absolutely, and that this 1000*l.* bank stock should be considered as the 1000*l.* thereby given; and then that intent cannot be altered by the manner of directing it. In *Huggins v. Alexander*, 9 Nov. 1741, *John Alexander* devised to his wife all jewels, plate and furniture; then all his real and chattel estate, subject to two annuities due to his wife, in trust to sell and pay thereby all his debts; and all the residue of his estate to his children; and that it was his express intent, that his personal estate, thus given to the children, should be exempt from payment of debts. The real and chattel estate was not sufficient to pay all the debts and those two annuities. The wife insisted, that even the personal should be liable to make up the annuities: the children, that then she should forfeit the other legacies. The court held, that though plainly intended, this personal estate should be exempt, it was not such a contradiction of the will as should defeat her of her legacies: the intent was, she should have the annuities, as well as that the personal should be exempt; and the law subjects the personal to debts, which she might insist on without such a contradicting of the will. In another case, testator devised all his jewels to another, and legacies to his wife; and held, she might claim her *paraphernalia*.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is a very particular case; for if taken on either will it is plain: the only difficulty is, from the necessity that both wills must be taken together. It is a case for making both wills consistent, if the court can: however if there is any clashing between one and the other,
justice

justice requires the will of *Goff*, original owner of the money, to be principally considered; for though *East* has made a recital of a promise from *Goff*, yet it was not so as to be a binding obligatory contract; for no contract or agreement in writing appears; so that it was only an honorary obligation on *Goff*, and satisfied by him; as *East* has reasonably taken it. Taking it on the will of *Goff*, it is plain he meant that no representative of any children dying in life of the daughter, should take any benefit of this sum or the produce of it, but that it should go as an increase of fortune to those children in being at the time of her death; for he could not tell who would be the representatives of those who died in her life; and therefore could not mean them. But certainly this is not decisive in the cause; for the will of *East* must be considered, and whether that has made an alteration. It seems to do so on the particular wording of it; but I am of opinion, it was not his intent to make an alteration: and, considering all the words of it, he has not, except as to Lady *Long* and his purchase from her: and I believe it was the introduction of that alteration has occasioned some obscurity in this will. He could not intend to recite *Goff*'s will falsely; but has recited it short and defectively: nor could he mean to make an alteration in the subsequent devising part any more than in the recital. If it had stood on the devise to the two sons, as an original bequest by way of limitation over to them after an usufructuary interest for life to their mother, though both had died in her life, it would have gone equally to their representatives, they being tenants in common; but all the words are to be taken together: for how does he make good *Goff*'s intent and will, unless he acts conformable thereto? In construing wills it is not necessary to take all the words in the order they are. Suppose he had said, in honour of *Goff*'s memory he gives it to his wife, and afterward to his two sons, equally between them according to the will and intent of *Goff*, or to make it good (which is the same) it would have made it beyond all doubt by inserting those words subsequent to the bequest to the sons; for then it would be only a bequest to them in the same manner as in the will of *Goff*; and it would be subject to just the same contingencies. This is the ordinary and common construction in wills, not to consider exactly the order of placing the words if it would better answer the apparent intent of the testator otherwise. It is plain this would be so; then the placing those words in the beginning or end of the sentence makes no difference. The following words shew he had no intent to alter *Goff*'s will in respect to all his children, but only his daughter; from whom he had purchased on her marriage any benefit she might have under the will; and that this is the only reason of his naming the two sons; otherwise he would have left the expression generally among the children, as *Goff* had done; but he could not do that without letting her in again, with whom he had compounded; and this is the construction answering justice, because this was the property of *Goff*;

Order of words in wills not considered, if the intent better answered otherwise.

is warranted by the frame and texture of the will, and answers the intent of the parties.

But admitting, for argument's sake only, there was a variation between the two wills; and that the latter, notwithstanding the reference to the other, would bear the construction put on it by the defendants, I am of opinion, the right to this sum must have rested on *Goff's* will: and that introduces the question, whether the plaintiff can break in on the construction of his father's will, and at the same time claim the portion therein, according to the rule in *Noys v. Mordaunt* of not claiming by one part of a will in contradiction to another; which is a true rule, but has its exceptions? And it is far from being clear, that if the construction of *East's* will was, as contended for the defendant, that it would have that consequence; for several cases have been, and several more may be, in which a man by his will shall give a child, or other person, a legacy or portion in lieu and satisfaction of particular things expressed, which shall not exclude him from another benefit, though it may happen to be contrary to the will; for the court will not construe it as meant in lieu of every thing else, when he has said a particular thing; which *East* has done in his will; declaring what the provision for the plaintiff should be in satisfaction of, not of this sum of money.

Exceptions to the rule of not claiming by one part of a will and in contradiction to another. Legacy in lieu of things expressed not to exclude from others.

Let the defendant therefore transfer it to plaintiff, without costs on either side.

Pearce versus Chamberlain, October 30, 1750. Case 17.

At the Rolls.

ARTICLES between *Robert Plummer* and *Daniel Pearce* recited, that *Plummer* had carried on the trade of a brewer at *Hoddesdon*, and had employed *Pearce* as a servant and brewer; who having behaved himself faithfully, &c. and advancing a moiety of the value of the effects, he took him into partnership for nine years, if *Pearce* should so long live; but if he lived to the end of the nine years, the partnership should continue for any further term not exceeding twenty-one years, as *Pearce* should desire, on giving notice to continue it. It was provided, that notwithstanding the death of *Plummer* it should be carried on by his representatives; and that if *Pearce* should give that notice, he should not have it in his option to pay off the representatives of *Plummer*, and carry it on himself, but with them.

Articles of partnership in trade subsist not for benefit of executors, unless so provided.

This bill was by the widow and representative of *Pearce*, against the representatives of *Plummer* for an account, and for liberty to carry on the trade with the defendants.

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For

For defendants was cited *Godfrey v. Browning*, 7 March 1742. where it was held, that one copartner could not appoint a representative to carry on the trade after his decease; otherwise it might fall to the lot of an infant or person not at all fit to carry it on; and *Baxter v. Burfield*, B. R. Paschæ 1746. where it was held, that a covenant to teach a boy his trade was rescinded by the death of the master, on the ground that it was a bond to serve personally, and that he was not bound to serve an executor.

For plaintiffs: It might be so where it is a general partnership; for then the death of one partner would determine it: but not so where a particular term has been agreed on: but if there was a case for that, it would not do here; because the provision for the representatives ought to be mutual, and shews, they did not guard against an infant's carrying it on. No case is cited to shew, that all partnerships must continue or conclude on the living or death of the principals. On the death of the master the boy cannot become apprentice by a course of representation, as then it might be to the most ignorant person: but that is different from articles of copartnership in a beneficial trade, wherein a right has been purchased for a period of years. In the case of *Huddleston* one party was a lunatick, who could not carry on the trade; yet Lord *Talbot* thought himself bound by the articles, and obliged the other to carry it on for benefit of himself and the lunatick.

Master of the Rolls.

Considering the whole frame and design of the articles, *Pearce* was only admitted in case of *Plummer*, and for his skill in the trade; and after that end was defeated by his death, it could not be the intent that any representative of him should have an opportunity to carry it on; as it might fall into such hands as could not be of service: and though it might come to the representatives of one, and not of the other, that is by express provision of the parties. Therefore on the articles, the plaintiff is not intitled to a decree to carry on the partnership.

But as a general question, the consequence with regard to trade weighs greatly with me. It would be of ill consequence in general to say, that in articles of partnership in trade, where no provision for the death of either is made, they might subsist for benefit of an executor who may not have skill therein. The plaintiff could be of no use in carrying on the partnership. *Plummer* wanted one whose knowledge he could confide in. The plaintiff, the administratrix, is intitled to one third, the infant to the other two shares. Her intestate might be indebted, and the assets wanted to be distributed. It is improper therefore to suffer such a construction, unless the

the parties provides for it. I remember that case in *B. R.* it was an action against the surety in a bond conditioned for performance of the articles: the master, to whom the youth was bound, died; the executors thought they might make some benefit of his time; and the view therefore was not to have him personally their servant, and to instruct him farther in the trade, but to put that benefit of the infant's service into their own pocket. The court, considering the inconveniencies attending apprentices or trade in general, if infants were obliged to serve executors or administrators for remainder of the term, although not of the same trade with the infant, determined it for the defendant, that the action would not lie. I also remember *Huddleston's* case; and am pretty certain (though not very positive) that he was under a great dejection of mind, so that a commission was applied for; but before that question came before the court, he had recovered himself, and was desirous to carry on the partnership: the court said, these were accidents which could not be provided for; but that was no reason, when he had brought all his substance into trade, the other partner should say, that a temporary disorder intervening should deprive him during life from going on with the business, and that he should put the whole benefit of the partnership into his pocket, without accounting for it. So that the court held, he had not forfeited the benefit under the partnership, but should, notwithstanding that accident, be considered as partner. That case depended entirely on that circumstance; and there was a prospect of his recovery.

Apprentice not obliged to serve executor for remainder of the term.

One partner, notwithstanding a temporary disorder, considered a partner.

Thorne versus Watkins, October 30, 1750.

Case 18.

THE defendant was one of the executors of *Richard Watkins*, who resided in *Scotland*, died, there and left his estate among his nephews and nieces, of whom the defendant was one; and was also administrator, and one of the next of kin of *William Watkins*, who was intitled to a share of *Richard's* personal estate; resided in *England*, and died intestate.

English subject residing and dying here, and administration here, with debts or chose

in action due in Scotland; distributable as the rest of his personal estate.

It was insisted for defendant, that in accounting for *William's* personal estate, so much thereof, as should arise and accrue to his share from *Richard's* personal estate, should be accounted for in a different manner from the rest; viz. should be distributable according to the rule of the law of *Scotland*, where that must be got in, and where half blood is not regarded: and it was compared to cases, where it arose abroad, cited the case of *The Hans Towns v. Jacobson*.

So if in other foreign countries. Debts follow the person of creditor, not debtor.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is a strange imagination ; for which there is no ground, either from the nature of the property, or the manner in which that property is to be recovered. These are two distinct rights ; for the estate of *Richard* must be sued in *Scotland*, recovered in that right. *William* resided in *England*, and upon his dying intestate the defendant takes out administration, and by virtue thereof gives a bond to distribute according to the statute of distribution here ; that is, every part of the personal estate which came to his hands. What ground is there for what is insisted upon ? First, as to that which is to be recovered. If a man dies here, and administration is taken out here, where he has left a personal estate, and he has debts or part thereof abroad, in *France*, *Holland*, or the *Plantations*, that cannot be recovered in abroad by virtue of that prerogative-administration taken out here, but he must invest himself with some right from the proper courts in that country ; as administration must be from the governor of the *Plantations*, if it arise there ; which must be for form : and it is generally granted on foundation of the administration granted here ; and then it must be distributed as here. But the present case is not so strong as that now put ; because the defendant would not want that, but must sue in the courts of *Scotland* to recover the personal estate of *Richard* ; as representative of *Richard* must recover it there : when it comes into the hands of the defendant, he will retain his own share of *Richard's* personal estate to his own use, and be accountable for that share thereof belonging to *William*. So it stands as to the recovery of it ; and therefore not so strong or liable to objection, as it would, if necessary to sue as representative of *William* to get in any part of his personal estate. But that is not so material, as how it stands on the foot of the right. The person resided and died in *England* ; all his effects in *England*, and letters of administration taken out of the prerogative court of *Canterbury*. He had no right to any specific part of the personal estate of *Richard* whatever ; only a right to have that personal estate accounted for, and debts and legacies paid out of it, and so much as should be his share on the whole account paid to him ; which is only a debt, or in nature of a *chose in action* due to the estate of *William*. Then it comes to this : a subject of *England*, residing here, and administration of his personal estate taken out here, with debts due to him or demands in nature of *chose in action* in *Scotland* to be recovered by his administrator ; whether that is to fall under a different rule of disposition from the rest of his personal estate. That never was thought of, and would create confusion. And this question relates not to the articles of union ; which indeed preserve the laws of the different countries, the jurisdictions, forums, and tribunals of each country : but this question would be the same after, as before the union of the two crowns ; and would be the same on a question of this sort arising in *France* or *Holland*,

Holland, whether to be distributable according to the laws of those countries or of *England*. The reason is, that all debts follow the person not of the debtor in respect of the right or property, but of the creditor to whom due. Therefore in the case of a freeman of *London*, debts due to him any where are distributable according to the custom; (otherwise it would be most mischievous, if they were to follow the person of the debtor,) and then, when got in, it is distributed; and of that opinion I was in *Pipon v. Pipon*. This also came in question in the House of Lords lately, in a case arising on the lunacy of Mr. *Morison*; for there the question was, whether the rule would be the same in the courts of *Scotland*? And the opinion was, that it would be the same; and it was taken, that it would be the same on a question between a court of *France* and a court of *England*: it was the same; and different from the articles of union. This is just the same case in respect of that. As to the *Hans Towns v. Jacobson*, it was the case of merchants, subjects of *England*, going to reside at *Hamburg*, and is different. It never was thought that on the death of a person having those funds a bill must be brought by the next of kin of a particular part of that personal estate: the rule must be, that a bill be brought for the whole, according to what I laid down in *Pipon v. Pipon*; otherwise it would destroy the credit of the funds: for no foreigner would put into them, if, because a title must be made up by administration or probate of the prerogative court of *England*, it was to be distributed different from the laws of his own country.

The defendant therefore must account for the whole.

Alleyn versus Alleyn, October 31, 1750.

Case 19.

A Son was intitled, under the marriage-articles of his mother, to have 1500 *l.* laid out in land to his sole benefit after the deaths of the father and mother. The mother died; the father, by a second marriage had a daughter; and having made a provision for her by a settlement, and by his will devised other parts of his estate to his daughter and her heirs, and the residue in trust for his son for life, and then to the daughter with particular limitations and declarations of that trust; and all his personal estate, except such as was given to the daughter, to the same trustees to pay all just debts and legacies; then to his son for life, with a bequest over to the daughter and her family.

Devise of residue of real and personal for life not a satisfaction for a sum to be laid out in lands in fee by articles.

It was insisted this devise to the son was a satisfaction for the 1500 *l.*

LORD CHANCELLOR.

No authority that such a bequest as this, of the residue of real and personal estate, after payment of just debts, to testator's eldest son and heir for life only, should be construed by this court a satisfaction for the 1500 *l.* the son was intitled to under his mother's marriage-articles. If the son died in life of the father, leaving several children, there was no provision for them. So if he survived, as he did, and had issue afterward. But it is said, this interest the son had under the will, considering the income of the real, and clear income of the personal estate during his life, will amount, by computation, to as much as he could purchase an annuity for his life with his 1500 *l.* but that is no rule, and cannot by construction make a provision by will, for life only, a satisfaction for an estate in fee, to which the children are intitled under the articles. *Kentish v. Thomas*, and *Upton v. Prince*, before Lord *Talbot*; where the absolute property was given, not for life only: so in *Johnson v. Lady Smith* before me. So that this cannot be construed a satisfaction without any words in the will for it; and it would be contrary to the words in the will. This 1500 *l.* therefore must be considered as a debt by specialty on the testator's estate, to be retained by the defendant the son.

Case 20. *Glynn versus The Bank of England*, Nov. 3, 1750.

Bill by executors on loss of notes in a list in testator's hand; the list not evidence here of his property, and left to law.

Rule of evidence the same here as at law.

A Bill was brought by the representatives of *Nicholas Harding*, of *Kingston*, against the defendants, touching several bank notes, which were said not to be existing, but lost. The bill was founded on the loss; praying a decree for the payment upon offering to give security to refund and indemnify the defendants, in case any other claim should be made on them. There was no proof of the actual loss of these notes, or of their being in the actual possession of the testator at or before his death; except as to a paper, in the hand-writing of testator, found after his decease, containing a list of these, together with several other notes, which were marked as received by testator. The defendants therefore refused to accept the terms offered; which, they said, they never did, but where it appeared to have been the party's property.

Lord Chancellor, thinking it a hard case, ordered it to stand over for the bank to consider of it; and afterwards in 1741, directed an issue to try whether these notes were the testator's property or not.

The issue never having been tried, a supplemental bill was now brought, and a petition to rehear; the length of time which had since passed, without any other demand made on the defendants,

having made the plaintiff's case stronger for the presumption of the loss; but that, if the court should think proper to direct an issue, it should direct, that the above list should be read in evidence to the jury; for whose consideration it would be, whether it was proof of the testator's property, in like manner as the court has directed a man's own answer to read before a jury.

Objected for the defendants to the reading this list here, as it would be making one's own hand-writing evidence for himself, contrary to a general rule. It is no more legal evidence of their being his property, than his own saying so would, if he had brought the bill; nor consequently for those in his place. The rule of evidence is invariably the same as at law. This court's directing an answer to be read at law has been from the peculiarity; for all the cases, where that has been done, have been where there was but the oath of one witness contradicted by the answer on oath of the defendant; in case this court cannot make a decree for plaintiff, which rule is adopted from the civil law's not making a decree against the party on the oath of a single witness: then where the court has been doubtful, and thought more light would appear on further examination, it has directed an issue, and then always directed the answer to be read as well as the witness examined, otherwise it would be absurd. A demand on a bank, or goldsmith's note is merely legal; as your Lordship held in *Walmsley v. Child*, 11 Dec. 1749, and directed ^{Ante.} the plaintiff to bring his action. The loss of bank notes is no ground to change the jurisdiction, because the contents may be proved in a court of law as well as here; although loss of a bond will change the jurisdiction; because *proferit* and *oyer* of the bond is necessary at law; not so of notes. The indemnity is not objected to: the only question being as to the property, which was admitted in *Walmsley v. Child*. One of the great profits of the bank arises from lost notes; and they think it of very great consequence to oppose this, as it is under suspicious circumstances; for it is extraordinary, that so large a dealer as the testator should not miss them in his life, if lost. His executrix and residuary legatee, who survived him half a year, put in an inventory, and no evidence of this being within it. The plaintiffs privately got an account from an inferior officer of the bank of such notes as were not received by testator, and then produce this list; which, if allowed, will give room to collusion. There is a distinction between those that were paid and crossed, of which the plaintiffs admit there were four paid by the bank, though there were more; which shews this is not a fair entry; and he, who has clearly delivered out four, may have delivered out the rest; and therefore they may be out of his possession before he died.

For plaintiffs: This evidence is proper and legal; but, if not strictly so, should be received here; this court considering circumstances

stances and evidence which is founded on equity, and will not leave it to the strict course of law: as in the ordering an answer to be read at law. So where a witness, indifferent at the time, is examined on interrogatories, and afterward becomes interested, the court has suffered his deposition to be read. No rule of evidence is universal, though it may be general. Such is the rule, that non can make evidence for himself; for in *Serle v. Lord Barrington*, an obligee's own entry of the payment of interest on the back of the bond, after his death was read to take off the presumption from length of time; and therefore made that a debt, which otherwise would not have been a debt at all: as was held by Lord Raymond, and afterward in the House of Lords, upon a bill of exceptions desired by him; so that evidence under a man's own handwriting may be given for himself. Shop-books of tradesmen and brewers books have been read as evidence; as admitted in the case of Sir *Stephen Evans*, after a length of time. A parson's books of his receipts of tithes, though no evidence in his life, may be produced for his successor, as proof of the fact of payment, though not of the right thereto; the court considering an act, probable in its nature and by a proper hand, as not done to furnish evidence to himself to his own benefit. Return of a rent-roll by a bailiff is evidence, that those sums were paid; a steward's book is evidence of the reality of a release by his Lord; because he could have no view himself, and was doing his duty. Entries by cashiers and clerks have been held, after their deaths, evidence of payment; because, being entrusted, they were the natural persons to pay; and it will be presumed they made just entries. On loss of writings the law is very indulgent, admitting very loose evidence. Invoices sent from beyond sea, are admitted, from the circumstances, to prove property; and the seal of a notary publick allowed, if from beyond sea, because it cannot be proved in a better way: though not so of a notary publick here. Entries of births in family bibles, though entered for service of the children, are never refused. It is impossible that the testator could have any view in this to the time of his death, or for the benefit of his executor. Mankind in general only enter in their books this sort of property. Here is a strong circumstance, that twenty out of twenty-four bank-notes are now unpaid; which number adds weight to the authority of this evidence. There can be no inconvenience in admitting it; the demand is such, as that defendants run no hazard: whereas if not admitted, this will be an instance where justice cannot possibly be done for want of making the legal proof required; which might be in a very hard case; as of a widow unprovided for. Defendants own they have no right to the thing, though a legal demand, yet is the relief better here; like forgery, which though properly triable at law, this court has a concurrent jurisdiction for the same reason.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I was willing to hear every thing that could be offered; because undoubtedly the case is, by the length of time, in which no demand has been made on the Bank, made better for the plaintiffs; as the presumptive evidence of the loss of the notes (some of which have been issued 20 years) is grown stronger: yet this supplemental bill in nature of a bill of review is extraordinary; for it is no supplemental matter at all; because such matter must exist at the time of the decree made; and must be such as could not be then known or made use of: whereas the subsequent length of time could not be such a matter: therefore it is an improper method: though as to the petition to rehear, it is proper, the decree not being inrolled.

But the single question now before me is, as to the admissibility of this list as evidence; which, it is insisted, may be read by the representatives of *Nicholas Harding* to prove, that at or about the time of his death he had in his possession, or was intitled to these notes. It is insisted upon two ways; first, that it is proper legal evidence of this demand on the bank. Next, supposing it not strictly so, that it is a sort of evidence this court ought to admit in a case of this kind; because this bill is to have payment of the money not absolutely, but on security to indemnify the Bank against any other demand for the notes; therefore the court ought to read this paper; and that it is sufficient to found a decree of this court upon such security.

As to the latter question, whether there is any difference between this and a court of law; I am of opinion, there is not; and it would be of mischievous consequence to lay down a different rule of evidence in equity, from what it would be at law: the rules of evidence in general are the same in both courts as to the matter of fact; and this is a demand at law. The bill is founded on the loss, and praying payment on the security; but the latter part does not vary the case as to the rule of evidence or question of equity. A man is not intitled to bring a bill into equity in general for a satisfaction upon a note lost: he may for a discovery properly. If it is a bond, it is for satisfaction and payment of the money; because at law he cannot declare without a *profert* and giving *oyer* of the bond: but that is not the case of a note; for if lost, he may recover at law thereon. There may be circumstances indeed in which he may be intitled to come into equity in a case of this kind: but this is in general barely on the loss of a note. It is said, that by usage of the Bank established among themselves, they do on the loss of a note pay the money upon security given to indemnify them; which practice of the Bank is made an equity; and as it is an established practice by a great corporation, in which considerable part of

Evidence in equity as at law.

Difference between a bill on loss of note and of a bond. On a note the demand is at Law.

the money of the kingdom is vested, their practice might be a foundation for the court to go on, in case a sufficient account is given of the property of the notes: but still as to the right to the notes it is a question at law. I do not see, that the rule of evidence differs from what it would be at law, or that it was improper in this court to direct that issue to try that at law, *viz.* the property; which was the previous question to that concerning the loss which from circumstances might be reasonably collected. To shew that the rule of evidence is different, several cases have been cited; the principal is that, where the court has ordered an answer of a defendant to be read at law in evidence to a jury; which could not be done by the rules of law. That he rested singly on this; that if there is a bill on an equity in this court, and the fact on which it arises is denied by the answer, and the equity proved here but by one witness by the plaintiff, he can never have a decree, if it rests on the oath of the defendant against one witness, and no more: but there are cases, in which the court has doubted concerning the fact, and has directed a trial at law: then the objection by the defendant is very clear, that if it was sent to law barely, the plaintiff calls his witness, the defendant cannot make use of his answer, and the plaintiff must recover, and therefore the court might as well reverse their rule: to avoid which absurdity the court says, the defendant's answer shall be read to the jury; for whose consideration it will be, what credit the answer shall have: which is quite a distinct reason from what is insisted on here. Another case is, where a witness is examined on interrogatories, being at that time indifferent, and afterward by accident becoming interested in the thing in question, the court has suffered his deposition to be read; which has been done on just reason; because his evidence must be taken as it stood at the time of his examination, which should not be set aside, unless it could be supplied by other evidence; and the cases have been of that kind. In courts of law, if a subscribing witness to a bond happens to be afterward representative of the obligee, and is forced to bring an action, you can never examine the plaintiff there; it being impossible: but the rule is to suffer his hand to be proved in like manner, as if he had been dead. But these cases depend on the particular reasons, which attend the circumstances of them.

Answer of
defendant
directed to
be read to
a jury.
The reason.

Witness indif-
ferent when
examined,
though in-
terested after-
wards, read.

Witness to a
bond becom-
ing represen-
tative of obli-
gee; his hand
proved.

One cannot
make evi-
dence for him-
self.

Yet if the plaintiff is in the right in coming into this court upon the offer of security, and lays before me legal evidence, I ought to read it; which brings it to the other question. I am unwilling to give a strict opinion; but thus far I will go. Several cases are cited to support it. The rule is, that a man cannot make evidence for himself. What he writes or says for himself cannot be evidence of his right, and consequently cannot be for his representatives claiming in his right and place: although I will not say, how length of time may vary it; but otherwise it cannot be any more than for himself.

himself. As to the cases cited to prove that it may, the first is, that of indorsements by an obligee of the payment of interest; but that is different; it is not a case to prove the original right to the thing in demand at all. Indorsements by obligee of the payment of interest of a bond, are evidence against that obligee originally in the nature of the thing; and the other is only consequential evidence to take it out of the presumption arising from length of time, that he ought to have the benefit of it on the other hand; and in that case, I take it, the indorsements were made and bore date within the 20 years; for if those indorsements were dated after the expiration of 20 years, though they were evidence of the actual payment of interest after that time, they would not be evidence to take it out of the presumption. Another case was that of tradesmen and shop-books; which turns the other way; and no instance, where entered into a man's own hand, that they have been admitted after any length of time as evidence. At the time of making the act of parliament of 7. 1. there was an opinion growing up, that after a certain length of time a man's own shop-books should be evidence for him after the year; to prevent which was that act of parliament made; as I have been informed by Lord *Raymond*, upon consulting him. It was to take away that opinion, that after the year that might be evidence. It is true, there are several instances, which such books, and brewers books, entered by servants used to make the entries, have been admitted, they being dead; but that is not the present case, which is of entries by himself in loose papers of the dates, and numbers, and contents, of these bills. The case nearest to this, and which may make this deserve to be considered at law, was that, where the question was, whether Sir *Biby Lake* should be considered a trustee for Sir *Stephen Evans*; which was tried in *B. R.* where the shop-books of Sir *Stephen Evans* were admitted to be read as evidence after a length of time; but they were entered by servants, and do not prove, that, if made by himself, they would be admitted. That went a great way, and was a new case. Another case was of receipts by a parson of tithes, which has been admitted for his successor, and goes a great way, but differs in some measure; the parson knowing these entries cannot benefit himself nor his property, his representative having nothing to do with the living, but for his successor; who stands indifferent to him; nor it is to be presumed, false entries would be made by him for his successor. Then why should not this be tried at law, as it has been directed? It stands just before me, as it would on the trial.

Indorsements by obligee of payment of interest, evidence to take off presumption of time.

Serle v. Lord Barrington.

Shop books in testator's hand, not evidence.

Entries by servants after the death allowed.

Parson's Receipts for tithes evidence for successor.

It deserves the consideration of the Bank privately, how far they will insist on this. It is true, part of the profits of the bank in trade arises on contingencies of this sort from the loss of notes; which is part of their gains; nor can a man come into the court, and say, they are not intitled to the money, that they are debtors to somebody, and

and that he can shew a probability of title. The rule of the Bank is, that if a man comes, and will make oath, that he was owner of the note, and lost it, they will pay the money on security given to indemnify them. Consider how near this case comes. The person himself is dead; so that he cannot make the oath; then his executor makes oath (though it cannot be read here) that he believes his testator had these notes, and lost them; and brings a list in the testator's own hand: can a man go farther? There is indeed a circumstance, which might give the Bank a suspicion; that among these notes there is a distinction made of those that were paid and crossed; the plaintiffs admitting that four have been paid by the Bank; though the defendants say more; this, the Bank says, shews it is not a fair entry; and that he, who had clearly delivered out four may have delivered out the rest, and therefore they may be out of his possession, before he died: which may weaken it; but without that circumstance I cannot see how one can go further than an oath of belief they were in the testator's possession, and then producing a list under the hand of a person of credit, as the testator is admitted to have been.

But I am of opinion this evidence cannot be admitted; not that it is by no means admissible; but that it stands before me just as before a court of law, and therefore go to law: although I know no instance of a court of law going so far.

The decree must be affirmed, and the supplemental bill dismissed.

Sir John Strange, Master of the Rolls, happened to be present.

Case 21. Attorney General *versus* Meyrick, Nov. 6, 1750.

At the Roll. Sir John Strange Master of the Rolls.

Mortgagee in possession under *habere* devises to a charity all money due by mortgage: it is within the mortmain act. 9. G. 2.

OLIVER Jones, seized in fee, in 1724. mortgaged to William Edwards and his heirs for a sum of money and interest; which not being paid in time, Edwards the son brought an ejectment, obtained judgment, and writ of *habere facias possessionem*; under which being in possession he made a will in 1744, in which was this clause: "Whereas I am possessed of certain sums of money due by mortgage and other specialties, secured to me on the estate of Oliver Jones together with other effects, my will is, and I give all the said money in any ways due by mortgage, notes, or *assumpsit* on the estate of Oliver Jones, whereof I am now possessed by *habere facias possessionem*, and also all my personal estate, in trust to pay my debts, legacies, and funeral expences; and afterwards that

“ that the trustees should settle a place for the schooling and teaching so many poor boys, cloathing them, &c and to pay the master for such teaching, as the interest of the money I am possessed of by securities on the estate, late of *Oliver Jones*, will support and maintain; and I devise to them all the money due on that estate, to be laid out at interest on good securities to apply the interest thereof to the maintenance of the said school for ever.”

This information was to have the charity established and carried into execution. The heir at law of *Oliver Jones*, being a party, insisted by his answer to redeem; but had not yet done so.

For the relator: The mortgaged premises are not devised, but only the money due by mortgage; and the heir at law of testator ought to be a trustee for the charity; this devise not being within the intent or words of the *mortmain* act 9 G. 2. It is only a devise of the beneficial, not of the legal interest which descends to the heir: the lands are alienable; and this is given in money, not as land. Mortgages are always personal estate in this court; and the mortgagor, not mortgagee, considered as owner. This was liable to pay debts, and to be recoverable by an executor, without whose assent it could not be demanded by a legatee. It is doubtful, whether by devise of all one's estate, a mortgage will pass. Though an alien is not capable of taking lands, it has never been determined that he might not take a mortgage: so of a papist. Besides securities for money, are allowed to be given under the requisites of the act by the first clause.

E con': This case is expressly within the meaning and provision of the act; the intent of which was to prevent that false charity arising from ostentation and vanity: devising the money due on mortgage is a devise of the mortgage, *viz.* of all the beneficial interest the testator had; so that it amounts to the same. This is only to be considered as personal estate as between the executor and heir at law of mortgagee; and the reason of being so considered is from its not being the intent to realise it: but as to other purposes it is to be considered as land, like a devise of rents and profits of land, which is a devise of the land itself; and by the intervention of a court of equity this may be made land. It is to be considered as it stood at testator's death; and then any other future act, whether it is redeemed or not, will not alter the case. If mortgages on an estate are not within this statute, it would be easy to elude it; for then the mortgagor, as he pleased to redeem or not, might make it within the act or not: this is like the popery act; and will not be considered by the court in the same light.

Master of the Rolls

Took time to considered of the cause, which was heard last *July*, and now pronounced his decree.

In considering the general question, whether or no this devise is within the act, two things are necessary to be inquired into; first, what right or interest would pass by this will in the matter in controversy, if that statute was out of the case? Secondly, when that interest is seen, which would so pass, then to consider whether that does or does not come within the prohibition of that law?

Consider the testator's right at the time of making the will, and also of his death. As it was a mortgage in fee, the legal estate descended on his death in the whole inheritance to his son and heir; who has recovered in ejectment possession of the estate, and was intitled also to the equitable interest of the mortgage-money considered as personal estate, and capable to pass as such; and, being thus owner, made the devise in question. The distinction made on the part of the relator, between a devise of mortgaged premises and of the money due on mortgage does not seem well founded. By a gift of all one's mortgages, to *A.* the whole beneficial right passes to him; and, be the legal interest either in the heir or executor, as it is a mortgage in fee or term for years, each will be considered as trustee for *A.* who will be permitted by the court to use their names to get the money, or make the pledged estate his own by foreclosure. If it would be so in that case, then would it be equally so, though the phrase used is *money due on mortgage*; where unless the court construes it to pass the whole interest of the mortgagee, it will make it in effect a void devise, or at least put it in the power of a third person, whether the devisee shall take thereby or not. And it has rightly been compared to a devise of rents and profits, by which the land itself will pass; for what is the land but the profits? In *Maundy v. Maundy*, *B. R. Trin. 8 Geo. 2.* it was held, that by devise of ground-rents the land itself would pass. But if this is not sufficient, it is farther observable, that the devise in question is to them and their heirs of all the money due to the testator on the said estate; which must either pass the legal inheritance to them and their heirs, or, if that is still left behind in his own heir, he will be barely a trustee for them. Therefore by such devise the whole interest would pass to the devisees; who would be intitled thereby to every right, the deviser himself had to compel payment of the money, or to make the estate their own by foreclosure.

The second inquiry must depend on considering the reason and design of that law, and the clauses therein; the title of which is

to restrain the disposition of lands whereby they become unalienable; and the preamble recites them to be prohibited by *Magna Charta*, &c. The act of parliament is not a total prohibition to give land or personal estate to be laid out in land, but only *sub modo*; and any variation therefrom is declared to be a publick mischief. Then such a construction ought to be made by the court, as is most effectual to repel the mischief, and advance the remedy. Therefore if this devise tends to let in the mischief intended to be prevented, it is the duty of the court to guard against its taking effect. The only consideration for the court is, whether the gift in this case comes within the prohibition or not: and I am of opinion, that this devise comes within the express words and plain intent thereof. The design of the act was to lay a restraint on every method, whereby land might possibly come to such hands, unless by the manner therein prescribed: the first part therefore is absolute; leaving however more liberty as to personal estate; but seeing that would not sufficiently answer the intent of the legislature, if confined to land, it adds a prohibition as to personal estate, that it should not be given to be laid out in the purchase of land. But was there no other way whereby the interest in land might come to a charitable use? Yes, money due on mortgage was a charge and incumbrance on land; the payment of which depended on the pleasure and ability of the mortgagor; therefore the parliament has by express words taken in this by the third clause; the words of which, if they do not extend to the case of mortgages, I am at a loss to know, for what purpose they were put in. The meaning was, that you shall not give to a charitable use that which is or may be a charge on land, though not so at the time of the gift. Suppose a sum of money is devised to be put out on a mortgage of freehold lands; is not this restrained by the act? If then a mere personal chattel may not, will it better the case, that at the time of the gift it is actually vested? And how absurd would it be in the parliament otherwise? Though by the first clause securities for money are allowed to be given under the requisites of the act, yet the subsequent words of that clause afford an argument, that mortgages affecting lands actually at the time of the gift, will not come within the meaning; as there may be other securities for money not immediate liens on lands, as debts, bonds, &c. I should think that on the first clause mortgages are prohibited; but if doubtful on the first, the words of the other clause take it in expressly; and on that latter clause chiefly I found my opinion; and it contains words not in the statute of 11 & 12 *Wil. 3.* for preventing the growth of popery; and the cases shew, the courts have made as liberal a construction to prevent the mischief as possible.

The information therefore must be dismissed; but, being a new case without costs.

Bailis

Case 21.

Bailis versus Gale, Nov. 6, 1750.

Extent of the
word estate in
a will,

Where a fee
passed, by de-
vise of all that
estate he
bought of
Mead,

TESTATOR devises to his wife all that estate he bought of *Mead*, for so long as she shall live; and different parts of his estate to two sons separately, and to their heirs; but if either should die leaving no issue, the survivor should have the whole. In another clause, "I give to my son *Charles Gale* all that estate I bought of *Mead*, after the death of my wife": in another, "I give to my son *Charles Gale* the reversion of the tenement, my sister now lives in, after her decease; and the reversion of those two tenements now in the possession of *Jos. Cook*." In another clause he devises to *A B.* all the rest and residue of his estate both real and personal.

For plaintiff. The question is, what interest *Charles* took? Not only the land, he bought of *Mead*, passes, but the whole inheritance, his estate and interest. 2 *Lev.* 91. 1 *Mod.* 100. *Tufnel v Page*, *Pas.* 1740. *Ibbetson v. Beckwith*, *Talb.* 157. *Burdet v. Burdet* 1732. 1 *Inst.* 345. *A. and Carter v. Horner*, 4 *Mod.* 89. and *Lady Bridgewater v. Duke of Bolton*, 1 *Salk.* 236. Estate is synonymous with property; and there must be other words to restrain its generality. In *Lady Delves v. Corbet*, *Trin.* 1746. Sir *Bryan Brout. Delves* settled on his wife 1000*l.* per ann. rent-charge for a jointure; and having freehold estates descendable, tithes, and reversions in fee expectant on failure of his issue-male, devised to his loving wife all his freehold estate of any kind or nature whatsoever, which at present was in his power to dispose of, and made her residuary legatee: a case was sent into *B. R.* where the question was, what estate she took; and the whole court held, there was nothing to restrain the generality of the word estate; which took in every thing as well in reversion as possession. In *Barry v. Edgworth*, *Eq. Ab.* 177. Words of locality did not confine it to the thing. Where an estate for life intended, testator has done it by express words; and could not mean to give only a reversionary estate for life to one of his sons. In the residuary clause it clearly includes the estate in fee, and it is natural to mean the same in the other parts of the will.

Next as to the reversion; it means clearly the estate in the land, the interest he had in it, and not the land itself: the reversion is all the reversion; for any part is as much the reversion as any other; and in *Norton v. Ladd*, 1 *Lut.* 755, all the remainder gave a fee.

For defendant. Estate will not carry more than an estate for life, where it is taken in the very sense of land, as here; it passing only

only the subject the testator bought of *Mead*. An heir at law is not to be disinherited on an equivocal term; but is to be favoured; and takes, what is not necessarily devised away. *Johnson v. Kirkman*, 1 *Roll. Ab.* 134. It was a great while before any word was allowed to carry more than estate for life, unless *estate*, as *Cro. El.* 52, *totam illam partem*, and *Skin.* 339. Afterward in *Goodright's* case, 1 *G.* 2. on the word *hereditament*; and several other cases. The only word, carrying both the estate of and in, is estate, where the word *my* is used, which is not here; nor will the law carry it farther. The same description is used in a former devise of this very land, where he did not mean to pass the whole interest in it: then the same words must be expounded in the same sense; and where he meant a fee, he has used proper words of limitation; as in the devise to the other sons.

As to the devise of the *reversion*; it signifies, the land when it shall revert. There are no words of limitation; and no case where *reversion* passes a fee. A reversion is capable of being divided; and no reason why it should pass more than the word *land*, which will pass a reversion.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This case arises on a subject, which admits of a very large field, and on which there is a variety of cases, and a variety in those cases, as to the extent and force courts of law and equity have given to particular words on wills, on which this question has arisen. But there is no doubt at all as to the present case; and as to what was thrown out of favour in cases of this sort to an heir at law, it is to be laid out of the case; because by this will, (whatever is the construction) the heir is disinherited certainly; which is clearly shewn to be intended by the general sweeping devise of all his real estate.

On the first question I am of opinion, that both the thing itself, and the estate, property and interest the testator had, passes by the devise. Several questions have arisen in courts of law and equity on devises of this kind; but all the latter determinations have extended, and leaned as much as possible, to make words of this kind comprehend not only the thing given, but the estate and interest the testator had therein; and for a very plain reason: it commonly happened in wills made by the testator himself, being *inops consilii*, not constant of the law; of which kind this will is; and when it is so, it is well known, that when one gives, especially among his children, such and such lands, describing the lands only, he most commonly means the fee simple of it; unless where he gives it for life. Where he means to give a thing only for a particular interest, as for life or years, common sense points out to add those limiting

words; and the generality of people, giving without such limitation, mean to give it absolutely, though the word *heirs*, or such words are not added. Where words of limitation are not added, the law is so tied down, that the rule is, it can give only an estate for life: but most frequently that is contrary to the intent of the testator, especially when it is among children: but the law cannot help it; it must be so pursued: and it is better, that should be so, than the rule broke in upon. But in the last cases the court has endeavoured to make *estate* amount to a devise of the whole interest, unless some words restraining or limiting that general sense, according to Lord *Holt*. *Estate* is admitted to be sufficient to make a description not only of the land, but the interest in the land. But it is objected, the pronoun *my* is not added: there was no occasion for it. It was necessary, he should use such words as point out the whole interest he had in the land; which is sufficiently done by the other words; for he bought of *Mead* the land and the fee simple in the land; which is agreeable to the construction of the word *estate*; being sufficient to describe the thing and the interest therein, as it is in the case of all my estate. As to the objection from the devise to the wife, he did not intend a fee there: but that is no argument that he did not understand the word *estate* to comprise not only the thing, but the interest and property in the thing. Persons, not knowing the law, know when to add a restriction to what they give; therefore his adding that to his wife's devise shews, he was apprehensive, this word *estate* would pass the whole otherwise, and rather confirms and strengthens the subsequent clause. But another argument may be drawn on this will: that the testator is dividing his estate among his wife and children; and it is inconceivable, he should intend to give the provision, he meant for his son *Charles*, by a reversion for life after the death of his wife; which greatly strengthens the construction of all these wills: and on this reason I am of opinion, this is stronger than *Ibbetson v. Beckwith*; for there was a locality described; which is, what makes the objection to this large construction: it makes no difference, whether it is *all my estate at Northwith Close*, or *all the estate*; for it must be construed with a *videlicet*, which is as local; and this is a devise of the same kind exactly. From this case also arises an answer to another objection, that the testator has used words of limitation, where he intended a fee; it is so there. Lord *Talbot's* answer is, that it is a very incorrect penned will. I am of the same opinion in the present case, that no stress can be laid on differences of that kind. But another answer to that observation is, he has used *heirs* plainly to introduce the limitation over by way of cross remainder. The word *issue* shews, how he understood the word *heirs*; and proves, that the drawer of this will meant by *heirs*, heirs of the body; and therefore as a word of restraining, not of enlarging. This therefore is
a strong

a strong case as to the extent of the word *estate*, that he gave not only the thing but his interest in it, and consequently a fee.

The next question is as to the reversion, whether that word passes a fee? I am of opinion, it does. The interest the testator had in it was the reversion in fee, he had in himself expectant on those leases he had granted, whether for life or years. Reversion is a right of having the estate back again, (which creates an interest), when the particular estate determines; and according to *Lut.* devise of a reversion passes a fee: there was a devise of the whole remainder. *Reversion* is descriptive of that right of reverter by way of eminence, that was in himself; consequently there is no ground to split or divide it; for giving the *reversion* gives the whole reversion, unless words are added limiting or restraining the interest. Here also occurs the other argument from his making a division of his estate among his children, that it is extraordinary, he should give his children only a dry reversion, when the antecedent estate might continue longer than their lives; which strengthens the argument, that they should have as liberal a construction as the law will allow.

Where a fee passed by devise of the reversion.

As to the residuary clause; it has been held, that where *estate* is mentioned generally, accompanied with personal things, it should be restrained to personal: but never where *real estate* is mentioned; for then the personal things mentioned shall be considered only an enumeration of those specifick things.

Devise of residue of estate with personal, restrained to personal: not if it was real estate.

Bennet *versus* Musgrove, Nov. 6, 1750.

Case 23.

A Judgment-creditor of *Musgrove*, having an execution by *elegit* against the land executed, and an inquisition taken, brought a bill to set aside a fraudulent conveyance made to the other defendant *Bradley*.

Bill lies for creditor by *elegit* to set aside a fraudulent conveyance, whether he could recover at law or not.

Two objections were made: 1st, That he should not come into equity, but go to law, supposing, what the plaintiff said, was true; for if a fraudulent conveyance, it is void by the statute: next, that the plaintiff had not sufficient foundation in point of evidence of fraud.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

A plain case to give the plaintiff relief; which is to be let in to the benefit of that, to which such a creditor is intitled, though a creditor at large is not. But where a judgment is obtained, affecting it from the time and execution, he is intitled, because that affects the reality of the land: and this, whether it is one kind of fraudulent

lent

lent conveyance of another; for if it is by collusion, he clearly may: but if it was obtained from his debtor himself by fraud on the debtor on or about the time, he obtained his judgment and *elegit*; he might, as standing in the place of that debtor, come into this court to be relieved against that conveyance, and to have the same benefit of relief.

Conveyance fraudulent if without delivery of possession, though part a real consideration.

Distinction between actual and presumed fraud; in the latter left to law.

As to the first objection of the remedy, that he might have gone to law, and brought ejectment on the *elegit* and inquisition: if he had, perhaps he would have failed at law by reason of a consideration thrown in of 50*l.* a debt from *Musgrove* to *Bradley* at the time, if that was proved true: though notwithstanding that, it might be still a conveyance made in fraud of creditors: and if that was done without delivery of possession, such a conveyance would not have been sufficient, though part was a real consideration; which was *Twine's* case; for there was not a delivery. But be it as it may, whether he could recover or not, he is intitled to come into this court; the distinction in this court being, where a subsequent purchaser for valuable consideration would recover the estate, and set aside or get the better of a precedent voluntary conveyance, if that conveyance was fairly made, without actual fraud, the court will say, take your remedy at law: but wherever the conveyance is attended with actual fraud, though they might go to law by ejectment, and recover the possession, they may come into this court to set aside that conveyance: which is a distinction between actual and presumed fraud from its being merely a conveyance.

As to the last question, there is sufficient evidence of a fraudulent and collusive conveyance to deceive the plaintiff and other creditors of *Musgrove*, to protect this estate against them; and must be so far set aside as fraudulent against the plaintiff's debt and demand by virtue of the *elegit*.

Case 24.

Mogg versus Hodges, Nov. 16, 1750.

Mortmain.

Assets not marshalled to support a legacy contrary to law: viz. lands to a charity.

JANE CHURCHILL by will leaves her real estate to trustees to be sold; the profits to be applied to the uses of the will: directs, that her debts and legacies should be paid out of the personal estate; makes the trustees executors; and leaves them all the residue of her personal estate and of that money, that should be raised by sale of her real, to be given by them in what charities they should think proper, particularly recommending to them the hospital at *Bath*.

The trustees agreed, that as all money arising from a real estate is to be accounted as real, the bequest was so far void by statute of *Mortmain*, 9 G. 2. but desired, that in compliance with the intent of

of testatrix the assets should be so marshalled, that all the other legacies should be paid out of the real estate, and so the personal go to the charity, which legally might, according to *Dalton v. James*: and the common course of the court, where there are bond and other creditors, is to direct the bond-creditors to be paid out of the real estate, that the personal might be left to others.

Lord Chancellor thought himself not warranted to set up a rule of equity, contrary to the common rules of the court, merely to support a bequest which was contrary to law. It would be contrary to the express direction of the testatrix, who desires first, that her legacies and debts should be paid out of the personal; that is the natural fund; and if the heir or devisee of the real estate is sued by a bond-creditor, he may stand in the place of that creditor to be reimbursed out of the personal. In *Dalton v. James*, the legacies were particularly chargeable on both estates; and the court will always for the furtherance of justice, as in the case of debts, or, to comply as far as is consistent with law with the intention of testator, in the case of legacies, when there are two different funds for payment of debts and legacies, order each particular to be paid out of that fund it legally may. But the assets cannot be so marshalled to support a legacy contrary to law.

It has been argued, that the hospital at *Bath*, which was incorporated by act of parliament, had some particular clauses in it contrary to the statute of *Mortmain*, and consequently in those particulars not subject thereto. Bath Hospital.

Lord Chancellor held, that the words in that act were to be considered as in a charter: that the charter of incorporation was only granted by parliament to avoid expence to the promoters of that charity, who were forced to apply to parliament for some other powers, which the crown could not grant: therefore the charter was inserted in the act, and is to be construed as another charter given by the King only. The clause mentioned was inserted to avoid the trouble of applying for a licence in *Mortmain*, and was to be considered as such a licence: that the governors are thereby empowered to take lands to such a value, but still with a *proviso* that they are granted to them in the manner prescribed by that law.

Several sums having been left by the will to be laid out in lands for the use of particular charities, it was urged, that, though void as to the charity, it should take effect so far as to be laid out in lands, and descend to the heir.

Trust to take effect according to the whole intent, or not at all. But it was decreed, that the trust must either take effect according to the whole intent, or not at all : and as all money, arising from the sale of a real estate, was still to be accounted as real ; to all lands, to be bought with personal, were still to be considered as part of the personal.

Ex Relatione.

Case 25. Lefebure *versus* Worden, Nov. 16, 1750.

A man's own entry in book of accounts allowed as evidence, on inquiry before the Master, where all papers, &c. to be produced, not as original evidence of the demand, but as a claim in his life.

ON exceptions by defendants to the Master's report, a question of fact, by whom two several mortgages were paid off ; whether with the money of *Gabriel Armiger*, whose representatives were the defendants, or of *Judick Armiger*, his mother, to whom the plaintiffs were representatives : the Master having reported the payment to be by the mother and with her money.

A deed, not proved in the cause was offered as evidence ; it being said to have been read before the Master ; but there was no proof of that : but the deed by its antiquity proving itself, being about 33 years standing ; and it appearing material to the cause ; and admitted on both sides that the parties were not bound, by what was read before a Master, but might on exceptions be let in to read what they should think material ; it was allowed to be read.

An entry by *Gabriel* in his book of accounts was offered as evidence for defendants ; for which was cited *Wilkinson v. Hern*, 18 January 1744 ; but the reading it was objected to.

Lord Chancellor said, it was common experience, that though what is sworn by an answer positively, cannot be read in evidence, yet the court allows weight to that answer so far as to take notice of it as a foundation for an inquiry. If then an answer, unsupported by proof, might have that weight, an entry in books of account of testator seems a proper ground for the court to let in and give attention to it so far as to be a foundation for an inquiry. It was now open, whether this was proper to be read as evidence ; and he was doubtful about it. He inclined not to read it at present ; but to go through the cause, hear all the other evidence on both sides, and see how it bore connection with the several facts, and judge whether there was occasion for it or not.

After hearing the evidence, he was of opinion, on the best consideration, that this entry ought, under the circumstances of the present case, (which is a case of inquiry) to be read ; and it was desirable to let in all lights in so dark a case : the court would judge of its weight afterward. It must be admitted, that, by the rules of evidence, no entry in a man's own books by himself can be evi-

Rules of evidence.

dence

demands for himself to prove his demand. So far the courts of justice have gone, (and that was going a good way, and perhaps broke in upon the original strict rules of evidence) that where there was such evidence by a servant known in transacting the business, as in a goldsmith's shop by a cashier or book-keeper, such entry, supported on the oath of that servant, that he used to make entries from time to time, and that he made them truly, has been read. Farther, where Entry by servant or agree- that servant, agent, or book-keeper has been dead, if there is proof usually employed therein, allowed on that he was the servant or agent usually employed in such business, proof of his death and handwriting. was intrusted to make such entries by his master, that it was the course of trade; on proof that he was dead, and that it was his handwriting, such entry has been read, (which was Sir *Biby Lake's* case) and that was going a great way; for there it might be objected, that such entry was the same as if made by the master himself: yet by reason of the difficulty of making proof in cases of this kind, the court has gone so far. There is no case, where an entry by the party himself has been admitted to be read, because it was merely his own declaration, unless *Wilkinson v. Hern*; of which he could not find he had taken any note; which might be from its being heard on exceptions, on which seldom any thing arose as matter of precedent; but it was read there on a different ground, *viz.* as evidence to shew the discharge or application of the money by the person making the payment; for it was a general payment, and the fact of payment not disputed. But whether there was such an authority or not, it is a reasonable distinction, that though an entry in a man's own books may not be evidence originally to prove a right or the demand in question, yet where the sum is clearly made out to be paid out of his property, it may be evidence to prove the application of it, according to the rule, that whoever pays money, it must be received according to the direction and mode the prayer imposes on it. That was certainly going a considerable way, but does not come up to the present; because there the payment was clearly admitted, and the question was only concerning the application: here the payment is not admitted, but drawn by inference from another fact, that on that day the mother sold the bank stock, she received the money arising from the sale thereof, which is argued to be arising from the sale of the bank stock of the son, because the original transfer proceeded from him, and that it was his money received by her: so that the payment made here is proved but by deduction from other circumstances. But the ground that must be gone upon in this case is, that this is an inquiry before the Master; on which it is directed by the court that all papers, writings, &c. should be produced before him; and the intent was, that all kinds of circumstances should be produced; and therefore this paper is not to be considered as offered to prove originally the demand of the defendants; but to corroborate the other evidence offered for the defendants, and to rebut the plaintiff's evidence. The plaintiffs have proved and read a paper drawn up by the solicitor

citor of the mother, and her own dictating, and a declaration of what was her demand on her son on her own part; which amounts only to her only declaration; no stronger than if it had appeared in writing under her hand to be claimed by her. If that is admitted (which is admitted not as strictly her demand, but as a claim made by her in her life, between her and her solicitor, of such a sum due to her, why may not the court on the same foundation suffer to be read this entry in the son's account, as a claim made by him to this sum in his life, and standing on the same foot with this other paper, and in a dark case where there is an inquiry before the Master, and all circumstances directed to be produced? On that foundation only must it be read; not as original evidence of the demand; the weight of it will be judged of afterward.

Nov. 21.

Lord Chancellor summing up all the circumstances, delivered his opinion, that the strength of the evidence was on the side of the defendants, that the mortgages were paid off with the son's money. The transaction was in 1721, brought on at a great distance of time after death of all the parties concerned, and was between persons nearly related, having great confidence in one another, not keeping regular accounts between them, which occasioned great obscurity. And what appeared in the cause proved the wisdom of the rule laid down in general, that money is not to be followed, from the uncertainty and maze the court was got into from being under a necessity of following it in this case; for the persons having the legal interest, admitted themselves to be trustees barely; and as there was no declaration of trust, the court was under a necessity of inquiring and finding by evidence, for whom they are trustees; for it is not in the power of a person, admitting himself to be a trustee only, to set up himself to be a judge for whom he is trustee: but a court of equity must determine it. That depends on the question, with whose money it was paid; which, on the best consideration, appeared to be the son's.

The exceptions therefore was allowed.

Case 26.

_____, November 16, 1750.

On devise of
guardianship
parolevidence
of father's in-
tent as to edu-
cation admit-
ted.

PETITION on a difference of opinion between the guardians of Lord *St. John*, Lord *Luxborough*, and Mr. *Furness*.

A case was cited, where Lord *King* said, parole evidence should not be admitted in the case of devise of guardianship, any more than in a devise of land.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

As to the particular method of education, the court will receive parol proof of the intent of the father ; receiving all sorts of evidence to govern their direction.

Sedgwick *versus* Hargrave, Nov. 22, 1750.

Case 27.

At the Rolls. Sir John Strange, Master of the Rolls.

GEORGE SEDGWICK, seised in fee of a customary estate of about 20 *l. per ann.* in 1689, made a settlement of it ; which recites, that in consideration of a marriage lately had, and in performance of such articles and agreements as were passed and made by him on conclusion of the marriage, and for making a jointure, and for 100 *l.* paid him by his wife's father, he infeoffs trustees for himself for life, to his wife for life for a jointure, and, after both their decease, to the heirs of their two bodies ; in default thereof to his right heirs. There was issue one daughter, who married the defendant *Hargrave*. In 1704, *Sedgwick* married a second wife, and entered into an agreement to settle an estate on her for a jointure, and on the issue of that marriage ; as appears by a recital in a deed, made in 1710, when the family was under difficulties, and which was proposed to make all easy between these two different settlements, by making a provision in case of the father and daughter, and that the estate should go, after the father's death, to his son by the second marriage, the present plaintiff. This last deed recited the deed in 1689, and another in 1704, and took notice, that the father wanted 100 *l.* to pay debts, and also to raise out of his estate 200 *l.* to be paid to his son-in-law *Hargrave*, as a portion with his daughter, which is thereby declared to be in lieu of, and full satisfaction for all her right, claim, or demand in or out of her father's estate or any of the premises. The money was paid, and the estate settled accordingly. In 1712, the father filed a bill to set aside this agreement in 1710. *Hargrave* and his wife both joined in answer, and both disclaimed all right whatever to the premises, and were willing to release her right or title, or join in a conveyance, or do what the court thought proper, so as they were not obliged to refund any part of the 200 *l.* This was in 1717, and nothing further was done in that cause. The father died about 1750, and the plaintiff enjoyed the estate without any claim : but in 1747, having occasion to dispose of it, he set it up ; and the defendant *Rotherham* bid for it, and was considered as the purchaser, having agreed for it : but receiving a hint of *Hargrave's* claim, and finding he insisted his wife had a right to this estate, and that a good title could not be made, unless she joined, he

Husband decreed to join, and to procure wife to join, in conveyance of her estate pursuant to agreement, or to refund a sum received by the husband ; where the court would not make a personal decree on her.

told the plaintiff, he would proceed no further in his purchase, unless this cloud was removed: whereupon the plaintiff brought this bill to compel *Rotherham* to go on with the purchase contracted for, and that *Hargrave* and his wife might set out the nature of their claim; and he decreed to join with him in making a title, or refund the 200 *l.* with interest.

For defendants: There is nothing binding the wife in a court of equity to convey away her inheritance under the settlement in 1689, which must be taken as made in pursuance of articles before marriage, and consequently her father only tenant for life; for though this was not a proper method of conveying a customary estate, yet being before marriage, a court of equity will consider the agreement and intent, and the parties as under a strict settlement. The wife is not bound by the deed in 1710, which she did not execute, though made a party; and that was by collusion between her father and husband to put 200 *l.* in his pocket. Nor is she bound by the disclaimer in her answer with her husband in a former cause, in which nothing more was done. Next, if the husband is to refund the 200 *l.* it must not be to the plaintiff, but to the personal estate of the father; of which no representative is before the court. He is indeed liable to the covenant, and let them pursue that.

Master of the Rolls.

As it stands on this deed of 1689, the father was certainly tenant in tail, supposing it was an estate proper to be conveyed by such an instrument; but not being attended with the circumstances required by the custom, no legal right or interest could be thereby conveyed, but *G. Sedgwick* remains still seised in fee, and though it is said a court of equity will mold it according to the agreement and intent, yet, if no articles previous to the marriage, it is a mere voluntary settlement; and must have a legal effect if it can; but if not as a voluntary settlement, no party here are to have the benefit of it. The question then is, whether such articles were or were not entered into? None are produced. At this instance of time recitals will have weight; but if there were such articles, it is odd, that notice should be taken of them in this deed in the manner they are; not saying previous to the marriage; for then it might have gone a great way, in a deed of this antiquity, to presume articles; of which, when once carried into execution, people are not so careful. Defendants say, they know nothing of such articles; and from the subsequent transaction, and liberty taken by the father in settling a new disposition in a different manner, a presumption arises, that there were none: but whether or not, no legal interest could pass by that deed to Mrs. *Hargrave* as issue of that marriage: and this being so small an estate, it is not likely a man should make such a provision as never to have it in his power on any emergency. The deed in 1710, is a waiver by that
daughter

daughter of any claim on any state of the father under either of those deeds; and in no other light can it be considered but as an agreement between the parties to unfetter the whole estate; as they had it in prospect, that these settlements were entangled, and might occasion suits in law and equity, and to accommodate matters; and, considering the value of the estate, 200 *l.* was a very ample provision for the daughter at that time. Supposing the conveyance in 1689, had been strictly according to the custom, so that she would be intitled to that estate as the only issue, yet she was not to come into possession until after the death of the father, who lived long after. But though she is mentioned in the beginning of that deed in 1710, as one of the executing parties, she never executed, nor even saw it: so that it was without her intervention. The subsequent covenants are for the husband only; but it was a beneficial bargain for himself and his wife; having 200 *l.* in present on parting with at most a reversionary equitable interest; for a legal there was not. Had this been an agreement, the court could see it might be disadvantageous to her, they would look with very jealous eyes indeed; the wife being said to be a party, and not executing it, and then perhaps a minor: but when it appears for her benefit, and that she, when of age, joined in the answer to the father's bill, who considered that they had the better of him in the bargain, that she had then a right understanding with her husband, not complaining of the transaction, but careful that the 200 *l.* should not be recovered back, nor even now complaining of any coercion or imposition by her husband, as to her joining in such answer; great weight must be laid upon it: especially when she had opportunity to apply to put in a separate answer. From the father's death no claim was set up, until the plaintiff was obliged to dispose of this estate: and now it is contended, that, though the husband owns he is bound, the wife is not; that the estate is hers, and the plaintiff may come against the husband as he pleases; which is a most unconscionable defence. The justice of the case is, if in the power of the court, to take care the plaintiff should have the benefit of this contract, and be enabled to convey to the purchaser, who (for my part I think) might be safe in taking a conveyance from the plaintiff, from the long possession, and no legal estate standing out. But I have heard it said, a title purchased under a court of equity must be like *Cæsar's* wife, even without any suspicion. If then, for his satisfaction, the court can clear it of this cloud, it were to be wished; especially as that agreement was for her benefit. How far can the court go? It cannot make a personal decree on her to join in a title; for notwithstanding the husband's power over the wife's estate by this custom, yet is that attended with other circumstances; for he must be actually admitted thereto in right of his wife, to give him a dominion; for if she died before these circumstances were completed, her heir would be intitled: but no act has been done by her, that the court can say, is a
parting

parting with her interest, so as to make a personal decree on her. I fear a bare decree on him to join, or procure his wife to join, may not answer the ends of justice. No doubt this 200 l. ought to be refunded, if it is not performed; but to whom? The person who is to have this estate comprized in that agreement, *viz.* the plaintiff, in whose way the defendant has thrown this objection, which is an injury to him; and to him must the recompence be; for it cannot be considered as personal assets of the father, and so put into that pocket never designed by this agreement; for it was always designed as advanced to benefit the estate. On the whole therefore, I am not warranted to make a personal decree on her, but to decree him to join in a conveyance, and to procure her so to do; and to induce him I can add that alternative, that if he does not, in the time and manner directed by the master, perform it, he shall account to the plaintiff for this sum.

This is the harshest and most obstinate defence ever made; and no imputation on the agreement; for that is what I go upon.

Note; For plaintiff has cited a case, where it was held by the Lords, that such a recital of articles in a marriage-settlement was not good against a purchaser, though binding on the parties, volunteers, &c. and the decree, which held it binding on all, was reversed, and two cases, to shew the 200 l. should be refunded to the plaintiff, *viz.* *Earl of Coventry v. Carew*, in 1745, where Lord *Coventry* devised, that his trustees should exchange with *Lincoln College* a manor, and devised the estate to come in exchange: the college refused; on which a question arose between his real representatives and devisee; it being objected this was not the estate devised; but Lord *Hardwicke* held it should go as he designed the other. Next *M^cKensie v. Robinson*, in 1742, where the one devised to his brother a real estate in *Jamaica*, which proved to be evicted; a satisfaction being made in pursuance of a covenant by vendor of the estate, it was insisted the money was part of the personal estate of testator; but Lord *Hardwicke* held it should accrue to the brother.

Case 28.

Parsons versus Dunne, November 23, 1750.

Wife must
consent or elect in court.
If abroad,
persons im-
powered to
examine her
separately
thereto.

ON petition by *Dunne* and his wife, as to her money, the question was, whether it was a ground to make an order thereon as to the method of carrying into execution an agreement now made an order of court, by which an account was stated.

The husband and wife now submitted to this agreement; and, being at *Paris*, had executed a letter of attorney to a person here to consent.

LORD

Lord Chancellor said, that would not do; the constant rule being otherwise. She must be present in court, to see whether she consented or not; or something in nature of a commission should issue, like a *dedimus* in case of a fine.

The *Register* mentioning a case where a woman, married to a second husband, was to elect, whether she took by will of her former husband, or by the custom, her widow's part: both husband and wife came into court to make that election, and differed; and *Verney* late *Master of the Rolls* referred it to a Master, to see what was most for her benefit. His Lordship said, that was in point: and the consequence otherwise might and would often be, that if the husband might make an election to bind the wife, or agree to an account of the personal estate, the wife was intitled to, he might by collusion take money into his own pocket to reduce her share.

Let her therefore attend certain persons named, who reside in *Paris*, to be by them examined solely and separately, as to her election to take by the custom or not; and whether she consents to be bound by the account and agreement; which let them sign and certify to the court, signed by her also.

Duke of Marlborough *versus* Lord Godolphin, Case 29.
November 26, 1750.

CHARLES Earl of Sunderland, in 1720, made his will, where- Lapsed legacy.
by he disposes of his pictures and furniture at his house, desires Powers.
his debts and legacies might be paid; gives 30,000*l.* to his wife; and Devise of
after several other pecuniary legacies, all the rest and residue of his 30,000*l.* to his
personal estate to his eldest son *Robert Lord Spencer*; "except such wife for life,
" other legacies as I shall indorse on the back hereof, in nature of a and afterward
" codicil in my own hand-writing;" making him, *Lord Godolphin*, to be distribu-
and others, executors of his will. ted among his

in nature of will, should appoint: not vested in children dying in her life, she appointing by will, though
feme covert at the time.

He afterward, by a codicil indorsed on his will without a date, directs the legacy, given by his will to his wife, should be to her own use and benefit for and during the term of her natural life only; and after her decease to be divided and distributed to and amongst such of his children, and in such manner and proportion, as she by any deed, or will, or instrument of writing in nature of a will, should direct and appoint; and for no other purpose whatsoever.

He died in 1722, without revoking, leaving his Countess and seven children.

Upon the second marriage of the Countess, a deed of settlement was made, wherein was an express recital of the will and codicil; and a declaration that the interest of that 30,000*l.* should remain to her separate use; and then an express covenant and agreement on the part of her second husband, that she should have power to make a will concerning the interest and improvement of that sum.

In 1736, her second husband then living, she made a will; thereby reciting that she had before appointed 6000*l.* part of the 30,000*l.* for the benefit of her son in law Lord *Robert*, and 2000*l.* other part thereof for her daughter in law Lady *Morpeth*, which she intended as part of what she proposed to give her at her death; she says, this is her last will and testament, and that in pursuance of her power and authority given by the will of her husband, (which with the codicil she recites) and of all other powers, she by this will gives, directs, and appoints, the remaining principal sum to be paid to the several children of Lord *Sunderland* after-mentioned in the several proportions after; to the plaintiff 2000*l.* to *John Spencer* 2000*l.* to Lady *Bateman* 3000*l.* and the residue, which she computed to be 15,000*l.* to Lady *Morpeth*, on condition that Lady *Morpeth* should give such a release, as should be tendered by her executors within six months after her (the Countess) death, and discharge all her estate real and personal from the said 30,000*l.* in default thereof the legacy being appointed for her should be void; making Mrs. *Poultny* her executrix; and dying in 1749.

John Spencer and Lady *Morpeth* died in her lifetime after her making this will. Their legacies were claimed by the plaintiff as being thereby lapsed, as undisposed and unappointed, and therefore part of the residuary estate of Lord *Robert*, whose executor the plaintiff was; under which right the plaintiff applied to Lord *Godolphin*, surviving executor of Lord *Sunderland*, for the payment of those sums; who thought proper to refer it to this court to settle the several claims set up by the several defendants to this money.

The bill therefore to have 17,000*l.* remainder of the 30,000*l.* beyond those sums which were effectually appointed and given by Lady *Sunderland* by virtue of her power, was brought against the representative of Lord *Sunderland*, and of Lady *Sunderland*, to whom also administration had been granted to *William Spencer*, younger son of Lord *Sunderland*, who died soon after his father; there were also made parties Lady *Bateman* as one of the children; Lord *Carlisle* as administrator of his late wife Lady *Morpeth*; the Duke of *Bedford* as administrator of his late wife another of the daughters; and also the representatives of *John Spencer*.

For plaintiff. To shew that the several ways, in which this is pretended to be appointed, cannot prevail, it is to be considered on the

the appointment by Lady *Sunderland*, and that of Lord *Sunderland* on default of appointment by her. Her discretionary power was very large as to the manner, terms and proportions; so that in whatever way she chose to do it, it must take effect thereby. It is done by a testamentary disposition; comprised in the same instrument, in which she disposes of her own property. She calls it a will: and it has been proved in the ecclesiastical court: she might either by deed in her life or by will have given it to such of the children, as survived her; and though she has not inserted those words, she has in effect given on those terms by giving it by will; which, whether it is to execute a power, or perform the orders of another, or a right to a person's own estate, means the same exactly. A will is ambulatory; only an inchoation of a will till the death of testator: although when it becomes a will, it may have a retrospect to certain purposes: but, though in some cases it may speak sooner than in others, in no case can it take effect till death of testator. It is a principle of law, that a devise of real or personal estate is void by dying before testator; founded on *Bret v. Rigden*, *Plo.* 345, *A.* that it is necessary to have a donee *in esse*; and is taken from the civil law; the reason in *Domat*, *part. 2. lib. 4.*, being much the same as in *Plo.* A will is revocable from its nature; nor can it be made otherwise: for a clause to that purpose would be void, as it could not then be proportioned to the exigencies of families. Then it must be construed as all other wills, and fall within the said principle caused by construction of law, and which is only saying, it was the intent of testator, that it should not go to the persons named, unless they survived testator. Nothing is here to make it differ from a common will; for the subject matter of a will makes it not less ambulatory, &c. Its being an appointment in execution of a power prevents not its having all the incidents to a will. Though to some purposes appointee takes under the original power, and the legal operation is from the deed, giving the power according to Sir *Edward Clere's* case, *6 Co.* yet it is taken by the mediation of the power itself, and the court in considering his right, will consider one as well as the other. It must have the proper qualities of the instrument referred to: be executed according to statute of frauds. *Longford v. Eyre*, *1 Wil.* 740, and *Wagstaff v. Wagstaff*, *2 Wil.* 258, so that a power referring to a will means such a will, as is proper to devise. On a power to appoint personal estate by will it must be a will proved in ecclesiastical court. *Ross v. Euer*, *5 July 1744*, where the bill for payment of legacies given by wife of defendant, who had previous to the marriage stock in trust for the husband for life, then to such of the children as she should by will or writing under hand and seal attested by three witnesses appoint; and in default of appointment, equally: she died before her husband; leaving a paper in her own hand; and declared this to be her will, and made an appointment thereby: but

it was not signed by her, nor attested. Your *Lordship* held, it was no will, because not proved: which was attempted to be answered; because it was only a writing of a *feme covert* executing a power, not strictly a will, the husband not consenting to it; so that it could not be a will, nor proved in ecclesiastical court, only a power; and would operate by the original deed giving that power. Your *Lordship* held, even this ought to be proved; and that it was the ordinary practice to do so; and retained the bill, that the plaintiff might have opportunity to commence a suit in the ecclesiastical court. So that a power to execute by will means, it shall have the effect and be governed by the rules of a will: as on a bond before marriage to permit the wife to make a will; which she does with the husband's consent; the legatee must survive her. Though Lady *Sunderland* was under coverture at the time, she had power to make a will, and reserved it to herself before her second marriage: nor could she disable herself. But it will fall under the other words, a *writing in nature of a will*; which is sufficient to answer this power, and would do so in strict legal pleading. *Tylley v. Pierce*, *Cro. Car.* 376. In *Rich v. Beaumont* by the Lords, 11 *Feb.* 1726, plaintiff's wife had a power before marriage of appointing a real estate by deed indented executed in presence of three witnesses, or by her last will and testament duly executed: after marriage she executes this power not by a will duly executed in the legal sense of a will, but by an instrument in nature of a will: the husband brought a bill to have the benefit of the execution of her power: Lord *King* dismissed it; and held, the marriage a suspension of her power; but that if she had survived her husband, the power would have revived; which decree was reversed, and a case ordered to be made and sent from this court for the opinion of *B. R.* where it was held a good appointment: and that was of real estate. If Lady *Sunderland* had executed by deed, the interest would have absolutely vested in *nominee*, unless she reserved a power of revocation in the instrument itself: but she has chosen an instrument, where there was no occasion to reserve such a power; as from the nature of it she might have made a new one immediately. Then why not testamentary throughout? for it is arbitrary to stop there. She was apprised of the different methods, by which she might execute; for having before appointed part by deed, her using a different method after, proves she had a different design; that no interest should vest in this till her death. Powers being so frequent since the statute of uses, it is odd, there are not more cases of this kind in the books: but the reason is, mankind have always thought a will in pursuance of a power revocable in its nature, and having all the properties of a will. Uses are considered as powers: and whoever has the direction of these uses, directs in such a way, as the nature of the case will admit; if by will, as a will; if by deed, as a deed. Your *Lordship* has determined, a deed executing a power over real estate was a conveyance

conveyance within the statute of *Eliz.* so as to be fraudulent, because it was a conveyance: then a devise to execute a power should be within the same reason. In appointment of copyhold this accident must have happened often: no copyholder can make a direct devise, but must do it by surrender to use of his will; then it passes by the surrender, not the will, which is only an execution of a power. Though there is no determination either way, whether, by death of the devisee in a will made in pursuance of such surrender, it should lapse or not, yet no doubt but it would from the nature of the instrument. But this very point in question has been determined by your *Lordship*, first in *Madison* x. *Andrew*, 27 Nov. 1747; where the appointment to a deceased daughter was held void; Ante. the intent being that it should be given to her personally, and that the daughter dying before the appointment had no such interest as was transmissible to her representative. Secondly in *Oke* v. *Heath*, Ante. 4 Nov. 1748. which is stronger than this; your *Lordship* held the appointment, though by a *feme covert*, was testamentary, should be attended with the consequences of a will, and be proved in the ecclesiastical court. *Burnet* v. *Holgrave*, *Eq. Ab.* 296. was then insisted upon; but did not hinder the determination: it appears a cause by consent, in which cases the information laid before the court is very imperfect: and besides it is materially distinguishable; it being like the case on Lord *Thomond's* will of a devise to Sir *William Windham* in trust, where notwithstanding the death of trustee, *cestuy que trust* was intitled. As to the particular case of Lady *Morpeth* it is on a condition, and to be performed by her personally; which she could not execute, if she did not survive Lady *Sunderland*: nor is it material, that it may be preformed *cy pres*. In *Wheeldon* v. *Oxenham*, 8 July 1731. a man devised a sum to his wife to be paid within six months after his death, provided she released all her right to dower on request of his executors; and charged his real estate with it; the wife died after testator, and before the expiration of six months, without any release or being required by the executors: her administrator brought a bill; and it was insisted, though she did not perform the condition, her representative might; yet Sir *Joseph Jekyl* held, it was not due, because the condition was not performed; it being in her election whether she would execute it or not, it was contingent till her death, which she would chuse; therefore not vested; and the bill was dismissed. The proviso here goes on a supposition, that she should survive; which affects the whole.

Taking it then for granted there was no appointment by Lady *Sunderland*, has the testator given this 30,000 *l.* or any part, in default thereof? Clearly not in express terms; as he would, if designed in all events to the children. She was under no obligation to any one as being a child, and had during life to do it. It was

prudent to leave it so; as some of the children might be otherways greatly provided for; but the reason was, as she was stepmother, to engage the affection of the children to her by motives of interest. She foresaw, that on default of, or an ineffectual, appointment, his residuary estate would have a chance out of that 30,000 *l.* and has in effect made an appointment by disposing of the residue. It was not intended as a portion to the children, or an additional portion: nothing vesting, they could not transmit more right than they had themselves; which holds in the civil law. *Dom. lib. 2. tit. 1. sec. 1.* She was to give the children: if then it vests in the representatives, it vests in persons, to whom she had no right to give. It is like the distinction between a legacy at a future day, and to be paid at a future day; vesting in one case, not in the other. In cases of land, points of this kind have come before the court; as in the case put in *Daniel v. Uply, Lat. b. 9.* which shews none of the children can claim without appointment. This then is only such an interest, as should be delegated to them by their stepmother, and must fall into the residue.

As to the secondary question, whether this shall go among all the children in general, or those only who survived Lady *Sunderland*, that cannot arise but on a supposition, that the whole shall not go into the residue, but go in some manner to the children.

For defendant Lady *Bateman*. Who agreed with the plaintiff in the 1st question: but as to the 2^d, what was to become of these sums in default of appointment, insisted, it was the same question, as would arise on the whole 30,000 *l.* on default of appointment; and must turn on the general view of the frame of the will and codicil. The primary intent was, that this should be a further provision for the children: the secondary, that it should be in such a manner as to keep them in obedience to the mother: but that was only subordinate to the other; for the mother's power was only to distribute; which is such a power, as this court can in default of distribution execute, and that equally, according to its general principles in default of execution. It was not inserted with a view that the mother should be the giver, nor could it be the intent to put it in her power by making no appointment to defeat all the children, and let the whole go to the eldest son. The children took an original interest from the father in nature of a possibility vesting in them, subject to be defeated by act of the mother. By the will this 30,000 *l.* is totally severed from the residue, and given to the mother; whose interest was abridged in consideration of the children: those children therefore, capable of taking and living at her death, should be the objects, *viz.* the plaintiff and Lady *Bateman*. If an interest vested in the children, it might be severed by them; which severance would be good, if the mother did not execute the
power

power she had. A mere interest depending on a possibility may be devised: as in *Cro. Jac.* 509. it vested as jointenants, and must survive to the present claimants, *Webster v. Webster*, 2 *Will.* 347. and *Cray v. Willis*, 2 *Will.* 529. in opposition to the notion in the civil law, where a legacy to several persons makes a tenancy in common. A construction ought to be made so as not to defeat either intent. If the word *such*, as it stands, would exclude the children from taking any thing without appointment, that ought not to controul what appears the general intent on the context, which courts of law will not suffer to be defeated by any inaccuracy of expression in testator, but will transpose, supply, or drop words even in case of real estate to preserve the intent which if done here, an original interest will appear given to the children as a possibility actually vested in them, though defeasible by the mother. A small alteration will do; only the position of the word *such*; (which will still preserve the mother's power) reading it *after her decease to and among my children*. Several cases shew this no unwarrantable liberty. In *Surtees v. Barker*, 15 *J. 2. B. R.* a devise to a grandson and his heirs; but he died before twenty-one, or before marriage and without issue, remainder over: he died after twenty-one, and before marriage: the intent was held to be, that if he attained either of these events, he should have the absolute interest in the estate: that the court had a right to marshal the words, and change the disjunctive *or* into a conjunctive; making it one entire event, on the failure of which singly the remainder over was to take place. In *Luxford v. Cleeke*, 3 *Lew.* 125. a much greater liberty was taken. So 4 *Leon.* 14. This is only a power of distribution in the mother; and like *Mason v. Limbrey*, *Trin.* 1734, where one devised 2000 *l.* to his brother, and desired him at his death to give it among his children and the children of another person: the brother died in life of testator; and the question was, whether without actual gift of the brother they were intitled to it, or those who claimed the general residue. Lord *Talbot* held the children intitled, though no gift to them in default of appointment. In *Harding v. Glynn*, 7 *July* 1739, at the *Rolls*, devise of leasehold and other chattels to his wife, but desiring her at or before her death to dispose of the same among his nearest relations, as she should appoint: she died without appointment; and it was held, she had a power to distribute only, so that it operated as a trust, and the relations were *cestuy que trust*, and the power not being executed, it devolved on this court, and would be executed equally among the relations alive at the wife's death, and not *per stirpes* among the other next of kin as if undisposed. Though testator has not given it in default of appointment, yet from the nature of the will itself it shall be so; the testator intending it to the children on one contingency as well as the other; the contingency not expressed being similar to the other in 2 *Ven.* 363. though the words of the will tied it up to an express contingency, the court decreed on the general intent. So in the last determination in *Jones v. Westcomb*,
B. R.

Ante.
Avelyn v.
Ward, March
19, 1752.

Ante.
Avelyn v.
Ward.

B. R. the devise over in default of appointment was held good, though the contingency was not expressed in the will, there being no reason against it: whereas here are positive reasons why the testator should intend it. But *Fonnereau v. Fonnereau*, 21 May 1745. is still nearer: where *Charles Fonnereau*, having nine children by his first wife, and married to a second, by whom he had none, devised 54,000 *l.* to his executors and trustees, severally and jointly, to invest it in funds within six months, to pay the interest and produce to all the children of his late wife and of the present, that should be born, when they attained twenty-one, share and share alike; and on the death of any of the children, to divide that part or share among such persons as the child so dying should appoint; and in default of appointment to divide such part or share among the issue of such respective child; and if such issue should die before twenty-one, then to the survivor of all his children. One son died without ever having any issue, and made the plaintiff executor. The question was, whether that share vested absolutely in him, or went over to the other children, to whom it was limited on default of issue; or sunk into the residue? The plaintiff insisted, it was intended as a gift to the children, subject to be divested on having issue. Your Lordship held, it went to the surviving children, though the contingency, that happened, was not expressed; because it appeared to be the general intent of testator to dispose of his whole estate, and to take this whole fund out of the residue; and because the share of each child was given to the others on a contingency more remote than this; and no reason why it was not intended to go on this contingency as well as the others. Here is the like ingredient, to give it over on an event not expressed in the will. This codicil imports a general gift among the children; and all the words implying a necessity of the act of the mother, are only powers of distribution over that; so that on default of appointment it went over to the survivors, as in *Madison v. Andrew*. This whole 30,000 *l.* is strongly declared to be excepted out of the residue, like the case 3 *Will.* 40.

For defendants Lord *Carlisle* and representatives of *John Spencer*. The principal question in which they are concerned, whether the nomination by the mother of the share, which each of these children was to take out of the 30,000 *l.* is gone by their happening to die in life of the mother must depend entirely on the principles of the common law of *England*; for in the *Roman* law received here, or the ecclesiastical law of this kingdom, there is not a word to that purpose. The reason of the *Roman* law being silent is to be found in *Swin.* part 4. ch. 11. sec. 7. That law did not allow it; for that the will of *A.* cannot depend on the will of *B.* and therefore the nomination would be void: the law of *England* allows of it, not disputing the *Roman* law, but disputing the premisses; for, when appointed, it is the will of *A.* not of *B.* As to the ecclesiastical law or
modern

modern cases, nothing is to be found on that occasion. There is no ground or mixture of equity in this question; all the parties being equally meritorious: so that it is a mere legal-question, as if a devise to the mother for life, with power to dispose of it among the children. It is necessary to ascertain the terms; which being equivocal, make it dangerous: the word *power* has been made use of, and *give* and *devise* instead of *directing* and *nominating*; but this is not strictly a power, nor attended with the legal consequences thereof, though it goes by its name: so that no precedent on one sort of power is applicable to another, for in one sort of power it is an interest. Before the statute of uses all powers were considered without distinction as naked authorities; properly as powers, and attended with the consequences; but that statute has made an alteration in the common law as to that; for now powers are considered as a particular form or modification of property; part of the old ownership, and liable to the consequences of ownership; and considered in courts of law as an interest; and then the relation to the time of giving the power does not hold; because considered as an interest. In such powers coupled with an interest of any sort, to make leases, a jointure to revoke or change, that is affected by the acts of the person, to whom given, he may release it. 1 *Inf.* 265, *B.* so in *Digge's* and in *Albany's* case, 1 *Co.* and in *King v. Melling* a power to make a jointure was destroyed by a common recovery: whereas the contrary holds as to naked authorities. Where there is a power to appoint a sum of money, as in *Shirley v. Lord Ferrers*, and *Bainton v. Ward*, 20 April 14. in both which the appointment was by will, the court held the appointee could not take it, because it was a voluntary appointment, which could not defeat creditors; and on the principle in 2 *Roll. Rep.* 173. as your Lordship laid down in *Lord Townsend v. Windham*, the gift to the appointee was assets to pay debts; which should not be prevented by the death of appointee in life of testator. The principle of making it assets is, that the conveyance to him is void, considering it as a conveyance against creditors, who shall prevail, notwithstanding death of appointee: so that it is only a particular form and modification of the interest. It is said, the surrender of copyhold to use of a will, when the will is made, will be considered as testamentary, and lapse: that point never has come in question; which is extraordinary: if it had, the grounds, on which it was determined, would have been material. That might be determined to be a testamentary disposition; because it is that sort of power coupled with an interest of the person devising. On feoffment to uses it was not understood, that, if the party dies after the devise declaratory thereof, it should lapse. Feoffments to uses are considered as powers now; they were before the statute of uses: and if it was understood, that it would lapse, the case of *Bret v. Regden* could not have been made a question, nor argued, as it is in *Plo.* that consequence not being alluded to there. The devisee is in and claims

under the scoffment. But suppose that question of the surrender was to arise; there is a distinction, that he is owner of the estate, and no act of his, which would not destroy the relation; which holds not in the case of other powers. So that the case of copyhold is distinct, being an interest; and powers coupled with an interest are considered as property. But authorities or naked powers are different; having all the consequences, attended with all the rules the common law ever applied to powers in all the relations of it; the person exercising it being considered as a mere instrument. The fundamental maxim (which the law of *England* allows, though the civil law does not) is, that the acts done in consequence and by virtue of an authority, and pursuant thereto, are the acts of the old proprietor, and of that day wherein he, in virtue of his ownership, delegated that authority: and this maxim the law pursues throughout. There are instances of this sort in *Plo.* fo 15 *H.* 7. 11 *b.* referred to in 1 *Co.* *Digge's* case, and *Albany's*; and in 1 *Co.* 174. what is said of the collateral power of *B.* whether the release should not extinguish it, is very emphatical, that it does not move from nor under him, so that he is a mere instrument, and is the reason why the act of *B.* cannot affect it. 19 *H.* 6. also, cited in *Latch* 43, is strong to this effect; and *Tomlinson v. Dighton*, 1 *Sal.* 239. and the reason, why these authorities or naked powers cannot be assigned, released, forfeited, or extinguished, depends on the maxim in 1 *Inf.* 185. *Finch* 13. and *Capel's* case, 1 *Co.* of the claiming paramount; so that no act of the deputy or instrument, who is to fix the proportions, can hurt the appointee; because his title is prior to every act; which without any exception will be defeated by such relation; and though it is by relation of law, it is the same as if it existed in fact, as if done immediately at the former time. *Finch* 70. In 1 *Co.* 176. *b.* is an instance of relation to the consideration of a covenant; nor does the death of the party affect it. *Wood's* case, cited 1 *Co.* 99. *a.* A bargain and sale operates not, unless inrolled in six months: yet, if inrolled, it relates, avoiding all mesne acts; so that death of bargainor or bagainee before inrolment makes no difference. 2 *Inf.* 674. The judges adhered to the consequences of relation, that it should be as if that day; and the death of the party has no effect, if within the time of relation. So judgments, entered up pursuant to warrant of attorney, are good by relation: so in assignments on acts of bankruptcy. Nor is there any exception to this in case of naked powers, as the present clearly is, disjoined from any interest in the mother; for that would make the argument and rule different; but she is no more than bailiff or steward. The fund was no part of her ancient property; neither moving out of or affecting her estate. She can neither gain or lose by the execution or non-execution; nor could she sell it to a stranger; nor take money from a child for doing it; which would be set aside as fraudulent. This is exactly *Tomlinson's* case, which was determined to be a collateral power; the only

only difference being, that was of land, this of money. It could not go to her residuary legatee or executor; nor be claimed against her representatives, but the executor of testator. Then it is to be governed by all the rules applicable to naked authorities. The objection is that a legatee must be *in esse*, when the legacy is to vest; so must a devisee and grantee; and on that was *Bret v. Rigden* determined by analogy to grants as well as wills. But the answer is, these are not legatees of the mother; having no grant, gift, or devise from her; she only saying that which the testator left a chasm for, which she fills up. If this appointment had been by instrument in writing with a power of revocation, (supposing in general that a power of revocation might be annexed), it is as much ambulatory and revocable until her death: and yet though they die in her life, they shall take; it shall relate, if she dies without revoking. A will executing a power is different from a will passing an interest: Sir *Edward Clere's* case. The latter must be a due, legal, proper will; this is not by a proper will, for she was a *feme covert*; therefore it is by the other method given to execute this power, an instrument in writing, and may have a different effect from a will. The articles on her second marriage have nothing to do with this power; taking no notice of the principal which she was to appoint, but only the interest: so that this is to be taken as an instrument in writing generally; consequently takes effect in the same manner, as if she had made a common instrument without calling it a will, appointing these sums to be paid after her death; which (it must be admitted) she might have done, not calling it a will, and might have annexed a power of revocation so as to enable her to revoke that, and to execute the power over again; and this amounts to the same thing. The reason of the rule, on which lapses are established (that it is a gift to a person not in being at the time it should vest) holds not; that not being the case, when it is an execution of a power; because they give nothing at all, only direct the gift of another. It is said, testator intended by giving power to execute by will, that, if by will, all the doctrine of relation to the creation of the power should be destroyed; and that the mother, when she executed her will, intended, if they did not survive, they should not take: but neither has he intended it so. The testator's will is like to be disappointed by his argument; and all the children disinherited. If he had said only by instrument in writing; she might execute by deed or will; it not being in opposition to one or the other. If done by deed not sealed or delivered, it would operate as an instrument in writing; so of a will: they are words of course of the drawer of the will. It is begging the question, to say the testator knew that the consequence of doing it by will would be, that if they died before her, it would lapse, and therefore that it must be presumed, he intended it; arguing his intent from what is the question. He had no reason to think so: when he made his will, there was an authority that

that it would not lapse, *Burnet v. Holgrave* and none to the contrary. The fund is reversionary; not to take effect beneficially until after her death; the objects, all the children he had. Their out-living her is immaterial; it was not in his view or intent, that the gift should be defeated by that contingency; nor was it reasonable: the mother was young, and might live as long as several of the children. The reason of giving that authority was certainly to secure their obedience, and keep them dependent on her; and his adding negative as well as affirmative words shews, that when the mother made a difference among the children, he meant that difference should take place. As to the mother's intent, she could not do otherwise; unless she had known what made the argument in this cause; that she could have annexed a power of revocation to the instrument in writing: which, whether she could or not, seems doubtful. She is confined to the children, and could not appoint two executors or others. If she had intended it, she would have provided for the event: whereas she survived several years, and made no alteration; and meant this disposition should take place. It is objected that whatever was the intent of either, the rule of law is, that, if it is an appointment by will, it must lapse: but no such rule of law is applied to naked authorities. On the reason of the thing it is no maxim, that the parties must survive the instrument, who is to declare the will of another; though there is reason for it, where it is the person's own gift. The time of making a will is material to several purposes: as to the power of testator, when made under age; so as to married women; so as to the thing to pass. Not that the word *having* in the statute of wills is the reason; but it goes on intent of testator, that he did not mean to give more than he had at the time. So as to the objects; as to a gift to *A.* and his children, it is material whether he had children at the time or not, according to *Wild's case*. *Madison v. Andrew* is different from this; the power was fraudulently executed: it was not within the power by any relation: beside, that was an appointment to herself, and then she ceased to be a trustee executing a power, which the court will never suffer to stand. *Oke v. Heath* is contrary to *Burnet v. Holgrave*; which, though heard by consent, was a litigated cause: nor is it applicable; the power there being a modification of property, not a naked power; so that determination might stand; and so might the case of the copyhold: whereas this is a naked authority, in which the relation holds throughout, and cannot be affected, and it is considered as the act of the day. As to the last objection, in respect to Lady *Morpeth*, that, supposing it had vested in her, she lost it by non-performance of the condition; that would hold equally if she survived but a little while, and did not do it. But one case is cited for it; which must have gone on other grounds. It is common for testator to oblige legatees to stand by his will, and release within a time. The court never thinks the time material, only obliges them to make an election

after determination of the cases and points; but if they die in mean time, they are not to lose the intended legacies. The condition here in substance is performed; for the release may be given by her executors. Courts of law hold, that the substance of a condition may be performed; for which there are several cases in 1 *Inst.* that by forfeiture of the condition the estate is not defeated. Beside it is in nature of a condition subsequent; the counsel of the executors being first to tender the release; which is become impossible by the act of God.

As to the secondary question, if it vests in the children, it vests as tenants in common; which distinguishes it from *Madison v. Andrew*; where, what your Lordship went on, was, that the words were a jointenancy, and it would go to the survivors; but here if it vests, it must vest as a thing to be divided.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

As I am satisfied what decree I ought to make, it is not proper to put it off, merely for the sake of putting my thoughts into better order and method.

The general question, who has a right to these two sums of 2000*l.* and 15,000*l.* (as it is computed) appointed by the will of Lady *Sunderland*, made in execution of a power given by the will of her husband, depends on three considerations. 1st, Whether the representatives of Lady *Morpeth* and of *John Spencer*, who died in the life of Lady *Sunderland*, can claim, or be intitled to these two sums respectively? 2d, If they cannot, whether these two sums will fall into the residue of the testator's personal estate; or accrue and belong to all the children, and the representatives of such, as are dead? 3d, If they should belong to the children of testator; then to what species or division of these children: whether to all such as were living at testator's death, and the representatives of those dead, or only to those two surviving at death of Lady *Sunderland*?

The 1st depends on two things. First on the power and construction of the power given by the will of testator: next upon the act done in execution of that power.

As to the first, the testator gave the residue of his personal estate so as to shew an intent to dispose of his whole personal estate. As it stood in the will, it was an absolute legacy of 30,000*l.* to the wife. By a writing indorsed on the will, called a codicil, but with no new date, (and therefore it may be considered as part of the will) testator restrains that general legacy to one for life only, with power to dispose of it; which is the same, as if the whole had been inserted in

the will. This power is undoubtedly as large as the testator could possibly give to her, as to the instrument by which she was to execute; but not large in respect of the objects, as to whom she is restrained to and among the children. One side contends, here is no gift by the codicil, but to the wife for life with a power. The other, that a gift is made to all the children of testator, subject to the power of Lady *Sunderland*, by such an instrument as is described, to divide and distribute among them, so as to exclude some, if she pleased; but if not, that still there is a gift to the children: but that last is not the construction of the codicil. What was the intent of testator, in giving this legacy and power, can only be collected from the words of the will and the codicil; and it is plain, from both, that his primary intent was to provide for the wife thereby. To secure the respect and duty of the children to her, he restrains her estate, but gives it to none but to such as she should appoint. It is admitted, that, if taken according to the words, to make any of the children take, there must be an appointment; but the method taken for the defendants to make this a gift to the children, is by insisting, that to make this presumed intent of testator take effect, the words may be transposed. Suppose the word *such* was transposed, I cannot see how it will vary the sense or construction of this clause; for the sense and meaning would be the same, restraining the generality of the former words, making it a gift only to such as she should appoint. But there is no colour to make such a transposition. It is true, a court of law as well as of equity (and a court of equity has no greater latitude in construction of wills, and transposing the words thereof, than a court of law has) will, to make sense of a will otherwise insensible, and to make it take some effect rather than be totally void, often transpose words to attain the intent that on the face of the will the testator had; which was *Luxford's case*, 3 *Lev.* where the court did not make the transposition to let in more, or defeat the devisees (which in no case do I know, that the courts have done) but it was to make the limitation sensible, the words being insensible, and to attain the meaning: but in no case, where the words are plain and sensible, is a transposition made in order to create a different meaning and construction; much less to let in different devisees and legatees in a will; which is a very different thing from the case, where the persons to take are certain, and the question is only concerning the construction of the words to create the limitation or interest to be taken. But these are plain words: there is no designation to take under this will, but such of the children as she should appoint; and no person can be ascertained under this will until she has made such appointment. Indeed the words want no construction; and if the court should put a different construction, and transpose, as contended for the defendants (which still could not do for them) it would be making a new will; for testator intended none of the children should take but from the appointment of Lady *Sunderland*: and in this it

Transposition
of words in a
will, to make
a limitation
sensible, but
not to let in
different lega-
tees.

is like the case cited out of *Latch* 10. Therefore I am of opinion, that by this codicil, or this part of the will comprised in the indorsement, here is no gift to the children of testator, otherwise than as they might take by execution of the power by her; and consequently the legacy is a mere gift to her for life with power to dispose, &c.

This leads to the other part of the consideration of the first question, *viz.* the act done by her in execution of the power, and the consequence thereof.

She had several ways to execute it, by deed or instrument in writing, or by a proper will: but I am of opinion, whichever way she took, to make any of the children of testator take by virtue of it, it must be a complete act done by her; and that an imperfect act in execution of this power would not make any part of this money vest in any of the persons to take under it; for it is admitted by defendant's counsel, there is no purchaser, no greater merit in one than the other; all being volunteers; and therefore no ground to supply any defect in the execution of the power. She has chosen to execute it by will: and two of the appointees therein dying afterward in her life, the question is, what under these circumstances is the effect of the execution of this power as to them; whether their representatives can take the sums appointed? To determine it, one thing is necessary to be settled: *viz.* the nature of the instrument by which the power is executed. The plaintiff insists, it is by a will: the defendants, that it is not by a proper will, for that she was a *feme covert* at the time; but by an instrument in writing, which may have a different effect from a will. I am of opinion, that this act of her's in execution of her power must be considered as a will, and may be truly so as a proper will in this cause: but if not, still it may as a writing in nature of a will; and then it will come just to the same thing as to the present question. A *feme covert* may Will by a make a proper will, proved in the ecclesiastical court, with the assent of her husband, according to the express resolution of *Mariot v. Kinsman*, *Cro. Car.* 219, where it came in question upon a bond in pleading. Then, whether there has been such assent in this case, depends on the deed of settlement made on her second marriage. I am of opinion, it does amount to a sufficient assent to her making a will concerning this 30,000*l.* It is said barely to relate to the interest: if it had done so, when there is an express recital of the will and codicil, and the principal and interest arise under that will, and she was only to take the interest, I should have thought, it was an assent to a complete will: but it goes farther; for the word *improvement* does not take in interest only but improvement of the capital, which is part of the principal, and would go to be divided as the principal; for it is established, that the increase and rise in value

of the principal shall go to the principal, and not go to the tenant for life in being. But, supposing this not a proper will, still it must be considered as an instrument in nature of a will; which shall have the same consequence as if a will according to the construction of the court. Then taking it either way, as a proper will or instrument in nature of a will, I am of opinion, that neither the representatives of *John Spencer* or *Lady Morpeth* could take any thing by this execution of the power, unless it vested in their testator or intestate, only derivatively, and through them. It is certain, that an executor or administrator cannot take by virtue of that representation any thing, but what first vested in the testator or intestate: which brings it to the question, whether by this execution of the power any thing vested in them in their lives. It is plain, that by virtue of a will or instrument in nature of a will, no legacy or gift can vest till death of testator; and admitted, that if this was a gift of *Lady Sunderland* and a legacy from her, so that the children were to take by or under her, it would be so; for then it is admitted, the will is not complete till death of testator: but it is insisted, that this being in execution of a power, nothing is taken under the instrument, by which the power is executed, or under the person executing, but under the giver of the power, and as legatees in the will of the testator: which is true to certain purposes, but holds not to the extent contended for on the part of the defendants, that is, not to shew that these two legacies or sums of money vested by virtue of the execution of this power in the children in their lives; for to that only can it be material. There is no case, where that has been said to be under a will; whether that will operates by way of giving a legacy or interest derived from the testator in that will, or by way of execution of a power, or instrument in nature of a will, which is the same; for still it is a testamentary act, and the law says, that a testamentary act is only inchoate during life of testator, from whose death only it receives perfection: being till then ambulatory and mutable, vesting nothing, like a piece of waste paper, according to the doctrine in *Bret v. Rigden* in *Plo.* where *Manwood* does not argue, that the will could have effect during life of testator, but only that the heir should take by purchase as devisee in the will, that the will might take some effect. The cases put for the plaintiff are very material, *viz.* of a will of land in execution of a power, and the word *will* generally used, (which before the statute of frauds would be sufficient, if it was a will not executed by any witnesses) it is determined, that a will to pass lands by virtue of a power must have the requisites in that statute. It is the same as to a power to appoint personal estate by will; unless there are other words, which are contended for to give a larger manner of executing the power, it must be such a will, as will pass personal estate. So is the case of copyhold lands very material; not that there is any authority; but as it is a thing, which must have often happened. Copyhold lands are surrendered

to

Will to pass
lands by vir-
tue of a pow-
er, must be
executed ac-
cording to the
statute of
frauds.

to the use of a will; the surrenderer makes a will, and appoints the uses thereof: the law says, the lands pass by the surrender, and the will is only directory of the uses: though the lands are so appointed, if the appointee died in life of testator, it was never thought, he could take benefit of it: which must have often happened, considering the number of such wills: and yet it was never contended, that it would vest in appointee dying in life of testator; because the act was not complete; it being no will till his death; and consequently at the time it should vest, there is no person to take. So if a power is given by deed to appoint lands by will; and the person, to whom the power is given, makes a will, and gives the lands to *A.* and his issue; the law says, that, though such appointee takes under the power, yet the execution of the power being by will, it shall receive the same construction as if a devise of lands, *viz.* an estate-tail. So if it had been to *A.* for ever, that would have been an estate in fee. It was never doubted, but that the construction of the words would be the same exactly, as if he took strictly and properly under the words of a will; and indeed it is repugnant to the nature of the instrument, that any person should take, or have any thing vest, by will in life of the testator: and every person claiming under the execution of a power, must claim not only according to the power, but the nature of the instrument by which that power is executed; and therefore a will in execution of such a power (suppose it was of lands) would be alterable or revocable according to the statute of frauds by cancellation or any of those methods, as a proper will would be; because it is the nature of the instrument, which causes that. Suppose such a power was to be executed by deed only, it might be as well said, that the party to take under the execution of that power should take by an incomplete deed; as in this case by a writing not complete till death of testator; there being as great an imperfection in one case as the other. If this was to be taken as an instrument in writing generally, and to have the same effect as if she had made such a common instrument without calling it a will, appointing this payment after her death, as has been argued, that would change the nature of the instrument, and the intent of *Lady Sunderland*: the consequence would be, that it would be irrevocable; for it is revocable only by the nature of the instrument itself: but turn it into another instrument, neither a will or instrument in writing in nature of a will, it is not revocable; for it is determined, that notwithstanding under such a power she might have executed it *toties quoties*, have reserved a new power to herself, and might revoke, yet if she does not reserve a new power, it is irrevocable; which was the resolution of all the judges in *Hele v. Bond* in the House of Lords. There *Hele* had a power in a deed to revoke, and appoint new uses, as often as he pleased: he executed a deed, and revoked; and so a second and third time; and the question was, whether this last revocation was good? It was held

Copyhold surrendered to use of will: and appointee dying in life of testator.

Appointee under a power must claim also according to nature of the instrument.

Power of revocation, and to appoint new uses: express revocation must be reserved, or it is executed.

not good for want of an exprefs revocation ; that this power amounted to no more than a common power of revocation expreffed in a great number of words ; and therefore the party could not revoke *toties quoties* by virtue of this original power of revocation : but it enabled him to insert a new power of revocation, if he pleased ; which not having done, he had executed his power. So if I should hold this paper to be neither a will nor instrument in nature of a will, it would be an instrument irrevocable by her ; which would undoubtedly be contrary to her intent. It is only revocable from being a will or in nature of a will : and if fo, it is equally incomplete till her death ; consequently nothing could veft in either of the legatees till her death ; at which time, it is a principle of law, there must be a donee or appointee to take : whereas here they were not then in *rerum natura*, and consequently no legatee, donee, or appointee, (call it which you will) to take at the time the thing was to veft. From this construction of this paper the cafe in *Hob. of Kibbot v. Lee* is material, *viz.* that this, whether as a will or instrument in writing in nature of a will, is a declaration in law of Lady *Sunderland*, that it should take effect only from her death. But to this it was said, that in the present cafe it is otherwise : because the appointee must take under the power, and as if named in the power ; and that it was a gift of the testator in his will, she being only an instrument : that the whole reverts back to the power, under which merely they take ; which relation will over-reach the death of these two parties, both being living at the death of testator, and then it may be considered as vesting in them in their lives ; which I deny. I admit the principle, that, where a person takes by execution of a power whether of reality or personalty, it is taken under the authority of that power : but not from the time of the creation of that power. There is no case, that the relation shall go back for that, which is quite of another nature : and that is the point, which must be contended for here, that they must take by relation so as to make them take from the time of the creation of the power ; for which there is no authority : and that would be unreasonable. The meaning that the persons must take under the power, or as if their names had been inserted in the power, is, that they shall take in the same manner as if the power and instrument executing the power had been incorporated in one instrument ; then they shall take, as if all, that was in the instrument executing, had been expreffed in that giving the power. So is it in appointments of uses. If a feoffment is executed to such uses, as he shall appoint by will ; when the will is made, it is clear, that the appointee, *cestuy que use*, is in by the feoffment : but has nothing from the time of the execution of the feoffment so as to veft the estate in him. The estate will veft in him according to the nature of the act done, and appointment of the use, from the time of the testator's death. This therefore is not a relation so as to make things

Appointee takes under the power, as if inserted therein : but not so as to take by relation from creation of the power, as in assignment on commission of bankruptcy or in bargain and sale, inrolled.

Feoffment to uses.

things vest from the time of the power, but according to the time of that act executing that power; not like the referring back in case of assignment in commission of bankruptcy: that is by force of the statute, and to avoid *mesne* wrongful acts. The case was put of a bargain and sale; which was said to be like this of a will or instrument in nature of a will. A bargain and sale, when acknowledged and inrolled, has relation to the time of execution; and if the grantee dies within six months, and afterward it is acknowledged and inrolled, it is good: that is, because it is a collateral act required by act of parliament, and not arising from the nature of the instrument itself. Consider the consequence, if this was otherwise: that by such a will or instrument in nature of a will, executing such a power, any thing should be held vested in testator's life, and that the reference to the power should not only be a reference to the substance of the power, but to the time of creation; it might be as well said, that Lady *Sunderland* might have appointed this money to them, if they had died before her making the will; for it is just the same thing; and the case of the bargain and sale, if applicable, would hold equally; then the consequence would be, that she might execute this power by giving all, or greater part, to herself; for she was representative of her son *William*, who died before her will; and it would be absurd, that powers of this kind should be executed for benefit of a person dead at the time of executing. But it is contended, that there is a great difference between powers; and that this shall have effect in this manner, because it is a naked power, these sums being never part of her property, who was only an instrument: so that whatever execution, it would have this effect, though contrary to the nature of that paper itself: that the quality and nature of the will should be out of the case, and considered barely as an instrument in writing: though it is allowed, that where a power is coupled with an interest, the party should be considered as disposing of the interest, and it should have another effect. This is the first time, I have heard, that the execution of naked powers should be construed more favourably than that of powers coupled with an interest. The rule of law is otherwise; because the party there in some measure parts with his own property, as a kind of dominion he has over the estate, those powers being construed liberally; but naked powers always strictly. It is farther asked, where is the difference? That it being admitted, she might have done this by deed or instrument in writing, not calling it a will, and might have annexed a power of revocation so as to enable her to revoke that, and to execute the power over again, this amounts to the same: but that is not *ad idem*. If she had executed this power by deed or instrument in writing, though with a new power to herself, the consequence would be, the instrument was complete in itself; the thing would have vested from the time of the execution of that instrument; and the power of revocation would have no effect but to leave it mutable during her life. But there

Naked powers construed strictly: powers coupled with interest liberally.

there is a vast difference between a deed or instrument with power of revocation and a will. The first is a complete act: a will not so, death being necessary to the completion, as well as to make the things pass: and really, if in questions of this kind such execution of powers by will were to have this construction, and to make any thing vest in the testator's life, so that a person dead at the consummation of the will might take thereby; in nineteen cases out of twenty it would be contrary to the authority of the power, and intent of the person executing; (this I mean in general, not as to the present case) for consider, what a person does, when making a will: Lady *Sunderland* must know, that she ran no hazard, because the instrument was revocable till her death; but if a court of justice should contrary to the nature of the instrument hold, that, though the party dies in the life of the person executing the power, it will vest in the executor or administrator, that may be in a mere stranger both to the author of the power and the person executing. That would be the consequence; like the cases of wills obtained from young persons by surprise; as from a young lady at a boarding-school (an instance of which I remember in this court) the master getting her, she being above seventeen, to make a will and him executor: so if this would be good notwithstanding the dying in life of testator, it would make it go to a stranger. But it is said, this has been determined, that such an execution of a power by will may be good to make it transmissible to the representatives of the person dying in life of testator; for which is cited *Burnet v. Holgrave*; and if it had not been for that, I should not have spent so much time about this. But if that case is considered, it is no authority against the opinion now given, or that, I gave, in *Oke v. Heath*; for there the person executing the power was not limited in respect of the objects. It was a general power, to such as she should appoint. She appointed to her second husband, who died in her life, and made her executrix, so that it was really come back to herself, and her representative claimed it under the execution of the power. That was a case to tempt a court of justice to go as far as possible to make it good; because it was come back to the person, and the same thing as if given to her own benefit; and the court only supported that in her, which was really originally given for her benefit. It was no doubt in her power to appoint her executors originally, if she pleased; because she might do it to any person whatever; and there the court might consider that word *executors* so as not to take by representation, but as a description of the person to take; and there is something in the case, which favours that. It is imperfectly reported in *Eq. Ab.* Executors may certainly be made use of either in a deed or will as distinct and separate persons from testator; which is the case of a special occupant, 2 *Roll. Ab.* 151. where the executor shall be special occupant; which shews, executors may take by that name as distinct persons, and not in representation of the testator.

The

The court cannot be sure, on what Lord *Harcourt* went in that case : yet there was room for that from the words : and always were to be taken there to support it, as it was to be considered, as if originally given for her benefit. But whether that be so or not, it is a single authority ; and was a cause heard by consent ; which certainly weakens its authority ; as it proves it in general not to be so fully considered ; and commonly there is a disposition in the parties to give way to what the court thinks equitable : nor is there that opposition as in other cases. Therefore on the whole upon this first point I am of opinion, nothing vested by this instrument in *John Spencer* or Lady *Morpeth* during their lives, and consequently nothing is transmissible to their representatives : and to make it do so would be contrary to the principle of law, that the person must be in being at the time the thing is to vest.

Which brings it to the next question, whether these sums will fall into the residue of testator's personal estate, or accrue to his children ? And, whether it shall accrue to all his children and their representatives, depends on the question at first considered, the construction of the clause in the codicil, *viz.* whether any thing is given to the children of the testator *eo nomine*, otherwise than by description of such as she should appoint to, and consequently nothing to vest in them abstracted from her appointment. It would be very difficult to determine, in what way they should take, or how it would vest, if that was to be the case. The proportions as well as the gift were to be settled by Lady *Sunderland*, who has given in her life several parts to several of them. What shares were to vest ? Were they to take as joint-tenants ? that is denied by the representatives of the deceased children ; because that would exclude them, and make it to the survivors. If to take as tenants in common, what are the shares ? The settlement of the proportions and shares was to be by Lady *Sunderland*. None can take as tenants in com-
Tenants in common may be of unequal, but not of uncertain shares.
mon of uncertain, though they may of unequal shares : and if there was any thing in this so as to make them take as children of the testator, I should incline, that they should take as joint-tenants, and consequently it should survive. No words of division or distribution are made use of by the testator but by way of reference to the division and distribution to be made by Lady *Sunderland* : so that it is part of her power only, and not distinct from her power, that imports a division between them as tenants in common. And how could it be ? If all were to take this remaining 17,000 *l.* equally in proportion among them as tenants in common, there would be an unequal proportion thereby among them ; for Lord *Robert's* share, having 6000 *l.* given him, would be made more ; which would be contrary to the construction attempted on this. But I found myself on this ; that this is no gift to the children ; and consequently the children cannot take as such. The next question then is, if the

VOL. II. Y residuary

residuary legatee can take it; for then the plaintiff, representative of his brother, stands in his place, and will be intitled? The objection to this is, that the exception takes out of the residuary bequest this whole 30,000*l.* being indorsed in his hand; therefore contended, that it must be considered, if not well appointed, as something undisposed of by the will of testator, and consequently must be distributed. But it has not been mentioned, how it should be distributed; for if so, the mother must come in for one third-part of that distribution: whereas the counsel for her executrix have not insisted thereon: nor can it be contended, that the intent was to leave it in her power to make no appointment, and so be intitled to one third; which would be the consequence, if this was the construction. Not that I suppose, the testator had any distrust in her: and she has acted very honourably, giving away part in her life: but the putting this case shews, no presumption can be of that kind. But if the will is so, it must have its effect. Here is a clear intent in this will to make a disposition of his whole personal estate; and it is pretty strange, if that should be the construction, that, where one has made a residuary legatee of all the rest, he should die intestate as to part. There may be possibly such a case: and for this was cited 3*Will.* 40. But this differs widely from that; which was a reservation of particular specifick things, as goods, &c. consequently the things themselves were absolutely taken out of the residuary bequest; and the court thought, there was no ground to insert them in it. That is not the case here: the testator has given this legacy by his will. Supposing Lady *Sunderland* had died in life of testator, that 30,000*l.* would have gone into the residue as lapsed notwithstanding this exception. No legacy at all is given by the codicil; he has restrained his wife's legacy, which was absolute, to a gift for life only; but no legacy. Suppose it was to be considered as a legacy, what does it import? Not the thing, but the interest given in the thing. That interest he has given to his wife for life, and afterwards to such as she should appoint, according to such estate and interest as she should appoint. Suppose it was a residuary devise of real estate, and except thereout such devise as shall by codicil, &c. and he should by codicil make a devise for life: the interest is only taken out of the residuary devise: there the word *legacy* answers to the word *devise*. Beside this is saying no more than the law implies: it is doing nothing by this exception. If a man gives all his personal estate, it leaves it open to the codicil; which, if made, shall supersede; this exception therefore *nil operatur*. It is like *Hale v. Bond*: there was a power, which might be revoked *toties quoties*; and therefore it was said, there might be a second revocation thereby: but the court held otherwise; that it was only saying by a circumlocution of words, what the law would construe the effect: so here, it is only taking out of his residuary devise such an interest, as he should give by his codicil; which the law would have done for him.

Suppose

Suppose by the codicil he had given the 30,000 *l.* to Lady *Sunderland* for life, without saying any thing of the power: the residuary interest therein would undoubtedly have gone to Lord *Robert* after her death, and especially when it comes in by the way of lapse. An executor or residuary legatee stands in the same light as an heir, so as to take something falling in without the intent of testator, as by operation of law. But the negative words are insisted on, that this 30,000 *l.* is given to no other use or purpose whatever. I cannot construe these words in that manner: but that they are limitations or restrictions on the power of Lady *Sunderland*: and, if taken in the large sense, it would make it caduceary; which none can do with his property, so as to make it go to none whatever. No one can say, his lands shall not go to his heir; who shall have them notwithstanding. So of personal estate, one cannot say, his executor nor his next of kin shall not have it; for he shall notwithstanding by the law. So that this is by a reasonable construction to restrain Lady *Sunderland*, that she should not have power to appoint but to his own children.

Consequently these lapsed legacies will fall under the residuary bequest to the plaintiff as representative of his brother: and there must be a decree for payment, and account of interest from the death of Lady *Sunderland*.

The next morning his *Lordship* said, he had forgot to take notice of the cases cited for defendants; but that one answer to them all was, that they were all cases, where the bequest amounted to a legacy to all the children: as where it was "to be divided among all my children" it amounted thereto, being still legatory words, whether it was by the word *give* or *desire*; and the person would be obliged by the court to give something to every one of the children; consequently only the proportions were entrusted to the appointor; the objects were fixed.

Horsley versus Chaloner, December 4, 1750.

Case 30.

At the Rolls. Sir *John Strange* Master of the Rolls.

WILLIAM HORSLEY by will 23^d September 1727, gives Devise to 200 *l.* to the younger child of his son *William*, or if more than one, then to such younger children, equally to be divided, and to be paid at their respective ages of twenty-one; and if any dies before twenty-one, then to survive to the others; and for want of such younger child or children, or their not attaining twenty-one, then the 200 *l.* to go to the eldest child of his son *William* to be paid at twenty-one.

younger children of his son to be paid at twenty-one vested in those born at death of testator.

I

The

The plaintiff *Anne* and defendant *Ellen*, daughters of *William* the son, were both born in life of their grandfather, and both come of age: and the question was, whether it should be divided between them, or whether *Mary*, who was born after testator's death, should be let in for a third equally with them.

Ante.

For which was cited *Graves v. Boyle*, 27 July 1739, where an after-born child was let in; and *Madison v. Andrew*, 27 Nov. 1747, and if the testator had been asked, if he did not mean, that any child of *William* born at any time should have a share, he would have answered *yes*, as in *Plo.* on the construction of an act of parliament.

Ante.

Against this *Coleman v. Seymour*, 24 Feb. 1748; where 3000*l.* devised to younger children of his daughter; the elder son dying after the testator, the other became elder, yet was held intitled; the right vesting at death of testator in those children then in being, and could not be divested.

Master of the Rolls.

There are no words in the will denoting a design to take in any after-born children: whereas it is common in wills of this nature to say “to the children of his son born or to be born.” That method in *Plo.* is a proper way of trying it; and possibly, if the testator had been asked the question in the manner insisted upon, he might have answered so: but put the question the other way, that the testator had been told, he had expressly fixed a time, when it was to be paid, and had been asked, did he mean, that notwithstanding by any construction on his will the children might stay till forty or fifty years old, he certainly would have said, he did not: yet that would be the consequence: for till the death of *William* it could not be seen, who would be intitled, and when any attained twenty-one, they could not demand any thing, which would defeat the end, that they should be accommodated with this when most beneficial to them, at twenty-one. The law sees no impossibility of having children at any number of years; and the not keeping demands of this sort open has very properly induced the court to confine this to such children, as were in being at death of testator, when the number is known, and the proportions they are intitled to, and the time when to receive it. In that light every word of the will will have its true and proper effect: it will vest in them payable at a future time; which time cannot be defeated. By the other construction none of these children, in whom it vested, can know what they are intitled to. *Coleman v. Seymour* is a strong case for this; and the more material as the latest. It goes farther; as stated, there was no direction, when it was to be paid: it shews, the interest was considered

dered as devisible between the younger children at death of testator, tho' afterward one came not within that description. In *Graves v. Boyle*, no time was mentioned, when the legacy became payable; here it is peremptorily and repeatedly mentioned: and there the daughter had time during life. In *Madison v. Andrew* it was not to go over, till all the children should die, which makes it different. Principally therefore to avoid the inconvenience from keeping children out of this provision expressly appointed to be paid at twenty-one, it is construed vested in those living at death of testator, and cannot go farther.

Another question was, whether there should be a personal decree on defendant *Chaloner* as executor for payment of this 200 l. or it should be sent to the Master on an inquiry into the assets?

Master of the Rolls.

Considering the great length of time since testator's death, it might be very difficult now to make a strict proof of assets; therefore the court would do very right to lay hold of any reasonable opportunity: yet if there were no circumstances to make him liable, such account must be taken. But considering the acknowledgments by him, such as an indorsement by him of a receipt of assets, (which would be sufficient at this distance of time and difficulty of travelling through an account of assets, and no complaint of imposition upon him) next an express declaration by him, put out because not payable immediately, and that it was ready at twenty-one; shall I after all this send it to an account, whether he has done himself an injury by an account stated under his own hand, produced by him, and a deliberate act. It is true, on circumstances the court will not pin down an executor to an admission of assets, as if the money is in bankers hands; the best bank in *England* may fail, and that undoubtedly will not bind him. But he must make a case for it, if he will get over so strong an admission; he must prove that mistake, that the circumstance on which he built his admission failed. The bare payment of interest by executor will, in many cases, be evidence against him of admission of assets; that however is only charging him by way of argument, that he had the money, because he paid interest; here is express acknowledgment. There must be a personal decree against him; and as it has been out at interest, which was never applied for their benefit, he must account for interest from their respective times of coming of age; and a circumstance of misbehaviour, his obtaining a release without any consideration, will warrant the court to decree him to pay costs.

On admission of assets, personal decree against executor with interest and costs.

Where executor is not bound by admission of assets.

Case 31.

Eyre versus Eyre, Dec. 4, 1750.

A Negotiation was entered into between the plaintiffs and *Robert Eyre* for the loan of money to him, but he died in the *East-Indies*. The plaintiffs, not knowing of his death, advanced the money afterward, and paid it to his agent *Lock*, who remitted it in bullion to the *East-Indies*. It was received there by his executors, who remitted it back to *England*, to the executor of his father *Christopher Eyre*.

This bill was against the executor and residuary legatee of *Christopher*, to demand this as a debt from him only, and not against the estate of *Robert*, who, not being alive at the time, could not be made a debtor for it by an act *ex post facto*; but the person into whose hands it came finally, was accountable for it, and could only be debtor to plaintiffs.

For defendant: This demand should only be against the assets of *Robert*, on whose credit it was advanced. If the agent of *Robert*, in whose hands it was, had failed, *Robert* or his estate must have born the loss: it was a personal contract, entered into in life of *Robert*, which from its nature, was executory, as it would take considerable time before it could be carried into execution; and if otherwise, it would hurt commerce with that country. If lost in its passage, it would not have been at the risk of plaintiffs, but of *Robert*, insured in his name, and consigned over to him.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There was no agreement by plaintiffs to make this a loan during life of *Robert*, nothing importing a contract. His death was a revocation of the authority of *Lock*, in respect of the contract; because there cannot be a loan to one after his death; therefore it will not have the effect of notice to make *Lock* a wrong doer. Then *Lock* could only receive it to use of plaintiffs. Supposing the plaintiff can make *Lock*, or the executors of *Robert* in *India*, (for I would go as far as I can to assist them) debtors for this by their affirmance of *Lock's* act, so as to make it had and received by them, by their agent *Lock* to use of plaintiffs; how can plaintiffs make *Christopher* a debtor for this? It is a mere question at law; and if you think you have a foundation for it, you must try it.

Gower

Gower *versus* Mainwaring, Dec. 5, 1750.

Case 32.

JOHN MAINWARING executed a deed in trust, by which the trustees were to give the residue of his real and personal estate among his friends and relations, where they should see most necessity, and as they should think most equitable and just. He was then eighty-four years old, declining in health, and had living two sons, two daughters, and a wife. One son died in his life: *Catherine*, one of the daughters, with her then husband *Carrington* carried him away from the rest of the family to another place, and prevailed on him to make a will, giving the whole surplus of his real and personal estate to *Carrington*. Post, 17 Dec.

Two of the trustees being dead, and the third refusing to act, this bill was brought by *Catherine*, executrix of her husband, among other things to have the benefit of this will of her father. Her brother *Gilbert* brought a cross bill to have the trusts of the deed carried into execution, and to set aside the will.

For plaintiff: This deed intended to put a discretionary power in the trustees; the objects are very general, not confining it to children. Had it been to relations only, the court has indeed, in many instances, restrained it to the rule under the statute of distribution: but it is not so. It is doubtful what is meant by the expression of friends. Then the trustees not acting, this must be considered as unappointed, and can be only a resulting trust or power to donor himself, which he might dispose of by will, and which he has done. If a feoffment to uses, the power would result, if no appointment. *Sir Edward Clere's case*. So if to such trusts as he should appoint, and no appointment. The question is, whether the court can substitute itself in the place of trustees having power to act discretionarily? In *Brereton v. Brereton*, 13 July 1738. a marriage-settlement, proviso if the husband, his heirs, executors, or administrators, with approbation and good liking of two trustees, should settle lands of 80 *l. per ann.* to the same uses, then that settlement to be void: the elder son and heir applied to the trustees to consent, that on settlement of an estate of equal value the former should be void: the trustees would not consent; without which it could not be good in point of law: a bill was brought to compel their consent. Your Lordship held that it could not be done, and that a bill of that kind against trustees, who had a discretionary power to consent or not was never admitted. A court of justice cannot look with the eyes of the trustees. In *Dr. Potter v. Dr. Chapman* a power to present to a living was discretionary; your Lordship held, it devolved not on the court; that it was vested by a person who could vest it in one of the objects within the power; and

and would not controul it, though it seemed indiscreetly exercised. Donor might have exercised it himself again, if trustees had refused to accept; and it is the same now they refuse to act. He has devised it, under which plaintiff is intitled, and from the bounty of a parent.

For defendant: This deed was a fair and prudent act to prevent any temptation in making a will and any jealousies. The scheme was proposed and approved by plaintiff and her husband, and in his handwriting, and tallies with the deed; yet he afterward carries him away, and gets him to disinherit his heir, and give the whole to the husband of his daughter, who had 1200 *l.* portion. Death of trustees would not totally destroy the trust. The third trustee chuses to decline from age and infirmity, and no otherwise refuses. It is vested in them in point of law; but on a trust and confidence which is imperative; not a power which may or may not be exercised. They ought to execute; and this court will oblige them, being only instruments. It is required that the heirs or executors of survivor should do it; so that it is not a personal discretion, but the common case of all imperative trusts, and to continue. It is said, the word *friends* raises a doubt; but in *Cheeshire*, where this was done, it is synonymous with *relations*; and so all over the *North of England*: and it is the language of *St. E. 1.* that administration should be to the next friend. It must mean relations here, those who have a claim from equity and justice, his family. The meaning certainly was to divide it among children and grandchildren. Cases have been determined stronger than this, whereupon trustees not acting, it devolves on the court. On a will to distribute a residue to poor dissenting ministers, their wives and widows, the court directed it to be done, and ordered the objects before the Master, which is stronger than where the trustees do not act. Though the court does not care to take trusts on itself, it must from necessity; as in *Sir Coniers Darcy v. Lord Holdernefs*; where, on a devise of guardianship to two, who disagreed, the court appointed a guardian.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I will take time to consider of the question, which is very particular on this trust. It appears, that this deed of trust was entered into on a contract and agreement, in the family of this man, that a proper division should be made of his effects on an apprehension of surprise upon him from his age and weakness; and it seems extraordinary, that after that deed was executed a will should be obtained by one of the very persons party to the procuring that deed; he himself preparing the scheme of it, and afterward taking a will from him made on a supposition of cases, such as I never saw in my life. No case has been cited in point; nor do I know any. If I can find a foundation from the authorities of the court, or from the reasons
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and grounds thereof, to favour the rest of the family, I shall certainly incline to do it, as far as justice will permit; if not, it must take its chance. What differs it from the cases mentioned, is this, that here is a rule laid down for the trust. Wherever there is a trust or power (for this is a mixture of both) whether arising on a legal estate, or reserved to be exercised by trustees, barely according to their discretion, I do not know the court can put themselves in place of those trustees to exercise that discretion. Where trustees have power to distribute generally according to their discretion without any object pointed out, or rule laid down, the court interposes not, unless in case of charity, which is different, the court exercising a discretion as having the general government and regulation of charity. But here is a rule laid down; and the word *friends* is synonymous to *relations*; otherwise it is absurd. The trustees are to judge on the necessity and occasions of the family; the court can judge of such necessity of the family. That is a judgment to be made on facts existing; so that the court can make the judgment as well as the trustees; and when informed by evidence of the necessity, can judge what is equitable and just on this necessity. I give no opinion now; but there is a great difference between this and a general trust referring absolutely to discretion of the trustees. I will therefore consider of it, and look into the authorities on that head, unless the parties agree.

Trustees having a discretion, it seems, on their not acting, the court cannot in their place, unless for a charity.

Otherwise where a rule laid down for the trust.

Askew versus The Poulterers Company, December 6, Case 33.
1750.

A Question was made, whether a decree in a former cause, wherein the present plaintiff and defendants were parties, might be read on the part of the plaintiff; it being objected to, because no opportunity of cross-examination between co-defendants?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am very clear that it may be read as evidence, though not as conclusive evidence. It frequently happens that there are several defendants, all claiming against the plaintiff, and having also different rights and claims among one another; the court then makes a decree settling the rights of all the parties; but a declaration for that purpose could not be made if this objection holds; which would be very fatal, as it would occasion the splitting one cause into several.

Decree, wherein present plaintiff and defendants were parties, read as evidence, though not conclusive.

Another question was, whether the examination of witnesses in that cause could be read against the defendants now?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

So of depositions in that cause where the bill and decree was for performance of trusts, settling the rights of all.

Perpetual injunction on decree for performance of trusts.

I agree the general rule to be, that, where there are several defendants at hearing, depositions taken on part of one defendant may be read against the plaintiff, but not against a co-defendant; because there cannot be a cross examination: but it often happens, that in a bill for performance and execution of trusts in a will or deed, several parties are before the court, and a decree is made for performance of the trusts, and a declaration of the court, on the several parts of that trust how far it shall extend; which decree is acquiesced in: it is considered as a determination among all the parties, as well between the co-defendants as the rest; otherwise the decree would become useless; and it would be necessary to have as many bills, as there are parties claiming different rights, was this doctrine to prevail. A determination by the court for performance of trusts has been held a ground for a bill for perpetual injunction against the party setting up a legal estate to overturn that decree; which was the case of *Acherly v. Vernon*; and also in a case relating to the Duke of *Buckingham's* estate, where there was a decree for performance of a trust, and a declaration who was intitled to one part, and who to another. So has there been a decree of that kind in this case, which is evidence between all the parties; and this deposition may be read to shew what was the foundation of this decree: and otherwise it would be impossible to have any fruit from a decree for the general establishment of trusts under a will, where there are several parties. Whether conclusive is another matter.

The bill was for an account of rents and profits, and to have possession of an estate on the destruction and loss of a deed; the plaintiff deriving a right from a conveyance by an heir at law on determination of the uses in a settlement.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

On loss of a deed same rule of evidence here as at law. The loss only can be made out by circumstances; destruction of deed by affidavit.

If there is proof of destruction by defendants, it would be a ground for immediate relief; but it is founded on the loss: and the rule of evidence is the same here as at law. It is a question of a legal title; plaintiff must shew title in himself as well as none in defendants, and must recover by his own strength, though they are wrong doers. He has not proved a title in himself, nor does he prove what were the contents or uses in that settlement. Plaintiff resorts to other proof; to let in which he must shew it is the best the nature of the thing will admit; and must prove that it is lost or destroyed. Though destruction of a deed may be proved by affidavit, the loss of one cannot commonly be so, but only can be made out by circumstances;

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as that inquiry has been made, and search in the proper place and hands, and in vain. As defendants therefore insist on it, it must be tried at law.

The Bishop of Cloyne, *versus* Young, Dec. 7, 1750. Case 34.

G. *Berkeley* made his will Nov. 19, 1746, thereby, after making *Young* and *William Broom* his whole and sole executors, as to his personal estate it pleased God to bless him with, he disposes of it as follows. Among several other legacies he gives to his worthy friend, *William Broom*, a mortgage he had on the estate of *William Broom* himself, with all the interest due thereon, to be divided equally between the daughters and a niece of *William Broom*, on their marriage, provided with his consent, or at his death; and on their deaths to be divided between the two sons of *William Broom*. To *Young* he gives a bond of 200 *l.* which was owing to the testator by the other executor *Broom*. Then comes this clause, “*Item*, after all my just debts and legacies paid, I give and bequeath the remainder of my estate real and personal, and whatever shall be due to me for half pay, &c. without saying more.”

The bill was brought by the next of kin of testator, against *Young* the surviving executor, and against the representative of *Broom*.

For plaintiffs. The only question is, whether the executors are trustees of the residue, or intended to have the interest of it? Two principles are to be established. 1st, That if ever the legal estate is granted, conveyed, or devised to another on trust, he can take no more of the beneficial interest than he is intitled to under the declaration of trust; for though the legal devise is an absolute fee, yet if there is an intimation of a trust, nothing beneficially can be taken by the legal devise; the whole, as to land, resulting to heir at law, as to personal estate, to next of kin. Which appears in *Loder v. Loder*; where was a devise of the manor and rectory of *H.* to his son *Charles* for ninety-nine years, if he so long lived; remainder to trustees to preserve, &c. remainder to first, &c. son, in tail-male; remainder to his son *F.* for life, with like remainders in strict manner; and for want of such issue, to his kinsman *Robert Loder*, and his heirs for ever, on trust, that *Robert*, his heirs and assigns, should pay to all the daughters of his sons, as an additional portion, 5000 *l.* equally, or the whole 5000 *l.* if but one, to that one; and to *Charles* and his heirs all his other estates in trust for debts and legacies, the surplus to his own use; making him sole executor: There was a failure of issue: the will was proved: and *Robert* so seised of the manor liable to the 5000 *l.* which was a strong case for *Robert*'s being intended to take this manor beneficially; being described of his kin, name and family; and plain he did not intend it should go to the issue female

of his sons. The question was, whether *Robert* was intitled to the beneficial interest subject to the 5000 *l.* or whether it passed to *Charles* by the residuary devise? It came on two bills: 1st, by *Robert* himself against the heirs at law of *Charles*, to have the deeds and writings of this estate that were in their possession. It was held at the *Rolls* in 1700. that the devise to *Robert*, being expressed to be on trust, though a particular trust, and which would not exhaust near the value of the estate, yet he could take nothing in the rest, therefore the bill was dismissed. On this the heirs brought a bill against *Robert*, praying account of the rents and profits, and to be let into possession as a resulting trust: it was heard *June 5, 1732.* parol evidence was offered of the testator's declarations, that he intended it beneficially for his cousin *Robert*: the court held, it could not be read; and that being given on a particular trust, it was sufficient to take away the advantage by the legal devise; if therefore the testator had not given the residue, it would have gone to the heirs by the resulting trust: but there was a sweeping clause carrying it as undisposed of. Other cases were alluded to there, that wherever an estate is given on trust, and there is a chasm in the declaration of trust, the owners of the legal estate should not have it at all, but the expression of the particular trust should take it from them; as in a gift of an estate to be sold for payment of debts, or to raise money, &c. and nothing more is said as to the beneficial interest. The next proposition is that which comes more immediately to the present, *viz.* wherever it probably appears, (because in no case it necessarily appears) that testator intended only to give his executors the office, and the legal interest arising from thence, but did not know that would carry the beneficial interest in the residue, or did not intend it, if he might know it; the executors can take nothing in the residue but under an express declaration of trust. It is true, an executor was an heir by the old *Roman* law; now an executor is trustee to all particular uses in the will as for creditors and legatees. But though the law remains still, that would give him the beneficial interest, as well as the office; yet wherever it appears, the testator did not know it would go to him, or did not intend it, the court considers him as trustee, and he can take nothing but what arises on that trust; on which all the cases since *Foster v. Mount* have been determined; and that on a probable collection by the court, not a necessary inference; for there is no inconsistency or absurdity in the thing itself, in saying, I give a particular legacy to my executor, and give him all the residue. Courts of equity have been very favourable to shew that executors were trustees; and therefore a little matter has been sufficient to shew that intent. One head of cases settled is, that wherever an intent is shewn at the time of making the will, that the office was not to carry the residue to the executor, but meant a trustee for that, he shall not take it afterward by any accident; and yet that is not a necessary consequence; as where residue devised is to persons named, who

who by dying in testator's life are incapable of taking; it proves testator did not mean executors should take it. Thus in *Page v. Page*, Mich. 2. G. 2. where the whole residue was devised to the wife for life, and after her death to six by name equally to be divided; one of these tenants in common died in testator's life; and Lord King held, that this one-sixth lapsed should be divided among the next of kin, not to the executrix; for having in terms given it away, he did not intend any part should go by virtue of executorship. So in *Painter v. Salisbury*, May 11, 1734, at the Rolls; where residue devised to wife and son equally, and wife made executrix, the son dying in testator's life, that lapsed moiety went to the next of kin, not the executrix. Cases nearer to the point are, where the residuary estate takes not effect originally in its own nature, as *Wheeler v. Sheers*, Feb. 23, 1729, where residue devised to executors, but in trust, after deducting 100*l.* a-piece to themselves, to apply to such charitable uses as testator should by codicil direct: he made three codicils, without taking any notice of a charitable use, and died without otherwise disposing of the residue: Lord King held the executors only trustees for the next of kin. There that intended disposition, though never made effectual, shewed they were not to take as executors. So in 3 *Wil.* 40, upon an intent to dispose, which intent was not carried into execution. And here the words cannot take effect merely from the mistake of testator in not naming the devisee, but it proves they could not take as executors. So in *Nevil v. Parker*, April 1726, on the will of ——— *Gardner*, who desired *A.* and *B.* should be his executors, and gave to his sister 400*l.* to the executors 10*l.* each, and other legacies, and broke off in this manner, "I leave to *C.*" without saying more, so that it was not complete as to the residue: Lord King held it should be distributed among the next of kin. The present case comes within both the above principles: for 1st, testator meant to give the office, and consequently legal estate, to his executors *eo nomine* on trust, in respect of the whole that office was to carry. 2^{dly}, He did not intend the nomination of executors should carry the residue, but meant to give it by express devise; which shews they were to be trustees as to that, and it must result to those, who, as to this sort of property, are heirs. The penning is remarkable: the first clause gives the office and legal interest, and is an introduction to the absolute disposition of the whole personal estate, as much as if he had said, "on trust," &c. Then for one executor's trouble he gives a bounty to his family, for whom every parent is bound to provide, and which answers the end of a legacy to himself; and as the interest, until the uses arise, goes to *William Broom*, it seems beneficial to himself. To the other a specifick legacy, the very debt due from the one executor; which debt is extinguished by the will itself, and which he never would have desired to be kept up for one, if he meant to give the whole to them. Then comes the express residuary bequest, without naming the legatee, which makes

it like the case of a void devise, as to one who dies in testator's life, or to be laid out in land for a charity; in neither of which cases can executor take, because of intent to give it. This plainly is not intended for the executors; for then why not fill up the clause, when he wrote the first part? He was not then settled in his mind to whom he would give it; and was probably furnished with the form of a will of this sort, with an, &c. which he transcribed with the, &c. but still with intent to dispose of his personal estate; and afterward, on some disorder, sent for his will, and signed it, (which appears in a different hand) thinking he had disposed of the whole.

For defendants. Questions of this kind seem a perpetual fund for the courts, since the rule of law has been deviated from. Lord *King* thought the courts have gone rather too far, and attempted to have it settled by the legislature; which was impossible, these cases depending on circumstances. Executor is heir *quasi mobilia*, not only as to the legal but beneficial interest, after debts and legacies. So it stood originally, as appears from the *Office of Executors*, till the statute of distribution; for tho' on intestacy the ecclesiastical court required a bond from administrator to distribute among next of kin, yet never where a will. Before that statute it never would have been thought of taking the personal estate out of the executors in court of law or equity, though they should apply it to their own use. To give this from the executors there must be something of a partial intestacy. From 23 C. 2. until 1687, there was no case on that act. Then came *Foster v. Mount*, which was very particular, but did not go on fraud, but was founded on the very expression creating a trust, *viz.* for his care and pains. So far courts of equity went very right; for it plainly implied he should have no more. It was afterward extended farther; that a legacy in general to a single executor would exclude; which was on a sort of reasoning that seems inconclusive, *viz.* from the absurdity of giving all and some. Few can know in what condition they shall die; therefore a legacy to an executor has a good effect, because he shall then come on an average with the other legatees, who would otherwise have a preference. So that reason seems not well grounded, and of that opinion your Lordship has been: what shall be the amount of such a legacy has been disputed. Mourning has been held both ways; but this goes a step farther; for it is now contended even where no legacy, and endeavoured by circumstances in the will to make executor trustee. It is never so but where the legacy is an entire bequest, without relation to any other object; and the latter cases have rather weakened the former; for a particular interest for life shall not exclude from the residue: *Jones v. Wescomb, Eq. Ab.* 245, and the Duchess of *Beaufort's* case. So if by way of exception out of a particular species of goods: as in *Griffith v. Rogers*, and by your Lordship in *Blinkborn v. Feast* last term. Which shews the court never takes away the right the law gives, but where the in-

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tent is strong on the face of the will, and not on a probable guess. A legacy to one executor only will exclude neither; and it must be to the party himself, and not to his children only, as here insisted on. Beside the niece is joined with them; nay, one of the plaintiffs has a legacy, and never distributable, where a legacy to next of kin, and none to executor. The contrary to the rule, collected on the first principle for the plaintiffs, is laid down; as in *Batchelor v. Serle*, 2 Ver. 736, Eq. Ab. 246. There must be a necessary implication or violent presumption within the rule as to real estate, of not disinheriting an heir at law; as in all those cases where testator has expressed a trust of the residue, whether of real, as in *Loder v. Loder*; or personal, the executor there shall not have it for his own benefit. So in the case of no appointment, and of lapse, being a strong implication, the executor was not intended to have it. In *Nevil v. Parker* there was a legacy to the executors; the right vested shall not be overturned, because of the part of the will in which the executors are named. It is as difficult to account, if he intended others should take it, that he should not name them, as that he should not name the executors over again: but he must be presumed to know they would be intitled if he named no other. Nor will the court extend a principle, but slender at first, when it cannot be said with certainty, that he did not intend the executors should take. They were friends to testator; there is an expression of regard in the will; and not to be presumed he intended only a troublesome office: whereas the plaintiffs were in another kingdom, and some of them he never saw. There is a negative proof, that it was said by testator this family should not have any thing; though parol evidence cannot be read for the plaintiffs, this may be read for defendants to rebut an equity, insisted on by plaintiffs in opposition to a rule of law; as held in *Littlebury v. Buckley*.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Though plaintiffs could not originally read it, yet may they read it to take off that evidence read by defendants; for it were a strange rule that it might be read to shew no resulting trust for the next of kin, and that the other side might not read to take off the credit thereof; not to prove that testator intended to give it to them, but to answer the other.

On which it was waved; and Lord Chancellor delivered his opinion.

This depends on the construction of the will, which consists of several parts, and from which several arguments have been drawn. Many cases have been before the court on this question; and they generally have arisen on that point which was in *Foster v. Mount*, and which has been since extended farther by other cases. But the present

sent will not fall under the determination of any of those cases; none of which, or any case that can be cited on that head, can be called cases in point to this; which is a case depending on a more general principle: whether or no there does not appear a clear proof or violent presumption, arising on this will, that testator intended to make them only executors in trust, and by naming executors not to give any beneficial interest in his personal estate; to prove which it has been argued on two principles on the part of plaintiffs. 1st, That wherever the legal estate is devised in trust, or on a particular trust, whether of land or personal estate, being named or described as a trustee, he shall be considered only in that light through the whole, and not for his own benefit, unless as to what is expressly given; for which was cited *Loder v. Loder*, a devise of real estate in trust for particular purposes, which did not exhaust the whole inheritance or value of the estate; where it was held, that he should not take the rest for his own benefit, but should be a trustee as to that, though no declaration of trust. But the present case does not properly or directly fall under that principle; for those cases are, where there is some trust declared by the testator expressly; which cannot be said here: therefore the very making executor trustee in the first instance, which is the foundation of the plaintiff's claim, arises from construction and implication, and not express words; consequently it cannot be determined on that principle. The other principle was, that wherever it probably appears, that testator intended only to give the office of executor or legal interest only of the personal estate, not the beneficial, he shall take barely a trust. I think it is under some principle of that kind, the present case must be determined; but I cannot agree that the principle is to be laid down so loose and general as that is; for that would be taking too great a latitude, and making determinations of this kind of property too loose: and therefore the rule is rather, (which may come to the same thing) that where a necessary implication or violent presumption appears, that the testator, by naming executor, meant only to give the office of executor, and not the beneficial interest or property, he shall be considered as a trustee, and a resulting trust for next of kin of testator. Whether there is such a necessary implication or violent presumption, which is the true ground of that principle, is the question. It has been argued on two considerations, arising out of the will. 1st, That testator has given each executor some particular legacy or beneficial interest to themselves by express words or clauses in this will, and therefore to be excluded from the residue. Next that, abstracted from that, an intent is shewn by express words to give away the residue, though it is imperfect; and that thence arises a necessary implication, or violent presumption, that by naming them executors in the first part he did not mean to give the surplus, that is the beneficial interest, because in the latter end he meant to give it expressly. The latter point is most relied on for plaintiffs, and I think if the first point stood

stood alone, it would not be sufficient to exclude defendants from the beneficial interest. There are several cases on this head, and great variety of opinions: but on the latter determinations it stands more in favour of the next of kin than of the executors; because of their relation, which makes it more probable that testator had an intention of kindness toward them; and if in any instance it goes contrary to his intent, it is better it should be so, than that a general rule should be laid down, which might give room to surprize. The first case was, where a legacy was given to an executor for his care and trouble; which was a very strong case for a resulting trust; not on the foot of giving all and some, but that it was an evidence testator meant him as a trustee for some other, for whom the care and trouble should be, as it could not be for himself. Afterward it went further; and the giving a legacy without more has been established to exclude an executor from the residue; that is, where the legacy to executor is generally and absolutely; for under certain limitations it might not exclude him. This is said not to arise from necessary implication, but from a probable ground, *viz.* that it was giving him some part and afterward all; which none can be supposed to intend. But the foundation of that was weak; because testator might intend that particular legacy to him in case of the personal estate's falling short, that he might be sure of something, and take his particular share with the other legatees in the scramble on abatement in proportion. But notwithstanding this, the court has not considered that in general. This question has arisen where there was a clear surplus, and no doubt thereof; so that testator could have no notion that there would not be sufficient to pay the legacies, and that therefore it was necessary to take care of the executor. None of the cases have been where the fact warranted such a notion in the mind of testator, and therefore it is not necessary to enter into the question, whether the judges argued right therein; but they have settled it. Afterward there have been limitations upon this; as in the *Duchess of Beaufort's* case where a gift for life, giving a particular interest only, was held not to exclude executor from the surplus; as it may be supposed the giving that interest was barely for the sake of letting in the bequest over of that part of the estate. So a legacy to one of two executors, instead of excluding both, excludes neither from the surplus; because if he left that between them as executors only, they must take it equally, and therefore he might give that legacy as a preference to one of them: it would also prevent the survivorship; for if one of them died after death of testator, and before any division, the other executor would take by survivorship; whereas what was given by way of particular legacy would be transmissible, and not survive. But to consider how the principles or reason of these cases have been applied to the present. As to *Broom*, nothing can arise to exclude him from the residue on any of the cases mentioned. How far it may be a corroborating argument on the other point is

another matter : but he cannot be excluded as being a legacy to him, for it is not to himself ; not such from whence a necessary implication or violent presumption may arise. No case has gone so far ; nor would it be reasonable ; nor would he be intitled to the interest during life ; for if so, it has been rightly argued that it would be a legacy *pro tanto*. The testator has given it with all the interest : so that even if any interest due at death of testator, that is given to the two daughters and niece, though to be divided afterward between them ; which is a plain evidence of not being given to him in mean time, but must be laid up for their benefit. As to the other executor, indeed, there is a specifick legacy for his own benefit : there is something odd in that ; and that, as a legacy, is not sufficient to exclude both or either of them ; being a legacy to one of the executors only. He intended to give him a preference to the other ; and consequently no necessary implication or violent presumption that he intended to exclude them from the surplus ; and so directly within the cases above mentioned : so that on this point the legacies given are not sufficient to exclude them. The great stress of the case rests on the other point ; whether there is not sufficient out of this imperfect residuary clause to exclude them. I am of opinion there is, and that it would be much too far to say, that on such a will, so framed, the executors should have the surplus. The date of the will is at a different time, as appears plainly from the hand, and the weakness with which it is written, varying from the body of the will. But I know not whether I shall lay weight on that ; because I must be bound by the probate ; the original will not being so properly before me ; and I must take it as it appears on the probate. The testator plainly intended to dispose of the residue by way of residuary bequest. The, &c. I believe, meant with regard to the funds ; though it was a very unnecessary, &c. the whole being included in the former words. And it is not unreasonable to construe, that the, &c. was meant to take in any thing that was to follow ; any further specification of his personal estate, and also the persons he intended to give it to : and, if one may conjecture, I believe the conjecture is rightly made on the part of the plaintiffs, that he had transcribed the form of a will in this manner, but still with intent to dispose of the personal estate. The presumption from that clause is truly inferred, that he did not intend, by naming executors to give them the beneficial interest of the personal estate ; because he intended, at that time, to give it in another manner ; and therefore intended to give them nothing but the office ; not that there is any thing in naming them executors in the beginning of his will ; which is too much to lay a stress on. Then if there is such a violent presumption, it is still founded on the same principle, though not within those cases in point ; and for this the case comes very near *Page v. Page*, where the ground of Lord King's determination, that the one-sixth part (which could not survive, because they were tenants in common) should

should be distributed as undisposed, was, that testator declared his intent to make a different disposition of the surplus of his personal estate, and that it should not go to his executrix by force of being executrix. That case did not depend on her having a particular legacy therein; nor did the court go on that; nor would it be sufficient; for it was only for life; which, according to the Duchess of Beaufort's case, was only to let in the subsequent bequest over, not to exclude from the residue; which bequest over could not take place as to one-sixth, and therefore to be distributed as undisposed. On the same ground was *Pain v. Salter* *; where one residuary legatee * Or Painter dying in life of testator, the other, who was also executrix, claimed v. Salisbury. the whole residue: Sir Joseph Jekyl held, that a moiety should be distributed, according to the statute, among the next of kin. In that case, according to the Duchess of Beaufort's, I do not think there was sufficient ground to say, the executrix should be excluded by having a moiety: that was to let in the stranger to a share with her, not to exclude her from her right as executrix; and when that stranger was out of the case, by dying in testator's life, it might be said she should take it as executrix; but the court held otherwise. Then consider what results from this clause: in the first part of the will these two are named executors; which might be in two lights, either as trustees, barely and for the management and administration of his personal estate, or to take the beneficial interest. By the last clause he has shewn an intent by express words to dispose of the residue; then he did not mean they should take it by implication, by force of having the office. But it is said, this being an imperfect clause, does not operate, and nothing is to be inferred from thence, and therefore testator might mean to give it to the executors; or might be in doubt whom to give it to, and, not having cleared up that doubt, the right of the executors is to arise: admitting he intended to give it to the executors, it follows, he did not intend they should take it as executors, but by express words; and this being in doubt proves the same point still, that it was not his intent at the time of making this will, that they should take this residue by force of being executors, but intended a further disposition, which he has not made. Then is not this the strongest case to say, that it was not the intent that by being named executors they should have the beneficial interest? In the case above cited it might be said, that whatever lapsed, should go to the executrix as such; but the court held, it was evidence that at the making the will he intended she should not take this as executrix, and then nothing can give it afterward, but it should go to next of kin as undisposed. But it is said, executors may take it in this case as an heir at law shall; as if testator has specifically devised part of real estate, and afterward the residue, and devisee dies in life of testator, it shall descend to the heir; but there is no argument from those cases to the present. An heir takes by the law, not by intent of testator, but contrary to his intent and will; whereas an executor must take

by

by the will; and therefore if at making the will the intent appears, that the executor should not take the beneficial interest in the surplus, no accident afterward can give it him; whereas an heir has another foundation, from the law. This residuary clause shews an intent to dispose of it in some other manner, tho' imperfect, so that it cannot go to the executor, as that would be contrary to the intent; and in that respect it is something like *Newill v. Parker*, where the will was left unfinished, saying, "I give to *A. B.*" but did not say what he gave; but it came in the place where the residuary bequest was to be expected. It was said, indeed, there was a legacy. I remember that case, and think Lord *King* did lay weight on that argument. But in the present case the residue must be accounted for, and divided between the plaintiffs as next of kin. There is something, I think, in the argument drawn from the bequest of the bond to *Young*. Certainly it is by no means sufficient of itself to exclude the executors, or either of them, from the surplus; but when taken with the other circumstances, and with the inchoate disposition afterward, it corroborates this opinion; for it is unaccountable, that if a man intended to give the surplus of his personal estate to these two executors, he should, when so great a surplus came to be divided between them, give to one a debt from the other, and not rather leave that debt at home.

Case 35. Oates *versus* Chapman, Dec. 8, 1750.

Ante.
6 Aug. 1750.
Costs refunded
on reversing
order for al-
lowing a de-
murrer.

NO authority or precedent being to be found; Lord *Chancellor* now said, he must determine according to the nature and reason of the thing: His opinion was, the 5*l.* must be refunded agreeable to the general rule of law. If a judgment is reversed on writ of error, the party is always restored to whatever he lost by that judgment; and consequently if that judgment was executed, and costs levied, they must be restored. If a bill is dismissed with costs; the decree not signed or inrolled, but however, process taken out for the costs (which may be) and levied; the plaintiff applies to rehear, and the former decree is reversed; those costs must be refunded: the defendant cannot retain them against the plaintiff, when the plaintiff has prevailed.

Case 36. Bishop *versus* Church, Dec. 12, 1750.

Post.
25 July 1751.

SELM OWEN and *James Church* partners, borrowed from *Bishop* at two different times two sums of 1000*l.* each; for which they gave two bonds, binding themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, with condition that if they, or either of them, their or either of their heirs, executors, or administrators, &c. *Church* broke off the partnership, and died in 1740. *Bishop* died in 1747: and

and his representatives, *Owen* becoming bankrupt, bring this bill against the representatives of *Church* for a satisfaction of this debt out of his real and personal assets.

For plaintiff. This obligation by the intent of the parties on the face of it should be joint and several, as the condition imports, though through ignorance it is drawn so as to make it joint. Though the instrument is so framed, that remedy may be against one only, if living; yet in justice and conscience both were debtors. The real consideration is paid to both; both are bound, and liable to make satisfaction: so that though there is no legal remedy, a court of conscience will, if it can, reach the effects of the persons borrowing and receiving the money. If a bond is lost, the justice is, that the debt should be paid by the party or his heirs, though only an equitable debt then, the remedy at law being gone by loss of the security. Nay further, a court of equity would make the surety, if there was one, pay the money; there being no difference between a principal and surety on the loss of a bond. 1 C. C. 77. *Eq. Abr.* 93. So if formed in wrong words, *quadraginta* instead of *quadringenta*. 2 C. C. 225. a court of equity regards only the lending, and will follow the assets of the person receiving. If one had paid the whole, he would have remedy against representatives of the other; which shews both were debtors. Executors, though not heirs, are bound by a man's binding himself. In *Simpson v. Vaughan* 1740, *Nutt* and *Baker*, partners in trade, borrowed on their joint bond: *Nutt* died; *Baker*, the surviving partner, became bankrupt: (which is very like this:) the plaintiff as executor of the bond-creditor proved his debt, received satisfaction in part, and brought a bill against *Vaughan* as executor of *Nutt* to have the deficiency supplied out of his assets. The consideration your Lordship went upon, was, that it was a sum lent to both, of which both had the advantage, and a debt arose against both from the nature of the transaction: it was no lien on the partnership-estate in particular, because the plaintiff might have had it against either of them: and this court leans against survivorship: and that there was reasonable evidence of fraud or mistake, for *Baker* filled up the bond. Where a contract is absolutely void, yet, being a contract for valuable consideration, this court has set it up *in toto* to bind the heirs as well as executors: *Action v. Peirce*, 2 *Ver.* 480. which shews, how far a court of equity goes to make it binding on heirs as well as executors, where the bond itself in point of law bound neither, being extinguished by marriage: but it bound in equity, because it is a contract; and the condition of a bond this court considers as a contract. So in *Blundell v. Barker*, a bond before marriage to trustees with condition that if he should make provision for the wife in 5000*l.* &c. he died, having devised away his personal estate, and left a daughter married against his consent: the bill was against his

representatives to have satisfaction for a customary share: the widow claimed satisfaction for that bond as a contract with her: it was held a good contract: on which foundation a court of equity will carry these things, though void in point of law, into execution. Even where there are joint contracts either by bond or contract, this court considers it binding on each, though one dies before. In *Probart v. Clifford*, 15 March 1738. settlement on marriage of the son for life, on his wife for life, to their first; &c. son in tail, remainders over, with joint covenant by father and son for themselves, their heirs, executors, and every of them, that the jointure was and should continue 300 *l. per ann.* the father died first: after the son's death the jointure proved deficient; on the son's assets proving deficient the bill was against the father's representatives for satisfaction out of his estate for that joint covenant; and which was at an end by death of father before the son; the first question was, whether or no this was a joint covenant only; and if so, whether the son's estate should not be liable to satisfaction: next, whether the words *and every of them* did not make it a separate covenant. Your Lordship did not determine the question, whether joint; but, whether joint or not, that the father's estate was liable on foundation of the contract between the parties, and decreed accordingly. In *Primrose v. Bromley*, 14 December 1739. Richard Mead and two others were joint assignees under commission of bankruptcy; and by the deed of assignment all covenant jointly for themselves, their executors and administrators, with the commissioners, that they will from time to time get in the effects and estate of the bankrupt, and render a just account of what they, their executors and administrators or any of them, shall receive: Mead received the money, and died before the others: application was made to the Master to prove this debt, that Mead was liable to pay this debt thus contracted for. It was insisted, that though liable to pay this as a debt, because he received the money, yet it should be as a simple contract: the question was not, whether or no Mead was not a debtor for it, but whether his estate was not a debtor for it on the foot of a specialty. On exceptions the questions were two: first, whether or no this was a joint covenant, or joint and separate from the subsequent words? Your Lordship would not determine that, but went on the other question, that it was a debt by specialty. These two cases are in point: both on joint covenants: and where it was determined, that the representatives of the party dying should make satisfaction. In these cases indeed the heirs are not bound; but that makes no difference; the point is settled by it, that, though the bond is at an end in point of law, yet on account of the contract the estate shall pay. In the present the heirs are meant to be bound, and so a part of the contract. In *Welch v. Harvey* 22 Feb. 1739. precedent to plaintiff's marriage her intended husband gave her a bond, executed by himself, by which he bound himself, his heirs,
executors,

executors, and administrators to pay her at his death 300 *l.* he died, and by will gave her 300 *l.* this the executor insisted could not be paid, for that he had not assets to pay all the legacies and simple contract debts, and that the bond was void in law, because, before marriage, which put an end to it, she brought a bill against the personal and real representative for satisfaction out of the real, for what could not be out of the personal, assets. The question was, whether the heirs in equity were bound; though in law neither heirs nor executors were. Your *Lordship* held, that heirs being intended to be bound originally, you would set up this contract, though void in point of law, according to the case in *Ver.* and strange to say, it would be set up in respect of executors, not as to heirs. The real and personal assets of *Church* are therefore liable in equity. Another defence set up is, that though plaintiff might be intitled, he has lost the benefit of it by *laches*. That is uncommon; but what is the *laches*? That there was an opportunity of recovering this from *Owen*, when he was able to pay. Can that rebut plaintiff's equity? If so, it is incumbent on defendants to shew it. There was no agreement that *Owen* would take this on himself, or admission by him that he had partnership-effects sufficient for that. Each must know, he was liable to pay it. Plaintiff has nothing to do with the partnership, though this might be borrowed on the partnership-account. *Bishop* is not obliged to call on *Owen*; having two securities: and there was no probability of *Owen's* discounting it, for he was necessitous. They should have called on him; so that the *laches* is on their side. Next though *Church* has by will discharged some debts due to him, they cannot be discharged against creditors; but are mere legacies; for if such legatee dies before testator, it is lapsed, and becomes a debt again to testator; as has been determined.

For defendant, surviving executor of *James Church*. *Bishop* was acquainted with this partnership; dealing with them several years; and in the course of it lent them this on the partnership account. Both bonds were filled up by himself; both are joint, and have not the words *or severally* added. The interest continued to be paid out of the partnership-account down to the last account before the death of *Church*, which was settled; and among the sums due from the partnership these two were reckoned. On his death the right between his representatives and *Owen* was, that *Owen* should keep the whole partnership-stock, pay all the debts due from the partnership, for the survivor was to be charged with all the debts according to the articles, and was only to pay the representatives of *Church* his share of the clear residue. In 1742 there was application to *Bishop* by Mr. *Clive*, solicitor of the executors, telling him that sufficient was left of the partnership-effects in the hands of *Owen*, and particularly

cularly to pay him, and desiring him not to delay receiving satisfaction from *Owen*, and that *Bishop* would either sue him himself, or let them have the bonds to do it in his name; with which *Bishop* did not comply. In conscience and equity *Owen* was to pay all the debts; *Bishop* never applied to the executors of *Church* as liable for interest or principal, or that he suspected the circumstances of *Owen*; he regularly received from *Owen* the interest on both bonds, acquiescing under his being paymaster; and besides deals with him to amount of 1500*l.* *per ann.* If *Owen* could not have paid, if applied to, *Bishop* should have apprised the executors, and proposed to them to call on him. It is unjust to give credit to another to prejudice of a third. After the death of *Bishop* there is a suspicion of the circumstances of *Owen*; and then is application made to the executors, who are told, they are also bound. On looking into the bonds after the bankruptcy it appears, that in law *Owen* is only bound; so that no demand could be at law; which occasions a bill to be relieved on equitable grounds against that, which is the rule of law; suggesting that it was a mistake, and that in a court of equity it ought to be considered and set up as joint and several. The general question will be, whether there is a sufficient cause for the court to do that, taking it to be joint in point of law, as it is, and the survivor then only debtor according to the rule in *Lit.*? It is said, the condition, that both shall pay, makes it several; but it must be so to save the penalty, if paid by them, or either, or executors of either. The condition is properly applicable to that, and to a joint bond supposing that so intended; so that it is not a new agreement. Next the construction in a court of equity: the proposition laid down is, that all bonds, joint in point of law, are considered as several in equity; but there was never such a determination. A court of equity will not without circumstances extend the agreement of the parties; will not alter it, if meant that the survivor should be the debtor: so that it cannot be thus in general, the court never determining it but on circumstances; from which it will be dangerous to draw a general rule. *Probart v. Clifford* is not the case of a bond, but of a joint covenant; which was determined on this particularity, that it was an express agreement, which the court was to carry into execution according to the intent of the parties, which was plain, that the father was to be bound severally as well as the son. *Primrose v. Bromley*, went on several circumstances; and so it was distinguished in *Simpson v. Vaughan*; where the first question was, whether the court can give further remedy than the law does in cases of this kind? Secondly, whether there was particular evidence to do it there? As to the first the court held, it could not be laid down in every case of a joint bond; for *Probart v. Clifford* was an executory agreement; and *Primrose*

v. *Bromley* depended on a great many circumstances: but as to the next question, *Baker*, one of the partners, filled up the bond; which was either a fraud or mistake to his own advantage; either of which might be a ground to interpose. It ought to have been joint and several, if he had done it right. Another ground was, that the money had come to the benefit of both partners. *Nutt*, who died, was considerably indebted to the partnership: if then *Baker* had paid all, he would be intitled to satisfaction out of *Nutt's* assets for a moiety; why therefore should not the creditors have like remedy? On the reason, relief was in that case, there should be none in this. The cases of married women are not applicable; only proving that if an agreement is made in form of a bond, which is not good in law on account of the marriage, yet if under hand and seal, it is a specialty, and this court will substantiate it though in form of a bond: but here is no agreement which can be gone upon and the bond set aside. Where a bond is lost, the court will set it up, and supply the loss; and will correct a plain mistake: but it must appear, and a ground for it. There is no evidence of mistake here. No imposition, because filled up by obligee himself. It is hard to account for the same mistakes happening twice at a distance of time. Probably the bonds were adapted to the nature of the articles of partnership, which *Bishop* knew. It might be desired to be joint on that account. There was no third person concerned in the drawing that can be now examined: so that it is enough that it is probable. The court is not to presume without any evidence, that, when two bonds are adapted to such articles, and accounts annually taken, it is a mistake: which brings it to the ground of equity; and that shall be allowed its full weight; but is answered and rebutted by an equity of the same sort on defendant's part. The equity insisted on his, that both have had the benefit, the money coming jointly; therefore both are liable in justice to make satisfaction; and that if one had paid it for the other, he or his representatives would have a right to come on the representatives of the other for a contribution, and a common creditor should have the same equity. Allowing full weight to that argument where there is no answer to it, all the principles of it fail, when an equity of the same kind arises against *Bishop*. He had notice of money left in the hands of *Owen* for the very purpose of paying these bonds: yet lies by with his eyes open; not putting the executors on their guard: he received the interest from, and gave subsequent credit to, *Owen*; and ought therefore to suffer within the rule on bills of Exchange. If the executors pay it, it must be paid twice over: first in the account with *Owen*; next because not got out of his hands. If in point of law the executors of *Church* were liable, there is a difference between that equity,

which rebuts an equity, and that which is sufficient to set aside a legal right: but the law happens to be with the executors, and conscience also,

The accounts were offered to be read for defendants but not allowed.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

If it stood barely on the laches of *Bishop*, and on that from which a little collusion with *Owen* may be inferred, I think, it is a considerable defence made. But after the death of *Bishop* the representatives of *Church* thought themselves liable, and applied to, have these bonds put in suit; this circumstance creates a doubt in my own determination: therefore I should be glad to know what *Bishop* answered to Mr. *Clive*, defendant's solicitor on his application. He has been examined for defendants; and the answer is general, that he could not prevail on him to do it: so that I will decree *Clive* to be examined on interrogatories as to that: unless the plaintiff opposes it; for in that case I will give my determination on the evidence before me. The court has sometimes directed a witness to attend personally, where they have had a doubt; and this, I own, is an exceeding doubtful case.

Witness directed to be examined on interrogatories, or to attend personally.

There is one thing I will give my opinion upon now, as to the question made in point of law.

The bill is for satisfaction of a duty out of assets; which the plaintiff might do either on a debt due in point of law, and for which there might be a legal remedy, or where equitable; for though in general a legal demand cannot be turned into equitable, yet if a demand is made out of assets, he is intitled to an account out of the assets here; and then this court will not put him to sue doubly in one court to have account of assets, in the other satisfaction, but gives remedy here. The first thing mentioned was to make these bonds still a legal demand against the assets of *Church*. Now if that be so, the plaintiff would be at liberty, and has an option, to proceed at law for this debt or in equity. But it will not be now insisted, that the plaintiff can pursue by action at law on these bonds. It is on the face of it merely joint. Then the severance in the condition ought to be taken into consideration of the obligation, and makes the obligation joint and several. The first answer given to that is, that the condition is only, if it is performed, an excuse against the penalty. So it is in truth; but that is not a sufficient answer as to the equity of the

If a demand out of assets, though remedy at law, satisfaction here.

Though bond joint only, both bound in equity, and so of a surety, if that equity is not rebutted

the case, though it is in point of law. The joint obligation must be construed with that rule the law lays down, and the consequence of it, that the remedy survives by death of one: yet still it is a joint security by them, that one or other of them shall do the act. Suppose a bond by two, one as principal, the other as surety, with a condition (which is the common case) that if the principal pays the money, the obligation is void; it cannot be construed to be attended, that the principal only was bound; still both are bound: but according to the construction the law puts on that obligation, that the principal shall do the act; but if not, it is on both. These words therefore, which may amount to a severance as to the original contract, yet cannot enable plaintiff to declare on this as if a joint and several bond; and it is immaterial to leave plaintiff to take his chance, whether he can recover at law: but as the plaintiff insists not on it, it is a case in equity, and turns on equitable circumstances. Then the plaintiff must come as from a pure fountain; must shew himself not to be guilty of any laches, much less collusion, turning to the prejudice of the other side; which might be strong enough to rebut that equity set up beyond what the rule of law admits, though not sufficient to get the better of the legal. Which brings it to the evidence: and that is uncertain, from the not knowing what answer was given on the application by *Clive*; for it might be a general acquiescence by both: but that is very much in the dark.

I declare therefore, that I do not think fit to proceed to a determination of this case till he is examined before the master on interrogatories as to the application mentioned in his deposition to be made by him to demand the money due on these bonds of *Owen*, or to give leave to put the said bonds in suit in *Bishop's* name against *Owen*; and what answers were given him by *Bishop*, and what declarations: with liberty to the plaintiff also to interrogate: and afterward either side may apply to have it further heard.

Salkeld versus Science, Dec. 14, 1750.

Case 37.

TO a bill for account and discovery, plea of release, farther and other than in the plea set forth.

In support of this plea it was compared to a plea of purchase for valuable consideration; on which defendant has a right to plead to discovery of deeds and writings; but must except his own purchase-deeds; for he pleads them; and therefore must say, Plea of release other than in plea set forth: on the substance to stand for answer. save

save as in the plea set forth; for the plea would be over-ruled, if one pleads to the whole, and afterwards sets out any part; and this is the same in effect.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There are two objections to this plea; of form and substance.

As to the first (which might come to be substantial also) it is an odd plea; but I should not for that over-rule it. All pleas in this court, containing exception of matters herein after mentioned, are bad; because impossible for the court to judge what that plea covers, without looking into the answer; which may be sufficient, or not; and the court must judge of the sufficiency of the answer before they can judge of the validity of the plea; which is preposterous: and if imperfectly set forth, how can there be exception to it? Such plea therefore always is over-ruled. This is not expressed in that manner: but it is a pretty odd exception, and would have made it bad, if it had not been for the particular substance of the plea; for such exception would turn the plea into an answer: nor could the plaintiff have the benefit of excepting, being covered by that plea. But the only sums, mentioned in the plea, are mentioned in the release; and there being no other sums, it is the same as if the exception had been no other and further than is in the release herein after mentioned: which would have been proper and right; and the release being part of the plea, it is the same thing. That incorrectness therefore is not sufficient to over-rule the plea.

But the material and substantial part is as to the charges of an account being made up and dealings; which requires an answer and discovery: but this plea goes to discovery of all that, being to discovery or account of any personal estate of testator. If I should now allow this plea, it would be impossible for plaintiff to except.

Let it stand for an answer, &c.

Case 38. *Weaver versus Earl of Meath, Dec. 14, 1750.*

Defendant may plead to discovery of **P**LEA to a particular fact in the bill, whether defendant was tenant for life; because it would subject him to a forfeiture, he having made a lease for life of another, which would be a dis-

discontinuance of any remainder over, who might enter for that forfeiture: therefore a court of equity will not compel a discovery of it. So if it was to discover a crime. In *East-India Company v. Atkins*, the question was, whether defendant was bound to give an account of a clandestine trade; on which trade he had covenanted to make satisfaction for loss sustained thereby, and that by stated damages; and also covenanted, that he would not plead or demur to any bill to be brought in equity to discover such trade. The defendant pleaded notwithstanding: and it was admitted on all hands, that if it had not been for that covenant, he would not be bound.

the act causing forfeiture: but not to discovery of the estate, as whether he is tenant for life or not.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Suppose a bill for discovery of waste, charging defendant to be tenant for life, and that he committed waste; and praying that he may set forth and discover, whether he is not tenant for life: he may plead to the discovery, whether he hath committed waste or not, but not whether he is tenant for life or not. The plaintiff will be intitled to have such discovery; he may plead to discovery of the act causing the forfeiture; but this not a plea to that, but to discovery of the estate. There never was such a thing heard of: consider, how far it would go. Suppose, tenant for life makes a conveyance in fee for valuable consideration with covenant for farther assurance: and there is a bill for that farther assurance, or for satisfaction on the foot of that covenant. Can he plead, that he is but tenant for life, and may forfeit his estate to another? Beside it does not necessarily incur a forfeiture; for he may be tenant for life with a power; which is a common case.

Therefore over-rule the plea.

Gregor versus Moleworth, Dec. 14, 1750.

Case 39.

DEMURRER to bill of review; because no errors on the face of the decree; and that beside there was length of time, which would prevent opening the enrolment.

Length of time proper for plea, not demurrer.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That is not a proper matter for demurrer, but ought to be pleaded; for several exceptions may take it out of the length of time; as infancy, coverture; which the party should have the advantage of shewing, and which cannot be done, if demurred to. The question now is, whether there is error on the face of

the decree? There plainly is: whether it was cured afterward, is another consideration. Over-ruling this demurrer is of less effect than over-ruling any whatever; for it is only to open the inrolment that the court may hear the cause, as it stood, with all the subsequent facts. Therefore over-rule it.

No saving on a demurrer. It was desired to save the benefit of the exception of length of time.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I can save nothing on a demurrer.

Case 40. *Gower versus Mainwaring, Dec. 17, 1750.*

Ante p. 87.
5 December.

THIS cause coming on again, *Lord Chancellor* said, it appeared plainly, that plaintiff could have no more than 800 *l.* out of the residue; so that she was out of the case: and the remainder should be divided between her brother *Gilbert* and a son of her deceased sister according to their necessities and circumstances; which the master should inquire into, and consider, how it might be most equitably and justly divided. It was very difficult for the court to take on them to determine a question of that kind, in a family, and to judge of necessities and conveniencies. Suppose, testator had by will left his personal estate to be disposed of among his family, as the court of *Chancery* should think fit: could the court have done it otherwise than according to the statute of distribution?

Case 41. *Child versus Brabson, Dec. 18, 1750.*

Defendant in custody for want of further answer, puts it in; discharged on paying costs of contempt.

DEFENDANT was taken on a serjeant at arms for not putting in an answer; he afterward put in answer, and was discharged: the answer was reported insufficient, and he was taken again; and now moved to be discharged out of custody of the messenger on paying costs of contempt, &c. the question was, whether he should, before the further answer was reported sufficient, or not?

On insufficient further answer, process where left off.

An order by his *Lordship* in *Duport v. Ward* was mentioned; where defendant put in an answer after great delay and process of contempt. It was referred for impertinence, and reported so; the impertinence was expunged, the costs taxed, and *subpœna* issued for them. The answer on exceptions was reported insufficient, and *subpœna* to put in a better answer, and on contempt to a serjeant at arms. A further answer was put in; and plaintiff insisted, he should remain in custody, until the answer was reported full. On that

that it came before the court, and defendant on paying costs for not putting in a further answer was discharged.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Where the first answer is reported insufficient, and the party taken on process for not putting in a further answer; he afterwards put in a further answer, and pays the costs of the contempt, (for until then it is no answer) the course, I take it, is, that he must be discharged and if the answer is afterward reported insufficient, you may carry on the process of contempt at the process you left off: but I never heard, that he should lie in custody, until the Master reports, whether the answer was sufficient or not; which may be reported either way, and that after a long time. In case of an insufficient further answer, you are to take up your process of contempt, just where you left off; which would not be so, if he was to lie in custody during that time. The case cited seems to me in point: and, as I remember, I was there inclined, that he should remain in custody because of the great obstinacy in not answering.

The motion allowed.

Taylor *versus* Lewis, Dec. 20, 1750.

Case 42.

PETITION to compel Mr. Reynardson, fix clerk, to sign a certificate of the time of filing replication; who objected, until he was paid his fees; which were already paid by the client to Bignel, the 60 clerk, who absconded.

Whether fix clerk can stop until paid fees, which had been paid 60 clerk, who absconded.

For *petition*. The question is, whether for insolvency of the sworn clerk all the solicitors and all their clients are answerable to the fix clerk; so that, if not paid, he may stop proceedings in any situation. There is an order in the printed book of rules and orders in 1668, by Lord Keeper Bridgman and Sir Harb. Grimstone; which establishes this; that the fix clerk cannot come on the client or solicitor, but must on the 60 clerk, for his fees; on which order the sworn clerk is made an independent officer of the superior or fix clerk, so as not removeable at his will. With him is the client or solicitor to have privity or connexion; so that payment to him is conclusive to the fix clerk; and he is not obliged to pay twice, having paid the proper hand. The practice since has been, that the 60 clerk has taken on him to pay the fix clerk; between whom and the client all intercourse is cut off. *Coker v. Farewell*, 2 Will. 460. is like this; and every reason there, stronger here.

E con.

E. con. An officer of this or other court is not bound to act, unless fees are paid: nor will the court take out of their hands papers, &c. which shall remain as a lien. There is an order by Lord *Clarendon*, where the court will stop the very hearing the cause, if fees are not paid. On petition to compel Mr. *John*, a 60 clerk, to deliver up papers it was said, he was paid his fees by payment to the solicitor on the authority of *Coker v. Farewell*. Your *Lordship* said, you would not make an order for the writings, but refer it to a Master to see, what was due to him as clerk in court in the cause, and then would make a further order. This order was to tax his bill: but founded on this, that the papers were not ordered to be delivered without payment to him.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I take it, that the party has changed his clerk in court in this cause: but it is in the same state, as if *Bignel* remained now clerk in court, and came and demanded certificate of the time of filing replication to found a motion upon. In that case could the fix clerk have refused until paid his fees? Is he bound to do that office until paid? In a court of common law one cannot change his attorney without leave of court: so that I do not know, that a 60 clerk may be changed at pleasure of the party, or that the security of the fix clerk can possibly be changed by changing the 60 clerk.

It seems a 60 clerk cannot be changed at pleasure.

It being alledged, that there was a composition between *Bignel* and the fix clerk, *Lord Chancellor* desired it to stand over, until that fact was ascertained; for if so, all these questions were out of the case.

The matter was afterward made up.

Case 43.

Marasco versus Boiton, Dec. 19, 1750.

MOTION for special injunction to stay navigating a ship after appearance.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

After appearance no special injunction without notice.

You cannot move it without notice: especially in such a case which is of great consequence to trade; as then injunctions might be granted *ex parte* only to the navigating all the ships in the *Thames*. If I could have granted an injunction on petition, I would, because there appeared some kind of oppression. I could not do that by the course of the court: but I granted a *ne exeat regno*.

Bishop *versus* Willis, Dec. 19, 1750.

Case 44.

MOTION to discharge an order made on petition.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It is not the course of the court to move to discharge these orders on petition made on hearing counsel on both sides. On petition *ex parte* indeed it is done every day. I do not say, there may not be such a case: but I know no instance of it, when made by the Lord Chancellor. How it is, when made by the *Master of the Rolls*, I know not.

Anonymous, Dec. 20, 1750.

Case 45.

A Decree having settled a portion of a wife to be laid out in land for husband for life, for wife for life, and the issue; petition to have part to pay husband's debts, and the rest to wife's separate use, upon suggestion that there was no probability of issue, and that husband had been long in prison and in infinite distress.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I cannot do it, unless vested with a legislative authority: and have known these suggestions of no probability of issue made in parliament, and yet bills refused.

Ex parte Wyldman, Dec. 20, 1750.

Case 46.

BUCKLE, a debtor to *Wyldman*, gave him bills of exchange, amounting to the whole or part of his debt, on *Peter Vanbylik* in *Holland*, who was debtor to *Buckle*. Three of them were accepted; but the failure of *Vanbylik* in *Holland* occasioned the bankruptcy of *Buckle* here. A composition was made by *Vanbylik* for his debts in *Holland*; *Wyldman* received nothing under that composition before the bankruptcy and proof of his debt under the commission; and was admitted a creditor for his whole debt: but before the dividend made he had in fact received 2*s.* and 6*d.* in the pound out of the estate of *Vanbylik* under that composition.

Bankrupts.

Two debtors: one becomes bankrupt: creditor proves his whole debt, but before dividend receives a composition from the other: he shall still have a dividend in proportion to the whole.

Otherwise if
he received
the composi-
tion before
the bankrupt-
cy.

Wyldman petitioned to be let in for a dividend in proportion to his whole demand. Any opposition to this was improper in point of form; because the admission of him as a creditor intitles him thereto; and having two securities, he has a right to come under both. *Ex parte Royd*, 13 April 1741, petition to be admitted a creditor on a promissory note by one, who afterward became bankrupt: it was indorsed by mesne indorsements to the petitioner; but objected by the assignees, that the same note had been proved under another commission against the indorser; yet your *Lordship* held, he might still prove it under both commissions: then he must have a dividend under both commissions. So *ex parte Bennet* 1743, the petitioner before the bankruptcy of *Lingwood*, whose creditor he was, accepted a composition by instalment, and on the bankruptcy petitioned to be admitted a creditor for the remainder of the original debt independent of the compounded debt. It was first objected, that the debt was reduced to 11s. in the pound by the composition; next that petitioner had other personal security for his debt. Your *Lordship* held, that now he had a right to come in for the whole debt, as the composition was not paid: and that until it appeared, what he could recover on those securities, that could not come in question; he might therefore come under both securities. Then this petitioning creditor, having two demands against different persons, cannot be compelled to deliver up the securities, but may come against both.

For assignees of Buckle. The assignees sent over to the agent of *Vanbylik* to receive the composition there; but were answered, that *Wyldman* was intitled to the composition on account of the three bills, and therefore they must accept of a composition of the residue. Then he is not also intitled to prove his debt independent of that composition. His being admitted a creditor was at a time, when it was not known, that the bankrupt's estate would receive any thing from these securities; he was therefore received a creditor on his affidavit, that he had no satisfaction for his demand. The inclination of the court, if any, will be in favour of the creditors at large, and not to put one in a better condition than others. In *Cooper v. Pepys*, April 1741, notes were given to one, who indorsed, and became bankrupt; indorsee comes on the drawer, who being unable to pay becomes bankrupt also. A doubt arose, whether the creditors, who accepted a composition; may notwithstanding prove their whole debts in the commission against *Reeves*: your *Lordship* on consideration and the cases cited held clearly, that the composition must go in discharge of so much of the debt, and they could only prove the remainder under that commission: which is in fact this very case. This is like, what happens every day as to persons having real securities for their money: and reason speaks it: if the incumbrance is such,
that

that there is no necessity to have recourse to the estate of the bankrupt for satisfaction to make good the deficiency, they are intitled to receive 20s. in the pound for their demands: but if the real security is deficient, they cannot come under the commission to take advantage out of the common fund, but for so much as their debt amounts to, deducting what was before received for the produce of the pledge out of the whole debt, and come in as creditors for the residue.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is a very plain case, both on the general principles and what has been already determined more than once. On the acceptance of the three bills *Vanbylik* became personally liable for the money for which they were drawn, and to give a satisfaction for them; consequently the petitioner had, *pro tanto*, two securities for his debt; that is, two persons liable for the same debt. Then consider how it would have stood in common cases, abstracted from the commission of bankruptcy. The obligee in a joint and several bond may bring several actions of debt at the same instant of time; proceed to judgment; and take out execution for his debt: but can levy but one satisfaction. If he levies a double satisfaction for that demand, they are relievable in equity, and even in law; for a court of law will interpose to prevent that, and order restitution of what is over and above a full satisfaction for principal, interest, and costs. So in cases of bills of exchange or promissory notes, where there is a drawer and indorser, perhaps more than one, judgment is against all; but there can be but one satisfaction. Then suppose any, or two of these persons become bankrupt; he may come in under each of these commissions, and prove his whole debt under each, and is intitled to receive satisfaction out of either or both their estates, according to the dividends to be made, until he has received satisfaction for his whole debt: and this is not a preference given to him out of the estate of either of the bankrupts; having a double security, and not law or equity to take it from him. In the case put for the assignees, it is true, that if before the bankruptcy he has received from one, payment of part of his debt, if the other becomes bankrupt, he can prove only the residue of the debt under this commission, because no more remains due to him: and the form of proving his debt shews this; so that he is bound to accept that as satisfaction *pro tanto*. Consider the present case: two persons are liable to this demand, one is a bankrupt, the other is not strictly so; but has made a composition, which is low in respect of the debt: under that *Wyldman* receives nothing before the bankruptcy, but was a creditor for his whole money at the time of the bankruptcy and proving his debt; and is admitted as such, having received no satisfaction; but before the present dividend made, has received two shillings and sixpence in the

Remedy against several debtors, but one satisfaction.

the pound out of the estate of *Vanbylik* under that composition. The assignees insist, this two shillings and sixpence in the pound shall be deducted out of his original debt proved, as if it had been paid before: but that is a wrong method of putting it; nor can there be a case for that. It is true, it is more beneficial for him than if it had happened otherwise; viz. if he had received a partial satisfaction before he had proved his debt; for then he could only come for what remained due; but this was received subsequent, when both were liable: so that still he shall come under the commission, until he is paid the whole. Otherwise it would be taking away the benefit of his double security: but it is a rule of law and equity, that a man may make use of all the securities he has, until he receives a satisfaction for his whole debt. Indeed if it happens, that before he takes any remedy he received a satisfaction, he could not possibly swear himself a creditor for more: but as this was not before, it will go by way of deduction, subsequent to the time of proving that debt. Consequently he is intitled to receive his dividend in the manner the commissioners have determined. The cases cited for the petitioner are proper for this.

Take the order therefore according to the prayer of the petition, except as to the costs; for the assignees were not to blame in bringing this before the court.

Case 47. Duke of Bedford *versus* Coke, Jan. 14, 1750-1.

Crown, or its grantee, on forfeiture takes the estate subject to all charges binding the party, though voluntary, if no fraud; but not subject to debts at large; and has the same equity to be relieved against a conveyance, as the party had for fraud on him.

ON exceptions concerning only two demands of Dr. *Young*, first under a grant of annuity or rent-charge of 100*l.* *per ann.* in 1719, next under a judgment obtained in 1722, on a bond of *A.* the question was, whether Dr. *Young* should be preferred to Lady *Jane Coke* and the other sister of *A.* to whom on the attainder of *A.* the surplus of his estate was granted by the crown.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I take it to be determined by the former orders and decrees between the parties, that both these demands are to be satisfied out of the surplus of *A.*'s estate after debts and incumbrances for valuable consideration created by *A.* before his attainder and committing treason; still leaving it that they were demands out of the estate, altho' on marshalling the several demands, the court held, they were to be paid according to priority in point of consideration, not of date.

But supposing it not so determined, and that it was still open, what would be the right of the parties? Consider it in respect of the crown and of Lady *Jane Coke*, who stands in the place of the crown:

crown: the crown certainly might have two kinds of equity or defence against such a demand as this; first, supposing the grant of annuity obtained by fraud or imposition from *A.* the crown, coming in on foot of the attainder, and having all rights vested in *A.* by his forfeiture, might have taken advantage of the fraud; and though it was by conveyance, which would have affected his estate in the hands of the crown, would have the same equity to be relieved against it; and so might Lady *Jane Coke* in the place of the crown. But the crown might have another equity, which *A.* could not; viz. if *A.* had voluntarily and designedly made such a grant to encumber his estate in the hands of the crown with a view to his high treason, the crown and Lady *Jane Coke* would have a right to dispute that demand, and be delivered therefrom, as fraudulent; and there are several cases, where such collusive conveyances on pretended consideration to encumber the estate, have been held fraudulent in hands of the crown, though it would not in hands of the party forfeiting. But no such defence is insisted on for the crown or Lady *Jane Coke*, that these demands were obtained by fraud or imposition on *A.* They were insisted to be voluntary; but that is not a defence in the mouth of the crown or of Lady *Jane Coke*; because the crown on a forfeiture takes the estate subject to all charges and incumbrances, which would have bound the party forfeiting, and must be bound too, where no fraud in respect of the crown. That is, where it is a conveyance, which is a charge on the estate; for to be sure the crown is not subject to debts at large of the forfeiting party, the creditors whereof being quite without remedy; as there is no such law in *England* letting in debts at large, though there is in *Scotland*: but the crown must take the estate liable to the charges thereon. Here the grantee of this rent-charge, and the creditor by judgment, might have come into the Exchequer by the remedy given by the statute by *Monstrance de droit*, &c. to remove the King's hands until these demands are paid. Then Lady *Jane Coke* cannot be in a better condition than the Crown would be. It is not disputed on the head of fraud or imposition on *A.* himself. As to the question whether voluntary or not, if fairly obtained, and binding on *A.* it would be binding on Lady *Jane Coke*.

I will give no interest for arrears of a voluntary annuity.

Exel versus Wallace, Jan. 28, 1750-1.

Case 48.

At the Rolls. Sir *John Strange* Master of the Rolls.

ON the marriage of *William Oxford* with *Elizabeth*, daughter Post. of *Andrew Smith*, a leasehold estate called *Selburne Grange*, ^{22 June 1751} held of *Magdalen College*, was settled in trust to permit the husband

Lease for years by deed in trust for husband and wife, and on death of survivor trustees to assign to eldest son; for want of such issue of such son, to assign to daughters. If no son or issue of son alive at death of survivor, remainder to the daughters good; the whole not vesting in a son, who had been born, and died in life of the mother.

to receive the rents and profits for his life, if the term should so long endure; afterward to permit the wife to enjoy it for her life, if, &c. after the decease of them, and the survivor of them, then the trustees, their heirs, &c. should assign the said leasehold estate, together with the rents, issues, and profits, to the eldest son of *William Oxford*, as should be by him begotten on the body of his wife *Elizabeth*, and for want of such issue of such son in trust to assign the same to and among all and every the daughter and daughters of *William Oxford* on his said wife to be begotten, equally share and share alike: if there should happen to be no issue male or female of their two bodies, then to use of *William Oxford*, his heirs, executors and administrators. The inheritance of a small copyhold estate was also comprised herein; and there was a provision, that the trustees should renew the lease.

By this marriage there was one son, *William*, and two daughters, *Elizabeth* and *Anne*; the father died in 1735, *Anne* in some time after; the son died in 1745, aged about 19, without issue, during the life-estate of the mother, who intermarried with *Henry Read*, and at her death left *Elizabeth*, her only daughter then living, since married to defendant *Wallace*.

Devise of personal to all the children of his daughter, to be paid when by law able to receive and discharge; vested in each child as they come in esse, and transmissible, though subject to be varied, and not to wait the vesting until daughter's death.

Andrew Smith had, after the marriage of his daughter with *William Oxford*, and when they had only issue the defendant *Elizabeth Wallace*, made his will; thereby giving to his wife several parts of his personal estate for her own use and benefit, and to her during widowhood the use and enjoyment of the rest of his personal estate; and after providing thereout 2000 *l.* for his granddaughter, he gave the remainder to the use of his granddaughter and all and every child and children of his own daughter, which she now has, or may hereafter have by her present or future husband, equally to be divided, share and share alike, to be transferred, delivered and paid to them severally, as soon as they shall by law be able to receive and discharge the same; and made his wife executrix, who lived unmarried, and made *Elizabeth Wallace* her executrix; who, as such, was representative of *Andrew Smith*, and the granddaughter named in his will, and administratrix to her brother and sister *William* and *Anne*, both born after their grandfather's will, and dying under age in life of their mother; from whose second husband *Henry Read*, the plaintiff claiming under an assignment, brought this bill for an account of the several personal estates in which the wife of his assignor claimed a share.

Two questions arose as to what should be considered the personal estate of *William* and *Anne* his sister.

The first was as to the estate of both: the plaintiffs, as standing in their mother's place, claiming a share of whatever appeared to belong to their personal estate; under the statute of distribution, they dying

dying intestate, she surviving them, and their father dying long before: that each of their third of the personal estate of *Andrew Smith*, which by his will was divided equally, &c. vested in them equally, and transmissible to those intitled to the benefit of their respective personal estates. The defendant, *Elizabeth Wallace*, insisted nothing vested in them during their lives, but that defendant was intitled to the whole as the only one who survived the mother; principally because, as the residue was to be equally divided between all her children by any husband, the number of objects and the *quantum* would not be known until her death; therefore nothing vested; especially considering the subsequent words, "as soon as they are able to receive and discharge;" which relates to their respective ages of twenty-one.

The second concerned the personal estate of *William* the son only as to the college lease, which was since renewed; in which the plaintiff contended, that if it was a real estate, *William* would have an estate tail; and that such words, as in real estate would carry an estate tail, should, in terms for years, carry the whole term, and the remainder over to the daughters was void in law, as tending to perpetuity; and consequently the residue of the term, after death of father and mother, became part of the son's personal estate, and divisible in moieties between the mother, (in whose place plaintiff stood) and his sister the defendant, who, on the other hand insisted, her brother could only take upon his surviving; and by his dying without issue the remainder to the daughters was good, as being within that reasonable compass of time the law allows; consequently she was intitled to the whole.

His Honour, having taken time to consider, now pronounced his decree.

On the first, I am of opinion that one third of the residue of the personal estate of *Andrew Smith*, vested in *William*, and another third in *Anne*, and is to be considered as their respective personal estate divisible. There are no words in this will confining the division of this residue to such children of *Elizabeth Oxford* as should be living at her death; for that would have postponed the vesting the interest until that event: so that it is only a bequest of the personal estate to be equally divided among all the children, wherein the interest vests in each as soon as they come *in esse*, subject to be varied as to the *quantum* of the proportions as they arise, but still vested and transmissible to their representatives. It is only the com-

Devise of use of personal to A. for life, and afterward to B. though B. dies first, transmissible.

place

place it out for their benefit, being under age, both surviving the widow of *Andrew Smith*. It is objected however, that defendant appears to be the principal object of testator's regard, and not likely to be affected by the births of her brother and sister, who did not live to be intitled to any share of the residue: but that regard is sufficiently answered by the 2000 *l.* she was to have out of the residue in the first place and in all events. One third therefore is to be considered in the account, as personal estate of *William*; one moiety to the plaintiff in place of his mother, the other to defendant his sister and administratrix: another third is to be considered as *Anne's* who dying before *William*, it is to be divided into thirds; one to the mother for plaintiff; another to *William*; the third retained by defendant.

Remainder of
lease for years
on general
dying without
issue too re-
mote.

Otherwise if
without issue
living at the
death.

Perpetuity to
be avoided.
So a father's
taking as re-
presentative of
a child dying
young.

The other, and more difficult point, depends on the construction of this deed; for the general principles cannot be disputed: a remainder over on a general dying without issue is too remote, and cannot be supported; but if to be considered as a dying without issue living at his death, the remainder to the daughters will be good. Some words must have been omitted in the ingrossment; as will appear from reading this clause. The first words *such issue*, if they stood alone, might naturally have referred to *eldest son*; but the subsequent words shew, that is impossible. The omission is unfortunately in the most material part of the deed: but whatever conjecture might be made how this happened, and however by the insertion of some words it might be made consistent, I cannot go out of the deed itself, but must take it as it now appears, and put the best legal construction I can upon it: and if it is capable of such a construction as will answer the end, and not run into the danger of a perpetuity, (which the law endeavours to avoid) that surely is the construction the court ought to follow. I am of opinion, that may be done in the present case. If in every event the trust of the term expired within lives in being, it comes within the compass allowed by law for its suspension; and the point of time is the death of the survivor of the father and mother, who are first provided for; on whose decease the trustees are then to assign to the eldest son, if then such in being; and to assign the whole term to him, not for life only; which might be liable to objection. Then the words "for want of such issue of such son" will prevent its going over to daughters on there having been a son, who died before leaving issue. If there is no son and no issue, the trustees are then only to assign to the daughters unfettered, and as an absolute interest. The words relate to the same time throughout, the death of the survivor of the father and mother: if the whole trust of the term should vest in the son on his birth; the intent of the settlement would be defeated; as if he died ever so young, his father would have his estate again as his representative; which in *Seymour v. Bingham*, 8 June 1744, (as is cited) the Lord Chancellor declared against, as that would carry it to the representative of a son who died

died soon after his birth, in order to throw it back to the father ; which was to be avoided if possible. *Eldest son* in this deed must be reasonably interpreted ; they could not thereby mean *first born*, but *eldest* at the death of the survivor of the father or mother ; which must be the point of time fixed. The court always inclines to favour that Limitation construction which supports the limitation over, if it can be done ; ^{over, favour-} and has laid hold of all opportunities of referring it to a want of ^{ed.} issue at time of the death : as where the words are *leaving no issue*, &c. the court has there in the construction supplied the words *then living* to answer the intent, and support the remainder over ; for which *Atkinson v. Hutchinson*, 3 *Wil.* 258, and cited in *Sabberton v. Sabberton*, is very strong. So *Donne v. Merresfield*, and *Forth v. Tal.* 56. *Chapman*, 1 *Will.* 663, where the devise over was on appeal held good. *Target v. Gaunt*, *Eq. Ab.* 193, and 1 *Wil.* 432, was on the words *dying without issue*. In the present case from the omission, the words *such issue of such son* have no antecedent to which *such issue* can be referred : then why should I construe that limitation over to depend on a general dying without issue at any time, when the deed does not say so ; and this in order to defeat the issue of the marriage intended to be provided for ? Indeed where the words are in general *dying without issue*, in conformity with the legal interpretation a dying without issue of the first tenant in tail according to *Buckmere's case* 8 *Co.* 88. *a.* where it is held, it may be so laid in a *formedon*, I agree no intent of the party can be regarded, which is not consistent with the rules of law. If therefore the words are plain, as in *Miss Dormer's case*, I could not depart from them ; but as they are not Lord Beau-clerc v. Miss Dormer. plain, and to construe it that if at death of father and mother there is no son, is more natural than to construe it a failure of issue 100 years hence ; that ought to prevail : though all those cases were on wills, this though on a deed is as strong. *Massenburgh v. Ash*, 1 *Ver.* It is objected for plaintiff, that the words at the end of the clause will serve to explain the meaning of the word *issue* in the former part, and would in case of a will or act executory raise an estate-tail by implication, and consequently carry the whole term, so it would, if on the death of the survivor of the father and mother there was then *in esse* any person coming under the description of the deed : but they cannot enlarge the former words, but must refer to there being no issue male or female, when the trust was to expire, and the trustees were to assign the whole term. Defendant's wife is therefore absolutely intitled to it, and the bill must be dismissed as to that part. The same construction on a deed and will.

Duke of Bridgwater *versus* Egerton, Jan. 29, 1750-1. Case 49.

THE first question was as to books claimed by plaintiff as heir-looms ; for which was cited *Levison v. Grovenor* ; which was a limitation for life, remainder to the first and every other son ^{Books not heir looms, but property of first taker tenant in tail.}

son in tail male, remainder over; and then that his library should go as far, as the law would permit, to the same persons, to whom the estate limited. Tenant for life enjoyed till his death, and never had issue; the remainder over took place, and claimed the benefit of the library as an heir-loom. The question was, whether this limitation over was not a right one? Another, whether, even if that was doubtful, the other words did not empower a court of equity to direct it so? Your *Lordship* held, in both cases it would go. If on the first, that it was a double contingency: but a greater stress was laid on the other, that this was a legacy, which does not take effect without consent of executor, who is a trustee; and that the court would take care, it should be so limited, to go as far as it would.

LORD CHANCELLOR

Held the books should not go as heir-looms to plaintiff, being the property of the late Duke *John*, his brother, tenant in tail, the first taker, and part of his personal estate. Here was no such contingency as in *Levison v. Grovenor*: which had carried it as far, as can be, in the case of heir-looms.

Devise of house and appurtenances to wife during widowhood: but eldest son, when twenty-one or married, might on notice have it. She marries, the son under twenty-one; when twenty-one he will be intitled: the intervening interest undisturbed, and goes respectively to the residue.

Another question as to a house, which with the appurtenances testator had devised to his wife during widowhood: but desired, that when his eldest son for the time being should attain twenty-one or marry, he should, if he desired it, and gave notice thereof, have the said house and appurtenances for his own use, paying her 400*l. per ann.* during widowhood. She had married again; but the present Duke had not attained twenty-one.

There was cited a case on the will of the Duke of *Buckingham*, December 4, 1745; where a house and appurtenances was devised to a wife during life on condition, if she should marry again, to go to the eldest son and his issue, remainders over. The plaintiff insisted, the house was freehold; the other side, that it was leasehold, and to go to residuary legatee. Your *Lordship* held, that as the wife never married again, it was a contingent devise, which never happened, and therefore could not be taken by Duke *Edmond* by the words giving an estate tail, but it fell under the other general words of the residue; distinguishing it from all the cases of contingencies.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Undoubtedly testator had in view, that the event might be, that the eldest son for the time being might make this real estate during the interest of the wife; but it is clear, that he in-

intended, that after determination of her interest he should have the house and appurtenances: if therefore the words in the will will answer any contingency, which may now happen, on which that devise may take place, it will have that effect. Her interest is determined, his is not yet come; but there is nothing to hinder it, being within the time the law allows a contingency; so that it may now happen; and that sense will clearly answer that intent. Consequently when plaintiff attains twenty-one, and complies with the circumstance required, he will be intitled to have possession thereof: the intervening interest in mean time is undisposed of. He cannot have it; as not given to him. There being a disposition of the residue both real and personal, so much, as is real, will go to the real according to Lord *Weymouth's* case; so much as personal will fall into the personal, and go to the residue.

Another question as to 5000 *l.* a fourth share of 20,000 *l.* provided to be raised by a trust term in marriage-settlement in case of two or more younger children, subject to the father's appointment and division between them. There were four younger children, three daughters and one son, the plaintiff. The father afterward makes another settlement, reciting that a provision had been made for the children of the marriage, and reciting his desire and intent that the whole thereof should be divided between those daughters, he makes a settlement on the plaintiff in discharge and satisfaction of his provision, on condition that the plaintiff waved and released it: but he thereby made no direct appointment or gift of that 5000 *l.* to those daughters. Afterward in his will he says, "*Item* I give to my daughters so much, as, with what is provided by my marriage-settlement, will make up their fortunes 10,000 *l.*" It is objected for the daughters, that by the marriage-settlement only 15,000 *l.* was provided for them; because, taken strictly, their brother was intitled to a fourth part of the 20,000 *l.*; and therefore they were intitled to have that 5000 *l.* a-piece made up 10,000 *l.* out of the personal estate, and over and above to take the 5000 *l.* the plaintiff's share, the benefit of which was purchased for them.

Portions for younger children under a settlement: father provides other-ways for one; intending 10,000 *l.* a-piece for the rest. They are confined to that, and not also to claim an equivalent for the other's share out of the provision made. Otherwise, if they had no other satisfaction.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That is not the testator's intent. I am of opinion, that according to the testator's plain intent in the last settlement and will, taken together, they are not intitled to more than to have their portions made up 10,000 *l.* a-piece. The father could not make an illusory appointment; because that would be defeating the marriage-settlement, under which they took as purchasers: but he might have made a very material difference between them; which power the

court would not take from the father, provided he made a reasonable provision according to the intent of the settlement. He intended, what should be raised under that term, should go to the daughters, who were properly to be provided for by money-portions, and to provide for the plaintiff in another manner. In his will he does not say *their portions*, but *fortunes*; which is their whole fortune in the world. He had not made a direct gift of the plaintiff's 5000*l.* to them; but after he had put it in his power, he considers the whole 20,000*l.* as provided for them by the marriage-settlement; the whole right arising under that, he only exercising the power he had over it. If indeed these daughters had no other satisfaction whatever, and the plaintiff should attain twenty-one, and being capable of electing should say, he would not take that settlement on him, but abide by his share, the 5000*l.* and consequently the limitations in that settlement had become void; if nothing more in the case, these daughters might have been intitled to have had the benefit of this limitation, made to the plaintiff, to reimburse to them the 5000*l.* the father intended, agreeable to my decree on Lord *Coventry's* will. But, having designed them 10,000*l.* a-piece, if that equity tends to give them more, that would be a bar; for the court would not, that they should take that equity contrary to the intent of the testator. If that would have been so, if the plaintiff should make that election, it will be so now: consequently they are intitled to no more out of the father's estate than to make up 10,000*l.*

Earl of CHESTERFIELD and others, Executors of JOHN SPENCER, *versus* Sir ABRAHAM JANSSEN, February 4, 1750-1.

Lord HARDWICKE, Lord Chancellor.
Sir WILLIAM LEE, Chief Justice.
Sir JOHN STRANGE, Master of Rolls.
Sir JOHN WILLES, Chief Justice.
BURNET, Justice.

Argued
Trinity Term
1750.

THE state of the case upon the pleadings and proofs, as far as was material for the consideration of the court, was shortly this.

John Spencer in 1738, being possessed of an income of 7000 *l.* *per ann.* and of a personal estate in plate, jewels, and furniture, to a great value, and having contracted a debt to the amount of 20,000 *l.* to several persons, mostly tradesmen, by whom he was pressed, and which he was desirous to pay off, proposed to borrow money, and particularly a sum of 5000 *l.* for that purpose. As he had a well grounded expectation of a great increase of fortune on the death of his grandmother, the *Dutchess* of *Marlborough*, if he survived her, he resolved to contract thereon. He was above thirty; originally of a hale constitution, but impaired: and although afterward he lived more regular, yet he was addicted to several habits prejudicial to his health, which he could not leave off. She was seventy-eight; of a good constitution for her age; and careful of her health. He sent to market a proposal, which he supposed, would easily meet with a purchaser; as it was natural to expect it in common course, that his grandmother should die first, though she was a good old life, and he but a bad young one. This proposal was, that if any one would lend him 5000 *l.* he would oblige himself to pay 10,000 *l.* at or soon after the death of his grandmother, if he survived her, but to be totally lost if she survived him: this

A. aged thirty, borrows 5000 *l.* on bond to pay 10,000 *l.* if he survives a year and eight months, having on death of *B.* confirmed the bargain by a new bond, &c. freely, and paying part: no relief, except as to the penalty.

was rejected by several knowing persons as not sufficiently advantageous; as it was at first by the defendant; but afterward accepted by him: and a bond of 20,000 *l.* conditioned to pay 10,000 *l.* was given on those terms. She lived six years and three months; he survived her one year and eight months. Upon her death, it did not clearly appear who made the first application, whether the defendant for his money, or *John Spencer* for delay of payment, as he might not be able immediately to raise 10,000 *l.* although by the event he came to a great annual estate: but it was clear, that as soon as it was proposed by the defendant to *John Spencer*, he consented to do it: and, near two months after the contingency happened, he executed a bond in the penalty of 20,000 *l.* conditioned for the absolute payment of 10,000 *l.* at or before *April* following; and executed also a warrant of attorney for confessing judgment thereon; which was afterward entered. *John Spencer* in 1745, at different times paid two several sums of 1000 *l.* each in part of this debt; and expressed himself several times satisfied with the conduct of the defendant; and that he should be paid his whole demand as soon as possible. The defendant after his death sued a *scire facias* against his executors for an execution; who resorted to this court, praying an injunction, and for relief on payment of the 5000 *l.* with interest from the time of advancing it.

For plaintiffs. This case is of great importance to the estate of Mr. *Spencer*, but of greater to the publick. The bill is to be relieved against an exorbitant, unconscientious demand, on the known terms in a court of equity, payment of principal really advanced and legal interest. There are three general points to be determined. First, how that contract would have stood, if properly brought in judgment in a court of law, and considered merely upon legal principles? Next, what the fate of it ought to be in a much stronger degree in a court equity, when examined by principles of equity? Lastly, the subsequent transactions relied upon in the answer as a ratification of the original bargain?

As to the first, it is not good in point of law, and therefore usurious. Oppression of this kind is almost of as ancient date as the use of money as a *medium* of trade; and usury of a much more innocent nature was against the principles not only of the canon law, but of the common law of the land. Lord *Coke* says in 3 *Inst.* 151, that a man being found guilty of usury after his death, all his goods were forfeited to the crown; although it is now altered by several statutes, which confine it to such a *quantum*; allowing a certain moderate
profit

profit for the use of money: the difference therefore between usury and interest is in *specie* nothing, but in *gradu*. Though the severity of the common law is changed, the nature of things cannot be changed; it was the constitution of this country, and is so, that no gain should be exorbitant on the loan of money: and therefore it is immaterial whether it falls within the statutes or no: but this case does; where such a contract is originally for the loan of money, and exceeding the legal allowance, it is rescinded by the act of parliament itself, though attended in some measure with a chance; being construed a subterfuge and evasion of the act; for if it may be extended to one life, it is difficult to tell where to stop. The legislature took a different method formerly; in the first acts describing minutely what species should be allowed; confining it to a direct loan of money for illegal gain, or sale of goods or merchandise to persons in necessity; the specifying whereof introduced endeavours to evade the particular kind of usury described: therefore the 21 J. 1. c. 17. is in general terms; in consequence of which courts of law were vested with a kind of equitable jurisdiction, to consider the circumstances of the case stated as particularly as in bills in this court. The intent of the parties at the original communication is considered even by courts of law as decisive; and where that is for a loan of money or colourable sale of goods, whatever is thrown in of a different kind, it is usurious, otherwise not. *Reynolds v. Clayton*, Mo. 397, and *Becher's case* there cited. Next, wherever security is taken for a larger sum than is really advanced, it is usurious; unless the party may deliver himself therefrom by paying a less, or by doing some collateral act. The throwing something hazardous into the bargain, by which (as it is insisted) the lender might in some event have lost the whole, will not take it out of the statutes, and seems to have arisen from the statute 11 H. 7. c. 8. telling how far one might go to keep out of the act. Mo. 397. and *Button v. Downham*, Cr. El. 642. *Burton's case* 5 Co. 69. *Roberts v. Tremain*, Cr. J. 507. *Cottrel v. Harrington*, Brownlow 180. *Fuller's case* 4 Leon. 208. Noy 151. 2 And. 15. and *Mason v. Abdy*, Carth. 67. 3 Sal. Comberb. 125. The only exception is the *fœnus nauticum*, or bottomry-bonds; which for the sake of the publick, and benefit of trade are held not within the statutes of usury. The only view of the parties here was a loan of money, and security for double the sum advanced, subject to the contingency; the borrower could not deliver himself from the payment; and the court will then lay every thing else out of the case. In the calculation of lives it is difficult to say, where the true rule is: *Halley* and *Newton* have varied: but on the first sight one would think the lender had here greatly the advantage from the disproportion;

proportion ; so that on the face of it it would be deemed a subterfuge in a court of law. Suppose the bond existing ; and an action brought by the defendant, after the grandmother's death ; and the statute of usury pleaded ; the parties may advance matters *debors* ; and it would be determined to be within the statute ; which is very extensive, and, though penal, to have a liberal construction. The terms, on which men communicate to borrow and lend, cannot alter the nature of the case. The *quantum* of the risk is not material ; nor did the transaction proceed on the comparison of lives ; or health or constitution ; but if it did, the defendant was satisfied of the contrary to what he now endeavours to support by proof, as to the constitution of Mr. *Spencer*.

As to the second point : Courts of equity, not being tied up to rules, consider questions of this kind in a more extensive manner, and in general have avoided laying down any particular rule, as that would (like the old statutes of usury) teach persons, how far they might safely go ; but declare, that wherever there is a spark of oppression, the motive on one side, necessity to apply for money, on the other a covetous passion for undue lucre, they always relieve ; not indeed setting it aside, but by giving what is really due. Their principles have been established gradually and with deliberation : and if one or two judges, who presided here, have differed and been unwilling, they have at last been compelled by the force of precedents and the growing evil. There were many cases for relieving against unreasonable bargains in case of young heirs in the time of Lord *Ellesmere*, *Bacon*, and *Coventry*. The first case afterward is *Waller v. Dalt.* 1 C. C. 276 ; which was introductive of *Barny v. Beak* 2 C. C. 136. In *Berny v. Pitt*, 2 Ver. 14, Lord *Jefferies* held, there was no difference, whether it was for money or wares ; that the first thing prohibited by the statute is for the loan of money, and that of wares put secondarily only ; and reversed Lord *Nottingham's* decree, who had not been long in this court, when he took that distinction. In *Berny v. Tison*, 2 Vent. 359, Lord *North* affirmed the decree, though he shewed an unwillingness, by adding *ne trahatur in exemplum*. In *Batty v. Lloyd*, 1 Ver. 141, Lord *North* dismissed the bill. In *Nott v. Hill*, 1 Ver. 167, he would not relieve, and reversed Lord *Nottingham's* decree : but on a bill for specifick performance of the same agreement, 1 Ver. 271, he seems a little to remit that rigour, he had at first, and would not countenance the practice. But Lord *Ardglafs v. Muschamp*, where there was both a risk and confirmation, shews, he had entirely got the better of it from the force of precedents. Other cases were before Lord *Jefferies*, and Lords Commissioners, 1 Ver. 467, 2 Ver. 77, 78, 121, 402. So *Twisleton v. Griffith*, 1 Wil. 310.

In *Curwain v. Milner*, 3 *Wil.* 293, Lord King, though he seems like Lord North to have brought legal notions into this court at first, yet relieved. In *Lawley v. Hooper*, 19 November 1745, an annuity of 200 *l.* was charged on the estate of an elder brother as a provision for the life of a younger, who, when in distress, granted 150 *l.* part thereof to *Davenant* for 1050 *l.* seven years purchase; with a proviso that the vendor might re-purchase on notice, but there was indorsed, that it should be on paying 75 *l.* more than originally advanced: your Lordship held it a mortgage and redeemable; and that the 75 *l.* more, when the thing was the worse for the wear, made it unfair. The principle, on which the court has gone in these cases, is an unconscionable bargain, and it being contrary to publick convenience to encourage it. Such contracts are generally founded in oppression by taking advantage of the borrower's necessity; which is the general ground of the malignancy of usury: they are of publick mischief by encouraging extravagance of young men. If stopping the progress of it, as a growing evil, be thought for the publick good, and no real inconvenience in laying an embargo on this sort of trade, this is *modus dignus vindice*. These contracts are generally by persons having an expectation only. Men thereby pledge their estates, before they have them, consequently before they know the value. It is too true, that men generally have not so much regard to creating reversionary inconveniencies, when they consult present gratifications; know not how to estimate what they never felt the benefit of, by which their estates, like their pleasures, are gone before they enjoy them; and several poor creditors commonly fall with one of these prodigals. There is no remedy immediately by our law against this extravagance, as by the *Roman* law by *Cura ores*, interdicting a man, not of understanding sufficient to manage his own property, from the use thereof. This extravagance has established a trade of annuities and *post obits*, universally exclaimed against. The ruin of a man, who falls into this method, is declared not to be far off: he ruins his estate without spending half; for a borrower on *post obits* never put it out to interest; and many of these are purchased at above half. Our sons may at this moment be doing the same; and all we have laboured for may be gone just after our death. It is on the principle of publick utility that courts of equity have gone further than the law. So from the general inconvenience, *præmiums* for places are not allowed; because there the office falls to the man, not that he is fit for it, but the office fit for him. So in marriage brocade bonds, the first of which was *Hall v. Potter*, it is not for the sake of the party seeking relief; or bonds to have so much a-year out of a particular office; or by clients to agents pending suit, although the party to whom it is given appears meritorious; or by a young man just after twenty-one to his guardian. In *Shepley v. Woodhouse*, 17 March

1742. a bond by a man and woman to intermarry in 13 months after her father's death, and for a reasonable settlement; the woman above 30, and living in her father's house; the court went on publick inconvenience, as tending to deceive and encourage disobedience to parents. The cases are not confined to young heirs; young remainder men are as much the object; and the opinion of Lord Cowper and Lord Talbot was, that the relief of this court should be extended to meet such contracts; they are grown into a sort of stated traffick, which tempts young men farther than their vices. Lord King indeed said, if this was *res nova*, he might have had some difficulty; and it may not be easy to draw the line. If a young heir wanted to portion a daughter, or a sum to put into trade, buy books, or for such occasions, equity might not interpose: but where it is to feed extravagance, the court will stop there. The same set of men are generally employed in such contracts; and a catalogue of some of their fortunes is nothing but pieces of ruin out of several families. No proof of fraud or undue advantage is requisite: the case speaks for it; and otherwise it would be saying the court will not relieve at all, as to such secret transactions witnesses are not called in. It is unjust and unreasonable, and in that light a court of equity calls it a fraud; arising from avarice on one side, and distress on the other; and will relieve on the same principles as in *Sir Thomas Meere's case*, 1 Ver. 465. So by Lord Talbot in *Bosanquet v. Dashwood* 40. That it was not sought by the defendant, will make no difference; the proposal generally coming from the person in distress. The defendant could not be ignorant of it, or of Mr. Spencer's expectation and dependency on his grandmother; his own witness, *Richard Backwell* saying it was hawked about, that Mr. Spencer wanted money on those terms; and the necessity of concealing it from her made him a slave to the person with whom he treated. It is literally true, that he was neither young nor an heir: but he was not old enough to manage his affairs. *Twisleton* was 34; yet was his conduct relieved against. It is not generally in the case of heirs, though called contracts with young heirs; for an heir cannot sell a reversion: though he may stop himself by fine, he cannot grant. Mr. Spencer was *quasi hæres*, expectant though not apparent; the Dutche's *in loco parentis*; and his dependency on her from her constant declarations a parental dependency; and known so to be by the defendant; who on that expectation built this contract. The contract itself as well as witnesses prove his necessity. The bare applying to pay two for one has been held sufficient. *Poor* and *rich* are relative terms: and however large a man's estate, if he cannot pay a debt, he is literally necessitous; and otherwise he never would have granted on *post obits*, or risked his expectations on such terms. Comparing the ages, the defendant cannot be said to run any risk: and the defendant has not shewn, that the contract moved on a comparison of the health

health of each : nor is there any certainty in judging on these cases of lives.

As to the third point; all the other acts of Mr. *Spencer* were, when under the like circumstances, as originally ; proceeding from his inability to do more. His acquiescence cannot be considered a ratification, but may be excused by his looking on it as a debt of honour and a sort of wager. The bond and judgment is an evidence he could not pay ; he would go as far as possible ; no money could be raised but by annual rents, whereas an immediate payment was to be made ; and the borrower is a servant of the lender. Like *Curwyn v. Milner*, 19 June 1731. 3 *Will.* 293. and *Wiseman v. Beak*, 2 *Ver.* 121. and *Lord Ardglass v. Muschamp*, where stronger instances of confirmation did not avail. So in some of the prize causes in *Exchequer* some repeated confirmations were held rather an aggravation. *Cole v. Martin*, 2 *Will.* 290. differs materially from this ; for there a person under no distress renounced a relief he might have had.

Although the contract is usurious in law, the proper way is to come into equity to stop this *species* of traffick, which is of publick inconvenience ; no act of parliament could be made to meet this evil ; nor any rule that would not be inconvenient in particular cases. The policy of law and equity in this kingdom does nothing more than what has been done in other ages and nations : as appears from the *Macedonian* decree ; *Digest*, lib. 14. tit. 6. *Law* 1, &c. where though the words are *filiis familias*, it shall not be confined to that.

There ought therefore to be relief on payment of the real principal and interest.

For defendant. This is indeed a matter of importance ; being a question, whether a man's own act, without fraud, in full senses, and having the absolute disposal, shall bind him ? If (as has been argued) there was no other way in which the court could assist the preservation of families from ruin, it is better the law should be wrong in itself, than uncertain. So far as a court of equity can prevent such destruction by general rules, it will lay down such rules : but will not endeavour to preserve a weak or wicked man ; nor say, that by the rules of equity an honest and wise man cannot be protected in his honesty and wisdom.

The question of law must arise out of the fact ; the particular question of equity must depend on the fact also, considered under all its extensive circumstances, taking in the convenience and inconvenience : but still the ground to go upon must be made out by evidence :

evidence: it will hereby be shewn, that this is a fair, honest, and honourable contract.

The circumstances come under these heads. *1st*, The character, situation, and figure of life, of the obligor: *2d*, The same as to the obligee: *3d*, The motive or reasonableness thereof, inducing the obligor to solicit such a bargain: *4th*, The manner of transacting and concluding: *5th*, The fairness and equality of the price from the chance under all the circumstances according to the probability at the time, and the event, that has happened: *6th*, The opinion the obligor always had of this.

As to the *1st*, It is material in all cases. His understanding is not charged by the bill to be weak, or likely to be imposed on, or that he was imposed on. He was turned of thirty; no heir of any sort, in which the term is applied in these subjects; for if one, living with his father, is considered as heir, (although *nemo hæres viventis*) he had no father, but was himself father of a family: he was in no state of quarrel with any relations: known never to have gamed, which, it is proved, he hated: and he had taken up some former extravagancies; and lived more temperately: was his own master; possessed of a fine family-seat, with furniture suitable to his rank and figure; of 7500 *l. per annum* for life, beside present personal estate, contingent reversions, and hopes from his grandmother. The pressure on him for his debts of 20,000 *l.* (it appears not how contracted) was from tradesmen. Justice obliged him to pay them; it would be scandalous not to do so; and prudence required it, lest it might alter his grandmother's opinion of him. He must have paid this by the annual profits, joint or single annuities for his life, or selling his personal estate, reversion, or the chance he had from his grandmother; and this would probably have been the opinion of the best and wisest friend he had. None would advise the selling his personal estate, family-pictures, &c. which would be declaring himself bankrupt. The annual profits would not do it, nor would his creditors wait without impatience for it. As to annuities, the way taken by tenant for life who wants money for particular purposes, it certainly is not a beneficial way of contracting. It has appeared frequently, that if a man sells an annuity for his own life, so that he wants to sell it, the price is above seven years purchase, supposing him of middle age and in good health: if he was to buy an annuity for his own life, the same man gives fourteen or fifteen, and in 1743. they went so far as to give sixteen or seventeen, which is a great difference. If there is any objection to the life, they make him abate in proportion. Taking it in the common way, he could get but 7000 *l.* for 1000 *l. per annum*; taking in the objections to his life, perhaps not 5000 *l.* If he was to sell his reversion in fee or the reversion of 10,000 *l.* (the interest of which

which he had for life) if he had no younger children, he could have sold them for little advantage: nor could he have got any thing for his chance under Lord *Sunderland's* will. Then his only chance to raise money was this; and it was the most reasonable way, if fairly done and on reasonable terms: and otherwise his goods might be taken in execution, and sold for little value, as generally happens.

Next for the circumstances of the defendant; who is not charged in respect of his character, behaviour, or manner of dealing; as in securities to women, their character must be charged and proved. It would have been material also, that he had been acquainted with Mr. *Spencer*, (the contrary of which is proved, as far as a negative can) or a companion in creating the debt and encouraging it. All circumstances, weighing in other cases, are clear of this. The defendant is not a person looking out for young men to prey upon; he did not think it a beneficial contract, and absolutely refused it; but afterward accepted it on particular application and pressing. Mr. *Spencer* himself in private fixed on what he thought the fair price, and does personally and by agents propose these terms to any, who would buy; which were refused by several only because not advantageous.

The motive has been observed on already.

As to the manner; it is proposed in the first moment as a conditional bargain. If it turned out against the defendant, there was certainty of a loss; if for him, they might live so long, as that there would be a very improbable chance of gain. No undue advantage is taken; for what is proposed, is simply accepted.

As to the equality of it as a bargain of chance; whoever deals in or buys lives, must have a regard particularly to the constitution of the person, manner of life and age. If the life is bad, the company will not ensure at all: all circumstances must be considered, and it is enough to go on probable opinion. The bargain supposes an inequality in their lives, that the grandmother was most likely to die first: she was of good health, and took care of it; Mr. *Spencer* the contrary, from his course of life. The insurance-offices always go on opinion, and inquire into a general account; so that if a false account is given in, actions are frequent in *Guildhall* for the fraud. It is proved, that notwithstanding advice he would not alter his course, and said, he did not desire to live longer than his constitution would let him. In all these chances, if a man has gone through such shocks to his constitution, as he did, they deduct two years purchase. It was the opinion at that time, that he was a bad life; and it appears negatively, that it could not be insured at 3*l. per cent.* taking it on the event, she lived six years after; he sur-

vived her but twenty months. Supposing his life was insured at 5*l.* *per cent.* which is the insurance in case of a person in the best health, on a computation of the value of lives and terms for years the defendant is a gainer about 3000*l.* and might have absolutely lost it, if she had lived many months longer. Interest of the Interest, which would then be lost, must be made in all computations. It is so as to the burdens to be borne between tenant for life and reversioner, which is rather too favourable to the tenant for life. The defendant has proved, that none would give that, or so much as he did: the plaintiffs have proved nothing of that, which would have been material to shew the value of the contract: the disproportion then of the risk will not make it a bad contract: nor does this court consider bargains in the nice scale of exact equality; nor adopting the rule of the *Roman* law, by which, if a bargain was one half under value, it was set aside.

Lastly, his subsequent acts, as paying part, writing the letter himself to confess judgment, and taking every step after her death to carry it into execution, would not perhaps be of so much weight, if they were not consistent with his private opinion: his declarations in private being that he was honourably and fairly dealt by. The judgment was given freely, and not complained of afterward: so that if it could have been set aside originally, it cannot now; and being in his senses, he might have released any demand. A release in terms of all his right to set it aside would have operated in point of law. Then is it not so in equity? A release indeed may, like any other contract, be set aside in this court: but that must be on new imposition in obtaining the judgment. Things did not remain in the same situation; for now the money became absolutely due; nor was he under the same necessity; and might have disputed it then. In *Cole v. Gibbons*, 3 *Will.* 290. the contract had not a possibility of being fair: yet there was no relief, because it was confirmed with open eyes. In *Standard v. Metcalf*, Nov. 1734. the plaintiff lived with the defendant, her uncle, and soon after coming of age was prevailed on by him to settle her estate upon herself for life, remainder to her issue in tail, remainder to her uncle and his heirs: she afterward became a lunatick; the transaction was thought on the face of it to be hard and an imposition by the uncle, acting as guardian, there being no consideration, nor any occasion for it, not being for marriage: on a bill to set it aside the defendant insisted, it was fair, and that after the settlement she by will, to which he was not privy, had given the estate in the same way. Lord *Talbot* thought it an extraordinary contract and unfair, though no proof of fraud, and said, if it depended on the settlement only, he should have relieved, but the will had confirmed it, which took off that ground to set it aside: on appeal it was affirmed with this variation only, that as the bill was by the committee, it

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ought not to bind the lunatick, but should be without prejudice to her, if she should become *sane*, and seek to set it aside. The will did not operate there, but only shewed a confirmation: so, but in a stronger degree, does the subsequent act here.

As to the use in fact to which this money was applied, it is not material to the defendant to shew that; having advanced it *bona fide*: but what materially distinguishes this from other cases, is, that it was applied to the payment of the borrower's tradesmen.

To consider next the question of law: whether this contract, as it stood originally upon the bond, is void at law? if so, it is indeed putting it on a clear foundation: mankind will have a rule for their property, and know the construction of the statute; and it will be needless to argue as to the consequences in this court, for one cannot with his eyes open make an agreement contrary to that statute. As a bargain for a contingency there is no objection; for all sorts of contingencies are the subject of a legal contract. Any objection then to this must be on the statutes of usury; which is not frequent in a court of equity. No contract is a contract on usury within the statutes, which was not so before them. By the common, taken from the canon law, a notion long prevailed, that it was not lawful to take any interest for the use of money, which prevails in *Roman* catholick countries to this day; and it is astonishing, how they should think, money might not be a commodity to be used as well as any other. This notion kept that commerce out of the world. In *France* they let out money to interest in another shape. Lord *Coke* in 3 *Inst.* labours hard to shew, that taking any interest is contrary to nature, and endeavours to prove it also contrary to the law of *Moses*: but the age is grown wiser, and the law is altered. Any sort of *præmium* was usury; now an illegal *præmium* only. *Præmium* is a word more extensive than *interest*; and *usury* is, taking a higher *præmium* than the law allows for the use of money. The statute of *H 8.* is an act against usury; fixing the rate of it; which has been followed by the legislature until 12 *Ann.* and the rate of interest varied; and the sense of all the statutes may be taken together. Perhaps it may be a doubt, whether it is for the publick good to have any law fixing the rate of interest, or that it should be like other commodities at market: *Locke's* treatise upon the consideration of reduction will at least make that doubtful. But it must be taken on the statutes, which comprehend only contracts on usury. There must be a principal sum due, and a rate of hire for the use: if it exceeds the proportion fixed, the security is void; and no artificial contrivance shall evade that law: therefore on pleading the statute of usury it may be proved by any collateral evidence, where it appears not on the face of the contract. Where there is no principal and rate of forbearance, the statute

tute relates not to it. At common law therefore, when usury in general was forbid, a contract on condition or peradventure was not within it. *Hawkins C. 82.* never disputed as to this point; where the principal may be hazarded really, it cannot be usury. Contracts on *bottomry* are not excepted out of the statute: yet are clearly not within it from the nature of the contract, the contingency of the ship's returning. So the discounting notes or bills of exchange is not within the statute; no principal being due which is forborne. So the buying up securities at a lower rate on the estate of a third person, of which more than the legal interest may be made, is not within the statute: so a wager at odds; which is *Button v. Downham*: so of casual bargain; *Bedingfield v. Aspley*: so *Fountayne v. Grimes*, and *Long v. Wharton*. Insurance interest or no interest, is barely a wager, and not within it; according to *Dodderidge J.* in *Roberts v. Tremain*, and *Sharply v. Hurrell*, *Cr. J. 209*. Yet none of these cases but may be turned into such a shift as to be brought within the statute, if that is the truth of the agreement; as in *bottomry*, if it be a mere evasion and no risk. Where the principal is secured, no contrivance can exceed the rate of interest; which being forbid absolutely, is forbid on contingency. The cases cited for plaintiffs prove only, that where it is but a nominal risk, it is a mere shift and evasion; as in *Clayton's, &c.* where the demurrer admitted the corrupt agreement, and there was no objection to the pleading. A stress is endeavoured to be laid on words in determining a question of property, from the word *loan, &c.* made use of in this case. If it is a loan within the statute of usury, it is material; but a contract on usury is not a loan in its nature; a loan being that which is gratuitous. It is true, there is a difference between a loan not consumed by using, and a loan which is consumed. The first, as of a horse, is called *commodatum*; for lending is not understood to be letting it, if not consumed: the other is to be repaid in weight and measure, and is called *mutuum*: but in its original was gratuitous. But the court always goes to the substance. What is a loan in its nature cannot be made a purchase by calling it so: nor *e contra*. This never was proposed in the nature of usury; the original communication being for this contingent bargain: no principal was due, nor rate for forbearance; which there cannot be from the nature of the contract. In *bottomry* it is called a loan: but not therefore usurious: and there is no difference between this and *bottomry*; which is admitted to be a hazardous contract and good; not because it is for benefit of trade, but that a material risk is run, and to be paid for it. So that it turns on this, whether it is a fictitious, colourable, contingency to evade the statute; for it is so, it void; otherwise not. If no bargain can be made of a contingency on a life, but what is within the statute of usury, it will be a proposition understood by every one.

Suppose

Suppose an action brought, and a plea put in; this could not be considered as a nominal contingency and to evade the statute.

Next, whether this court can set aside this legal contract upon arguments of conscience arising out of the case, and that in the utmost latitude? The proper jurisdiction of equity is indeed to take every one's act according to conscience, and not suffer undue advantage to be taken of the strict forms of positive rules. As this is only a ground of equity, it may indeed be made out by any sort of evidence upon all the circumstances; and on all together the court cannot say, the defendant is guilty of misbehaviour, (which is not charged or suggested) or say, this ought not to stand. Here is no fraud or over-reaching, no evidence, from whence imposition is to be presumed; and the amount of the cases cited for plaintiffs is, that the court will relieve against fraud in this as in other cases.

But supposing these points against the plaintiffs, another, and a very general question has been made of the first impression; viz. supposing the transaction good in law and conscience, yet this court should, for the sake of making a rule, set it aside on principles of policy or political reasoning; for on fraud there can be no case in which this court will not relieve. No political principle can be stated on which it should be set aside; therefore such a ground of determination is impossible in this court. There may be a difficulty to tell what sort of rule. It is admitted, that no certain one can be drawn, because it would be dangerous, when applied to particular cases; and it is therefore said, acts of parliament cannot be made to meet cases of this kind. This court does not exercise or assume a legislative power, but disclaims it; and never will make a law to set aside contracts on public principles out of that cause, if good in law and conscience, let the convenience or inconvenience be what it will. The contracts in *Exchange Alley* were all contingencies: yet it was necessary to have an act to set them aside, although easily proved inconvenient to the public. So of fair and equal wagers; an act of parliament 7 *Anne* was forced to interpose. So of gaming; money won at fair hazard, without cheating, this court never set it aside before the legislature interposed. So that political arguments are never taken into consideration. The contracts of sailors, selling their shares before they knew what they were, could not be set aside here. It is true, there cannot be a more wretched condition than to have the rule of property uncertain: *misera servitus ubi jus vagum*. Lord *Digby* says, "set the mark on the door of the house, and let me know that it is wrong, or it is doing it *ex post facto*." Where the court has gone upon public convenience, it has been in cases defined and ascertained, which, it is admitted, this cannot be. It is a misfortune, that accounts of courts of equity are conveyed to the public in loose notes by persons not concerned in the cause, and

mistaken, and that general rules are drawn from particular premises. The court, in all the cases alluded to have inferred a presumption; but in all, the presumption may be taken off: it depends on the evidence. If a trustee buys the estate himself, the evidence from his situation is sufficient; he has misbehaved; for he cannot be a check on himself, and does not act fairly; but the presumption may be taken off: as if he agrees openly and fairly with *cestuy que trust*, or with the knowledge of this court. So in bonds to lewd women, getting securities for nothing; she has grossly misbehaved; and the common presumption is, that she has taken an advantage: but that may be taken off. So in marriage-brochage bonds, the defendant there has laid such a bias upon himself, that he cannot properly advise; has a power and distress over the party: this is evidence, unless taken off. So in a private bargain to give back part of the marriage portion, contrary to the publick treaty, it is fraudulent, and a presumption arises of undue advantage; because the father may say, he will not otherwise agree: but that may be taken off. Bargains for money, under which offices are procured from one who had the giving or recommending, have nothing to do with this: but there the presumption from the misbehaviour, as the man cannot get the office without it, may be taken off; as where sold with the King's leave; as commissions in the army; or a sum of money may be paid out of the trust of an office, as in Mr. *Bellamy's* case. Another instance is, the setting aside securities to attornies pending the business; which was *Walmsley v. Booth*, 2 May 1741, where *Japhet Crook* being prosecuted for forgery, employed the defendant to be his attorney, who was to get bail, money, and probably even evidence for him, and just then procured him to enter into a bond for 1000 £ for which there was no consideration, but for services done: this a court of justice would never suffer; but has relieved on principles of a general nature, that an attorney should not take advantage of his client's distress to get from him what he ought not; this court, and a court of law, will, without shewing errors, tax an attorney's bill, though settled by the party himself, unless a great acquiescence or some such matter: it was an unreasonable bargain; and the presumption was from his not being at liberty: but it has never been determined as a rule, that a *bona fide* attorney may not receive a gratuity over and above pending the matter. Another rule insisted on is, that mutual bonds to marry shall be set aside by the court, though ever so fair: yet in *Atkins v. Farr* *, Feb. 1738, your Lordship decreed relief on such a bond. That rule was taken from *Woodhouse v. Shepley*; but your Lordship there said, you gave no opinion what would be the case, if the bond was entered into by two persons *sui juris*, without fathers, or emancipated, having fathers. The ground there was not, that the woman did not know of the bond (which she certainly did) she lived in her father's house, had nothing but from him: they met at night out of the house, and executed this bond; it was held a fraud and imposition on the father, who was made to believe the match

* Atkyns's
Reports 287.

was off: it was seducing her from his house, and encouraging her in disobedience; therefore though she knew what she did, the court relieved. Lastly as to the case of *post obits*: it is said, where sons, whether in remainder or otherwise, or *filius familias*, not having a fortune or emancipation of their own, are encouraged in riot and expence, the court relieves without evidence, from the particular purpose because no son in the life of his father shall make such a bargain: but that is not the ground of relief; for that may be denied like all other presumptions: from the reason of the thing it is the misbehaviour to persons under this description, to share in riot and encourage disobedience; which appears from *Domat* under the general title *Loan*; and in another place he says, that, on a bargain with *filius familias*, under such circumstances there may be relief, under such not; not saying but that a son might, for a portion, even where *filius familias*, do it. As to which an observation arises on the case determined by Lord *Nottingham*, who relieved against many of these contracts on particular evidence. Lord *North* thought he went too far: Lord *Jefferies*, that he did not go far enough: which is not to be wondered at; for, judging upon circumstantial evidence, they might draw different conclusions. Lord *Nottingham*'s reasons in his manuscript shew, he did not think he was going on the general rule, that a son could not sell a contingency. The case is intitled *Berney v. Fairclough* and others, 32 C. 2. *Berney* was drawn into several securities for money to be paid after his father's death, who then was infirm and kept alive by art; by some he was to pay five for one, and thus was involved in debts to 50 or 60,000*l.* in all which he appeared to be circumvented and beset; most of the money pretended to be borrowed, being raised by delivery of wares at an excessive price, as wine, hemp, &c. which could not be sold for a quarter of the price; but the plaintiff from his necessity (his creditors being underhand procured to fall upon him) was willing to get money on terms, against which he sought relief. Lord *Nottingham* first made him pay the principal borrowed, before he would give an injunction; but relieved him as to the rest at the hearing; because, he said, this infamous dealing ought to be suppressed; that the *Star Chamber* used to punish, and this court ought to do it; and that no family could be safe, if this was suffered. But *Pit* prevailed; and the bill against him was dismissed, though he gained about three for one; for it was in the time of his father's health, three years before his death, without any circumvention or practice, upon an express agreement to lose the principal if the son died in his father's life; which shews the ground of the determination; relieving against those defendants guilty of misbehaviour, yet thinking that a proper bargain might be made by the heir. Lord *Jefferies* on the evidence of that case, when before him, laid a different stress, and relieved against *Pit* also. From that time there is no case until *Twissleton v. Griffith*, which turned on the particular fraud and circumvention. *Curwin v. Milner*,

ner, as cited, is a determination against Lord *King's* opinion: that he thought himself tied down by precedents, but, if it had been entire, he might be of a different opinion: and in the note in 3 *Wil.* it is mistated, *and* instead of *or*. It is going a great way to say, there can be no case, where a son would sell a reversion, where the presumption is taken off. Presumption is evidence, but until the contrary proved. This is not the case of a son; but of one, master of his own property. *Cujus dare, ejus disponere*. The principle is too large, that this is to be set aside because of a want of money on one side; that holding in every bargain; then as to the prospect of gain on the other, it is a laudable motive, provided they act honestly. He was under no more necessity, than any man may be presumed to be, who sells his estate, and cannot therefore come into equity to set it aside, because he wanted money to pay debts, and would not otherwise have sold it. The ground of common recoveries is to enable people to discharge debts by sale of estates. If it is to be set aside, as being an expectation from a grandmother, the court must go into very minute circumstances. As to the court's relieving upon general principles against annuities for life of the seller, the court never laid it down, that such annuities simply were paid. *Lawley v. Hooper* was on particular grounds; the plaintiff was in gaol at the time; and fraud infecting the whole: but the court did not say, no annuity shall be allowed, that a man sells for his own life; if so, there is an end of all insurances on lives. The reasoning in *Batty v. Lloyd*, 1 *Ver.* 141, was never contradicted. There would be great difficulty, was one not allowed to sell such things and turn into money, but must starve *ob hæredis causam*. Contracts for contingencies have been admitted; *Bickley v. Newland*, 2 *Wil.* 182, and in *Hobson v. Trevor*, 2 *Wil.* 191, a contract for sale of an expectancy was even carried into execution. In *Whitfield v. Faußet*, 1750, a mere possibility was sold by the heir, nothing vesting in life of the father and mother; and yet your Lordship decreed a further assurance by the heir; which, if an illegal contract, would not have been done. So where an officer, going abroad, assigned his future pay, a bill was brought to stop the money in his agent's hands: it was argued, such assignments were not to be endured, because uncertain and against the publick service, and should be discouraged, as spending one's estate before he has it; yet the court thought every one might dispose of his property; and decreed it because not unconscionable, though that was a contingency and possibility; equity going further than the law, which allows as contracts, but equity as conveyances. But what is this publick good, which is not to be defined? Is the end proposed by this, that none shall spend above his annual income? That is not to be secured in human nature or prevented. Though the *Romans* had that law, they were allowed to spend their estates. Is property to be locked up to another generation? for that effect it will have; which is contrary to the principles of

of the constitution of the legal part of the government; the later books for perhaps 200 years giving a reason why the statute *de donis* is not to be kept and preserved, that mankind may apply their property to pay their debts; and judges have said, there is great inconvenience in people's not being able to sell their own estates. Is the end proposed, that a man may raise money on easier terms if this is set aside? The consequence would be directly contrary. If one wants money, and a difficulty is laid upon contracting with fair, honest men, he will go into the hands of knaves, who will make him pay for running the risk of the law, and insist on more, when it is understood, that he could not make a contingent bargain. This was not lent to feed riot, but to get rid of a pressure, which is a reasonable cause, and therefore no ground to set it aside on political motives. As the law cannot find out a general rule to proceed on, much less will this court; and in every case, where equity cannot relieve, it is not fit to be relieved.

February 4, 1750-1, the court delivered their opinion. *Absente Wiles, C. J.*

Burnet, J.

Upon the state of this case, three points are made. 1st, That the original contract is usurious, contrary to the statutes, as being a greater *premium* than the law allowed; and if so; the new security will fall to the ground as well as the contract itself. Next, that if not usurious, it is so unreasonable an advantage taken of necessity and future expectancy, as the court is warranted to relieve against as an unconscionable bargain. 3d, That if the court is warranted to relieve against this, the new security will be considered as a continuance of the same oppression, and stand in the same light, though entered into after the event.

The other side insist, that the original contract is a mere contingent bargain, and consequently not within either the intent or words of any statute: there are no circumstances of a destitute heir or person seduced from parental government; no practice, fraud, or surprise: and that the bargain is equal taking into consideration the risk run of the principal; and therefore the court is not warranted to relieve even on the foot of the original bargain. But supposing the court would relieve on that, yet there is no precedent (but to the contrary) of relief when the party has taken on himself to be a judge of the equity of the contract, and confirms it with his eyes open.

The case is new: and I shall endeavour to throw my thoughts into one connected light, and occasionally take in all the cases cited.

This contract not within the statute of usury.

Where contracts are usurious or not.

Usury, where the reward is for forbearance.

Or device to evade the statute, or colourable contingency.

Not where the award is given for the risk.

As to the first point, whether the loan of 5000 *l.* to be paid 10,000 *l.* on the death of the Duchess if he survived her, but nothing if he died before her, is usurious, or a mere casual, contingent bargain? I hope, I may be excused in calling it a loan; because, although in a case, where the capital is not in all events to be paid, the word may be improper in courts of law, this court at least has adopted the use of that word in respect of a mere contingent bargain, that of *Bottomry*. If this contract be usurious, it must be either because it is contrary to express words of the statute, or an evasion out of it. It would be mispending the time of the court to enter into the old notion about usury, and the condemnation of it by canonists, civilians, and some common lawyers; because all those expressions depend on a principle, which is out of the present case. The common lawyers differ; there being great opinions either way. Lord *Coke* seems to call all usury unlawful. 2 *Inst.* 89. 3 *Inst.* 151. but in *Hard.* 420, Lord *Hale* says, the *Jewish* usury only is prohibited by the common law: and the true spirit of usury lies in taking an unjust and unreasonable advantage of their fellow-creatures. But it must be agreed, that nothing is legally usurious, that is not prohibited by the *St.* 37 *H.* 8, 9, which leading statute is followed by the rest; the 12 *Anne* 16, varying from it only in reducing the legal interest: the cases determined on the first statute have been therefore always looked on as authorities on any of the subsequent. Therefore to make a contract usurious within the express words of the statute, the reward must be taken for forbearance or giving a day of payment; and, whatever shift is used, it will be usury: but not within the statute where it is otherwise. If in truth it was a sum advanced by way of loan, and the reward in truth given for forbearance, no shift will prevail. I shall better explain myself by the instances I shall put. Supposing there is a purchase of an annuity at ever such an under price, if the bargain really was for an annuity, it cannot be usury: but if the communication was about borrowing and lending, it may be usury within the statute: and how? If by reason of all the circumstances, and of the communication, the exility of the sum given, the original contract being a borrowing and lending, the court thinks the annuity was a mere device to pay the principal with usurious interest to evade the statute, this will be within the statute; though on the face of the bargain it appears ever so fair a sale of an annuity: the contrivance of the annuity, as the usurious reward for the loan of money, shall not evade the statute made for the benefit of mankind. This I take to be the sum and substance to be collected out of the several cases. *Cro. E.* 27. 4 *Leo.* 208. *Noy* 151. 1 *Brow.* 180. and 2 *Lev.* 7. So a bargain on a mere contingency, where the reward is given for the risk not for forbearance, will not be within the statute: but otherwise if the intent was to have a shift; which was *Cr. E.* 642, 3. If therefore a man gives or lends money, not to be paid if the event should be one way, but double if the other,

and it is uncertain which way it will happen, it is not within the statute: for the reward is given for the risk, not forbearance: but if under colour of such an hazardous bargain the real treaty is for a loan, with an usurious reward for that loan, and to evade the statute, the contingency inserted is of little moment, being no ingredient between the parties: the court or a jury on the whole may pronounce such a contract usurious, notwithstanding that colour of contingency, if they are satisfied, the reward is given for forbearance, not for the risk; as in the adding a single life, which is a healthy life, if that life should survive half a year: so they might as well add a contingency, if any one of six persons was alive at the end of six months; and one of the cases is, if any one of three persons is alive at that time. The intent of the bargain is the material thing: if that was borrowing the money, it is within the statute, whatever colourable contingency inserted: and this is the sense of all the resolutions in the several cases. 5 Co. 69, 70. 2 And. 15. Mo. 397. And *Mason v. Abdy*. But where the principal was fairly and truly put in hazard, and such as none would run for the interest the law allows, there is no case where it has been held within the statute. The slightness or reality of the risk seems to be the only rule directing the judgment of the court. *Cr. E. 741. Bedingfield v. Ashley*; and in 3 *Keb. 304. Long v. Wharton*, which, though inaccurately reported, seems to me good law. I cannot see two contracts bearing a greater similitude than this and *Bottomry*. A life may be insured: so may a ship, which may sink the day after: so may the party die: one is as much an adventure as the other. It was endeavoured to distinguish *Bottomry* from every other contract upon this, that though above what the law allows upon a loan, yet *Bottomry* contracts were established in favour of trade, there being a risk of the principal, and they being necessary for trade and commerce. But whatever favour the court may shew to such contracts, they will never establish them upon the destruction of a statute; and the principle of the court thereon was, that the *Bottomry* bond was not within the statute; nor could it be; for it is plain, that a real risk was run, that the principal may never be payable; therefore it cannot be given for forbearance, but grounded merely on the contingency, the risk. But as a colourable contingency in case of a life annexed to the payment may make that bond usurious, so will a colourable contingency annexed to a *Bottomry* contract: as in a bond, if one out of twenty ships, bound from *Newcastle* to *London*, arrived safe; that would be a contingency thrown in to evade the statute, which would be too hard for such a bond: so if such a contract is made, if the packet should return to *Dover* from *Calais* at a season of the year in which there is no danger: and this I may say with the more security, as *Joy v. Kent, Hard. 418.* is an express proof of it; where a *Bottomry* bond was sent to be tried, whether it was an evasion of the statute; which would not have been so, if it could not have been an evasion.

evafion. Indeed Lord *Hale* throws out expreffions very favourable to trade, but fo inaccurate in that book, that I do not think they could be fuch as came out of the mouth of fo great a man. His *dictums* then are of no authority. One of the firft cafes of *Bottomry*, which came in queftion, was *Sharpley v. Hurrel*, *Cr. J.* 208. What the court goes on there, is the real risk of receiving lefs; which is cited again in *Roberts v. Trenayn*, 2 *Roll.* 47, and *Cr. J.* 508, which differed from the other. In *Soome v. Glen*, as in 1 *Sid.* 27, the refolution is founded on the real hazard of the principal, which cannot be within the ftatute. On the whole therefore I am of opinion, that this is not a contract founded in its origin upon ufury, but a contingent bargain, and confequently within the exprefs words or intent of none of the ftatutes of ufury.

Whether to be
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The next point is, fupposing it not a contract within the ftatute, whether it is not fuch an unconfcionable bargain obtained on an expectant upon his expectancy, as the court is warranted on precedents to relieve on paying the fum advanced with intereft from the time of advancing? If it was neceffary to give an opinion upon this, I own I fhould have great difficulty. On one hand I fhould apprehend, it would be too large to fay, in no cafe an heir or expectant could borrow money on his expectancy; and yet to let him borrow without any advantage to the lender feems to put him under difficulties; fathers being frequently close-handed, though liberal enough at their death: fo that an heir, if hindered from fupporting himfelf by thefe means, might ftarve in the defart within view of the land of *Canaan*. On the other hand, I fhould dread the confequence of giving the fanktion of this court to future bargains. Lord *Cowper* ftates the inconveniencies of a fanktion, which had been given. I am fure, it is a point of that confequence to the welfare of mankind, that without neceffity no court will give an opinion, of which an ill ufe may be made. For the plaintiff it is infifted, that there have been many contracts, not illegal or iniquitous in fome circumftances, but from the univerfal ill tendency on the prejudice to the publick have been always fet afide in this court: inftances of which were in marriage-brocage bonds, and other contracts of like nature; and that the ill tendency of heirs contracting with ftangers to furnifh their wants, is to make them quit a regular family life and dependency, to withdraw from advice and counfel of friends, and to have youth fupplied with the means of gratifying their paffions, and the bringing people together on the worft principles on which men may contract, avarice on one fide, and a craving appetite on the other. The greedinefs of gain is the only principle on which a ftanger can be induced to furnifh a ftanger; and the occafion of applying to a ftanger is, becaufe the wants are fuch, as he would not reveal to his family; which tends to a delufion in what is of general concern, the provision for pofterity. A man may be giving his eftate
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to a money-lender instead of the person intended: and every disguising the truth from a man, who has a right to the truth, is wrong, and ought not to be encouraged; and by this delusion he gives his estate to strangers, when he thinks he is giving to his heir or relations, and when, if he had known the truth, he would have provided for that heir or relations, so as to prevent his beggering himself. This has been a growing practice to supply young heirs; and the court has extended its remedy. At first the cases are, where there is express proof of gross practice or actual imposition: from thence it went to cases, where on the face of the contract it was so gross and unreasonable a contract between the parties, the court, on presuming a man would not enter into it but by imposition, has relieved; of which one case among many is *Nott v. Hill*. 1 *Ver.* As the mischief increased, the court has extended its remedy. Where the bargain is so lucrative, and the person under necessity, so that the judgment of the court has been, that necessity alone could induce to make that contract, there has been relief; the first case of which kind is *Berney v. Pit*, 2 *C. C.* 136, 2 *Ver.* 14. a very remarkable case, and a stronger there could not be. It is stated also by Lord Cowper in *Twisleton v. Griffith*, 1 *Wil.* 310. where were marks enough of imposition to warrant relieving on that foot: but he chose to establish it on the general principle and Lord Jefferys's decree, not on the particular circumstances of the case; and he seems to rejoice in the consequence, that this would put a difficulty on an heir to borrow on his expectancy. The last case is *Curwyn v. Milner*, 3 *Wil.* 293. where Lord King decreed relief; but said, if it was new, he would not have gone so far, where such a contract was fair, and done with open eyes; saying he thought himself bound by precedents, and that he saw no difference between an estate settled on an heir on his father's death and an expectancy of personal estate at death of a relation; it is the same kind of expectancy that tempts to these kind of bargains, and the influence the same. On the other hand it is insisted, none of the particular cases cited come within the circumstances of this: that all those of fraud, practice or imposition, are out of the case; it being a bargain sent to market by the borrower, and the terms his own: no destitute heir under parental government; having a great personal estate, and so not in the circumstances of the party seeking relief in other cases; the bargain itself different, the risk being different; and the bargain, in all its circumstances, so equitable, that if the court should enter into a nice examination of the proportion and risk, it would appear, the defendant would have been out of pocket, if the grandmother had lived a little longer: that this court will not lay down a principle in general, that an heir or expectant may not contract on his expectancy: that there have been instances, where such contracts have been carried into execution, as *Hobson v. Trevor*, and *Whitfield v. Fausset*; that it is a sufficient terror to such contractors, that they are always liable to the examination of this court: and that they can never stand but

on the reasonableness and justice of the contract; which will restrain one kind of men from preying on the follies of another. These are the arguments on both sides; and there would be danger and difficulty in giving an opinion on either; but no necessity for it; that being taken away by Mr. *Spencer* himself; who has made himself the judge, by voluntarily giving a new security.

The contract being confirmed without imposition, not to be set aside. Which is the third point, supposing the court would relieve against this in its original, whether it will, when altered by the party in the strongest manner, not unapprised, and with his eyes open. There is no case of a contract so confirmed, which was not illegal, (but such as the court would have relieved against in its original instance) where the court has relieved against the confirmation; unless obtained by fraud or oppression, and then it has been considered as a continuance of the first oppression; of which there are two cases in *Ver. Lord Ardglass v. Muschamp* and *Wiseman v. Beake*: but no resemblance to the present from either. There was no fraud, practice, or imposition, in the original contract or subsequent security: the defendant was not very pressing for his money; the security not being given until a good while after; which shews, no suit or distress was threatened; but fairly and voluntarily done, and upon intimation received that the defendant had a doubt whether he could make good the contract in a court of equity. *Cole v. Gibbons*, 3 *Will.* 290. and the note of the case at the bottom of that, is applicable to the present.

As there is nothing therefore to set aside this contract on the foot of usury within the statutes; and next supposing it was such as would be set aside, if left to the consideration of the court, yet as the party with his eyes open has bound himself to execute it, he ought to execute it. It is too much to set it aside; the penalty therefore is the only thing which can be relieved against in this case.

Sir *John Strange* Master of the *Rolls*.

There is no occasion to introduce what I have to say with making a particular state of the case: but as it depends on a variety of circumstances, many of which must be considered in the argument, I shall content myself with taking them up in the course of it.

The questions upon which I am to offer my advice are three. First, whether the original advancement of the 5000 *l.* in the manner, as deposed by Mr. *Backwell* and disclosed in the defendant's answer, and the bond taken upon it, are to be considered as usurious, and consequently void in point of law? Secondly, whether, supposing the bond does not come within the statutes of usury, the transaction

transaction or bargain in 1738, is of such a nature as will intitle the plaintiffs to be relieved in equity on the circumstances attending that part of the case? Thirdly, whether what appears to have been done by Mr. *Spencer* after the death of the *Dutchess*, will in any and what manner influence the determination of this case.

As to the first, I concur in opinion, that this is not an illegal ^{Usury} agreement made void by the statutes of usury. The prohibition will stand on the words and meaning of 12 *Anne* 16. for that does not materially differ from 21 *J.* 1. or 12 *C.* 2. and appears calculated for such loans, wherein two principal circumstances must concur: the repayment of the money in all events at a future day, and an agreement to give and receive an allowance of profit in the mean time for the money hired in a greater proportion than allowed by the statutes: neither of which circumstances occur in the present case. The repayment of the money advanced depended on a contingency, which if it happened one way, the whole was totally lost: during the pendency of this no interest or profit could accrue to the defendant, but a mere wager or bargain upon contingency which died first: so that the whole was at hazard. It is objected, that though the letter of the contract may be so, yet if the design of the parties was to borrow 5000 *l.* and one should give a greater use for the money than the law allows, the putting it into this shape will not evade the statute, in which statute are very general words to take in all covin, shifts, &c. which I agree to: and therefore if the court can satisfy itself, that this was not in reality a bargain, whereon the principal was designed to be at hazard, and the shape, in which it was put, was only a contrivance to evade the statute, it will be usury, and consequently void. Whether the agreement is usurious or not, may be determined two ways: 1st, By verdict of a jury on a plea of the corrupt agreement: 2^{dly}, By the court's exercising their own judgment on the circumstances of the case disclosed to them. The first of these methods could not be taken in this case; because it appears the bond was cancelled upon the giving the judgment after death of the grandmother, and therefore no action could be brought on it; and if there had been a *scire facias* at law on the judgment either against *John Spencer* or his executors, no plea of the corrupt agreement could be received; the judgment *reditum invitum* not being a contract or assurance, which are the words of the statute: and this was the opinion of *B. R.* in *Foot v. Jones*, *Pas.* 9 *G.* 2. the other method has been often taken, as in *Roberts v. Tremayn*, *Cr.* *J.* 508. Thus wherever the court has seen, that the contingency to put the principal in hazard is only added colourably, and only a nominal risk, the court to prevent an evasion of the statute has determined it to be usury; as in *Clayton's case*, 5 *Co.* and other cases, where the adding the contingency of a particular person's being alive at the end of a year was only a shift.

So

So by *Holt, Comb.* 125. and *Carth.* 68. But a wager between two to have 40 for 20, if one was alive at a future day, would not be usury. *Cr. El.* 642. *Button v. Downham*, and in 1 *Lut.* 470. Notice is taken of its appearing, that both principal and interest was at hazard. The present case is fully before the court, and proper for the exercise of their judgment. To say it is usury, the court must be convinced, that it was the design of the defendant to make a loan of this, and to secure exorbitant profit for it, and calculated as a shift to evade the statute. But I cannot think either from the evidence or the answer of the defendant, that it was the scheme, or even in contemplation of the party. It appears a mere wager which of the two should outlive the other. The 5000 *l.* was actually advanced, not colourably: therefore none of the cases cited prove this to be within the statutes of usury, or warrant the court to declare it void thereon. The word *lend*, on which some stress was laid, concludes nothing. Every advancement of money on *bottomry* is a loan; and it was properly observed to be called so in the acts of parliament: but it is the nature of the agreement and intent of the parties into which the court must look to determine the question. *Cr. El.* 642. puts it entirely on the question, whether it was the intent of the parties to be a wager or a loan at interest. So in *Mo.* 398. It has been argued, that lending money on *bottomry*, where more is taken than the legal interest, is grounded on the consideration of the profit to trade; and therefore it is said not to be applicable: that certainly has been one reason why so large a profit for the use of money has been allowed in that instance: but the general reason has been the not coming within the intent of the statute: for if it had, the court could not depart from it: but the hazard the lender runs, of never seeing a penny of this principal or any of the interest, takes it out thereof: and that holds as strong in the present case; and is so laid down in general, where the principal and interest is in hazard. 1 *Sbo.* 8. *Mason v. Abdy*, and in 1 *Sid.* 27. a diversity is taken between a bargain and a loan. Whether a hazard, or not, is considered as the rule for determining whether a bargain or loan. I am of opinion therefore, this bond does not come within the statutes of usury, and cannot be declared void at law thereon.

Unconscionable bargains.

On the next question, as the advice I shall offer will be grounded entirely on what was done by Mr. *Spencer* after the death of the Dutchess, was I to suppose for argument's sake, the plaintiffs were intitled to the relief prayed, I shall offer nothing as a determination of that branch of this case; though it may not be improper to throw out something in general. I see no reason to quarrel with the principal cases cited as the ground for the interposition of a court of equity: on the contrary I cannot help declaring, I concur with those determinations, and do not mean in the least to abate the force of

of them. In the present case there are certainly many circumstances, that cast a favourable light on the defendant's part of the transaction. He does not appear to be a person having an intent of fraud. The scheme moved not from him, but from Mr. *Spencer*; on whose own terms the money was advanced without any haggling on the part of the defendant, after it was refused by others as not a desirable contract on the calculation of chances. Not that the hands of the court are tied up from relief from the want of fraud or imposition: I have no jealousy of any thing of that in this case: yet cases may be, wherein this court would interpose to prevent improvident persons from spending or ruining their estates, before they come to them, though no proof of actual fraud or imposition: which is agreeable to the saying of Lord *Jefferies* in *Berney v. Pit*, when he reversed Lord *North's* decree. So was it considered in *Twissleton v. Griffith*, and in *Curwyn v. Milner*. The necessity must be seen by every wise and considerate person. The courts keep a strict hand over these agreements; which must indeed all stand on their own particular circumstances; and perhaps it is not advisable to lay down any general rule about them, or more than is necessary to the relief in each particular case.

Therefore, without offering any advice on the bond in 1738, Confirmation of the contract. I will proceed to the third question; upon which I am of opinion, that the plaintiffs are intitled to no other relief against the bond and judgment in 1744, but as to the penalty, on payment of what remains due, and the interest from the death of the grandmother: and though I have given no opinion upon the former part of the transaction, yet I must take up this as considering the plaintiffs intitled to the relief prayed; as the case stood on the first agreement. And here it is not improper to take a short view of the different situation, Mr. *Spencer* appears in 1744, from what he was in 1738. When the first bond was given, he was notwithstanding a large income involved in great difficulty for want of money to pay creditors; casting about every way for a present supply; and suffering dangerous schemes to be privately hawked about; fearful, lest it should come to his grandmother's ears, that he was mortgaging his expectations from her. It is not very clear, who took the first step toward the new engagement after her death: the bond was not given until near two months afterward, though dated the next day after in order that it might carry interest from thence. But supposing the defendant had called on Mr. *Spencer* for his money before the 31st of *October*, (which, from his genteel behaviour in other parts I can hardly think, he did,) yet there is no circumstance of force on Mr. *Spencer*; and the security, then standing out against him, was only a bond for payment of the money; not a judgment, on which immediate execution could be sued; which

bond would have given him time enough to turn himself about, before he would be under a necessity to be exposed to an execution. It appears to be his fixed design after her death to pay off the whole as fast as he could; and that with a preference to the defendant; who, he said, had treated him like a gentleman. The defendant declared, he would not press him for his money, although he should be glad to have it; and Mr. *Spencer* executed the bond and warrant of attorney freely and voluntarily, and well pleased therewith. It may be said, that all this proceeded from his not being apprised, that there could be relief in equity against the first bond. In *Cole v. Gibbons* the bill for relief and the answer were both read to the party, and yet the assignment was confirmed; which circumstance, greatly weighing with Lord *Talbot*, is not wanting in the present case: it is what the defendant himself may make use of on his part, and it will be evidence for him, *viz.* that he answered to the manager of Mr. *Spencer*, that he doubted, whether the security would be good, and therefore only desired a note or memorandum: so that from this doubt of the defendant Mr. *Spencer* was apprised of the possibility of relief, he had, if he applied to a court of equity; which shews, he acted with his eyes open in this article of confirmation; that it was not a sudden, but deliberate act, and agreeable to that frame of mind he continued in to his death; as appears from his subsequent letters.

Contracts of *post obits* are to be discouraged: and though the relief is not granted in the present case, yet should the court hold a strict hand over these sort of contracts. How this would be in the case of a young heir under parental authority, I do not say. It may be improper to forejudge such a cause: but inconvenience there can be none in the determination of this. Yet in giving my opinion and advice in this very particular case against relieving the plaintiffs, I am far from blaming the plaintiffs, who are trustees for the infant, for submitting the case to the consideration of the court; which I think very rightly done.

LEE Chief Justice.

Usury.

The 1st point is, Whether on the evidence before the court relating to this transaction there is sufficient appearing to determine this contract to be usurious. As to the nature of usury, considering it at common law, or in the law of nature, or divine law, or the civil law of other countries (of which there is a large account in *Pal.* 291,) it is unnecessary to spend time on that subject; because the idea of usury is fully settled in this country by the legislature; which has made use of all the words the language could furnish, to prevent taking more than the legal interest, in which usury consists: and to attain this end the borrower is at liberty to disclose every

every circumstance in his contract, that it might appear, whether there was any shift, &c. It appears by 2 *And.* 15, and *Mason v. Abdy, Carth.* where the difference is taken and settled, that where the hazard of losing the principal is but a colourable contingency, the agreement is usurious: but where the contingency is real and forcible, it is otherwise. I think, that is the material consideration, and the substantial and true reason, that *bottomry*-bonds are *Bottomry*, not considered as usurious on the construction of the statute itself; there not being words in the statute to reach *bottomry*-bonds, when they run a desperate contingency of winds, seas, and enemies; the reasons touching trade not being the true reasons, although they might be inducements to courts to construe the statutes in a favourable way. So if on advancement of money by way of loan the lender will by any agreement between the parties, in whatever manner formed, have the repayment of the principal with profit exceeding the legal interest, that will be corrupt within the statute of usury. If therefore, two persons speaking together, one desires 100*l.* and for the loan will give more than the law allows, and for evasion of the statute a practice is invented, that the borrower shall grant to the lender 30*l. per annum* for so many years, this practice is within the statute, and will be usury, although the lender never has his 100*l.* again; for by this bargain by way of loan he has full satisfaction for his 100*l.* and more profit than the law allows; which is 1 *Bul.* 36, which brings the present case to the single consideration, whether the hazard the defendant ran, of losing the whole principal without satisfaction for the money advanced, was not a real hazard, which might require a reward beyond the legal and common interest: and where that is the case, it appears from all the authorities, that all bottoms on this in courts of law, that it is always thought, where the profits the lender is to have, is as a reward for the hazard he is subject to, and not for the forbearance of the day of payment (which are the words of the statute) they are not usurious. In *Molloy* 314, 317, it appears, these real contingencies are not within the statute of usury on this foundation.

But on the second point I think, it will be well worth the consideration of a court of equity, whether they will not interpose in case of these hazardous bargains to pay double so as to prevent the lender's going away with such an exorbitant gain? It is difficult to form any general rule, that can meet every case of this kind, that may happen: but they must in general be governed by the circumstances in each case, only this may be always proper to be attended to, as far as may be, to bring all contracts, that are in nature of loans, to that mean prescribed by parliament, that none take more than the legal interest: and by the cases cited and stated in courts of equity it appears, they have used a sagacious attention to discover, whether there is any fraud expressed, or from the nature of the transaction or person concerned, any thing carrying on the face of it

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an appearance of imposition; as in the case of young heirs, &c. a court of equity has disabled from taking advantage thereof, and interposed to prevent unconscionable bargains. That therefore is a matter worth the regard of a court of equity so as to prevent all trade of this sort, such as is called *Jewish* interest, which seems a *malum* consuable at common law. What has been done by Mr. *Spencer* after the death of the *Duchess*, prevents the court from entering minutely into the consideration of the first contract; for any objections thereto are taken away by himself, in whose place the plaintiffs stand. The first contract surely might recover strength and be validated by the intervention of a new case, that was fit to create a right. If he was under apprehensions of his grandmother, when the first security was given, yet they were at an end at the last. If he was an infant, when he gave the first bond, the contract would be voidable as to him; but if when of full age he gave a new bond, it would be good against him. In the case in *Dom.* 136, called the *Macedonian* decree, it is said, that if any creditor lent money for a just and reasonable cause sufficient to support the equity of the obligation, it was by a favourable interpretation of the decree of the senate excepted from the general prohibition according to the quality of the use to which the money was put. The defendant has this exception in his favour; the use of his money being to pay just debts to tradesmen; for if these contracts are to be set aside upon the hatred to the creditor, who has made an improper loan, yet that imputation is taken away: and even in the case of a son, if the father approves or ratifies the obligation by paying part, or the son acquits it himself, it cannot be revoked; *Dom.* 137, 138, in his observations upon that decree. But it is said, that though he was not under the same difficulty, when he gave this new security, as at the giving the first bond, yet he was a debtor then to the defendant, and liable to be called on by legal proceeding: but that cannot be a reason to set aside this deliberate act of Mr. *Spencer*, against whom there was then no process, but a readiness in his creditor to take paper-security instead of money, which he had a right to. I rely on 3 *Wil.* 291, as a stronger case than this; being a deliberate act confirming an unreasonable bargain when the party was fully informed of every thing, and under no surprize: that made it good. In *Cann v. Cann*, 1 *Will.* 727, Lord *Macclesfield* says, there is no colour to set aside a release, which the maker had a right to make, and was not ignorant of his right; and that solemn conveyances are not slightly to be blown over.

I entirely concur therefore in opinion:

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Before I proceed to give my own opinion in this case, I must take notice, that *Ld. C. J. Willes* has signified to me his entire concurrence

currence on these three points. Next, that the great and able assistance I have had in this case has made my task extremely easy: and as I concur in the decree I am advised to make, the great pains taken in clearing up and considering the points might have excused me from taking up any time. One thing I ought to say in the outset: that if I could have foreseen upon what particular point the judgment in this case would fundamentally turn, I should have spared the judges the trouble of this attendance. As three points have been properly made at the bar, it is necessary to say something to each.

The first is a mere question of law upon the statutes of usury, and Usury. on the rules of law, and the same as in a court of law, if an action had been brought on the bond, and the whole matter had been disclosed in special pleading. If I had even now a doubt concerning it, I should have held myself bound by the opinion of the judges as a matter within their conscience, in like manner as if I had sent this to be tried at law; in which case the court always decrees consequentially to the trial. But I have no doubt about it; and concur in opinion. This question was laboured by the plaintiff's counsel; many authorities cited; and strong inferences made by them. I do not intend to go through them: but contracts on contingency are to be distinguished plainly; for a wager on chance is not within the statute, because no loan. But if there is a loan of money with an agreement to receive back more than the principal and legal interest in any event, there, though a contingency is thrown in, on which the whole principal and interest may be lost by possibility, it is usurious and contrary to the statute. On this it was insisted for the plaintiffs. I will not now enter into a critical dispute, how far any such contract, where by the falling out of the contingency one way or other the money may be lost, is in strictness a loan. The civil law has very nice and refined distinctions upon this: *commodatum* & *mutuum* are there technical terms for a loan. By the first was meant, where the things lent were to be restored in *specie*; by the second, where in *genere* only: but in both the things was to be restored in all events, and nothing was to be paid for the use or hire; which when it was so, was *locatum* & *conductum* by the Roman lawyers; under which perhaps all our laws would strictly come. But these minute distinctions upon loans are not adopted by us; but we mix and confound their *commodatum* & *mutuum*; as appears in an action upon a loan, which takes in both. So though interest is to be paid for it, it is with us still a loan. So though money is to be advanced upon a risk, which upon a contingency may be totally lost, it is still a loan of money; and all the books, treating of *bottomry*, call it money lent on *bottomry*. Besides this is Bottomry. plain by the express words of the *stat. 11 H. 7. 8.* which shews, Vol. II. R r they

they understood, that an adventure might be inserted in a contract of a loan; and it is observable, that this, if real and fair, exempted it from the laws of usury; though at that time all kind of usury or taking interest was unlawful. By the law of *England* therefore the insertion of a contingency will not of itself prevent a contract's being a loan. Consider the result of the cases cited on the statute of usury; which I will not repeat, but only deduce proper and natural inferences from them. First, if there is a loan on contingency, in consideration whereof a higher interest than the law allows, is contracted for forbearance, if the risk goes only to the interest or *præmium*, and not to the principal also, though real and substantial risk is inserted, it is contrary to the statute; because the money lent is not in hazard, but safe in all events; and no regard is then had, whether the contingency is real or colourable; as appears, from what *Dodderidge J.* says in *Roberts v. Tremayn*; who by the way takes it for granted, that such a loan may be with us on contingency. Next, if the contingency extends to both, and there is a higher rate than the law allows, regard is had, whether a *bona fide* risk is created by the contingency, or whether only colourable; for if so, courts of law hold it contrary to the statute, because it is an evasion to get out of the statute; which is prohibited by the law itself. *Clayton's case*, 5 Co. 70. and in the case put by *Popham* in *Burton's case* immediately preceding. So in *Mason v. Abdy*, But where the contingency has extended to principal and interest both, and not colourable only, but a fair and substantial risk is created of the whole, it takes it out of the statute: though called a loan, it is considered as a bargain on chance, and differs little from a wager. On this depends the case of *bottomry*; for I agree, that the approving thereof is from their being fair contracts on a real hazard, and not that they concern trade; though trade and commerce is taken into consideration, but not alone relied on to support usury; for that cannot be. The plaintiffs counsel object to this by laying stress on certain expressions and *dictums* of judges in some cases, that there must be no transaction or communication of borrowing and lending; and care must be taken, that there be no such; and therefore as the first proposal in the present case was to borrow money on a contract to pay two for one, it is usurious notwithstanding the contingency thrown in. A very right answer has been already given: that courts of justice are to regard the substance of things on a contract, and not mere words, which might be inaccurately used by the parties in private dealing. But another answer may be given: that in the most accurate books these expressions are applied to cases arising on purchase of an annuity or sales of goods and merchandize at a *præmium* or advanced profit beyond the rate of legal interest; in which cases these expressions are properly applicable; but cannot be so to loans on contingency; that is a fair, real, contingency; for there from the nature of the thing the communication must be

Bottomry.

be about a borrowing and lending ; as is plain from the case of *Bottomry* ; and the case put by *Dodderidge J.* in terms is of lending 100*l.* &c. upon a casualty, if it goes to the interest only and not the principal, it is usury ; which he clears by the case of *Bottomry*. The very stating of the case on the purchase of an annuity or sale of goods proves the truth of this. An annuity may be purchased at as low a rate as you can, provided it was the original negotiation to purchase and sell an annuity : but if the treaty began about borrowing and lending, and ends in the purchase of an annuity, it is evident, that it was only a method or contrivance to split the payment of the principal and usurious interest into several instalments, and consequently that it was a shift ; which is *Fuller's* case, and *Tanfield's*, 4 *Leon* and *Noy* 151, which I take to have been on the same deed as that in 1 *Brownlow*. So in the sale of goods or merchandise it is lawful to sell as dear as you can, on a clear bargain by way of sale : but if it is first proposed to borrow, and afterwards to sell goods beyond the Market, this is usurious : of which there are two cases in *Mo.* 397. The very putting these cases shews how proper and forcible those expressions of the judges before mentioned are, when used in the purchase of an annuity and sale of goods ; but how improper, when thrown out in cases of loans of money on contingency.

The second question is, supposing the first contract to be valid in law, whether it was contrary to conscience, and to be relieved against in this court upon any head or principle of equity ? I will follow the prudent example of not giving any direct and conclusive opinion. As it would be unnecessary, it is safest not to do it : yet it has been made necessary to say something on it. It cannot be said, that such contracts deserve to be encouraged ; for they generally proceed from excessive prodigality on one hand, and extortion on the other ; which are *vitia temporis*, and pernicious in their consequences ; and then it is the duty of a court, if it can, to restrain them. This court has an undoubted jurisdiction to relieve against every species of fraud.

1. Then fraud, which is *dolus malus*, may be actual, arising from facts and circumstances of imposition ; which is the plainest case.
2. It may be apparent from the intrinsic nature and subject of the bargain itself ; such as no man in his senses and not under delusion would make on the one hand, and as no honest and fair man would accept on the other ; which are unequitable and unconscionable bargains ; and of such even the common law has taken notice ; for which, if it would not look a little ludicrous might be cited 1 *Lev.*
3. *James v. Morgan*. A 3d kind of fraud is, which may be presumed from the circumstances and condition of the parties contracting : and this goes farther than the rule of law ; which is, that it must be proved, not presumed : but it is wisely established in this court to prevent taking surreptitious advantage of the weakness or necessity

Unconscionable bargains.

Fraud, 4 Species.

of

of another ; which knowingly to do is equally against conscience as to take advantage of his ignorance : a person is equally unable to judge for himself in one as the other. A 4th kind of fraud may be collected or inferred in the consideration of this court from the nature and circumstances of the transaction, as being an imposition and deceit on the other persons not parties to the fraudulent agreement. It may sound odd, that an agreement may be infected by being a deceit on others, not parties : but such there are, and against such there has been relief. Of this kind have been marriage-brocage contracts ; neither of the parties herein being deceived : but they tend necessarily to the deceit on one party to the marriage, or of the parent, or of the friend. So in a clandestine, private, agreement to return part of the portion of the wife, or provision stipulated for the husband, to the parent or guardian. In most of these cases it is done with their eyes open, and knowing what they do : but if there is fraud therein, the court holds it infected thereby, and relieves. So where a debtor enters into a deed of composition with his creditors for 10s. in the pound, or any other rate, attended with a *proviso* that all creditors executed this within a certain period, if the debtor privately agrees with one creditor to induce him to sign this deed, that he will pay or secure a greater sum in respect of his particular debt : in this there can be no particular deceit on the debtor, who is party thereto : but it tends to deceit of the other creditors, who relied on an equal composition, and did it out of compassion to the debtor. This court therefore relieves against all such underhand bargains. So of *præmiums* contracted to be given for preferring or recommending to a publick office or employment : none of the parties are defrauded ; but the persons, having the legal appointment of these offices, are or may be deceived thereby : or if the person, agreeing to take the *præmium*, has authority to appoint the officer, it tends to publick mischief by introducing an unworthy object for an unworthy consideration. These cases shew what courts of equity mean, when they profess to go on reasons drawn from publick utility. To weaken the force of such reasons, they have been called political arguments, and introducing politicks into the decision of courts of justice. This was shewing the thing in the light, which best served the argument for the defendant, but far from the true one, if the word *politicks* is taken in the common acceptation : but if in its true original meaning, it comprehends every thing that concerns the government of the country ; of which the administration of justice makes a considerable part, and in this sense it is admitted always. To apply this : thus far, and in this sense, is relief in a court of equity founded on publick utility. Particular persons in contracts shall not only transact *bona fide* between themselves, but shall not transact *mala fide* in respect of other persons, who stand in such a relation to either as to be affected by the contract or the consequences of it ; and as the rest of mankind beside the parties contracting are concerned, it is properly said to be governed

governed on publick utility. The last head of fraud, on which there has been relief, is that, which infects catching bargains with heirs, reversioners, or expectants, in the life of the father, &c. against which relief always extended. These have been generally mixed cases, compounded of all or several species of fraud; there being sometimes proof of actual fraud, which is always decisive. There is always fraud presumed or inferred from the circumstances or conditions of the parties contracting: weakness on one side, usury on the other, or extortion or advantage taken of that weakness. There has been always an appearance of fraud from the nature of the bargain; which was the particular ground, on which there was relief against *Pit*; there being no declaration there of any circumvention, as appears from the book, but merely from the intrinsic unconscionableness of the bargain. In most of these cases have concurred deceit and illusion on other persons not privy to the fraudulent agreement: the father, ancestor, or relation, from whom was the expectation of the estate, has been kept in the dark: the heir or expectant has been kept from disclosing his circumstances, and resorting to them for advice, which might have tended to his relief and also reformation. This misleads the ancestor; who has been seduced to leave his estate not to his heir or family, but to a set of artful persons, who have divided the spoil beforehand. Consider, which of these species is in the present case. There is no colour of evidence of actual fraud in the defendant; who did not think he was doing any thing immoral or unjust: altho' if the declarations of *Mr. Spencer* can be believed, the defendant had a misgiving, how far it could be held good in this court. But tho' this case is clearer of actual fraud than almost any that has come, yet several things are insisted on for the plaintiffs, as necessity on one side and advantage taken of it on the other: unconscionableness in its nature from the terms of paying two for one in case of the death of an old woman the next week or day: that there was deceit upon her, who was in *loco parentis*, from whom were his great expectations. This was however the thing intended. I admit also, there are more circumstances alledged on the side of the defendant to weaken and take off, than have concurred in most cases of this kind. *Mr. Spencer* was of the age of thirty; possessed of a great estate of his own; not weak in mind, but of good sense and parts: tho' in that the witnesses differ. If it was necessary to give an opinion upon this point, I should consider the weight of these objections and the answers to them: but as it is not, I will only consider the contingency inserted, which was to cure the whole. I would not have it thought that the insertion of such a contingency would in every case sanctify such a bargain. Suppose such a bargain made by a son in life of his father or grandfather, on whom was his whole dependency: I appeal to every one what the consequence of it would be. Whether such a contingency is inserted or not, it will come to the same thing; the creditor knowing the fund for payment

must depend on the debtor's surviving the father or grandfather, whether it is said so or not: and therefore I have always thought, there was great sense, in what *Vernon* reports to be said by the court in *Bernay v. Pit*: "that the expressing the death of the son in life of the father makes the case worse," &c. I have not mentioned the reasons, drawn from the discouragement of prodigality and preventing the ruin of families: considerations of weight; and ingredients, which the court has often very wisely taken along with them. It is said for the defendant to be vain and wild for the court to proceed on such principles: if it had been said, it was ineffectual in many instances, I should have agreed thereto; but I cannot hold that to be vain and wild, which the law of all countries and all wise legislatures have endeavoured at as far as possible. The senate and law-makers in *Rome* were not so weak as not to know, that a law to restrain prodigality, to prevent a son's running in debt in life of his father, would be vain in many cases: yet they made laws to this purpose; viz. the *Macedonian* decree, already mentioned; happy, if they could in some degree prevent it: *est aliquod prodire tenus*. It is said for the defendant that this would be to assume a legislative authority; and that several acts of parliament have been thought necessary to restrain and make void contracts of a pernicious tendency to the publick. What can properly be called such an assuming in this court, I utterly disclaim: but notwithstanding I shall not be afraid to exercise a jurisdiction I find established, and shall adhere to precedents. As far therefore as the court went in *Bernay v. Pit*, in *Twisleton v. Griffith*, in *Curwyn v. Milner*, and the opinion of Lord *Talbot* on the original transaction in *Cole v. Gibbons*, so far, and as far as these principles do naturally and justly lead, I shall not scruple to follow. The acts of parliament instanced will be found to be made, (many of them) not for want of power in this court to give relief in many of these contracts, but to make them void in law, to give the party a short remedy against them. The judgment I am going to give will not be founded upon this: but I have done it, that the work of this day may not be misunderstood, or precedents thought to be shaken: not that this establishes such a contract, as is called fair like killing fairly in a duel, which the law does not allow as an excuse for murder. Joint annuities and *post obits* are grown into traffick; which ought to abate of its fairness.

As the last question, of the subsequent acts of Mr. *Spencer*: this is the point on which the determination of this case will depend; and I entirely agree with the opinion delivered already. Had the first bond been void by the statutes of usury, no new engagement would have made it better: the original would have infected it. But if a man is fully informed and with his eyes open, he may fairly release, and come to a new agreement, and bar himself of relief, which might be had in this court. The material inquiry is, whether

ther this was done after full information, freely without compulsion, &c. ? and upon the best consideration of the evidence it appears to be so done, and with fairness. First, the condition of the necessity of Mr. *Spencer* was over ; for tho' he had no power over the capital of this accession of estate, yet it was so great a one, that little more than one third of a year's income would have paid off the whole. If that then be a state of necessity, how far shall it be carried ? Then, the state of expectancy was over by the death of the duchess ; and also the danger of her coming to the knowledge of his conduct and circumstances, and his fear of offending her ; which was the principal restraint upon him : so that there was no ancestor or relation left, upon whom any deceit could be committed in consequence of any new agreement : and it appears, that before this new bond he had sufficient notice, that he had a chance at least, that he might have relief in equity, from the defendant's own declaration to him of his doubt whether it would be good. Lastly, there was no impediment against his seeking relief by disclosing the whole case at that time in a court of justice. Under these circumstances was the new engagement, without any fraud, contrivance, or surprise to draw him in ; which operates more strongly than the deed of confirmation in *Cole v. Gibbons*, that it is too much to set it aside. The only difference to distinguish that from this case was, that there the releasor was not in the power of the releasee, here Mr. *Spencer* was debtor, and his creditor might immediately have distressed him by an action : but the answer is, there was neither an attempt nor threat to bring an action. It is objected further for the plaintiffs, that *Cole v. Gibbons* was a single case ; and that there are several precedents, in which such new security and subsequent transaction was not sufficient to give a sanction to a demand of this kind : as in Lord *Ardglash v. Muschamp* : but the circumstances there shew it not to be at all applicable : then the confirmation in *Wiseman v. Beak* was still more extraordinary ; and that was a very extraordinary invention of Serjeant *Philips* of a bill to be foreclosed against a relief in equity. In both these cases the original transaction was grossly fraudulent : but I have only shewn it here to be a doubtful object of relief in this court ; which surely is the most proper case of all others to put an end to by a new engagement.

On the whole therefore the only relief is that, which I am advised to give, against the penalty of the last bond.

The only doubt, which could arise on this, is as to costs ; to which the defendant is not intitled. The plaintiffs are only executors ; they had a probable cause of litigating this contract, which is far from deserving favour, and were in the right to submit it to the judgment of the court : and it is observable, that in *Cole v. Gibbons*, which was on this point, the bill was dismissed without costs ; and no costs given on the other bill, but on the contrary deducted. There was indeed

indeed in that case no penalty, as there is here: but still that does not take away the discretion of this court in respect of costs according to the circumstances of the case: and there are several cases of a bond with a penalty disputed, where, though the costs at law will undoubtedly follow the demand, yet on the circumstances costs in this court are refused.

Therefore let it be referred to the master to take an account of the principal, and interest due on the bonds of 1744, and the judgment thereon, and to tax the defendant his costs at law; and an account of the money paid by Mr. *Spencer* to the defendant; and let that first be applied to discharge the interest, and then to sink the principal; and all just allowances be made; and on payment by the plaintiffs to the defendant of what is found due, let the defendant deliver up the bond to be cancelled, and acknowledge satisfaction on the judgment: but that must be at the expence of the plaintiffs: and if the plaintiffs pay, what is so found due, let there be no costs in this court on either side: but otherwise let the bill be dismissed with costs.

Case 51.

Priest *versus* Parrot, Feb. 8, 1750-1.

A young woman of good character comes to live with A. knowing he was married, is seduced by him, and causes separation from his wife, and has a grant or bond from him: her bill for payment dismissed.

A Bill for payment of 100 *l.* and an annuity of 40 *l.* was granted by defendant to plaintiff; who, being a young woman, came to live in the family of defendant, then a married man, as a companion to his sister; and afterward occasioned a separation between him and his wife.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This case is in some parts new: nor do I remember, it has directly come before the court. The consideration of the grant is plain; for though expressed to be for divers causes and considerations, it is plain on the evidence, to what it is applied: nor is it disputed. It is as plain also to me, that what this unhappy woman, (who has been very criminal also) has submitted to, was from the seduction of defendant; for her youth, when she came into the family, and good character before, are evidence thereof: and that certainly has been the principal ground of the determinations in this court, where it has been considered as *præmium pudicitiae*, when the young woman submitted to the suggestion of the man, and was guilty of no fault before. But I know no case, where the court has given countenance to these sort of bonds in case of a married man, she knowing it. That differs the case; because persons, who submit to a temptation of that sort, are without excuse; they know absolutely, they are doing a wrong,

wrong, which cannot be recovered or healed, and which occasions mischief to families. That differs it from the cases, wherein the court has gone some lengths to make some provision for such unfortunate people. Yet if this is a family of opulence, and this a poor woman ruined by his temptation and corruption, it very much deserves their consideration, whether she should starve: if therefore there is any probability of the family's doing any thing of that kind, as it was the act of the defendant the occasion of it, I would let the cause stand over.

I own, my present opinion is, I cannot give relief for those reasons, which distinguish the case extremely and materially from others which have been determined. Where a young woman, appearing to be modest before, is applied to by a man, and submits to his temptation, he does a great injury: but she knows, the crime she submits to, is not so aggravating as adultery; and she may be inclined to suppose he will be induced to marry her; and there are often such promises, which it is almost impossible to give evidence of: if the parties are both single, there is room for presumption thereof: and if that is the case, the subsequent marriage takes off the enormity of the offence before, and in most countries of *Europe* even legitimates the issue; which admits of presumption, and is some excuse: and beside, in such case, people know they are doing that which is not of so bad consequence in families. Whereas when a Man takes and keeps a mistress under the nose of his wife, who thereupon leaves her husband, that is such a crime as stares every one in the face: and that is this case. She knew of it, and lived in the very family, where she saw all this. It then admits no excuse; and if a consideration of that kind had been recited in the deed itself, or if in a bond, it would be void in law, nor would be countenanced in this court. In other circumstances the court has made a distinction between the cases, where it would not relieve, and where it would give assistance. In *Lady Anandale v. Harris* the commerce was wholly after death of the first wife, and before the second marriage, and no proof to impeach the character. This court ought not to warrant this, which would be of bad example in case of married persons, and encourage people to enter into agreements of this kind. It is impossible but she must know, what she entered into was wrong, and for which there can be no excuse. On the whole therefore the bill ought to be dismissed, but without costs. Had she not known, that he was married, as if the wife was at a distance, or if any imposition was proved on her, it would be a different thing: but nothing of that appears in this case. She entered into the family knowing it, and continued so as to occasion a separation: and this court ought to endeavour to preserve virtue in families.

² Wil. 432.
Eq. Ab. 87.

Case 52.

Andrew *versus* Clark, Feb. 9, 1750-1.

At the Rolls. Sir John Strange, M. R.

Elizabeth Farnsworth by will gave several legacies: but first gave one shilling a-piece to her brother and sister, and a general legacy of 50 l. a-piece to her two executors.

Money legacy to next of kin, as well as to executors, prevents them not of the residue, though such legacy was but one shilling.

The bill was by the next of kin claiming the residue as undisposed; citing among other cases *Rackfield v. Careless*, 2 *Wil.* 158, and *Matchel v. Hunt*, by Lord Chancellor.

Master of the Rolls.

It is agreed, that the giving a money-legacy to the next of kin as well as to the executors, does not prevent the next of kin from claiming the residue of the personal estate. I do not see, how this differs from the other cases; for to be sure the court cannot go on the vulgar acceptation of the meaning of giving but one shilling. It stands then in the common light; and the rule of law would be, that it belonged to the executors: but it is now settled, that the court raises an equity for the next of kin. The reason is, first that by giving executor a money-legacy she means to give no more. On the other hand the next of kin is presumed, unless the contrary appears, to be acceptable to the testatrix. But whether so or not, the law will not strip them of that benefit, unless something to the contrary; nothing of which is here. If I was to give my private sentiment, I should be apt to think, that by giving one shilling it was the intent not to give more. But I cannot in a judicial capacity lay any stress on that: if it was not so candidly admitted by the counsel for the executors, I should have taken time to have looked into the cases.

N. It was said at the bar, that the reason of giving one shilling is, because by the civil law it is necessary to shew, all the children were in view.

Case 53.

Duhamel *versus* Ardovin, Feb. 11, 1750-1

Whereas my daughter is very ill, if she dies, I leave the revenue of my personal estate to my wife.

— *Merbeuf* made his will in *French*; in the beginning of which he said, he thereby gave all his worldly goods and estate. Afterward he gives particular legacies, and makes a provision for his wife. Then says, “whereas my daughter *Marianne* is very ill, “if she dies, in that case I leave to my wife the revenue and “dividends

“dividends of what little estate I have: but if my daughter lives, my wife shall enjoy her dower only. *Item*, I give to my daughter *Marianne* the residue and dividend.” Then, if she dies without children, he gives several pecuniary legacies: concluding with, “I give to my brother *Lewis Merbeuf ce que ce trouvera.*”

Daughter survived testator, but died of that illness: it goes to wife for life.

The daughter survived testator: but died of that same illness, which was a cancer, without issue. This bill was brought by her husband as administrator to her, claiming the whole.

Enfants in a French will meant not issue, but children, and the limitation over not too remote.

For plaintiffs. The words of the will import the daughter's dying in life of testator, not a dying of that illness or at any time afterward; for it would be absurd to put a condition, which must necessarily happen. She survived testator, that contingency has not happened; and then the wife of testator will not be intitled to that revenue and dividends. Then the *Item* introduces a general gift to the daughter of the residue, independent of what went before. “*If she dies without children,*” is too remote; for it means a dying without issue generally. The word in the original is *enfants*; which is as large as *issue*, and may take in grand children: the latter words are the most loose that can be, to claim the residue; and then, if any doubt arises, the court will determine in favour of those claiming by the law of nature, not the claimants under the will.

And *ce que ce trouvera*, a good residuary bequest for what shall be left.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There is no colour for the plaintiff's claim of the residue of this personal estate as representative of his wife; nor to say there is an intestacy as to any part; for testator plainly intended to dispose of the whole, beginning with the words commonly used in the introduction of wills in this kingdom. *Goods* and *estate* mean the same thing, and are co-extensive. I am of opinion testator meant, if his daughter died of that illness; which he thought would happen in a short time, (and it did so in fact) in which case he intended, all the income and revenue of his personal estate should go to his wife during life: and though it is *bien* in the singular number in the original, it will take in the whole as if in the plural, and means *all my estate*. Then the wife will be intitled to the usufructuary interest in all his goods during her life, and the plaintiff has no right to a demand out of that income. I cannot put the construction, that *enfants* meant *issue*, especially to make it too remote and the will void; and there has been a case on a *French* will, wherein I determined otherwise, *viz.* that it meant children: and beside there is some-

something in the subsequent parts of this will, which confines it to children. Consequently the bequest over will be good, and an end put to the argument of its vesting in plaintiff's wife, and going to him as her administrator. But supposing the contingency there put was not to mean the daughter's dying of that illness, but a dying in his life: she died without children, and consequently the other takes place. The last clause concerning *Lewis* means, what shall be left, from the idiom of that language: and I think it a very sufficient residuary bequest, as strong as *I leave all to my mother*, including the whole not particularly disposed of before: and that falls in with the beginning, as not intending to die intestate as to any part. But I do not rely barely on the words: it was a natural disposition and intent; his daughter being then likely to die of a violent distemper, it was natural for him to make a larger provision for his wife in that event, and afterward to give it to his brother.

Case 54.

*Byas versus Byas, Feb. 15, 1750-1.**At the Rolls.*

Copyhold surrendered to use of will, passes by general words all my real estate. But otherwise if not surrendered, unless testator had only copyhold and no freehold. Where copyhold is devised expressly, want of surrender supplied for a wife, children or creditors: no others.

A. Seised of freehold, and of copyhold of the nature of *Burrough English* descendible not only to the younger son but to the younger daughter, which copyhold was not surrendered to the use of his will, in the introduction to his will desires all his just debts to be paid, and makes a provision for his daughters and for his wife, and a farther eventual provision for the daughters after the death of the wife: and then all the rest and residue of his estate real and personal, of what nature or kind soever the same might be or consist of at the time of his death, he gives to his wife, her heirs, executors, administrators and assigns.

The plaintiff, the wife, insisted, that testator having thus made use of a number of words, it takes in all sorts of estates he might be seised of at his death: and that the court will supply the want of surrender; for this ought to be considered, as if creditors were concerned, and like 1 *Wil.* 444, and 3 *Wil.* 96.

Ante.

For defendant *the youngest daughter*. Supposing the wife stands in the next rank to creditors, and the court would supply the want of surrender for the wife, yet on the face of the will an intent should appear, that the copyhold should pass: but here is no mention of it, nor any thing to induce the court to think testator intended this for her. In *Itbel v. Beane* 28 February 1748-9, a devise was made of all real estate subject to payment of debts: testator had no freehold, but only copyhold not surrendered to

to use of the will: *Lord Chancellor* held, that if testator had any freehold, the copyhold would not be liable to payment of debts: but having no freehold it was liable.

Sir John Strange, Master of the Rolls.

The words used by testator cannot possibly carry it further than the general words *all his real estate*; which will of itself take in all the estate testator was seised of, of whatever sort, without the addition of these particular words. It stands therefore for consideration upon the general expression of *all the rest, &c.* There is no case where there is freehold as well as copyhold, and no notice taken of the copyhold in the will, that the court has supplied the want of surrender. Where copyhold lands are devised expressly to wife, children, or for creditors, nothing passes in point of law for want of surrender: however a court of equity supplies it in those favourable instances for the purposes of the will, but not for others: which is on the plain declaration of testator by expressly naming copyhold estate. If he had none but copyhold, *all my real estate* would have been sufficient to pass the copyhold though no surrender had been made to use of the will. But the general heir Heir general or by custom not disinherited by implication. at law, or heir by particular custom, has been always so favoured as not to be disinherited by implication or inference from the particular wording of the will. The cases, that have been, have turned in the construction of these words upon the question of fact; whether the testator had, what would answer the words of his will, on which the words would operate? Then the surrender should not be supplied; as was before *Lord Talbot* in 1735. and the case of *Bethlehem Hospital*, 10 June 1735. that *all my lands* would not pass copyhold lands not surrendered, if there were other lands to satisfy it: but if surrendered, that will explain the general words, and pass it. Here is that which would come within the description of real estate. Then without surrender to use of the will or mention of copyhold the court will not take it from the heir. It is said, this ought to be considered as if creditors: but by this will the real estate is not subjected to payment of debts, as in the case in *Williams*. In the present case there is nothing either by act, as by surrender, or by words though no surrender, to warrant the court to say, the younger daughter is disinherited of that which by law ought to descend to her, and that the mother is intitled to the benefit of this copyhold. The bill therefore must be dismissed: and there was a strong case for this purpose before *Lord Chancellor*, and the last.

Case 55.

Wilson *versus* Ivat, Feb. 16, 1750.

At the Rolls.

One executor, a specifick and residuary legatee, dies in testator's life: it goes not to next of kin, but lapses to the other executor, having no legacy, though a real estate in fee devised to his wife.

A Man made his wife and the defendant executors of his will; having thereby given her several specifick legacies, and made her residuary legatee; and to the wife of the defendant a real estate in fee. Testator's wife dies in his life. Defendant as surviving co-executor claimed, whatever surplus of personal estate there was, as having no legacy. The plaintiffs were next of kin.

Sir John Strange.

It is almost impossible but in the length of time, wherein this question has been argued, there must have been instances of specifick legacies devised to a person who died in life of testator. But it is said, there is no precedent. I will not make a new one without proper consideration of the cases and the reasons of them. The court has certainly from time to time extended this relief against executors, though by steps. I should take it, that, as it stands on the authorities, in general the executor is *prima facie* intitled, unless there is something from whence a contrary intent can be raised in equity to the benefit of next of kin; for in point of law the bare making an executor vests in him, what is not otherwise given away; which answers the objection, that there must be something shewing an intent in his favour. The contrary is to be rather shewn on the other side: so that he will take as executor, unless reasonably shewn, that testator might not intend so large a benefit to him. In legacies to executor, though the cases are both ways, yet it is now settled, that a pecuniary legacy will exclude him from the residue not given: but I take it in the case of mourning to be otherwise: that if mourning is left to all the relations, and the executor is one among others, it is not determined,* that shall exclude him from the residue: but if it was a legacy of 20s. it would be sufficient to the present case. In the case of the death of one tenant in common of a residue, there was an express declaration, that the residue should not go to executor: and in the late case of *The Bishop of Cloyne v. Young*, cited for plaintiff, Lord Chancellor thought there was a strong evidence of intent, that the executor should not have it: and considered it, not that the executor wants an express declaration, that he should have the personal estate, but looked into it to see, if any thing declaring an intent he should not have it: and that is agreeable to what the court has gone into to raise almost any sort of equity for the next of kin to prevent executors going away with it. A bill was brought in by Lord King

Executor as such takes what is not given away, unless contrary intent shewn. Pecuniary legacy excludes him; unless mourning, Q. * Said at the bar to be so determined. Ante. December 7, 1750.

to

to settle this matter ; which did not fail on any particular reason ; but unfortunately there was a difference between the two houses, and this was thrown out by way of reprisal ; for I well remember the history of it. I see no difference in the case of a legal residuary legatee (which I call an executor) if there is nothing to controul him, and no disposition of it. The case of lapse of part of a residue does not conclude so strongly to the case of specifick legacy lapsing in this manner : and I should rather think, if no case to the contrary, it has arisen from being taken for granted, passing *sub silentio*, that where a legacy to a person who dies in life of testator, it falls of course to the person, who by testator expressly or by the law, is the proper person in whom the residue is to vest. I incline therefore, that these specifick things given to the wife will not be considered in the same light as the distribution of the residue in the case cited, but will lapse to executor, who stands in place of testator : and it is material, that if testator had meant it should have gone otherways, he might have left it to other particular relations provided for by the will ; and he lived four years afterward. So that my present opinion is, that the executor is intitled thereto, and the bill must be dismissed as to the personal estate ; but if you meet with a case otherwise determined on a lapsed legacy, I shall be very willing to hear it. It was said, the defendant was not to be considered as a mere executor, but as taking a benefit by the will, having the inheritance of a real estate to his wife, which intitles him to the receipt of the rents and profits in her right, and he would be intitled to a freehold during life as tenant by curtesy, if he has a child by her : but that cannot affect this case. In *Johnson v. Twist*, 26 March 1734. a legacy of 12 l. in money and use of plate to one executor, and nothing to the other, was held by Ld. Talbot no reason why the surplus should be distributed to next of kin, but should go to both executors.

For plaintiff was cited *Wright v Horne C. B.* by *Eyre C. J.* where devisee of part of a real estate, the residue of which was given over to *B.* died in life of testator : held, he died intestate as to that, and it should not go to *B.* which has been since held by *Lord Chancellor* to be a right determination.

Baker versus Baker, Feb. 19, 1750.

Case 56.

FRANCES BROMFIELD, having a power notwithstanding coverture to dispose of an estate, in 1733. devises it in trust to sell so much as sufficient to pay debts ; and a rent-charge to her daughter for life exclusive of any husband ; and all residue of the rents and profits to her daughter's eldest son until he should attain twenty-one ; and after twenty-one the lands to such son and heirs

heirs of his body ; if he should die before that age, to such other son as her daughter should have, who should attain twenty-one, and the heirs-male of his body, the eldest to be preferred. If no such son should attain that age, then to issue female of her daughter ; and for want of such issue to her own right heirs for ever.

The daughter, at time of making the will and death of testatrix, was her only child, and was then in the *Indies*, where, during the life of one *Lavarock*, whom she had married in the *Fleet*, she married Mr. *Baker*, by whom she had one son.

The trustee entered and acted. The daughter in 1742. brought a bill against the trustees, &c. and taking notice that she had no issue, was intitled not only to her rent-charge, but to all the residue. The cause was heard by consent, and a decree for conveyance to new trustees on the trusts in the will ; which was done ; and she received and converted the rents and profits to her own use. The son coming of age, brought this bill for an account thereof, and conveyance of the estate, &c.

For plaintiff. The decree was pronounced on a supposition, that defendant had no issue. The question is, whether plaintiff is not intitled under the description in the will, and who is meant by testatrix ? The only objection to it by defendant, who claims as heir at law to testatrix, is, that plaintiff is not a legitimate son. A bastard may become a purchaser, and have an estate given in possession or remainder under a will or deed by description of the person. The general cases have been, where named by the *christian* name son of such a one. But in *Jenk. Cent.* 203, son or daughter in a feofment as well as will is a good name of purchase, though illegitimate. *Perk. Grants* 11. *Dy.* 313. and *Mo.* 10. and 39 *E.* 3. 11. cited in Sir *Moyle Finch's* case, 6 *Co.* and 41 *E.* 3. 19.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The plaintiff is certainly not bound by that decree. I doubt not, there are cases of bastards taking by description of the person : but the difficulty is, here are limitations over to all the other sons and daughters : were these to be limitations in a succession and series of bastards ?

For plaintiff. It is proved, testatrix knew the situation of the defendant, and that there was such a son ; which makes it stronger than the reputed name of son, though that would be sufficient. The words are applicable to no other person. She considered him as a person *in esse*, and under age : and it imports an immediate devise to him. Therefore though in general it is difficult to say, she could thereby intend

intend to provide only for the bastard issue of her daughter; yet, as she knew of this eldest son, she might make a separate provision for him; and, if, afterward her daughter should have legitimate sons, might make a subsequent limitation to them: but the remote possibility of legitimate issue entered not into her view. The annuity shews, she did not intend, defendant (whom she knew to be her heir at law) should have more. The right heirs were not to take, while one was *in esse*, to whom given before. It is like a limitation to heir at law after death of another; which is an implied gift for life to that other. *Vau.* The profits for maintenance separate from the inheritance shews, she meant a person *in esse*; and there are no words to shew she meant it to a future person: nor would it be good in point of law; for a freehold cannot be given *in futuro*.

For defendant. Though defendant is not in a favourable light, the plaintiff is not capable of taking in construction of law or by the intent. A bastard in order to take, must be *in esse*, and have gained a reputed name, and then may take by description: but there is no case, where under a general limitation, such as denotes a first and every other son in the ordinary way, without a particular mark applicable to him and excluding all others. An intent must be shewn, that plaintiff should take at all adventures against every one, although the defendant returned to *Lavarock*, and had legitimate children by him, or by any other after his death. The plaintiff could not contend with such issue; and the construction is the same though that event has not happened. In *Metham v. Duke of Devonshire*, the Duke had by will made provision for the children of his son by Mrs. *Hennage*: there were words to take in all the children: *Ld. Macclesfield* held, it should not be extended to those born after the will: that the court never construe testator to mean, his son should continue in the same way, though it might be charity to provide for those *in esse*; confining it to them; and held, it should not even extend to a child *in ventre* at the time: and there was no question of the persons meant, as here. This general provision was to induce the defendant to return to another way; and was reasonable; leaving the children then born to be provided for by defendant, as nature would oblige her to. Such a will as a prudent person intending to provide for her own blood would make; which could not possibly mean her base blood, and that for daughters also. Her knowing it turns the other way: she must then have known his name; and would have mentioned it, if intended. In all laws, wherever son or child is mentioned, it always means legitimate: the *mulier* or legitimate, shall take against the bastard. 1 *Inst.* 123. b. *Dy.* 345. a. 2 *Rol.* 43. *Cro. El.* 510. 1 *Inst.* 3. b.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is a matter of some difficulty; I will consider of it therefore. It is very proper to see, if such a cause could not be agreed in the mean time.

Which was afterwards done by the parties.

Case 57. *Morris versus Dillingham, et c con, Feb. 20, 1750.*

At the Rolls.

THE cross bill demanded interest for arrears of an annuity or rent-charge. *Litton v. Litton*, 1 *Will.* 541, and *Lady Ferrers v. Lord Ferrers*. *Tal.* 2.

Interest of
arrears of
annuity dis-
cretionary on
the circum-
stances.

Against which it was urged, that interest is never given for arrears of an annuity, wherever it is discretionary on consideration of the circumstances; as where it was to exhaust the fund for creditors, or to disinherit an heir at law; both which circumstances concurred here, and several circumstances of hardship.

Sir John Strange.

The question of interest is in some degree discretionary in the court; but not so arbitrary as to say the parties shall have interest or not just according to humour, but on the circumstances; and the determinations of the court on questions of that nature if relative to the cause: otherwise no opinion could be framed of the rule of the court. If creditors may not be paid even their debts, if these arrears are paid with interest, that will have weight in some respects: but that does not appear in the cause, nor any thing as to hardship on an heir at law; and till that is made part of the cause, cannot be taken notice of.

The opinion of the court was reserved on the interposition of counsel for liberty to introduce those circumstances.

Case 58. *Earl of Stafford versus Buckley, Feb. 23, 1750.*

Annuity in
fee, granted
by K out of

RICHARD CANTILLON in 1734, made his will; first, reciting the provision made for his wife on their marriage, he says, Barbadoes duties, is not a rent, nor realty, nor within statute of frauds, nor *St. de Donis*, but being settled on A. and heirs of her body, is a fee simple conditional at common law, the remainder over void, in case of a common person; and A. having had issue, may bar possibility of reverter.

says,

says, if there should be any deficiency in that, it should be satisfied out of his other effects: then, after giving several annuities and legacies, he says, “ I hereby constitute and appoint S. and G. joint “ executors of this will; praying them to see the said jointure and “ legacies paid;” and directs them to take care of the education of his daughter, to whom he gives 200 *l. per ann.* until she is married with their consent, or come of age: then directs them to intail on his daughter and her issue all the estate and effects, which should belong to him, after payment of the aforesaid jointure, annuities and legacies: but in case of her death and failure of her issue he desired them to divide moiety between his two nephews; “ My in- “ tention being that the capital be laid out and secured and the “ interest be made good to my daughter for life and to her lawful “ heirs for ever, but in case of her and their failure, the same shall “ go to my said nephews moiety.

This will was not executed according to the statute of frauds: it was made in *London*, but having gone to the *Indies*, and sent for back again, it was very much damaged, and several blanks in it.

Lord *Stafford* having married the daughter with consent of the executors, he and his wife brought this bill for the general purpose of carrying into execution the articles made precedent to their marriage, so far as they relate to the estate of the testator, in which Lady *Stafford* was interested; to have an account of that estate so far as it came to the hands of any of the defendants; and to have that and the real estate of testator settled, conveyed, and disposed of according to the will and articles, and for that purpose to have several questions, made doubts between the parties, determined.

For plaintiff. First, what is the subject matter of the will, and the estates to be governed by the directions to carry the will into execution? The testator left 1000 *l. per ann.* granted by K. C. 2. out of the *Barbadoes* duties; as to which there are two points to be considered: first, whether it could pass by the will? Next, if so, whether it is given: As to the first, it is a very particular case: it appears a grant of the profits arising to the crown out of the island of *Barbadoes* in respect of the sovereignty of the crown over that colony; for it is not properly a rent, but a specifick proportion of the produce of the island, and is paid to the crown in sugar; being actually paid in *specie*, the landholder not compounding for money. The grant is in consideration of a surrender of a title claimed under letters patent to the *Caribbee* islands themselves; Lord *Carlisle* having had from K. *J. 1.* a grant of all these islands: but the colony succeeding, objections were made to that extensive grant; which produced an accommodation, *viz.* a certain annual payment out of those

those very profits arising to the crown in respect of the feignory of the island: but that was not quite effectual to the grantee, prior charges exhausting it: therefore a new grant was made, which is now in force, to Lord *Kinnoul* and his heirs, introducing collateral security, directing payment to be made in case of deficiency out of any other of the King's revenue, as out of the excise, which the King might charge as much as lands of the crown, of which he was seised in fee. This grant in fee afterward came to the testator. The question is, whether this is not real estate? Properly speaking, it is not that, which lies in tenure: nor is it perhaps properly and strictly a rent, because that is money paid: but it is a profit *apprendre* out of the *Caribbees*, and is like tithes, which are part of the profits, and, if extraparochial, belong to the King *jure coronæ*. It certainly favours of the realty, being paid in respect of the tenure of the land, and incident to the sovereignty, granted by letters patent of *England*, and cannot be granted otherwise. Where a dominion is held of the crown of *Great Britain*, though they have laws of their own within the feignory, yet, wherever there is a grant of the feignory itself, or of any thing arising out of the feignory, which passes by the King's letters patent, and must be carried into execution in this kingdom; they are governed by the laws of *England*: as was held in the question concerning the isle of *Man*, as reported by *Ld. Coke*. Although this four and a half *per cent.* should be raised by acts of assembly of those islands, and therefore not comprised in any of our civil list acts, it comes in lieu of the *reddendum* to the crown. To apply for the effect and benefit of this grant it must be by the letters patent to the King's managers here. According to the final determination in the bankers case an action would lie for it, *assise* or *distress*. An information in nature of trover would lie for the crown, as if the crown had the land itself. The same is held as to the *grand commotes* in *Wales*; the land within the *Lordships marchers* was governed by the particular laws there: but the feignory itself was governed by the laws of *England*. Then this is subject to the laws in *England*, and so subject to the statute of frauds. If this is a realty in *Barbadoes*, it may indeed pass by this will, supposing the statute of frauds does not by usage take effect there; for usage is a ground to receive it, though never enacted. But if it is a realty in *Barbadoes*, yet, being payable in *England* out of that duty, it is a realty in *England* also, and so within the statute of frauds. Though the word hereditaments is not in the statute, if therefore it should be held to extend no farther than lands or tenements, it would destroy several devises: for advowsons, rents, tithes, fairs or markets, have been held within that statute; because the statute is co-extensive to, what is called real estate. The grants by King *Charles II.* to his natural children were payable out of the hereditary excise granted to him by parliament, and so, much less favouring of the realty than the present case: yet though they have not been determined to be real estate,

estate, they have been considered in that light, and settled as such. A very little matter will make these inheritances real estates; as titles of nobility, by virtue of the place inserted in their patents; and so within the statute *de donis*. But supposing this a personal annuity in fee, and not to be considered as a rent charge or any rent issuing out of any sort of land, the question is, whether the testator has given it? It is plain, he has not; for he has given nothing whatever to his executors by words of bequest; only directing what they should do with that which vested in them as executors *eo nomine*; and nothing but that did he mean they should entail. Then, supposing this to be personal, it cannot go to executors, though the testator might perhaps dispose of it as an hereditament he was proprietor of. Though there cannot be a recovery of it, because it is not real, yet has it a descendible quality. An annuity in fee descends to the heir. It may in one sense be entailed; as it may be granted to one and the heirs of his body; where the condition would not be performed, unless issue had: but it is not properly that, which would vest in executors as such. Nor does testator seem to have had it in view; the estate he speaks of, meaning a capital to be laid out at interest; which could not be the capital of this annuity. Testator had an estate in *France* as well as *England*, and knew, what vests in executor, *hæres in mobilibus* by the *Roman law*. This would not be assets for debts. Nothing, which goes to the heir, is applicable to debts, unless the heir is bound. A bond or covenant debt is to be paid out of a real estate, because the heir is to pay it; not that it binds the real estate.

The question then is, what settlement is to be made of this gross personal estate. Nothing happening since death of testator can vary the right. The settlement now must be such as would and ought to be made just after his death; and then the interest of the remainders would be out of the question. To see what that settlement should have been by the executors, in whom the whole legal estate vests, first what was the clear intent of testator? Secondly the consequence of that in law and equity? Thirdly, supposing there are some words, which though used by testator consistent with his own intent, yet the court may lay hold of to restrain the settlement on his daughter, how far it is to be restrained, and in what manner? His real intention was plainly a perpetual entail. It does not appear through his whole will, he had a notion of any rule of law or equity to prevent it. The word used is entail; which is a technical term, used elsewhere as well as here, but introduced here by the statute *de donis*; meaning a particular sort of succession in a particular channel, not to the heirs in general. The word following has the same meaning, issue, as a word of limitation, because to take indefinitely, it is issue for ever. Then supposing her issue should fail, (which is that issue to whom before limited) he grafts a remainder on it, when ever that failure should be. Then by the rules of law and equity such a

limitation is void: though perhaps in the original there might be no great reason why it should not be made good *cy pres*, yet as to personal things the rule is, wherever testator intends a perpetual succession to the issue of any one, a remainder afterward is absolutely void. The rule is the same in equity. Its being on trust will not vary it: it was so held on Sir *Richard Grosvenor's* will. In *Lord George Beauclerc v. Miss Dormer* the devise was, "I make Miss *Dormer* my universal heir" and executrix; and if she dies without issue, then to go to Lord "George:" Your Lordship held it to be void, The question there was how it should be construed? For if as an indefinite failure of issue, the court would not make it good *cy pres*; as they might, if a failure at the time of the death. In that great question of the double contingency, where the settlement of the personal was to go with the real estate to one for life, remainder to the first and every other son in tail, and for want of such issue, over; all the old cases (several of which are in *Pollexfen*) held the limitation over void; and until *Higgins v. Dowler* * that was not doubted: but there it was in an *obiter* opinion of lord *Cowper*, and the distinction introduced of a double contingency. The Master of the Rolls held, that if testator meant a perpetual succession, it could not be made good *cy pres*: so did Lord *Talbot* in *Clare v. Clare*. * It came before your Lordship collaterally only in *Levison v. Grosvenor*, where it was not necessary to the determination; viz. "I desire my trustees to limit this, as the real estate is limited, as far as may be by law and equity:" your Lordship held, that was a particular case from the reference to settle according to the rules of law and equity: but that, without being bound on the general question, there was good reason in the distinction of the double contingency taken by the Master of the Rolls; who considered it thus: to his first son, if he has a first son, but if no first son, then over; that one of the contingencies being good, the other bad, the limitation over will be supported by that contingency allowed by law, being within a compass allowed of. But your Lordship would not be bound by that, but clearly held, if ever there was a son, though born but for a moment, there was an end of the limitation over, it could not be made a good *cy pres*, though there was a way of doing it, but must be attended with the consequences, when the testator had limited in perpetual succession. In the present case there has been a child, a daughter, (though now dead) in whom it vested, and so an end of the remainder over; although that child's interest might be divested on the birth of a son, yet till the estate opened, it was an actual vested interest, and prevented the remainder over from ever taking effect, as much as if void *ab initio*. But supposing (which is the 3^d consideration) there are some words, the court may lay hold of to turn issue into a word of purchase, what sort of settlement is to be made on the issue as purchasers? If to take as purchasers, it must be either by analogy to proper entails, (which testator seems to have in view) viz. the first and every other son,

* 1 Will. 98.
Sal. 156
2 Ver. 600.

* Tal. 21.

son, and on failure to daughters, or all of them to take generally: if the first way, it must wait for the death of Lady *Stafford* for those children to be born of her. The contingency, on which the remainder over is limited, cannot be allowed, nor is there any thing for the court to lay hold on to make it good *cy pres*. If all were to take as purchasers, it must wait, till it is seen what children there are: but it will vest as soon as born, for they must take absolutely, unless words are found confining it to those living at time of the death, for otherwise the court will not do it: as your Lordship held in Miss *Dormer's* case, where the adverb then was held too little to lay weight upon: nor would the word living do. Here the limitation over is not to take effect till a failure absolutely of her children; which would give her an estate tail; and then the limitation over is void according to *Higgins v. Dowler*. If it had been land devised to her for life, remainder to heirs of her body, it is never held otherwise than an estate tail, unless where there has been a trust, which must be executed, or that the words of the will shewed clearly the first taker should have an estate for life only, which is not so here, *Bagshaw v. Spencer* was determined by your lordship on other principles; that it was a clear intent to give the first taker an estate for life; and also that it was a trust to be executed; though not directed to be so; and therefore you put an end to the distinction, which had been made; because all trusts are executory: and there were other words, none of which are here.

Next whether plaintiff is intitled to profits of this estate from death of her father; it being contended, that till her attaining twenty-one or marriage with consent, they are to accumulate for remainder-men, whoever they shall happen to be, when capable of taking; for that till the jointure, annuities, &c. determined, it cannot appear, what is to be intailed: but that objection arises from too narrow a construction of the word after, which means subject to the payment of them: for one of the annuities is in fee; and it is impossible, when he intended, it should be intailed on her and her issue, he could mean, the settlement should wait till determination of that or of the jointure.

For defendants the nephews. The 1000 *l.* annuity, if given by the will, passes thereby notwithstanding the nature of the subject of the grant, and the formalities required by the statute of frauds. The nature of the thing may properly be illustrated from the remedy the law gives for it; the constant method of *Fitzherbert* and *Coke*. The remedy in this case is merely personal, against the person of grantor, or his heir on account of assets descended; a writ of annuity, no assize or distress, it not favouring of the realty; therefore different from a rent charge: which gives the same remedy, that lies for the land itself; so that there is nothing from the nature of the thing to prevent its passing by the will. Thus in the grant of a common person:
nor

nor is there any difference in the case of the crown. The king cannot indeed be charged in his person; which, the mirror says, is an abuse of justice, that writs should not lie against the king as well as others: but that is from the necessity, the law substituting a petition of right instead of a personal election: no difference from thence in the nature of the thing itself; nor from the fund out of which it is payable. The argument of its coming in lieu of the lands themselves, and therefore of the same nature as what it comes in lieu of, proves too much; for that would prove, that money coming in lieu of it favoured of the realty. *Smith v. Boucher*, *Hob.* 248, shews, the addition of the fund, out of which the annuity is to be paid, was not to furnish any argument as to the nature of the grant, but for benefit of the grantee to point out where he is to go to receive it. This is by no means within the statute of frauds; the construction of which the court will not incline to extend; as it is an incapacitating clause, disabling the owner from doing that which he might do,

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That statute has certainly received the most liberal construction.

In *Ashturnham v. Kirkall* the judges considered the *Mortmain* act as going to disability of that ownership, the owner of the land had; and one case, they relied on, was in *Sid*: on the statute of frauds. This is very different from the case of tithes; for which ejectment will lie. Even in the case of corn-rents reserved on a lease if one was to devise, that a debt should be paid out of the money, when it came into the receiver's hands, it could not be considered as so favouring of the realty, as that the will must be accompanied with all the requisites in the clause of that statute. Several instances must have been, where the owner of an annuity has done so: yet no case is cited for that purpose. But if it be a realty, it must be considered as such in the place from whence it came: and though said to be the subject matter of letters patent in *England*, that will not go so far as to make it considered as real here. But 2 *Wil.* 75, puts this out of the case. Next whether testator designed, or has done sufficient, to pass it? Though no direct disposition of any thing to the executors, the precedent part of the will supposes necessarily the whole fund to be in them. This then is an implied gift to them; and would carry every thing, except such as either the nature of it or the want of formalities in the will would prevent; for that impediment would prevail, even if there had been an express devise to the executors. He had his general estate and effects in contemplation; and it would be very extraordinary, that he should omit so considerable a part of his property. As to the construction of the limitation, his daughter is made tenant for life, or to have the usufructuary interest of this personal estate for life, with a gift over to her

her issue, such as she should leave at time of her death: but if she died without issue living at the time of her death, then over to his nephews. To construe it a tenancy in tail in the daughter the court must reject the words added in explanation. There is no instance, where so reasonable a foundation to connect the subsequent to the former words, and make both relative to one point of time, that the court does not confine it to the time of the death. *Atkinson v. Hutchinson*, 3 *Wil.* 250 and the court makes large constructions for that purpose. *Forth v. Chapman* 1 *Wil.* 663. Miss *Dormer's* case, your Lordship held, was a flat intail without any words to lay hold of to confine it to the death; which the court is industrious to find out to prevent its being a void limitation. Subsequent facts may and ought to be taken into consideration; for this was no immediate devise of any thing, but such as required to be carried into execution by intervention of a court of justice. Although Lord *Talbot's* opinion in *Clare v. Clare* was on a supposition that the court could not take into consideration subsequent events, yet in the very next year in *Hopkins v. Hopkins* he himself declared and founded his opinion upon not only the possibility but propriety of the courts doing it. The double contingency is out of the case by the birth of the daughter: nor will that make any difference.

As to the accumulation of the surplus profits above the 200 *l.* maintenance till the daughter's marriage, the question is, whether they are part of the interest or of the capital? They are part of the capital: otherwise the direction about the maintenance is nugatory, if she was to take the whole of the interest absolutely. They will be considered therefore as part of the general fund which testator has directed to be preserved, and go accordingly.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The first question made is, whether this annuity is to be considered as in nature of a rent and to partake of the realty, or as a mere personal thing to a man and his heirs inheritable according to such rules of descent, as the law allows to such personal things? And that in order to introduce another question, whether or no it could pass by a will not executed according to the statute of frauds? I am clearly of opinion, it is a mere personal annuity, having no relation to lands or tenements, or partaking of the nature of a rent by any means. First, this would be so, if the fact was, as the plaintiffs counsel endeavoured to represent as to this duty of four and a half *per cent.* but the fact fails them. Suppose it had been in the strongest manner for the plaintiff, *viz.* that King *Charles I.* had granted these islands to Lord *Carlisle* with a reservation of a strict rent of four and a half *per cent.* in specie on the product of the islands, and afterward King *Charles II.* had granted 1000 *l. per ann.* in money out

Part of a rent
may be grant-
ed, not a new
rent reserved
or granted
out of the old,

of the produce of that rent to Lord *Kinnoul* and his heirs : this would have been a mere annuity, even supposing that had been the case, because a rent cannot be reserved or granted out of a rent. Part of a rent may be granted indeed : but a new rent cannot be reserved or granted thereout, because no distress can be or assize taken of it, as there is nothing to be put in view of the recognisors of the assize ; which, the rule is, is necessary, and has been so determined. Consequently if the four and a half *per cent.* in specie had been a rent like a corn-rent, this would not have been a rent ; for this money to be paid out of that produce is another thing, and cannot be taken to be part of the old original rent, which was reserved in specie : but this not like it. Consider the laws of *Barbadoes* (which is the principal, and, I believe, the rest of the *Leeward* islands fall under the same rule) and the act of assembly, by which this is granted. It is in the express words of the grant a custom or impost, a duty on exports from the island, and no reservation out of the island, though it arises out of the produce : so that it has no relation to the case endeavoured to be made of it. Consequently this annuity in fee is a personal inheritance, what the law suffers to descend to the heir, but has nothing to do with the realty, as appears from *Co. Lit.* 20, and so not within the statute of frauds ; for lands and tenements only are within it. An advowson comes indeed under that description ; for it may be held under *knight service* ; and rents partake of the nature of land, follow that, and consequently are all within that statute : but nothing is within it, which is not a real right or interest, or partaking of the realty ; as this annuity is not, though granted in fee.

Advowsons.
are rents with-
in statute of
frauds but an
annuity in fee
not a personal
inheritance.

The first remaining consideration is, whether this, which appears to be a personal annuity in fee, and consequently a personal inheritance descendable to the heir, is concluded or comprised in the will so that the executors have an interest in or power over it ; for it may be either way. The second consideration is as to the limitations to be made ; how far by this will they may take effect, or are too remote.

As to the first, I think, it is a question of some doubt : and yet I do not know that it will be of consequence between the parties. There are to be sure no words describing or giving it : nor has testator given any part of the real estate : nor could it be devised, if named ; because not executed according to the statute of frauds. As to his personal estate, he has made no particular legacy of the residue of the personal so as to include personal things which would go to executors ; much less personal things which would not go to executors, but are descendable to heirs according to a course of descent the law allows of as to that : but here are words, that point that way, *viz.* estate and effects, which are made use of more than once in the will. Where he intends to make a satisfaction to his wife for the deficiency of her provision

provision on her marriage, he does it out of all his other effects; which words would have been sufficient to have charged any estate of his, that could pass by this will; whether such as is strictly personal and affects in the executors, or such personal as was descendable to the heir; therefore sufficient to have charged this annuity to have made satisfaction to the wife, if occasion to resort thereto; because there was a clear intent to provide a fund for that purpose, and that annuity would have passed by this will, if especially named. This is only an observation, not conclusive, on the nature of the will and use of the word effects. In the clause creating the present question he has given nothing to the executors, nor made them residuary legatees in trust: and therefore nothing vests in them, but what properly does so by naming them executors. All the rest of the personal estate that could pass to executors, would go to them: but this is a kind of personalty, which according to *Doctor and Student* would not be affects in executors, and consequently will not go to them by being named executors. The question is, whether on these words to in-tail on her, &c. compared with the former part, there is sufficient to pass by words or implication this annuity to the executors, or whether there are not words sufficient to give them power to convey. It is too much perhaps to say, that these latter words are sufficient to pass any interest to them, provided that did not pass by naming them executors; which it did not: but why should it not give them a power to convey? For one may give a naked power to executors to sell or convey, &c. without giving any thing to them. Consider the words. The word estate is the most general that can be used; and according to all the cases sufficiently comprised all kind of estates; especially when by saying estate and effects he points at both real and personal; and therefore I do not see in point of law or reason, why, if this will had been executed according to the statute of frauds, these words would not have enabled these executors to have settled his lands in *England*; for it was his intent, these executors should be his trustees for that, and make a settlement of his whole estate; especially when it is said, after payment of the aforesaid jointure, &c. which carries me back to the observation of the direction to make good the jointure; and therefore this direction to the executors is as large as that charge before. If then within this power lands would have been included, provided the will had been executed according to the statute (for at this day a man cannot give a power to his executors to sell his lands by a will not executed according to the statute) I see no reason why this annuity is not comprised; the words being general enough to take it in; and nothing in the nature of the estate preventing its operating upon it. I incline therefore, that the executors have power to settle this annuity.

Annuity in fee goes not to, nor affects in, executors.

Naked power to executors to sell or convey. Extent of the word estate.

Which leads to the next question: supposing this annuity is included, and it is not doubted, but the residue vests in the executors *eo nomine*, in what manner that it is to be settled, and how far the limi-

limitation is to take effect? I will consider this in two lights: first as to the annuity, which is not a personal thing to vest in executors *eo nomine*: next as to the surplus, which is merely personal, and would vest in them by virtue of making them executors.

1 Will. 663.

Different construction on same clause according to nature of the estates.

Lands and tenements only within stat. de donis.

No remainder over of estate not within that stat.

Possibility not grantable over except by K.

As to the annuity, I think, it will fall under a different consideration from the rest of the personal estate. If estates of a different nature are comprised in this clause, *Forth v. Chapman* is an express authority for me, that the words shall receive a different construction according to the nature of these estates. Supposing therefore land was comprised in the direction of the trust, and the will so executed as to have affected lands, the court could not possibly have directed any other settlement of the land but to the daughter in tail. Undoubtedly so, if it had stood on the first words to intail on her, &c. How is it explained by the subsequent clause, wherein the testator has declared his own intent, and made the construction himself? There it would have been a direction, the settlement should be on her for life: but saying her lawful heirs for ever, will be construed by the preceding word *issue*, which will make an estate tail in her. So it would be as to land: the question then arises as to this particular instance of annuity; which is not real, but an inheritance of a personal thing descendable to the heir. The proper kind of limitation that is capable of is distinct from mere personal goods and chattels. The testator, having purchased it, was seised in fee of it at the time of making the will; and might direct it to be settled as far as by law allowed to be so; not by way of strict intail; because not within the statute *de donis* according to Lord Coke. No writ of entry could be brought of it: nor is it real estate: and the very statute itself shews it in the beginning of it, nothing being included therein but lands and tenements and what partakes of their nature: and *Co. Lit.* 20 says, in all these cases grantee has a fee conditional as before the statute. The settlement then to be made of it, supposing the first question that it is included in this power in the will, is in this manner; to the daughter for life and the heirs of her body; which is in her a fee simple conditional. The executors then clearly could not carry it over in remainder to the nephews; for no remainder could be created of any estate not within the statute *de donis*; for before it was a possibility of reverter, out of which a remainder could not be, upon this notion, that being but a possibility it could not be grantable over: and if before the statute *de donis* a man had granted lands to another and the heirs of his body, and said in default of such issue over to B. and his heirs, that grant over had been void, and on the having issue the condition had been performed, and the grantee himself might have aliened so as to have barred the possibility of reverter. So here as this annuity is not within the statute *de donis*, if settled according to this will to her for life and the heirs of her body, if carried over in default of such issue to the nephews, that would have been void: as soon as issue had, the condition is performed; she might have aliened, and barred the possibility of reverter to the donor.

donor. Here issue has been had; and consequently an absolute fee must be, if a settlement is made according to this will. This I take to be the legal construction of this devise according to the different nature of these estates: and this (for I would not be misunderstood) will not affect those grants, to which this has been compared, which have been frequent, of annuities by the crown of this kind with remainders over; for though a common person cannot grant a possibility, the crown can; as it may grant a *chose in action*; and according to *Miles v. Williams*, 1 *Wil.* 252, (which is truly reported) his grantee may sue for it in his own name; although a common person cannot grant a *chose in action* so as to enable grantee to bring an action in his own name. I do not take it, that before the statute *de donis* the possibility of reverter in the crown could be barred; which differs all these grants of the crown from cases of common persons. Therefore on the directions in this clause, if a settlement had been made, the executors must have settled it to the daughter, and the heirs of her body so as to be a fee conditional with a power after issue had to alien, and prevent possibility of reverter.

Grantee of
chose in action
by the King
may sue in his
own name, not
so of a com-
mon person.

As to the residue, which is merely personal, it is different; for according to *Forth v. Chapman* a different construction may be put on the same words in respect of estates capable of such a limitation in tail, and of those not capable of it: and I am of opinion, that the limitation contended for by the nephews is not so, nor was that the testator's intent, nor are the words capable of that construction, *viz.* that the daughter should have an usufructuary interest for life, &c. This must be considered of personal effects merely. The first words, taken with the explanation afterward made, shew *issue* meant in the same sense as *heirs*, and has the same construction in wills according to all the cases, and that of *Miss Dormer*; in which I held, that even where the first limitation was not for life, but to *A.* and if *A.* dies without issue, over to *B.* that was too remote, because it was a failure of issue *in infinitum*, and that I could not be warranted to say, these words must be tied up to a dying without such issue or without heirs at time of the death. Here are not any words to change *issue* from the common and legal construction; for I do not see even in the subsequent words, which are insisted on, any thing to restrain the failure of issue to the time of her death: but, let them fail at any time, the meaning was, it should go over. Here it is expressly given to the daughter for life; which words must be taken into construction of the first part, and explain them. In the former part he has explained his own meaning to be to make a settlement of this money to the line of heirs of the body of his daughter in perpetuity; which intent, or of the limitation over afterward, the law will certainly not admit: nor was any thing

Personal ef-
fects not to be
given in per-
petuity to
heirs of body;
and remainder
void.

farther from his intent than to confine it to a dying without issue at time of her death. Consequently it is too remote, and the nephews can take nothing. But though bad as to the nephews, it may be good as to the issue to vest the property in them: but reserve that question (which however does not concern the annuity) till after the report.

The only remaining question is as to the profits contended to be accumulated. I am of opinion, the true construction is, that it is *subject* to the aforesaid annuities, &c.; one of which was in fee. Nor does testator import, that the 200*l.* was all she should have: and there are several instances, where a particular sum is directed for maintenance, and afterward a settlement to be made notwithstanding; the 200*l.* being only directed by her father to restrain, what should be for her maintenance. The profits therefore over and above the maintenance, go and belong to the plaintiff.

The 1000*l.* annuity and the surplus of the personal estate are subject to the power given to the executors; and the annuity, being capable of a limitation to the daughter and the heirs of her body, did by virtue of the will vest in her as a fee simple conditional at common law; and she, having had issue, is capable of aliening or settling the same; and the limitation over is void.

Note. *Snell v. Read*, 5 August 1743, was cited at the bar: a devise of a chattel interest to trustees to settle on his daughter and heirs of her body, but if she should die leaving no heirs, then over, the devise over held good.

And also the case of the *New River Company*; which Lord Chancellor said, was of so much land *Aquâ cooperi*: but there was no act of parliament altering the nature of them; and they are forced to levy fines in all the countries, through which the river runs.

Case 59. *Vaughan versus Farrer*, Feb. 26, 1750-1.

Mortmain, Stat. 9 G. 2. Express estate for life not enlarged by implication, unless necessary, as to preserve intent for the line in succession.

JOHNN ALLEN devised all the residue of his real and personal estate to the defendant for life: but in case she married, and left children at the time of her death, the whole to such child or children: but if she should die without issue, then she might dispose of 500*l.* by will or deed in writing to such uses, as she should think proper: but in default of such issue, and for want of such disposition, trustees should erect, in some convenient place

place in or near the city of *York*, an hospital for the support and maintenance of as many poor old men, as the surplus of his estate and effects would admit of, and to put in as many as they should think proper in their discretion.

The plaintiff brought this bill as heir at law and next of kin of testator to have the will tried, and set aside on fraud and imposition on testator: but if the will should be good, then to have the benefit of the charities devised therein contrary to the statute of *Mortmain*.

Dying without issue, as to personal estate, construed in the vulgar sense, to preserve the limitation over.

It was insisted, this court would not set it aside without having it tried; that it was now settled, that courts of law would go into the consideration of fraud in a will, and had been done so lately singly on the head of fraud in *Fenwick v. James* on an issue directed by his *Lordship*; wherein the jury asked *Lee*, Chief Justice, if they could find it void for fraud; who answered, they could.

Wills, to be found void in court of law on fraud.

But the trial was now waved.

For plaintiff. The remainder over to the charity is void as to the personal as well as the real; being expressly directed to be paid out in doing that, which cannot be done without purchase of land to erect the hospital upon, and that in perpetuity. Money cannot be devised to be laid out in purchase of a lease for years. It is doubtful, whether a lease for years can be devised in that manner: it was doubted in a cause, which was compounded. Every question on this statute is of publick importance; several attempts being made to get out of it. The view was not only to prevent so much land being *Mortmain*, and very far from preventing charity in general, but improvident alienations just before death, recited as one ground in the preamble; the legislature meaning not to leave that method of disinheritance open by devising vast sums to be laid out in buildings. There is no authority since the act, which will warrant personal estate to be laid out in erecting a building. There was a case of money given toward the foundation of a school and teaching, where your *Lordship* held, *foundation* had a figurative as well as literal sense, and did not mean building; and therefore by shewing it did not necessarily imply building, held it might be taken out of the letter of the act: but it is impossible to take this so, which must mean building and a purchase of land. There it was of absolute necessity to construe it so, that the will might have any effect, as there was no provision for the master's salary; and in the same manner would the court have directed, had the question been before the statute. The same judgment must be given now, as would

* *Mogg v.*
Hodges, 16th
November
 1750.

would be before the statute, when the court would have directed part of this money in purchase of land and building on it, and the rest in land for the endowment and maintenance: then a different construction will not be made to evade the statute. This was attempted in a late case *, where subject to debts and legacies real and personal estate were devised to a charity: it was insisted, that as the intent was clear the charity should be supported, it should be done by new marshalling the assets by turning the debts, &c. upon the real: your *Lordship* held, it could not be done, nor a new rule introduced since the statute to evade it, though by that way there might have been a fund for the charity. In the case of Sir *John James*, testator directed land to be sold, and the money arising as a fund for a charity: your *Lordship* held it void within the statute; that it was an interest in land then; and alluded to *Roper v. Ratcliff*, where so held on the popery acts. This is not like those cases where money is to be laid out in land or stock, in which the court will lay hold of the good alternative. There should at least be an inquiry into the nature of this personal estate; for if any of it is secured by mortgages, they are interests in real estate, and would not pass. If testator had given a mortgage for erecting this charity, that would not be good, because an incumbrance affecting land: and if that money is not paid, by the course of equity the estate must be foreclosed, and the land vest in the trustees. In *Att. G. v. Meyrick*, 6 November 1750, money due on mortgage was devised: on a bill by the trustees to establish the charity the heir at law said, he would not suffer a foreclosure, but was ready to redeem: *The Master of the Rolls* held this within the statute, an interest affecting land, and dismissed the bill.

For the charity. The real estate is very small, and not disputed by the charity. As to the personal, this court, on a doubt whether an interlineation was part of a will or not, gives liberty to apply to the ecclesiastical court to try it as to that part: but never *in toto* directs it to be tried in ecclesiastical court. Though the statute is so far made against charitable dispositions, yet if this breaks not in on the meaning of that statute, the court is bound to construe it for the charity as much as possible; which favour for charity in deeds or wills is established, so that a thing not passing in point of law, shall pass. Though the building must be erected on land, it is not necessary that it must be purchased; if it may be effectually done without it. If any person will now by deed give a piece of land to build the hospital upon, the trustees might build on it. So if one of the trustees will give it. Erecting does not necessarily mean building, but founding; putting it on such a foot that the end may be answered; which was not for the sake of the building, but that out of the produce these

the poor might be maintained; and a house might be hired for that purpose, as is commonly done by churchwardens. In *Gastril v. Baker*, 31 March 1747, testator's representatives brought a bill for residue of personal estate undisposed by will against the trustees, who were also executors, and who claimed it for a charity in the will in these words: "I give all the rest and residue of my estate of what nature soever to trustees, in order to and towards erecting a school for the education of poor boys in such a place, in such a manner, as the trustees should direct and appoint." It was insisted to be a lapsed legacy by the *Mortmain* act, and that erecting a school must mean buying and building. Your *Lordship* held, that erecting included the founding, and consequently the maintenance of the master; which was a different thing from the mere school-place itself: but that the end might be obtained by hiring a house, and directed accordingly; and this for ever. The master's maintenance there was included, though not expressly directed, as it is here. If this was already an established charity and actual land, but no building, and this personal estate devised in building thereon, the statute would not extend to it. This must be construed according to the common law, which is in favour of charities, and therefore strictly; so that the mere building is not within it. It naturally runs into a perpetuity, as also in the case of the school, though not so expressed by testator: the maintenance at least may be independent of the purchase of land. *Attorney General v. Meyrick* was considered as a charge on land, within the prohibitory words of the act. In *Sowerby v. Hollins*, testator desired executors in six months to settle and secure by purchase of lands or otherwise, as advised, annuity of 50*l.* to be distributed among the poor inhabitants of *Leeds*: the same objection was made: the court said, there was a latitude, and, *ut res magis valeat*, would not take from the charity that way, in which it might be done consistent with law, and ordered the fund for that to be taken out of the personal estate.

For defendant, Mrs. Farrer. This devise creates an estate tail to her by implication both as to the real and personal; and then the limitation over as to the personal is too remote, the whole vesting in her. *Love v. Windham*, Sid. 450. and *Dormer v. Beau-* *Cited in preceding case.
clere *, that notwithstanding express limitation for life, if on a general failure of issue without words to confine it to the time of the death, it carries complete ownership of personalty. There are indeed words to that effect here: but in a distinct part, not annexed to the limitation itself.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

As the plaintiff heir at law, declines to try the will as to the real, and as it is established in the ecclesiastical court as to the personal, there is nothing to determine on but the construction; and if no right appears, on which I can found a decree for the plaintiff, the bill must be dismissed: and as to any question between co-defendants or direction for the charity, though the *Attorney General* is made a party, I shall not be warranted to give any direction, nothing being now before me but the bill by plaintiff as heir and next of kin.

As to plaintiff's demands, (taking the will to be well executed, as I must now) I am of opinion against the defendant *Farrer* as to the bars insisted on both as to the real and personal. As to the real, an estate tail by implication does not arise to her: first there is an express devise for life to her; and the general rule is, that in such case that particular estate, so limited by proper, express and technical words, shall not be enlarged by any implication by subsequent words, unless that the implication is of absolute necessity to comply with the intent. It was so held in *Bamfield v. Popham*. But to exemplify the case of a necessary implication, wherever the limitation has been, as to *A.* for life, remainder to his 1st, 2d, and 3d, and perhaps 5th son in tail, and then, if he dies without issue, over; there, because testator clearly meant to establish a strict line of succession in his family, by which he meant, all the issue of his blood should take: in order that that may be complete, and the will take effect, an implication shall arise to give a remainder in tail subsequent to the precedent limitations to the 5th son, where he stooped short; because the law always prefers the answering the intent of testator to preserve the line of succession against any objection as to the power, which is incident to such estate, of suffering a recovery; because that is an incident given by law, and is an objection not so much to be relied on by the court as the construing it so as to preserve the line of succession according to the intent; which was the ground that prevailed in *Shaw v. Weigh* to reverse the judgment of *B. R.* but otherwise the court never construed these words in that manner. As to the personal estate, it is still clearer; because as to the residue thereof it is impossible to make good the limitation over without construing it in that manner. Wherever these general words, *dying without issue* are mentioned relative to personal estate, the bequest of which is limited so as properly to take place, as it is here, that may not be overturned by implication from subsequent words, the court has construed it to mean such issue as before described, to whom the gift is made;

as

as it was in *Forth v. Chapman*; where the court construed *dying without issue* in the more vulgar and popular sense, and confined it; for which the testator has also made the construction himself in this case. These objections therefore to the plaintiff's claim are not sufficient.

But as to the charity, I am of opinion, a distinction is to be made. The remainder over of the real to the charity is void; which is given up; and consequently whenever the death of devisee for life without children living at the time of her death happens, the reversion in fee will take place in the plaintiff. But as to the residue of the personal, I am of opinion, the charity must be supported; and that it is not contrary to the true intent, meaning, and construction of 9 G. 2. As to the point of the mortgage, if that objection was to hold, it would be very fatal. *Attorney General v. Meyrick* is very different; there was a specific legacy of the whole personal estate, not given by way of residue; and the mortgage particularly by name, which the trustees particularly claimed; and it seems (for I do not enter into the point now) agreeable to that case of papists, who are not capable of taking a mortgage. Here is no part of the personal estate given specifically; nothing but the residue which will remain after payment of the debts, funeral expences, and legacies; which may exhaust the whole of these mortgages, supposing any such; which does not appear: so that it cannot now be said, that there will be one shilling of the money arising on the mortgage applicable to this charity; *residue* implying nothing specific, only the balance of an account after debts, &c. which is not yet known until administered by the executors, in whom the whole residue vests: or the executors may turn the mortgage into money, and the trustees can pray nothing against them but the balance of an account. The other way of construing this residue would be much too large, and make these bequests so uncertain, that the act of parliament might be as well made, that no personal estate shall be given. The question then comes on the construction of the bequest in general; to which it is objected for plaintiff, that this residue is given in fact to be applied in purchase of land, or part of it at least, contrary to the statute; that the court would not have made another construction before the statute, and consequently ought not now; but I am of opinion, this was not then, nor is now, a necessary construction. As to the construction of this clause, it comes very near to the case of a school; for a school imports, there should be some place, in which the children should be taught; for it cannot mean, it should be *sub dio*. So does an hospital import some place, in which these people should be entertained. There is no direction in this will, that any part of this money should be laid out in building an hospital; for *erect* as well imports foundation as building; and therefore was it so construed in the case of the school;

Residue of personal devised in trust to erect an hospital, not within Mortmain act.

school; and so is *erigimus* construed in charters of the crown and private foundations. It is said, if this case had come before the court before the making this statute, the court would have directed part to be laid out in land and building on it, and part in land for endowment and maintenance thereof: perhaps it would be so: it is therefore inferred, the court cannot make a different construction to evade the statute: and for that a case was cited, where I was not warranted to make an alteration in marshalling assets to evade this statute. I own, I was not. I am of opinion, the court cannot lay down a different rule of law or equity in respect of the rights of the parties to take a case out of the provision of this statute: but that is a very different thing from the manner of executing a charity. The carrying the directions of a will for performance of a charity into execution is different from the other. Now before this statute it would be in the pleasure of the court to have directed this money to be laid out in land or personal securities, the funds: and the court did then frequently direct to lay out money, given to a perpetual charity, in the funds, and not in lands, where the will did not direct to be laid out in land; as this does not. Sir *Joseph Jekyl* has done it; for he took it to be in discretion of the court: and the court has done it since in the case of money given or collected in a person's life to a charity; which there is no restraint in this statute from laying out in land: notwithstanding that the court sees, this goes so near to the mischief, intended to be remedied by the statute, that the court will not direct it to be laid out in land, but the funds: and, I believe, on that ground, that though by this statute it was lawful to do it, yet, as it was contrary to the tenor of it, I varied a direction given by Sir *William Fortescue*, late *Master of the Rolls*. As therefore this will has not given direction for laying out this in land, before the statute, it would be in the power of the court to direct it either way, and since the statute to direct it one way, the funds, the court ought to do so; for there is nothing in this statute prohibiting the giving personal estate to charity, provided it is not to be laid out in land; and the words of the statute are applied to improvident alienations to disinherit of their heirs. If a large personal estate is left to trustees for a charitable use, which they direct, and there is no occasion to come to a court of equity for direction, there is nothing in this statute restraining the trustees from laying out that in land; because by the express proviso all purchases to take effect in possession are good notwithstanding this act of parliament; which is a matter may perhaps want a remedy. If indeed these trustees were to come to this court for an establishment, I should never direct it to be so laid out in land. I have been of that opinion in every cause before me; and shall continue so, while I sit here: but there is nothing illegal disabling the trustees from privately doing it; because the statute makes good all purchases, &c. But it is said, two purposes are to be answered: one

one the erecting, the other the maintenance of the persons: and that, supposing the court should take it in the latitude, I now do, as to the endowment and provision for the poor, that may be answered by putting it out on the funds; yet the hospital cannot be without a building; that land should be bought for that; and the plaintiff ought to have the benefit of so much as the master should think the value. I wish I could come at that for this plaintiff; who is as much, or more perhaps, an object of charity, than any of these people, who may come into this hospital. It is unfortunate: but yet I must go according to such rules, as will hold in other cases. Suppose this happened before the statute, would it have been of necessity, any part of this money should be laid out in land to build an hospital? If the trustees had come before the court, and laid a scheme, that a certain person would give a piece of ground to build this upon, it might be done; the court would have accepted it: or if they had said, there were in *York* several charitable foundations belonging to the city, and they would let them build thereon for this hospital, the court would undoubtedly have accepted it. Nay they might have said, they would take a house in *York* for that purpose: there is nothing in this statute restraining the giving money to build. It is lawful notwithstanding to give money to build a church. Suppose the universities had stood under the same disability, as laid on other charities: money might notwithstanding be given to erect a chapel or hall, or add a building to a college. That is to be executed at once; it locks up no more land: one may give money to add to the buildings of any hospital in *London*. Nothing therefore in this statute restraining testator from doing what he has done with his personal estate: it is a mere surplus of personal estate given to, what I construe, founding an hospital; in the foundation of which the trustees cannot under direction of this court, lay out in purchase of land, but may by hiring a house in *York*, or by permission in building on a common piece of ground belonging to the city; which is for the benefit of the city. The act of parliament meant to leave persons to dispose of personal estate for a perpetual charity: but meant to prevent the great mischief of giving land for that, or money to be laid out in land; as that would lock up land from being used in a commercial way; which would be a detriment to the publick. The clause of the purchases in the statute, I very well know, was put in relative to *Q. Anne's* bounty; and, whether that may want a remedy hereafter, may be a question.

The bill must be dismissed: but without costs.

N. His Lordship observed, that the legal estate is made void by the act of parliament, which operates like the popery acts.

VOL. II.

C c c

Peacock

Case 60.

Peacock *versus* Monk, Feb. 27, 1750-1.Baron and
Feme.

MRS. *Lestock* having purchased a real estate in a house in the life of her husband, Admiral *Lestock*, and devised it in his life, the question was, whether it could pass thereby, she being a *feme covert* at making her will and her death?

Another question was, as to an account prayed of what she received out of her husband's estate?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

After death of husband and wife, her representatives not to account for money received during coverture, whether she had separate estate or not; unless a special case made.

As to the account prayed, there is no difference between the case of a wife who has a separate estate of her own by agreement before marriage, and a wife who has not, as to an account sought of money come to the hands of the wife during coverture: that is in general; for I do not say, but a case may be made for that: and it would be difficult, especially in the case of a seafaring man who left every thing to his wife's management, if there should be such a difference: for it is common, that by agreement between husband and wife she has some separate estate left for her disposal, as pin-money, which she may not only use, but by the contract may dispose of what arises out of her pin-money, as a *feme sole*: then if after the death of husband and wife her representatives may be called to account for whatever she received during coverture, it might be impossible to have such account taken. If indeed a special case had been made, that such a wife had clandestinely possessed herself of gross sums belonging to the husband, which she endeavoured to cover by her having her separate estate, it might be otherwise: but no such case has been laid before me, nor any particulars of the management between the husband and wife except as to some receipts for money on notes, which was certainly received out of money belonging to the husband; and there is a letter importing that these were loans made to her to be applied for benefit of her husband; and that afterward, when she received her husband's pay, she discharged these; and the transaction imports, that she had a letter of attorney from her husband to act in that manner. Then it is impossible to take such an account, or distinguish how much of this money she applied to her husband's use, for the maintenance of him and his servants, and how much to her own use, and that after the death of the parties. The court has laid down rules to prevent such accounts between husband and wife; which it is impossible to determine according to the rights after death of the parties; as in the case of pin-money, which they never carry back beyond the year.

Account of pin money never carried back beyond the year.

As

As to the other question of the house: agreements for settling estates to the separate use of the wife on marriage are very frequent, relating both to real and personal estate. As to personal, undoubtedly, where there is an agreement between husband and wife before marriage, that the wife shall have to her separate use either the whole or particular parts, she may dispose of it by act in her life or will; she may do it by either, though nothing is said of the manner of disposing of it: but there is a much stronger ground in that case than can be in the case of real estate, because that is to take effect during life of the husband; for if the husband survives, he is intitled to the whole, and none can come into a share with the husband on the statute of distribution. Then such an agreement binds and bars the husband, and consequently bars every body. But it is very different as to real estate; for her real estate will descend to her heir at law, and that more or less beneficially; for the husband may be tenant by curtesy, if they have issue; otherwise not: but still it descends to her heir at law. Undoubtedly on her marriage a woman may take such a method, that she may dispose of that real estate from going to her heir at law; that is, she may do it without fine: but I doubt whether it can be done but either by way of trust or of power over an use. In the first instance, suppose a woman having a real estate before marriage, and either before or after marriage by a proper conveyance (if after marriage it must be by fine) conveys that to trustees in trust for herself during her coverture for her separate use; and afterward that it should be in trust for such person, as she shall by any writing under her hand and seal, or in nature of a will appoint; and in default of appointment to her heirs: she marries, and makes such appointment as that described: that is a good declaration of the trust; and this court would support that trust; and it could never be a conveyance to the heir at law against this direction to the trustees. So may it be done by her by way of power over an use; as if she conveyed the estate to use of herself for life, remainder to use of such persons as she by any writing, &c. should appoint, and in default of appointment to her own right heirs: this is a power reserved to her; and it has been determined in this court, that a *feme covert* can execute a power; as in *Travel v. Travel*, and *Rich v. Beaumont*, where the *Lords* sent a c. se to *B. R.* for their opinion (which they never did before), but can a *feme covert* do this so as to bar her heir by a bare agreement without doing any thing to alter the nature of the estate? Can a woman having a real estate before marriage, in consideration of that marriage enter into an agreement with her husband, that she may by writing under her hand executed in presence of witnesses, or by will, dispose of her real estate? This rests in agreement; and if she does it, though it may bind her husband from being tenant by curtesy, that arises from his own agreement: but what is that to the heir at law? Still she is a *feme* under the disability

Wife may dispose of her separate personal estate by act in her life or will: but her real descends to her heir, unless properly conveyed; as by fine if after marriage; if before, by way of trust, or power over use; but not by bare agreement; which can only bar tenancy by curtesy; unless perhaps it is such as would be decreed to be carried into execution.

Feme covert may execute a power.

ability of coverture at the time of the act done; and if she attempts to make a will, the instrument is invalid. The only question that could arise would be, whether such an agreement between her and her husband would not give her a right to come into a court of equity after the marriage to compel that husband to carry this into execution, and to join with her in a fine to settle the estate either on such trusts, or to such and such uses? And if it is such an agreement as the court would decree to be farther carried into execution by a proper conveyance, then the question may be, whether her heir at law is not to be bound by the consequences of that agreement? But that is the only way by which it could be brought in. But if the agreement cannot be carried into execution, though she might have power to bar her husband, it being a voluntary claim from her, and the law casting the descent on her heir at law, I very much doubt how it could be done. But this is clear of both these objections; for this is not real estate, the wife had at time of the marriage; the agreement between the husband and wife is only as to such; and consequently here is not an agreement by the husband to give the wife a power to make such a disposition of real estate, she should purchase or acquire after the marriage; and therefore her will could not extend to it: for though in respect of the husband, money to be laid out in land will be considered as part of her separate estate, yet it is going a great way to say, that it shall be considered as personal as between her heir and executor; for she having made it realty, this court would say, it was in that manner; and she has purchased it so as to go to her heir; for she takes the conveyance directly of the legal estate to the use of herself and her heirs, not to trustees, and this by a subsequent act: then the legal estate vests to the use of herself and her heirs. How can a will made during her coverture prevent the descending to her heir at law? It is impossible; this being confined to such real estate as she had at time of the marriage. Consequently this house must be taken to descend to the heir at law of Mrs. *Leslock*.

At the bar was cited a case before the counsel, where a real estate of a wife was by settlement before marriage secured to her separate use, and as if she was a *feme sole*: but no power given her to devise it: and it was insisted, that as to the trust of this estate she was to be considered as if a *feme sole* in this court; and compared to personal estate the separate property of the wife, to which property it is incident, that she may make a will or appointment of it. It was said, that as to land there was a difference; for that the husband could not give her power to make a will of lands; and that the heir at law was concerned in not being disinherited but in such a way, as that she should be secretly examined: and in that way did *Willes* C. J. (who said, he

had

had consulted the other judges about it) determine, that the will was void, and the estate was claimed by *Ld. Leicester* as heir at law. It turned singly on this; that a woman, who had a real estate to her separate use, should not be in equity considered as the absolute owner of it; and that there was no precedent of it, though several as to personal: that this determination at the counsel had been the subject of a good deal of discourse; it seeming extraordinary that she should not have this in equity as incident to her ownership.

On objection to evidence in this cause, *Lord Chancellor* said, that though letters or books of an agent or servant may be read, if he is dead, they cannot otherwise; according to *The Dutcheſs of Marlborough v. Guidot*; where the *Lords* held, that the letters of *Wigmore*, though agent of *Guidot*, could not be read, because he was living, and might have been examined.

Evidence.
Letters or
books of agent
or servant, if
dead, allow-
ed.

And further, if a wife having an estate to her separate use borrows money, which she gives a bond to pay under hand, this would give a foundation to demand the money against her out of her separate estate, she being considered as a *feme sole* as to that; and the and the declarations of her, the debtor, may be read in evidence.

Wife having
separate estate,
borrows mo-
ney, her de-
clarations al-
lowed.

February 28, 1750-1.

Case 61.

MOTION in the case of *Sir Lister Holt* for liberty to re-erect a nuisance, and then to be quieted in the enjoyment of it until the hearing of the cause.

Injunction to
re-erect a nu-
sance: de-
nied.

Lord Chancellor said, he had known several of these motions made, but hardly ever knew it granted by giving express liberty to re-erect a thing pulled down. Suppose a house was built on, what was insisted upon to be, the highway; and that was pulled down: the court most certainly would not give liberty to re-erect that building. He therefore would not grant the injunction; but the utmost, he could do, was to put it in a speedy method of trial.

The general rule is, you must establish your right at law, before you bring a bill of peace.

Orr versus Kaines, March 1750-1.

Case 62.

At the Rolls.

BILL for satisfaction of a legacy out of assets against representatives of executor; who, though living several years after death

death of testatrix, never exhibited an inventory, and had paid the whole of all the other legacies. Defendants admitted assets of the executor; and it came on upon the Master's report.

Executor not exhibiting inventory, and having without difficulty paid all legacies but one; evidence of assets for that.

Inventory not conclusive to executor on variation of circumstances.

Legatee, paid voluntarily by executor, not obliged to refund to the rest, unless executor becomes insolvent.

Sir *John Strange* held these circumstances a foundation to say, he had given evidence of a receipt of assets against himself sufficient to answer this legacy as well as the rest, and the interest. Not exhibiting an inventory, which every executor ought, especially in a deficient estate, as an imputation upon him, whereas no laches can in this case be imputed to plaintiff in not calling on him. This, though not conclusive evidence, always inclines the court to bear harder on an executor, because he may at any time relieve himself by an inventory, if he finds the estate deficient. He is admitted both at law, on plea of *plene administravit*, and on account of assets here to shew, that the money, for which by solemn inventory on oath he has charged himself, has by accident, as perhaps failure of some great merchant in the city, not come to his hands: so that its not being finally binding is one reason why he ought to exhibit an inventory. Next, every executor ought, after debts and funeral-expences, to see what remains for legatees; and, if not enough for all, should apprise them, and pay all in proportion: whereas his paying the rest without difficulty within the year is the strongest evidence against him. The rule, of which there are several cases in *Eq. Abr.* is, that whenever an executor pays a legacy, the presumption is, he has sufficient to pay all legacies; and the court will oblige him, if solvent, to pay the rest, and not permit him to bring a bill to compel the legatee, whom he voluntarily paid, to refund: although if the executor proves insolvent, so that there is no other way, the court will admit a bill by the other legatees to compel that legatee to refund. But this is the case of a solvent executor, whose representatives admit assets: it is impossible therefore for plaintiff to have satisfaction against any one but the executor, who has acted so, as that the court will presume them to have received assets sufficient for this demand.

Case 63.

Targus versus Puget, March 1, 1750-1.

At the Rolls.

Trust-money in marriage articles in power of the court, and construed against the words for sake of the intent, by supplying the words, if wife should die without issue.

UPON a treaty of marriage the parties agreed, that, as the intended wife was intitled to 1250 *l.* the husband, who by a former wife had issue living, should out of his substance advance 1250 *l.* to add and settle both together; therefore the wife's mother as executrix of her husband, who had left his estate in distinct proportions between this and another daughter, advances to the trustees 1250 *l.* the husband does the same; and both are laid out in government securities

securities in name of the trustees. The first declaration of the trust, that from and after the marriage the trustees to permit husband to receive all the dividends and profits arising from this sum during the joint lives of himself and wife: if the husband should die first without leaving any child of the marriage, the wife to have the 2500 *l.* transferred to her within a month after his decease: but if the husband should die first leaving issue of the marriage, instead of the trustees transferring the 2500 *l.* to her, she should have it only for life, for her own support and maintenance of her children: but if the children afterward died in life of the mother, her right of having the whole in the first instance on death of her husband without issue should revive: *if on the contrary she should die before the husband, she shall be at liberty to dispose of by will or other writing under hand and seal 500 l. to be levied out of the capital, for such person as she should think fit, and in default of appointment to her mother, if her mother survived her; if her mother did not survive, to her sister; and all the surplus of the capital should belong to the husband to dispose of it at his will and pleasure. The wife had a prospect of something coming from France; and by a distinct article, independent of the rest, whatever came to her that way, she should have the absolute disposal of it for the children.*

The wife died in life of the husband leaving a son and daughter: one of the defendants, the wife's sister, claimed the 500 *l.*

For plaintiff. This is a case of trust-money and of the construction of articles executory; so that the court has a latitude to construe according to the real intent; which was to provide for the wife and issue of the marriage, and to put it out of power of the parties to defeat the issue; and absurdity will follow, should they not be provided for in either event of the husband or wife dying first. *Spalding v. Spalding*, Cr. C. 185. *Kentish v. Newman*, 1 Will. 234. and in *Coriton v. Hellier*, 10 Aug. 1745 on devise of a term for ninety-nine years, L. C. supplied the words, *if he so long live*; for that, being the case of a trust, a court of equity had more power to mold it according to the intent, if it could be picked out by any part of the instrument.

For defendant. The words of the deed ought to be abided by, and defendant intitled to this money. In *Hardwood v. Wallis* by Sir William Fortescue, late Master of the Rolls, previous to marriage the premises were agreed to be settled on intended husband for life, remainder to wife for life, remainder to first, &c. son in tail male; remainder to all and every daughters of that marriage. Instructions were given to an attorney to draw the settlement, who drew it as far as the limitation to the sons in tail male, where he stopped, and said, then go on as in *Pippin v. Ekins*; which was a precedent, he delivered

delivered to his clerk to go on from that limitation, and was a right settlement on the issue male and daughters by that wife: but the clerk drew the settlement to all the daughters of the husband without restraining it to that marriage: it was executed with this mistake: the plaintiff the only daughter of that marriage: the husband by a second wife left a son and four daughters, the defendants. It was insisted, that the letting in the daughters of the second marriage would make the first wife a purchaser for them or other successive wives to destruction of the interest of her only child: the draught of the attorney was proved, and the settlement in *Pippin v. Ekins*: but the court would not admit parol evidence of the attorney to be read, and held, that the other evidence would not do; that nothing appearing in writing under hands of the parties, the settlement could not be altered: though there was as much more manifest mistake than in the present. The court cannot give a right, though they may find it by construction: here is nothing farther to be done, they cannot be called or considered as articles. The trust itself is indeed to be executed: but executory only means temporary articles made before marriage: nor are there any minutes or draught here to amend by. This is therefore only matter of construction of this deed: and not like *Kentish v. Newman*; the report of which is grounded on circumstances. The court never puts a different construction, but where there is something express for that on the doubtful words, or where there must be a direct and absolute contradiction on the face of the articles, or some strong implication from the expression of the deed without which it would be uncertain: but never inserts words merely from a guess at the intent.

Sir John Strange.

We must examine, first whether the court can be satisfied what was the intent? Next whether it is in the power of the court to direct an execution of this trust, so as to square with and answer that; both which must be determined in favour of the plaintiff to intitle to relief prayed? If the latter part of the provision is to be taken literally according to the express words, it is to go away from the children of the marriage, all of it. This is so unlikely to have been the intent, that it is natural to imagine, even to real conviction, that there is a mistake in the wording, and that the intent was plain to provide for the issue of the marriage in either event. The words, *if on the contrary the wife dies first*, point out plainly a dying without issue; such a dying as is spoke of before: otherwise the antithesis does not hold. The court should in point of construction supply those words repeated in the former clause. The mother advances nothing of her own: the husband advances penny for penny: it is unnatural then to imagine, it was his intent, or that of the parties, that near half her fortune, 500 l. should be in her power to give away from her own children, and that even without any act by her

at

a tall ; which makes the absurdity greater ; for it is not giving her a power to dispose of it or not, to keep them obedient, but to the survivor of her mother or sister. It is not likely then, that the husband should agree to that ; though perhaps if he had nothing, or the wife a superior fortune, it might be otherwise. But it is more unlikely that the trustees of the intended wife should agree to this, that every penny of what was brought in by her should be diverted from the issue of the marriage : yet that is the consequence of the latter clause ; which is therefore explained by the former words : and must be such a *contrary* as answers the other. Nor is there any thing in the articles contradicting this : and the distinct clause as to her expectation from *France* is a plain demonstration that the benefit of the children was in the parties view throughout ; for it is not to be conceived, he would strip the children of this whole sum, and provide for them by this remote prospect. As the husband had issue by a former wife, it makes the case stronger ; as he might then give it to them, though there might be many children by the second marriage. Next, whether this is a case in which the court is warranted to say, the trustees shall transfer this money according to such intent or not ? I am satisfied, it is in power of the court to direct an execution of this trust ; and I call these executory articles, because of the absolute necessity to come into this court to have them executed. So if I was of opinion, this 500 *l.* belonged to the mother or sister : the trustees would hardly venture to transfer without it. So if the father was living, he must come into this court. This is a case then of trust-money under power of the court to direct ; and in *Kentish v. Newman* it is particularly taken notice of, that being trust-money the court had power to over it. That case seems entirely in point ; exactly the same provision ; and the reasoning of the court there strongly applicable. The persons, in whose hands it was, are not to have the money to themselves ; they are trustees for one or the other. The wife in fact never considered herself intitled to the disposal of this from her own children : it may be said, she knew where it would go if no appointment by her ; but that is rather an argument to the contrary. It is not very material in what light the husband saw this ; yet it is plain, he did not consider it as a giving him any power over this : for by his will he takes notice of it as a thing which would of right come to these children, otherwise he would have given it expressly to them ; which strongly shews what was the intent of the parties : though little weight is to be laid, except on what arises on the face of the articles themselves. Those circumstances, on which *Kentish v. Newman* was said to be grounded, are only thrown in at the end of the report by way of addition : the ground there was the intent collected from the instrument ; and the impossibility of a design to carry away from the issue of the marriage in favour of a remote relation ; and that is the present case. The sister has an equal fortune with the wife : if there had been no

children, it might be reasonable to let it be in her power to do something for her mother and sister : but never to carry it so far as to say, it was the intent, the whole should go away from the issue in that single event that has happened. The defendant therefore is not intitled under these articles to 500*l.* but the whole sum now remaining in the stock is divisible in moieties between the son and daughter.

Case 64. Lord Teynham *versus* Webb, Mar. 2, 1750-1.

Grandmother under a power creates by deed a term to commence after her death to raise money for younger children with power to father to appoint : if no children, to her own executors. A younger son become eldest excluded.

LADY STRANGFORD, having a power over an estate, created a term of five hundred years to commence after her own death for raising 300*l. per ann.* for her daughter *Elizabeth Audley* during life ; and from and immediately after the death of herself and *Elizabeth Audley*, and the survivor of them, to raise 6000*l.* to pay 5500*l.* part thereof to and among all and every child and children, sons and daughters, of Lord *Teynham* by his then wife begotten or to be begotten, except their eldest son, in such parts, shares and proportions, as the said Lord *Teynham* by any writing under hand and seal, attested by three credible witnesses, shall direct and appoint ; for want of appointment then in equal proportions share and share alike. If it should happen, that Lord *Teynham* by his wife should have but one child besides the eldest son, the said sum of money to be paid to such child ; if none except the eldest son, then to be paid to that eldest son ; if no eldest son, then to go to executors and administrators of Lady *Strangford*.

At the time of making this deed in 1710. Lord *Teynham* had but one son *Philip*, and a daughter *Mary* : but afterward had another son, the present plaintiff. Lord *Teynham* died in 1723. without having executed his power ; *Philip* died in 1727. not quite of age ; on which his younger brother the plaintiff, then about eighteen, succeeded to the honour and estate of the family. In 1729. *Mary* married Mr. *Webb*, with the privity and approbation of Lady *Strangford* and the rest of the family. Lady *Strangford* died in 1730 ; *Elizabeth Audley* in 1732.

Mr. *Webb* having given a note to pay his father 3500*l.* out of this sum, which was to be raised for his wife's portion, his wife, after her husband's death, purchased this note for 1500*l.* to which the plaintiff was proved to be privy, and to have encouraged his sister thereto, and to have assisted her in raising the 1500*l.*

The plaintiff used to receive the interest of this 5500*l.* and pay it to his sister and her husband : but now brought this bill to have a moiety of this 5500*l.* raised and paid to him with the interest thereof ; or that, if the defendant his sister had received the whole interest

rest of the whole sum, she might account to him for one moiety of that interest in consequence of his right.

For plaintiff. The first question is, at what time this portion, provided for the younger children, vested an interest in them? Three times may be considered; the death of the father, or of *Elizabeth Audley*, or at time of the term coming into possession. There is a difficulty in considering it vested at either of the latter times; therefore it shall be at death of the father, when plaintiff was clearly one of the objects, for whom this provision was made; and would be so intitled, if things had remained in that situation, although the term did not come into possession by way of raising the profits of it till after those two periods of time. The suspension of vesting was only, while the father's power of appointment continued, which ended with his death, being no longer executory or uncertain: and in this light this case is like those determined on the doctrine of reversionary terms; for, which ever way determined, the court was inclined strongly to the vesting the interest independent of the commencement of the term, 1 *Wil.* 448. 2 *Ver.* 460. Suppose the father had appointed it to be equally divided, it would have vested, and could not be divested; then it vests equally in default of appointment. There is no implication of the not attending from the plaintiff's having the inheritance as in the cases on marriage articles; for the plaintiff has not the inheritance of this estate. There is nothing in this deed, or in what happened afterward from becoming an elder son, that will divest it: nor any case where the court has said, a vested interest in a younger child shall be taken from him on his becoming an eldest. There is nothing contingent in the payment itself, but from the circumstances of the fund: the payment being only suspended for benefit of *Elizabeth Audley*. Then it is the common case of a sum to younger children, but payable at a future time: the suspension of which payment is merely on collateral consideration of the persons who were to receive the benefit of it during their lives. In *Lowther v. Condon* * the time of payment was only suspended from circumstances of the fund: yet your *Lordship* held it vested. A contingent, much more a vested, interest is transmissible. The court never takes away the benefit of a younger child's vested portion for the other children on the particular hardship or circumstances of the case; *Graham v. Lord Londonderry*, 24 Nov. 1746; where the trust of two terms was declared, if the father should have one issue male and other child or children, son or sons, daughter or daughters, to raise the following portions; if but one younger child, 5000 *l.* if two or more, 10,000 *l.* to be equally divided among them; to be paid to the sons at twenty-one, to the daughters at eighteen or marriage, which should first happen after death of the father, or otherwise at such times during his life as the father should think fit, if he thought proper to appoint it; if any younger child die before his portion be-

came

* Cited ante, in *Hodgson v. Rawlin*, Nov. 6, 1747.

came payable, it should go to the survivors, share and share alike, so as the portion of an only younger child should not exceed 5000*l.* if none lived to be intitled, it should not be raised. At the father's death there were two sons and a daughter: Lord *Londonderry* was then a younger child, but before he was twenty-one, he became eldest by death of his brother: yet your *Lordship* held, he was intitled to his portion as a younger child, it being to be taken as at death of his father: it was admitted not so vested in him at his father's death as to have it raised, and that if he died before raised, it would not be transmissible: but as he lived to twenty-one, though he became eldest before, it was originally so vested, that he was intitled to his share. In *Trafford v. Ashton*, 2 *Ver.* 660, though an eldest son was expressly excluded, another becoming eldest was intitled. *Chadwick v. Doleman*, 2 *Ver.* 528. is very different: that was an appointment by a father over his own estate: and such powers are considered in a larger sense than powers over another estate: nor will that case be extended farther. Devesting is odious in law, and unless through necessity not admitted. Several inconveniencies arise from postponing the vesting till a time after the father's death; for that will hold throughout among all the younger children; as if all, eldest and youngest, should die in life of Lady *Strangford*, it would go to her representatives; or if plaintiff's brother had lived a great while, and died but a little before *Elizabeth Audley*, plaintiff might have continued several years, his whole life perhaps, a younger child without any provision under this deed: nay even the defendant would have been in the same case; for there no other provision for younger children under the family-settlement: these difficulties prove, the intent was otherwise. As to the subsequent acts of plaintiff, supposing the evidence goes to the payment of the whole interest to defendant, no proof that plaintiff ever knew of any such provision made for him, or that he had any right to it, or that knowing his right he intended it as a gift to his sister; so that if a mistake, it cannot give away a right. The court often relieves a mistake: but will never from ignorance of a right transfer it to another.

For defendant. All arguments of favour are with the defendant; the intent being that the owner of the estate should not come into a share of this portion; which would have been stronger, if there had been more younger children: beside defendant's husband, in whose place she stands, has purchased this portion on the assurance of the whole family, and of Lady *Strangford* the giver. The plaintiff has acquiesced twenty years; and his representative might as well bring this bill a hundred years hence. The plaintiff became an eldest son, intitled under his father's settlement to the whole family-estate, before he was of an age or in circumstances to require a younger child's portion, *viz.* before twenty-one, the time of payment of such portions. The question is, whether plaintiff by this after thought is
intitled

intituled now to this money, and consequently to have all this interest refunded?

There are three lights to consider this in; in none of which can plaintiff be intituled. First as a gift out of a personal fund; because it is a sum of 6000*l.* to which Lady *Strangford* was intituled, and for want of appointment by her to go to her executors and administrators. Secondly as a gift out of land; for it is so in its nature, being a trust of a term. Thirdly as being a provision in nature of a portion, which is very singular; for there are determinations on portions, which will hold to no other.

As to the first, The distinction is well known, taken originally by the civil law, and adopted by the ecclesiastical courts in this kingdom, that where the time is annexed to the substance of the gift, if the party dies before that time, or that event never happens, he never can claim that gift: but where the time of payment is annexed only as a circumstance, as if payable at twenty-one, it is otherwise, vesting immediately and being transmissible. Here are no words of gift independent of the direction to pay; the whole gift arising from thence; so that it is inseparable from the nature and substance of it. It is a future time of payment depending on events; Lady *Strangford* could not tell who would be younger children at that time; and therefore the persons are not named; but then they must come within that description: and whoever is then eldest, is excluded. So that the plaintiff cannot claim, if this was by way of legacy; and the execution of powers are considered as wills. In *Atkins v. Hiccocks* where it was a sum of money to be paid on marriage, and there were vesting words before the marriage, it was contended, it would vest: yet on consultation with *Civilians* your *Lordship* held, that wherever money is given eventually in the consideration of giving it, if the party died before that event, he could never have it.

But considering it in the second light, as it really is, the certain rule of this court is, that wherever a sum is generally payable out of land at a future day or future event, unless the person lives to that day, or that event happens, it never can be raised, but shall sink into the estate for benefit of the inheritance, the vesting being applied to the contingency. The court alone can make a decree for raising it, the ecclesiastical court having no concurrent jurisdiction; and the rule of the civil law not taking place; this court therefore is at liberty to determine as it would in case of a legacy if no concurrent jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical court, which this was obliged to adopt: otherwise the party

might chuse his court to sue in, and vary the right accordingly. Where money is payable out of land, this court goes by the common law; considering it by way of condition or covenant to pay the money, and determines, that it shall never be raised out of land; as if it was a covenant to pay to another at his age of twenty-one, no action of covenant can be maintained, if the party dies before twenty-one, the money by the common law not being due. There is no exception to this rule; for the distinction introduced in *King v. Withers*, and allowed by your *Lordship* since, is, where there are two times of payment, one applicable to the nature of the gift and circumstances of the person, object of the bounty, the other drawn from the nature of the fund and for the sake of the convenience thereof, if the time of payment adapted to the nature of the person is come, though the other is not, it shall vest. It has been attempted to have that introduced as an universal rule in all cases: but as often denied. It is material to see Lord *Talbot's* opinion upon it, who took the distinction. In *Bradly v. Powel* he held, it could not be raised, because the party died before the day; and among other reasons that it differed from *King v. Withers* and *Broom v. Barkley*, because the only contingency was the death of the father. Again he held the same in *Bright v. Norton*, 13th July 1736, and of the same opinion has your *Lordship* always been. As in *Hall v. Terry*, *Michaemas* 1738; which was a devise to A. after the death of his wife, so as he, his heirs or assigns, should, within twelve months after the estate should come to him, pay to O. 200*l.*: O. died within the twelve months after death of the wife: your *Lordship* held, it could not be raised, because but one contingency. And in *Lowther v. Condon*, which came twice before your *Lordship*, you adhered to the same opinion: there were two times of payment, twenty-one or marriage: he married: and it was urged on this distinction: your *Lordship* decreed for the plaintiff there: but said, that where there was but one time of payment, before which the party died, the cases had been, that it should not be raised. This shews, it is too much in taking it for granted, that, if the plaintiff had died a younger child before the time of payment, it would have gone to his representative. Here is but one contingency singly after the death of two persons; the description, and consequently the capacity, never happens; and nothing to hinder the court from judging according to the common law.

Tal. 117.

Tal. 193.

Cited ante.
Hodgson v.
Rarison.

But to consider it in the third view, here is a grandmother, who knew the settlement made on her daughter's marriage with the late Lord *Teynham*, and that it was a settlement of the whole estate on the eldest son for the time being, without any provision for the younger children, although she brought a fortune of

12000*l.* which unaccountable defect she had a mind to remedy in some degree, but could not do it completely; for if it had been a provision in a marriage-settlement for portions, maintenance would be directed for the younger children after death of the father; so that she did it in some degree, but still leaving it in some measure to Lord *Teynham*. Then although it is not by a father or mother, it is by a parent, and under particular circumstances, and in nature of a portion to a younger child as younger in exclusion of the elder son as elder. Then a greater latitude is exercised by the court in determination of portions, and all the consequences of them, than is to be applied to any other cases. On this ground the court implies a construction from the nature of the gift, as Lord *Talbot* says, in *King v. Withers*, different from and contrary to the words; nay that, which is not expressed in the words. There is no arguing from the case of portions to any other whatever. A younger child does not in propriety of speech include the first branch: and yet the eldest daughter is always a younger child, where there is a question of portions, from the nature of the gift, not from the construction of language. 1 *Wil.* 244, 448. First born, and eldest son, are synonymous: yet no doubt but a tenth son may become the eldest as between him and his sisters. The court frequently puts a reasonable meaning on the words; sometimes postponing, sometimes inserting, words; but this case does not want either. Eldest and youngest are often in deeds and wills understood in a sense, they cannot strictly bear, to answer the general intent. In *Duke v. Doidge*, (a) 22d April 1746, a collateral relation meant

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(a) *Duke v. Doidge*, (from Mr. Noel) was to this effect. *Richard Doidge* by deed in 1706, limited lands (which were settled on him and his eldest son *Richard* and their heirs) after their deaths without issue male to the use of their executors for 1500 years in trust, that if *Thomas Doidge* should at commencement of said term have more sons than one, or one only and one Elder son un- or more daughters, out of the rents and profits or by mortgage or sale, to raise for the portions provided for of all and every son or sons, and daughter or daughters of *Thomas*, such sum, not exceeding by collateral 1500*l.* as the survivor of said *Richard* the elder and younger should by writing, &c. or by relations con- sidered as a will appoint; and in default thereof to raise 1500*l.* for the portion and portions of such sons considered as a and daughter equally to be divided, payable at the end of six months after commencement younger. of said term: but if no such younger children be living at commencement of the term, or if the person next in remainder intitled to the inheritance should pay such portions, or the same should be raised, the said term should be surrendered; and from and after determination of said term to the use of such son of *Thomas* as *Richard* the elder and younger, or survivor of them, should by deed or will appoint, in tail male, and for want of such issue or appointment to the use of the first and of every other son of *Thomas* successively in tail male; and for want of such issue to right heirs of *Richard* the elder. *Richard* the elder, and *Thomas* died in life of *Richard* the younger; who by deed in 1716 appointed after determination of said term to use of *Richard* third son of *Thomas* and heirs-male of his body, directing that he should be the son of *Thomas*, who should first take, with power to revoke said appointment; and in 1732 dies without issue, and without revoking, or making appointment of any sum for younger children of *Thomas*. The issue of *Thomas* living at commencement of said term were three sons and one daughter, *George*, *Robert*, the said *Richard*, and *Anne*. The bill was by *George* the eldest; and the question, whether he was intitled to a share of this 1500*l.* as a younger child?

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to make a provision for younger children, those who wanted that provision as not having the estate: your *Lordship* there considered eldest as youngest, *et c contra* from the nature of the gift; which is a strong instance: nor is the construction confined to portions from a parent. Another head, on which the court has taken great latitude, is the death of a child before the portion wanted; implying from the nature of portions that a man would not burthen the estate; which is to support the honour and name, for the sake of administrators, who could not want portions; and therefore that they should not be raised, though the words were strong for vesting; as in *Tournay v. Tournay*, and *Bruen v. Bruen*, both cited by Lord *Talbot* in *King v. Withers*; in which cases if it was any other thing than a portion, as if a legacy out of a mixed fund, it would be raisable. On the same ground is *Warr v. Warr*, *Eq. Ab.* 268, though interest given in mean time, that will not make it raisable in case of portions; as held by your *Lordship* in *Boycot v. Cotton*, 24th of November 1738; though it would in every other case. This latitude, the court rightly exercises, is not arbitrary; it is the more effectually to get at the meaning of the parties, to save it from blunders, and do justice; as that intent would be defeated, if the court did not imply a great deal from the nature of the thing. In a question between administrator of a dead child and the heir of the family, the court leans in favour of the heir, not of a stranger. Between an eldest son and younger children, the eldest having the estate, the court leans in favour of the younger; because if the eldest takes a share with them, it is through mistake, and not from intent; and on that inclination is *Doleman v. Chadwick* to be supported; for that seems a strong determination, and would hardly hold in any other given case than that of portions; because there was an absolute appointment, whereby it is vested; and no power reserved to appointor to controul that appointment, and con-

Per Cur. No question, but where a provision is made by a father either by will or settlement for younger children, an elder unprovided for shall be deemed such; and the ground is, that every branch shall be provided for, the court not considering the words *elder* or *younger*. Suppose this had been by marriage settlement, on the authority of the cases cited, he would have taken as a younger child; and no distinction between marriage-settlements in such a case as this, and where the settlement is by will or voluntary deed, where the provision has moved from a parent. The next question is, whether any difference, where the settlement is made by a father's brother to a collateral relation, a nephew, &c. and it is manifest, that the brother, old *Richard*, meant to provide for all the branches of his family, and that every child of his brother *Thomas* should have some provision. The difficulty arises on the introducing the word *younger*. It is rightly observed, that in the former parts the contingency is, if he should have more sons than one; which is, more than one who should have the estate. *Younger*, as a relative word without any antecedent, is to be rejected, and the same as if it was to such sons as shall be over and above one. No case comes up to this: yet they all are, that every child except the heir is considered in equity as a younger; and that eldership not carrying the estate along with it is considered not such an eldership as shall exclude by virtue of such clauses: and it would be hard, that the right of eldership should be taken away, and yet not have benefit of it as a younger child.

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frequently according to *Hele v. Bond* in the *House of Lords* it is irrevocable as well as any other deed: but it is allowed, because it was a case of portions. It appears to be well thought of and well argued, and has received a sanction in *Jermyn v. Fellows* from Lord Talbot, *Tal. 93.* who without impeaching distinguishes another case from it. It goes a great way; and it is not necessary for the defendant to contend for so much: but it is strong to shew, that the court says, the condition is annexed to the capacity of the taker; which if he does not answer at the payment, he shall not take. The present plaintiff became eldest, long before it was payable, and before he wanted the portion of a younger child; and if he had become eldest when a mere infant, it could not surely be the intent, that he should have a share of this portion. If the competition should be not between the eldest son and younger children, but between the eldest and himself, that would be a different consideration; which was Lord Londonderry's case; where the question was only, whether it should sink into the estate; and the reason why it should not, was from the words of the settlement; and no room to imply any thing from the nature of the portion; for the sister was not at all affected by it. That case was governed on particular reasons. In *Lomax v. Ante. Holmden*, 22d July 1749, your Lordship held, first son meant such as should be eldest at death of testator; and the second in birth came within that description. In *Bright v. Norton* there were two daughters-objects of the trust: yet because but one then alive, that one should take the whole as an only daughter: whereas, if that other had lived to the time when the trust-money was to be paid, it would be otherwise. As to the inconveniencies objected, allowing them in full force, the answer is, that the parties apply their provisions to probabilities, not to possibilities. It was improbable, the children should be married, or arrive to a great age during life of those two old women: but, taking it in the strongest light, it is but *Casus omisus*; which is no reason, it should be construed contrary to the intent. That does not hurt an act of parliament; as the legislature might not have it in view. So *Lady Strangford* might not have this in view: otherwise would have provided for it. As to the objection from the death of all the children in life of *Lady Strangford* whether it would go to her or her representatives, the same inconvenience would arise in the event, to which the plaintiff refers the vesting; for if they had all died in life of the father, it would have gone back in the same way, because nothing vested till death of *Lady Strangford*. This case is only saying, if any of the younger children should come to be an eldest son, before the time should happen, he should not have it; which, if it had been so in terms, would have been approved of; so that there is no absurdity in it: and people often now insert a clause of that kind, going

into the language of the court in modern settlements: and so the family understood it, though they did not precisely pen it so. Suppose an estate to *A.* for life, &c. in strict settlement, remainder to *B.* till *A.* has a son, *B.*'s is a real vested remainder, which he can convey as such, and join in a recovery of it: and yet when a son is born, it is divested, and that recovery defeated. So that it is not its vesting, and going to representatives shall prevent divesting; which, though said to be odious, is not unknown in the law; for it happens in every marriage-settlement almost; as in the limitation to all and every child it vests, and divests on the birth of other children.

But supposing the first question doubtful, the subsequent transactions are enough for the court to lay hold on from the family's settling this doubt; *Lady Strangford* being privy to defendant's marriage had on foundation of this portion, and full consideration given for it. That indeed will not bind the right of plaintiff then an infant: but yet, possessed of all the family-estate, out of which his sister has nothing, it would be hard to resort to the rigid right. Then a little evidence would be sufficient to shew the plaintiff did not intend to have this: but he has acquiesced twenty years, and that not silently; being the hand by which the interest was paid to his sister and her husband, and procured her to pay the composition. Where one persuades another to buy an estate, on which he has a mortgage, he will be postponed. The only answer is, that plaintiff knew not his own right: that should be proved. Ignorance of fact will excuse, ignorance of law will not. The mistake must appear clearly, and be shewn how discovered. It will be presumed, if he knew his right, he meant to give it to his sister out of natural affection. The fact he must know, and then will be presumed to know the law. He must have known his family-settlement, that his sister has thereby no portion, and must have asked how she came intitled to that portion. The bill was but in 1749; and the court leans extremely against demands after such acquiescence; on which the court lays more or less stress according to the nature of the thing and circumstances.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is to be considered on two parts of the case. First on the construction of the declaration of the trust of the term: next on the subsequent transactions, which are insisted on as a waiver or acquiescence on part of the plaintiff.

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The first is the principal; it is material to determine the rights of the parties, admits of a large field of argument, and has been argued so as to take in a great variety of cases and determinations in this court. It is certain the head of portions, or any other provision for children especially younger children, admits of a greater variety of determinations here, and of judgment on circumstances, than perhaps any other head; but in the present case it is not necessary to enter into all that. Though I cannot say this is absolutely free from difficulty, yet, on the best consideration and attention, I am of opinion, the plaintiff is not intitled in equity to have this money raised for his benefit. As to the first head of cases relating to legacies by will out of the personal estate, and the rules of the ecclesiastical court in determinations of cases on legacies, (which this court follows on legatory cases) they are all inapplicable to the present, which has no relation to it; being a case arising not on a will, having nothing testamentary in it, but on a deed, on the trust of a term, the construction and execution of it in this court. Next also, the rules laid down and established in this court as to sums of money by way of portion or provision for children charged on land sinking into the estate, these cases and rules are not applicable; because in respect of the present parties, and the rights they claim, I am of opinion, this must not be considered as a sum of money charged on land. As to that point wherever this question has arisen, it has been between the owner of the land and inheritance, and the person claiming the benefit of the charge; and in all those cases, if the claimant of the money has died, before the time of payment has come, or the contingency happened, it sinks ^{Where a} into the estate, in favour of the owner of the inheritance of that ^{charge sinks} estate. But the subject matter of the present consideration is a ^{into the estate.} sum of money which must in all events be raised out of the estate; for if none of the objects should be in being, it should not sink into the estate, but be raised for the executors of Lady *Strangford*, who had a power over this estate, and created the term: so that the contest is between persons claiming the interest of this as a chattel interest, and not with the owner of the inheritance subject to the charge: this therefore is out of those cases.

The question then remaining is, when this sum of 5500 l. according to the terms shall absolutely vest to all intents and purposes? First this I must observe (which is a material part of the case, and used as an argument on both sides, but cannot be an argument for the plaintiff,) viz. that here is no particular time mentioned in the deed, at which it is to vest, not twenty-one or marriage; and that distinguishes it from *Butler v. Duncomb*; in ^{1 Will. 448.} which according to *Peere Williams* (where it is correctly reported) the

the vesting before the commencement arose from those words payable at twenty-one or marriage: but there being no such words here, it is left at large, and must arise from construction. The question is then, at what time it is to vest? Four times may be mentioned for that: first the time of the execution of the deed; for children were in being at that time: secondly, the time of commencement of the term in possession, the death of Lady *Strangford*: thirdly the death of the father: fourthly after the death of Lady *Strangford* and *Elizabeth Audley*, when the money was to be raised and paid.

Vesting not
suspended by
power to ap-
point.

Ante, 26th
November
1750.

The plaintiff has supposed this could not possibly be vested at any time before the death of the father by reason of the power of the father. Now I do not know that that necessarily follows; for it might be taken to be vested in some person or other subject to his power of varying the proportions, it being to all the children, not to such as he should appoint; for if it had been so, it would be necessarily suspended, and nothing could have vested, till he had executed his power; which differs it from the late case of *The Duke of Marlborough v. Lord Godolphin*; therefore I do not see, (though I give no absolute opinion on it) that it necessarily follows that it is to be suspended till the time of the death of the father: for his power would operate over it notwithstanding.

Limitations
devesting to
answer occa-
sions and in-
tent.

Tal. 228,

But can the time of vesting be absolutely at the time of the execution of this deed? There is one thing, the plaintiff's counsel have said, which would make the construction relate to that; for it is said, that *eldest son* means eldest in being at the time of making this deed: if so, why should not also *younger children* relate to the execution of the deed? Why should one be confined thereto more than the other? If then it is not to relate to that, the true construction must be a continuing eldest son at some period of time running on farther. To construe this to relate to the time of the execution of the deed, and to vest then, would be absurd, and plainly defeat the intent, which was to take in all the younger children of her daughter: but to shew the uncertainty of vesting in cases of this kind, suppose more younger children living than one, and it could have vested, it would be subject to divest: and it is truly said for defendant, that in all limitations whether of real or personal estate, if it does vest in the first born, on the birth of others it divests in order to answer purposes of families and intent of the parties: and in *Stevens v. Stevens*, there was a great confusion of that interest: and yet *B. R.* on a case made for that court held, it might be to answer the purposes and occasions.

As to the next time of vesting, the commencement of the term in possession, was it to vest in the children in being at that time? It is out of *Butler v. Duncomb*; because in that case there was a particular time, twenty-one or marriage, which the court held necessary to compel the vesting at that time; nothing of which is in the present: but it would be a strange construction to say, it should be absolutely vested to all intents, whenever the term happened to commence by death of *Lady Strangford*; for she might have died in life of both father and mother: should it vest in the younger children at that time? Other younger children might be born afterward, who certainly should not be excluded, but be let in by divesting: but should any part of it be vested at that time? The consequence would be contrary to the intent of the parties: viz. that if any of those younger children in being at time of the commencement of the term had died in life of the father, the share of that child would have gone to that father, who would have taken all personal rights vested in that younger child: consequently it would take out of the provision intended for the younger children, and give it to the father; which is strong against construing this absolutely vested at time of the commencement.

As to the third time, plaintiff insists it shall absolutely vest in the younger children at time of the death of the father, and never divest. Consider the consequence of that: the father might die leaving a wife and children, some of them very young; and if this was so absolutely vested in them, on the death of any of tender years, the mother must have shared with the surviving children, and the money would be raised to the prejudice of the survivors for benefit of the representative. That would be contrary to *Bruen v. Bruen*, and to *Tournay v. Tournay*, where no time was mentioned, yet as the child died before the time it could want a portion, and this was intended as a portion, it should not be raised for the representative of that child. This mischief would happen, if it vested at death of the father.

Portions not to be raised for representative of child dying before he wanted it.

As to the next point of time, contended for on the part of defendant, for the vesting when the money was to be raised; and therefore compared to cases of legacies, where there are no other words of gift or legatory words but the direction to raise and pay (as it is here) and that it cannot vest before, being a gift at that time only; now I think, there may be a good deal of inconvenience in saying, that to no purpose or in no manner it should vest until that time; for if all the younger children had died in the life of *Elizabeth Audley*, who might have lived a good while, and it was never to vest until then, it would have gone absolutely to the eldest son; and though a younger child had married, and wanted its portion ever so much, according to that doctrine that child would be entirely defeated of

its portion and provision, though married and left children: nay that inconvenience might have fallen on defendant herself, for then if she had died before *Elizabeth Audley*, and though her husband relied on this portion, her family could have no benefit of it, and it would have gone to the elder son.

Then it is necessary for the court to take a middle way in the construction of this declaration of trust and in respect of the vesting, if the court can find it out. I will say once for all, notwithstanding this is a voluntary provision for younger children by a grandmother, not by a father on marriage-settlement, yet I must construe this provision as the court will do provisions by settlement on marriage of the father and mother of such younger children; for it was plainly so considered by the parties themselves; and with this view probably they trusted to her making a provision for the younger children; and she did it: but did it as a parent providing for the younger children of her daughter, who were so nearly descended from herself: and a grandmother in this court is often considered as a parent. If then it is to receive the same construction, what is the middle way to avoid all the inconveniencies and many absurdities which would arise from construing this money absolutely vested at any of these times? The same that was taken by Lord Cowper in *Doleman v. Chadwick*; which is the true way to avoid them. It is a very strong authority, and the arguments properly urged there; for it appears to have been liberally argued and fully considered, and was considered as an authority by Lord Talbot; for he does not object to, or attempt to weaken it. Lord Cowper went plainly on this: he found it established by the precedents and authorities of this court, that the words *younger children* had received a prodigious latitude of construction to answer the occasions of families and intent of the parties, often construing an eldest daughter to be a younger child: that is carrying the words very much out of the natural into a foreign and remote sense to answer the intent: and he found it determined, that an only daughter, though not younger in comparison with another, should be considered as a younger child, where a provision was made for younger children and no other provision, and the estate limited to go over: and there have been cases, where a younger son becoming an eldest under certain circumstances has been considered as an eldest to exclude him from the benefit of the portion, and therefore the rule laid down by Lord Harcourt in *Beal v. Beal* has been, that younger children shall be considered such, as do not take the estate, are not the head and representative of the family: Lord Cowper, having found this, from thence inferred a tacit condition, that the capacity of being a younger son should continue, until the time of payment came, and therefore made that determination, though the father had actually executed his power. Taking it *in abstracto* merely as

A latitude of construction to words younger children. Such as are not head of the family, take not the estate. The capacity to continue until time of payment, whether the power of appointment executed or not.

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an execution of a power, it could not possibly be maintained upon the general rules; for the rule of law is, that if a power is given to be executed, and is once executed in life of the party, and no power of revocation reserved, it cannot be revoked and executed anew: it was so held in *Hele v. Bond* and other cases: but the ground Lord Cowper went on, was, that the continuing of the capacity to the time of the provision taking effect in point of payment, was a tacit or implied condition going along with the appointment. Now suppose, the father had executed his power in his life, appointing so much of this money to the plaintiff, so much to his sister, and to the rest if he had more children; and afterward the plaintiff by the death of his elder brother in the father's life had become eldest; and the father had executed a new appointment among those, he thought, remained younger after that: that would have been directly good within this authority of *Doleman v. Chadwick*; for it is impossible to say, the first appointment should take place, and the second not, consistent with this authority; which has stood, and so far allowed in *Jermyn v. Fellows*. Now how does the present case differ from that? For if this construction of the power being executed *sub modo* and the tacit condition is to be implied in the execution of the power, it must be implied in the direction in default of appointment, there being no difference between the one and the other, the objects being the same: the younger children cannot be construed to mean one thing in case of default of appointment, and one thing in the execution of the power: it must be the same meaning in both: it follows equally, in the direction of what is to be done, and who is to take in default of execution. And though what Lord Cowper did, looks like taking a great latitude, and struck one at first, yet on consideration it was a very reasonable construction, made to answer the intent of the parties and avoid inconveniencies and absurdities, agreeable to the general grounds of the court in construing the words *younger children*, in which a greater latitude is taken to answer the intent; for if Lady *Strangford*, at the time of making this deed, had been asked, if she meant, that a younger son becoming an elder, and having the estate, should have part of this, she would have said *no*. It was truly said, that in modern settlements people have been so cautious as frequently to insert a clause and condition, that if any one of the younger children, provided for by the trust of that term, came to be eldest, his share of the portion should go over exactly agreeable to the reasoning of Lord *Macclesfield* in *Butler v. Duncomb*. This is very different from Lord *Londonderry's* case, which has been truly stated; for there no contest was between him and his sister, but between him and his own estate, he having been a younger child at the death of his father, and now come to have the settled estate: there was no person before the court to oppose it: nor was it much argued. The court, on consideration that there had been many cases,

Power, without revocation reserved, once executed, not to be revoked and executed anew.

in which a man had come to be owner of an estate subject to a charge for the benefit of the same person, where the court considered the estate and the charge to be different things, and directed the charge to be raised for his benefit, did it in that case; and particularly on this ground; that in the conclusion of the declaration of trust of that term there were particular clauses, on which the trust thereof should cease, and this was none of them; and therefore, as there was none concerned to dispute it, directed it to be raised: but it may hereafter perhaps be a question between Lord *Londonderry* and his eldest son, if that son should dispute it. On the first point therefore I am of opinion, that the construction on the trust of this term, according to the intent of the parties and the authority of *Doleman v. Chadwick*, is with the defendant, and, I will repeat it again, what I principally rely on is, as to that case, that there is no sound distinction between construing that tacit condition of the continuance of the capacity of a younger son in the execution of appointment of the power and in default thereof.

Infants may be bound, if consent of their right: as where tenant in tail aged nineteen ingrosses a mortgage of the estate.

But if this is strong, the subsequent transactions are very material. As to the marriage of defendant, the plaintiff being then an infant, and not at all, as far as appears by the evidence, consent of or encouraging it, nothing of that can bind him. It is an aggravation of the hardship of the case; but if people mistake their right, and accept a conveyance, or security, or sum of money with their eyes open, it cannot be helped. The plaintiff was then nineteen years of age; and if he had been privy to the transaction, unless he had been clearly ignorant of his right, it might have affected him; for there are cases, wherein an infant may be bound. There was a case, where an infant of nineteen years old was an issue in tail, and ingrossed a mortgage-deed of that estate; the court held, that act would exclude him, and would not suffer him to dispute that by reason of concealing his right. But the next transaction is such, as is a strong affirmation of the right; for though it is a composition on the part of defendant's husband with his father, it is a composition of the whole sum; and the 3500 *l.* exceeded the share, the wife would be intitled to upon the construction contended for by the plaintiff. To have acted properly the plaintiff should have acquainted her, that he had a demand on this sum; but it is sworn, that at none of the times mentioned of this transaction or receipt of the interest the plaintiff insisted on this right. Possibly the plaintiff had been ignorant of his right; but to make any thing of that it should have been put in issue in the bill, and charged, that he was ignorant of his right; and it would have been very material to have charged, at what time the plaintiff came to the knowledge of this; which might have been very capable of proof. Nothing of that appears, but an acquiescence, and receiving the interest for his sister. I make no farther use of this but as a corroborating circumstance to strengthen the opinion given before; which would

would have greatly weighed in turning the scale, if the first point was more doubtful: and really, if this matter had been put in issue by the answer, I should have dismissed the bill with costs: but not being so, the plaintiff had no opportunity to answer it.

I determine it consequently on the first point, on which there is difficulty, as admitted on all hands; therefore the bill must be dismissed without costs,

Case 65.

Lloyd *versus* Tench, March. 6, 1750-1.

At the Rolls.

ELIZ. BURKIN died intestate in 1748, never married, and having neither father, mother, brother, nor sister: but she left the plaintiff, daughter of her sister, and the defendant *William Philips*, son of her brother, and the defendant *Sarah Barnard* her aunt, who took out letters of administration to her.

Aunt of intestate, where no brother or sister, takes equally with nephew and niece under *St. of distribution*, being equally in the third degree.

The contest was, between whom the residue of her personal estate was distributable; whether in moieties between the nephew and niece, or in thirds letting in the aunt for a share?

Against the aunt was cited *Stanly v. Stanly*, 15 May 1739. ^{2 Wil. 344.} where on a question between the mother of intestate and the nephew and two nieces, all children of a deceased brother, Lord Chancellor held, they should take with the mother. In *Wallis v. Hodson* 1740. Lord Chancellor held, a posthumous child, born after intestate's death, should be held a brother or sister of the intestate within the words of the *St. 1 J. 2*; which being a continuance of the *St. C. 2* must be construed, as if the *St. C. 2.* was repeated therein. In *Nelson's Lex Testament.* it is held, that children of brothers and sisters shall exclude all other collaterals, as uncles and aunts; which is the present case. The statute directs a distribution to the next of kin and their representatives, which must be in the descending line; to which representation the statute puts a period after brothers and sisters children.

For the aunt. *Stanly v. Stanly* depending on the construction of the *St. J. 2*; which was merely introductive of a new law, putting the mother on a *par* with brothers and sisters. *Wallis v. Hodson* was so held, because such child has been always looked on as a child in being, so as always to take under the *St. of Distribution*: so on the city-custom an infant in *Ventre* is looked on as a child, who takes a share. The contending parties are all equally of kin to the intestate, being all in the third degree. If no brother or sister re-

mains alive, but all leave children, they all take *per capita* : but where one brother or sister is living, always a distribution *in stirpes*.

Sir *John Strange*, having taken time to consider, now gave his decree.

On St. of
distribution
the rule of
degrees of
blood taken
from the civil
law.

Some things are so clear, they need only be mentioned : as first in all questions of the *St. of Distribution* the rule to go by in computing the degrees of proximity of blood must be taken from the civil law ; and on this ground and foundation stand all the cases which have come in judgment since the *St. of Distribution* either at law or in this court. Next that, computing the degrees in this case by the rule of the civil law, the three contending parties stand in equal degree as next of kin to the intestate, *viz.* each in a third degree ; and the computation must be in this manner : as to the aunt, the father is one degree, the grandfather a second, and the aunt a third : so as to the nephews and nieces the father is one, the brother two, and nephew and niece in the third degree. Standing therefore in this light, observe, what direction the statute has given to the intestacy in question ; under the words of which the aunt, nephew, and niece, being in equal degree to the intestate, will be intitled to an equal share, unless by any construction put on this act, applicable to the present case the court is warranted to depart from the express words, and exclude the aunt : but for this no sufficient reason is offered. This was treated as a new case, never judicially before the court ; and as such arguments are drawn from determinations made in other cases on the statute : but I have found, that in more instances than one the very point in question has been before the court, and determined in favour of the uncles and aunts, admitted to an equal distribution with nephews and nieces. The first case is *Page v. Cook, Rolls, 24 June 1742* ; for which the *Register* has been searched, *Lib. B. fol. 432* ; where *Samuel Davis* died intestate in 1729. without issue, leaving a widow, an uncle, and two nieces : the nieces brought a bill, insisting they were intitled to a distribution as next of kin exclusive of the uncle. The uncle by his answer insisted, he was intitled in equal degree with them, and had libelled in the Ecclesiastical court against the widow and administratrix, who brought a bill for an injunction therefore and to have the account taken. An injunction had been granted ; and at the hearing the only question was (for it was agreed, the widow was intitled to a moiety) whether the other moiety should go to the nieces as next of kin, and exclude the uncle, or that the uncle should have an equal share with them. It was held by the *Master of the Rolls*, that clearly the nieces and uncle are in equal degree of kin, each in a third degree from the intestate computing according to the rules of the Civil law to the common ancestor ; the father one, grandfather two, and the uncle the third ; so the father one, brother two, and the nieces third ; and that the nieces, taking
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as next of kin under the statute, take *per capita*, and never *per stirpes jure-representationis*: which is a full authority in favour of the aunt, and answers the argument used for the nephew and niece, which was attempted under the admission of representation among collaterals of brothers and sisters children to draw up to a representation of the parent: but it is now settled, that though the children of one brother stand in place of the parent, in sharing with the other brother, and take *per stirpes*, yet if no brother is alive, that representation in *loco parentis* is at an end. *Walsh v. Walsh, Eq. Ab. 249*, among several other cases. Another case expressly in point was *Durant v. Prestwood* 30 June 1738, *Register A. 761*, where the contest was between an aunt and uncle and nephew and niece: Lord Chancellor held, all should come in equally for a share in the distribution. After two such authorities this question is at peace: and could I entertain a doubt in my own mind (which I do not) I should think myself bound thereby *stare decisis*. In the great debate between a grandmother and aunt, *Blackborough v. Davis. Sal. 251*, and *Woodruff v. Winkworth, P. C. 527, Eq. Ab. 249*, it was determined in favour of the grandmother against the aunt, not because the one was in the direct ascending line and the other in the collateral only, but because not in equal degree; the grandmother standing in the second degree to the intestate, between whom and the parent there is but one degree, and between that parent and grandmother another, which makes but two: but to reach the aunt there must be another degree from the grandmother to her, and so not in equal degree: but had the aunt stood in competition with the great grandmother, it would be otherwise: for the aunt being in the third degree, and there being a necessity to add another degree from the grandmother to the great-grandmother, that places her as remote as the aunt, and therefore equal. *Mentney v. Petit, P. C. 593*. In the particular question between the uncle and nephew, *Domat* indeed 1 Vol. 666. declares for the nephew: but owns, that others have thought the contrary, and that this is the rule only, where there are brothers to the deceased living, and excludes the uncle: but where there is only an uncle and nephew (which is the present case) they ought to succeed together, and that the succession is so regulated in some places. This is agreeable to the opinion before, that all claim *per capita*. This is not the case of a brother or sister to the intestate, but of the children of the brothers or sisters, where there is no brother to bring up the issue of the other to a representation, but all stand in a proper degree, and take *per capita*, not *per stirpes*, merely because they do not stand in light of representation. If there is one brother living, and another has left children, however many, they take but a moiety with the brother: but if that brother had been dead, all in the same line of equality take *per capita*. I am therefore of opinion to adhere to the words of the statute, which say, it shall go to the next of kin in

Grandmother takes before aunt, being in second degree; great-grandmother equally with aunt in third degree.

Where no brother or sister of intestate, nephews *per capita*: otherwise *per stirpes*.

equal

equal degree, and to the above express determination. The clear residue therefore of the intestate's personal estate ought to be divided into thirds.

Case 66. Hampshire *versus* Peirce, March 7, 1750-1.

At the Rolls.

Parol evidence admitted to explain a will, where doubtful; not to contradict.

ANNE DAVY by her will gave two legacies, one of 100 *l.* the other of 300 *l.* in this manner: "I give, direct, limit and appoint 100 *l.* other part of the said trust-money, to be paid by my trustees to the four children of my late cousin *Elizabeth Bamfield* within six months after my decease equally to be divided between them: if any or either of them should happen to die under twenty-one or unmarried, their share or shares shall go to the survivors of them."

As on a legacy to the four children of B. and afterward another to the children of B. B. having then two children by the first husband, four by a second; admitted to shew the first legacy is restrained to the four last children; not so of the other legacy.

The other legacy, which came at a great distance from the former was worded thus: "I further give, limit, and appoint unto the children of my late cousin *Elizabeth Bamfield* the sum of 300 *l.*"

At the time of making the will the situation of *Elizabeth Bamfield* was this: by a former husband *Poddlecomb* she had two children, the present defendant *William* and the wife of the present plaintiff: she married *Bamfield*, by whom she had four children, who were living at the time of death of the testatrix.

Defendants insisted on reading parol evidence to shew, testatrix meant the four children by the last husband *Bamfield*; as having been often admitted in such cases; as where testator gave 100 *l.* owing to him by *I. S.* it has been admitted to shew, it was the 100 *l.* owing by *I. N. I. S.* owing him nothing: so, where a legacy is greater than a debt, to shew it was not in satisfaction of a debt: and it is necessary to resort thereto here to ascertain that, which is doubtful.

E. con. There are undoubtedly cases, where parol evidence has been admitted to explain, whether testator designed the particular thing, as in the instances mentioned: but wherever it relates to letting in evidence whether this or that person was meant, it has been admitted only in the single instance of a legacy to his son *John*, having two of the name. That was a great while held void for uncertainty: but courts of justice, leaning against that, let in particular evidence to shew, which testator meant: but it is confined to that. In *Castleton v. Turner* 27 July 1745. testator had made dispositions in his will to several, and but two women mentioned throughout the whole

whole will, his wife and niece and then he devised a particular estate *to her* for and during her natural life. The question was, whether parol evidence should be admitted to shew which of the two was meant? It seemed to come as near the other cases as could be, yet *Lord Chancellor* would not receive it, thinking it an attempt contrary to the principles of the court, because it would tend to put it in the power of witnesses to make wills for testators; and held, that, though *her* was a relative term, it related to the wife upon the ground, that throughout the will in other places *her* seemed to relate to the wife: but expressly excluded the letting in extrinsic evidence to explain the will, which would occasion uncertainty, leaving it to the exposition of a servant, and then there would be no knowing where things would end. The statute of frauds is clear, that an express will in writing shall not be set aside but by some other instrument in writing.

Sir *John Strange*,

These two parts of the case fall under quite a different consideration. The distinction as to admitting parol evidence I have always taken to be, that in no instance it shall be admitted in contradiction to the words of the will: but if words of the will are doubtful and ambiguous, and unless some reasonable light is let in to determine that, the will will fall to the ground, any thing to explain, not to contradict, the will is always admitted. So it is in the case of having two sons of the same name; what has gone upon that as well as all the cases; it being doubtful there which testator meant; and therefore, when admitted in that case, it is not to contradict the words of the will, but to let in light so far agreeable to the words as to enable the court to support the act done. As to the 100*l.* legacy: it is agreed, she had six children; and it is not material whether they were by one husband or the other: but however that would be a proper ground to admit an explanation of this, what were the four children meant; for that does not contradict the will, but determines, which of the four children are to have that benefit. But as to the 300*l.* whether the evidence goes to that or not, I will not give weight to it; for there the devise is so expressed as to take in the whole of the children. Whatever her intention might be, is another question: I cannot go out of the will to admit it. The court has gone by the distinction beforementioned, and always cautiously admitted it: but as to the second legacy it would contradict the will. Had I been aware of this question, I could have mentioned cases: but I remember one, where the executor made in a will was "*My nephew Robert New*;" in the ingrossment they had made it *Nune*. I am not certain, whether it was real estate or no *: but there evi-

* Said at the bar, that the rule was the same, whether real or personal.

dence was admitted, and on that he was declared to be the person. That was stronger than this; and it would hardly have done, if it had not been for the relative words *my nephew*; it appearing that he was his nephew, and that he had no such nephew as *Robert Nune*. Therefore let it be admitted: but I will not give weight to it on the last legacy.

The evidence being read, his honour delivered his opinion.

As to the 100*l.* which is an absolute bequest, the plaintiff insists, it is not devisible between the four children, *Elizabeth Bamfield* had by her second husband; but that, as she, who is the person named and no notice taken of the husband, had six children, the word *four* ought to be rejected, and consequently the two children by the former husband let in with the four by the second: to prove which, stress is laid on the expression *the four children*. I own, I should have had some doubt on this part of the case, if it did not so entirely correspond with the circumstances and situation of the family at that time. Here were not six children by one and the same husband, as it was in *Tomkins v. Tomkins*, but two broods of children by different husbands; therefore it was natural in pointing out the number to understand her pointing out that particular brood of number four; and so there is not that uncertainty, as if all the children had been by the same husband: but as there is some uncertainty, I have admitted the going into evidence to explain the intent of the testatrix in the expression *the four*, but excluded it as to the other legacy. The evidence laid before the court as to that is, that a woman-servant was sent with instructions to some person to draw the will: but I lay little stress on that: but he says, that the testatrix declared, (and that more than once, for she declared it before the sending the instructions) that she had provided for Mrs. *Bamfield's* four children. Now though the expression in the will might take those by the first as well as the second husband, yet this (which I think, is proper evidence) shews plainly, that her declaration was the four children of Mr. *Bamfield*, those he had by this wife; which explains, what she meant by *the four children*: but she also puts a negative on the other two, saying that she would not give to the others, being the *Poddlecombs*, any thing, because their own father had given them a good fortune. So that taking this on the face of the will, in which also the circumstances of the family must be taken altogether, it appears clearly, that the four children by the second husband were those meant to share this 100*l.* Though no very great stress is to be laid on that clause of survivor, yet in a case of this nature some argument may be drawn from thence. The four children by *Bamfield* were all minors: the two children by *Poddlecomb* were both of age at that time. The testatrix put the case so as to take in the possibility, that any one of the four might die under twenty-one, which the other two then could not. I ground myself much upon that corresponding

responding so exactly with the number mentioned here : nor is there room to think, the testatrix did not know the number of children *Elizabeth Bamfield* had by her husband. So that the plaintiff or her brother have no share as to that legacy of 100*l*.

The other legacy stands on a very different foundation ; and I cannot be warranted, (whatever one might suggest to ones self to be the intent) to depart from the words of the will, they taking in beyond dispute all the children of *Elizabeth Bamfield* ; so that I cannot construe it restrictive to the four ; for which there might have been a foundation, had there been any words of reference of any sort to those four children provided for by the 100*l*. but there are none throughout. Had this followed immediately after the 100*l*. legacy, and no other use had been made of the word *further* throughout this will, than what is contended for by defendants, there might be some room possibly to have restrained it : but it is at a great distance. It is a common expression in every will, being an inchoation of a new devise, having no reference, as if wrote in a distinct paragraph, and introduced with the word *item*. It is not to the *said* children ; which might restrain it to the four : but it must be construed all the children. It is material, that where testatrix means to give to the same person more than she has given before, she has used the word *said* ; which shews, she meant not to restrain this to the same objects, to whom the 100*l*. was given, by not using the same expression : nor is any stress to be laid upon her calling her by the name of *Bamfield*. It is dangerous in questions of this nature to depart from the plain words of the will, or admit any evidence to contradict them : therefore I admitted the evidence as to the 100*l*. but would not apply it to the latter part ; in the other it being only explanatory, in this contradictory. It is said indeed, that the evidence read is adapted to defeat the plaintiffs demand as to both legacies. It may be so meant by the party : but it is the duty of the court to distribute and divide ; to regard it so far as it is apt and legal ; where not so, it is not binding on the court as to that.

The bill therefore must be dismissed as to the 100*l*.

Dixon versus Parker, March 8, 1750.

Case 66.

A Question arose on a point of evidence, whether the deposition Evidence. of *John Garland*, one of the defendants, could be admitted to be read as evidence on part of the other defendant *Parker*.

The whole of it arose upon an agreement between *Garland* and the plaintiff, reduced into articles in writin g under their hands and seals ; which was for the sale of plaintiff's estate to defendant *Parker* for 300*l*. but the covenant was by *Garland* with the plaintiff, and *Garland* was the person bound in the penalty for performance. Deposition of one defendant not read for another, as concerned in interest and as a decree might be against him, The

The bill charged, that there was a draught of a defeasance made, intended to be executed : but that by contrivance and management of *Garland* it was not executed at the same time with the deeds, but put off to another time ; and that *Garland*, having got the absolute conveyance, would not let the defeasance be executed.

Coton v. Luterel.

For defendant Parker in support of the evidence. *Garland's* being a party is no objection to his deposition, if not concerned in interest. It appears by the agreement in writing, he acted only as agent or land steward for *Parker*, describing himself as such ; and therefore to be considered merely as a broker for him, and not at all interested. The conveyances are to *Parker*, in whose behalf the contract was. No decree can be made against *Garland* on the merits, and then there can be none against him for costs ; for one can never come here to pray a decree for costs only, no more than he can come into this court to pray a fine. This was fully considered by your Lordship in the case of the conspiracy charged on Sir *John Cheshire* and his lady, where she was offered to be examined as a witness : first her being a defendant was held no objection ; for even a court of law allows a defendant's being a witness : it was next objected, that she might be subject to costs, if the fraud was proved ; but the court held, she had no estate in her, nor was she concerned in interest, and therefore her evidence was read. Then it is very extraordinary and dangerous, if a man's servant or agent cannot be examined as a witness for him. This is like the case of a broker or *Blackwell Hall* factor ; who, if they sell goods or stock, even without naming their principal, yet an action may be brought in name of the principal ; and that broker or factor may be examined as a witness. Otherwise people would be stripped of their evidence ; which will be the case here, if the court prevents this being read. Though *Garland* has himself examined several witnesses, that is his own act, and is not to prejudice the party, who would call him.

Lord Chancellor seemed to be very clear, that a defendant, so circumstanced as this was, was never suffered to be read : but there being no other evidence relating to the transaction of the contract, which made it of great consequence to the defendant *Parker*, and it being very much pressed, and the case of Lady *Cheshire* insisted upon, said, he would look into it ; and the next day gave his opinion.

On objection to competency, never read : if to credit only, read and left to consideration of court.

Considering the nature of this case, and that the only evidence of fraud and imposition, such as it is, is against the defendant *Garland*, it would be pretty wonderful, if he could be read as a witness in the cause : but that however must be determined by the rules of law : if according to them he ought to be read, it must be so. The question is, whether the objection made, goes to his competency or credit ; for if to his credit, it must be read, and left to the consideration of the court

court on the whole evidence of the case: but not at all, if it goes to his competency? Whether it is a good objection as to his competency, depends on two things; first the concern or interest he appears to have in this cause and contract; and next his being a defendant now before the court and concerned in the event of the suit. As to the first, all the subsequent transactions arise out of this contract; and whether that was fairly obtained, and all the subsequent transactions fairly and properly founded on it, is the question. Taking it out of that proposition put for the defendant, that *Garland* was not at all interested, and that it would be extraordinary, if one's agent might not be examined as a witness for him, it is extraordinary to be sure: but consider, how it stands. If any remedy was to be taken either at law or equity (and the rule is the same here as at law on these articles) it could not be maintained for or against *Parker*: but if the plaintiff insisted on a performance, he must have brought an action of covenant for non-performance against *Garland*: he could not against *Parker*, if he proceeded for the penalty: it must be by action of debt for that penalty against *Garland*: and if the agreement has not been rightly performed, that action for the penalty, I am of opinion, may be now brought against *Garland*. This shews, that notwithstanding he has described himself as agent or land-steward for *Parker*, that differs it not at all as to this contract, it is his contract; and in my opinion *Parker* was not bound to indemnify him upon *Parker's* own answer; which answer is, that the proposal was for a loan, and not at all for a purchase; and that no authority was given to *Garland* to purchase the land for *Parker*, the general authority relating to a loan; and therefore, if after *Garland* had contracted for a purchase (as is insisted on) with the plaintiff, if *Parker* had said, he would not be bound by this, and would not take the purchase, he might have done so. Then it is really a contract by *Garland*, taking upon him indeed to act for *Parker*, but without authority as to this. It is compared to the case of a broker or *Blackwell Hall* factor. I agree, that, which is insisted on, is allowed; but it is with jealousy allowed, and with great inquisitiveness by the court as to the circumstances. It is allowed from the regard to trade and commerce, singly on that ground; for there is some danger in allowing it: but that is not at all like this case. If such broker or factor at the time of making the bargain declares his principal, no action can be brought against the broker or factor; for that was notice to the party, that he acted as broker or factor; and the action must be brought against the principal, if he declared him at the time. Now though *Garland* did declare his principal here, no action could be brought on this contract against *Parker*, because the contract is of such a nature, as it could not be endured, it concerning lands and tenements, &c. and there is another difference from the circumstances of this fact, that *Parker* having in his answer expressly said, that

Broker or factor, not naming principal, may be examined on action in name of principal; but singly on trade. If principal is declared, action must be against him.

Broker or factor must act for another at the very time: no subsequent consent or agreement will do.

Where the rule of law and equity as to evidence is the same: and where they differ. At law a plaintiff can't examine a defendant, as plaintiff in equity may; but co-defendants may, if there is no material evidence against that defendant, and not interested.
* (Said to be *Medway v. Medel.*)

the notice to him was concerning a loan, not a purchase, and the direction given that he would act as for a loan, it is only the subsequent ratification of *Parker* afterward that can charge him. That is not the case of the factor or broker, who, if he sells cloth or stock without declaring his principal, in his own name, the action might be brought in the name of that other person: but if he did not act for him at that time, no subsequent act could charge him: for that would be a parol contract assigning that *chose in action* to another person, which he could not do: and therefore he must act concerning the goods of another person at that very time of the transaction, otherwise no subsequent consent or agreement of that other person can intitle him to bring, or subject him to, an action upon it. On that ground therefore *Garland* is not a competent witness. But there is another head; as he is a defendant in the cause: and though on the first ground the rules of law and equity are the same, yet on this they differ. Where there is a defendant in this court, if notwithstanding that he is not concerned in interest, either side may examine him as a witness; and therefore the plaintiff, though he has made a person defendant, whom he wants to examine as a witness, may, on suggestion that he is not concerned in interest, obtain an order for it, saving just exceptions; and so may a co-defendant. As to the plaintiff's examining, the rule of this court goes farther than the law does; for by the law no plaintiff can examine a defendant as a witness; as was solemnly determined by *B. R.* in a case, * when *Trevor* was Attorney General, on a trial at bar of a libel published at *Bristol* where several defendants were made, and the Attorney General could not make out his case without examining some of those defendants brought before the court. *Holt C. J.* would not let the crown do that, though, he said, they might be examined for co-defendants, but that the crown could not: the Attorney General thereupon entered a *noli prosequi* at the bar, and on that examined them as witnesses; which shews, the rule of this court and of law differs as to that: but as to co-defendants examining it is much the same; for there if in actions on *torts* (which are always several) several defendants are made, (however they are made defendants, whether with a *simul cum* or otherwise) if the plaintiff gives no material evidence against them, the other defendant may examine as witnesses upon that ground, that the plaintiff by making unnecessary defendants is not to streighten defendants in point of evidence: and so it may be done by order in this court, saving just exceptions. But that is in a case and upon a suggestion, that the defendant, whom they would examine, is not concerned in interest in the cause: which brings it to the question, whether *Garland* is so concerned? It is insisted, that he is not, for that it is a contract in behalf of, and the conveyances are to, *Parker*; and that there could be no decree against *Garland*; and if no decree could be against him on the merits, there could be no

decree for costs, for one can never come here to pray a decree for costs only. I do not know, whether that is strictly so: but I will take it for granted to be so: but there may be a decree in this court against *Garland* the transactor. Where bills are to set aside conveyances, there may be a decree not only to convey, but that deeds and writings be delivered up, if the merits of the case are strong enough, (as to which I give no opinion now;) and that decree may be made against *Garland*. If *Parker* was likely to abscond (not that I say, there is any probability of that) the decree would be against *Garland* to procure the act to be done. Where deeds are obtained by fraud and ill practice, and the legal estate is placed in a third person, a decree has been against that third person to procure the act to be done. Suppose *Parker*, in whom the estate vested by these deeds, had been out of the kingdom, and *Garland* only here, the plaintiff could have brought a bill against *Garland* upon the equity it is now brought for, (provided he proved it) on a suggestion that *Parker* was out of the kingdom, and therefore could not be brought before the court; and he might have a decree against *Garland* only for this relief, he now seeks, as the person who transacted the whole: so that as there was a plain method for a decree against him, it cannot be said, there could be no decree against him on the merits, and therefore no costs could be decreed against him. But the great objection was on the case of *Coton v. Lutterel*; and if it had not been for the citing that case, (all the circumstances of which I did not remember), I should not have reserved this point to this day. It was heard before me on 6 June 1738; and it was a bill against Mr. *Lutterel* and his wife, the half sister of the deceased Mr. *Coton*, (whose settlement was in question) and against Sir *John Cheshire* and his wife, (but this was after Sir *John*'s death) to be relieved against a settlement made by Mr. *Coton*, which was suggested to be obtained by fraud, imposition, and menaces on him, and to have a reconveyance and account of profits. There was a great deal of evidence in the cause; and one part was endeavoured to be fixed on Lady *Cheshire*, who was also made a defendant, that she was aunt to Mr. *Coton*, used to come to his chambers in the temple, and had threatened and menaced him to make such a settlement, and under that terror he had done it, which he was afterward very sorry for. It was sworn in the deposition of *Haws* and of *Nelson*, that they were at his chambers, when Lady *Cheshire* came up stairs, and wanted to speak with him; whereupon he bid them go into an adjoining room, where they staid, and overheard the conversation; the effect of which they put down in writing in a paper, and swore to this particular paper, which did contain several extravagant things, such as threats by her, particularly that she had found a flaw in his title, which she would discover, if he would not comply. Before this cause was heard, a discovery was made relating to bad practice, which was heard before me on motion to suppress the deposition and commit the persons; and upon that I was of opinion,

opinion, that *Haws* had been guilty of gross abuse, that this paper was a dressed up thing after the transaction, and by combination, and *Haws* was ordered to stand committed: but he fled. As to *Nelson* the same imputation was on his deposition, as it was to support the same paper: but he was not ordered to stand committed; and I refused to suppress the deposition: but this stood over to the hearing of the cause, and these two depositions were read. When the defendants came to make their defence, they read the deposition of *Guidot*, clerk to Sir *John Cheshire*; who gave a clear, distinct, account of the instructions he received from Mr. *Coton*, Lady *Cheshire* not being by, and Sir *John* only consulted in it as counsel: these instructions were repeated, and a great interval of time and consideration taken: and a subscribing witness was also examined and read. After reading this and

Deposition of
co-defendant
read, where
no material
evidence a-
gainst him
and no decree.

entering into the consideration of the objection to the deposition of *Haws* and *Nelson* the question was, whether the deposition of Sir *John* and Lady *Cheshire* ought to be read? I was of opinion, it ought; for neither of them were parties to the deed; no decree could be made against them; and I was of opinion, that on all the circumstances there was no material evidence against either. There was no pretence against Sir *John*; and the court could not lay weight on that evidence. In a case where co-defendants examine, the question is not, whether any *Scintilla* of evidence is given, but whether material evidence, such as the court or a jury would lay weight on? So here the office of judge and jury is vested in this court on hearing the cause; and if the court thinks there is no material evidence against that defendant from the nature of the fact affecting him, or from the credit of the witness who has sworn it, he will be read: otherwise the defendant would be cut off from having the benefit of his witness merely from the ill practice of the other side. But another circumstance makes this different from that case. No evidence was examined there on behalf of Sir *John* and his *Lady*; but here *Garland* has examined several witnesses, and so far has judged himself concerned in interest: then it cannot be said, that he is not so. If there appeared any collusion between the plaintiff and *Garland*, it is true, that would not prejudice the party who would call him; or if there was any ground to suspect it, I should be of opinion, that notwithstanding his examining witnesses he should be read. But there is no such ground; far from it: it is the joint defence of *Garland* and *Parker*, and some of the depositions on the part of *Parker* cannot be made complete without reading the depositions on the part of *Garland*. It is clear, there never was an instance in this court of such a defendant being examined as a witness; therefore he is not to be read.

Defendant by
examining
witnesses has
judged himself
interested: yet
read if collu-
sion with
plaintiff.

But

But really there are several circumstances in this case having the appearance of hardship. On *Parker* there is no imputation; it seems to be the act of his steward. But the bill is not adapted in this case, but to another; charging expressly that there was a preparation, not an execution, of a defeasance, which was taken into the custody of *Garland*, who hindered the execution; and on that head is the relief prayed; which would make it the case of a mortgage with defeasance, as the old way of transacting was. It is determined on the statute of frauds, that if a mortgage is intended by an absolute conveyance in one deed, and a defeasance making it redeemable in another; the first is executed, and the party goes away with the defeasance; that is not within the statute of frauds. But the plaintiff must both prove and alledge; not alledge one thing, and prove another: that is the difficulty; and therefore, I fear, it will run out into a trial at law: which would be a great expence between the parties, and should rather be avoided by some sort of compensation given by *Parker* to the plaintiff. This I do not propose on a supposition, that *Parker* himself has done wrong: but that the person he employed has not used him well: and it is merely to avoid future expence; for could I foresee, that I could make a final decree, as it stands, I should not propose it.

If defeasance to mortgage is taken away, and not executed as intended; not within statute of frauds.

Robinson versus Robinson, March 9, 1750-1.

Case 67.

GEORGE ROBINSON devised an estate to trustees and their heirs for a particular purpose, and afterwards to *Lancelot Hicks* for his own life, and no longer, directing him to take the name of *Robinson*; and after his decease to such son as he should have, lawfully to be begotten, taking the name of *Robinson*; and for default of such issue then over to the testator's cousin *William Robinson* and his heirs for ever.

Burrow 38. Devise to H. for life and no longer, taking name of R. and to such son as he should have, taking the name; for default of such issue, over; an estate-tail made in H.

Testator died leaving *William* his heir at law, and *Hicks*, who had then no child at all, and who brought a bill to have incumbrances discharged, and to have the estate; which was heard in 1733 by *The Master of the Rolls*, who decreed it to be an estate for life only, and that only one son was intitled by virtue of this will to an estate for life, and that the next immediate remainder was to go to *William* in fee.

Lancelot Hicks had a son, who died two years old; he had also another, who after his father's death brought this bill claiming this estate.

For plaintiff. The general view certainly was to perpetuate his name and estate in the male line of *Lancelot Hicks*, while he should have sons capable of performing the condition, and who should perform it; but could not fix it in one particularly, as he could not say which of the sons would or would not perform; he therefore left in some uncertainty as to which should take, not using any words necessarily confining it to one particularly, as *eldest* or *one*. Although testator has tied it up to an estate for life, yet on a limitation for life, remainder to the 1st, 2d, or 3d son, stopping there, the court has, contrary to the general rule, held it sufficient to give an estate-tail by implication; as otherwise a 4th son would not take, but it would go over, although it could not be presumed to be the intent to cut off a branch of the family not in being. The whole must have been in view, especially where the father was to take the name; so that it ought to be construed, that while there were any of the male line who should take in tail-male, it should not go over even to heir at law. The assuming a name is an act of discretion, so that it cannot be exercised but by one of years of discretion, and could not be meant the first son, who might be but a year old: the subsequent words explain *son* to mean *issue-male*. The estate could not vest till such a time after death of *Hicks*, as there was an object, who could perform or reject the condition. When a condition is annexed to the personal act of the party to take, it always qualifies or suspends the vesting, till he does the act required, or something against it. The intent is indeed to be collected from the words of the will: but in many cases the court has done, what is strictly perhaps adding words, that is by way of construction and supplying words, as if testator had used them. In *Coriton v. Hellicr* * your *Lordship* said, the court must find words in the will, and do so, varying the construction, and holding that what was strictly and absolutely a term of ninety-nine years, was determinable on death of first taker, as otherwise it would be contrary to the intent of testator: but it was from all the words in the will, not looking for words directly correcting the former expression, but upon the whole. The decree has left it sufficiently open: it does not direct a conveyance; the omission of which was with a view to wait till the death of *Hicks* to see what son would perform the condition. Though it has confined it to the first son, it was to see who would be that son: so that within the decree plaintiff may take as the only son of *Hicks* capable at his death to perform it, and take an estate-tail.

* Cited ante, in *Targues v. Puget*, 10th August 1745.

For defendant William. Testator has not in words executed, what, it is likely, he meant: *quod voluit, non dicit*. But the question

question is, what is his meaning out of all the parts of his will. It is established, that the law of *England* suffers not a will to be construed by probable conjecture of circumstances out of it, though such as no one can doubt of. The words of a will may be construed by highly probable circumstances arising from another part: but there must be words: an imperfect part may be supplied by another part. In this the law of *England* differs from the latitude taken in the latter time of the *Roman* law. Your *Lordship* in *Bellasis v. Otthwait*, 11th February 1737, notwithstanding a strong inclination to the contrary, thought yourself tied down by these established rules. There a fond mother made a will in great haste (as on the face of it appeared) leaving to her only child a daughter, all her real and personal estate: but if she died before of age to dispose of it, then to a charity: if she died unmarried, then to her own sisters. Her only daughter married, had a child, and died above twenty. The question was, whether in that event the estate went over? It could not be thought she intended to disinherit her daughter; meaning it should go over to the charity, if she had no occasion for it; and a famous answer of *Papinian*, *Lib. Dig. 35, Tit. 1. Sec. 102*, (much applauded by *Domat*) was cited, where a will was to be construed by probable conjecture: the court went as far as possible, giving the personal estate because she came of an age to dispose of it: but your *Lordship* thought yourself tied down by the devise to the charity, because you could not put in the words, *if she died without issue*, although sorry to determine so; saying that the arbitrary construction and latitude, taken in the latter time of the *Roman* law, was not to be received here; but the meaning was to be taken out of the will, that is out of the whole context. A will was presumed to be revoked by the *Roman* law *Conjecturæ Pietatis* from a change of circumstances; *Lug v. Lug*, *Sal. 592*: but it may be doubted, whether that is the received opinion of the ecclesiastical law now: for unless there is some parol evidence beside, they do not allow a revocation barely from circumstances: and there is a strong authority since, where that was not sufficient to revoke. No such change would be allowed as to real estate to operate as a revocation: and in *Magot v. Magot*, where was devise of real and personal, your *Lordship*, on authority of *Lug v. Lug*, gave liberty to apply to the ecclesiastical court as to the personal; but said, as to the real, no change of circumstances would revoke. In *Coriton v. Hellier* * your *Lordship*, expressly laid down, that the court could not go on conjecture out of the will, but must find words in it; and went on this, that there was sufficient on the whole will to satisfy the court, such

* Lord Chancellor said that in case depended on so many circumstances, it could not be a precedent in other cases.

was the construction. The intent is to prevail, where it appears plainly on the face of the will: where it does not, the court will resort to the legal operation of the words. The question then is on the words of the will, taking the whole together, whether there is any thing intitling plaintiff to an estate, and an estate-tail as he claims; for there must be a direction for a conveyance?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That is the principal consideration, in what manner the conveyance should be framed; whether there should be trustees to preserve contingent remainders or not.

For defendant. There is no occasion for the intervention of them where there are trustees, according to a late case. It is first to be established, that here is a certain devise; for if the court cannot tell to whom devised, it is void for uncertainty, whether it is a trust or legal estate; for a trust results, as well as a legal estate descends. What son is meant? There might have been several. It was a necessity of this sort that forced the construction of the first son at *The Rolls*; and there is no ground to determine different from the opinion there given. The court cannot ascertain it, but must put a construction in favour of the will and say, *such son* must mean something. This is like the cases, where it is necessary for the court's putting a construction on it to prevent its being void for uncertainty. *Ray.* 82. This is plainly a devise to one son, and no words beyond that, as successively, &c. The limitation is omitted, and the court cannot supply it. It is void, unless by reducing it to the description of the eldest. This being a remainder, the moment a son is born answering the description, it must vest; which is a valuable interest, though his father's life in being. It is not to wait the possibility of another son getting the name before. There are no words that it shall stay, till the son is twenty-one: then it once vesting in the eldest, unless the plaintiff can come within the description, he can never take it as a successive remainder.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Ante 22d July
1749.

Something of this kind arose in *Lomax v. Holmden*; and suppose he had said *eldest son*?

For defendant. As soon as a son is born, it is no contingent but a vested remainder in him. It is distinguishable from *Lomax v. Holmden*; for there the first son was born and died in life of testator, so never was in being at the time he was to take: and there

there your *Lordship* said, the second son was in view of testator: here only the eldest was. If it was only an executory devise to the first son of *Hicks*, that should be born, without an estate for life in the father, as soon as born it is a vested interest, and takes effect: then much more shall a remainder take effect: for an executory devise is in its own nature a contingency, and more liable to be changed.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Suppose, the first born son had come of age, and renounced the name of *Robinson*, which his father took?

For Defendant. The estate would be forfeited. But what is there to be given more than an estate for life, supposing a son now in being to answer that description? The court cannot add words of limitation, however probable the conjecture of the intention. *Such issue* must refer to some body before mentioned; which must be the father's; and then cannot give the son an estate tail by implication. *Son* is never construed as *nomen collectivum*, as *heir* is in law, and as *issue* is in common use; unless there is something on the face of the will to make it collective, for probable conjecture will not do so. An estate tail by implication would contradict the express affirmative and negative words of the will; and is never allowed, where words of that kind are added, as where *for life*, or *et non aliter*. *Roll. Ab.* 237; and *Backhouse v. Wells**, *Eq. Ab.* 184. Express estate for life is not turned into estate tail by implication in *Bampfild v. Popham*, 1 *Wil.* 54. though the strongest case for it from the recital in the codicil. Where the court has done it, the intent must be clear, that without violating it the court could not do otherwise: as in *Eq. Ab.* 185, and 1 *Wil.* 754. It cannot now be insisted, that plaintiff claims an estate tail under his father, and not by description to himself, being already determined against the father, and acquiesced in.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I will not give an opinion at present; it deserves to be considered in respect not only of the case, but also of the authority of the former decree: and though undoubtedly on the first point, where the plaintiff contends to be a remainder after a bare estate for life in the father, plaintiff is not bound by that decree; yet it is certainly a considerable authority of the judge, who made

* His *Lordship* said, he was present, and that the strength of that resolution was upon the words only.

that decree, not lightly to be passed over, but requiring attention; and, I should think, Sir *Jos. Jekyl* would hardly have made so solemn a determination, if it had not been fully argued. But one thing I will mention, occurring to me on the construction of this will, and not particularly argued at the bar, though it results from the argument. To be sure it sounds extremely harsh and odd, that, when testator has repeatedly required this act of assuming his name to be done by both father and son, if the father complies with the condition, and has a son, who lived but a day, and could not do an act of his own to signify his consent, by force of the father's taking that name, this limitation vests in the son, and he shall be presumed to have done that act, and to have assumed that qualification: it is pretty strong to say that. But this is a trust estate; the fee vested in the trustees; and the limitation un-

Trustees of the inheritance sufficient to support the contingent remainders.

Cited ante.

Contingent remainder must vest during particular estate, or *eo instante*; or else trustees to sustain.

Statute King William preserves the estate to a Posthumous child.

doubtedly to the son is a contingent remainder, which is rightly admitted for defendant to be out of the power of the father tenant for life to destroy, because the trustees of the legal estate of inheritance will be sufficient trustees to support all the contingent remainders in the will, as frequently determined, in *Penbay v. Hurrel*, and by me in *Hopkins v. Hopkins*, and so in other cases. But though that is admitted, it is contended, this is a contingent remainder that must necessarily vest on birth of a son. Whether that be so or not, deserves consideration, and whether this is not as a condition subsequent; for it is a doubtful case, and to be considered every way. But there is another way, viz. as a qualification and description of the person to take the contingent remainder; which if to be done by voluntary act of the son, how can this be made good? A contingent remainder must by law vest during continuance of the particular estate, or *eo instante* that it determines; or else trustees must be inserted to sustain that estate, till such time as it shall vest. When shall it vest? On the birth of a son, or a son properly assuming that name? It was said, that then the contingent remainder would be void; for it is commonly an estate *pour autre vie*, which determines by death of the father; and the consequence was before the determination in *Reeve v. Long*, if the trustees to preserve, &c. went no farther, and the father died leaving a posthumous son unborn, that son could not take; the estate to preserve, &c. being gone by death of the father, and therefore the contingent remainder did not vest during the continuance or *eo instante*, &c. The method therefore (as appears from *Bridgman's* conveyances) taken by all artificial conveyancers was to carry the estate to preserve, &c. farther than death of the father; limiting the estate to the father for life, remainder to trustees and their heirs during his life to preserve, &c.; remainder to first and every other son; and then for default of such issue, in case the wife shall happen to be *ensient* by the husband at his decease, to use of the wife till de-

delivered of such child, afterward to use of such after born son, to preserve the estate for nine or ten months: but since *Reeve v. Long*, which was in King *William's* time, this is left out, being helped by the act of parliament then made. Might not then a settlement be made to the father for life (now suppose all the persons in being) remainder to trustees and their heirs during his life, and till a son shall be born lawfully begotten by him, who shall take the name, and from and after that time to that son? That would support the contingent remainder till a son came in being, who by his own act should take the name. This is indeed an uncertain time, and therefore liable to objection: but perhaps that may be the only way to come at it: for though uncertain, yet must it determine within the life of that son supposed to be born: and whether such a limitation might not be made in a conveyance to comply with intent of testator, deserves to be considered. In *Ray* there was a term of fifteen years limited by testator himself; here by construction some term might be fixed, at which his son might be supposed to attain years of discretion, and capable of determining whether he would take that name or not. I mention this method agreeable to that of conveyancers before *Reeve v. Long*; and give no opinion now.

For defendant. It is difficult to determine the year of discretion; for the law settles no time for it. How shall the court ascertain the age of discretion of a particular person, to whose mind it is left, when he will do the act? It is a kind of uncertainty, that nothing in the method of conveyance will put it upon. The party to take is to have time during his life by the testator; then the court ought not to limit the time. If no person is to be considered as assuming the name to perform the condition, till he comes to the age of twenty-one, there will be in several cases a resulting; for being undisposed of, he cannot take till that time. Beside there is infinite difficulty; and it cannot be, what the testator meant; for if the elder son, or the first and second, married, and died under twenty-one leaving children, the third son to the exclusion of the nephew would take the estate. Except in one case the court never keeps up a contingent interest by way of executory devise longer than a life in being or the nine or ten months before mentioned; viz. where portions for younger children; carrying it to the particular age of twenty-one in order to favour settlements of the family: but in no other instance. This would be a singular case: in *Scotch* intails there are several limitations of this sort; and infants are considered immediately as taking.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

A contingent remainder may be put on any reasonable contingency; then the court may create a trust to support it.

His Lordship took time to consider.

On bill of revivor plaintiff cannot dispute the decree, though defendant may.

Note: The cause came on 18 June 1748. on a bill of revivor by the present plaintiff to revive the former decree, and have the benefit thereof: whereupon *His Lordship* said, they could not controvert the decree: that there have been cases of bills in nature of revivor, to carry on a former decree, where the court sometimes, though but seldom, have said, the defendant may dispute that decree, but never that the plaintiff might. The decree has determined the question, whether it was then debated or not: and the court was thereby bound, though the plaintiff, being an infant, was not. The cause therefore stood over with liberty to plaintiff to bring an original bill, or take such method to bring his right in question, as he should be advised.

Lord Chancellor sent it afterward into *B. R.* and the certificate of the judges was, that “upon the true construction of the will, *Hicks* must, by necessary implication to effectuate the manifest general intent, be construed to take an estate in tail male, he and the heirs of his body taking the name of *Robinson*, notwithstanding the express estate devised to him for his life and no longer”: and the decree made thereupon by the Lords Commissioners 8 March 1757, was affirmed by the *Lords* 14 February 1758.

Case 68.

Clark versus Thorp, March 9, 1750-1.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Waste.

A Guardian having converted the infant's ancient pasture into plough-land, it is waste; and this notwithstanding the guardian said, it was on account of the late contagious distemper among the cattle.

Clavering

Clavering *versus* Clavering, *March 11, 1750-1.* Case 69.

S I R *John Strange* for Lord Chancellor.

On a bill to supply the loss of the deed charged to be in defendant's hands, though a strong case (as urged for plaintiff) for making an immediate decree, yet if defendants insist on it, a trial must be directed; there being the same rule of evidence at law on loss of a deed as in this court. Nor is it necessary to order that the depositions of the witnesses should be read at law, for courts of law always read them.

Theebridge *versus* Kilburne, *March 13, 1750-1.* Case 70.

WILLIAM SHARP by a voluntary deed vested a term in trustees out of the rents and profits of the estate to pay and discharge the reserved rents, the surplus to himself for life; and from and after his decease to pay his wife 10 *l. per ann.* during her life, and the residue during life of his wife to his daughter *Sarah*: and after death of his wife the whole profits to *Sarah* during her life, and immediately from and after her decease to the heirs of the body of *Sarah* lawfully to be begotten, if the term should so long endure; for default of such issue then to his granddaughter *Sarah Baily*, her executors, administrators, and assigns, if the term, &c.

William and his wife both died: *Sarah* also who married the defendant, died without issue living at time of her death: but the plaintiffs admitted to avoid further inquiry, that the defendant had by his wife a daughter born, who lived but about a year.

Sarah Baily having married the plaintiff, they brought this bill for an assignment and account of the rents and profits from death of defendant's wife.

For plaintiffs. The question, whether this limitation over is void as too remote, has been often before the court. This is not a freehold, but chattle interest; not a legal limitation, but a declaration of trust, which must be carried into execution by a further conveyance executed by the trustees. Being a chattel, it is improperly limited by way of succession; for such an interest must go to executors, not to heirs of the body; who must consequently take as purchasers; but cannot by descent. Beside it is to heirs of her body after her decease; and who is heir of her body, cannot appear during her life. It is not to her children to be divided between

them, but to that person who shall be heir of her body. The whole question then is, whether such a construction shall be put on it, as that it shall take effect? The settler of this estate was making a provision for his wife, daughter and granddaughter, and it ought to be supported so far as the words can be construed. The absolute interest did not vest in defendant's wife, it being an express strict limitation for life to her. *Lisle v. Gray*, 2 Jo. 114, and *Archer's case*, 1 Co. 66. Then the heirs of her body are described as purchasers; and this being in its nature not capable of a strict entail, as an estate of inheritance is, makes it stronger. The court seldom allows an express particular estate to be enlarged by implication: but whenever it is done, it is to continue the interest according to intent of testator, which would be otherwise defeated; as in *Langly v. Baldwin*, where other issue would be disinherited: but is never done to defeat the intent, by putting the whole in the power of the person meant only to have an estate for life, and so defeat the heirs of the body. *Webb v. Webb*, 1 Will. 132; *Peacock v. Spooner*, 2 Ver. 43, 195; and *Daffern v. Goodman*, 2 Ver. 362. In *Price v. Price*, 2d May, 1727, defendant on his marriage settled a leasehold estate to trustees to the sole and separate use of his intended wife for life for her jointure, and from and after her decease to use of the heirs of the body of the wife by the husband to be begotten, and for want of such issue to use of the husband and his heirs for ever. The wife died only leaving a son: the husband took out administration to her, insisting the whole interest vested in her: Sir Joseph Jekyll held, the term vested in the heirs of the body of the wife as purchasers. It was a very hard case on the husband, such as the court would have determined for him if possible: yet held it so clearly settled, that it was so determined notwithstanding: and though it was a case of marriage-articles, and the rest cases of devises, that made no material difference. Even courts of law have done this, and in respect of inheritances capable of a strict limitation, and even on a deed; *Lisle v. Gray*. Next the limitation over is not too remote; for heirs of the body being designed to take as purchasers, a particular person was designed to be described, then *for want of such issue* must receive the same construction as heirs of the body, and mean want of a son or daughter; which fact, how it will turn out, must be known at her death; so that the limitation over is to wait only during a life, and within all the rules of an executory devise waiting. This must be the construction, if it had never come in question before: but several determinations, carrying it farther than the present, make an end of it. *Withers v. Allgood*, 4 July 1735, where plaintiff was held to take only estate for life, and great stress was laid on part being chattel interest. In *Sands v. Dixwell*, 8 December 1738, freehold and leasehold were limited to trustees for particular purposes: and the trustees were afterward to convey part of the freehold to separate use of the party's

Ante.
Cited in Bag-
shaw v. Spen-
cer, November
1748.

ty's daughter for life, and after her decease in trust for the heirs of her body lawfully begotten : your *Lordship* over-ruled the point insisted upon in behalf of an estate tail in her on the limitation being applied to freehold and also to chattel interest, and determined, that her husband the defendant, was not intitled to be tenant by curtesy, and that she had only an estate for life. In *Hodsel v. Buffy*, 5 December 1740. a trust term was limited by a deed very like this ; your *Lordship* held the limitation over not too remote. In *Haver v. Dormer* 1711. a term for years vested by Lord *Caernarvon* in trustees for 45 years to commence from his own death in trust after commencement of the term to pay 100 l. per ann. rent, or so much as might be raised, to *William* son of *Charles Dormer* and his assigns, if the said *William* should be then living and of full age, whereby he might give a discharge : but if under age, then to be paid to his guardian : and if *William* should happen to die without issue before the same became due and payable, or before the end and expiration of the term, then the same to be paid during residue of the term to *Robert* another son of *Charles* in the same way, if *Robert* was then living : if *Robert* should die, then over to the daughters of *Charles*. *William* came of age in life of *Charles* : a bill was brought by his creditors, insisting the whole interest was vested in *William*, against the remainders over. Lord *Harcourt* sent it into C. B. The opinion of the judges does not appear : but after it came back, he dismissed the bill : which being on a deed seems a very strong case. This is plainly therefore a provision for his daughter for life ; if she has a son or daughter living at her death, to that son or daughter ; if none, then for the child of his other daughter, whom he describes by name.

For defendant, who claimed the benefit of this term as administrator to his wife.

The grantor's meaning was to create an interest that should go in succession to the heirs of her body ; and when that succession determined, or for want of such issue to the plaintiff ; then the rule of law will operate upon that intent ; for there cannot be raised by way of springing use, springing trust, or executory devise, such a limitation to depend on the future contingency of failure of that succession. The common known meaning of *heirs of the body* is not merely a single person, but a succession of such, viz. children and their children as long as there should be any. They are the precise technical words to make an estate tail ; for in a deed no other words will do. The adding *to be begotten* also carries on the succession : and Lord *Hale* in *King v. Melling* laid a stress on words of that kind, as having an eye of an estate tail. Then why should not he in making a will or settlement mean this, which he would mean in common conversation ? In *Butterfield v. Butterfield*, Ante.
12 November

12 November 1748. your *Lordship* held the limitation over void as too remote, and that it was an absolute vested interest in the first taker.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Express estate
limitation not
enlarged by
implication.

I am of opinion, that according to this limitation the whole trust of the term did vest in *Sarah Sharp*: but if that was not so, or if that was doubtful, it would vest in her daughter though dying in her life, and consequently could never go over to plaintiff by virtue of the last limitation.

As to the first point it is said in support of it, here is an express estate for life given, which shall not be enlarged by implication. That is true to a certain degree; and the court will not make or strain an implication to distinguish or enlarge the estate for life. But this is such a limitation as does not come up to that implication; for in all those cases where that doctrine is laid down, still it has been held, that if there is an estate for life, remainder to heirs of the body of the party, that is not an enlargement by implication, but the law unites both; as in *Popham v. Bamfield*. If therefore this had been a limitation of freehold estate, it had undoubtedly been an estate tail in *Sarah Sharp*. But though that would have been so, it is said, the construction of the trust of a term is different; because the construction is to be made, as far as the rules of law will admit, to support the limitation, and not to destroy it, as this construction would do. Undoubtedly there have been cases, which have gone a good way for that: but none of them come up to the present, which is the common case of the limitation of the trust of a term after a general dying without heirs of the body, and nothing to distinguish it. But cases have been cited to make the dying without issue to be within some certain limited, reasonable compass of time; as in *Haver v. Dormer*; in which I take it for granted, Lord *Harcourt* went according to the opinion of the judges. It was not too remote, because it was to vest in *Robert*, only if he was living at death of *William* without issue; which would be in a freehold estate an executory devise, and a plain restriction of time which the law allows. Here is nothing of that unless from the word *immediately*. Now to lay such a stress on that as to make it heirs of the body living at time of her death would be to make these limitations very precarious from uncertain words, thrown in by the drawer of the conveyance, there being no difference in saying immediately after, or from and after, her decease. As to *Hodges v. Buffy* it was a very particular case: the limitation there was first to *Grace* wife to *Edmund Buffy* for and during 59 years, if she should so long live; and after her decease to the use of *Edmund* during life; and after both their deceases in trust for the heirs of the
body

body of *Grace* by *Edmund*, and to their executors, administrators and assigns during the term; and for want of such issue to *Henry Halsby*; *Edmund* died without issue by his wife, who survived; on a bill by the wife the question was, whether the last limitation was too remote? The court held, it was not: but the governing reason was, that the limitation was to the heirs of the body, their executors, administrators, and assigns: which words differed it from *Stanley v. Lee*, and *Clare v. Clare* and all the other cases, and made that a plain case, because there was no eye of an estate tail, as Lord *Hale* says: for it could not go from one heir of the body and his executors and administrators to another heir of the body and his executors and administrators, and therefore must vest in the first person taking, and his executors and administrators: the same as if it had been said: I give it after both their deceases in trust for the eldest son begotten; if no son, then to a daughter, their executors, administrators, and assigns. In *Withers v. Algood* there was a very particular reason attending, viz. words of limitation superadded to the words of limitation. It was also limited to the heirs of the body of three strangers, who must take as purchasers; for their ancestors took nothing which made it a strong case for that; and therefore Lord *Talbot*, putting them altogether, made them all take as purchasers; and the only use made of that case in *Bagshaw v. Spencer* was to shew, that, where a plain intent of testator was expressed to make heirs of the body take as purchasers, notwithstanding the rule of law which makes them words of limitation, they may be construed as words of purchase. *Price v. Price* was on marriage; on which there could be no doubt, if it had been freehold estate, but the court would construe heirs of the body to be first and every other son. As to the older cases, *Peacock v. Spooner* was laid weight upon; and indeed if that is taken to be an authority throughout, it is a very strong one. I have a copy of the minutes of the opinions of the judges in the *House of Lords*, which were six against two; viz. *Atkins*, *Gregory*, (who reported the opinion of *Holt C. J.*) *Rokeby*, *Powel*, and *Turton*, for the decree of Lord *Jefferies*; and *Nevil* and *Lechmere* for that of the Lords commissioners; so that it was a judgment contrary to the opinion of a great majority of the judges; which plainly accounts for the doubt always expressed on the mention of that case, and why the court resorts to another reason. It was beside a case on marriage-settlement of a term. Then *Webb v. Webb* is a strong authority against the plaintiff for the opinion I now mention; and that was on a marriage. In *Stanley v. Lee*, the limitation was very different; and the question there was on the double contingency, whether that could be admitted or not.

As to the other question, supposing it would not vest absolutely in *Sarah Sharp*, I am of opinion, it would in the heirs of her body; and she having a child, it would be the same thing as to the plaintiff,

then it will be the same, as if it had been to the issue of her body ; in which case, if there was sufficient ground to construe them words of purchase, it would vest in that issue as soon as born, and the same as if to her children. And in those cases, when the words *heirs of the body* are construed to be words of purchase in the same sense as *issue*, it was never held necessary that the issue should survive the first taker so as to be such person as in strictness should be heir ; for it is not like a limitation to the heir of the body in the singular number, which would be such a description as to shew, that such person, as was strictly heir, should take. That is not the construction : but *heirs of the body*, when construed words of purchase in such a limitation, have been construed in the sense of *issue* ; and whenever born, it vested. There is great reason in it ; for if the daughter had lived and married, there is no reason to say, that daughter should not be advanced by this in life of her mother, unless there is something to restrain it to heirs of the body at time of her death ; which there is not here, unless the word immediately be so taken, which is only the same as from and after her decease.

Plaintiff therefore is not intitled ; and the bill must be dismissed, but without costs.

Case 73. Methwold *versus* Walbank, March 15, 1750-1,

Agreement to
assign fees of
gaoler, and
profits of tap-
house : not
carried into
execution.

BILL to carry into execution an agreement for assignment of the fees and profits of the office of keeping *Bridewell*, and of the profits of the tap-house.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The keeper of a house of correction I will never suffer to assign over the profits and fees of his office ; for it must plainly tend to oppression and extortion, and should not receive countenance. It is contrary to the plain intent of the statute 23 *H. 6. cap. 10* commonly called the statute of ease and favour. I will never carry such an agreement into execution in a court of equity ; for though the word *sheriff* is mentioned there, it meant to provide against all these mischiefs, and extends to all.

As to the latter part of the case also, I will never allow it ; for it tends to increase riot and debauchery among the prisoners.

Dismiss the bill therefore.

Tickel

Tickel *versus* Short, *March* 14, 1750-1.

Case 74.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The rule of equity is, that if an order is sent by a principal to a Factor or cor-
factor to make an insurance; and he charges his principal, as if it ^{respondent}
was made; if he never in fact has made that insurance, he is confi- ^{pretending}
dered as the insurer himself. In a transaction between merchants in ^{to insure as}
different countries one sends to the other to insure, who pretends to ^{directed,}
do it, and charges his correspondent as if done; he shall, after a ^{charged as}
loss happens, be charged as the insurer: that is a right principle; but ^{insurer; not}
if such factor employs an agent, that equity will not extend over to ^{so of an agent}
that agent. ^{employed by}
^{him.}

If one merchant sends an account current to another in a different ^{Account cur-}
country, on which a balance is made due to himself; the other keeps ^{rent kept two}
it by him about two years without objection: the rule of this court ^{years: stated.}
and of merchants is, that it is considered as a stated account.

Denton *versus* Shellard, *March* 16, 1750-1.

Case 75.

THE decree having directed an account to be taken of a sum of ^{Interest if ge-}
money, which by marriage-articles was to be laid out in pur- ^{nerally de-}
chase of land, part for a jointure, directed, that it should answer in- ^{creed, con-}
terest without saying at what rate. The master computed it at five ^{strued legal:}
per cent. ^{but still by the}
^{nature of the}
^{fund, and if}
^{out of land}
^{or money.}
^{considered as}
^{lands reduced}
^{to 4 per cent.}

Exception to the report, for this being to be considered as land, ^{the rate ought to be no higher than is usually charged on land, viz.}
four *per cent.* ^{lands reduced}
^{to 4 per cent.}

Against which it was said, the computation has been made in the
usual way upon a general direction of interest. The court in many
cases gives five, and that is the rule generally, where a legacy is pay-
able out of personal estate, unless on circumstances. Nothing arises
from the nature of the fund; for this must be considered as personal;
as such the account is directed to be taken. If every small circum-
stance will take it out of the general rule, it will reduce the rule to
nothing: the decree was by the late *Master of the Rolls*, and has given
interest; and the constant practice at the *Rolls* during his time was,
that that meant legal interest. This was in 1746, when interest was
very high; all which might have influenced him to direct in this
manner; and it is the same as if he had directed it at five.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It is certainly a hardship, where interest is not particularly directed to be five, to decree five; but sometimes the court cannot avoid it, though desirable to come at it, as where it is on personal security: but the court always lays hold of a circumstance to reduce things to a reasonable rate, and according to what the fund will produce. What is the circumstance here? Where a decree directs interests generally, it is to be sure commonly construed legal interests; the masters therefore are not to blame to follow that rule: but still that must be construed by the nature of the fund. If this then was a legacy out of land, though interest is given generally, there would be no doubt, but the master, when it came before him, should consider it *secundum subjectam materiam*; and it is still open to do so on exception to the report, and judge that the decree meant such interest, as the court gives, when money is charged on land. This is not directly that case, but a middle case. The fund is strictly personal; yet it retains the nature of land still: and if the court considers it as land to any purpose, it ought to do so to reduce it to four. Therefore allow the exception.

Case 76. Jones *versus* Lewis, March 18, 1750-1.

A Decree had been against defendant's husband (to whom she was administratrix) for a general account of assets, and for payment of the balance.

Defendant, decreed to account for assets, delivers goods to a solicitor, who is robbed: defendant not to be charged. Exception by defendant to the report; for that certain goods, which had been delivered by her to her solicitor, and offered to plaintiff, had been since stolen from her solicitor; for which she therefore was not accountable; that they came into his hands in nature of a trustee, who kept them as his own, and was robbed thereof, and should not be responsible. *Coggs v. Bernard*, Lord Ray. 909. *Morely v. Morely*, 2 C. C. 2. and the doctrine in *Southcot's case*, 4 Co. 83. long looked on not to be law.

Bailee, trustee, &c. keeping as their own discharged. *E. con.* Plaintiff is not answerable for any loss by means of defendant's negligence; for she delivering the goods to her solicitor was a voluntary act, which she had no occasion to do, but should have kept them in her own hands. Though persons come by right of executorship or representation to the possession of goods, they are not impowered to entrust them to another: nor ought she to have detained them after the decree, which had determined the right; they are kept therefore at her peril.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I will now consider this case, as if the robbery had been without any tender of the goods at all to the plaintiff. It is certain, that if bailee of goods, against whom there is an action of account at law, loses the goods by robbery, that is a discharge in an action of account at law; and it is proved, (and, I think, reasonably) that if a trustee is robbed, that robbery properly proved shall be a discharge, provided he keeps them so, as he would keep his own. So it is as to an executor or administrator, who is not to be charged further than goods come to his hands; and for these not to be charged, unless guilty of a *devastavit*; and if robbed, and he could not avoid it, he is not to be charged, at least in this court. How it would be at law I know not: for I know no case of that at law. The defendant is administratrix: supposing these goods had been in her own custody, and she had been robbed, I am clear of opinion, if that fact be made out, (which can only be by circumstances, as it is probably made out here) she ought to have been discharged of these goods; and that notwithstanding no tender thereof; for that was a superabundant act; for it is a decree against her husband not for delivery of the goods, but for a general account of assets, and nothing directed to be paid but what was found on the balance. The only doubt then is, that they were not lost out of her custody, but her solicitor's, where they were put by her for a particular purpose. I do not know, that a bailee, executor, administrator, or trustee, are bound to keep goods always in their own hands. They are to keep them as their own, and take the same care; if therefore a man lodged trust money with a banker, if lost in many cases the court has discharged the trustee, especially if lost out of the banker's hands by robbery. In the present case what has been done, is, what she would have done with her own; leaving them with her solicitor in order to be delivered to plaintiff when proper so to do; and why might she not do that? It is the same as if they had been in her own custody; and there is no pretence that they were collusively put into the hands of her solicitor. It would be too hard to charge her with these things lost; this exception therefore must be allowed.

Kirkby *versus* Clayton, March 23, 1750-1.

Case 77.

A Sum of money being given in trust for the child of *Archibald Cunningham*, if he left any at time of his death, remainder over to a young Lady, who married *Kirby*, with power to the trustees to apply the produce for advancement, maintenance, education, and preferment; *Cunningham* being near sixty, and his wife a little above forty, but having no child at present, a petition was preferred on part

Petition by a Remainder of money, on which a contingent, though not probable, interest might arise to have it paid; not granted.

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of *Kirkby* and his wife as the only person now *in esse* intitled, and no great probability of any other coming *in esse*, to have all the remaining and growing produce applied for the petitioner.

On a former application the court gave 1000 *l.* out of the produce : there had been then an affidavit by *Cunningham* and his wife, that they believed, the wife was then with child, which since proved otherwise ; and therefore the present petition seemed to be made.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is a most extraordinary application, it is asking the court to do that, which can be only done by the legislature ; and which, if an application was made to the legislature for a private act of parliament, they would not and ought not to do under the circumstances ; for it is asking to dispose of an estate, on which a contingent interest may arise on no remote possibility to a person, who, if he comes *in esse*, will be intitled to the whole. How then can the court give the accumulated produce to a subsequent remainder, when there is such an interest capable of arising, and which, I cannot presume, is not likely to happen, as he may have children by this wife or by another, for ought that appears ? It rests then on the trustees power devolved on the court. The court has thought fit formerly to give a considerable sum, especially as no settlement ; then it is not reasonable to go much farther, and impossible to do what is asked. But as there is no great probability of a person's coming *in esse* the court would assist them as much as possible ; and may perhaps under the general head of maintenance order some certain annual sum to be paid to her separate use not beyond 50 *l. per ann.* but cannot go further.

This was not opposed ; and directed till further order.

Case 78. Fuller *versus* Hooper, March 23, 1750-1.

PETITION to vary minutes of decree.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

A will considered as to the testament, consisting of all the parts including codicil ; and as to the instrument, the writing.

A will is to be considered in two lights, as to the testament and the instrument. The testament is the result and effect in point of law, of what is the will ; and that consists of all the parts ; and a codicil is then a part of the will, all making but one testament : but it may be made at different times and different circumstances, and therefore there may be a different intention at making one and the other. The instrument is that writing in which the will is contained

tained : the testatrix here meant to refer to the instrument, not to the testament which takes in all the parts. Suppose she had by her will given 50*l.* to all her nephews except those after mentioned : and at considerable distance of time after increase of fortune and alteration in her family, makes a codicil, and thereby gives a legacy to one of the nephews : should that exclude from the 50*l.* when probably it was meant additionally, as a codicil commonly is ? That would be for me to exclude by conjecture.

Brownsword *versus* Edwards, March 20, 1750-1. Case 79.

FRANCIS BROWNSWORD devised the premises to two persons and their heirs to receive the rents and profits, until that little boy, commonly called *John Brownsword*, should attain twenty-one, which would be 14 Oct. 1746, in trust in the mean time and from time to time to place the same out at interest for the improvement of the estate ; and if he should live to attain the said age of twenty-one, or have issue, then to the said *John Brownsword* and the heirs of his body : but if the said *John Brownsword* should happen to die before the age of twenty-one, and without issue, then in the same manner he devised it to the same persons in trust, till that little girl commonly called *Sarah Brownsword*, should attain the age of twenty-one, which would be at such a time : but if she should happen to die, &c. exactly in the same words as the former devise, then to the other collateral branches of his family : and for want of such issue to his own right heirs for ever.

John Brownsword attained twenty-one, and died without issue, having devised all his estate real and personal to his wife the present plaintiff, who charged in her bill, that the son described in the will was the legitimate son of the testator by the defendant *Anne Edwards* ; on which the relief was prayed, that the said defendant might discover, whether she was lawfully married to testator, at what time, in whose presence, and where, and whether she had not issue thereby.

To this discovery *Ann Edwards* put in a plea, where she was not bound to answer on this ground ; she averred by her plea, that testator was before married to her own sister, by whom he had children, who survived him ; and consequently, if she was married to him afterward, it would be an incestuous marriage contrary to law, and subject her to the penalties and punishments the law inflicts on such a crime.

It was argued, that this plea must be taken to be true, this being a criminal matter ; for ever since the *St. H. 8.* one cannot legally marry his wife's sister after death of his first wife ; then she would

Plea and demurrer.

Plea to discovery of marriage, as it would subject to punishment for incest in ecclesiastical court though one party dead allowed.

Devise to trustees in fee, if B. attains twenty-one or has issue to B. and heirs of his body ; but if B. dies before twenty-one and without issue over : B. attains twenty-one, and dies without issue : an estate T. vested in B. at twenty-one or on having issue, and the limitation over a remainder, which takes place on failure of issue of B.

be liable to prosecution in ecclesiastical court for incest, which is of ecclesiastical consueance. It is as much a crime as any made so by the common law; and that it is a grievous one, appears indisputably from one of the canon laws inflicting a penance, which in the eye of the law is looked on as a corporal punishment; and when sued in ecclesiastical court, her answer in the court confessing it, would convict her. That she would be liable, *Hicks v. Harris*, *Carth.* 271, 2 *Sal.* 548, 4 *Mod.* 182. nor is a suit of that kind in ecclesiastical court put an end to by any statute of limitations or death of either party.

Against the plea. Plaintiff's right is founded on the fact of legitimacy of her husband, and there was a lawful marriage between testator and defendant; and every court leans in favour of legitimacy. Defendants may in many instances protect themselves against making discoveries attended with penal consequences: but it must be shewn, that that will necessarily follow: which does not appear in this case: for this is not a natural incest, such as forbid by the laws of nature, but only *malum prohibitum*, put an end to by death of either party, after which a suit cannot be instituted in ecclesiastical court for the punishment. Nor does the case cited determine, that the party is subject to ecclesiastical censure; only determining that it is a matter proper for their jurisdiction. On a bill suggesting the wilfull loss of a ship for that the party had insured to twenty times the value, though that is made felony by the statute, yet where defendant is required to set forth, what insurances he made on the ship, he is never allowed to protect himself against that; of which there are several instances. In *Wilson v. Prince*, *Pas.* 1746. a bill was for the earnings of a ship in the *East India company's service*, which she might have made, if she had performed her voyage, charging that defendant had insured so largely, that it was his interest to lose the ship, and requiring account of what sums were taken up; defendant pleaded, that having taken up 3000 *l.* of the company, and taken an oath to trade for no more, if it appeared, he had, he might be liable to indictment for perjury, and his answer read in evidence against him: the plea was over-ruled. If this plea should turn out false in fact, though in general cases there would be a judgment in chief against the false pleader, yet in this the court could not give that judgment: so that this would answer defendant's purpose as well as if it was ever so fair, and the court cannot then do right to the plaintiff. It might perhaps subject defendant to a small penance: whereas, preventing legitimacy, it is of great consequence on the other side.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This appears a very plain case, in which defendant may protect herself from making a discovery of her marriage; and I am afraid,
 2 if

if the court should over-rule such a plea, it would be setting up the oath *ex officio*; which then the parliament in the time of *Charles I.* would in vain have taken away, if the party might come into this court for it. The general rule is, that no one is bound to answer so as to subject himself to punishment, whether that punishment arises by the ecclesiastical law or the law of the land. Incest is undoubtedly punishable in ecclesiastical court; and such a crime is generally excepted out of the acts of pardon. The ecclesiastical court has consueance of incest in two respects, *diverso intuitu*: first judge of the legality of the marriage, and to pronounce sentence of nullity; and if they do so, proceeding lawfully and rightfully, it binds all parties, being the judgment of a court having proper jurisdiction of the cause. The other is to censure and punish persons guilty by ecclesiastical censure, as for fornication, adultery, &c. Nor is it material what the nature of the punishment is. It is a punishment which must be performed or got rid of by commutation, which is like a fine. Then consider the present case. The discovery whether lawfully married takes in the whole, whether married in fact, and whether that marriage was lawful. Defendant has pleaded to it; which she may do; and in the plea it is proper to bring in facts and averments to support that plea: whereas a demurrer can be to nothing but what appears on the face of the bill, otherwise it would be a speaking demurrer. But here it was necessary to bring in such an averment, that testator was lawfully married before to her sister, and had issue; which is a fact necessary to shew; and that fact she has taken on herself to prove: the plea therefore is regular in form, and good in substance. The objection to the plea is, that one of the parties to the incestuous marriage being dead, there can be no proceeding afterward. I always took the distinction to be what is laid down in *Hicks v. Harris*, that by the law of the land the ecclesiastical court cannot proceed to judge of the marriage and to pronounce sentence of nullity after death of one of the married parties, especially where there is issue, because it tends to bastardise the issue; and none after death of one of the parties to that marriage is to be bastardised: but there is no rule of law standing to prevent either of the parties from punishment after death of the other. Suppose it was an offence of adultery or fornication, there is no rule of the civil or ecclesiastical law, that after death of one of the parties the survivor may not be punished for the offence: undoubtedly they may, either by proceeding *ex officio*, by office of the ecclesiastical judge, or by promotion of a proper informant. Then why may not the ecclesiastical court do it in the case of incest, whether without the formality of marriage or attended with it? But it is said, *Hicks v. Harris* is no judicial determination in the point, and that all that was material before the court, was the point of jurisdiction; which is true: but there was a plain difference. If the court held, that the

None bound to answer so as to subject to punishment.

Incest consueable in ecclesiastical court as to legality of marriage and punishment.

Averments proper to support a plea.

Demurrer only to what on face of the bill: else a speaking demurrer.

Ecclesiastical court cannot annul marriage after death of one party, as it bastardises the issue: but may punish the other for incest or fornication.

Sentence in ecclesiastical court for fornication, &c. in a criminal way, not evidence against the issue; otherwise if on the point of the marriage, and no collusion.

proceeding (and this is an answer to one part of the objection) even for the censure against the surviving party would have tended to affect the legitimacy of the marriage or the issue, the court of *B. R.* would have stopped there: but they went on this, that it could not be given in evidence against the issue or the plaintiff claiming under that issue: as was determined solemnly in *B. R.* on a long trial at bar, directed out of this court in *Hillyard v. Grantbam*, in which I was of counsel. In that cause during life of the father and mother there had been a proceeding against both of them in the consistory court of *Lincoln* for living together in fornication, and sentence given against them. On the trial that sentence was offered in evidence to prove, that they were not married: the whole court were of opinion that it could not be given in evidence; because first it was a criminal matter, and could not be given in evidence in a civil cause; next, that it was *res inter alios acta*, and could not affect the issue: but they held, that if it had been a sentence on the point of the marriage on a question of the lawfulness of the marriage, it, being a sentence of a court having proper jurisdiction, might have been given in evidence. If indeed there had been collusion that might be shewn on the part of the child to take off the force of it; because collusion affects every thing: but if no collusion, it binds all the world: but in a proceeding in a criminal way that could not be given in evidence; and that was the distinction, the court went on in *Hicks v. Harris*. But if there had not been that authority, I should not have doubted on the nature of the thing, but that the ecclesiastical court might have proceeded after death of one party as well for incest as fornication; in which case there is no doubt they may. Thus far as to the merits of the plea. Some collateral arguments have been used, that it is not in every case the party shall protect himself against relief in this court upon an allegation, that it will subject him to a supposed crime. It is

Usury, forgery. Though court will not compel a discovery, it will not create a defence, but direct a trial.

true, it never creates a defence against relief in this court; therefore in case of usury or forgery, if proof can be made of it, the court will let the cause go on still to a hearing, but will not force the party by his own oath to subject himself to punishment for it. In a bill to inquire into the reality of deeds on suggestion of forgery, the court has entertained jurisdiction of the cause; though it does not oblige the party to a discovery, but directs an issue to try whether forged. I remember a case where there was a deed of rent-charge suggested to be forged: it was tried twice at law, and found for the deed: a bill was afterward brought to set it aside for forgery, and to have it delivered up to be cancelled. Lord King, notwithstanding the two trials, which had been in *Avowry* and *Replevin*, directed an issue: whereon it was found forged, and, I remember, was cancelled and cut to pieces in court. There are several instances of that: so that the relief the party may have is no objection. As to the objection from the consequence of allowing this plea if the defendant should fail in the proof of it, that would be an objection to the

the allowing any plea to a discovery : though it would be no objection to a demurrer, because that must abide by the bill : but all pleas must suggest a fact : it must go to a hearing ; and if the party does not prove that fact, which is necessary to support the plea, the plaintiff is not to lose the benefit of his discovery : but the court may direct an examination on interrogatories in order to supply that. The plea therefore ought to be allowed.

Demurrer must abide by the bill. Pleas suggest a fact, to be proved.

Next as to the demurrer of *Sarah Brownsword* for that plaintiff had not made out a title, the defendant's remainder being vested, and her claim was on failure of that estate tail in *John Brownsword*.

For plaintiff. These limitations must be taken to be executory devises, such as rested in suspense and contingency ; and on the events, which happened, the subsequent limitations could never arise ; for both events must first happen ; viz. *John* must die before twenty-one without issue : whereas he attained twenty-one. Nor is there sufficient to warrant the turning this executory devise into a remainder. The testator meant to create a temporary trust to have continuance, till *John* came of age, and then that it should vest absolutely in him ; or if he died before twenty-one leaving issue, then it should go to that issue ; so that it is to be taken distributively. That this construction has been made in similar cases, viz. that both events of dying without issue and before twenty-one must happen, before the contingent devise over takes place, see *Eq. Ab.* 188, and *1 Sid.* 148. In any other construction the testator has omitted (what he never could intend to do) the providing for the event of *John's* dying under age leaving issue.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

As this is a question upon the legal title to an estate on the construction of a will, if there was any doubt, I should not determine it on demurrer ; but would, notwithstanding the inclination of my opinion might be in favour of defendant, over-rule the demurrer without prejudice to defendant's insisting on the same matters by way of answer ; so that it might more fully come before the court at the hearing : this the court sometimes does on the construction of wills. But if the opinion of the court is, that as on the face of the bill plaintiff has no title, and the will is set forth *verbatim* in the bill ; it is just, and more for the benefit of the parties, to cut it short on the demurrer ; since it must be still determined just on the same matters as are before the court on the demurrer. In these cases of wills the governing rule of construction is the intent of testator ;

On construction of a will, demurrer over-ruled without prejudice : unless on face of bill no title in plaintiff ; demurrer allowed.

Intent of testator the rule of construction: if the words can be complied with.

tor; which the court is to find out by his words, and to construe conformable thereto, so far as it is possible consistent with the rules of law. The intent here was plain: here were two children, testator considered as his own: whether legitimate or not, I enter not into the question. On this demurrer I must take them to be legitimate. He had a mind to make a provision for them; and the material point is, that it is a limitation to them in tail; and if their issue failed, he intended plainly to give it over to the other collateral branches of his family, and for want of such issue to his own right heirs for ever. The question is, whether I can by construction, or on the strict literal meaning of the words, let in the right heirs of testator so as to defeat all the subsequent limitations? This would be plainly contrary to his intent: but if the force of the words is such, as that the intent cannot be complied with, the rule of law must take place. It is said, he has given nothing over but on the contingency of *John's* dying without issue under age. Consider, what necessity there is from the words to construe it in that manner, which would be to defeat his intent. Having first given the whole legal fee to trustees and their heirs, he did not intend either of these two children should have any thing vested till twenty-one or the having issue, and then to have an estate-tail; consequently as soon as *John* attained twenty-one, or had issue, though he died before twenty-one, that defeated and determined the estate in law given to the trustees, and vested a fee tail in him. He did attain twenty-one, and therefore had an intail; as he would, if he died before twenty-one, but had issue. Then the construction could not be, as insisted for plaintiff, as with a double aspect; if he attained twenty-one then to vest in him an estate; or if he died before, leaving issue, then to give it to that issue: that is not the construction of the will: but it is to give an estate tail in either event: so that such issue would take as heir of the body of his father an estate tail from him, in whom in point of law it vested, which estate would defeat the fee in the trustees. Then as to the subsequent words, if the court is compelled to make the construction the plaintiff insists on, the court will do it: but however in the construction of wills the court has construed the words conformably to the intent of testator as much as possible, ranging in a different order and transposing them to comply therewith. There is no necessity to do either in this case, or to supply material words: but there is a plain, natural construction upon these words, *viz.* if the said *John* shall happen to die before twenty-one, and also shall happen to die without issue: which construction plainly makes the dying without issue to go through the whole, and fully answers the intent, which was in that manner. Had the first devise been to

Words transposed or supplied by court to comply with intent.

John and his heirs, this construction, I believe, could not be made; for where there is such a contingent limitation, I do not know, that the court has changed *heirs* into *heirs of the body* to make it so throughout. But much stronger constructions have been made than this in devises; *Cr. C.* 185, and other cases in *Corke*; as in devise to one and his heirs, and if he should die before twenty-one or without issue then over, the court has said, it was not the intent to disinherit the issue, and therefore *or* should be construed *and*: but if the first limitation had been in tail, there would be no occasion to resort to that, but the court would have made the construction I do now; *viz.* if he dies without issue before twenty-one then over by way of executory devise; if he dies without issue after twenty-one, when the estate had vested in him, it would go by way of remainder; because he had made his original devise capable of a proper remainder; in which case the court will always construe it a remainder. An estate tail is capable of a remainder, and it is natural to expect a remainder after it. It is contrary to his intent to let in this remainder to the right heirs to defeat all the intermediate limitations to his family. This is the intent of testator, and well warranted by an easy construction of the words of the will. The demurrer therefore must be allowed.

Ex Parte Williamson, *March* 25, 1751.

Case 80.

PETITION that the court might disallow the certificate of the bankrupt *Williamson*, formerly a merchant in *Corke*, having purchased several shares of the seamen who had taken the rich prizes of *The Marquis D' Antin* and *Lewis Erasme*, and having assigned the same over to Mr. *Mackay* his correspondent in *London*, as a security for what he owed *Mackay*, who had principally taken out the commission against him; which the now petitioners (several of whom had bills depending in *Chancery* and *the Exchequer* for setting aside the said sales of shares) insisted, was fraudulently taken out.

Bankrupts.

Certificate allowed, notwithstanding a suspicion in the court of the view in taking out the commission.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I have myself very great jealousy and suspicion concerning the view with which this commission was taken out; and therefore gave the utmost latitude to the petitioners to have inspection of books and papers to make inquiry into the bankrupt's affairs, and with greater latitude than in most cases; because it was giving this liberty to them, before they were creditors under the commission: but another view, I had, was my dislike to traders in *Ireland* coming over here, and obtaining commissions by collusion against

Trader in *Ireland*, &c. contracting debts here, and coming over, commission may be taken out; but liberty to creditors in *Ireland* to come and prove debts.

themselves; therefore I gave this liberty to see, if there were any creditors in *Ireland*, who might come over, and prove their debts by the commission, that they need not be surpris'd; for as there they have no acts of parliament touching bankruptcy, it would be mischievous to creditors in that country, if this method was allowed. But here has been no application to me to supersede this commission; therefore it is not now before me to consider, whether regularly taken out, or whether there was a sufficient debt; or whether the bankrupt was a sufficient trader in *England* to support the commission: for in such case application should have been to supersede it: but if that had been the case, it would have failed; because it has been determined, that where a man, residing in one part of the realm or in other countries, contracts debts here, if he comes over here, a commission of bankruptcy may be taken out against him, as in the case of those who reside in the *Plantations*: although that may be managed so as to be attended with inconvenience as between *England* and *Ireland*. But the question now is, whether there is sufficient ground to allow this certificate or disallow it? As to that I sit here in exe-

Form of granting certificate, a matter of judgment; but not arbitrarily disallowed, if requisites complied with: unless fraud or concealment.

h.

cution of an act of parliament directing, under what terms a bankrupt shall have his certificate, requiring it to be signed by four parts in five in number and value of the creditors, who proved their debts under the commission, which must be allowed by the commissioners, and afterward by the Lord *Chancellor*, or two judges to whom he shall refer it, without whose allowance it cannot have effect. There are no compulsory words in the clause to oblige the Lord *Chancellor* or the judges to allow the certificate; nor do I know, that a *mandamus* would lie to them; for it is a matter of judgment: yet not arbitrarily so, for they must proceed by rules; otherwise proceedings under commissions of bankruptcy would be very precarious. These rules are pointed out by the act of parliament; but if these requisites are complied with, the Lord *Chancellor* ought to allow the certificate, and not arbitrarily say, he will disallow it. If not complied with, or if there is ground for the Lord *Chancellor* to think there is fraud or concealment, he may absolutely disallow it, as he may for fraud or misbehaviour in the bankrupt himself. Which brings it to the question, whether there is sufficient ground from the behaviour of the bankrupt on his books and of the assignees, whether there have been fraudulent acts or concealment? Another question is, whether the petitioners have stated themselves in the condition of proper persons to oppose that certificate?

But first to consider it on the merits. There was to be sure great suspicion from appearances, particularly from the great haste in obtaining this certificate. It was a case arising in *Ireland*, where

where there might be a great many creditors, who should have an opportunity to prove their debts; therefore I thought further time and consideration requisite; which has been had, and the books brought over from *Ireland*, and as much as possible opportunity given to inspect them. The great objection that appeared on the inspection, and which struck one at first, was the great difference between the account in *Williamson's* books and that set out by *Mackay*: but that is satisfactorily accounted for, at least at present: for it is sworn, there was great imperfection in the bankrupt's books: and from such negligence in accounts bankruptcies often happen. But these *items* appearing in authentick books of the bankrupt, whether in letter-books or other books it is the same as to the justice of the case, that being a foundation afterward to carry them into the proper books and to consider the result of the whole, which is an answer to the objection. Another thing that arises, is, that if there had been creditors in *Ireland*, who had reason to complain, and could have come in and proved debts under this commission, or shewn fraud in the bankrupt as to his estate and effects, this length of time taken, which is above a year and a half, would have given opportunity for it: but none have come in. There is no ground therefore from the merits of the case to refuse the signing this certificate; for bare jealousy and suspicion (which, I cannot say, but I have) is not sufficient to proceed on.

But all this may be out of the case, when we consider the question I postponed, though first in the order of things, whether the petitioners are now proper to object to this certificate? Their first application produced an order 2d *August* 1749, whereby liberty was given to one *Sharp* to prove his debt, and that such other of the petitioners should proceed with their suit with effect; and the making any dividend was staid. Consider the making that order. Several petitioners applied to me: none but *Sharp* had then made affidavit of a debt; to whom only I could give liberty to come and prove debts; as he only had laid a foundation for it; the other petitioners, plaintiffs in the causes in *Exchequer* and this court, not having by affidavit laid a foundation to shew there was a debt. But I did the utmost I could, for them; though they had not laid the common foundation for liberty to go before the commissioners to prove debts, I suspended, that they might have time to do it. *Sharp* has gone before the commissioners, and claimed a debt, but not proved it. It is not enough to lay before the commissioners a judgment or bond; that will not do without an affidavit; for all that may be by collusion: but neither is done. His meaning was, that, as he had the person in execution, if he had proved his debt, he would be put to his election to take relief under the commission or to proceed

Affidavits of debts by petitioning creditors necessary.

Creditor under execution must elect to proceed at law or under commission.

proceed at law. The other petitioners have done nothing: it is said, they are only plaintiffs in equity, and could not do it: but equitable as well as legal demands may be proved under a commission, though an equitable creditor cannot take out a commission. There would have been a proper ground for the commissioners to admit them as claimants; and then it would have been for the judgment of the court, whether they would have suspended the signing the certificate, till the causes brought to set aside those bills of sale were determined: but barely coming before the commissioners, and saying there is such a debt, is not sufficient without an affidavit. Consequently no person before me has a right to dispute signing this certificate, there not being sufficient to bring them within the rule. It is a maxim, that there must be an end of things; I must not delay for ever; and very full time has been given for every person from *Ireland* to come before the court, if they thought fit.

The certificate therefore must be allowed.

Case 81.

Rigden versus Vallier, March 25, 1751.

Father by deed grants lands in consideration of natural love to two children and their heirs equally to be divided between them: a tenancy in common.

This a covenant to stand seised.

GEORGE EVERINGDEN, in 1710 executed a deed, “to all christian people to whom this present writing shall come, I *George Everingden*, in consideration of the natural love and affection I bear to my wife and children, and for the firm settling and assuring of all my real and personal estate on my said wife and children after my decease, give, grant, and confirm to my daughter *Margaret* a parcel of land (not now in question.) Next I also by these presents give, grant, and confirm unto my two daughters *Margaret* and *Hannah* the rents and profits of certain lands (which he particularly describes) during the life of my said wife, equally to be divided between them, paying 5*l.* per ann. to my wife; and after decease of my wife my said two daughters *Margaret* and *Hannah* to have the said last-mentioned lands to them; and their heirs for ever equally to be divided between them; and lastly I do give, grant, and confirm to my five daughters (enumerating them) all my personal estate equally to be divided between them after all my debts and funeral charges paid and satisfied.”

This was signed and sealed by him in presence of three witnesses. He died in 1714; his wife died; as did also *Hannah* one of the two daughters, after having married *Rigden*, by whom she had the present plaintiffs, who brought this bill as co-heirs

heirs of *Hannab*, tenant in common with defendant *Margaret* under this settlement and disposition, for account of rents and profits of a moiety of this estate, the value of which estate was about twenty pounds *per ann.* to have a partition and deeds and writings produced and secured.

For plaintiffs. The whole depends on a question of right, turned upon the words *equally, &c.* being in a covenant to stand seised to uses. In *Fisher v. Wigg*, 1 *Wil.* 14. 1 *Lord Ray.* 632, are all the authorities on this head, that these words make a tenancy in common. They clearly do so in a will; and so from the nature of this provision, by a father for his children, so that he could not mean a survivorship; for he must suppose every child may have issue, and be the root of a family, whom he could not mean to exclude. The same words are used in disposing his personal estate, where there is no doubt of his meaning, which could not be to go to the survivors of the five. Then the question is whether there is any rule of law, saying that intent shall not prevail; or whether there is any thing to prevent it, from the nature of this as a conveyance? This falls under the rule of wills, not of conveyances at common law; so that the ground, why these words make not a tenancy in common, in common law conveyances, holds not as to a deed to uses; which requires not technical words, as deeds at common law do, but operates according to the intent, which may be expressed in any words, and shall have a more liberal construction. It is always a question of construction, whether the words used sufficiently shew the intent of the parties; for that must be shewn. If grantor had said *to hold as tenants in common, not as jointenants*, it would then have been plain; and there is no difference between using the words themselves, or such as necessarily imply it. There never was a case even on the strictest deed, where these words were determined to be a jointenancy. This was fully argued in *Fisher v. Wigg*, where it was held, that in a surrender of copyhold to uses, these words make a tenancy in common, against *Holt C. J.* who cites no authority for his opinion. This has stood ever since; is the latest; and is warranted by the majority of the court in *Smith v. Johnson*, there cited; and as it has stood so long, though perhaps at first indifferent which way determined, there is no reason to desire to shake it; for that would be leaning on technical, artificial reasonings, against the real justice of the case, and meaning of the parties; for if the meaning did not imply it, it would not have that construction in a will. Where no precise form of words is required, (as there is not to make a tenancy in common) a liberality of construction is introduced since the statute of uses, which was not before; as in springing uses and in the construction of powers, which before were construed rigorously.

There are other authorities beside; as 2 *Ven.* 365, not so strong as this; for there the words *equally to be divided* came before *their heirs*; also the note of *Hammerton v. Clayton* 1 Lord Ray 631. A question of this kind came before Your Lordship lately in *Baugh v. Herbert*, on a conveyance of the statute of uses to four, and the heirs of their bodies share and share alike: Your Lordship stopped the cause short, and sent it to B. R. but the parties having agreed, it was never argued. This estate being of so small value, it would be mercy to the parties for this court to determine it: nor is there difficulty or danger in determining it, the authorities being of that side to which a court of justice leans, in favour of the intent against a jointenancy, which the court now does certainly not favour.

For defendant. This question has never yet been settled. The ground upon which the plaintiffs have gone, is, that a tenancy in common was certainly meant from the construction courts of justice have put on similar words in wills, which are construed by intent of the parties on the face of it. But this was not the intent: and though similar words in a will may carry that intent, that is no argument. A deed must be understood in that sense, the law puts on the words; and the maker must be supposed to understand it, as the law does; and therefore may be presumed to mean different from what it would be in a will. The words mean only an equal division of the profits; which may be effectually answered by a jointenancy as well as the other; for a jointenancy conveys a right to each party to have a moiety; and the consequence of survivorship does not follow to be in the party's view: as where one creates an estate tail, he does not immediately consider the consequences of its being barrable by fine or recovery: therefore he is not necessarily to be presumed to think of survivorship: nor will the court construe these words different from what the law says when the words do not on the face import that. There is a plain distinction between construing the same words different in a will and a deed; for in a deed the law puts that construction, which is a sufficient foundation to the court to put the same. Wherever an estate is conveyed to two by one title, it is a jointenancy; where two distinct several titles, a tenancy in common. *Co. Lit.* Then the right of survivorship does not arise from the particular intent of the parties to make it so, but from the estate, as a necessary consequence of a separate or joint title. A jointenancy cannot be made a tenancy in common, *et e contra*; so that if this is but one title it cannot be in common; differing from a will, which arises merely from the intent of the party, the law allowing to have its operation: but in a deed the law not allowing it because contrary to the nature of the conveyance. The addition of *equally to be divided* does not from the nature

Jointenancy
and tenancy
in common,
distinguished.

nature of the conveyance give them separate estates ; only shewing they shall enjoy in equal moieties, which is consistent with claiming under one title, consequently with jointenancy. As to this being a covenant to stand seised, and therefore to have a more liberal construction than common law deeds, there is no ground for that ; which would cause strange confusion, and destroy the sole reason, why a favourable construction is given to wills in opposition to deeds, because in one testator is supposed *inops consilii*, in the other not, and what the statute of uses never intended. The statute intended to convert every thing, which was a trust at common law, (as a use was) into a legal estate ; not converting the estate into the use, but *e contra* ; and therefore all springing uses and executory devises are allowed, only because before the statute there might be such, to arise by many kind of conveyances, provided within a compass of time, not tending to perpetuity. *Fisher v. Wigg* was a very doubtful case, and seldom has been cited with any certainty of reliance on the authority : beside it is said in *Stringer v. Philips*, as in *Eq. Ab.* 291. that case was reversed : and though it should not be so, yet that, together with the fact of no judgment of it appearing on record, is a proof, that the parties made it up, and an appeal was advised ; all which goes a good way to take off its force as a precedent.

Lord Chancellor was at first not inclined to determine it, as it was barely a legal title : but said, he would look into it, and come at it, if he could without determining a point, which might affect several other cases, which he must not do notwithstanding the small value, but the parties must go further.

This day he delivered his opinion.

I have considered this cause as fully, as I could ; and will tell my thoughts with this declaration at the same time, that if either of the parties are desirous to have it further considered in a reasonable way so as to avoid expence, I shall be willing to put it in that way.

The question is, whether a jointenancy or in common, depends on a deed or writing ; for, though executed as a deed, I am not sure, it was intended to take effect as a deed. It begins as a deed & poll : but is a disposition of his whole real and personal estate, and to take effect after his decease, in consideration of, &c. If this is not a will or a covenant to stand seised, it would be void, being without livery, because a freehold cannot pass *in futuro* : but being in consideration of love and affection, though by single deed without livery, if may be good by way of covenant to stand seised, because that does not operate by transmutation of possession, but the use

Deed in consideration of love and affection good without livery as a covenant to stand seised.

use remains in grantor until taken out of him by force of the consideration.

What words
make tenancy
in common
in a will.

This question depends on a very litigated and disputed point in the books, though clear in one view; the words *equally to be divided* in a will certainly making a tenancy in common, as now established, though that was at first doubted. Without the word *divided* it would be tenancy in common; as if devised to them equally; or share and share alike. But it is said, there is no sufficient authority that this would make tenancy in common in a deed, and that the books and cases take it to be otherwise. It is true, the books do generally, where this subject is mentioned, take it to be otherwise: yet there is no solemn determination that I can find on that particular point, where it is adjudged against a title on that foot, viz. that *equally to be divided* will not make a tenancy in common in a deed: though it is said over and over again to be sufficient in a will, though not in a deed. The only solemn determination then is *Fisher v. Wigg*; which is relied on as a judgment of *B. R.* that in a surrender of copyhold to uses, these words make a tenancy in common. But it is objected thereto as a doubtful authority, as but the opinion of two judges against so great a man as *Holt*; and it is further said to be apprehended, that judgment was reversed. On search I cannot find it to be so, or that a writ of error was brought; so that judgment stands, and is so far an authority, that that is the construction in case of surrender of copyhold lands. Another case was cited, which passed as an authority by the judges in that case, viz. *2 Ven. 365.* which, if rightly reported, is in point. I caused the *Register's* book to be searched, and cannot find any decree entered to warrant this report: but it is cited by *Gould J.* and it is taken, that there was such a case: and it might be so, though not entered, for the parties frequently acquiesce, and there is often ground to proceed no farther. As to *Hammerton v. Clayton*, I cannot conceive how *Sir Edward Northey*, (who was of counsel on the other side) should be at the pains to cite a case not in the books, but merely on record, against his client: however I desired a search to be made in *C. B.* for the record in that case, and it is not to be found on the judgment roll mentioned in the book. There is another authority (such as it is) of *Smith v. Johnson*; which, if rightly stated, was on a feoffment, and was not disputed by *Holt*; which is a countenance therefore for this opinion, and the authority of two judges against one still remaining and standing. Which brings it to the question, how this is to be determined? On the best consideration I am inclined to be of opinion, that on this deed or instrument (call it as you will) it makes a tenancy in common; and that it would be a direct contradiction to the manifest intent of this father, who was providing for his children, to say otherwise. I have considered the arguments in *Fisher v. Wigg*;

Wigg; and it is truly said at the bar, that there is nothing more to be said on either side, than is said there. Though no one has more reverence for the opinion of *Holt* C. J. than I have, yet I think the arguments of the other judges more founded on the nature and reason of the thing, and that *Holt's* is more founded on artificial arguments of the law, and drawn out from a great deal of fine learning from arguments in other cases. *Gould's* argument has great weight, and is not to me satisfactorily answered. That case was indeed on a surrender of copyhold lands in the *Lord's Court*; and the judges, who argued to make it a tenancy in common, held, that such a surrender was not to be construed in the strictness of the thing, but like a will. *Holt* contended, it must be construed as a deed: in one thing he was certainly right, that a surrender of copyhold lands to uses is not to be considered on the foot of a use or trust, for they are not within the statute of uses; therefore such surrender is only a direction to the Lord whom to admit; and when admitted, surrenderer is in by grant of the Lord, not of the surrenderor; so that it is of a particular nature, not as a use or trust on the statute. But the arguments of the judges is of weight in that case, hold full as strong in a covenant to stand seised; as this (though I am not quite sure whether it was meant a deed or a will) will be construed, the use till the event happens remaining in the grantor being sufficient to support the uses declared in the deed. But it is objected, that there is no warrant to construe a deed to uses as to the limitations and words of it, in a greater latitude than a conveyance by way of feoffment or other conveyance at common law, and if construed in a different manner would cause great confusion: which I hold to be true in general: for the statute joining the estate and the use together, it becomes one entire conveyance by force of the statute, and the words are to be construed the same way: but this is to be taken with some restriction. As to the words of limitation in a deed, they are to be sure to be construed in that manner, viz. in the same sense; but where they are words of regulation or modification of the estate, as the words *equally to be divided* are, and not words of limitation, I think, there is no harm in giving them greater latitude in deeds on the statute of uses, which are trusts at common law, than on feoffments, which are strict conveyances at common law. The case cited by *Gould* J. from *Co. Lit.* 190. b. as to a verdict is very material to the present. The only distinction taken between the construction of words in a verdict and in other cases is this: in a special verdict words may be construed more largely than in pleading: and therefore it is often said, that in a verdict a description, that would be bad in a count or plea in bar, may be good in a verdict, and taken by intendment of the jury: but there is no book, saying that words may be taken more loosely in a special verdict than in a deed. It is admitted, that if he had said, "to hold one moiety to one and her heirs, and the other moiety

Surrender of copyhold to uses not within stat of uses.

Deed to uses not construed in greater latitude than common law conveyances as to words of limitation: otherwise of words of modification of the estate.

Words in a verdict construed more largely than in pleading.

Tenancy in
common on
the intent
without words
equally, &c.

The court
leans against
survivor.

Equitable
consideration
in provisions
for children;
and preferred
to voluntary
dispositions.

This near a
testamentary
act.

“to the other and her heirs,” it would have been good not only in such a deed, but in a feoffment; and considering how the sense of these words *equally to be divided* is now established there is no reasonable difference. Thus it stands on the authority of *Fisher v. Wigg*: but there are other reasons in the present case greatly strengthening it in favour of the plaintiffs: first this was a father providing for his children, and must be construed therefore to make a provision for their families; and it is not reasonable to think he should make it so, that if one died, her provision should survive to the other; which is the consequence of a jointenancy, and cannot be supposed to be his intent. This court has taken a latitude in construing a tenancy in common without the words *equally to be divided* on the foot of the intent; and therefore determined, that if two men jointly and equally advance a sum of money on a mortgage, suppose in fee, and take that security to them and their heirs without any words *equally to be divided between them*, there shall be no survivorship; and so if they were to foreclose the estate, the estate should be divided between them, because their intent is presumed to be so. It has been said indeed, that if two men make a purchase, they may be understood to purchase a kind of chance between themselves, which of them shall survive: but it has been determined, that if two purchase, and one advances more of the purchase-money than the other, there shall be no survivorship, tho’ there are not the words *equally to be divided*, or to hold as *tenants in common*; which shews, how strongly the court has leaned against survivorship, and created a tenancy in common by construction on the intent of the parties. How nearly does this come to the present case? There is indeed no consideration here; only a voluntary act: but the court always considers provisions for children as having an equitable consideration; and therefore though the court cannot prefer such voluntary dispositions to debts for valuable consideration, yet they are always preferred to other voluntary dispositions. Then why may not the court as in other cases construe according to the intent, which was to provide for their families? But this man has put his own construction on these words in the disposition of his personal estate, which is allowed to be a tenancy in common; then it is very extraordinary, that he shall be presumed to use them in another part of the deed so as to defeat his intent. Another thing is, that this appears to be as near a testamentary act as can possibly be; nor do I know, why this may not be proved as a will in the ecclesiastical court, notwithstanding the solemnity of execution by sealing and delivery, according to the case of *Kibbot v. Lee*; for there was a will sealed and delivered; and in a late case of *Trimner v. Jackson* in *B. R.* sent out of this court. He makes use indeed of the words give, grant, and confirm: but that is not material; and then says after his decease: so of his personal estate after his debts and funeral paid; which is

plainly

plainly a testamentary disposition, his whole personal estate being in his power during his life, and they are in the case of residuary legatees. So that it appears to be in his view as a testamentary act: and admitted, that in a will, these words make a tenancy in common: and I think, it ought to be so construed here. My opinion therefore at present is, that agreeable to *Fisher v. Wigg*, strengthened by those further observations, the plaintiffs are intitled to have a decree for the division of this estate. But notwithstanding that I own, I am satisfied, yet as it is liable to objection from what is said in the books, and the doubts thrown out of this authority of *Fisher v. Wigg*, if the defendant is desirous of having it further considered, I will not send a case to all the judges of either court; because they now put these causes in a new way in the paper as other causes; which may be very proper in cases of value, but, creating a great deal of expence to the parties, this case will not bear it; if desired therefore, I will take a method, often used by my predecessors anciently, of sending it to two particular judges, who then will hear it at their chambers.

Oldham *versus* Hand, April 24, 1751.

Case 82.

ON a contest in the ecclesiastical court for an administration it was granted to the plaintiff and another. The widow of the party threatened to appeal; they desired the defendant an attorney to make it up between them. It was compounded; and afterward, when the whole was finished, they voluntarily agreed to give him 2000*l.* a-piece; and that, as he swore, without any sollicitation from him. They rest on this for several years; when a bill was brought to impeach it: after answer put in, the plaintiff ratifies and confirms it.

Gift to attorney after the cause over, without any distress, not set aside: otherwise if before or during the cause.

For plaintiff. There is a strong relation between an attorney, who is in nature of a sworn officer of the court, and his client; and on that all transactions between them are examined into; if therefore an attorney, retained to appear, does not, the court will make a summary order, and compel him; and not leave it to an action as in other cases: nor will an attorney be suffered to be changed without leave of court. If an attorney, pending the transaction, gets from his client an extraordinary security for payment of money, or extraordinary conveyances of any part of his estate, it will be set aside without any particular evidence of imposition; for a gift shall not be taken without letting the client see what is the demand: he is not allowed to take a present without a bill brought in, though a client may be allowed to be generous, and give more than the bill. The rule is the same on guardian's getting a present on the ward coming of age, though no proof of actual imposition at the time. In *Pierce v. Waring* * 13 Nov. 1745, the defendant having been guardian, after plaintiff's coming of age on settling accounts, took a voluntary

Guardian settling accounts as soon as infant came of age, and retaining a gratuity, set aside. * Cited ante in *Cray v. Mansfield*, 7 Feb. 1749.

Proof Hines
Tal. 3.

voluntary present, which your Lordship set aside merely on that, as dangerous. So in *Wainfley v. Booth* on a bill by representative of *Japhet Crook* to set aside a bond by him to his attorney to pay 1000*l.* there was no ground to impeach it on the particular evidence as not voluntarily done, nor as any actual imposition; the bill was dismissed; it came on a rehearing, and was then argued, laying all the particular proofs out of the case; and on reconsidering it, and the consequences that would otherwise be, your Lordship gave relief. That was grounded on *Hine's* case, which was determined on the same reasoning, and affirmed in *House of Lords*; it was a bill to set aside a security, said to be a gratuity for services, though it might be more than would be allowed on a taxation; Lord *Talbot* relieved, except as to what he really deserved, decreeing the bond to stand as a security for such. This case is the same; being in nature of a security a transfer to him who has other parts of the estate in his hands, and is to account for the whole. The bill demands a general account of the estate: the defendant insists on allowance of 4000*l.* no bill is given in: no writing at the time, but barely this transfer.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

All the cases cited differ on the material ground. *Waring* had been concerned as guardian, and, as soon as the infant came of age, made up the account and retained that gratuity to himself, the same influence of the guardian continuing, being done when his effects were to be delivered over. *Japhet Crook* was in distress, wanting bail, and could not get out of custody, unless this attorney would get it for him; and the attorney took the bond, before he would do it, being employed by him: the court would not suffer that to stand. *Hine's* case was a bond to a person who pretended to have it in his power to procure evidence, and, before he would do it, took this bond by way of security: the court would not suffer that to stand, because done not by way of reward, but beforehand when under distress for evidence to prove the title set up. This is a very large gratuity indeed; though there had not been that subsequent ratification, I do not see how I could come at it; for it is not obtained by an attorney during the course of the cause, or before it, but the whole was over, and they are judges what to give: much less can I set it aside. I have heard of attorneys and solicitors, who undertake a cause not only to manage, but to find evidence. I do not know how I could come at that even: it is secret in the minds of people, who know on what grounds they go, and are better judges often, of what an attorney deserved than the court can be: and when they without any distress judge of the gratuity they think fit to give, the court will not set it aside: though if it could be come at, the court would indeed in such a case censure it: but this is also ratified, which makes it much stronger. The bill therefore must be dismissed

sed to this 4000 *l.* insisted upon by the defendant as a present and gratuity to him.

Hubert *versus* Parsons, April 29, 1751.

Case 83.

BY marriage-articles trustees were to pay the dividends and produce of 9000 *l.* stock to *Philip Hubert* for life, and from and after his decease his wife, if she survived him, should have it for her life; and on trust by mortgage or sale, in case of more than one child of said marriage, to raise 5000 *l.* and pay it to such child, not being an eldest son, at such time, and in such manner and proportion, and with such restriction, as the said *Philip Hubert* in his life or by will should direct, limit, and appoint; for want of appointment to pay the same to such younger son or sons, daughter or daughters, at twenty-one; and till such share or shares of younger son or sons, daughter or daughters, become payable, the interest should be paid toward maintenance and education; if any of these younger child or children died before payable, it should survive, except to the eldest son: provided that, if no appointment of the payment of the portions by the father, the trustees should have power to raise part of this money, or the whole if they thought necessary, for advancement of that younger child, as wanted it: and subject only to the drawing out these provisions, all was given and settled on the eldest son: if no issue of the marriage then in trust for *Philip Hubert*, his executors, administrators, and assigns.

On marriage articles 9000*l.* in trust for husband and wife for life, and for eldest son subject to raise and pay 5000*l.* for younger children as father should appoint; for want of appointment at twenty-one; the interest for maintenance. Mother dies, only one younger son then, who dies two years old. Father cannot claim this 5000*l.* as his representative; not vesting in the children. There are no words for vesting except those for raising and paying at twenty-one.

At death of the mother there were only two sons; the youngest died when but two years old; the father had made no appointment, and brought this bill claiming the 5000 *l.* as administrator and representative to the deceased younger child; for though the time of raising was not yet come, it was absolutely vested in that child, and transmissible; as after the mother's death there could be no other. The question is not on the time of payment, but on the penning of the deed, whether it vested or not? No act could take from the father the benefit of the whole produce during his life; yet as to the children the reversionary interest was to vest in his life. If an eldest or only son lived to an age sufficient to make a will, and gave this away, the father could not have claimed against that, the contingency on which it was given over to him not having happened: so if the son had sold or encumbered it. Suppose one only younger child, who attained twenty-one, money given out of a reversionary interest, and therefore postponed for the sake of the particular person who was to enjoy the use during life, vests notwithstanding a particular time of payment. This is a question of a younger son dying under twenty-one. There is an established distinction (on what foundation of reasoning is not now to be inquired) between the time

of vesting and of payment as to personal estate, that notwithstanding the day of payment is postponed it shall be transmissible: although in favour of land if the person dies before time of payment, it shall sink. The same distinction governs as to personal estate arising on a declaration of trust as it would on a will. There is no authority saying, that as to a declaration of trust of personal estate it should be considered as land: though often determined to be so on a will. On devise of residue of personal estate to wife for life, and afterward to other persons, one of whom died in her life, Lord *Talbot* held, his executor should come in for an equal share, because the interest vested. The only doubt that can be is whether it should be payable immediately to the representative, or only at such time as if the child had lived to that age: but the court never considers it so in the case of a child. Though the father has power to anticipate the day of payment, yet, being but one younger child, his power as to the quantity and substance of the gift was at an end: if more, it was uncertain during the father's life, what particular share any one child could take: if they could take, it must be as joint-tenants: but, being only one, there is an end of that and of all the consequences: he cannot entail or give part of it over on any restriction, for the whole 5000 *l.* must go to that one: so that he could only alter the day of payment, the sum vesting independent thereof. The deed shews it was so meant; for the whole interest is to be paid in mean time, not such part as should be thought proper for maintenance. The drawer thought it transmissible, having made a special provision against it on the death of one under twenty-one, they had no view to the sinking into or concern for the estate: for the power of accelerating payment is not to the father only, but to the trustees if they thought fit.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Portions by will governed by rules from civil law or ecclesiastical court not applicable to a deed.

This is a claim set up by the father in direct contradiction to the intent of the parties in these marriage-articles. On one side, I think the authorities that have been on the cases of portions to be raised out of lands, are to be laid out of the case, and cannot be argued from in favour of the defendant. On the other side, the authorities cited, or which can be cited, on wills or testaments concerning personal estates are to be also laid out of the case; because the rules and determinations in this court on portions or legatory portions by will are drawn from the Civil law or Ecclesiastical court; which cannot take place in this case arising on articles, a deed at common law: though as there is a trust in it, that must be construed in this court, and cannot be governed as to the rules of the Ecclesiastical court, or the rules as to real estates. The question is upon the construction of the deed and intent of the parties; which was, that subject to the provisions therein the whole should be settled for benefit of the eldest son; nothing therefore could be taken from him but according to the

the intent of those provisions. That intent was plainly this, to take out of this 9000 *l.* (a fund provided for the eldest son) 5000 *l.* for younger children by way of portion; which must be construed in a reasonable sense, when they shall be supposed to want the portion; and if any doubt on the construction of these contingencies and the words it must be construed accordingly. All the subsequent trusts are restrained to arise after decease of the father. The time and the occasion both of raising and paying the 5000 *l.* are quite uncertain, because subject to the power of the father. I agree as to the power of proportioning, that was in case of more than one younger child: but still the father had power to direct the time of payment and the manner, though but one younger child. He might have accelerated the payment before twenty-one, or postponed it till a time after twenty-one. So also as to the manner and application; for he might have settled it for benefit of the family, it being *with such restriction, &c.* The power of raising and paying is directed and limited in the same words. There are no words to create any vesting except those for raising and paying, which are at twenty-one. Supposing it had been in a covenant, and the child had died before twenty-one, it never could become due. It is true, in legatory cases, where the Ecclesiastical court judges that it is vested; and the time only of payment postponed, they hold it transmissible, though the child dies before twenty-one: but there is no such rule in construction of the deed, if the child died before twenty-one. It is said the direction of the interest is an evidence the thing was vested; so it is in legatory cases: but this interest was not to be paid till after death of the father, who was to have the whole during his life, whatever contingency happened as to his children. The provision for a survivorship among themselves is, that neither the representative of a child, nor an elder child, should have it. But though by force of the deed it is not payable till twenty-one, yet in default of appointment by the father the trustees have a power: but that will create no vesting, especially as that power could not arise till after the death of the father, and was quite in discretion of the trustees whether they would execute it or not. In his own right the father could not claim any thing out of the capital but in default of issue of the marriage. There is nothing from this deed to make the vesting of this 500 *l.* in prejudice to the eldest son, who was to take the whole fund subject to these portions to younger children: if that was the intent of the parties, it would be a very strange intent to give the father a chance of having this large part of this provision, who was made but tenant for life by the deed. Where personal legacies and proportions by wills are given at twenty-one, or no clause of gift in the will but the direction for payment at twenty-one; if the child dies before twenty-one, it will not be transmissible: nay the principal will not be transmissible, even though

Construction
of portions, is
when the chil-
dren want it.

Interest evi-
dence of vest-
ing in legato-
ry cases.

though this court by its discretion had given the child interest for maintenance in mean time. If taken on that latitude that wills are, here are no words to create a vesting but the words to raise and pay; and the direction of that is, when the child attained twenty-one. If compared to the case of portions out of land, (which I have laid out of the case) if the child attains twenty-one, and survives the father, and dies, though in life of the mother, his portion shall not be raised. But according to the true construction of this deed there are two times of vesting; one if the child attains twenty-one, though in life of the father, and died in life of the father, yet, having attained twenty-one, by force of the trust the portion should be considered as vested, and go to the representative. I will go farther. Suppose the younger child had survived the father, and died before twenty-one, possibly by the construction upon this trust, being a direction to pay the whole interest for maintenance, it might possibly go to the representative; because the child was intitled to the whole interest in mean time according to the intent; the interest follows the property of the principal, as the shadow the substance, and therefore intitled to the principal. But neither of these contingencies happened: the child not attaining twenty-one in the life of, nor surviving, the father: nor any possibility on the construction of this trust to make any other time of vesting, abstracted from the time of payment, except those two, neither of which has happened: consequently this was not a vested interest in the child either on the words of the deed or more strongly according to the intent of the parties. The father then has no right to draw this sum out of the provision for the eldest son; and the bill must be dismissed.

Case 84.

Blanchet versus Foster, April 29, 1751.

Relief against securities, &c. by wife on marriage: unless for valuable consideration, though concealed from husband: but concealment not encouraged; and therefore, unless at wife's request, costs excused.

BILL by husband after wife's death to be relieved against a bond given by her to her aunt just upon the marriage.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

If a woman about to marry parts with part of her property, or gives a security or assignment, they are relievable against in this court: but where a debt is contracted for valuable consideration, though concealed from the husband, it is no fraud on the marriage. But concealment of such securities or debts is not to be encouraged; therefore as this was concealed from the husband at the time and long after the marriage, I should excuse the husband the costs on dismissing his bill, on which I can give no relief, as a consideration is positively sworn to in the answer, and it comes on by bill and answer: but it is also sworn that it was at the request of the wife herself, that the obligee concealed this from the husband. If therefore

therefore she had survived him, she could not have said, her aunt should lose her costs because of that concealment at her own request. The plaintiff is administrator to, and stands in place of, his wife; and the bill must be dismissed with costs to be taxed.

Chancey versus Fenhoulet, April 29, 1751.

Case 85.

DEMURRER to bill for discovery as to the fact of marriage, by which if without consent of particular persons a portion was given over.

Portion given over on marriage without consent; defend nt not compelled to discover marriage.

It was said, the discovery prayed was only of the marriage, not of the consent; and was compared to an estate during widowhood, remainder over; in which Lord *Talbot* held plaintiff intitled to such discovery.

Lord Chancellor thought it an extreme hard demand upon the defendant's own discovery. When the continuance of an estate is only during widowhood, it is no more than a conditional limitation: but this makes a forfeiture of that, which would be otherwise absolutely in the defendant. As to the discovery being of the marriage, not of the consent, that is only in words; for the bill charges the marriage to be without consent.

Jacomb versus Harwood, April 30, 1751.

Case 86.

At the Rolls.

GIBSON and Sutton were partners in the business of a scrivener and banker. The mother of the plaintiff Mrs. *Jacomb*, and the mother of the plaintiff Mrs. *Long*, both kept cash in this shop; and each of them, out of the cash belonging to her, ordered a sum to be wrote off from her account, and that a note or security for each of these sums should be given to each of the plaintiffs; which was done, and signed by the cashier belonging to the partnership, *Gibson* survived this about a year, and made Sutton and another executors. The cashier by his answer (there being no other evidence) believed from entries in the books, that interest for this was paid to the death of *Gibson*, and mentioned payments of interest also for three years at four *per cent.* by Sutton after death of *Gibson*, when in point of law the partnership-effects survived to Sutton: but after that the two plaintiffs separately called on Sutton for a further security than those bare notes: and therefore judgment was entered up in an action against him not as executor of *Gibson*, but as a surviving partner for a partnership-debt. That judgment was defeasanced by an instru-

Interest on banker's note from circumstances, tho' no evidence of agreement for it. Judgment in action against surviving partner a partnership-debt still. Each executor has entire controul of testator's personal estate: may release, pay, or transfer, without the other. So of one administrator, tho' formerly questioned.

One executor may apply in satisfaction of his own demand, if no fraud.

Mortgage coming into equity not desired to go to law, as it must finally come round again.

ment signed by the plaintiffs as to their respective demands, agreeing that no execution should be taken on either of these judgments until such a time. In that agreement it was particularly inserted, that these judgments thus obtained by the two plaintiffs should not hinder either of them from any remedy they might be intitled to in a court of equity against *Gibson's* estate or effects, if they were not otherwise paid or discharged. Immediately before the respite of the execution expired, *Sutton*, being called on or knowing that the time was near, mortgaged part of a leasehold estate at *Marybone*, which was confessedly part of the separate estate of *Gibson* his deceased partner.

On this foot was the present bill, in which the plaintiff joined, brought as partnership creditors to subject the chattel interest in that mortgage to a satisfaction not of a single demand, to which both intitled, but of two separate demands, by a sale to pay what was due for principal, interest, and costs.

It did not appear, otherwise than from the two notes, in what manner the money, thus ordered by the mothers of the plaintiffs to be carried from their two accounts, was left in hands of the partners, whether as cash kept generally or only those two sums. The first consideration was, whether this from the time of the notes entered into was such a demand as in its nature would carry interest, which appeared clearly to have been paid from time to time? Next as to what happened subsequent to the death of *Gibson*, viz. the judgments at the separate suit of the two plaintiffs against *Sutton* as surviving partner; and whether *Sutton*, being only one of two executors of *Gibson*, could in point of law make a security of that so vested in him?

Sir John Strange.

No doubt but in the general way of transacting, money paid into a goldsmith's shop with a common cash note by that goldsmith will not carry interest: but however when two daughters have money advanced by their mothers, come to the shop, and demand those sums, it is not unnatural to think, that, if not paid to them then, there must be some agreement to let it remain there, not as cash, but for a profit to be paid to them. There is no evidence of an agreement; but the strongest from circumstances, interest being paid for four years from the time, the plaintiffs had that right. The entries in their books (who both knew their business) are proper evidence of notice that it lay in their hands on the foot of carrying interest, and that four *per cent.* which, not being the legal interest, affords room to think, there might be some agreement.

I am not to presume, a goldsmith's or banker's books have wrong entries. They are always entries at the time: but if not so, they are easily detected. There is no ground therefore to say, the interest was wrongfully received or improperly paid, but the plaintiffs will be intitled to retain it.

Next if these judgments were obtained against him as surviving partner on foundation of a suit in the life of the two partners, no doubt but that will be at law an extinguishment of any remedy, the party might have on the notes in a court of law; for *transit in rem judicatam*: it would be the same in case of a bond, had that been given instead of a judgment, it would be at law an extinguishment of the simple contract-debt: yet it would be a partnership-debt on the judgment still: but this appears to be an action against him as surviving partner, and therefore I do not know, though it may be an extinguishment of the demand on the notes in any action against him on them, whether this may be set up as a variation of the security, that the partnership is discharged, (as it certainly is as to any action on the notes) and that it is not a partnership-debt. I do not see, why I am not to consider it still as a partnership-debt, only bettered by the security being converted to a judgment from a common note. Just before the expiration of the time, he gained by giving the judgments, is the subsequent security given; it is not therefore an unreasonable supposition, either that he was called on, or that, knowing execution might be taken, he applied to them, and offered further security; which was the separate estate of *Gibson*; on which they would actually have a right to come finally, if they had not satisfaction another way. He was intitled thereto as one of the executors of *Gibson*. Nothing is clearer than this, and I never knew it questioned in the case of executors, that each executor has the entire controul of the personal estate of testator, may release, or pay a debt, or transfer any part of testator's property, without concurrence of the other executor. It has indeed been questioned in case of administrators, whether one administrator had such power equal to that of executor; and the attempt has been to distinguish that from the case of executors, who, it was always agreed, might do so; and though in *Hudson v. Hudson*, it was said, that the *Lord Chancellor* had been of opinion, that one administrator could not release so as to bind the other, yet when that case was more narrowly looked into, it appeared clearly, that that was applicable to the particular circumstances of that case; and the words of the decree in that case are, that the plaintiffs are not barred by the accounts stated or release accepted from demanding an account from the two sons in a court of equity. But after that, was *Willand v. Fenn*, where it was held in *B. R.* after three arguments, that one administrator stood on the same ground and foundation
with

Ecclesiastical
court requires
surviving a d-
ministrator
(though not
executor) to
come back
for probate.
At common
law otherwise.

with one executor. The distinction taken between them seems to arise from a *dictum* in *Bacon's Use of the Law*, 4 *Vcl.* 83. and the ecclesiastical court now hold it necessary in the case of two administrators to come back to them on death of one for a probate, though not so in the case of executors: but the common law is otherwise: and Lord *Talbot* in *Hern v. Cheny* determined contrary thereto; and in *Rastal* 560. an action is brought by surviving administrator. If then clearly one executor may without concurrence of the other dispose of and appropriate testator's estate to the discharge of any just demand (for if applied by him fraudulently it is a question of another consideration) how does the present case stand? The plaintiffs were originally intitled to these sums on the note; one partner dies, the other is sued as a partner, and judgment obtained against him: I should strongly incline to think, that notwithstanding that judgment it still continues a partnership-debt, being obtained as surviving partner. But if not to; if even it is his own debt, it is still certain, that an executor possessed, as this appears to be, of the personal effects of *Gibson*, to whom he was executor, might apply any part thereof even to the satisfaction of his own demand, unless circumstances of fraud or collusion. But of that there is no evidence before me, nor cross bill by the other executor or separate creditors impeaching the nature of this transaction; which I must take to be fair, for I cannot presume fraud. It is very material, that the present plaintiffs are undoubtedly still creditors unsatisfied; and therefore it is not an application of the separate estate of *Gibson* to demands, which ought not to be countenanced in a court of equity, but to that to which the executor had a right to apply it, and for which perhaps that estate of his without this act of *Sutton* must have been subject to have made satisfaction; for certainly the partnership-creditors would have a right to go against the separate estates of either of the partners after the partnership effects. But this is nothing as to the justice of plaintiffs demands who have used diligence to get at their money in a lawful and honest way, which all courts encourage; nor is their method taken impeached. They are not then to be blamed, supposing their demands were against *Sutton* on the judgment, in getting the best security they can for their money, which was this mortgage. I should do an injury to this estate, if I was to say, why do not you go to law? Suppose they brought an ejectment at law and recovered, as they might undoubtedly do, this assignment being good in law, that would be only turning them round; a bill must be brought to redeem; for they would not be allowed to keep this estate beyond a satisfaction of their demands. Nor do I know any case, where a mortgagee comes into equity, that the court desires him to go to law, and recover as he can; because the court sees it must finally come round into a court of equity again, and therefore disposes of it at once.

Note:

Note : At the bar was cited *Nugent v. Giffard* in 1738, a bill by a bond-creditor of *A.* executor of Sir *Richard B.* for satisfaction out of a security of 3000 *l.* assigned to plaintiff by *A.* The daughters of Sir *Richard* insisted, they were creditors of Sir *Richard* by marriage articles, and that the fund assigned, the benefit whereof was claimed by plaintiff, was part of the specifick assets of Sir *Richard*, who under the articles was intitled to the trust for life, to the wife for life, then to the issue, which were only two daughters. *Lord Chancellor* held, that, supposing them creditors, yet was the disposition by *A.* good ; and that they were not intitled to pursue this as specifick assets of Sir *Richard*, but plaintiff ought to have the benefit of his assignment : that undoubtedly in point of law an executor can alien all the assets ; and, when so disposed of, no creditor can follow them ; for the creditor's demand is personal against the executor, not alien : that as to the objection of this court's going farther than a court of law, the court will follow the particular assets in case of fraud or collusion, but not so where executor disposes of it for valuable consideration ; and it would be very mischievous, if this court should controul the power of executors. A purchaser cannot know, what the particular debts are, nor come here for an account of those debts ; for his knowledge or not knowledge of the debts in general is immaterial as to the validity of the assignment, he obtains, provided it is for valuable consideration. As to its being equitable assets only, and the rule that he must take subject to the same equity, that rule prevails not, where the demand is general, but where a lien on the particular thing : otherwise an executor could never dispose of a trust term : that 2 *Ver.* 616. was shortly reported, and grounded on notice to the purchaser of the particular debt due before his purchase and collusion between executor and purchaser, is no assignment to *bona fide* creditor.

Issue, creditors of testator under marriage articles, cannot pursue in equity as specifick assets the fund assigned by executor to a creditor of his own for valuable consideration without fraud, and where no lien.

Revel versus Fox, May 1, 1751.

Case 87.

AN estate to a woman *dum sola*, remainder over. Bill by remainder-man against her as being married to the other defendant *Fox*, with whom she cohabited for three months. Both defendants by their answer denied the marriage : it was endeavoured on part of plaintiff to be proved by circumstances ; and it was said, that this was not in nature of a forfeiture.

Jury proper judges of the fact of marriage denied by answer ; and always lean to support it for a just creditor,

when the debt in name of husband and wife, during cohabitation : if after, doubtful.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It is very like it, being a conditional limitation of an estate which must be taken away from her on marriage. If an action was brought against the defendants for a debt contracted after three months, and after those appearances ended, it would be a very considerable question before a jury: thought a jury always leans to support the marriage in favour of a just creditor, when the debt was contracted in name of the husband and wife: but in such case it would be doubtful, though if contracted directly within these three months it might be otherwise. But the great thing in this case is the shortness of time in which the cohabitation subsisted. It is impossible for me to say, the defendant is a married woman notwithstanding her and her supposed husband both denying it on oath, and at the same time being liable to prosecution in Ecclesiastical court for fornication; against which prosecution these circumstances disclosed to the court could not protect them as being married. Those circumstances are certainly proper evidence of the marriage; for on a limitation over in case of marriage, if a marriage is had, it is probably clandestine; if therefore the court was to say, such circumstances were not evidence, it would be impossible to prove it. But both defendants denying it on oath, and insisting on trying it, it must be tried; for a jury are proper judges of the fact.

Case 88. Cowflade *versus* Cornish, May 2, 1751.

The party
may be exa-
mined on new
interrogatories
without
an order,
the master
being the
judge: not
so of a witness
without a
new order.

MOTION for defendant to suppress interrogatories as filed irregularly without an order, the defendant having been examined on interrogatories before to the same matter; and it is determined, that new interrogatories cannot be exhibited without an order.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I do not take the practice to be, as insisted for defendant, that where there is a general direction in a decree to examine on interrogatories before the Master, as the Master shall direct; if the party has been examined on one set, and afterward there should arise another matter, on which the Master thinks it proper to be examined, it is in the judgment of the Master, whether, and what time, and how often, he thinks fit, that the defendant should be examined: nor is a new order necessary. It is so indeed in case of a witness; for that is different. If a witness is once examined, it might be dangerous without an order to let him be examined again; but that is from the danger of drawing in a witness, when it is known, what

what he has already sworn to: but there is no danger as to the party interrogated, who may be examined *toties quoties* without a new order of court.

Earl of Godolphin *versus* Penneck, May 3, 1754. Case 89.

FRANCIS PENNECK by his will first declared, he would make a disposition of his whole estate and effects. The first disposition was, that all his debts and funeral charges should be first paid and satisfied: then he devises the particular parts of his estate subject thereto, in such manner as he thought fit, among particular persons.

Devise that all debts should be first paid and satisfied: customary lands, surrendered in trust for several and for use of such as testator should appoint, and devised in distinct parts from the rest, are subject to debts; the first disposition running over all.

The bill was on behalf of the plaintiff and the rest of the creditors to have a satisfaction for their debts out of the real and personal estate of testator.

The question was, whether certain customary lands held of the manor part of the dutchy of *Cornwall*, which had been mentioned in the will in distinct parts from the rest of the fee-simple lands, were subject to debts, the testator having surrendered those lands to *B. Penneck*, who declared a trust thereof by deed for several persons, and for the use of such as testator should appoint?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am satisfied, that by the will these lands are subject to debts.

As to the original nature of them, whether they would be liable without the act of the tenant to subject them to payment of debts, it is not sufficiently before me. If copyhold, they undoubtedly would not be so: but they are not copyhold, because by the surrender produced the admittance is to hold according to the custom of the manor, but not according to the will of the Lord: therefore they are customary: whether liable to the payment of debts or not does not appear. There may be instances, in which they may, though they pass by surrender and admittance in the Lord's court; and they may not; there being no proof as to that: therefore that original question must be laid out of the case.

The single question then will rest on the construction of this will, resulting from the acts of testator antecedent, what he had done to subject them, and the construction of that will. As to the acts, he has done sufficient to subject them to any act by his will; for as these customary lands (and so of copyhold) are subject to have a trust

The most liberal construction of wills for creditors.

trust declared, whatever acts are done by his will, will affect them; which brings it to the true construction of this will; by which construction all the lands and every part of them devised thereby are made subject to debts. The rule of law is, and more strongly of this court, that such construction is to be made of wills, as tends to do justice to creditors of testator, and to attain satisfaction of just debts as far as possible; and for that all wills, especially in this court, have received the most liberal construction. Here the first disposition runs over all the subsequent clauses in this will. That was the construction made by Lord King in *Leigh v. The Earl of Warwick*, affirmed in the House of Lords; though there were strong words against its running over the whole: for though testator there had used these general words here, yet afterward in devising the particular parts he had devised them subject to debts, and the question was, whether those other parts not so devised should be by the first clause subject: and it was determined by that general clause to affect the whole notwithstanding the particular devises: that therefore was stronger; and in this I am of opinion, the intent was, that every thing, the testator gave by his will, should be subject to his debts: consequently the trust of these lands must be subject as well as the rest, notwithstanding these are mentioned in distinct parts agreeable to that case on the will of ——— *Booth* before Lord King.

Note: Lord Chancellor said, he took it, that *tenant right* estates in the *North* were subject to debts, though he was not sure of it: and some at the bar seemed to think otherwise.

Case 90.

Ex parte Matthews, May 3, 1751.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Mortgage of ship at sea.

1746.

Ante, 27 Jan.

1749-50.

A mortgage may be made of a ship at sea; and if mortgagee takes all methods in his power to get the possession, such as bill of sale, &c. it will be out of the statute *ſ. 1.* as was held in *Brown v. Heathcote*; which case was taken notice of by the judges in *Ryal v. Rowles*: otherwise no security could be made of a ship at sea. But the suffering the ship to come back, and go on another voyage, made it a very different case from *Brown v. Heathcote*.

Attorney

Attorney General *versus* Cock, May 4, 1751. Case 91.

Master of the Rolls pro Lord Chancellor.

ANNE PARTRIDGE began her will with giving several pecuniary legacies, and among others gives to *Philip James*, the minister or pastor at the meeting-house at *Marloes*, 50*l.* absolutely to his own use; then in a different clause, “*Item, I give and bequeath to William Cock, his heirs and assigns for ever, the premises (describing them) chargeable nevertheless with an annuity of 10*l.* per ann. which I give to the minister belonging to the meeting-house at Marloes aforesaid: but if the said house at Marloes should not be used as a meeting-house after my decease, then to the minister of any other place the protestant dissenters, called Baptists, shall meet in, provided it be in the parish of Hemel-Hampstead;*” with power to the said minister to enter on the premises and distrain.

Annuity to a minister of baptists established as a good charity, like that to quakers, and to go to the successor for time being

Philip James enjoyed the annuity to his death in 1748. The present information was at the relation of his successor for establishment of the charity and continuance of the payment against devisee of the real estate charged therewith.

For Relator. This is not intended for the particular person then minister of the congregation, but in perpetual succession as long as that congregation continued. The court cannot set it aside but on foundation of not being a charitable use. Whether a charity to a congregation of protestant dissenters is a good or superstitious charity, has been no question since the stat. of *William and Mary*. In *Lloyd v. Spillet* 3 *Wil.* 344. it was not doubted but that dissenting ministers might take. In *Attorney General v. Andrews*, 9 March 1748. copyhold lands not surrendered to use of the will were devised for benefit of quakers; on a bill Lord Chancellor established it. It is not in case of a superstitious use, that the king gives it to another charity of the same kind; for whatever is sufficiently described, and yet is a bad charity, is not to go to a charity *cy pres*, but to the crown absolutely; which is not bound to appoint it to any other. That is done only where the charity is not specifically defined, but it must be given to a charity, then the king does it by a privy seal. The act of parliament is not merely an act of toleration; it takes off the penalty; restoring the common right of mankind to worship God according to their own conscience; and it is agreeable to the policy of inviting people to come to trade and live here, and to the policy of every man's disposing of his own as he pleases.

Ante.

For defendant. No person is intitled but the identical minister at making the will and death of testatrix, who must take *eo nomine* as *descriptio personæ*, there being nothing in the will that leads to its being perpetual. If so intended, she would have said *minister for the time being*; but supposing it so, the question is, how far this species of charity ought to be established, and whether it can take effect in law? This court, before it interposes for charity, will consider the nature of it, and not execute every charity, made on religious principles the same of which the testator was; and where that has been done inadvertently by the court, it has been repented; as Sir *Joseph Jekyll* did, after he had directed a charity for old maids to be established, and ordered a rehearing: but that was never had. In *Mendes D'Costa v. D'Pays*, 6 Dec. 1743. *Elias D'Pays*, a Jew, by his will ordered 1200*l.* to be appropriated for establishment of an assembly for the reading their holy and divine law for ever: Lord Chancellor held it an illegal charity, such as this court would not enforce; because it was for the propagation of the *Jewish law* in contradiction to the christian religion, which has been declared to be part of the law and constitution of this kingdom. In *Oakaver's* case, though Sir *Joseph Jekyll* established the charity for choristers, Lord Chancellor would not do it. In *Attorney General v. Eades* 1713. part of a real estate was devised to the poor of a parish commonly called *Anabaptists*; on a bill for establishment of it against the heir at law, who insisted, it was void, Lord *Harcourt* did not incline to think it a good charity, saying he was not satisfied to established a charity of this kind, as it might be a mean to draw people from the church; that it was one thing to tolerate dissenters, and another to establish a perpetual fund for their support; he would therefore consider of it, and desired to be attended with precedents: but it does not appear what became of that case. The act of parliament was not made with a view to create a division, but to give some ease to scrupulous consciences. It is not an act of encouragement, but of toleration, temporarily to exempt persons then in being from the penalty of the law, not for the benefit of scrupulous consciences for ever, or to invite people to such a separate congregation. The establishment of this would encourage any other separate conventicle, which is registered, as *Henley's*, *Westley's*, &c. propagate a constant succession of separatists, and the dissenters might in time come to have more property than those of the church of *England*. The cases cited come not up to this. *Lloyd v. Spillet* (which is nearest) came first before Lord *Talbot*, and twice afterward before Lord *Hardwicke*, and each time received a different determination. Lord Chancellor said there, he was going to deliver an opinion concerning the right to an estate in his own mind quite contrary to intent of testator; though the circumstances were such; he could not do otherwise; so that the trustees had it to their own use, and the charity did not come in question. If there was any doubt as to the intent,

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one would rather lean to stop the progress of this evil. It does not seem to be established by any decree. As to seminaries this charity would clearly not be good: though it is but small, the same rule must be made. It is argued, that this would accrue to the crown as an interest out of a real estate to a superstitious use, and not to the defendant: but the crown takes superstitious uses by the statutes of H. 8. E. 6. and G. 1. not by the common law. The superstitious uses described in the two former cannot take in this, which arises since; and the statute G. 1. is confined to popish uses, vesting all such in the crown without office found. This charity being totally void, there is no ground for the crown's settling it to a new one; and it will fall into the estate for the devisee.

Sir *John Strange*.

This case depends on two points. First whether the relator, within the intent of the will, is intitled to come into this court, or whether the gift is not extinguished or expired at death of *James*? Next supposing him to stand in the same situation as *James* himself, whether the charity is of such a nature as is proper for this court to countenance or establish?

Considering the whole frame of the will, the plain intent of testatrix was not to confine it to the person then minister, but to go upon his death or vacancy to whoever should be his successor from time to time. The interpretation of the devise in fee to *Cock* is, that, as he is to have it to him and his heirs for ever, it should be chargeable in the hands of him and his heirs for ever with this sum payable in manner after-mentioned. Then what is there to restrain these words to the particular person named before? She had completed all the benefit personally designed to *James*, not considering him as the person in all events intitled to this, as he might remove to another place. She had given him 50*l.* absolutely, and does not say, *I give to the said minister*; which might be urged personally to refer to him: though I should have no doubt, even if it had been so. The word aforesaid cannot run back; for all the reference thereof is only to the house called *Marloes*. She plainly intended, this should have a continuation, having provided for the particular accident that did happen, that they might be ejected from the house called *Marloes*, and be forced to assemble in another place in that parish. The relator therefore, supposing it a good charitable use, is intitled to the benefit of this; for I must construe it to mean a minister for the time being.

As to the charity itself, whether it is such as this court would think reasonable to aid in order to carry into execution, it seems on the authorities cited, that this is not now to be made a question; for
not

Baptists on
same foot as
Quakers.

Charity to
Jews not esta-
blished.

Act of tole-
ration not
merely for
those then in
being.

Ashburnham
v. Kirkall
cited ante,
in Attorney
General v.
Lloyd 1 Aug.
1747.

not only that case of the quakers, but that cited for defendant of the Jews, seem strong in support of this. The baptists are persons the legislature have thought proper so far to countenance as a denomination of christians as to extend the toleration to them, standing on the same foot as quakers, another species of dissenters: if therefore the court has established it in case of a provision for quakers, no reason why a difficulty should be made to give this kind of dissenters the benefit of this provision. In the quakers case the court went a great way, not only countenancing it as a good charitable use, but supplying the want of surrender to the use of the will. *D'Costa v. D'Pays* went on this; *Lord Chancellor* refused to carry it into execution, because it was not for the support or encouragement of any denomination of christians whatever; for had it been so, he seems for the reasons given by him to be of opinion, that it ought to be established. I own, I was surpris'd, there have been no other cases in relation to this; which may be from its not being doubted since the act of toleration, whether this sort of people are not to be considered as intitled to the aid and assistance of this court, as to what relates to their own worship and religion, as much as other people. It is said, the act was not designed to have continuance, but only for the scrupulous consciences then in being: but that is not the construction ever put upon it. There are few now who were then in being: yet have they the benefit of that act. I cannot therefore narrow it to that. It is somewhat material, that the late *Mortmain* act has made no distinction between one set of people and another: but however this charity and the death of testatrix was long before the *Mortmain* act; and therefore not affected by the question made, where the testator died after the act, and the will made before, which, it has been determined, should take place. I do not think myself at liberty to consider this question quite at large, but as a matter over which the court has so far exercised its superintendency already.

The relator therefore is intitled to the arrears of the annuity, and a decree for establishment of the charity for the payment for the time to come, and to his costs.

Case 92.

Pinnel versus Hallet, May 11, 1751.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Houses in
London not,
as farm hou-
ses, &c. a sa-
tisfaction of a
covenant in
articles.

Houses purchased in *London* cannot be said to be a satisfaction of a covenant in marriage-articles: so held by Lord *King*, of a house purchased in *London* by old *Peter Courtney*. Farm-houses, &c. which go along with the estate, may be a satisfaction; but houses
in

in *London* are considered as subject to accidents, and therefore less is given for them at first.

The rule the master is to go by in computing the annual value of an estate, is, what is the reasonable computation of the particular value thereof: not by the rule of accident or contingency, by which the value of lands may have greatly fallen, as suppose from some calamity, among the cattle, &c.

Boon *versus* Cornforth, May 13, 1751.

Case 93.

THOMAS BOON an *East India* captain, having only one natural daughter married to defendant, by his will gives 6000*l.* *South Sea* stock to *Richard Dyer* “ on the trust herein after mentioned; that he shall from time to time during the life of my dear daughter employ and dispose of all the interest and produce arising from hence to and for the sole and separate use of her, and not of her husband *Cornforth*, but to be paid into her hands, and her receipts to be a sufficient discharge; and notwithstanding my care of my said daughter my intent is, that she live and cohabit with her said husband; and from and after her decease on further trust to dispose of the said 6000*l.* and interest and dividends from thence to and between her husband *Cornforth* and my daughter’s child and children; viz. her husband shall have and enjoy one half of the interest thereof for and during his natural life, if there shall be no child or children, (*which last words were interlined*) and the child or children the other half; on his death his half shall go to the child or children; but till the child or children attain twenty-one, the husband shall have the whole interest, and on the death of their father they shall have the remaining 3000*l.* but if no such child or children at the time of her death, or they shall die before twenty-one, then to go on further trust as I shall hereafter mention.” In another part of his will, *Item*, I give to *Richard Dyer*, his heirs and assigns, on further trust the above 6000*l.* after death of the aforesaid *Cornforth* and his wife and all the children before coming of age, provided those children die without issue.” Nothing was said in this place, what that further trust should be: but afterward he gives to his daughter and the aforesaid *Dyer*, their heirs and assigns, “ my 2000*l.* stock, which shall always remain in my name, and other stock, which shall also remain in my name, and also all jewels, rest, residue, and remainder, which shall be turned into money and made stock, on trust nevertheless that *Richard Dyer* and my daughter, their heirs and assigns, so far as concerns her trust, shall dispose of all the interest of the 6000*l.* and other stock, to my nephew *Daniel Boon*.” In another clause, “ *Item*, I give to my

“ said daughter the equal possession and right for life to live at *Lee*
 “ place, where I now live, with her husband, to have the use of the
 “ house, plate, linen, and every thing else as her occasion shall re-
 “ quire, as also stabling and fields, and not to be subject to be turned
 “ out by the family of *Boon* or any thing else notwithstanding the in-
 “ tail I am going to make ; and that all my goods, furniture, plate,
 “ books, pictures, and every thing else which at my decease shall be
 “ at my house at *Lee*, shall remain there, and be enjoyed by the
 “ person, who for the time being shall be in possession of the said
 “ house. *Item*, I give and devise all that capital messuage called
 “ *Lee* place, and all those three pieces of grounds in *Lee* which I
 “ lately bought of *H. C.* and other tenements (describing them) and
 “ the little house at *Lee*, to *Richard Dyer* and his heirs in trust for
 “ my daughter for life without impeachment of waste, and from
 “ and after her decease as well the said little house, messuage, and
 “ tenement, so limited to her for life, as all other lands, tenements,
 “ and hereditaments, with their appurtenances, in trust for my ne-
 “ phew *Daniel Boon* for life,” with remainders over to all his ne-
 phews and the issue of those nephews. There was a clause in the
 will, that his nephews should not sell or dispose of any of those heir-
 looms, but that they should go with the house as far as the law
 would admit of.

It having been suggested, that this was one of three wills, liberty
 was given to apply to the prerogative court ; and accordingly a por-
 bate was granted of that which was the original will, by which
 there appeared to be some interlineations. All the questions arose
 on this will. First as to the personal estate, as to the 6000 *l.* and
 the particular goods and chattels comprised under the bequest of the
 things at *Lee* to the daughter. Then as to the real estate, whether
 those three fields pass with the use and occupation of the house to
 her ; and whether she took an estate for life in the residue and bulk
 of his real estate by implication, before such time as the estate is li-
 mited to Mr. *Boon* ?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I have in the best manner I could, considered the will : but of
 all the wills ever under my consideration it is in many parts the most
 inconsistent, repugnant, and the most difficult to make common sense
 of, that I ever met with, all the questions being occasioned by the
 strange inconsistent penning.

Repugnant
 words in a
 will may be
 rejected or
 transposed.

The first on the personal estate depends on several parts of the
 will, the further trust referred to as to the 6000 *l.* being in another
 part, and must still be taken from the subsequent clause, which is a
 disposition of the whole residue of personal estate of testator, who in
 making

making his daughter a co-trustee of that surplus (which might be a continuing trust) did not mean to make her trustee as to the 6000 *l.* of which she was to have the beneficial interest during life. After her decease her husband, if she leaves children, is clearly intitled to one moiety during life, and to the other till all the children attain twenty-one: but if she left no children, the question is, whether he is to take any interest in those dividends during life, or whether they go to *Boon* and his children by the bequest over? I am of opinion, on the best construction I can make of this very odd will, that he will be intitled to all the dividends of this during his life. First consider, as it stood before the alteration by the interlineation (as appears by the probate) of those words, which makes the nonsense and contradiction of the first clause, *viz. if there should be no child or children.* Clearly as it stood at first, if she left children, he would be intitled to half during life, and to the other half till the attaining twenty-one or death: if no children, and he survived her, it was to go to *Boon* the residuary legatee of all his personal estate, but after death of *Cornforth* and his wife; which was a plain and necessary implication, that he was to take the dividend of this whole stock in that case. This is strengthened from the consideration of the circumstances of the parties; for testator could not mean to give him a less interest if no children, and it was to go to a collateral relation, than he meant to do, if she left children, to the prejudice of those children; *Cornforth* being to have it till they attained twenty-one. If that is the construction, then next consider what effect the insertion of those words will have. Reading them with the other part, they are entirely inconsistent and repugnant; something therefore must be rejected, as no sense can be made of it; for if there are contradictory words in a will, which cannot be reconciled, some must be rejected. Which ought I to reject, the words interlined or the entire provision? They crept in by chance; and on this will there is a stronger foundation than in most cases for rejecting them; because it appears by the probate how this interlineation came in, that it arose from the testator's not attending to it, that in the draught of his will there was a complete provision made before for that case. It is a rule in law by *Holt C. J.* in *Cole v. Rawlinson*, that words in a ² Lord Ra. will may be rejected or transposed, if nonsensical. These words are ¹ Sal. twice written in this will; once by mistake; it is natural therefore to transpose those words to the proper place, where they are sensible and not repugnant, and to construe them as if wrote but once.

Next as to the goods, and things at *Lee*; which arises on two clauses in the will. It was taken at the bar, that these two clauses were co-extensive as to the words every thing else: but they are not so. These things expressly enumerated will clearly pass to the daughter. Pictures put up in a house are considered as part of the furniture; and so his household-linen: but a question arises, as to provisions ^{Every thing else at my house means of the same kind, proper to go with the house as heir-looms, viz. fixtures and ornaments.}

*As occasions
shall require
will take in
provisions for
man or horse
there.*

provisions of any kind either for the house or stable, as liquors, corn, hay, &c. and some curiosities he had in his house, *China, Japan, India* pieces for handkerchiefs, watches, and a cane, whether these pass by either and which of those clauses? Taking it on the last clause, which makes them heir-looms, *every thing else, which at my decease shall be at my house*, must be construed things *ejusdem generis*, such as are proper to go with the house as heir-looms; and that the cane, watches, and *India* pieces not made up, cannot pass as heir-looms; much less the liquors, hay, &c. for it means things fixed to the freehold, the *China*, and every thing of that kind set up by way of ornament, and to have continuance along with it, and not consumable as those things are. But on the first clause the question is, what the daughter shall enjoy? There, the construction goes farther, taking in sufficiently corn, hay, and provisions in the house, for it means her occasions of residing and living there, not any occasions whatever, and will take in all kind of provision for man or horse in the house or stable: but those things, which pass not as heir-looms, fall into the residue of the personal estate.

As to the three fields, he meant to pass the use and occupation of the same to his daughter in the first clause, though it is general, that he has given in the latter: it is inaccurate, and the penning different, but he meant them co-extensive.

*Estate for life
by implication,
as on
devise to heir
after death of
another, depends
on the
intent by circumstances.*

Vau. 259.

As to the bulk of the real estate (how much does not appear, nor is it material) I am of opinion, upon the construction of the whole of this strange will, the daughter does not take an estate for life by implication; and it plainly was not intended. It is insisted, that according to the case 13 H. 7. and other cases, where there is a devise to an heir at law after the death of the wife or any other person, there is a devise to the wife or that other person by implication; it shewing the heir at law should not take it, and that the land cannot be in abeyance; and that here is a devise after death of the daughter of all other lands to *Boon*, who is heir at law. That is the general rule; so held in *Gardner v. Sheldon*, with several refined distinctions put by *Vaughan*: but all those cases depend on and arise from circumstances indicating the intent of the testator, and that is not the intent of testator here. *Vaughan* says, it is a vain, idle, distinction, (and I am of opinion with him in that), and that where another thing is given by express words to a devisee, yet he should not take a different thing by implication: but it is another question, where it is the same or part of the same thing. Here testator has given to his daughter the use and occupation of this house; and *Lee* place is the very first thing devised by this clause, under which the devise by implication is contended for. It is not to be thought he intended to give her the use and occupation of this house for life, and afterward the estate to be left for her by implication. But it is stronger from the

the other words; if he intended to give the family of *Boon* nothing but a remainder of this house and the rest of the estate after the daughter's death, he could not think, she would be liable to be turned out. His meaning was this; he was going to devise this house and the rest to *Boon* and his family in possession, which would give the legal estate, and make her liable to be turned out; he therefore directed the possession of this house to her for life, and that they should not turn her out. This is distinct from all the cases put by *Vaughan*; which by the way are done by him in a very odd manner; for he puts cases, and answers them by making those cases different by adding to them. But I will mention this in general, that that case is to be taken *cum grano salis* throughout; and there is a plain opinion of *Vaughan* put at the end of that case directly contrary to law, and so held ever since, *viz.* as to an executory devise after a general dying without issue. But there is one observation plainly shewing, the testator did not intend the daughter should have any estate by implication by this devise, *viz.* the clause creating the heir-looms; where the persons, he declares, shall be restrained from disposing of any of them, are all those, whom he makes tenants for life of this house and other parts of his estate: it is impossible, if he intended to make his daughter tenant for life of this house, lands, and tenements, that he should not name her among those persons he makes tenants for life. The question then is, whether the words will bear this construction? They plainly do, being to be construed distributively *reddendo singula singulis* like the distribution of words in marriage-settlements. The point contended for the defendant being only a devise by implication, and there being all this in the will to rebut that, it is impossible. This observation distinguishes this from all the cases cited in *Gardner v. Sheldon*; for there it was impossible to make that construction; no distribution could be made to imply part of the estate in possession, and the other part in remainder; it was necessary there to make a construction of the whole. The rest of the real estate therefore is given to Mr. *Boon* with remainders over.

Taylor versus Rochford, May 18, 1751.

Case 94.

At the Exchequer.

BILL to set aside a bill of sale of plaintiff's prize-money, made for 150 *l.* and a subsequent agreement confirming it. The original sale was to Dr. *Jennison*, a physician at the place to which the prize was brought in, and where the plaintiff was then sick. The second agreement recited the bill of sale for 150 *l. sterling*; then recited that a bill in *Chancery* had been filed to set it aside, which, the plaintiff agreed, should be dismissed with costs; and in consideration

Confirmation of sailor's share of prize-money set aside. The manager decreed to account with allowance for what remitted.

Post, How v.
Edwards
17 June 1754.

ration of 60 *l.* paid or secured to be paid, the plaintiff confirms and establishes the bill of sale, and renounces all claim on account of the prize or other demands, and all suits in law or equity. Mr. *Fitzgerald*, a defendant, the same day gave his note to pay the 60 *l.* out of the second dividend.

For plaintiff. This case is within the rule of *Brown v. Foley*, that no physician or chirurgion should buy a sailor's share of a prize; many of which sales have been set aside; particularly in *Baldwin v. Rochford*, 11 November 1748, against the present defendants, by Lord *Hardwicke*, who said, the point on which cases of this kind must be determined, is fraud from the circumstances and value of the thing parted with; that they are within the rule of *post obits*, and marriage brocade-bonds, and stronger from the publick inconvenience as being in the case of sailors, and that the rule of the civil law in setting aside bargains for less than half value was of weight; all which arguments hold here; as also the inequality of circumstances of the parties, the poverty of the plaintiff, misrepresentation, and threats on him; all these cases must be determined on the circumstances; and a court of equity will not lay down rules, for then people will endeavour to evade them. The second agreement is as fraudulent as the former sale; has all the marks of fraud, and of a double hatching, as Lord *Cowper* phrases; is within the act of parliament 20 G. 2. c. 24. and is a continuation of the former fraud. *Wiseman v. Beake*, 2 Ver. 121. That an account may also be directed against Mr. *Fitzgerald*, who has received part, appears from a late case, where the bill was to set aside a conveyance against Mr. *Copinger* the purchaser, who resided in *Ireland*, and against Mr. *Wintborp* the agent here, who received money on account of *Copinger*; the late *Master of the Rolls* made a decree against all the defendants, that they should account; *Wintborp* appealed, as being charged with 400 *l.* which, he said, he had remitted to *Copinger*. Lord *Chancellor*, 16 March 1749. affirmed the decree, with this variation, he first ordered an inquiry whether *Wintborp* had paid any thing out of the sum, and how the account stood between him and *Copinger*, and so far as he had remitted, that he should have an allowance. In like manner should the account be against *Fitzgerald*.

For defendants. Though several cases have been determined on general contracts for purchase of seamen's shares, so that it is too much to say, the original (though made by another from whom defendants purchased) can be supported; yet this is in a different light upon the second contract, upon which only defendants insist; and if fairly made, it ought not to be set aside in equity upon inequality. Any injury, and any right to satisfaction for it, whether by violence or fraud, may be compounded, on whatever terms the parties please, if truly consant, and no suppression of truth, or suggestion

suggestion of falsehood; and though a prejudice ensues to one side, and the right appears afterward clear, there is no foundation to set it aside. The determination of a cause is always a foundation for composition (as *Lord Chancellor* has often said) let the event be what it would. This is the rule of courts of law and equity both. The law will suppose a doubt, when a suit is depending. The words of *Lord Macclesfield* in *Cann v. Cann*, 1 *Will.* 724. were repeated by *Lord Hardwicke* in *Stapilton v. Stapilton*, 2 *August* 1739. where two brothers, one born before marriage, the other after, were bred up in the father's family, the eldest taken to be legitimate; after their coming of age, the father, to accommodate and have a settlement made, agreed with his family; this was afterward not acquiesced in; and the elder was found a bastard: *Lord Chancellor* mentioning the foundation of all compromises, would not set aside the agreement. So *Cole v. Gibbons*. 3 *Will.* 290. though a bad agreement. In *Lord Chesterfield v. Janssen* the whole court said, the contract, whether it was bad before or not, was made good by the confirmation. At the time of purchase of these shares, it was not known what they would be; which is the only way of judging, and not *ex post facto* that it was at under value. In the opinion of several, these contracts were good; because there was some hazard, and it could not be known what would be the determination in a court of equity. The legal property by these assignments was transferred over, and an action lay in a court of law for money had and received; and there had been several recoveries at law on these assignments: though courts of equity have since held, that the plaintiff had so strong an equity as to overturn the rule of law, that was not then known.

The whole *Court* were of opinion to give plaintiff relief. The case has been argued, as if the court could not now consider the original agreement: yet they must in order to see, whether plaintiff was fully apprised of his right at the time of the second, and further because this is a bill to set aside both. *Jennison* acted as an agent for the other defendants, who waited like harpies and land-sharks to draw this poor sailor into this agreement, for what was worth 400 *l.* though not then known to be so. The second agreement is as bad as the first. There is suggestion of falsehood in it; for it recites the bill of sale to be 150 *l. sterling*, whereas in fact only 150 *l. Irish* currency was paid; which was done with a fraudulent purpose. *Sterling*, though contracted for in *Ireland*, would in common parlance be understood *English* money, and cannot be intended *Irish* currency. The dismissing the bill in *Chancery* with costs was leaving plaintiff at the mercy of defendants, and to be considered as using a court of equity as a stalking horse to justify such a transaction, as was in *Wiseman v. Beak*. Nothing is paid down to plaintiff; nor even an absolute security for payment of the 60 *l.* but a

Sterling means English currency.

Composition,
if fair, &c.
not set aside
for inequality;
though
so by the civil
law, if
less than half.

None to be
made defendant
only to
pay costs.

Cited ante in
Dixon v.
Parker.

mere contingency given for this release; for if nothing is ever received on the second dividend, *Fitzgerald* would not be obliged by this note to pay; so that the consideration departed from the agreement. It is plainly proved, that means were used by imaginary terrors and misrepresentations to induce plaintiff to come into it. It is true, as according to the cases cited, that a compromise of a doubtful right is sufficient foundation for an agreement, especially where a cause is ended by it; and that where a plaintiff is fully apprised of his right, and understands what he does, he may compound a demand on what terms he will, and so may accept of the composition out of the fund, that is even in question in the cause; nor will inequality be a reason to set it aside here: for if men, who are free agents, will with open eyes ratify unfair agreements, this court will not relieve fools. All that *Janssen's* case proves, is, that however the original was, the subsequent confirmation, when fully apprised, made it good. The rule of the civil law agrees with this, that deeds fairly made according to *Cann v. Cann*, are not lightly to be set aside: but their courts are more easy in rescinding agreements than ours: for if a purchase is made for less than half, though ever so fair, the mere inequality is in the civil law sufficient to rescind it: but not so here. *Domat* indeed says, that a compromise for a fourth part shall not be rescinded, though half would be sufficient to set aside an original purchase; so that, it is said, compromises are in the civil law looked on as more sanctified than original acts: but it is no rule of that law, that compromises are of such a nature as to stand, however fraudulently made. If fraudulent, they should be broke through, though made over and over: and all the circumstances, upon which equity relieves in case of fraud, as ignorance, poverty of plaintiff, &c. concur here: so that plaintiff must be relieved, and have costs against the defendants, who claiming the beneficial interest of this release, must be subject to a general account. But as to *Jennison*, the original contriver, as nothing can be prayed against him, (and a person should not be brought before the court merely to pay costs against him, as held by *Lord Chancellor* in *Coton v. Lutterel*) the bill must be dismissed, but without costs. Against *Fitzgerald*, who says, he has remitted 300 *l.* to the defendants, an account must be directed, agreeable to what *Lord Chancellor* did in the case cited.

Parker Chief Baron said, this agreement should be set aside without the aid of the act 20 G. 2. for he had some doubt, whether this case was within it, as it seemed to relate to subsequent agreements, not intending to avoid payments by the managers before the act; therefore he inclined, that the act would not be sufficient, if it rested solely on that; though as it shewed the sense of the legislature, it might be of weight.

Jackson

Jackson versus Kelly, Trinity Term 1751.

Case 95.

JOHNN JACKSON began his will with a clause, which shewed an intent to dispose of his whole personal estate; afterwards he gives several legacies; and then the remaining part of his fortune, the before-mentioned appointments being all discharged, he gives in fifths; in case of the death of either of his sisters before the receipt of her fifth, the surviving sister being unmarried should be intitled thereto; and then he appoints his brother heir to whatever part of his estate should be unappropriated by his will.

Lapsed legacy.
Testator gives personal estate in fifths, and appoints A. heir to whatever part of his estate should be unappropriated by his will: one of the five was dead at making the will. It goes to A. Residuary clauses take in every thing not mentioned or not effectually given.

One of the five residuary legatees was in fact dead at the time of making the will.

It was insisted, that the subsequent words were not sufficient to carry the lapsed legacy to the brother.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am clearly of opinion, that they are sufficient. This is an attempt to make a testator die intestate as to some part of his personal estate, who meant in all events to die testate as to the whole. As to the word *heir*, in the civil law and all those countries where it is received, the word *heir* is applied to both real and personal; and if a man makes a will, "I make A. my heir of my estate," I should think, that would be sufficient to carry the personal estate as well as real, unless something else in the will shall take off the force of that word: but in a will made merely to personal estate, as this is, and the word *estate* is used generally, the intent is to make him universal heir. Next on the word *unappropriated*, whether this becomes a lapsed legacy by dying in life of testator? It is not contended, that it was not in point of law, fact, and consequence, unappropriated; for it was more strongly so than if the legatee had been living at time of making the will; in which case there would be more colour to say this: but being dead at that time, nothing was given at all. The construction of all these clauses is as to personal estate, that such residuary devise takes in every thing, that is not mentioned to be given, or not effectually given. It is a sweeping clause, taking in the whole which is not disposed of, from whatever contingency it arises, notwithstanding the words "all the residue of my estate not before disposed of." Where indeed a man gives the residue to several, equally to be divided so as to make them tenants in common, without giving it over, and one of them died in his life, it has been held, that his share will be something undisposed of, and go according to the rule of the statute of distribution.

Difference as
to real and
personal
estate.

bution among the next of kin, because nothing is given to any of the surviving legatees but a fourth or a fifth according to the case. There is another matter, on which this might have operated; for suppose one of these sisters intitled to a fifth had died in life of testator, and the surviving sister had been married, so that she was not the person described, not having the qualification; upon the last bequest, on which this question arises, the share of the deceased sister would have gone to the brother; that being the constant rule of residuary clauses to take the whole undisposed of; and this appears to be testator's intent. As to real estate indeed in *Goodright v. Opey*, and in *Wright v. Horn*, C. B. there was a difference of opinion: but that arises from the nature of real estates: but as to personal this never was disputed.

Case 96. Attorney General *versus* Dupleffis. Trin. 1751.

At the Exchequer.

Waste.

Alien.

THE late Lord Colerain devised, that from his death till his daughter *Rosa Peregrina* attained twenty-one, or married with consent of her mother, the mother should receive all the rents and profits from all his lands in *Middlesex* and *Norfolk*, with directions to pay 300 *l. per ann.* to the daughter, and to take 900 *l. per ann.* to herself, and to account with the daughter if she attained twenty-one or married; if the daughter died before either, then over.

Information on behalf of the crown upon suggestion of being alien; and motion for injunction to stay waste.

On shewing cause it was said, the crown had now no estate whatever till office found; *Page's case* 5 Co. 52. for that fact must be found by the oaths of 12 men. If it is said, that though nothing is vested, yet there is a trust for the crown; it is not such a trust as this court can decree. If an alien and natural born subject purchase land, there is no trust for the crown; and therefore if office is not found, survivorship takes place; the king cannot be a jointenant. This then is not such a trust, over which a court of equity exercises jurisdiction. The freehold is descended to the heir at law; and the infant takes only a contingent interest; the intermediate profits are in the mother for another; and, whether an alien or no, the crown can have no right to them; for that is only a contingent interest, which may be taken by an alien, 4 *Leon.* An alien is capable of being an administrator, Cr. C. 8, 9. As to waste, courts of equity have not gone farther than the law will do; unless where there is an intermediate estate for life between the first tenant for life and the inheritance, which being a particular mischief omitted in the statute, this court will provide for it. There is no proof of this defendant being

ing an alien ; for the parish register will not be admitted as evidence of it, because this is to a collateral matter ; this court strictly adheres to that, as it did in the case of tithes.

For the motion. The general question is, whether, where the crown has a right, on foundation of an alien-purchaser, this court will suffer any one, who gets into possession, to destroy that estate before the crown's final right is determined, when an office cannot be found without assistance of this court to bring it properly before a jury? The will does not indeed give an immediate estate directly in possession to the infant, but only a contingency. The mother's interest is of a term for years, till the infant attains twenty-one, having a right to the profits till then as in *Boraston's case*, 3 Co. 19. That interest will not be a foundation to destroy the thing ; to prevent which this court will interpose, as it does to prevent destruction of the thing in question pending suit in law or equity ; which is the ground of appointing a perpetual receiver, where there is a probability that a court of equity will determine it finally : as in a bill by creditors against an heir at law where the court sees, the estate may possibly come out to be deficient. So in a bill against executor to prevent wasting assets. So in a doubt in Ecclesiastical court who is executor, as in *Powis v. Andrews*, where Lord *Macclesfield* interposed notwithstanding a right law by the probate obtained. So will this court on a bill against one, who has got treasure *trove*, enjoin him from destroying it. On the same foundation are all the bills to stay waste ; and even for a contingent interest ; as * *Litton v. Robinson*, * Ante cited and *Fleming v. Fleming* ; and for an infant *in ventre*, in whom no right is vested, and only a mere possibility. But this is not a mere possibility, Cotton. but a right in the crown ; for an alien may purchase for benefit of the crown. *Co. Lit.* That right and title is clear, though it must be found by office, because there must be a record of it, 5 Co. 52. like the case of a disseisee, who has a right, though not possession. The crown wants the assistance of this court by evidence to lay before a jury. The mother will be bound to answer the question, where the child was born, being not a discovery of an illegal act ; and probability is a sufficient ground to interpose to prevent destruction of the thing.

The court took time to consider of it.

Note: A demurrer was put in, which was in *February* 1752 over-ruled by the court ; and that judgment affirmed on appeal to the House of Lords.

The

Case 97.

The King *versus* Cotton, *Trinity Term* 1751.*At the Exchequer.**Parker* Chief Baron, *Clive*, *Legge*, *Smyth*, Barons.

DEMURRER by Attorney-General to plea of defendant to an inquisition upon an extent.

The general question was, whether the goods in the inquisition were legally seized into the king's hands, which had been two days before distrained for rent?

2d Argu-
ment.

Distress for
rent by land-
lord may be
seized for
king's debt
before sale.

Attorney General. It is said, that defendant the landlord, who distrained, intended to sell the premises, as soon as the five days expired, if they had not been seized by the inquisition before; but that intent cannot take it out of the general rule, if not in fact sold: which as they were not, and could not till the end of the five days, that is out of the case. The whole is to be determined on two things. First that by prerogative, vested in the crown for the public good, the king is preferable in point of execution for debts, and may take the property of a debtor in execution, till that property is altered by some act of the debtor. Next that in fact the property of the goods distrained was not altered. If the first proposition is right, it is to be considered whether there is any exception in favour of distress to take it out of that rule. There is no doubt of the prerogative giving the crown this advantage in recovering its property; but whether that extends to the present case. The statute 33 H. 8. c. 39. established this prerogative; and in *Attorney General v. Andrews, Hard. 23.* is laid down to be a statute made by way of abridgement of the royal prerogative; and judgment was given for defendant there because it was out of the statute; which shews, what the common law was, and what the statute has done. It is now clear, that an extent for debt of the crown shall take in execution any goods whatever, that have been seized for a third person, if that seizure alters not the property. The taking goods by *ieri facias* vests not the property either in the sheriff or plaintiff, nor is any property altered, unless there is a sale. So on recognisance or statute staple the property is not altered by the taking in execution, not till there comes a *liberate*: it remains where it was, yet in *custodia legis*. So in a commission of bankruptcy, the property is out of the party by a retrospect on assignment, yet till actual assignment no property is altered out of the bankrupt himself: till when in all these cases the crown's prerogative takes effect, and the extent shall prevail. *Stringfellow's case, Dy. 67. b. Hob. 339. 2 Rol. Ab. 158.* shews, that till the property altered, the crown's execution, though subsequent, is not pre-
vented;

vented; nor is it by the goods being in custody of the law. *Fitz. Execution, Placito* 38. shews this prerogative. A commission of bankruptcy, though not an execution in formality of law, yet is to answer the same general effect; it is to secure the bankrupts property: yet the crown's execution coming before actual assignment, even though the same day with the assignment, is preferred. The commissioners of the land-tax have by virtue of a power to them, a right to issue a warrant to seize the goods, effects, and estate of one, debtor to the crown by that act: they did so in *Bracey v. Dawson, B. R.* in Lord *Hardwicke's* time; but the warrant was dated the same day, when a commission had issued before against him as a bankrupt, and the assignment made the morning of that day: upon a question whether the assignees or the crown were intitled to the benefit of these goods, the court held, the warrant stood on the same ground as an extent, and that wherever there is an extent from the crown to seize the goods of a bankrupt, though after a commission executed, yet if it comes before an alteration of the property, the extent shall take place, and also that the crown had the prerogative to have a preference in point of time, nor would the court split a day. So *Jefferies v. Williams, 2 Sho. 480. Skin. 162.* Next, whether the property has by the seizure been vested in the landlord; for if not, the consequence is plain, supposing no exception out of the general rule, it is not altered either on the foot of a common law distress or the statute of King *William*. A common law distress was by with-holding the use and occupation of the party's property to force payment of a debt, which ought to be paid: but distrainer could neither use or dispose of that property, nor could it be sold by course of a common law distress, distrainer not having a shadow of property, nor even possession: for though he takes the goods to his own house, they are never in his custody, but as in custody of the law, and his house is the pound, *1 Inst. 47.* as the sheriff's custody is the custody of the law: so that this is the lowest degree of even possession, so far from being property. The right of using and disposing makes property; a cow distrained cannot be milked, nor a horse rid, &c. That a distress cannot be worked, because no property or possession in law, see *Ow. 123. Dy. 280. Rol. Ab. 648, 673, 879. Noy 119. Cr. J. 147. Yel. 96. Cr. E. 783. 6 Mod. 206.* Distress then is not excepted out of the general rules. As to the statute giving power to sell in five days, they were not expired, nor could the goods be sold. It is said by way of exemption out of the common case, that distrained goods are not forfeited by attainder or outlawry; and that neither distrained or pledged goods are liable to be seized on an extent without payment of the money; and that *trespass* or *trover* would lie for the landlord, against whoever took them out of his possession; that at common law if the owner of the goods did not pay the debt, the landlord could never sell at all, but they would remain in his hands, and then that it would be absurd that the crown might after a great number of years come and take

them out of his possession. The not being forfeited turns on a different principle ; the crown there, claiming only by virtue of forfeiture, claims only what the party had to give and dispose of ; nothing but what he has can he forfeit. No prerogative can interfere in the case, so that the crown shall be preferred to a subject's execution ; it depending on the general nature of forfeiture, that is subject to all demands of third persons. This case is an extent on a debt, in which debt there is a prerogative. The publick is to have the benefit of this prerogative : the argument *ab inconvenienti* to a particular person proves too much, and therefore nothing. Two cases prove, that distress could not prevent an execution on part of the crown, and that such was the practice and known course of the court. *K. v. Parry*, and *K. v. Dale*, particularly the latter which was *Pasf.* 1719. in *Exchequer*, where an extent was taken out 4th *Nov.* against *Dale*, but his goods having been distrained 29 *Oct.* before by *Mitchel* his landlord for rent, an attachment was moved for against *Mitchel*, who refused to deliver them, the goods not being sold within five days pursuant to the act of parliament, and therefore no right divested by the distress, and they were in the landlord's hands only by way of pledge : but the court refused the attachment, as he could not be supposed to know that, and it would be too much to punish him for his ignorance in point of law, and the sheriff being negligent in executing the *Venditioni exponas* ; he was therefore excused from the censure : but this goes on a supposition, that the law was clearly so, and if the case of a sheriff, he would certainly be punished. In *Brook, Property* 31, even a pledge shall go to the crown in case of an attainted person : but the crown's forfeiture would be subject to distress, because the crown claims under the party : in this case under the law. Another case is Sir *John Ratcliff's*, 1 *Bul.* 29. of trover for jewels pledged ; which leads to what is said of a pledge, that it shall be protected against the crown : but a pledge is different, giving a special property to pawnee, and a right to use and sell it after death of pawnor : therefore there is a property. *Ow.* 123. shews a distinction between a distress and pawn ; and in a pawn there is a special property it may be worked, and assignee may detain it : not so of a distress. The one is in possession of the law ; the other of the party. 20 *H.* 7. fol. 1. and *Brook, Property* 52. It is said *trover* and *trespass* will lie for the landlord. 20 *H.* 7. lays it down otherwise. There is no rule, that wherever those actions can be brought, that shall deprive the crown's prerogative. A carrier may bring *trover*, because of his real property, 1 *Roll. Ab.* 4. so may servant, because accountable to master : so may commissioners of bankruptcy. 1 *Mod.* 31. so from possession. No particular inconvenience can be set up against the prerogative of the crown : beside, there is none in reality ; and he may distrain again, if any thing remains to be distrained. This plea then cannot be good.

Starkey for defendant. Distress at common law was only a pledge for payment of rent arrear: the *stat.* of *William and Mary* extends only to one sort of distress: but other distress stands as at common law, and so must this be taken. It is true, that by distraining either at common law or by statute, no such property is gained, as that *trover* or *trespass* will lie, that remainder in the tenant distrained; and a difference between mortgages and pawns has been pointed out, particularly that mortgagee has the absolute legal property, as in *Ratcliff's* case. It is insisted, that pawnee has a special property, though the general is in pawnor, neither of which distrainer has. Allowing the distinction taken between a pawn and distress, it will not be denied but that the distrainer has an interest in his distress, though not such as in law is called property or possession so as to maintain *trover* or *trespass*. There are rights of different kinds beside those of having and possessing. *Plow.* 487. *b.* *Hob.* 336. Goods distrained cannot be forfeited by outlawry: the interest parties have in their distress protects them in several cases; and though it may differ from the interest in a pawn, it is guarded and secured. Distrainer may maintain writ of *Parco fracto*, and of *rescue*; seize on fresh pursuit, wherever found, and impound again, as in case of a pawn, 1 *Inst.* 47. *b.* *Roll.* 438. and as pawnor becomes intitled to the pawn again on discharging it, so is distrainee on paying rent arrear. Pawnee's interest goes to executor or administrator, so of distrainer's; and after his death the bailiff taking the distress may justify. 15 *E.* 4. 10. So that though a pawn and distress differ in some respects, in others they do not, *Brook. distress*, and *pledge* 28. 5 *Co* 76. Though distrainer cannot maintain *trover* or *trespass*, he may a proper action. Indeed goods distrained may be replevied giving security; but this is only pending the litigation on replevin: the interest of distrainer is the same after judgment as before. *Carpenter's* case, 8 *Co.* 146. and *Ow.* 124. There is no case in point, that the crown's execution shall take place of an antecedent distress: the general rule is, that distrained goods shall not be taken in execution without distinction whether at suit of the crown or subject. *Stringfellow's* case, principally relied on, was at the time a disputable point, and, though determined in favour of the crown, it was contrary to the opinion of several. *Callis's* Reading on *stat. H.* 8. *fol.* 196. allowing it, there is no reason from this disputed authority to carry the prerogative farther than the judgment strictly warrants; and all that is to be collected from it is, that an execution of the crown is to be preferred to execution of the subject not completed and become absolute; as where goods taken by *feri facias* and not sold, *Comb.* 152; so where extended, and not a *liberate*: but otherwise no such prerogative. The acts of parliament of statute, staple, merchant, and bankruptcy, are not applicable. 1 *Jo.* 203. The prerogative of the crown in incomplete executions is not applicable to distress, which is not an execution: for if so, it could not be replevied. It is made by the party himself;

not founded on a judicial determination : whereas executions are by office of courts of justice, and grounded on judgment on record. The sheriff, as an officer of the crown, in an execution, must prefer the king's debt ; distrainer acts not under authority of a court of justice. But if distresses could be compared to executions, they are in themselves complete and nothing farther to be done. The interest thereby gained cannot be enlarged, not even by judgment in *replevin*, distrainer having after that no larger interest than before : and though by the stat. of *William and Mary* a distress may be sold for satisfaction, that is in option of the party, whether he will pursue that or the common law : and it is extraordinary, that a statute for benefit of landlords should be made use of to their disadvantage. Till execution is complete, no property or interest is gained by the plaintiff : the sheriff indeed has a special property so as to maintain *trover* or *trespass*, as being in custody of the law ; but in *distress* for rent arrear though not strictly a satisfaction for the rent, yet is it all the satisfaction may be had, and such an interest that if taken out of the pound, the law gives a proper action for redress : and *distress* is so far a satisfaction, that it may be pleaded in bar to an action. *Rast. debt.* 1. *Sal.* 248. *distress* is a proceeding *in rem*. Distrained has a lien : whereas the interest of plaintiff under an execution is not in the goods themselves, but in the money arising by sale. Before the statute *H. 8.* *Distress* was the only remedy for arrears of rent service or rent charge in fee or tail. *Debt* could not be brought, because it was a rent of inheritance : by that act a double remedy was given. There could be no second distress till 17 C. 2, 7, and 8. *Anne* 12. gives a farther remedy. As this was the only remedy for arrears of rent, it is not easy to conceive, they should be liable to be defeated by the crown's execution ; for so none could be sure under a distress as an execution might issue many years after it, nay after a judgment in *replevin* in favour of it ; for notwithstanding that the goods continued in same situation after judgment as before ; and so all might be defeated. The crown's prerogatives depend on immemorial usage, not on opinions of courts of justice. *Hard.* 27. *Pl.* 322. There is no reason to allow the prerogative of the crown against distress, because it has prevailed against an incomplete execution. It lies on the crown to shew usage and exercise of this pretended prerogative : otherwise its execution must stand on the foot as a subject's. Such prerogatives as are not in stat. 17 E. 2. must appear from judicial determinations or constant experience. As to *The King v. Parry* the extent was tested before the distress ; and therefore could affect the goods bound from the *teste*. As to *The King v. Dale* it might be too hard to punish by attachment because of not understanding the law. If the crown can take goods out of the hands of distrainer, that will give a right to do the same in case of an innkeeper, and so give the king a greater right than the real owner, who cannot take his horse from an innkeeper, till he has paid him ; and yet

yet inn-keeper has no property. But the property in this case is immaterial. As there is no authority, so on the reason no more colour for defeating the interest gained by distress, than that gained by a pawn; which though in many respects different, yet as both are interests independent on the general property of the King's debtor, it is unreasonable that either should be hurt, in order that the crown should receive satisfaction. That would be contrary to the general notion of prerogative to found it in the wrong of the subject. What is said of the *St. 33 H. 8. c. 39.* is confined to executions merely. Until that statute no execution at all could have issued on bonds of this kind, on which the extent is founded; to contend therefore for this prerogative issuing on this bond, which is given only by *33 H. 8.* cannot be an immemorial prerogative. It is said, wherever the absolute property remains in the King's debtor, the goods are subject to the King's execution; and that the absolute property remains in distrainee, distrainer having no such special property as pawnee has, so as to maintain *trover*, &c. but even *Stringfellow's* case proves, that where there is such a special property as to maintain *trover* or *trespass*, it may yet be liable to the King's execution. So where goods are seized by warrant from commissioners of bankrupts, who may maintain *trover*, yet will not that protect against the crown's execution. The prerogative is confined merely to executions, and will not affect a particular interest gained by act of the party or law, not in the way of an execution, as a pawn or distress. Proceedings on Commission of bankruptcy are in nature of an execution, *in fieri* until assignment made: but distress is absolute and complete. As to distrainee's being attainted, it is held in *Plo. 487.* that where pawnor of goods is attainted, the crown cannot have them without paying the money; for that the prerogative will not prejudice another; *13 R. 2.* which reason of the court holds in both cases. It is not controverted, but that distrainer may withhold distress against the crown claiming under forfeiture of distrainee: but that is said to be, because the crown must come in on the same terms as the forfeiting person, subject to his incumbrances, and liable to discharge the goods pawned, and to pay the rent arrear; nay, that an execution, though incomplete, will bind the crown in case of a forfeiture: but that the present claim is not under distrainee; but a contention with distrainer for preference in point of satisfaction. The crown claims by prerogative; not under, nor standing in same light as the forfeiting person. *K. v. Baden, Shower's Parl. Ca.* where the King's title on outlawry took place of a judgment, though antecedent to the outlawry. *Plo. 262. 9 Co. 129. Hard. 24.* There are many cases also where the crown will have the whole under forfeiture of a person having only a partial interest. If a joint obligation, and one is outlawed, the crown will take the whole. If one obtaining a judgment is outlawed, the crown may extend all the lands, though the party himself could extend

only a moiety; *Cr. J.* 513. may distrain for rent-seck, though the party could not. 3 *Co.* 56. that the crown takes in a different way. 2 *Hale's P. C.* 254. *Austen's case*, *Pl.* 560. *Hob.* 323, 4.

The court took time to consider of it as of very great consequence both to the king and subject.

Lord Chief Baron *Parker* now delivered the opinion of the court.

Pawns.

Two things are to be premised, which are agreed upon: first, that if the goods distrained had been actually sold before the day, on which the extent bears *teste*, no colour would exist for a seizure; because the extent authorises the seizure, and after sale the property would be out of him and vested in a stranger. The second, for the same reason, that if this had been the case of pawned or pledged goods before the day, they could not be legally seized, because the property would be altered; and *Fitz.* 121, and *Pl.* 487, prove no more as to pledges than what is here admitted.

The general question is, whether the goods are not liable to be seized for an immediate debt of the King's own, after a distress taken by the landlord for rent justly due, and before a sale of those goods.

Distress, its nature and effects.

Consider the nature and effect of distress; which is (so far as applied to the present) where cattle, &c. are taken for rent in arrear, which are to be kept in pound until distrainer is satisfied of the rent, or the cattle, &c. released by course of law, or replevied. Now consider its effects affirmatively and negatively. Goods so distrained are not liable to distress of another subject, because in custody of the law, *Brook, Distress* 75; nor to another subject's execution. *Bro.* 28, and *Finch's Law* 11. This appears farther, where the King claims by forfeiture on attainder or outlawry. *Bro. Pledges, Cr. J. Pl.* 487. Distrainer's executor shall have the benefit of testator's distress, 15 *E.* 4. 10. but cannot be in a better condition than his testator was. Distrainer neither gains a general or special property, nor even a possession, in the things distrained; cannot maintain *trover* or *trespass*; for they are in custody of law by act of distrainer. So held expressly and fully, *Mich.* 20 *H.* 7. fol. 1. pl. 1. that the pound is an indifferent place between them, &c. and *Bro. Property* 52, *Ow.* 120, and *Cr. E.* 780. in 1 *Roll. Ab.* 673, *Noy* 119. held, he cannot milk a cow: yet in *Cr. J.* 147. 8. it is held otherwise, and 1 *Co.* 101. countenances this opinion: but this point not being directly in judgment, I will leave it undetermined. That goods distrained are in custody of law. 1 *Inst.* Distrainer could not work a distress, much less sell it: but otherwise of the crown; as in *Madox of the Exchequer* it is held the duty of the sheriff to sell the
the

the distress at a just and reasonable price, so that the owner is not aggrieved.

- Now consider the nature of an extent of the King. An extent Extent: its nature. binds the property of the goods of the King's debtor from the *teste*.
41 E. 3. and *Fitz. Execution*, and *Dy. 67. b. Stringfellow's case*; which case, notwithstanding what *Callis* thinks in his *Reading* on *St. H. 8. I* will shew to be law. *Hob. Sheffield v. Ratcliffe*, abridged 2 *Roll. 158.* so in *Q. v. Tanner*, *Mich. 8 Anne* in *Exchequer*, where it was held, that an extent for the King's debt bound the property of the goods, &c. from the *teste*; and in *Bracy v. Dawson*, *B. R. Mich. 6 Geo. 2.* Lord *Hardwicke* cited and relied on *Stringfellow's case* as clear law: and though the sheriff may maintain *trover* or *trespass*, which distrainer cannot do because answerable over, 2 *San. 47.* and other books, yet goods so taken in execution are liable to seizure on extent before sale. But *Stringfellow's case* is rather admitted than denied by defendant's counsel: but a distinction is endeavoured, which is not well founded. The rule Bankruptcy. Extent, tested the day of assignment preferred. holds equally by seizure on warrant of commissioners of bankruptcy; as in *K. v. Crumpton*, cited 2 *Sho. 481.* and *Tremain's P. C. 637*; which case in a manuscript report of it from Baron *Legge* was thus: The King's debtor became bankrupt; and a commission of bankruptcy was sued out, and an assignment; and an extent issued for the crown, tested the day of the assignment; and the extent was preferred; and this by *Hale* Chief Baron. It is objected for defendant, that the act speaks of creditors in general without naming the King, who therefore within the rule shall not be bound, because not named; and 1 *Jo. 202*, was cited: I admit this in general to be true: yet the reason given by *Sho.* that the property was not altered, is the true reason; which will appear by supposing the extent in that case had issue the day after the assignment; for then it would be a clear case against the crown; as the property of the goods would be out of the bankrupt, and vested in the assignees; and consequently, being goods of another man, an extent afterward cannot seize the goods of a stranger; nothing barring the King but the assignment, which bars him, because it alters the property, and is the true distinction. Another distinction insisted on between *Stringfellow's case* and this is, that a distress is complete: whereas that was only *in fieri*. But to that I answer, that distress is not complete, because no satisfaction: but supposing it was, the goods are Distress no satisfaction. liable to seizure on extent until an alteration of property. This objection was endeavoured to be enforced for two reasons: first that this would be hard, because a person might distrain, which might be defeated several years afterward; but that according to the maxim, *quod ab initio non valet*, &c. will not mend distrainer's condition: secondly that *levying by distress* was a good bar; and 1 *Sal. 248.* was cited: to which I answer, that it is agreed in that case, that if the distress

distress dies in the pound, or escapes without default of distrainer, he may distrain again. *Dy. 280. b. Hob. 61.* and so he may distrain *de novo*, where the distress legally evicted without his default; for levying distress is only a temporary bar, and no satisfaction.

Where inn-keeper gains property in distress.

Pleading. Traverse to be material and issuable.

Proper inducement to traverse.

The King's claim by forfeiture different from that of a debt.

It is objected then, that distrainer gains a right to the goods distrained until payment of the rent; which is compared to the case of an inn-keeper, who may distrain a horse for his keeping, though, as it is said, he has no property: and farther it is said, that the property in this case is immaterial. As to the case of the inn-keeper, no authority has been cited to shew, whether he gained property or not: and if 2 *Rol. R.* is compared with *Yel. 66.* it will be found, that there was a difference of opinion between great men. But taking it either way, whether as property gained by inn-keeper or no, it is begging the question, or arguing in a circle. We deliver no opinion in the case of an inn-keeper, because not now before us. The latter part of the objection, that the property is immaterial, surprises me; for the plea has expressly traversed the property of the goods in question at the time of issuing the extent; and if the property is immaterial, here is an immaterial traverse, and the plea bad for that; for traverse in pleading ought to be material and issuable. But the traverse is proper; because it traverses the title of the crown found by the inquisition; for in *K. v. Mann, Hil. 1726.* in *Exchequer*, whoever traverses a title, must traverse the title so found, and not force the crown to take traverse; though the crown has election to traverse the inducement or the traverse set out by defendant: but the inducement to the traverse is only insufficient here, which is the fault of this; for notwithstanding the distress they continue liable to seizure: but according to the rules of pleading even between subject and subject there ought to be a proper inducement in every traverse to shew the matter in traverse material: it ought to be such, as if true, will defeat the title of the other party, otherwise it amounts to a negative pregnant. *Bro. Pleading 35. Yel. 147. Comyns 302. Dalfon . Pal. 71. 2 Rol. R. 52. 3 Lev. 167.* In answer to 13 *R. 2.* relied on for defendant, it is insisted, there is a difference between that and the present case; for that where the King claims by forfeiture, he claims under the forfeiting person, and cannot have a better right to the goods distrained, though he may have a better remedy: but in the present case the King and defendant are creditors, and both pursuing a legal remedy, and the King is intitled to a preference of satisfaction. Defendant's counsel controvert this proposition, viz. that in forfeiture the crown claims under the forfeiting person insisting on claim by prerogative, citing *Plow. 262.* that husband *felo de se* forfeits the whole. The reason of that is, that the title of the crown and wife concurring, the crown's must be preferred, and is not applicable. Nor is 9 *Co. 129.* for the crown did not claim by forfeiture;

forfeiture; and 5 *Co.* 56. shews, the king claims by the subject; which was one of the things insisted on for the crown in this case. Consider the instances put by Lord *Coke* in that case: first of a rent-seck; the nature of the rent is not thereby altered; but it only shews, the king shall have a better remedy than the forfeiting person would have had: next of a bond or recognisance of a subject outlawed or attainted; *Cr. T.* 513. and *Hard.* 21. which is still but a farther advantage in point of remedy. So of the king's taking advantage of a condition without demand. The last instance is a purchase of a feignory by the king of lands held in posterity; the king there claims by purchase, not by forfeiture; and so not applicable. The next case is in *Hale's P. C.* 254. but in *Plo.* 560. it is found, the law would be otherwise, if the king had claimed by forfeiture: so that this case is far from being an authority for defendant. The last case on this head is that cited in *Sbo. Parl. Ca.* 72. which was on a particular reason not applicable to the present; that he who pleads ought to have a legal title prior to the estate in the inquisition; and that it was his fault in not having a good title against the crown.

Next I will deliver the sense of the court on the question. We think there is a difference between cases where the king claims by forfeiture on attainder and outlawry, and where he sues for recovery of a debt; for a man can only forfeit what he has: although the king may in respect of forfeiture be intitled to an advantage in point of remedy, the forfeiting person would not be intitled to. That a man can only forfeit what he has, *Plo.* 487. 1 *And.* 19. *Mo.* 100. *Cranmer's* case: though this seems to be but common sense. The case in 2 *Keb.* 775. differs largely from the report of the same case in 1 *Ven.* 132. as to what *Hale* says there. I have seen an accurate manuscript report of this case, which says, that there is a difference between the king's debt and this case, citing *Hob.* 339. and *Hard.* 24. It was objected, that the king's prerogative must be immemorial. *Plo.* 322, and *Hard.* 27. I admit, the prerogative depends on prescription, usage, or statute: but when power is given by that statute to issue process as an expedient in the court's discretion, such extent shall have the same effect as an extent on statute-staple or judgment at common law. It is next objected, that the prerogative cannot do a wrong; for which was cited *Plo.* 487. the same law giving the subject property in the goods, establishes the prerogative; and no injury, though some hardship: and there would be the same objection in *Stringfellow's* case, which yet is undoubtedly law; as also *Crump v. Hanbury*. The next objection is, that this prerogative is not enumerated in the *St. de Prerog. Regis* in *Plo.* 322. and 1 *Ld. Raym.* 24. it appears, that several prerogatives are not enumerated in that statute. The last objection, that where prerogative is claimed by prescription, precedents ought

to be shewn of the judicial allowance of that particular prerogative, but that none are produced as to distress: to which I answer, that though no precedent is produced, yet this case falls within the principle of *Stringfellow's* case, and of *Crumph v. Hanbury*, that where the property of the goods is not divested out of the hands of the king's debtor, they are liable to extent; and where the reason is the same, the law must be the same. But there was a precedent above 30 years ago in this court, *K. v. Dale*, where no property was divested by the distress; and the goods were in the landlord's hands only by way of pledge; which is in point: and no objection can be made, that the court did not grant an attachment there; for it was through mistake. The court does not proceed by rigour: and it happened to us this very term, where we did not grant an attachment upon the same ground. This plea therefore cannot be supported without overturning principles of law unquestionably established, and without contradicting the opinion of the court in *K. v. Dale*.

Judgment ought therefore to be for the King.

Error in Exchequer chamber. Where the party dies: the new writ not there.

Note: In 1753, a writ of error returnable into the *Exchequer Chamber* having issued upon this judgment, pending which defendant died, whereby the writ abated: *Lord Chancellor* and the two Chief *Justices* were of opinion, that the new writ could not be properly to the *Exchequer Chamber*: because the record did not reside with them; and the words of the writ are, *record. quod coram vobis residet*; for only a transcript of the record is sent into the *Exchequer Chamber*, and the record itself remains in the court of *Exchequer*: but the court made a rule for a *remittitur* to be entered on the record together with a suggestion of the death.

Case 98. Earl of Derby *versus* Duke of Athol, June 6, 1751.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Privilege.

If a peer plaintiff gives a rule for examining witnesses, defendant may proceed to examine without fear of breach of privilege. So if a peer brings an action at law, it is no breach to bring a bill for injunction.

LEGAL

Legal

Legal *versus* Miller, June 10, 1750.

Case 99.

At the Rolls.

AGREEMENT in writing for taking a house at 32 *l. per ann.*; and part of the agreement was, that the owner should put the house in repair: it was afterward discovered not to be worth while barely to repair the house, but better to pull it down; and therefore without alteration of the written agreement at all the house was pulled down by consent of the tenant, apprised of the great expence it would be to the landlord; and therefore an agreement was by parol only on his part to add 8 *l. per ann.* to the 32 *l.* which he was only to give, in case it was repaired. The tenant brought a bill for specifick performance to have his lease on the foot of the written agreement to pay only the 32 *l.* rent. The defendant by his answer set up the parol agreement.

Post Pitcairne
v. Ogbourne,
20 July 1751.

Bill for performance of written agreement; parol evidence read of different agreement: dismissed with costs; and plaintiff cannot resort to agreement set up by defendant.

Sir John Strange.

Such evidence is frequently suffered to be read, especially to re- but such an equity as now insisted on by the bill; as where the agreement is in part carried into execution, parol evidence is allowed to prove that; or where it is a hard agreement; and the court may thereupon decree against the written agreement; as in *1 Ver. 240.* and the single question being here, whether the court should decree a specifick performance of the agreement, the plaintiff insists upon, and being satisfied from the parol evidence that it should not, the court must dismiss the bill.

Parol evidence allowed, where a hard agreement or in part executed.

For plaintiff it was then insisted, the court should not dismiss the bill, but on the general relief prayed, should make a decree now according to the agreement defendant set up, though no cross bill for that; which had been often done upon defendant's own submission.

Against this it was said, the court never made such a decree on the general relief, where it was inconsistent with the particular relief prayed: though it has been done where not inconsistent.

Sir John Strange.

I am still of the same opinion, and that the bill should be dismissed with costs; for that would be very hard upon a defendant, if a plaintiff should unconsciously bring him into a court of equity, when defendant should insist on an agreement different from

from that, the plaintiff sets up, and the plaintiff should reply to his answer, and insist on his former demand, and go into a long proof; and afterward, finding he cannot have the decree prayed by his bill, should resort to that, which defendant sets up, and insist on a decree for it.

Case 190.

Fawcett versus Lowther. June 15, 1751.

TWO issues had been directed; the first to try, whether by custom, from the time whereof the memory of man was not to the contrary, within the manor of *R.* the tenants of the tenant right estates within the manor have not used to mortgage such estates by deed on condition to be void, if the mortgage-money is paid within three years from the time of making the mortgage or any lesser time, and the mortgagees have right to present such mortgage-deeds, and to be admitted thereon at the next court of the manor held after breach of the condition, paying a fine to the lord? The second issue was, whether by the custom of the manor on such mortgage made, and mortgagor's dying without issue of his body lawfully begotten, and without having aliened the equity of redemption by any disposition pursuant to the custom of the manor; the lord of the manor became intitled to the equity of redemption of such mortgage? With a direction that if the defendants *Copeland* and his wife, who claimed the redemption as collateral heir of the mortgagor, should sign the register's book, and consented to give up their claim to the right of redemption of the mortgaged premises, they should go to trial on the first issue only.

A motion had been made 11 *July* 1750. to vary the sense of these issues; which *Lord Chancellor* refused, as the cause must be reheard for that. It being at the same time insisted for the mortgagee that he is not to wait, until the question of the equity of redemption is determined; for that in several instances the court has directed the defendants to make the redemption among them, and an assignment to the senior fix clerk. *Lord Chancellor* said, a case of that kind seldom arose, and if a mortgage was of an estate so circumstanced as this, it cannot be helped.

On a rehearing, objections were now made as to both issues. First, that the custom set up by the first issue on part of the plaintiff is unreasonable, and not good in point of law, and therefore should not be sent to be tried, being contrary to the general custom of the manor, and to an indenture 22 *Eliz.* which lays down rules for all alienations, that they are to be presented at the next court; that a mortgage is an alienation though on a condition subsequent to defeat the estate, and therefore within that rule; and this indenture intended

tended to settle all disputes and customs of the manor. It is unreasonable in itself, and could not have a good commencement, because so highly prejudicial to the interest of the Lord, as he will thereby lose his fine on all these alienations. This differs from the case of copyholds; because surrenderee must come, and have it presented at the next court: here they need not come under three courts. It is a great inconvenience also to the tenant, as it will be liable to frauds; for a mortgage may be made not presented in three years, in mean time mortgagor or tenant may have made an absolute conveyance, vendee may have come and have his presented, and over-reach him. The next and strongest objection to shew this custom void is, that this differs from most cases, not only of copyholds but of tenant right estates; for here it is so restrained, that it must descend to his issue, cannot to the collateral heir, and shall for want of issue escheat to the Lord unless an alienation is made: whereas by this means the Lord cannot know his tenant. The mortgagor remains tenant on the records of the manor; the mortgagee for three years has a conveyance, may come at the end of three years, have it presented, and be admitted; and that after death of the tenant without issue, as plaintiff insists; which will prevent the Lord of his escheat. As a further aggravation of this, it is a military tenure, and the Lord must know his tenant; otherwise he cannot know whom to call upon for performance of services, nor make a forfeiture for want of performance. But supposing it may be good in point of law, and not void for unreasonableness, there is not sufficient proof of such a custom, and therefore no issue to try it. As to the last issue, it is not proper to direct it to be tried at all. Whether there can be an escheat of an equity of redemption, was never yet indeed determined; but it must be now taken, that there may: and so of a trust, which was also never so determined, but it must now be taken in the same way; or else there would be an end of escheats, because most of the land in *England* is now, and all will soon be, in trust, it answering the purposes of families, avoids better the fatality of slips in conveyances, and this court will consider the owner of an equitable in the same light as owner of the legal estate; there being an exact conformity between the courts, governing by same rules, save in one single instance, that there is no tenancy in dower of a trust, which was an opinion conceived, before it was considered, and is never mentioned without the courts saying, that was without being attended to; and Your Lordship held in *Casborn v. Inglis*,^{1737.} Hilary Vac. that there should be tenant by courtesy either of a trust or equity cited ante of redemption notwithstanding the old authorities. This is a *Hearle v. Greenbank.* mere question of equity, whether equity shall follow the law as to escheat; and cannot then be a question of fact. It is just such a question, as arose lately in *Burgefs v. Wheat*, between the crown and justice *Page* a trustee, whether he or his devisee should have

it to himself, or be considered as a mere conduit-pipe? But it was never determined.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Custom or
modus, void
on the face,
not sent to
trial.

Mortgage of
copyhold.

General cus-
tom of copy-
hold, surren-
derec to pre-
sent at next
court.

Custom for
mortgagee to
present at
third court
not void.

The court is not bound to send a custom to be tried, which on the face is clearly void in point of law: if doubtful, that is no reason why it should not be tried. This rule holds in all courts of equity; as in the *Exchequer* if a *Modus* insisted on in the answer appears clearly void in law, that court will not send it to be tried. No authority is cited to prove, that this is void in law. It is plain, the indenture does not comprise all the customs of the manor; and as a mortgage is different from an absolute alienation, there is nothing absurd in it; for why may there not be a distinct custom concerning mortgages from that concerning absolute alienations? This is abstracted from the proof. As to the Lord's prejudice, the Lord is intitled to be paid his fine, when by the custom the tenant is obliged to come to be admitted; and in that respect it is not different from the case of mortgages of copyholds, which are constantly done in that manner; conditional surrenders are made, and if that surrender is not presented, the general custom of the manor is, the surrender becomes void, and a new surrender taken, the estate does not become void. The Lord has not the fine on these mortgaged tenements; it was intended only to be a pledge; and it is unreasonable, he should pay a fine. The fines in this manor are indeed low: but so it is in some copyhold manors, which differ much as to what these fines are: but that will not differ the right. It is true as to the general custom of copyholds, surrenderee must come, and have it presented at the next court: but there are several copyholds, where the tenant need not come under three courts; *Coke on copyhold*. As to the fraud by over-reaching, I do not know, that it would have that consequence objected; but the same thing may happen in those copyhold manors, yet the law does not therefore call that custom void. As to the strongest objection, that this will prevent the Lords escheat, it cannot escheat by death of mortgagee without issue, because he was never admitted tenant to the Lord; nor by death of the tenant without issue, for notwithstanding that, the mortgagee may come and be admitted afterward. This differs it to be sure from some cases of copyholds or tenant right estates; but still it is only in a greater degree: for the same thing may happen in all copyhold manors, where these mortgage-surrenders are made; for the tenant may die and without heir; which is possible, though not so likely to happen as a man's dying without issue; but it may happen. Then there is an escheat to the Lord; that is, it must be by death without heir of the mortgagor, who remains tenant still: but notwithstanding that, the surrender may be

be presented at the third court, though that is after death of the tenant without heir. Surrenderee has a right to be admitted; the death of surrenderer in mean time making no difference, as has been held. The present case then differs not from that but in degree and in point of value; because the possibility of dying without issue is much greater than that of dying without heir generally: but still it is not of a different nature. The result of this is only, that it is prejudicial to or diminishes the Lord's casualty or profit as to escheat: but that will not make it a void custom. There are several customs diminishing the value of the Lord's estate, which notwithstanding may have a good original. Though a custom for a copyhold for life to commit waste would not be good; yet for a copyholder in fee to do so it is good; though much more diminishing the Lord's estate; and much more unaccountable, how such a custom should grow up, than this. Customs are supposed to take their rise by grant or agreement. It might be a good foundation originally for an agreement between the Lord and tenants, that though the tenants are bound to present an absolute conveyance at the next court, yet as to mortgages, where the estate is only a pledge, they are not bound to present till the third court. Till such conveyance is presented, and grantee and mortgagee admitted, grantor and mortgagor remain tenants. But it is a new doctrine to me, that this is a military tenure by *knight service*, *escuage*, or the like. It does not appear, that one incident of a military tenure belongs to this estate, neither *wardship*, *marriage*, or *relief*. It is then an estate grown up by custom, and originally a base tenure grown up like copyholds. They took their rise from defence of the borders: but are not military tenures; nor is it shewn that there are military services, for non-performance of which the tenant is to forfeit his estate. So far therefore as appears, the mortgagor remaining tenant till the mortgage-deed is presented, and admittance on it; it answers all the purposes except as to the *quantum* of the value of this casualty by escheat, as it may rise seldomer; consequently I cannot be of opinion, that this custom must be taken on the face of it to be void in point of law.

If so then, it brings it to the question of fact. The instances read on both sides out of the books of the manor are very dark in general; but however there is very strong proof made of this custom by parol; which, I do not say, is conclusive: but it is fit for the consideration of a jury.

But as to the next issue, which is only between the Lord and the collateral heir of mortgagor, *Copeland* and his wife, I think, the order ought to be varied. They did not much insist on this right

Equity of redemption will follow the custom as to the legal estate in descent, whether the general law of the land, or law of the place. Whether escheat of equity of redemption or trust, not determined.

Attorney General v. Sands.
Hard 402.

right of redemption; but, not signing the register, it is to be considered, whether that part of the direction is now to stand. This is not proper to be tried by a jury; being a mere equity of redemption, on which the custom certainly cannot operate. But an equity of redemption will follow the question as to the legal estate; as it does *Burrough English* lands; which if mortgaged, the equity of redemption will descend to the youngest son, to whom the lands will descend: so in mortgage of *gavelkind*, the equity of redemption will descend to all; but that is not proper to be tried: whether that law, which it follows, be the general law of the land or *lex loci*, it is the same thing. But then a question will arise, whether there can be an escheat of this equity of redemption to the Lord; which has never yet been determined that there can: nor shall I determine it now. Neither has the question, whether there can be an escheat of a trust, been determined. Though it is a considerable argument, that otherwise there will be an end of escheats, because all the lands in *England* will be soon in trust, yet that is contrary to the old doctrine. Defrauding the Lords of escheats was one of the mischiefs recited in the statute of uses. The collateral heir cannot claim the equity of redemption, if he could not claim the legal estate. If then the lands can descend only to the lineal heir, it may be a question between the Lord and the plaintiff, the mortgagee, whether the Lord has a right to call on him to redeem his mortgage on the foot of the escheat of that equity of redemption in him, which originally was in his tenant? That will remain to be considered after trial on part of the equity reserved. It is contrary to the law before the statute of uses, when uses were mere trusts. But I give no opinion upon that; for if found one way, there will be no occasion to determine it.

The second issue therefore must be left out: but as to the first issue, the directions must stand, and the decree be affirmed.

I will not on a direction to try a general custom insert every circumstance attending every particular case, as the present case; for that would entangle the general custom.

Case 101.

Ramsden versus Hylton, June 17, 1751.

Hylton versus Biscoe, & e con.

HENRY HYLTON, appearing to have been an incumbered, or rather a weak, man intended in 1688 to divest himself of his estate, and make a settlement of it on his son *John*, reserving provisions to himself, his wife, and daughters. They

They reduced this into execution in 1688; by which the estate of the family was conveyed on trust to raise several sums, with a *proviso* that as soon as *John* should marry, or pay his sisters those sums, the trustees should convey the estate to *John* and his heirs. There were still some disputes in the family; but in 1693 *John* married the daughter of Sir *Richard Musgrave*, and in 1694 made a settlement of this estate on this recital: that whereas he had intermarried as aforesaid, and whereas Sir *Richard Musgrave* and *Dorothy Madison*, his wife's grandmother, in consideration of the said marriage, and the covenants, grants, and agreements aftermentioned, had paid, agreed, and secured to pay, to *John*, 2000 *l.* for and upon the marriage-portion of his said wife, *John* covenants to convey this estate by fines or recoveries to certain uses; and covenants, that till the fines were levied he and his heirs should stand seised to those uses. The uses were to himself for life; remainder as to part to his wife in part of her jointure; remainder to the first, &c. son of the marriage in tail-male; and afterward remainder to trustees for ninety-nine years in default of issue-male, on trust that if there was no issue-male, and two or more daughters of the marriage, to raise 8000 *l.* for their portions to be paid at twenty-one or marriage.

Trust of settlement or articles after marriage, to raise portions for daughters on failure of issue-male, to whom the estate was limited in tail; decreed to be raised after the failure, notwithstanding a general release by a daughter, the settlement not being known.

He died in 1707, leaving by this marriage six children, two sons *Richard* and *John*, and four daughters, all then very young. His widow died in 1709. *Richard* came first into possession of the estate, and acted as owner of it making mortgages, &c. Upon his death his brother *John* came into possession, and acted in same manner.

It did not appear that this settlement or article was discovered or known in the family till after death of *John* the son, when it was found among the papers left by the grandmother of these four ladies in the hands of her representatives. But after these sisters came of age, there were transactions between them and their brother *John*. Mrs. *Biscoe*, one of the four, coming of age in 1727, an indenture was in 1728 entered into between her and her said brother; which recited, that he was indebted to his sister in a bond of 2000 *l.* to secure payment of 1000 *l.* with interest; and made a mortgage of part of the settled estate by way of security for payment of it, with a covenant that he was seised in fee: then came a clause, that in consideration of that she releases to *John*, his heirs, executors, and administrators, all actions, causes of action, sums, portions, legacies, claims, and demands for and by reason of the will of their mother, or of *John*'s having taken administration to his brother *Richard*, or for his brother's or father's personal estate, or by leases for lives or years of the collieries of his father, or for and by reason of any

other matter and thing except the recited bond in this release.

John Hylton died without issue-male.

Three bills were now brought. The first by creditors, the second by Sir *Richard Hylton*, devisee of the real estate of the late *John Hylton* subject to his debts and incumbrances, to establish the will and have the trusts performed; and a particular part of the relief prayed was against this settlement, which was now discovered, and insisted on by *Biscoe* and his wife, to have that set aside and delivered up. The third bill by *Biscoe* and his wife to have the benefit of that settlement in 1694, as far as it related to the trust-term of ninety-nine years for raising 8000 *l.* for daughters in default of issue-male; a fourth part of which sum was claimed by her, as one of the four daughters of the maker of that settlement, in the event, that happened, of the issue-male of her father and brothers having failed; and also to have a satisfaction for two sums, one of 1000 *l.* under the mortgage in 1728, and 1000 *l.* legacy under the will of *John Hylton*.

Against the performance of the trust of this settlement or articles several objections were made.

First, that it was made after *marriage*, and must therefore be considered as voluntary. Though it must be admitted, that if a marriage is had, and a settlement afterward made, though no articles before, and a portion is paid, the portion so advanced, paid, or agreed to be paid at that time, will make it equal to a settlement before marriage and a covenant for valuable consideration: yet this cannot be so because of recital of this settlement, which is of a very particular kind; from which it must be inferred, that the 2000 *l.* was agreed to be paid at the time of the marriage not relative to any settlement to be made; so that the party was intitled to the portion, whether a settlement was made or not, and therefore voluntary on his part.

Next, the portion was not paid, or secured to be paid, nor any indorsement on the deed.

Next, it all rests in articles and covenant, therefore ought not under all the circumstances to be carried into execution. It is discretionary in a court of equity, whether they will carry articles into execution; which will not be done after a great length of time, nor so as to incur a great hardship or prejudice to either side; therefore if there cannot be a remedy at law, to which they must be left, there is no ground for equity to interpose; for there is a great difference

ference between bills to set aside rights or to carry them into execution. There are cases where the court will not relieve against a deed, when at the same time they will not upon a bill carry it into execution. On a contract for a lease of a house for a coffeehouse it was found, that a chimney could not be made convenient for a coffeehouse: on a bill to compel performance, Lord *Talbot* refused it, merely because the tenant would be obliged to take it for that purpose he did not want. In *Faine v. Brown*, 12 Dec. last, a man was intitled to a small estate under his father's will, given on condition that if he should sell it in twenty-five years, half the purchase-money should go to the brother: he agreed in writing to sell it; and afterward refused to carry it into execution, pretending to have been intoxicated with liquor at the time. A bill was brought to compel it. Your Lordship said, that without the other circumstance that hardship alone of losing half the purchase-money, if carried into execution, was sufficient to determine the discretion of the court not to interfere, but leave them to law. So in the case of *Oriel College* on a bill to have the benefit of deducting land-tax, the court relieved as to the future land-tax, but not as to the past. It is inconvenient to have this now trumped up; and several circumstances of weight in these sort of questions concur against an execution, as length of time, &c.

The acts of the family shew, this settlement was waved or laid aside, and given up. They claim under a term in remainder after estates tail, which might have been barred by *John*, who was tenant in tail.

Mrs. *Biscoe* has released any demand she could have. *John* thought it reasonable, that she should have no further demand on him and his estate: so did she think, and on that released. Then the equity is, that she did not at the time know of this demand. The sole ground, where a court of equity relieves on the want of knowledge is, where the parties are drawn in to do something they would not do if known: but a reasonable woman must have done what she did, if she had known it. The 1000 l. under the mortgage deed in 1728 was intended as a provision by *John* for his sister, who had then no provision; then it was in part voluntary by him; and she ought not to set up this demand against his estate, and at the same time claim a provision from his bounty, which he would not have made, if he had known this; so that he was under a mistake as well as she.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

As to the creditors bill, the relief is plain; and the directions of course, so as to part of the second bill; but the question arises on the relief prayed against the settlement. As to that I am in

the first place of opinion clearly, that the praying to be relieved against that settlement in a court of equity is one of the most extraordinary demands ever set up in a court of equity ; for whatever becomes of that demand, there is no colour to bring a bill here to be relieved against it, and to have the settlement delivered up to be cancelled ; for there is no fraud or imposition to impeach it. The only question therefore that can arise as to that, must arise on the third bill ; and, whether there are not sufficient circumstances by way of defence to that demand, is the true question, and not by way of relief by setting it aside. The second bill therefore, so far as it seeks that relief, must be dismissed ; which brings it to the proper question on the bill by *Biscoe*, whether there is sufficient ground in this court to relieve thereon, and to decree the 2000 *l.* and interest, or whether the several objections made are not sufficient to prevent a court of equity from interposing to have it raised ? The settlement by *Henry* the grandfather was to trustees and their heirs ; so that the legal estate was in them ; and the effect of that settlement was to create a trust of the estate for his son subject to those incumbrances on it ; so that he was the owner in equity. The family was not quite at peace ; but the proceedings thereupon are not material. If *John* the father had had the legal estate, the deed in 1694 would have passed it ; therefore it does not rest barely in covenant. It is true, he had but an equity ; but if he had the legal estate, the covenant to stand seised in the mean time would have had its operation in point of law. There was nothing for the daughters, if there was issue-male of the marriage. It does not appear this settlement or article (however it is called) was known in the family. I am unwilling to suggest it ; but I do not know but there is some reason to suspect that *John Hylton* knew of it, the words of his will looking like it ; but whether or no is not material. It was afterward discovered in the proper hands to find it in ; and Mrs. *Biscoe* now insists on her share under it, viz. 2000 *l.* to which several objections are made ; and indeed I have hardly seen so much litigation in a cause on a point of this kind, where so little ground appears for it.

Settlement after marriage, if a portion paid, equal to one before, and on good consideration.

As to the first objection, this settlement was made after marriage : but there are many settlements and articles after marriage, which have been on good consideration decreed to be performed in this court, and after a length of time. But it is farther said to be voluntary ; for though it is rightly admitted, that if a portion is paid, it will make it equal to a settlement before marriage, yet it is said this cannot be so : but the words of the settlement do not import that, on which this objection is founded ; for it is also in *consideration of the covenants, grants, and agreements aftermentioned* ; and if they had agreed before marriage in that manner, that would have connected one with the other, and made it a good confi-

consideration: so that it appears a settlement made for consideration agreed on between the parties at that time.

As to the next objection it is not in every case, that, supposing the portion is not paid, the issue of the marriage shall not have the benefit of the uses of the settlement or articles; because the issue of the marriage take from both parties; and whether they perform their agreement among themselves, may be immaterial to the issue; and several decrees have passed on that foundation, they being purchasers under both, and consequently both are obliged to perform. But there is no occasion to enter into that; for I am satisfied, the portion was paid; and I wonder, they have made so much proof of it at this distance of time; and then it appears to be for valuable consideration.

Issue are purchasers under both parties, and may have benefit of the uses, though the portion, not paid.

As to its resting in covenant and articles, it is partly so; but it also amounts to a settlement of the equitable state, he had, by that covenant to stand seised in the mean time. But supposing it rested in articles, there are several instances of articles on marriage never carried into execution by an actual settlement, yet notwithstanding as against those parties and the family, those articles are decreed to be carried into execution, though not perhaps against purchasers. It often happens, that they never call for an actual settlement of those articles: yet are they considered as such, and many decrees are made on that foundation. As to the length of time, it is no objection in this case at all; for it must not be computed from the date of the articles, which was long ago, but from the event that happened. If these ladies knew of the settlement, they had no right to this demand till failure of issue male, which was but lately. Supposing *Richard* or *John* had left issue male, and made all those conveyances and settlements, and incurred all those debts; that issue male would have a right to have carried these articles into execution for their benefit, and to a decree for it, notwithstanding the behaviour of *Richard* or *John*, not as against the mortgagees and incumbrancers without notice, but as against volunteers under *John*, or as his general creditors merely. If then the issue male would unquestionably have this right, there is the same reason, the daughters should have the same benefit.

As to the waver, I do not understand the notion upon which it is argued; for there is no person having a right to wave or give up the benefit of this settlement.

As to their claiming under a term in remainder after estates tail, that is an objection now against the raising this money, that has happened in several cases, particularly in *Goring v. Nash*; in

Portions raised under a term in remainder after estate tail and power of revocation.

which were both these circumstances; a power of revocation in the father; and next the remainder, under which was *Lady Goring's* claim, was a remainder after an estate tail in her brother; and these objections were made; notwithstanding which I was of opinion, that demand must prevail, and she had a decree accordingly. I took notice in that case, that the same objection was made in *Vernon v. Vernon*; for there the party claimed after a remainder in tail, and if the lands had been purchased, and a settlement made during the life of *Thomas Vernon*, he would be tenant in tail, and might have barred the remainder: but not having done it, nor any act of his importing an intent to do it, the house of Lords and Lord *King* held, it ought to prevail; and I was of that opinion: and beside the estate tail being in the brother, there was a power of revocation in the father, which he might have executed, if he thought fit, and never did: and where the tree falls, it must lie: if people will not take the advantage, it cannot be helped.

General release relates to the particular recital.

The strongest and most material objection is the release; but I am of opinion, it would not be construed as a release of this demand either in point of law or in a court of equity. First it is certain, that if a release is given on a particular consideration recited, notwithstanding that the release concludes with general words, yet the law in order to prevent surprise will construe it to relate to the particular matter recited, which was under the contemplation of the parties, and intended to be released. The particular point in consideration was not relative to this estate, but what they could have against him as representative of his mother, brother, or father's personal estate, to which the words are particularly confined. But there is no occasion to rely on the law for this; for it is clear, that it would not in a court of equity, it being admitted on all hands, and it must be so taken, that this settlement was unknown to all the parties: nor did the daughters know of this contingent provision, beside which they had no other provision out of this estate; and all they could be intitled to must arise out of the personal estate of their father or other relations. It is impossible then to imply within the general release that which neither party could have under consideration, and which it is admitted neither side knew of; and as this release cannot have its effect to bar this demand, so it cannot be set up against them in a court of equity. The only remaining consideration is, whether *Mrs. Biscoe* can claim this 2000 *l.* part of the 8000 *l.* and interest, and also the 1000 *l.* under this deed in 1728; for it is admitted, she cannot claim the 1000 *l.* under the will of her brother *John*, if she has this 2000 *l.* I am a little suspicious, that *John*, when he made that will, had this in view. There is no ground for what is insisted on as a reason why she should

should not have both. The demands, this was intended a satisfaction for, were any claim out of the estate of the mother, brother, and personal estate of the father: and there is no ground from hence to say, the release should be opened, and account to be taken of what these demands were. It does not appear much moved from the bounty of *John*, but rather the contrary, considering what she was intitled to under the will of her mother out of her assets, &c. To what purpose then should I send it to an inquiry, when it is impossible now to take the account of what was due from the brother to his sister at the time of entering into this deed? *John* is dead; and it does not appear what of the estate of the father, brother, &c. came to his hands, and how much Mrs. *Biscoe* was intitled to out of it. The result then is, that they stated and adjusted this as the sum that was due from him at that time; what he gave to his sisters was not by way of bounty, but satisfaction of the sums due to them; for he made the like deeds to the other sisters; so that the saying, a reasonable woman must have done the same, is making a supposition, that concludes neither way; for a reasonable man would not have asked that. If he had been told of this at that time, he would probably have said, that he might suffer a recovery, or, if he did not, it was no great matter, let them have it. He never did suffer a recovery.

Consequently I must make a decree for the raising and paying this 2000 *l.* with interest at 4 *per cent.* and also for the 1000 *l.* under the deed of 1728: and in a case of this kind, where the incumbrances so nearly exhaust the whole, I will decree an immediate sale without waiting for the account. But let it stand over to see, if the mortgagees consent to an immediate sale.

Note: Leighton v. Leighton was cited: where an old intail was created in the reign of *H. 8.* The family had acted as absolute owners in fee; and there had been an inquisition finding, that several of the ancestors were seised in fee: yet it underwent a long litigation, whether a recovery could be presumed from the length of time: and after seven trials at least, and on proof of the fines being burned, it was presumed by the jury, that a fine was levied; but not sufficient to do so from their acting as owners.

Leigh

Case 102.

Leigh *versus* Thomas, June 19, 1751.*Master of the Rolls for Lord Chancellor.*Demurrer for
want of parties allowed.Part of a ship's
crew appoint
two to be agents : on a
bill for account the rest
must be parties.

BILL for account of prize-money, and to have two shares paid to the two plaintiffs as agents ; which, they said, they were intitled to under the general articles, on which the cruise was set on foot ; for that, though there was no provision at all therein for any appropriation of shares to persons afterward appointed agents, yet it was said in general in the articles, that the crew should have liberty to appoint two agents ; that the two plaintiffs were appointed agents by a subsequent deed and agreement signed by sixty-four out of eighty, the number of the whole crew. They brought this bill therefore not in behalf of the whole crew, but of themselves (who were two of the number) and of the said sixty-four.

Demurrer for not making the whole crew parties.

Against the demurrer. There are several cases, where on account of the number it is impossible, where it will be sufficient, though all the persons interested are not made parties ; as in the case of voluntary societies, as the bubbles in 1720 ; of the commoners of *Tunbridge Wells*, of rights of a fishery ; of tenant rights in the *North* ; in which one alone may bring a bill ; so where lands are directed to be sold for payment of debts, though there are several creditors, one may bring a bill in behalf of himself and the rest, and they are ordered to come in under the decree ; so of legatees, though but a few, one alone may bring a bill ; and in several other cases, the court allowing it from necessity. Here they may come in under the decree for account.

Sir John Strange.

The subsequent agreement cannot be considered as binding on all the crew in general ; for they have still a right to say, though some particular persons on any foundation, as generosity, &c. had agreed to give the plaintiffs that particular benefit of having two shares on their own account, that not being in the general articles subscribed, they could not be bound thereby ; it is impossible therefore to have this account taken without bringing before the court the rest of the sailors not signing that agreement. If made plaintiffs, they could not be warranted to do that without their consent : then they cannot be added as defendants after the decree, to litigate this particular right set up by the plaintiffs as they would, if made defendants in the original suit. So that this bill

bill being only by the two agents in their own names claiming a particular provision for themselves, which they are not intitled to under the general articles, but derived from particular people only, the demurrer is proper. As to the other question of the bill being on behalf of the sixty-four there mentioned, it is of the first impression; being by agents who have no authority to sue, at least in their own name, as they come into this court, if they had authority to sue, they must bring the action in name of the principal. No doubt but a bill may be by a few creditors in behalf of themselves and the rest, to have an account of real and personal estate for relief of all; and then the decree lets in all the others; and they are considered as plaintiffs, that bill not being confined to a select number: but there is no instance of a bill by three or four to have an account of the estate, without saying they bring it in behalf of themselves and the rest of the creditors: otherwise the executor may account to all the other creditors in other bills. And though you are to make several parties plaintiffs, if any die, that does not abate the suit; the right survives; as in a joint action at law it abates not by death of one; the surviving plaintiff may suggest the death of his companion, and that suit will not abate. It is impossible therefore to have this account taken in the manner it now stands. Whether they will be authorised to bring a bill in behalf of the whole crew to litigate it, will be for their consideration: but at present it is a new bill by the agents in their own name, and claiming a particular right, which they are not intitled to against the proprietors in general, and cannot have a decree without the other persons who have a right to litigate it.

Agents must sue in name of principal.

A few creditors may sue for themselves and the rest; and the suit abates not by death of one.

The demurrer therefore should be allowed.

Thomas *versus* Britnell, June 20, 1751.

Case 103.

At the Rolls.

JOHN IVY, in the beginning of his will, recited, that he had made a former will in life of his wife, in which he had given to her all his real and personal estate; that he had the misfortune to lose her, and therefore he makes this will for the disposition of the same. First, he orders all his debts and funeral charges to be honourably paid after his decease. In a subsequent clause he devises particular premises, enumerating them, excepting *H.* and *R.* all which enumerated lands, except *H.* and *R.* he devises to trustees by and out of the money arising by sale, and out of the rents and profits thereof in the mean time, in the first place to pay and discharge his debts, funeral expences, and all legacies given

Wills construed for benefit of creditors to charge real estate (though not expressly mentioned) by implication on general words: but that implication may be afterward destroyed.

by this will, or by other writing under his hand. He afterward goes on and says, that *H.* and *R.* shall be in the first place for payment of the legacies mentioned in his will.

Plaintiffs brought this bill as creditors of testator to have the real estate by the will subjected to payment of their debts, in aid of the personal, so far as that proved deficient; insisting that his whole real estate was by the will established as a fund for payment of debts; and whether the whole, or any and what part, of his real estate was subject to debts, was the question.

Sir John Strange.

The word *same* must relate to that real and personal estate before given; and if it had stood on that and the word *Imprimis* only, I should have no doubt but that his whole real estate would be subject to the payment of debts; not from any express mention made that they should be a charge on his real estate, but from that construction the court makes for benefit of creditors, and that men should not sin in their graves: as in Lord *Warrington's* case, where testator said, he made his will for the disposition of all his worldly estate; *Imprimis*, he ordered all his debts to be paid; the court there put that reasonable construction on it, that being introduced with the disposing of *all his worldly estate*, that should take in lands as well as personal estate, and the real was therefore subject to payment of his debts. Here it is rather stronger; because he has expressly taken notice, that there was real and personal estate. But it must be construed farther, as a construction is to be put on the whole frame of the will, not on a particular word. Here is no express declaration in the outset of his will, that his whole real estate should be charged with payment of his debts. Therefore it is necessary to look farther into his will, and see what was the intent of testator, who is not bound in fact, though bound in honour, to make such a disposition for his creditors. Considering the whole, he has subjected the greatest, but not every, part of his real estate to payment of debts, having excepted a particular part and applied it to another purpose, not intending that *H.* and *R.* should be liable to be swallowed up by creditors, to the prevention of the legatees under his will; but afterward directs what shall be done with *H.* and *R.* He had personal estate, he could not exempt from payment of his debts: he had real, the whole or particular part of which he might subject. In declaring his intent as to that, he exempts *H.* and *R.* entirely, reserving them as a fund for legacies only. On the clauses therefore altogether (and which are the only clauses by which he expressly charges his land therewith) he considers, how far his real estate shall be chargeable to creditors, and then thought himself at liberty

liberty to apply the other part to satisfy legatees. Therefore, though on the first part the court might take the whole real to be charged with debts, yet as there is no express lien on the real by these general words, and afterward, he distributes such part of his real for debts, and such for legacies, it is too much to lay hold on the general words to say, the whole should be charged with payment of debts. It can be done only by implication on the general words; which may be explained afterward, and that implication destroyed. Consequently the plaintiffs can only have a decree for an account of the personal estate in course of administration, and then the other parts of the real estate, except *H.* and *R.* for payment of their debts.

Chicot versus Lequesne, June 21, 1751.

Case 104.

ON bill to set aside an award, it was insisted, the only relief can be in this court, however partial, corrupt, &c. the award is ; the parties not having proceeded under the statute 9 & 10 K. Will. cap. 15. which gives a summary remedy even to courts of law, provided they pursue that statute : but this is not a submission made an order of any court, and therefore the obligor in the bond cannot defend himself at law by saying, the award is partial or corrupt. * Then no court of law can give relief : it must be in equity, which often sets aside awards, and gives that relief arising out of the case, as by directing accounts, or granting injunctions to stay all legal proceedings which had been on the foundation of its being a good award. Though bills of this sort come with some prejudice, as arbitrators are of the parties own chusing, and in general this court leans very hard against them, yet if on partiality it should not relieve, it would give arbitrators too great power, and prevent this expeditious attaining justice. The question then is on the merits and evidence on both sides, whether this award ought to stand ? Of the three arbitrators, *G. Vine*, and *Mybill*, the award was made without the latter hearing it, or having an opportunity of conference to convince the others, or be convinced. Two cannot exclude a third. 2 *Ver.* 514. 3 *Will.* 362. If arbitrators give not sufficient time, or award upon accounts without looking into them, or will not hear, or but one side, a court of law would infer that misbehaviour mentioned in the statute in not acting as a fair judge; then this court will go by the same rule. It ought to be as fair and open as a trial by jury. Wherever a number by election of the parties are to exercise a judicial authority, as it is to be final in the first instance (almost the only case where so) these judgments should be fairly and openly, or equity will interpose. Award with-

If one arbitrator makes improper declaration, he will be made to pay costs : and satisfaction decreed on the judgment on bond of submission. But the fact must be put in issue, or opportunity to answer it.

* His Lordship said, it would be very strange if there could be no defence at common law on an action brought on an award by corruption; but he knew no case of that.

out hearing, though just, is not good; for it is just by accident. If a corporate body is to do a corporate act, not on a corporation day, every member should be present; as determined by *Your Lordship* in *B. R. Corbet Kynaston v. Mayor of Shrewsbury*, where fifteen aldermen concurring, as found in the verdict, the whole court held it a void act, the sixteenth not being summoned, whose reason might have convinced the rest. So wherever powers are delegated. It is in evidence, that at a meeting *Vine* saying, "he would consider and judge on plain facts," *G.* said, "he should not mind facts, that being convinced Mr. *Letellier* had misused the *Lequesnes*, and having it now in his power, he would mulct his representatives."

Lord Chancellor said, he would require a very particular answer as to this fact, before he would let this award stand; for no judge, publick or private, ought to say so.

The answers given for defendant were, that they were words of warmth and passion, arising from the heat of the debate between *Vine* and *G.* and that this was the result of his judgment after having entered into the merits. Next this fact was not put in issue, there being nothing in the bill relative to it, the charges being only general as to partiality and some special charges as to other matters; so that it came into the cause by surprise by depositions at the hearing.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I have not received an answer to my satisfaction to that, which was said by *G.* the arbitrator, who appears to be the principal judge in this matter; and made this declaration (as it is sworn) at the only meeting, in which all the three arbitrators met, which was at all material; and which was, if true, declaring a direct wrong, a partial rule of judging and mistaking his office; not being an arbitrator to fine the parties, or to go according to his belief only, but according to evidence, such as the nature of the case would admit, and decree a satisfaction to the parties. Supposing they were words of warmth only, they were a declaration made by a person who was to judge; and if he carried that heat and passion into execution, I ought not to suffer it to stand. If it was the result of his judgment on the merits, it was a partial result. It is very near to the case of *Mr. Ward of Hackney v. Periam*, for which I have sent for the *Register's* book. *Lib. B. Fol. 217, 1720.* It came twice before the court; and was a bill to set aside an award by *Walker* and *Floyd*, two persons out of three, (just as this is) who joined in making it. It was a reference to put an end to a cause long depending, in which an account was before the master. There was a clause in the bond of submission, that the submission

sion should be made a rule of court on motion of either party. After the award made, plaintiff moved *B. R.* to make that submission a rule of court, and the same day moved to set the award aside, which he could not do without its being made a rule of court. A rule was made to shew cause, why it should not be set aside on partiality and misbehaviour in the arbitrators. On shewing cause the court was divided; and so the award could not be set aside. Then defendant moved for attachment in not performing the award. The court was still equally divided; so no attachment could be; consequently *Periam* could have no advantage of the submission being made a rule of court, and therefore brought a common action on the bond of submission. Plaintiff brought his bill in this court merely to be relieved against the award, praying no other particular relief except the general. There is indeed a distinction between the two cases, that being a reference in a matter in difference in a cause before; so that if that was set aside, there would be no want of relief, because the account would go on before the Master. Defendant by his answer insisted, that this was determined by *B. R.* and therefore the award ought not to be set aside. It was heard by Lord *Macclesfield*, 21 April 1719, who was a little staggered with the proceedings in *B. R.* being an award by virtue of a submission within the act of parliament, and doubted, whether he should enter into it to give relief, when the whole matter was subject to the jurisdiction of a court of common law, who had inquired into it, and was not of opinion to set it aside; all he did therefore at first, was to refer it to the Master, to state what had been done in it by *B. R.* who stated as aforesaid. On this Lord *Macclesfield* was of opinion, there was no determination of *B. R.* either way, not having thought fit to set aside or to affirm the award, because they refused the only process to carry it into execution, an attachment; and therefore he held, and very rightly, it was as a bare bond of award without being made a rule of court; and if a court of common law, which had this summary jurisdiction, refused to exercise it, and left the party on one side to take relief by his action, it left the party on the other to take relief by bill in equity. Then *Walker* having said, he would make *Ward* pay the costs (which was relative to the suit before the Master) it was such a declaration, that though *Floyd*, the other arbitrator, joined in the award, as has been done here, notwithstanding that, the court decreed satisfaction to be acknowledged on the judgment on the bond of submission; and decreed *Walker* who had joined in this award after this declaration of his, to pay the costs of the suit. This was a very just decree, and is a very strong authority as to the general question, unless an answer is given, which brings it to the other answer to this of the fact's not being in issue; which

One cannot move to set aside award without being made rule of court.

is considerable. It does not appear, that that declaration of *Walker's* was put in issue in that cause: and no weight is to be laid on the objection in point of form and regularity; for if a bill is to set aside an award, bond, or deed for fraud, imposition, partiality, or undue practice, it is not necessary in the bill to charge minutely every particular circumstance; for that is a matter of evidence, every part of which is not to be charged. But notwithstanding, when the cause turns on it, and no notice or opportunity is given to the other side to answer it, the court ought if possible to put it in some further method of inquiry. As there has been no opportunity for defendant to examine as to this, and the plaintiff might have examined the other arbitrator *Myhill*, which he has not done, resting it on the examination of *Vine*, I will direct *G.* and *M.* both to be examined on interrogatories before the Master relating to it: but if it should come out, that *G.* did make that declaration, I shall follow the precedent, and make *G.* pay the costs; for notwithstanding an arbitrator is an indifferent person, if the court was not to lay weight on such things, arbitrations would be very arbitrary things indeed.

Case 105.

Exel versus Wallace, June 22, 1751.

Ante 28 Jan. 1750. **A**PPEAL from the decree at the *Rolls* upon the second point.

On marriage a leasehold estate settled in trust for husband and wife for life: after decease of survivor then trustees to assign it with the rents and profits to the eldest son; for want of such issue of such son, to daughters. It goes to the only daughter at the mother's death, and not to representatives of a son, who died without issue in mother's life.

For the plaintiff, appellant. The settlement is absurd, as it now stands; and there seems to have been a line left out in the instrument, which would have made it sense, the word *issue* having no correlate. The intent of the parties was to make a provision for a family-settlement; an interest thereby vested in *William* the son, and such an interest as gave him the whole. It is in nature of an executory devise, or executory trust, which stands on the same foot. Its being *in futuro* will not prevent its vesting, any more than if it was a limitation of freehold estate, there being no difference; *Matthew Manning's* case; for if that is limited to *A.* for life, remainder to his first son; as soon as the son is born, it vests in him, though liable to be divested; as if the son should die in life of his father, who should leave another son, he would be then his first son; like a limitation for life to a father, remainder to all his children, the first child takes the whole, but liable to be divested on the birth of other children. But this son survived his father, and there never was a second son. In general, though perhaps not in all cases, the construction of trusts and of the limitations of terms by deed is the same in a court of equity as of law, that there may not be different rules of property.

property. Lord *Norfolk's* case, the first resolution. It is vested absolutely, not for life only; which would be contrary to law; for there cannot be a limitation to one unborn for life only, remainder over, *Humberston's* case. But supposing on the first words it might have been a doubt what the quantity of the estate would have been; these were articles considering the persons as not in being, so that they need not stay for their births for the carrying it into execution; and if they had come for that, no interest less than an estate-tail would the court have decreed the first son to take; for the court cannot conceive a desire to make a person unborn tenant for life. Where the limitation is to husband for life, to wife for life, and to the first son, without some words appearing on the face of the instrument itself, as to trustees till the son attained twenty-one, or to such son as should be living at death of the father and mother, there is no instance of the court's reducing the limitation to the first son merely on account of the nature of the estate as being a personalty. Though in estates of inheritance the want of words of limitation will lessen the interest of the person to take, it is otherwise of chattels real or personal things; for the interest of the taker will be increased by the want of words of limitation. A copyhold estate is also comprised, in which *William* the son would have a remainder in tail vested in him on his birth, such an interest as at a particular age he might have barred, and prevented the limitation to the daughters taking effect. Then the court will suppose, they intended to vest as great an interest in the other part of the settlement, which will give him the absolute interest thereof; for such is the consequence of intailing a chattel. *Theebridge v. Kilburn*, 12 *March* last, was stronger than this for an absolute vesting of a term without any suspension. In 2 *Bul.* Lord Coke says, the law delights in and favours always the vesting estates. The same inconvenience arises in the case of every real estate, that the eldest son may on coming of age suffer a recovery, and take it away from his younger brother: whereas in the present case it only bars the daughters. The inconvenience and absurdity of the contrary construction is much greater, giving it to the daughters notwithstanding this son (who lived till near nineteen) or any other son had left issue; which might have been the case. There is a considerable property of this kind; and the son coming of age might want to make a settlement of it; which could not be, if it was a contingent interest till death of father and mother. It is objected, here is the word *then*, which denotes, when this should take effect, and points out the death of survivor, till when the eldest son shall have no interest: but that word only points out the time when the conveyance is to be made, and is a most trifling circumstance to let the interest of an age depend on. *Expressio eorum*

eorum quæ tacite, &c. and the trustees would be bound to do that merely by being trustees. Even in *Lord Beauchere v. Miss Dormer* there was the word *then* in the will, and stress laid thereon for the same purpose to tie it down to a particular point of time so as to describe a son living at time of the death: Your Lordship held it incapable of that sense, and as the rest of the will had meant at any time, *then* would make no alteration. In *Theobridge v. Kilburn* a much more significant word, *immediately*, your Lordship did not think of consequence to make a real variation in the sense. The direction to the trustees to assign will make no difference; for all trusts are more or less executory; and it is now to be taken, that there is no material difference in point of limitation, whether it is executed or executory, as whether it is in trust to *A.* for life, &c. or in trust to convey; which is the same thing, being trustees both for the profits and also to convey the estate.

For defendants Wallace and his wife. This is a particular case, and a question of construction peculiar to this deed; for if on the one hand defendants claim under the limitation of an estate after an estate-tail to another, it is clear, they cannot have it: but if they claim on a contingency, which necessarily must happen within the compass of a life or lives in being, they are intitled to it: so that the law is clear, when the question of construction is once established. It arises on the construction of the limitation of the trust of a term; which is to be construed in the same manner as an executory devise of a term. 1 *Ver* 234. It is also made by a father for a provision first for sons, then for daughters, of the marriage; and in that light is intitled to all the latitude and benignity of construction the court can give it; and also because it is on articles, and a trust to be executed by an assignment. There is indeed weight in the argument of no sensible distinction between trusts executed and executory. That only proves, that trusts executed are intitled to the same latitude of construction as executory: but it cannot be thence argued, they are to have a greater. This is on a trust not executed, but which according to that distinction is allowed the utmost latitude. It is not to be wondered at, if the father did not take in all possible cases in such a settlement as this. It is only a settlement of part, which proceeded from the bounty of the wife's father, nothing moving from the husband in this settlement; and there was another settlement referred to, by which a jointure was made on the wife; so that it is only a partial addition, not the great provision. An argument is drawn from copyhold being in this as well as leasehold: though by operation of law, words applied to copyhold, many have a different construction from words applied to leasehold, yet plainly in the intent of the parties they did not know that,

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but

but meant, the copyhold should follow the leasehold; because it was only a small cottage and few acres, part of this very farm; is therefore limited in the same manner and by words proper only to the leasehold, viz. to *William*, his executors and administrators. But if they did know the difference, it is not material; for in *Forth v. Chapman* the same words had a different construction as applied to real and to personal estate; and that on solid principles, to give way to the intent of the parties as far as possible, preserving the rules of law, and avoiding all the inconveniencies those rules were established to prevent, viz. perpetuities, and to be *assuti* in so doing. On the same principle in a limitation over after a dying without issue is the extended construction made as to freehold, and the confined as to personal, estate. Therefore in all cases of wills, trusts of terms, &c. the court, if it can find words, will support the limitation over, because it was intended. But where there are no words, the court cannot alter the rules of law, and that was *Theebridge v. Kilburn*, which was like Miss *Dormer's* case, there not being a single word to tie it down to a dying without issue in the compass of a life in being, and the court could not restrain it by an absolute supposition. In one of the cases a stress was laid on the word *leaving*; in *Pinbury v. Elkin* on *then*; and several other words have been laid hold on. In this deed a perpetuity was never intended; for the persons to take after the estates for life of husband and wife were to take absolutely; and there never was to be a limitation over grafted on it, the limitations over being on the contingency of their not taking. The trustees were to assign to some person, who was then to answer the description, and to take it absolutely. By the plaintiff's construction if a son had been born, who lived a very short time, the whole trust would vest in him, and go on his death to his father, and so the daughters would be cut out; and though it may be said, there is no hurt in that, as the father might give it to whom he pleased, the settlement goes on another supposition, not trusting the father; for they would not have made such a settlement, if they had trusted to his generosity. The words say, *the eldest son*; then there must be a time, when it is to be judged, who is the eldest within the meaning. Plaintiff says, the moment a son is born. Defendants say, the time when the trustees are to execute the trust. Eldest was never tied down to mean first born. In *Lomax v. Holmden* Your Lordship held it synonymous to first son for the time being, who should take. Any son then eldest at death of survivor would answer that description. In all cases of settlements with a view to portions or provisions for children describing them as sons or daughters, eldest or youngest, the court waits till the time to see who will answer the description; as in *Lord Teynham v. Webb* Your Lordship held, the time was the commencement of the term in possession. It is admitted, that

if there were other sons, it would have gone to the second born; which shews, the time to see, who is to take, is not the birth of the first; then it must be the death of the survivor. It is said, it might devert; but that is impossible of a personalty. The inserting a line, supposed left out in the ingrossment, would make it a new deed: but it is quite otherwise: it is to go to the eldest son without words of limitation. The blunder here is only from endeavouring to be more particular. He might have used either for *want of such issue*, or *such son*, and there is sense in it. Whoever is eldest son then, should have it: if none, then to the daughters. It is said, he has not thought of the issue the son might have, and die in his father's life: but he has not thought that a probable case, nor of providing for grandchildren: that will not overturn the conveyance, nor is it the present case.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This has been said on the part of defendants to be a particular case not falling under the decision of any former precedent: for plaintiff the contrary is said, and that it is to be governed by general rules and general precedents. I am of opinion, this is a very particular case; and though to be governed undoubtedly (as all cases whether general or particular are) by the general rules of law and equity, and the natural inferences from thence, yet is it a case not like any one precedent and determination mentioned, and therefore the counsel on both sides are not able to cite any coming up to this. The general question is on the right to this leasehold, and depends on this, whether the trust of this estate was vested in *William Oxford* so as to be transmissible to his representative at the time of his death? Plaintiff insists, it was, and that it became part of his personal estate: the other side, that it was not, but only a contingent interest that might or might not arise on an event, which has not happened: which depends on the construction of these articles. This is a particular case, first because this is plainly not the principal marriage settlement on this marriage; for there was another made by and moving from the husband, taken notice of in this very deed. This was additional by the wife's father for benefit of the family; consequently it is not necessary in case of such a settlement to make such a construction, as should provide for all the issue of the marriage in succession, who were provided for by the other. The next consideration is, that here is a different direction and different kind of declaration of trust in the case of the father and mother, and of the eldest son and daughters. An argument is used upon the distinction between trusts executed and executory; and defendants would take advantage of its being an executory trust as

to the issue, and the trustees directed to convey. The other side contend, that it is out of the question, and allude to what I said in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*. I did not there say, no weight was to be laid on that distinction, but that if it had come recently before me, I should then have thought, there was little weight in it: but that I should have that deference for my predecessors as not to lay it out of the case: not intending to say that all which my predecessors did was wrong founded; which, I desire, may be remembered. This is neither of those cases, and is special therefore in that respect. Here is a different and distinguished declaration of this trust. He has made it, what is called a trust executed during life of the father and mother, the estate being vested in trustees to permit them one after the other to receive the profits during their lives: not going on afterward in that form, but that the trustees shall then assign the term to the eldest son of that marriage: so that it is a mixed case, and seems by penning it in that manner to have a different intent from the common cases; therefore I am of opinion, that during life of father and mother none could call for an assignment of this term, the legal estate being intended to remain in the trustees: in that respect therefore it is very like the case happening in the most usual and skilful method of settling terms on marriage settlements by conveyancers; viz. to vest the term in trustees, then to declare the husband to be permitted to receive the rents and profits during life, afterward the wife to do the same if intended to be her jointure, and afterward to assign the term to such son as should first attain twenty-one: the reason of which is, that if they did it otherwise, they could not carry on the limitation to the subsequent sons, and therefore direct that no conveyance shall be of the trust of the term for benefit of the sons of the marriage, till the first son attains twenty-one. There is therefore a plain difference from the penning of this trust, making it executed (as it is called) in life of the father and mother, executory afterward. But it is insisted, whoever was first son, the term would vest in him on his birth; for it must be admitted, there is no way to make it vest if not on birth of the first son. If then that son dies, it shall go to his representative, which is the father, if he is not capable of disposing of it. The other side contend for a suspension until death of the father and mother, and then that it should be assigned to such person as should be eldest son at death of survivor. But it is said, the construction of the trust should be the same as of the legal estate, and that will make the interest vest, though not in fact in the possession, which only will be suspended. That is the common construction, where the words and intent of the parties require it: but in this case there is beside attending it, a direction to assign together with the rents, issues, and profits; which has not been observed on; and which shews an intent, that

Ante 12
Nov. 1748.
Trusts execu-
tal and exe-
cutory.

the conveyance should not be made to that eldest son, until he was intitled to those rents and profits; for they had in view, that if the father and mother both died, and the conveyance could not be made immediately, the trustees should then assign with the profits accrued from their death; which shews the intent, that no child should be intitled under the trust of this term to any interest in the estate until intitled to the rents, &c. for which he should be able to call at the same time, as he could call for a conveyance, which could not be immediately on his birth. This trust speaks another thing; that the assignment shall be made to that eldest son described there at such time, as he was intitled to the rents and profits of the estate, which could not be until death of the survivor of father and mother. But great inconveniences are objected from this. It cannot be denied, that some may be suggested from the construction on either side: for plaintiff it is said, that from defendant's construction, if two or three sons are born, and died in life of their mother, leaving children, their issue would be deprived of the benefit of the trust of this term. The inconvenience suggested on the other side is, that if a son is born, who lived but a week or a day, the whole trust of it would vest in that son, and go on his death to his father, by which the daughters would be cut out. But really in the view of the parties the inconveniencies, suggested on defendant's side against plaintiff's construction, are the greatest, *viz.* the cutting out those intended to be particularly provided for by this deed, the daughters, rather than the cutting out the issue of the eldest or other son. So might his father do; for their construction will not make the estate go to the issue of that eldest son; for he takes the trust of the whole. It is not necessary to go like the case of a limitation of real estate in a marriage-settlement. But this is very little more inconvenience in respect of an eldest son, than that inconvenience which sometimes arises from such limitation of terms in marriage-settlements, as I have before mentioned. In that case it may be suggested, there might have been an elder son, who lived until twenty-one, married, and left children at his death, who by this declaration of trust may be cut out: yet that may frequently happen from this method invented by the conveyancers. They seem to have had something of that kind in view, only expressing it awkwardly and incorrectly, that it shall be assigned to the eldest son, not saying at twenty-one, but still meaning that son who shall attain the time of receiving the rents and profits. On the whole therefore the intent of the parties was, that this small leasehold estate, which moved from the wife's father, and settled collaterally to the principal settlement, should be a provision for such son, as should be eldest at death of survivor; at which event the assignment should be made to him, and not before; and he would be then intitled to call for the rents and profits of the estate; which right was to meet and concur at the same time as the right to call for
the

the conveyance. If indeed there was no son at that time, they should convey it to daughters if in being. It is not a remainder attempted to be limited on this trust of a term: but like *Loddington v. Kime*, which, the court said, was not an attempt to mount a fee on a fee, but a fee-simple with a double aspect: so here is a trust of the whole residue of the term with a double aspect; in one event, if there is an eldest son, the whole trust of the term to be conveyed to him; if not, to the daughters. This manifestly in the event as it happened, answers the intent of the parties; and the least inconvenience will arise, as this tends not to make the estate go back to the father to the defeating the persons intended to be thereby provided for. It is objected, that here is copyhold included, which is covenanted to be surrendered; but that is in some measure begging the question: for if this is the true construction of this agreement, the copyhold ought to be settled in that manner. Why might not the copyhold be intended to be settled to such person, as should be eldest son at death of the survivor; which would be a very good contingent remainder, and not void at law? But supposing it otherwise, it is within the cases of *Forth v. Chapman* and Lord 1 Wil. 663. *Glinorchy v. Bosville*; which will warrant the making a different Tal. 3. construction; the ground being that though freehold and leasehold are comprised in the same form of words jointly, yet the court may put a different construction according to the nature of the case and to answer the intent; which if right in those cases, why not so here? A different construction on the same words according to the nature of the estate

I am therefore of the same opinion with the *Master of the Rolls*, that this is gone over to the daughters, not to go according to the statute of distribution; and the decree must be affirmed.

Gason *versus* Wordsworth, July 3, 1751. Case 106.

MOTION to direct deposition of witnesses, taken originally Post, 11 July. *de bene esse*, to be read in chief.

For defendant it was said, though this was allowed, where the witness cannot be come at for a second examination, yet here was not an absolute impossibility of having an examination in chief; which is always necessary. An examination was now depending in *Sweden* on a commission sent over for that; and though the King of *Sweden* refused the executing the commission, requiring it to be by some magistrates there according to the laws of *Sweden*, it was the plaintiff's fault that it was not granted, by his not joining properly in the petition to that court. Depositions *de bene esse* published, where no examination in chief can be.

Lord Chancellor seemed surpris'd at this refusal between two trading countries which might be dangerous to commerce. If any particular ceremony was required by that foreign court, this court would go great lengths in case of necessity; but than that necessity must be made out: let the motion therefore stand over, that plaintiff may give an answer to that fact.

Case 107.

Flower *versus* Herbert, July 4, 1751.

Injunction
until bearing
to action by
bankrupt
against as-
signees.

MOTION for injunction to stay proceedings in action at law by defendant a bankrupt.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is a matter, I have hardly known to have come in question before, it is a first instance of the kind; and not necessary now to determine, that this shall not be tried at all, but only whether the defendant shall proceed in this action until the matter has been farther considered in this court. I will not encourage bankrupts to proceed in an action, if reason appears to stop them, or the matter to be farther considered in this court; for if a commission is taken out under the act of parliament, the bankrupt himself submitting to the whole proceeding, and the application to this court by the bankrupt, whether in the name of himself or another, and at a distance of time an action is brought by the bankrupt himself against the assignees, I do not know who will accept to be assignee under a commission of bankruptcy: which makes it a matter of great consequence, if it should be open still to him to bring an action notwithstanding his acquiescence. It is true, the acts of parliament being very perilous to bankrupts, it is reasonable for a man, who may believe he is no bankrupt to go before the commissioners, submitting to them for the time, yet still protesting that he is no bankrupt, he may notwithstanding bring an action in proper time: though this is pretty strong to do after surrendering, submitting to be examined by the commissioners, and going through all that process: yet that, I agree, would not bind him, but he might bring an action. But in this case he does not think fit to bring this action then, but a year and a half after. He himself petitioned in the name of another creditor for new assignees, which is the same as if in his own name, amounting to a strong admission that the proceedings under the commission were right: there cannot be a stronger: yet now is this action of *trover* brought by him against the assignees a year and a half after, and may be as well done by him several years after if not within the statute of limitations; and then in what a condition are the assignees? If a decree is made for

execution

execution of a trust, and a defendant thereto attempts to controvert that at law, this court will grant an injunction: this is much of the same kind. It is true indeed, that an act of this kind under the great seal is not equal to a decree of this court; I would not be understood to mean that, being by virtue of a summary jurisdiction vested by act of parliament in the *Lord Chancellor*, and therefore differs from the general authority of *Lord Chancellor*: but however it is very analogous to it, and this is what is not to be blown over slightly. And how are they to have costs? Out of their own estate and effects; that is the consequence. Beside the debt of the petitioning creditor arises on account; which, I do not know, how it can be determined without taking that account; and which cannot be taken in action at law. Under all these circumstances therefore I shall not let this action proceed to trial immediately. Perhaps, when it comes to a hearing, the court may think fit to let it be tried by action or issue; but still the court ought to lay hold of any thing to prevent this: for if allowed, any litigious bankrupt may do this from time to time. Let an injunction therefore be to the hearing, and plaintiffs speed their cause.

A debt on account, though not liquidated, is a foundation for
Debt on account, foundation for a commission.
 commission of bankruptcy.

Attorney General versus Middleton, July 4, 1751. Case 108.

INFORMATION against the master and governors of a school Charities.
 upon the general principle of the power of this court to call the
 trustees to account, as having the general superintendency of all cha-
 ritable donations and trusts. Visitatorial power not to be extended being summary and arbitrary: but a free school founded by charter with proper powers must be regulated as by charter, not in this court, as where no charter.

Two general questions arise. First, whether it is properly brought
 as to the general jurisdiction of this court; and whether supposing
 a ground of complaint, there were not proper officers or visitors to
 take cognisance thereof? Next, supposing that out of the case, and
 that the court had clearly a jurisdiction, whether there is sufficient
 ground on the evidence to give the relief prayed? proper powers must be regulated as by charter, not in this court, as where no charter.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

By the evidence on the part of the relator it seems, that this information, though with a plausible appearance on the face, is upon as slight grounds and as wrong motives, as ever were known.

As to the first question, I am of opinion upon the nature of this foundation, that it is not proper; and that the rectifying and regulating, what is wrong in the exercise of the power of this charity, should

Where no
charter in-
formation for
charity not
dismissed tho'
the relief
prayed
fails: other-
wise where a
charter.

2 Wil. 325.
No technical
form for
granting visi-

should have been in another method of proceeding. I am not a judge disposed and inclined to extend visitatorial powers; because they are summary and arbitrary (in a reasonable and just sense of the word) and therefore liable to abuse. But notwithstanding if it is in any case proper, that such jurisdiction, if founded in law, should receive allowance, it is certainly in the case of a small grammar-school with an endowment originally of 50*l.* only in the charter, and now at this distance of time but little above 80*l.* Consider the nature of this foundation: it is at the petition of two private persons by charter of the crown; which distinguishes this from cases of the statute of *Eliz.* on charitable uses or cases before that statute, in which this court exercised jurisdiction of charities at large. Since that statute, where there is a charity for the particular purposes therein, and no charter given by the crown to found and regulate it, unless a particular exception out of the statute it must be regulated by commission. But there may be a bill by information in this court founded on its general jurisdiction; and that is from necessity, because there is no charter to regulate it, and the King has a general jurisdiction of this kind: there must be somewhere a power to regulate: but where there is a charter with proper powers, there is no ground to come into this court to establish that charity; and it must be left to be regulated in the manner the charter has put it, or by the original rule of law. Therefore though I have often heard it said in this court, if an information is brought to establish a charity, and praying a particular relief and method of regulation, and the party fails in that particular relief, yet that information is not to be dismissed, but there must be a decree for the establishment: that is always with this distinction, where it is a charity at large or in its nature before the statute of charitable uses, but not in the case of charities incorporated established by the King's charter under the great seal, which are established by proper authority allowed. *Q. Eliz.* granted a charter, which amounted to a licence in the first instance to found a free school and alms-house. Then the Queen founded them. It was at the petition of *Heath* and *Gilpin*; the latter of which was the great apostle of the *North*, and did a great deal of good, being very strenuous for the reformation. The governors had a power to appoint and to remove the master and usher, and to do every other matter as was necessary and expedient for the scholars, &c. a very large and full power: but over and above that there is a controul placed over the governors, a power being reserved to the heirs of *Heath* and successors of *Gilpin* as rector of *Howton*, to appoint governors from time to time, and to remove those governors as often as found convenient. What is the result? Whether either the governors or the heir of *Heath* has a visitatorial power over this school? It has been determined, and expressly in the case of *Birmingham school*, that there is no technical form of words for granting a visitatorial power, but it may be by any words shewing that

that meaning ; therefore it is held there, that the very appointment of governors of an hospital will give that power. This is as large a power as can be given, but it is subject to some controul ; and visitatorial power may be divided, one set of visitors to one purpose, and another to another purpose, as in several colleges, and as was held in that great question of *Trinity College* as to the bishop and the crown. The result then is this: if it had rested singly on the power given to governors, I should be of opinion, the governors were visitors. But it is objected, that here the estate and revenue is vested in the governors, and then they cannot be visitors, because they cannot visit themselves. That is a material objection, and was so held in the case of *Sutton Colfield*, because they might misapply the revenues: but it is never held, that the governors cannot be visitors because merely the legal estate of the charity vested in them. It is the very case of *Sutton's Hospital*, 10 Co. 31. which is founded just as *Q. Eliz.* did in this case. What they went on there, was, that the vesting the legal estate of the corporation in the governors was not such as would exclude from the right of governing and visiting; for none of the money could come to the hands of the governors: though if they had been to receive the rents and profits, and to apply them, that might have been of another consideration, and might exclude them. Here these governors have only the legal estate in them, not receiving the revenue, which the master does from time to time, and accounts for it; which brings it to that case. In another respect indeed this differs from that, that here is another superintendency over those very governors; and a visitatorial power may be divided. If then the governors are not visitors, the heir of *Heath* and successor of *Gilpin* are certainly visitors, and the power to remove governors includes every thing. It is clear therefore, that this is a foundation of the same nature with that of *Birmingham* school. The visitatorial power is either by the governors themselves or in the heir of *Heath* and successor of *Gilpin*, who meant to vest the whole power in his successor to the rectory. As to what is said relating to this information complaining of misapplication of the revenue by the governors, which is a misbehaviour, they cannot correct, there is no weight in that objection; for there is no complaint of the governors applying any thing of it to their own use; no court of equity therefore would decree them to pay that money out of their own pocket backward, but will only regulate for the future, which is by removing those governors. This is clearly not a case within the statute of charitable uses, but excepted out of it; for this is a free school, which has special governors appointed by the founder. It is true, that an information in name of *Attorney General* as an officer of the crown was not a head of the statute of charitable uses, because that original jurisdiction was exercised in this court before: but that was always in cases now provided for by that statute, that is charities at large, not properly and

regularly provided for in charters of the crown. On the whole of this point therefore I am of opinion, this information is improperly brought in respect of the jurisdiction; and certainly there are somewhere visitors of this charity; for the proper place to apply for misbehaviour would be to the governors. If they refused, it would be a misbehaviour; and then application should be to the rector, &c. to remove them, and appoint others.

Statutes of private foundation under a charter, not executed in this court.

Repeal of said statutes presumed.

So by a by-law.

The poor to be trained to agriculture, rather than to school.

But the next point deserves to be considered: as to which the first and principal relief prayed was to remove this master as not qualified by the statutes, and appoint another. There is no ground for the court to interpose for that purpose in the first instance. No application has been made to the governors to remove the master; which they have express power to do prescribed by the charter. That would be going *per saltum*, and an improper way: so that if the visitors were out of the case, it should not come to this court but on the gross misbehaviour of the governors. Next it is said, the governors have made an improper election; for which these statutes are produced. There is no name of the person giving these statutes; and no date. It is pretty odd to come to this court to execute statutes of a private foundation under a charter; of which I never knew an instance: nor do the statutes appear to be observed in any one instance. I must presume a repeal of them; and a court of law would do so on evidence to a jury; for the rule of law is, that a corporation has power to make by-laws. A court of common law will direct a jury to find a by-law; and on account of non-observance will presume a subsequent by-law to repeal and alter. That is the nature of the case; and it would be so at law. Then shall I enter into that after this length of time? Nor are the qualifications required by the statutes such as this court would make a strain for. As to the application of the revenue thereby to the scholars, it seems to be arbitrary according to the sound discretion of the governors, as they see cause: but things and times have been altered since that; for though at the reformation greater invitations were made to bring the poor to schools, that is not so proper now, for at present the poor had better be trained up to agriculture. So that it would be to no purpose to decree the governors to pay this trifle of 7*d.* *per* week, as the statutes require, to the poor scholars; for it would not be sufficient for them: nor should I make a decree for the governors to carry this into execution, if the first point was out of the case.

Costs.

There is no ground therefore on either point to give relief; and this information ought to be dismissed, and that certainly with costs; because it appears to proceed from a private motive of revenge in the relator, and that from a very improper cause.

Blunt

Blunt *versus* Cumyns, July 8, 1751.

Case 109.

AR T I C L E S were framed to raise money in fitting out the *Royal Family* privateers; and thirty shares remained unsubscribed at the time of the capture of the great prizes brought into *King'sale*. The dispute now was, whether defendants the managers, who subscribed for those thirty shares after the capture, had an exclusive right thereto, or whether the other subscribers (the plaintiffs) were to be let in with them?

Shares in privateers subscribed by managers after a capture; other subscribers excluded.

Lord Chancellor determined in favour of defendants. The other subscribers purchased no more than the shares they paid for; and, if a loss had ensued, would have borne it only so far; and therefore could be no farther gainers: then the maxim must take place, *qui sentit commodum*, &c. Though the defendants subscribing for those thirty shares afterward did not give any new right, yet it could not take away any right the managers had before. But as the doing that might give occasion to litigate this matter, the bill should be dismissed without costs.

Lord Chancellor held, that parol evidence examined by plaintiffs as to these articles, but not called for, might be called for by defendants. At law where a witness called by the other side proved a matter by parol, which was in writing, and proper to be proved in writing, and it tended to the advantage of the adverse party, it was held that being a witness called by them, and examined by themselves, it should be admitted as evidence: though it would not, if it had been called on the other side: of which there was a case in the time of *Holt C. J.* In all mercantile contracts or adventures the articles are commonly extremely short; and where a doubt arises about them, the usage and understanding of merchants is read thereto; and is constantly so at *Guildhall*.

Parol evidence on one side called for by the other.

So at law, though to prove matter in writing.

On mercantile contracts evidence of merchants allowed.

Worsley *versus* Earl of Granville, July 9, 1751.

Case 110.

BY marriage-settlement of Sir Robert Worsley a limitation for life to him and afterward to his wife: next a term of 500 years, the trust of which declared, if no issue-male, or if there was, and they should all die without issue-male before 21, and there should be one or more daughter or daughters, then to raise 10,000 *l.* *Proviso* that if Sir Robert should have any son by his wife, that should have issue-male or attain twenty-one, then the term

Portions. Marriage settlement on husband and wife for life, and trust term if no issue male, or if all should die without issue male before

twenty-one, to raise portions for daughters, &c. A son attained twenty-one, but died in father's life without issue-male. The portions not raisable.

should cease : maintenance to be raised and paid at the age of eighteen after death of Sir *Robert*.

There was issue a son, who lived until thirty, unmarried, and made a settlement, but died in his father's life without issue-male.

Defendant, as representative of a daughter, claimed 5000 *l.* part of the sum.

For plaintiff The meaning was, that if there was no son ever living to take the benefit of the limitation in tail to him by this settlement, then this portion should arise to the daughters; otherwise not : therefore the daughters are not intitled in the event that happened. This depends on the events in the family ; and the commencement of the term, whether on death of the father or any other time, cannot vary the case.

For defendant. This settlement, made in pursuance of articles, shall have as liberal a construction to favour the general intent to provide for daughters as well as sons of the marriage. The wife's portion is generally made the settlement for younger children : but this is not made in the common method, as there is no provision for younger children in general : and it is particular, that though it is a provision for daughters only, which generally succeeds the limitation to the first and every other son, this term is preponed thereto. By the argument for plaintiff this settlement should have no effect, nor any portion at all raised, because there was a son, who attained twenty-one ; but the term was not to commence until after the death of Sir *Robert*, and nothing was to rise until it commenced, nor could the contingencies before be material. As all the issue-male died in life of Sir *Robert*, whether they had or not issue-male, or whether they died under twenty-one, is immaterial to the question, whether the estate shall be charged or not with portions. Beside this construction is pointed out by the direction for maintenance ; which it is unnatural to raise in the father's life. The latter words before twenty-one are to be rejected or disregarded. *Corbet v. Maidwell*, *Sal.* 159. but if that is too hard to say, *Gerrard v. Gerrard*, 2 *Ver.* 458, and *Greaves v. Madison*, 2 *Jo.* 231, prove, that words in a settlement may be so construed as to answer design of the parties. Here the taking it in a literal sense destroys part of the design, plaintiff's construction making the term nugatory and of no effect. It is not extraordinary to construe it to take effect from the commencing in possession : courts of equity, and even law, are very favourable in construction of terms for years for younger children, who, though not creditors, are next to, and as creditors, against all except creditors. Defect of surrender of copyhold, or livery is supplied for them as well as creditors. Even at law, words
are

are taken contrary to their true import to raise portions, 1 *Lew.* 35. 1 *Sid.* 102. the term being to answer the intent adjudged to rise, though in words it was not to rise. That is the present case, *viz.* if the sons of this marriage should not inherit this great estate, but it should go out of the family-line, the daughters should have their portions. Courts of equity have made greater strides for this purpose than in any other case, postponing an estate-tail to the term, which was subsequent to answer the intent. There is great use in such a clause of ceasing as here inserted, the constant practice being now that if a term for years is declared to cease on the trust being performed, and there is a long period of time, it has been determined, that it has ceased, and judges have directed the jury to find it so.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I suppose this question is brought for the judgment of the court, because it is necessary to bring a bill for performance of the trust, and, the term being in trustees, for an assignment of the term, &c. But there does not appear any doubt of the right of the case on the question raised on the construction of this settlement and trust of this term. Whatever the meaning of the parties was, (though I have no doubt of their actual intent) if they have used such express and positive words in the contingencies put, as that the court cannot put another construction upon them without directly contradicting the words and making a new settlement, the words must prevail. From what appears from the words of the settlement and the plain meaning of them, the daughter of Sir *Robert* or her representative, is not intitled in the event that has happened, to have this sum raised under the trust of this term; first on the words of the settlement and declaration of trust of the term; next on what might be the probable meaning and intent of the parties in making this provision, which undoubtedly is not the usual provision in marriage-settlements.

As to the first it is true, the trust of this term is preponed to the remainder to the first and every other son of the marriage: but that will not influence the construction of the trust of the term, or the contingencies put therein: for it often happens, that terms are so limited without necessity. In some terms so limited there have been double declarations of the trust thereof; if there shall be issue male of the marriage, to make a provision for younger children; if no issue-male, for daughters: yet this is inartificial. However it is done in that way; (as I have seen it) so no inference from thence. Where a mistake in placing a trust-term is rectified. As to the case put of the court's rectifying the placing the term, it has been done in another case; where a mere blunder has been in the maker of the settlement, the court has relieved against it, by

x Ver. 760.
1 Will. 448.

preponing and altering the place of the term, which the court took to be plainly contrary to the intent: that was on a mere mistake, which is not like this case. It rests then on the declaration of the trust of the contingencies therein: than which there cannot be plainer. The words are put, generally, indefinitely, and are not restrained to any time. It is insisted, they are to be construed as if the words inserted, *if there shall be no issue-male at the death of Sir Robert*. If the plain sense of the whole trust of the term absolutely required that, the court must do so. It is said, it must be so, because it must refer to the time of the commencement in possession; but there is no authority for that. That construction has been made in cases as to the time of raising the portions; as, I remember, it was in *Butler v. Duncomb*: but that was to comply with what was taken to be the intent of the parties as to the time of raising the portions, that they should not be raised out of the reversionary term: and that ended by way of compromise, for the decree by Lord *Macclesfield* was a kind of an award, and what was not to be made by the strict rules of the court: and the daughter was of age, and wanted it: but there is no case where that has been inserted in the contingencies, which must be taken as put by the parties, and I cannot reject words of a contingency: I might as well reject the words of a limitation of an estate. If there are issue-male born, who attain twenty-one, the contingency is at end that way; nor can the construction for defendant be drawn from the other words which are said to point it out: nor can they add to or create a new contingency. The adding the age of eighteen was to prevent the raising before that time. The adding after the death of Sir *Robert* was to prevent what happened in *Corbet v. Maidwell*; of which determination the court has ever since repented, and always said they would never carry it farther; and that determination has occasioned all conveyancers to insert, that it should be raised after death of the father, for fear of that construction, and to avoid the consequences of it: but that does not furnish any construction upon the contingency here put, or add to it. If any doubt arises as to that, the proviso, which is part of the trust of the term, makes it plain, and cannot be got over. I admit such a proviso, for the ceasing will not take away any contingency put in the trust of the term: but when you come to the point of construction, it will afford a construction, and explain the sense of words in the other part. If indeed the words “at the time of death of Sir *Robert*” had been inserted, the court would be compelled to construe this in that manner: but they cannot be brought into the construction, when it is so expressly against it, *viz.* at any time: so that taking all this declaration of trust together, it is impossible to insert new words, the parties have not inserted, and to confine this contingency to the time of death of Sir *Robert*.

But

But this is on the strict words. Now consider, what might be the view of the parties. It is *petitio principii* to say, the plaintiff's construction will make this trust-term nugatory and of no effect: if that is applied to the event which happened, it does so; but it is impossible to say that generally; for the trust of this term will have the same effect that the words import; viz. that if no issue-male, or they should all die, whether in his life or not, the portion would be raisable. This then is not to make it void absolutely; it is only in this instance. The daughters and all parties who can claim under the trust-term are certainly purchasers: but that still brings it to the question, what they were intended to take, and how far? It is admitted, that if there was a son who should survive Sir Robert, and attain 21, whether before or after death of Sir Robert, it was not to be raised. But no material sensible intent can be drawn out of that. Suppose Sir Robert had a son by this wife, under age at time of his death, who lived a day after twenty-one, and died without issue-male; was there not as much reason and good sense, and according to the intent of the parties, to raise the portions for daughters as in the other case? This is different from the common rule of settling; but no certain rule or argument can be drawn from the method of marriage-settlements. Sometimes people are of that humour as not to put daughters and younger children out of the power of the eldest son: and that may be trusted in a prudent man: sometimes they make no provision for daughters, unless issue-male tails; as in *Hylton v. Biscoe*. Here they took a middle way between both, neither making provision for daughters in case of issue-male, or on failure of issue-male at any time, but in this manner; if no issue-male at all, or the issue-male should die without issue before twenty-one, without regard whether that was in the life or after death of Sir Robert. The plain meaning was, that if he should have a son, who should attain twenty-one, and consequently be in a capacity to make use of that estate with the father, or without him if dead, the estate should be delivered from any contingency of this kind. The son might have lived to a greater age, and a great match might have offered: then Sir Robert meant to leave it in his power to make such a settlement as the son thought fit: and so they did, when he attained twenty-one. They could not bar this term, because antecedent; but they did it without any regard to the trust thereof. These contingent portions were not to hang as a cloud over this estate all the life of Sir Robert; this was a middle way between the two methods of providing for daughters; and consequently was leaving them in the power of the father, who appears to have no intent to make an ill use of this to the prejudice of his family. No contingency therefore has happened, on which these portions are to be raised.

Aylet

Case 111.

Aylet versus Easy, July 11, 1751.

No motion of
course to en-
large time for
publication on
cross bill, after
original pro-
ceeded in.

MOTION as of course to enlarge the time for publica-
tion.

Lord Chancellor desired it to be taken notice of, that in all cases of a cross bill filed after the original cause was proceeded in, this should be a special motion on notice, that the court might judge of it on the circumstances, and not of course, as it is, where the original cause is not proceeded in; for otherwise it would be easy to delay the hearing of a cause by keeping this up; and in this case the original was actually set down.

Case 112.

Gafon versus Wordsworth, July 11, 1751.

Ante, July 3.

THE former motion was again made, the commission being brought over.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Commission to
examine in
Sweden being
refused there
and come
back, the
court will not
send over an-
other, nor
read deposi-
tions taken o-
penly, accord-
ing to the laws
of *Sweden*.
But had this
commission
been executed
there by a ma-
gistrate, it
would be pro-
per.

I thought, It might possibly come out, that the commission might be executed in *Sweden* by the superintendency of some magistrate there by that king's order. Had that been so, I should still in furtherance of justice have thought it properly executed and not have scrupled the receiving a deposition taken under such a superintendency: but it is impossible now, that it should come out so, for the commission is now brought over.

It was then desired to put this off, that defendant might join in a proper application to the court of *Sweden* to have the examination taken; for that some method might be found by taking a new commission to have it allowed by that crown, if it could not be had according to the common form.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I inquired, if there was any reasonable expectation that by possibility this might be read at the hearing as a deposition in chief; for if there had been such a commission depending, I should not have suffered this deposition to be published, but waited till the other returned. But it appears, whatever is the event of the depositions now taking in *Sweden*, it is impossible to read them at the hearing; for the commission is brought over here,

here, and they cannot be annexed to the commission, that is said to be by default of plaintiff's agent, which ought not to be an objection to defendant's proceeding: but no such thing appears. He has done right; for the refusal by that crown, and the calling it an unlawful commission, (which can only mean, as it was a commission out of this court to be executed in *Sweden*,) is an absolute disclaimer, and imports a forbidding to act under this commission; for the examination that king requires to be taken by magistrates according to the law of *Sweden*. How then can depositions, taken under this as in a judicature of that king's erecting, be allowed? So much as to the authority of it. Beside as to the manner of it, it is a publick examination: whereas the rule of the court is, that the commissioners must keep secret, and not let what the other witness swore be known. It is impossible therefore to let that be read: nor will I send another commission over under the seal of *Great Britain* to be treated in the manner this has been. The ordinary course of the court is, that depositions *de bene esse* are not to be published, unless a witness dies, or is gone to a great distance; so that it is impossible to have a subsequent examination of him in chief. That is the usual, but not the only case, in which the court can order these depositions to be published. The fundamental rule is, they are not to be published, but where there is a moral impossibility to have that examination in chief. That appears here; for what is now doing in *Sweden* is in direct disclaimer of this commission, and is by a pretended court set up there, and open, contrary to the substantial justice of this court, which requires it to be secret: and the examination *de bene esse* is as little to be found fault with as any ever taken; for defendant joined in it. It will make the common order, which is made on petition and affidavit of a witness being dead; which is only, that when publication shall pass in the cause, these depositions taken *de bene esse* be published.

Bishop of Sodor and Man *versus* Earl of Derby.
Earl of Derby *versus* Duke of Athol.

Case 113.

July 15, 1751.

BY letters patent 7 J. 1. a grant was made by the Crown of the Isle of Man, and of all the rectories and tithes by name, to *William Earl of Derby* for life, to his wife for life, then to *James Lord Stanley* their eldest son in fee, to be held of the King by liege homage, rendering to the King immediately after that homage two falcons, and so to his successors every respective coronation day two falcons.

Isle of Man by private act of parliament made unalienable against heirs general on failure of issue-male.

Stat. of wills
and de donis
extend not
thereto.

By a private act of parliament passed at the same time, it was enacted, that Earl *William* and his wife during their lives and for the life of the longest liver of them, and after their deaths that their son *James* and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten, and after his death without such issue, that *Robert Stanley* and the heirs-male of his body lawfully, &c. and after his death without such issue, that the heirs-male of the body of Earl *William* lawfully, &c. and for default of such issue, that the right heirs of *James Lord Stanley*, should have, hold, and enjoy freely and clearly against the King, his heirs and successors for and upon the tenures therein mentioned, and against the widow and daughters of Earl *Ferdinand*, all the isle, castle, pele, and lordship of *Man*, with the rights, members and appurtenances; and that neither *James Lord Stanley* nor any the heirs-male of his body lawfully, &c. nor *Robert Stanley* nor any the heirs-male of his, &c. nor any the heirs-male of Earl *William*, should have any power, authority, or liberty to give, grant, alien, bargain, sell, convey, assure, or do away the said isle, &c. and other premises in this act of parliament, or any part thereof, from his or their issue or issues or other persons by this act appointed to enjoy the same; but that the said isle, &c. should continue as above limited; and that all gifts conveyances, &c. to the contrary should be void and of no effect; saving and nevertheless that it shall be lawful for them to make such leases and demises, as tenants in tail by the St. H. 8. may lawfully do within the realm of *England*

Charles Earl of Derby, in 1666, made a lease for 10,000 years of the rectories and tithes in *Man*, for the benefit of the poor clergy of *Man*, and made a deed as a collateral security for quiet enjoyment thereof, by which he conveyed certain lands in *Lancashire* to the Bishop and others, in fee in trust to permit Earl *Charles* and his heirs to hold the said lands and receive the rents until interruption in the receipts of the rectory or tithes or any part thereof by the said *Charles*, or any person claiming lawfully under him, or under his ancestors or their assigns: that in case of such interruption during the said term the trustees might enter into the said lands and receive the rents.

James Earl of Derby, in 1753, devises and bequeaths to the plaintiff in the cross cause and his heirs for ever, all and every his honours, castles, lands, tenements, and advowsons, real estate and hereditament, whatsoever and wheresoever.

The said Earl *James* was heir-male of *James Lord Stanley* mentioned in the grant and act of parliament; and by his death
James,

James Lord Stanley and all the other Earls being dead without issue-male, the Duke of *Atbol* enters and evicts the tithes.

Upon which eviction the trustees brought the original bill in behalf of the poor clergy, &c. in *Man* to have the benefit of the collateral security. The cross bill was to have possession of the isle delivered; to have an account of the rents and profits; and that the Bishop and clergy may hold the rectory and tithes pursuant to the grant to them.

For the Earl of Derby plaintiff in the cross cause. First, whether it was originally by law in the power of Earl *Charles* to make a grant of a particular part of this isle at the time he did it? Whether he was restrained by act of parliament for making this grant, Whether this isle was devisable in its own nature? If so, whether it is devised? If the act of parliament had not interposed, no doubt but it was alienable at common law; and he had power to lease, as any tenant in fee might. It is implied in the words of the grant and on the act of parliament; for otherwise such care would not be taken to prevent this alienation in other cases. He was seised as tenant in tail, remainder in fee to himself. By the act of parliament an intail was created; to which estate in land the isle was a stranger. It could be only granted by way of conditional fee; and then it would have another consequence, from what it would in case of an estate-tail. But this act of parliament has made this isle intailable, and has actually intailed it, giving it all the properties of the stat. *de donis* but has barred that fictitious method invented after that statute in *Taltarum's* case. It takes in all the male descendents then subsisting, or that could subsist for the future in that family; the preserving it in the name and blood of which family, where it had been from the time of K. H. 4. was the intent. The crown having parted with the whole fee, the remainder in *James Lord Stanley* is the same as a reversion, and very similar to a reversion in fee in the stat. *de donis*, which may be aliened, though the estate-tail cannot. That statute created a new estate unknown to the law before, and of a very particular nature, being never grantable as all other estates were. None can grant an estate-tail from himself to another, being inherent in him. The residue after creation of the particular estate was a reverter or reversion in the grantor, and if given over to a third person, was called a remainder. Both these estates, reversion and remainder, are distinct from an estate-tail. Different persons may be seised of them; nay the same person may be seised of both in different capacities, and dispose of one though not of the other. Though doubted in the old books, as in *Rol. Ab.* whether a remainder or reversion in fee is devisable or not, that was upon the law before the stat. *de donis*,

donis, when it was only a possibility, and the wisdom of the law would not suffer the alienation of a possibility : but the stat. *de donis* has altered it, so that it is esteemed devisable since. *Bro. Devise* 42. that a husband might devise such a remainder to his wife. These were then two estates ; and might have come to two different persons, as they did in the course of the pedigree ; and no difference from being in one person, he having the same right to dispose of that reversion or remainder as if in two. Whether this act of parliament has laid such restraint as not to leave the power of disposing of the reversion in fee, any more than of the estate tail (which is thereby absolutely prohibited from being aliened) depends on the *proviso*, whether that extended to the reversion in fee, whenever it should take effect in possession ; so that the intent of the legislature and of this family was, that there should be a limitation unalienable from heir to heir for ever ; which is quite a new kind of limitation. Whether it can be so done by act of parliament is doubtful ; but certainly nothing else can. It is not expressed with any accuracy, that such was the intent. Though the stat. *de donis* does not extend to *Man*, yet in making this act 7 J. 1. they seem to have had that statute in view, and to convey the isle with the title in the family according to that statute, and must then have the same construction. Whether or no there could be a fine or recovery of this isle is uncertain : there have been several fines of the plantation lands.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That is because of the acts of assembly.

4 Inst. 284:

But this must be taken an estate tail in all events ; such as would intitle to dower, as held in *Kelway*, though the particular method of seeking that dower was there found fault with. Tenant in tail is only tenant for life with several powers. This act gives the power of leasing, in the same manner as stat. *H. 8.* does to tenants in tail. This lease by Earl *Charles* is not absolutely void, as it would be if there was no rent reserved without any act by the issue in tail, much more by those in remainder : but rent being reserved, it is only voidable, like an infant's lease where rent is reserved ; for if no rent is reserved such lease is void. Being then only voidable, it is capable of being made good, *viz.* by acceptance of rent down to the death of the last Earl *James*. It is a clue to the act, that the clause therein was adapted to the case of tenants in tail by the stat. *de donis* ; upon the inventors of which statute great commendations have been passed ; though afterward as great on those, who found means to evade it. Considering the interest granted and tenure reserved, no objection arises to this lease from the nature of the tenure. The grant by the letters patent was designed as beneficial as possible for the grantee, and as little so for the crown. The tenure, though
petty

petty searjeanty, has the nature and freedom of *socage*; and is therefore the least burthenfome of tenures, putting Earl *William* in a better situation than if no tenure had been reserved; for then the law would create a tenure by *Knights service*. *Anthony Low's* case 9 Co. 122. and in the case of *defective titles in Ireland* in the time of K. C. 1. which is extremely well reported by *Baron Barry*. Here are all the words to exclude the consequence of *Knight's service*: whereas this objection, taking it to be a feud of the crown, would put the grantee in the most unfavourable situation of any case since the abolition of tenures by 12 C. 2. since the consequence of the King's tenant in *capite* aliening without licence is forfeiture, and taking it into hands of the crown. A feudal tenure is such, as cannot be aliened without licence: but that rule has been departed from. *Bro. Alienation* 30. b. 10. the reason of the necessity for a licence of alienation was, that the crown should not be deprived of the benefit of its military tenure, but should know to whom the alienation was made, and have the fee for it: that holds not upon an alienation for years, for which a licence is never necessary, not being regarded from its weakness, altering not the feud, nor standing in the way of tenant to the *præcipe* in a recovery, the law only regarding such estates as depend on *livery*, viz. freehold, the tenant of which still considered as a tertenant. But if there is a colour for necessity of a licence, the crown is precluded from having recourse to a seizure upon the letters patent; and from the distance of time a favourable presumption would be made, possession having gone in this manner from 1666 to 1735. This lease then upon the intail spent is good against all claiming under the remainder in fee; under which, on the death of the last Earl *James* in 1735, the Duke of *Atbol* claims; so that he had no power to enter or evict, and consequently the collateral security is not liable, nor can the plaintiffs in the original cause come here for a remedy: for to intitle thereto they must shew, the Duke of *Atbol* had a lawful title; for a tortious entry or eviction will not do.

As to the title itself whether, supposing it alienable, it is so by testamentary disposition? It might bear an argument, whether by the general law of nations this might not be devised as well as other countries, if it did not depend on the nature of the feudal tenures, which were not devisable because of the hurt to the Lord, who thereby lost his relief, &c. but all that is now gone. *Selden* in his title *Honour*, and *Coke* 4 *Inst.* 283 shew, this title has been aliened; and it would be very particular, if the different method of alienation should cause a different construction. The law of *England* must be the rule of construction, it passing under the Great Seal of *England*, 2 *And.* 115. 1 *Inst.* 9. 4 *Inst.* 201, 284. Acts of parliament in *England* do not indeed extend to *Man* with-

out particular exprefs words; but that rule must be confined to disputes relating to private property in the ifle by the inhabitants, which are to be governed by another law: the extent of that rule will not take in questions of the property and disposition of the entire ifle itself, because it is the fubject matter of a grant by the crown under the Great Seal, and consequently paffes by an instrument framed in the language and manner of the laws of this country, and fhould not therefore be conftrued different from them. It is the fame with the *Commotes* of the *Welsh* borders, in which even the King's writs run, as was laid down by *Vau.* and is founded in reason. Then though it may be agreed, that this ifle is not part of the realm, but an acquisition to the crown by conquest by *K. H. 4.* that does not prove it not devisable by the common law before the stat. of wills. Though a right and title was gained by conquest, that makes no alteration; the laws of *Man* ftill continue the rule of their property. So it is as to *Jamaica* according to *Blanchard*; fo notwithstanding the conquest by *K. W. 1.* which introduced feveral *Norman* customs, yet the old customs remained. So of *Wales* and *Ireland*. But this ifle was both by forfeiture and conquest: though *Anderson* and *Coke* differ from each other therein. The cafe 40 *Eliz. 2 And. 115. 4 Inst. 283.* must indeed be allowed a great authority: but, if it did not relate to fo great a question, would be said to be a most imperfect report, there being a state of the cafe in neither. Though it is there said, the statutes of wills and uses extend not to *Man*, it is not said, not to be devisable before. As things stood originally at the time of that resolution, it might be too hard to insist on the statute of wills extending thereto: but an act 7 *J. 1.* having interposed fince that cafe, directing it to be held in common *focage*, which by a prior act being made devisable, why fhould not this be devisable, in the fame manner as it is made in-tailable, though never fo before? and why fhould it not be governed by the law of the land mixed, as it is, of the common and statute law?

Next as to the extent of the devise, whether fufficient to pafs this. It is not indeed particularly described: but there are feveral cafes, where *vi verborum* it must be fo. The words are very strong and comprehensive; fo that the statute of wills itself has not more extensive words than this will has. This is determined to have all the properties of, and to be, real estate. *All my real estate* is, as *Holt* fays, *genus generaliffimum*: fo is *all my hereditaments*, comprehending every thing in nature of an inheritance; fo that an estate tail has been held forfeited by force of that word. It feems to be in view to pafs other than in *England* by the word *wherever*; no words accompanying to bind down the fense here, as in *Wilkinson v. Merryland, Eq. Ab.* and other cafes. It may be said,
honours

Honours are first mentioned, which is of an order inferior to that of an island, and shall not be extended higher: that rule holds not in case of wills, as it does in an act of parliament.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Allowed.

In a late case one seised of a small, and intituled to the reversion of a great, estate of Sir *Henry Johnson*, devised his small estate, (which he had most in contemplation) in a very particular manner, *all his estate, messuage, and tenement*, called so, and all other real estates what and wheresoever: it was argued, that beginning with the small, he could not mean afterwards that of greater value and extent: *Your Lordship* held, several good manors passed under that, and they are now enjoyed under that. It is natural to think, the isle was intituled to go with the title. The testator might have the isle in contemplation; and unless it appears clearly, he had not, as the words from their natural import are sufficient to carry it, it will pass. In both grants and wills it must be shewn on the other side, that it was not intended.

For Duke of Athol. Whether the demise of this term is good against the right heir of *James Lord Stanley* at the time of failure of issue-male of *James*, of *Robert*, and of *William*, is the whole question, and all the present question of right that arises in consequence of the original bill; because if not good against him, the eviction is right, and the collateral security must take place; which will depend on the construction of the private acts; and that so essentially as to be argued principally, if not solely, on that ground, though other arguments may be proper to be taken into consideration. This act was adapted to a particular case, and was never extended to, nor can possibly, suit any other. It has been endeavoured to be overturned by begging a proposition, and arguing from it as if true; *viz.* that the particular case, to which this act was applied, is the same with the general case existing in *England* before the *stat. de donis*, to which that statute was applied, and therefore that there should be by analogy the same construction: but the contrary is true; the cases being so far from being the same, that this particular case never did, (it might be almost said), never could exist before that statute *de donis*. First to state how the law most notoriously stood and was established as to the subject of this private act, the limitations of this feudatory kingdom or Lordship, immediately previous to the making the act; which is the way of considering how the act is to be applied to it. It happened, that the whole consequences of law as to this subject were well known, there having arisen a great question

question about the latter end of *Q. Eliz.* and the person's framing this act (who were great men) had that determination of their own in view. The disputes in the family between Earl *William* and the daughters of his brother *Ferdinand* ended in a reference, or sort of award in nature of a *pragmatick* sanction, and an act of parliament passed in consequence thereof; by which the whole *Derby estate*, that was in *England*, was settled: but as to this Lordship Earl *Ferdinand* appeared to have made a grant to uses for good consideration, the limitations in which would have been limitations in tail, if they had been of lands in *England*: and by his will (though it does not appear) he devised the whole isle, as is plain from the *et. cætera* in *Anderson*; which devise must have been to the prejudice of his heirs, as it occasioned disputes between them and his brother. *Anderson* and *Coke* agree in the resolutions, but have not stated at large the whole of the case, only the consequences in point of law; which must probably be from its being so notorious. The Judges determined, it could not be intailed, for that the stat. *de donis* extended not to it, nor the stat. of uses, nor of wills; and therefore it could not be devised, as not devisable in its own nature by the common law or within the stat. *H. 8.* Then it was started as a notion, that this was a male fief, which in the feudal law could not descend to the general or female heirs; for these fiefs originally never could go to collaterals. The resolution of the Judges thereon, and very well founded, was, that in letters patent where the word heirs is made use of, it must be understood according to the sense the law of *England* puts on it. It is not granted according to the feudal law, but is an investiture according to the law of *England*, being under the Great Seal of *England*, and then cannot be construed according to the feudal or other law, and therefore descended to the heirs general like the *Commotes* in *Wales*; and between them and the heir-male, agreements were entered into for the purchase of it. The crown had plainly no right to it. *K. J. I.* made a grant of it to Earl *William*; which must be from a notion that this fief, though a sovereignty, could not from the nature of it be aliened without the consent or participation of the superior; as it might then go into hands the King would not like. To take away all doubts of that kind was probably the reason of taking in the King in making all the grants. There is indeed a distinction in all the old books between an alienation and subinfeudation, and a subinfeudation and term for years; and it seems, that until these acts of parliament were made, the King's as well as other tenants might make a subinfeudation, but could not alien *in capite* without the King's consent; which introduced the act of parliament, and shews, why the King interposed in these grants instead of these limitations being made by the family; but no statute, particularly the stat. *de donis*, extended to this: all which was known
and

and certainly established. This, being held of the King by a tenure similar to the feudal laws, is not alienable without licence; as is clearly settled in *Craig* and *Wright's tenures*, 29, 31, 154. This unalienable quality was the occasion of what was consistent with our common law, which did not permit the tenant to dispose to hold of the superior Lord: but the stat. *Quia emptores*, &c. does permit the tenant to dispose of part to hold of the superior Lord, as he himself held, not of the whole: but that statute did not extend to tenants *in capite*, which were as at common law, as appears from the stat. *de prerog. Regis*. This restraint continued on tenants in *knight service*, that they could not alien the whole in any shape, nor any part, so as to hold of the crown itself; that is, could not create tenants *in capite*. But 32 and 34 H. 8. are remarkable, giving power not only to make wills, but to alien in the life of the parties, estates held in *socage* and in *capite* of the crown, but not estates held of the crown by *knight service*; and gives a particular power by deed or will to alien, which they could not do before without the King's licence, even lands *in capite*, so far as they did not extend to more than a third part, &c. These statutes shew clearly, there was a necessity to have acts of parliament made in order to give power to dispose of even common estates by will, and a power to dispose of estates *in capite*, so as to affect the crown in any shape whatever. But it is settled in 2 *And.* and *Coke*, that neither these nor the general statutes of this kingdom extend to *Man* any more than to the foreign plantations, as *Ireland*, &c. which they do not, unless made before the settling the place; for such laws as were made before, they must from necessity, as *Englishmen*, carry with them; and that is the constant practice at the *Council Board* on a question concerning a statute, whether it was made before or after, not binding them if after. Then the law being known, and all these points known, the isle is bought by the heir-male from the coheirs; and the crown consents to the alienation. To consider what effect the present limitations in the act would have had, if they had been made by the whole family concurring. The effect would be only the giving *James* a fee simple absolute; for the whole family joining in a feoffment and refoffment, or in any shape or contrivance, could not do otherwise. The inheritances before the stat. *de donis*, which clearly did not extend to it, were fees simple, absolute and conditional. He who had a conditional fee, until breach, was owner of the whole inheritance: he held of the superior Lord; his heir would have been in ward; and it was subject to all the consequences of holding of the superior Lord; could have aliened before issue born, 1 *Inst.* 19. and *Wyllian v. Lord Barkeley*, *Plo.* as to his issue, because he had a fee simple: but could not before issue had destroy the condition, because the law construes it as an estate to a man, if he

had issue, but did not consider the condition as an interest, leaving the fee simple still in him as owner. Then *James* would have been owner of the fee, and could have barred all his issue. Where would have been the reverter? It could not be granted to himself; for that would be a void grant: the condition could not be granted: it was no interest. Supposing it had been reserved to Earl *William*, (for it could not be granted) and from him descended to *James*, it would not then have continued a condition; for if the condition had descended to the owner of the fee, the condition must have been extinguished. It would then be an absolute fee; for one cannot enter on himself for breach of a condition: like other conditions, of the payment of a sum of money, if that condition comes to the man himself, it is absolute: so that in no shape could it be in *James*. It could not be granted to him nor descend; for that would make the estate absolute. It was considered only as a condition, and not the effect of a limitation, as *Wright J.* says in his tenures. The stat. *de donis* has restored it to a limitation, as it was. To consider what effect the present limitations would have had, if they had been made good by the king's prerogative, or by an act of parliament, which had only authorised the limitations, and gone no farther. The possibility of reverter could not be aliened to a stranger, it remaining in the grantor. In *Lord Stafford v. Buckley*, *Your Lordship* said, that the King might grant a condition or possibility, as applied to such a case before the stat. *de donis*. Supposing the King may do so, and had by his prerogative and letters patent made the present limitations, then would it be a grant of the possibility to the right heirs of *James* as a description of the persons who were to take the chance at the time, it was to take effect in possession; it could not by implication vest in *James* as an interest; because it was no interest, and he had the fee simple without it by the first limitation. Nor could *James* alien this from his heir; for a possibility of reverter could not be granted away, until it came into possession. Though donee might alien it after issue born, donor never could in any case: nor could this ever take effect in *James* while he lived. Then it would be a grant to his heirs, which could not be taken from them, nor could take effect in possession, until their ancestor died. It must then be considered as a possibility of reverter in those described to take it, and who could not take it before failure of issue-male. It never could have vested in *James*, who could not defeat it; nor is it within the reason of those cases of vesting an interest in the ancestor; because here all the consequences of the feudal tenure are answered; for he is the owner of the fee: though indeed in this particular case there could be no wardship. The view of the parties was the continuing the Lordship in the family; which Lord *James* himself valued more than his own power. They wanted an intail, that was to continue: the stat. *de donis* not, extending

Ante, 23 Feb.
751.

to

to it, would not operate on it, as was well known. If it had, there would be no occasion for the act of parliament. The act was necessary for two purposes; to make the grants effectual from the co-heirs and against the crown, and to establish it; which was the main point; not intending to vest a remainder in Earl *William* or reversion in *James* by the limitation to the right heirs, but only to make a provision applicable to that particular case, to secure the succession through different series of heirs-male, and then to secure it to the right heirs. The prohibition is added to those who might have barred, as *Robert* and *James*, and every heir-male of their bodies, and the heirs-male of the body of *William*; but not to *William* himself, because the legislature did not think he had more than an estate for life; and if they had not thought so, they could not commit such a blunder. The same argument holds as to the limitation to the right heirs of *James*, who were to take a contingent hope of succession. It was to no purpose to vest it in the ancestor, for he could not alien it separately; could not have taken it from his heir before it came into possession. An act of parliament may limit a fee simple so as it cannot be aliened; but that must be by particular act of parliament, as in the case of Lord *Willoughby of Brook*: so of several honours limited to the heirs-female: so is the barony of *Lucas*. This is a chalking out of different series and lines of succession: beside the act has expressly declared, the tenure should be of the King; which could not be, if looked on as a reversion, and not a possibility of reverter; for then it must be held of the reversioner; and if that was granted away by *James*, it could not be held of the crown, but of the grantee. All this is laid down in Lord *Barkeley's* case, *Pl.* Then the right heir is to take it as a chance of succession. *Charles*, who made this demise, is issue-male of the body of *William*, and is hereby prohibited, which would be overturned by the other construction: whereas a settlement by act of parliament, which is a law made in that particular instance, is not to be construed by the same rule as words in a conveyance of lands in *England*, or subject to the consequences of it: but such construction is to be made, as will give it effect. *Wheatly v. Thomas*, 1 *Lev.* 73. The possibility of reverter at common law, before stat. *de donis* is not alienable, until it comes into possession; as to which one part of the case of Sir *John Gordon of Park*, determined last session in the House of Lords, is very applicable. The question was, whether a person forfeited an estate-tail that he took, and also an estate-tail to the heirs-male of the body of his father? The Lords and Judges held, he did not forfeit the last limitation, because it was not considered as a remainder vested in him; for if vested, he would have forfeited that, as he did the other; which shews, that though by our law that limitation to heirs of the body of the father vested in the son over and above the limitation to himself and the heirs-male of his body, and there-

fore would be forfeited by our law, yet because by the feudal law governing in *Scotland* it was not considered vested in him, it was not forfeited. So in this case, if there had been a forfeiture for high treason, it would be too much even by the *English* law to say, the heirs general forfeited, though there had been a forfeiture as to the other limitations, upon the authority of that case.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That case is such a mixture of *Scotch* and *English* law, that no inference can be drawn from it.

The supposed analogy between the stat. *de donis* and this act totally fails both in the foundation and superstructure. This particular case and the reason of it did not exist before the stat. *de donis*. The mischief in that statute was not, that it was hard, that one having a limitation to him and the heirs-male of his body should defeat his right heirs; had that been the particular case to which the statute was applied, the meaning of the statute must have been to prevent this possibility of reverter from being barred: but as this case is not the same, neither is the remedy the same; for under this act of parliament there could be no fine, recovery, or discontinuance made of it; as it would be void and of no effect. If the legislature had thought the stat. *de donis futuris normam imposuit*, this prohibitory clause was to no purpose: nor could the prohibition have effect unless applied to this case, to prevent *James, &c.* from hindering the right heirs enjoying this on failure of issue-male. If then this alienation is not well warranted on the construction of the act, it makes an end of the question upon the bill by the clergy. It is said, acceptance of rent will affirm this lease; but though that will make a voidable lease good, as by an infant or tenant in tail, yet never if absolutely void, as a lease by tenant in tail to commence after his death. If this act was meant to restrain alienations in fee, it would be ridiculous, if it did not also restrain alienations for years.

Hitherto the case has been considered on the general power of alienation: now as to alienation by devise: which question arises on the cross bill, filed late in 1747, after this cause had been depending from 1742, and after the eviction had been known several years before. The intent is the great rule governing in wills. On this will, properly adapted to all sort of estates in *England*, it could not be the intent under general words to give this isle, a kingdom held of the crown of *England*, a feudal principality holding of a superior. In its original it was for generations a kingdom, by degrees held of different princes, as of *Norway*,
Scotland,

Scotland, and for many centuries of this crown. *Hale's Hist.* 183. 2 *Camb. Brit.* 1443. *Calvin's Case*, 7 Co. 21. 4 *Inst.* 283. and the history of it appears in *King's treatise*. So that it is a kingdom, losing its sovereignty only to a certain degree, and what the *feudalists* called a *royal liege feud*. It is impossible then, that one should by his will intend to give this, and not mention it. It is true the same words are used, as are in stat. H. 8. That statute did not mean to include a feudatory kingdom; for they had been all given away from the crown. Had they then existed, the statute would have either excepted them out of the power of devising, or qualified it; for these words never would be construed to extend to things of this sort. If K. H. 8. made a will, it could not be thought he intended to devise the crown of *England* by these general words; which if they were to carry it, would be contrary to his intent; which in no case can be done by general words. The word *dominion* is not in this will; if it was, being not generally used in common law instruments, there might be some colour for it. *Real estate and hereditaments* must relate to things of inferior nature. *Owen* 124. shews, honours, &c. will not pass by general words. Beside *honours* and *castles* are interlined, which is an evidence testator did not think the general words of this will would carry them. The introductory words then should be restrained within the bounds intended; which is common in wills, as in devise of all his lands and tenements, having two sorts in the same place, freehold and leasehold, the general words are restrained, not from the words in the will itself, but from the nature and circumstances where other estates are sufficient to answer it. Supposing this a reversion (as it is argued) it must follow the estate in possession; and this act of parliament makes no alteration as to the reversion, leaving it as unalienable as before. It is said to be made to prevent fictitious alienations by fine or recovery; but none could be levied in this isle; for it must be levied of some county in *England*; in none of which is this isle, as the isle of *Wight* is. So as to the *Plantations*. Which have laws of their own. But it is determined 40 *Eliz.* that this isle is not devisable; that it descended to the heirs notwithstanding the devise there, which was a devise of the isle itself; and to that only is it applied, not to lands within the isle, as has been argued. That resolution holds as much now as before, because founded on the general nature of the estate as not governable by the laws of *England*, but of another nature, and therefore not within the stat. of wills. If the crown of *England* conquers a country, and leaves the people to enjoy it, the conquered keep their own laws, until the conqueror declares the contrary; *a fortiori* where he declares they shall. An *English* colony carry with them all the laws of this crown in being at the time of planting it, which are adapted to the situation, not all others; but no statute made after binds without naming them.

This isle belonged to the crown before any act of parliament, *Pryn's Inst.* they are then to hold all their laws, and no stat. in *England* can extend to them. On the common law, which never tolerated wills, and which part of the feudal law was received in *England*, it could not be devised. *Craig. 172. folio*, where it is said, as common feud cannot be devised, it is stronger that such as this cannot, *quanto gravius peccant, &c.*

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This case concerns a very noble and ancient family, and also perhaps the most honourable inheritance, any subject of this kingdom can enjoy. In the argument a great deal of ancient learning and points of feudal law of a curious nature have been drawn in; upon which if it was necessary to make a strict determination, I should take a considerable time for it: but as I do not think these particular points in the extent of them necessary to determine, though very properly brought into the argument, yet my determination resting on more plain and general points, I think it better not to delay the parties, or put them to the expence and trouble of a further attendance in order to consider of it. Indeed a good deal of time would be necessary to speak critically and correctly so as to satisfy oneself; because, as they are points not occurring every day, books of general learning thereon must be looked into.

There are several questions arising on both bills: but they are all drawn in consequence of the original bill: because if the Duke of *Atbol* had no right to evict, or has not a title to the whole isle, but Lord *Derby* has, either one or the other makes an end of the relief fought by the original bill. To take the questions in their natural order, the first (because it goes to the whole) is whether Lord *Derby* has a title to the whole isle, lordship and dominion of *Man*? Next, if he has, whether that is such an inheritance or a title of such a nature, that he has right on his cross bill to come into this court to pray not only against the collateral security, but also as to the whole isle to have his title established, and a decree for it.

Isle of Man part of the crown, not realm, of England; being grantable under great seal Laws of England extend not thereto, unless named: it is not alienable without licence unless for chattel interest.

As to the first it appears, from what is laid before me, especially under this grant and act of parliament 7 J. 1. that Lord *Derby* as devisee (for so only can he claim) has not a title to the isle and dominion of *Man*. As to the points taking in very large and diffusive learning I shall not determine, but touch, upon them. Many things are admitted on both sides; that *Man* is not part of the realm of *England*; parcel only of the King's crown of *England*; a distinct dominion now under the King's grants, and so ever since from a long time past granted held as a feudatory dominion by *Liege Homage* of the Kings of *England*: the laws of *England* therefore as such extend not to it, neither the common or statute-law,

law, unless expressly named or some necessary consequence resulting from it. But notwithstanding that it was an estate and dominion in the King of *England*, not parcel of his realm, but of his crown, which he could grant under his great seal, and, as said in *Anderson*, could be granted by him in no other manner; because the great seal of *England* operates in all the dominions, not only parcel of the realm but of the crown: the King therefore can grant lands in *Ireland* and the *Plantations*, *Jersey*, and *Guernsey*, under the great seal of *England*, because part of his crown. It was part of the resolution 4^o *Eliz.* 4 *Inst.* 283. that the grant of K. H. 4. to this family was a good grant under the great seal. This grant created in its effect a *socage* tenure. The former grant to Lord *Northumberland* to carry the *Lancaster* sword, being to be done by the body, was clearly *grand serjeanty*, which is *knight service*: but this is by *homage*, which, where no other is reserved, is according to *Coke* presumed to be *knight service*: but not where others are reserved, as here: and that appears to be contrary to what they intended, and was what they guarded against: it is therefore in *socage*, whether *petty serjeanty* or not perhaps is not so clear, because *Coke* confines that to the delivering things of a warlike nature, which this does not import: though, as it was to be rendered to the King at his coronation, I should still incline to think it was *petty serjeanty*: but there is no occasion to enter into that: it is still *socage*, and the reservation of *liege homage* would not alter it. *Anderson* properly explains, that the disputes arose by the devise of this isle by Earl *Ferdinand*; on which it appears by the recitals of this act of parliament (and which I must take to be true though the facts are not explained) that an agreement had been entered into, and a price paid by *William*, brother and heir-male of *Ferdinand*, to the daughters and heirs general; for so it is expressly recited in this act; on which they without any surrender to the King take a new grant from the crown, on what foot does not appear; whether from any apprehension of a forfeiture which they had a mind to purge, or to prevent taking a licence; for without that, I think, they could not have done it. Still they were not content with this new grant; and they plainly saw, that if they let it rest on that, *James* Lord *Stanley* would in some shape or other (I enter not into the question whether with licence or not) have power to convey this isle, and consequently to defeat the heirs general and any subsequent sons and heirs-male of himself or of his father; by consent of the crown therefore and agreement of all parties they come to a private act of parliament; by which out of this fee in *James* they cut and provide new limitations on which the first question is, had *James* or any person, who could claim as right heir to him, a power on the foot of these limitations to grant and convey this estate, at least before such time as the remainder in fee should come into possession? Speaking of this abstracted from that nice question of the difference be-

Alienation
without li-
cence.

tween a strict reversion and a possibility of reverter on the law as it stood before the *St. de Donis*, and abstracted from the prohibitory clause of alienation, neither *James* nor any heir general of him could have power to alien by any method of conveyance whatever this isle and dominion without licence of the crown, and that by direct consequence of the tenure created by the letters patent; and it is enacted, that all those persons should hold by that tenure; for though it is in *socage*, it is in *capite* of the King, and is of the most honourable kind not only in the *feudal* law but common law of *England*. Before the acts of parliament varying that law (which acts of parliament no more than the *St. de Donis* can extend to this) whoever held in *capite* of the crown, could not alien without the King's licence. 2 *Inst.* 65. *Coke* says, where lands are held of the King as King, &c. and aliened without licence, that the better opinion was, that only a fine should incur, and the King might seize, yet it plainly was taken to be otherwise, and that at the time of making the *St. de Prerog. Regis*, that on alienation without licence they were forfeit to the crown, and the laws is so still as to all sorts of tenures, that are not within those enabling statutes made: and therefore there are *feudal* honours in *England*, at least one, which is the case of the castle of *Arundel* in the Duke of *Norfolk's* family, that cannot be aliened without licence of the King. *Hale* says the same of the Barony of *Berkeley Castle*, holding it to be a *feudal* barony: though I believe, the general opinion is to the contrary: but he lays down the law generally of both, that they are not alienable without licence. If so as to them, certainly so as to this isle, which was no part of the realm of *England*, and to which these acts of parliament could not possibly extend unless named. The use, I make of this in 2 *Inst.* and other cases, is not to shew any alteration made in the law of *England*, or that the acts of parliament extend to this isle, but to shew what was the general law derived from the *feudal* law before. So is *Wright's Tenures*, that such a licence of alienation was necessary. If so then on the foot of the limitations themselves, that might make it unnecessary in respect of the title to the whole isle to go into the other questions; because here is no pretence of any licence; and though the *St. of Wills* meant to enable alienations without licence, it is determined, that statute does not extend to this. It is admitted, the *St. de Donis* does not, and then the *St. of Wills* cannot. But the act of parliament goes farther, and brings in another point, which not only extends to that of the want of a licence, and to the title of the whole isle, but also to the grant or demise of 10,000 years; for the want of licence to alien does not effect this grant; for though it seems odd to say, the King's tenant in *capite* could not alien for life, in fee, or in tail without licence, but could for 10,000 years, yet it is founded in the reason of the thing, the one altering the tenure, the other not, the tenure and wardship being the same, although it might diminish the value
of

of the wardship, if it was *knight service* : but if it was inquired into, at the time of making this grant of K. H. 4. these long leases were not in being : however I give no opinion upon that. Considering it as a chattel interest he wanted not a licence to make this lease : but that brings in the prohibitory clause, and is a material part of the case, and goes to both, extending not only to the isle and dominion but also to all the particular estates mentioned therein, part of which is this rectory and tithes, which are part of this lease. This clause of prohibition is something extremely near to the prohibitive, irritant, and resolute clauses in the *Scotch* law, the irritating clause making it void, and the resolute extinguishing the right ; so that they did not rest on the prohibition, but made it absolutely void ; for it might be said, you may contend it : though it might be too hard, perhaps, to say that upon an act of parliament. Then it is said to be conformable to the *Stat. de Donis* ; for that this isle not being within that statute they meant to make a private act of parliament analogous thereto, and to grant such estates as that statute would warrant, and to restrain alienations in the same manner, and that therefore no restraint is upon any of the heirs general of *James* Lord Stanley : but I think myself not warranted to say in this case, that all the parties meant was to create such estates and such restraint of alienation merely, as the *Stat. de Donis* creates. They do not refer, nor is there any eye, to that statute ; and the intent appears to continue in the name and blood of *James*. It is said, that to make estates-tail unalienable will answer that purpose : so it does as to the continuing in his name, but not as to his blood. Considering them on the foot of the *Stat. de Donis*, and that these were estates-tail, there was no want of a restrictive clause at all ; for before *Taltarum's* case which has established the doctrine of recoveries, and the *Stat. H. 7.* of fines, these estates, before the *Stat. de Donis*, were unalienable : but of *Man* no fine or recovery could be levied : consequently if this statute is analogous to the *Stat. de Donis*, it would be sufficient to say, these estates should be held by the persons named : there would be an end of it except as to the limitation to the right heirs of *James*, which would be out of the force of that statute : for certainly since the *Stat. de Donis*, which has split the fee into several estates, and made the possibility of reverter a reversion and an estate, the owner thereof might, though he was not in the power of tenant in tail until common recoveries were invented, alien that reversion himself, as he pleased : therefore there is no manner of occasion on that foot for this prohibitory clause. But still it is contended, I ought to construe the clause confirming the limitations, and also this prohibitory clause, according to the rule of the *Stat. de Donis* ; for that private acts of parliament are to be construed by the general law of the land, and as private acts of parliament, and therefore in the same manner as that statute. There is no warrant for me to do that by any recital or words. But the

2 Inst. 335.

5 E. 2.

4 E. 3.

penning of this act of parliament is different, and goes farther than the *Stat. de Donis*, which has no words restraining alienations by reversioner or remainder, but by tenant in tail: whereas this act of parliament has express words of restraint even on *James*, the owner of the reversion in fee. On comparing the words of the *Stat. de Donis* there is no restraint of alienation but on persons, *quibus tenementum sic fuit datum sub conditione*, viz. those who would have the fee simple conditional at common law; not on the reversioner himself, or those who might take under him: but the words of this act of parliament go vastly beyond that restriction: therefore to say, I must construe this analagous to that, is to say, I must construe one act of parliament penned in one set of words according to the construction of another penned in another set of words. Still it is said, there is no restriction laid on the heirs of *James*: but by the express words of the subsequent clause, all acts whatever, done by any persons to prevent the estate from being held by any of the persons or heirs mentioned there, should be void; which consequently excludes any supposition, that a different kind of right and power of alienation was meant to descend to the heirs of *James*, which was not meant to *James*. Nor is there any restraint on *William*; so that by this doctrine, if this is to be construed according to the general rule of the *Stat. de Donis* and of lands in *England*, that estate would unite with *William's* estate for life, and consequently, if he could possibly have suffered a recovery or levied a fine, he might have barred these limitations, and have barred his own issue-male: or if taken the other way, as so many particular limitations of the nature of fees simple conditional at common law, still he would have power to do that. So that on this clause this is clearly the true construction, force and effect of it. When therefore it is said, on comparing this act of parliament to the *Stat. de Donis* that any of the heirs of *James*, and consequently the last Earl of *Derby*, might do this, because he had the estate-tail and fee in him, I allow the rule, *quando duo jura concurrunt*, it is the same as if *in diversis*: but the rule holds the contrary way, that *James Lord Stanley* is equally restrained in one capacity as in the other. To put the case fairly it must be put so, as if the reversion in fee had been hereby limited to a stranger. The construction would be the same in both cases, and both are restrained from aliening; for no one will say, that though it would be so in case of a stranger, yet his heir at law should have power to alien: that would be absurd. The parties could not by any possibility have made a settlement by the family of this estate, so as to prevent alienation, provided there was a licence from the crown; for, as it is admitted to be out of the *Stat. de Donis*, the consequence would be, that any estate, they could have created, would be but a fee simple conditional; and they could not have carried it further, but must have stopped at *James* and the heirs of his body; for if they had attempted a remainder, it would be undoubtedly a release

lease and discharge of the condition; for which I rely on the case in *Cartbew*, that a fee simple conditional cannot stand together with an absolute fee, but will be merged in it; the reason of which holds just to this; and there was no case before the *Stat. de Donis*, where an estate was granted as a conditional fee to one and the heirs of his body, and the same estate limited to his heirs or remainder to another; it could not be done, at least by a common person: I will not enter into the question, whether it could be granted by the crown by prerogative. As this then was not in their power to do by common conveyance, they chose to do it by act of parliament. It is very material, and was great part of what led to this, that these heirs-female, who for a consideration parted with a present right, and perhaps that consideration not equal in value, yet did not mean to depart with the possibility of inheriting it; it was material therefore to them to model it so, that none of the persons under these limitations should have power to defeat and prevent its coming to the heirs-general, who on failure of issue-male would be heirs-female of the family; which was the only way of a *spes* of succession to them. It is also material, that no other persons are appointed by that act of parliament except those named and their issue and the heirs-general of *James*; none others that can come within these words but the heirs-general of *James*; then to say this prohibition extends not to them, is to say, these words are to be rejected out of the act. Next as to the clause concerning the power of leasing I do not think there is any inference from thence. It is said to have a reference to, and to give the like power as tenant in tail had, by the *Stat. H. 8*. If it was so, I know not what would be the consequence: but I do not think it is so: for the *Stat. H. 8* is only referred to for the sake of describing the leases: and I believe, such power has been given in private acts of parliament, and acts of parliament where the person to whom that power was limited, has not had an estate-tail. Beside it is still apprehended that this was not such an estate-tail as any such power could arise on by that statute; for these lands lay not within the realm of *England*. This act of parliament therefore has made this isle and the particulars therein unalienable against the heirs-general. But whatever becomes of that question as to the property of the isle, the state, lordship, and dominion, if there was not this restraint, this devise could not possibly be good; for it is expressly determined by that case, by which I shall think myself bound, that the *Stat. of Wills* does not extend to this. It is admitted, the *Stat. de Donis* does not; and then there can be no reason why the other should. Then there can be no ground to think that by the *Stat. of Wills* this feud was devisable, when it is out of the *Stat. of Wills*. By the common law it certainly was not devisable, unless a custom for it. Taking it on the feudal law, nothing is more contrary thereto than to say, there should be a devise. That

is more strong against allowing testamentary dispositions than against any other by reason of the surprise on the party, and the bringing an improper tenant on the Lord. But taking it out of that, he could not convey by devise without a licence, no more than by any other manner. I will not then enter into the question, whether the words were large enough to take it in: but the consequence is, that both the devise of the lordship and dominion of *Man*, supposing it large enough, would be void as against the Duke of *Atbol*, heir general of the family, and this lease is also void because of the nature of this settlement, and the restrictive prohibitory clause in this act of parliament; nor is there any ground to make another construction. It is admitted, an act of parliament may make even an estate in fee unalienable; and there are some, though not many, acts of parliament of that kind in particular families. The only question therefore is upon the construction and operation of the act; and it is manifest, that even the family itself doubted that this lease was void; otherwise Earl *Charles* would not have given the collateral security: and afterward when *James* Earl of *Derby* came to the estate, he had the same doubt; not that he laid hold of that doubt to evade that lease directly, but he would have chosen to turn it on the collateral security. There are great symptoms therefore of its being so understood in the family. The devise then is totally void by force of the private act of parliament, and the restrictive clause therein. The grant of the tithes and rectories is also void: and that puts the nice disquisitions of points on the feudal law out of the case.

Ante, Feb. 8.
1748 9.

On the next question I do not mean to give a strict opinion to bind myself, but mention it because of the plea put in to the jurisdiction of this court by the Duke of *Atbol*, and that I may not appear to contradict myself. There have been great doubts as to that; for the Earl of *Derby* comes upon a legal title, speaking of the whole isle, and therefore that might be a great objection to the jurisdiction of this court as a court of equity. I go farther; there might have been great doubt whether, supposing that point of equity out of the case, he could come in respect of the original jurisdiction of this court and nature of the inheritance, because it is out of the dominion of *England*; and, unless it could be brought within the rule of *Commotes* in *Wals* or *Lordships Marchers*, it would be a strong objection against coming to the King's courts; for these *Marchers* were originally parcel of the realm of *England*, and therefore in a question between two *Lordships Marchers* it must be determined in the King's courts, because it could not be determined there. I could have retained the bill, and sent the parties to try the title at common law, and determine it by the proper jurisdiction, which was said to be the King in *Council*; but considering my opinion that is not necessary.

I would

I would not be understood, when I over-ruled the plea of the Duke of *Athol*, to have over-ruled it on affirmance of the general jurisdiction of this court to try and determine the title to the isle of *Man* or any such feudatory dominion, but merely on this; the plea was to the jurisdiction without averring to what court the jurisdiction belonged; and the rule of law is, that in a plea to jurisdiction like a plea in abatement, where it is to a court of general jurisdiction, you must also shew where the jurisdiction vests, as well as negatively that it is not there; but if it is an inferior court, you need only plead thereto, and not shew where it is. This is a court of general jurisdiction; and that was not then shewn. Then it came in question, whether I must over-rule it *in toto* or in part. I was of opinion, *in toto*; for the rule of the court is upon demurrer to the whole bill, where the demurrer covers more than it ought, the court will not split and divide it, as it will a plea; for a demurrer is taken unfavourably, and therefore it will be over-ruled: but that does not deprive the party of his equity; for the same thing may be insisted on in his answer. Then such a plea to the entire jurisdiction ought surely not to be received more favourably than a demurrer; and therefore I over-ruled that also. The inclination of my judgment, until that objection of the informality was started, which appeared in the latter part of the plea, was to have allowed the plea as to seeking possession of the isle, as to the royalty of *Man*, but as to the rest of the relief as to the collateral security to over-rule it: but that being insisted on, turned my opinion to over-rule the whole plea.

Plea to jurisdiction of a general court must shew where it is: not so of inferior court.

Plea to jurisdiction over-ruled in toto, as a demurrer covering too much.

The question then comes on the collateral security, and what relief the plaintiff in both causes is intitled to as to that; for the opinion given as to the validity of the will goes not only to the devise of the whole isle, but to the grant for 10,000 years; and consequently the plaintiffs in the original cause are intitled to relief as to their indemnity; for which they had a right to come into this court, supposing it had been a mere bounty in Lord *Derby*, against any one claiming voluntarily under him; or whether it was for a debt, he might subject it thereto. It is the common case of an indemnity; which must be by an account taken of the rents and profits from the time of the eviction, which Lord *Derby* must pay to them according to the trust of the term; and let his bill, so far as it seeks to establish his title to and possession of the isle, &c. of *Man*, be dismissed.

He must pay costs to plaintiffs in the original cause; but no costs as between him and the Duke of *Athol* upon such a question so intricate in itself.

Case 114.

Howel *versus* Howel, July 18, 1751:

Marriage articles not decreed in strict settlement, where by a difference in the penning the parties intended to leave part in father's power.

BY marriage-articles in 1691, part of an estate was limited to husband for life, remainder to wife for life, and after death of survivor remainder to heirs of the body of the wife by the husband: another part to the husband for life, remainder to heirs of his body, remainder to the wife.

The bill was by the eldest son after death of father and mother to have the benefit of the articles, by having them carried into execution strictly to the first, &c. son, according to the general principle in *Trevor v. Trevor*, *Eq. Abr.* and *West v. Erissey*, 2 *Wil.* where even a settlement was corrected by the articles, *Honor v. Honor*, and other cases; and to be relieved against a deed, which the plaintiff said, he was drawn in to execute on a representation, that his father had a right to the whole estate, to do what he would with it.

The defendants, the younger children who claimed a benefit under the said deed executed on the father's suffering a recovery, insisted, this was not the common case, but very particular, being in the first part to the heirs of the body of the wife. This cannot be by mistake, which will not be presumed, where there was a natural view for it, *viz.* to prevent either of the parties from defeating, but not from doing it by joining therein to make a provision for their family according to the circumstances. Where it is not the meaning of the parties to make a strict settlement, a court of equity is not bound to do so. In *Whately v. Kemp*, 17 *Feb.* 1734, on bill by mortgagee to redeem or foreclose, defendant insisted, that by articles previous to marriage of his father and mother, they agreed to purchase lands of such a value, and settle to use of husband for life, of wife for life, remainder to use of heirs of her body by him, remainder to use of heirs of survivor: they purchased, * and joined in recovery to use of plaintiff in fee by way of mortgage: defendant insisted, that his mother being dead, he was intitled on construction of these articles in equity to have this estate settled to the first, &c. son, in tail male. Sir *Joseph Jekyl* held, that if this was a common limitation, he should have thought, what the defendant insisted on, right; and that the mortgagee must have lost his estate: but that this was particular to the heirs of the body of the wife by him, and being *ex provisione viri* would secure the children against the father alone, and that it might be the real intent, that both might bar, comparing it to a power of revocation

* It was said, that was copyhold to which Stat. 11 H. 7. does not extend.

both by father and mother, and that defendant was therefore well barred. *Powel v. Price 2 Will.* 535. shews, the court goes on the meaning of the parties having a different view. The present bill is to unravel all that was done by the father and plaintiff himself with his eyes open, confirmed by him after his father's death, and to strip the other branches of the family.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There is a difference in the penning of these two limitations. On the first they might have in view to leave it in the power, not of the father only but of both, to vary. But on the second there can be no sense of that limitation, but as the plaintiff contends; otherwise, it would be absolutely in power of the father by fine to bar it, and defeat all the issue. They intended the wife should have a jointure in one, in the other not. It seems a strong distinction on the face of these articles; and there have been cases adjudged on that. Where by articles part of an estate is limited to father for life, to wife for life, to first and every other son and daughters in tail; another part to father for life, and heirs male of his body by that wife; Lord *Macclesfield* said, if that had been the sole limitation, he should without scruple decree in strict settlement according to the common rule: but where the parties had shewn they knew the distinction when to put it out of the power of the father, and when to leave it in his power, he would not vary the last limitation, decreeing to the father in tail as to the last, though not as to the first. Beside the plaintiff here, long after his father's death, when he knew how things stood, confirmed part of that agreement, though not the whole, and paid interest several years afterward of the provision for defendants. There was a case before Lord *Cowper*, in which the father used paternal authority and some harshness to induce his son after coming of age to make a new settlement of the estate, by which he brought voluntary charges on it for benefit of the younger children, of which there were several; and notwithstanding there were circumstances in it not to be approved of, yet as the settlement itself was reasonable, it was allowed. And as in this case there is a difference in the penning of the articles, in one of which they might intend to leave it in the power of the father, in the other not in his power to do alone; it seems a reasonable way.

The residue of the provision under the deed was decreed to be considered as a charge on the estate.

Case 115.

Knight versus Dupleffis, July 20, 1751.

Receiver not
appointed for
heir at law to
turn devisee
out of posses-
sion.

THE late Lord *Colerain* devised, that from his death until his daughter *Rosa Perigrina* attained twenty-one, or married with consent of her mother, the mother should receive all the rents and profits from all his lands in *M.* and *N.* with directions to pay 300 *l. per annum.* to the daughter, and to take 900 *l. per annum* to herself, and to account with the daughter if she attained twenty-one or married; if the daughter died before either, then it was devised over to the plaintiffs, who, as nieces and heirs at law of testator, brought a bill, and now moved for a receiver, and to stay waste generally, and to inspect deeds and writings.

For plaintiffs. There is no present interest devised by the will set up; only a bare power to receive the rents for benefit of the child on contingency; and there is danger of their being entirely lost, as no security was given that the mother is in good circumstances, and the rents safe in her hands, who has committed waste. If this was the testator's child, it must be a bastard: who Mrs. *Dupleffis* is, does not appear. The plaintiffs have charged her to be an alien; to which no answer is put in, and a strong presumption that it is so. It cannot be told exactly where this child was born; probably beyond sea, as the testator has almost declared by her name. There appears a rasure in the register of *Colchester* to adapt it to this devise to the child.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Considering the credit the law gives to these registers, and the materiality of their evidence, it is very necessary something should be done, some care taken by parliament as to the custody of them, this not being the first instance of this kind. There was another relating to Sir *Thomas Coleby's* estate. These registers should not be suffered to be altered after the first entry. It is criminal in itself: but should be made highly so.

For plaintiffs. It does not seem yet determined by any case, who shall have an estate devised to an alien. The extent of an alien's right may be judged from his remedy: he cannot take a real estate, nor term for years, unless perhaps as executor or for benefit of commerce, nor do several other acts. Then she has no legal estate, and so feeble a title that she cannot recover these rents; if the tenants will not pay, she can bring no ejectment; and it is reason-
able

able they should be paid to somebody; and the legal title must be in the heirs at law.

Attorney General for the crown did not oppose a receiver. The only difficulty was, how far it might interfere with an information in the *Exchequer* to support the right of the crown brought for evidence, and a motion made for injunction to stay waste, as to issuing of which that court had taken time to consider until next term. Ante.
Tria. 1744.

For defendants. This was fully entered into on the former motion, *Mich. 1749*, when *Your Lordship* held, there was no ground to grant it; saying it was very far from being a ground, that because a will was litigated, an heir at law can come into this court to affect the interest of the devisee, or be assisted here barely because that question was depending; that it amounted to what was equal to a contingent interest; and that though a question might be, to whom it should belong, if the child died under twenty-one, that was no ground to turn the mother out of possession for a receiver: nor would the court throw an imputation on the merits of a question; for the plaintiffs were then and are now litigating it in the ecclesiastical court. The only additional circumstance now is a doubt that has arisen, whether the defendants were not born abroad. This motion is not on behalf of the crown, which pursues in another court on the point of right, should they come out to be aliens: but if so, that does not support or give a title to plaintiffs, who suggest nothing but a possibility of title in a third person. An alien can take by purchase, and by any instrument that makes one purchaser, but must hold for the crown. Plaintiffs come on a mere legal title, and no equity, no term standing in the way. Heir at law cannot come into equity merely to turn devisee out of possession. In *Anstis v. Dowling*, *Your Lordship* allowed the plea by devisee to a bill by heir to be let into possession and account of rents and profits. Supposing the tenants do not pay, they cannot change the possession. In the case of Sir *Jacob Banks's* estate the tenants brought a bill of interpleader, which *Your Lordship* refused. As to the waste it is begging the question to say, this devisee cannot commit it, if there was any: but the timber alledged to be cut down is only copse-wood, and cut in a regular and usual way: but defendants do not oppose an injunction to stay waste generally.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Then I will give my opinion now, the whole merits being waste fully before me. The only part, of which I had a doubt, was as to the injunction to stay waste; for certainly when an estate is Guardian or trustee for infant having a

contingent estate, cannot cut timber on suggestion that it will not improve, though growing among underwood: thus *in brigā*, and a person is thus in receipt of the rents and profits only for an infant, that infant having no certain right to the estate, but a contingent devise over to the plaintiffs, it is going too near the wind for such a guardian or trustee to cut down timber on a suggestion, that it will not improve. There is a great variety of judgment upon that, which will admit of dispute. On the other hand it is not to be said, the cutting down such wood is waste on the estate. Timber growing among underwood must be cut down not to prejudice the underwood, that it may thrive, especially in an estate so near *London* where underwood bears a great price: however it is too much for such a trustee to do, and there is no harm in granting an injunction to stay waste, which is submitted to.

I am of opinion under the circumstances there is not sufficient ground to order a receiver; which might prejudice some of the parties, and the infant; which I ought not to do without a necessity; and that does not appear. It is asked variously, against the infant and the infant's title. It is not asked by the crown; which could not bring a bill here for it, having taken a proper method to establish its title in a court of revenue, where it is properly under consideration. Then I must consider it barely as a motion on the part of a remainder man, if the entail is not barred: but there is no ground before me to make a doubt of that. It is applied for on the part of the heirs at law claiming in contradiction to the will, if not well executed or the devise not good. There is nothing before me to create a doubt as to the execution: all that is said is, that supposing the will well executed, the devise would be void; and that supposing this child an alien and incapable of taking for her own benefit, that then she cannot take by devise. I would not enter into that minutely, nor give an opinion upon it. I cannot indeed cite a case, that such a will would be good. I do not remember any doubt or distinction made between a grant, conveyance, or devise to an alien; for an alien may take; the only consideration then is, for whose benefit, and if he may for the crown. There is no rule of law or upon the *Stat. of Wills* in the way, why he may not take by devise: but upon that I give no opinion. Then here is an heir at law controverting the will of his ancestor; in which he is right; but they come by a bill to have a discovery of certain matters as to the title, and of deeds and writings, to see how far disinherited or not: but must recover the estate, if they can at all, at law. Devisee is in possession: not the infant devisee, but the person to whom devised: for it is more than a power. *Power* is not the word in the will; and the words are sufficient to amount to a devise of the rents and profits until twenty-one, &c. and this person is in possession. Then there is no instance in which the court has

Alien.

Whether alien may take by devise.

Heir must recover at law against devisee.

has ordered a receiver for benefit of an heir at law; for to that I bring it; as it would be another thing, if asked for the infant: but an heir at law under such circumstances and such a contest must recover by the strength of his title at law. The possession must be taken to be a lawful possession; the will gives countenance to it; and the court does not appoint a receiver. As often as it is asked, unless particular circumstances in the case, so often has it been refused. But what would be the consequence of it? The plaintiffs, who apply, are aware of it themselves. The child has nothing out of the personal estate, which is given to the mother; but 300*l. per ann.* is allotted for this child: the plaintiffs are so aware, that it would be a strong objection to the appointing a receiver, that they submit that the court may allot this 300*l. per ann.* for the child, as otherwise it must starve. But it goes farther; for if the will is good, (of which nothing is laid before me to doubt) Mrs. *Dupleffis* is intitled to 900*l. per ann.* beside, out of the estate. Then I cannot say, she is in possession of this estate merely for benefit of another, *viz.* the child or whoever can claim in the event of the child's dying. She is in possession so far for herself, until the will is shewn not to be good. Then I cannot appoint a receiver in the present state of the case to deprive the defendants of this 1200*l. per ann.* but it goes farther still. How is the suit to be defended, If I should do that? The infant has no other property. If because there is a contest between the heir at law and devisee, the court should appoint a receiver, and this devisee has nothing to defend his title with, that may be a mean to make an end of the cause one way, but would introduce a precedent, that might go a great way, and have very fatal consequences as to devisees, by stripping them of any thing to defend their right. As to the tenants not paying, an expectation of a motion for a receiver will cause that; beside there is no great arrear. It is impossible to grant this part of the motion under all these circumstances.

Barwell *versus* Parker, July 22, 1751.

Case 116.

SIMON BARWELL having by deed created a trust term for Interest. payment of his debts and legacies after his decease out of his real estate, the plaintiffs demanded interest for their simple-con-Trust term by deed for debts and legacies: simple contracts carry not interest. So if by will, otherwise if by deed in nature of a specialty. tract debts, though the court in general does not decree interest for them; *Car v. Lady Burlington*, 1 *Will.* 228. was cited that where a trust term is raised for debts, simple contract become as debts due by mortgage, and should carry interest; and *Maxwel v. Wettenbal*, 2 *Wil.* 27, where the same was held, when the lands were devised for payment of debts.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Post. Lord
Bath v. Lord
Bradford.
Oft. 26,
1754.

There is no colour for this demand upon this trust term notwithstanding the authority cited; for if a man by will creates a trust out of real estate for payment of debts and legacies in aid of personal estate, there is no case, in which the court has said, that shall make simple contract-debts carry interest. It would be most mischievous, and would make people afraid to do that, lest they should bring a great burthen on their estates by changing the nature: and the constant course of decrees in this court shews the contrary. This trust term is not created by will, but deed: but it is of the same nature, as is usually by will, being to raise money to pay legacies also so far as his personal estate shall not extend to satisfy, and no farther. That will not have the effect to turn simple contract-debts so far into the nature of specialty-debts as to carry interest. If indeed a man in his life creates a trust for payment of debts, annexes a schedule of some debts, and creates a trust term for the payment, as that is in the nature of a specialty, that will make these, though simple contract-debts, carry interest. This is a very different case. As to *Car v. Lady Burlington* it is not particularly stated in *P. Williams*; for the clause, that no debts should have a preference, as there stated, was not all on which Lord *Harcourt* probably went. What Lord *Harcourt* there says as to the two funds, is contrary to the usual course, wherever two funds are created for creditors. Next as to what he says at the latter end, (for which the case was cited) what he went on does not appear, but probably on that clause for payment of debts in proportion; the particular words of which are not stated. The clause might be so penned as to shew an intent in testator to put simple contract-debts on the same foot as specialty as to carrying the interest, and to put them on equality: but there are not such words in this deed, being only a general trust, just as if done by will, and still a power of revocation, and not intending to alter the nature of them.

Next a question was made, whether *Barwel* should be charged with interest of money put into his hands to be placed out.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Scrivener, &c.
bound to place
out money re-
ceived, for
which he gives
a note, and is
not discharged

Where an attorney in the country or money-scrivener takes money of his client or customer into his hands, and gives a note to place it out at interest, he is bound to do so. If he places it out on security, and the client, &c. accepts the security, and accepts the interest thereon from the time, that is a discharge of the person

son receiving the money from answering the interest any farther : but if he does not place it out, or if he does, and does not deliver over the security, and declare the trust for his client, he is answerable for it himself, and must answer the interest. The court will indeed allow him a reasonable time for placing it out, before he shall be charged therewith : but he shall not keep it in his hands for ever without placing it out according to the intent. Therefore as to what *S. Barwel* has placed out at interest, and the security accepted of and agreed to, he must not be charged : but his representatives must answer interest from the end of three months for other sums, the securities for which were not agreed to.

from interest, unless the security and interest are accepted by the employer.

Next *Lord Chancellor* held, that the balance of a stated account should carry interest ; that it will do so between merchants accounts ; of which several instances : but the account having been stated long ago, and no claim made of an allowance for trouble, there should be none now : for it must be taken as evidence, that the person though administrator did not think himself intitled to any, as none was then demanded.

Interest on stated account. No allowance for trouble, if not demanded, though in case of administrator.

Jones versus Clough, July 22, 1751.

Case 117.

At the Rolls.

ON the marriage of *Thomas Clough* an estate was settled to use of himself for life, remainders in the common manner. When *John* the eldest son, and *Thomas* the younger, came of age, articles were entered into, reciting the settlement, and that “ whereas “ there was thereby no provision or portion of maintenance for “ younger children, though several were now living, to the intent “ therefore that 300 *l.* may be raised, *Thomas* the father, *John* the “ son and heir, and *Thomas* the younger, have taken it into consi- “ deration and agree, that 300 *l.* be raised in and upon all or part “ of the premises from and immediately after the death of *Thomas* “ the elder, and to be paid to such younger children in such man- “ ner and form, as he shall by his last will *duly executed* direct and “ appoint ; and in order to have the same effectually done and as- “ sured, the two sons do covenant, grant, promise and agree “ jointly and severally for themselves, their heirs, &c. that after “ father’s death any part might be granted, mortgaged, or disposed “ of for raising the 300 *l.* to be paid as the last will and testament “ of *Thomas* the elder should direct and appoint, and to no other “ use.”

Father tenant for life and two sons article to charge with a sum for younger children after father’s death, as he by will duly executed should direct : he directs by will with two witnesses only : a good execution of the power, nothing passing from the father : otherwise if by owner of the estate.

The father by will, attested only by two witnesses, particularly distributes this 300 *l.*

John dying without issue, having suffered a recovery of part, *Thomas* became tenant in tail of the rest, and now insisted, that the provision, made for himself and the rest of the children, cannot take effect as not a proper execution of the power, the will not being such as would pass lands according to the statute of frauds, all the requisites of which were required by these articles, and the addition of duly equal to *legally*. *Wagstaff v. Wagstaff*, 2 Will. 258. *Longford v. Eyre*, 1 Will. 740.

Sir *John Strange*.

Where the owner of an estate in land either in law or equity reserves to himself a power to dispose of it to such uses, as he by will shall appoint, that must be such a will, as within the statute of frauds would be proper for a devise of land; otherwise the statute would be entirely evaded: but the question is, whether this is such a case as that, for which the authorities cited are in point? The solemnities in the statute are required only in devises of lands, but it goes no further. Consider whether the father by the articles or will parts with any thing in his power to give. By the settlement he was bare tenant for life; and by the articles has granted nothing, being to take effect after his death. The agreement indeed is recited to be between the father and two sons, and refers to the act of the father by will duly executed: but in the next clause, which is to charge the estate, the two sons only covenant and grant to the trustees, that this 300*l.* should be a charge; and it is upon their estate; and the intervention of the father is only to apportion the sums: it is not his will, that actually makes the charge: he is only referred to as a proper person for that. This case is attended with such circumstances, that the court is well warranted to go as far as they can, to relieve the person standing in the place of the younger children, especially against him who was to have the benefit of the articles, but who by accident of his brother's dying without issue turns the tables, as more for his benefit to say they shall not be carried into execution. He might have been greatly benefited by the articles; for the father might have appointed any given sum, so as to have distributed something to all, and 250*l.* to *Thomas*. The word *duly* is in the agreement, as recited, but not in the covenant of the two sons. But it is not necessary to lay any great stress on that; because, supposing it was the case of the owner of an estate reserving to himself a power by will without adding *duly* or *legally*, I admit, in such case his act must be such, as answers the utmost idea of the word *duly*, though *will* is only mentioned. But certainly there may be cases, where the words *duly executed* may not require the solemnity of the statute of frauds; for if no lands are given by the person making the will, that will will be duly executed, though there are not those witnesses, the statute requires;
because

because those words must refer to the nature of the act, and the nature of that which passes by it. Yet if the word *duly* was to be construed otherwise, there have been cases, where a court of equity under such circumstances would supply it. *Sayle v. Freeland*, 2 *Ven.* 350. which is stronger, because there the act referred to was the act of the owner of the land, not of him who had no power or dominion over that, which was to be so given: and yet it was held, a court of equity would supply that little circumstance, because the intent was fully declared. Here two persons, who had power to charge this estate, have done it by articles, but refer to the act of a third merely for the purpose of apportioning; and though that third happens to be a father, it would be the same as a mere stranger: if therefore one should charge his estate with a sum, to be divided as a mere stranger should think proper by will, the necessity of its being a will conformable to the statute does not occur; and whether two or three witnesses, it is such a circumstance, as, when the intent fully appears as in the present case, a court of equity would supply. In *Smith v. Ashton*, 1 *C. C.* 264. it was held good in a court of equity, the substance being performed. How stands it here as to the substance? It is not necessary to criticise very nicely on the import of the word *duly*: but where a provision for younger children is thus attempted to be defeated by one who was a younger child, one would lay hold of any circumstance whatever, on which any weight was to be laid: and supposing the father having no landed estate executes a will, whereby his intent is sufficiently declared, in what manner this should be divided, it is good, though there are not such circumstances as required, whereby an interest is to pass from him. There is no occasion to consider, whether the whole must have fallen to the ground, if the father had made no will or appointment, or whether the court would in such case have interposed for the younger children. There have been cases, where a provision of that sort has been referred to the act of a third person, which, if not executed, this court has thought proper to direct to be equally divided: but that need not now be determined, because I am of opinion, this will, though executed in presence of two only, considering it as a will whereby the father passes nothing at all by way of interest from himself to them, but merely as a collateral person, is sufficient within the authorities mentioned to warrant this opinion of the court, that it is a proper execution of this power.

Power to another to appoint for younger children, if not executed, to be equally divided.

Ashly

Case 118.

*Ashly versus Baillie, July 24, 1751.**Master of the Rolls for Lord Chancellor.*

Real assets
followed by
legatees.

A distinction
between cre-
ditors and le-
gatees; cre-
ditors not ha-
ving a right
to the benefit
of administra-
tion bonds.

WILLIAM BARNSELY by will gave 3000*l.* not expressly to the plaintiffs, but left it nominally to his executrix *Mary Pocock*, who declared it to be in trust for the plaintiffs, and covenanted accordingly to pay it. Upon her dying intestate, her brother *William* took out administration to her and also *de bonis non* of *Barnsley*, and entered into bonds to the ordinary, the conditions of which were according to the statute of distribution. The bonds stood out during his life, were not put in suit, nor any thing done on them. On his death he made his sister *Sarah* devisee of all his real and personal estate. The personal estate of first testator not having been administered as it ought, the bonds are put in suit against the heir at law of *William* and the devisee. The heir pleaded nothing by descent; devisee admitted in her plea to the action, that she as devisee of her brother had real assets of his in her hands, and stated particularly, what they were.

The question was, whether plaintiffs were intitled to the benefit of these bonds entered into, and on which judgment had been recovered; for that though this demand of plaintiffs was originally testamentary, it was now to be considered as a debt, and these bonds had nothing to do with it? It is now a settled distinction in *Lev.* and *Sal.* 316. that a creditor *eo nomine* has no right to have the benefit of these bonds to the ordinary; which were originally intended only to aid the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical court, which did not extend to give remedy for recovery of debts. In the case cited for plaintiffs of *Greenside v. Benson*, 6 March 1743. Lord Chancellor held, a creditor might prosecute in Ecclesiastical court for an inventory, but could not litigate that inventory.

For plaintiffs. The reason, the creditor or archbishop cannot assign a breach in non-payment of a debt, though it is a due course of administration to pay a debt, is, because the archbishop's court cannot try a debt; though of that there would be some doubt, if there were not cases to that purpose: but still a jury may try it. A breach may be assigned before the archbishop, that an inventory has not been given; which is the most minute breach that can be; for a man may still be honest. That breach was assigned in *Greenside's* case on an action in the archbishop's name, and held sufficient foundation to recover in law the penalty of the bond: the obligors coming here for relief, Lord Chancellor said, you shall have no relief

lief in a court of equity against the penalty of that bond, until you have shewn, you have paid that debt.

Two incumbrances were set up by Lady *Blunt* as prior to the plaintiffs; the first a mortgage before the judgment on these bonds: next a second mortgage made after the judgment, and as she insisted, without notice of that judgment. Plaintiffs insisted, though no Notice. notice was given personally to her, there was to her agent; which is the same: otherwise no notice can be proved. Though one has the law of his side by having the legal estate, yet if he will by a voluntary act take a thing with notice of another's equitable right, it must be subject thereto; and then the common rule does not hold, that he, who has equity and law of his side, shall prevail against equity alone. That is not the case of a purchaser with notice of another's prior right. The case of Lord *Falconbridge*, cited on the other side, was only this: Mr. *Piggot* had been concerned as counsel to look over a title: a great many years after the title-deeds were laid before him, the question was, whether he was bound to remember every particular case of a title that came before him in the way of his practice? He did not remember: the court was of opinion, a counsel is not to be supposed to remember every such thing: but there is vast difference between an attorney or counsel and an agent, which is the present case, being agent for her in placing out the money, not merely looking over the title.

Sir *John Strange*.

As to the first question consider, in what light the plaintiffs are before the court; whether still as legatees under the will of *Barnsley*, or as having in a manner annihilated that demand in that light, and set it up only on the foot of creditors under the declaration made by the executrix; who, conscious of what testator intended, and that she was only a trustee for that, declared it so: but that is a transaction on her part only, and nothing done by plaintiffs to depart from any right to follow still the assets of *Barnsley* until satisfaction was attained from one hand to another, and therefore still to be considered in this court as proceeding for that legacy: for a court of equity will consider that person as legatee, for whom the trust is. The judgment on the plea of the heir is not material; but since the statute of fraudulent devises they have a right to follow the real estate into the hands of the devisee, and accordingly actions are brought on these bonds against devisee of the real estate. These actions are brought on the obligatory part of the instrument only, as all such actions are. Defendant thereto has a right to pray *oyer* of that condition, and plead performance generally; and that puts the plaintiff on assigning a breach. That was not done in the present case; but she very prudently discharging herself from any difficulty.

farther than as that estate came to her hands, for which she is liable as devisee. The plaintiffs then will be intitled to have the benefit of these bonds in common with others, for whom they are supposed to be in trust. The plaintiffs are *prima facie* legatees; and as such the bonds are properly in trust for them. There is indeed that distinction between creditors and legatees: but I cannot see upon what ground it was: however it certainly is not now to be disputed. The plaintiffs are therefore intitled to pray in aid, but in common with all other legatees, and under the judgments obtained on these administration-bonds to have satisfaction as far as that will extend under the circumstances of prior incumbrances; which are next to be considered.

Notice to agent, placing out money on mortgage, of a prior judgment, shall affect the employer.

No constructive notice from title-deeds, &c. laid before counsel, or attorney, or any thing that could not be supposed to make an impression on the memory.

The first being advanced long before the judgments on these bonds, Lady *Blunt* must be considered as an incumbrancer prior to any right these bonds can give to come in on the real assets of *William* the brother. As to the other, which is admitted to be advanced subsequent to the judgments, it is not pretended, she had any notice of these judgments intervening: but it is insisted, there is a special case of notice made out to her agent in that transaction, sufficient to postpone it to the satisfaction, which may be claimed as to the judgment on these administration-bonds. I should have no doubt, but that it would be carrying it a great deal too far against an agent in general, or counsel, or attorney, to say that, because in a former suit such deeds came to their sight or knowledge, or such a transaction was had in a matter, that could not be supposed to make any impression as to any future event, that should have the effect of constructive notice: that would be too hard to say: that therefore was the determination in the case cited and other cases. God forbid, it should be constructive notice, that they had an abstract of something of this sort brought before them, and therefore their memory should be charged therewith. But the question is, whether there is not such a precise circumstance, as is sufficient to warrant the court to construe this to be notice. This circumstance is, what is disclosed in the answer of Lady *Blunt* and her agent; neither of which pretend, that her agent did not know of these judgments; and she admits, she employed him in putting it out. He knew of these judgments intervening: but thought, it was not proper to take notice of it, because he thought there was enough to pay all. It is on that particular circumstance, and his admitting knowledge of it, which is actual notice of that before the money advanced, and then in a court of equity she will not be intitled to take place of the judgments on these bonds preceding thereto.

Bishop

Bishop *versus* Church, July 25, 1751.

Case 119.

THIS cause coming on again after the examination of Mr. Ante *Clive*, it was insisted, that the heir at law of *James Church* was in this case not bound; and that wherever the heir at law has the good fortune not to be named, there is no instance of that defect being supplied against him.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The grounds of the decision in this case lie in a very narrow compass. I am very glad of this further examination, it giving a great light and satisfaction as to the equity, and more than I expected, strengthening my opinion on the first question; for there were two questions in the cause: first, whether the plaintiff has an equity to recover this debt against the representatives of *Church*? The second, supposing there was, whether there was not a rebutting equity for the defendants to bar that as lost by neglect of his own? My opinion upon the first is strengthened, by what appears in this examination, though not intended for that; for it appears, the 2000 *l.* borrowed on these two bonds is confessed to have been borrowed in the course of trade as partners; as appears from a bill brought by the executors of *Church* against *Selin Owen*; farther also, in that very bill the plaintiffs pray, these bonds may be discharged as affecting the assets and effects of *James Church*: so that they take it to be of that kind, and that they were liable out of assets of their testator to make satisfaction for those bonds: which is a very strong corroborating circumstance on the first point, and is an answer to all the distinctions attempted at the former hearing. But this has also given a great light, and furnishes an answer to all objection against plaintiff's recovering; viz. whether *Bishop* had not been guilty of so gross a neglect of recovering, or preventing the representatives of *Church* from recovering, as to lose his remedy in a court of equity as well as he had lost it at law? Every thing arising between *Owen* and the representatives of the deceased partner is entirely out of the case in respect of the plaintiff and of *Bishop* in his life; for nothing, they could do as between themselves without his consent, could at all vary the right or remedy, *Bishop* had either against *Owen* in law or equity, or against the representatives of *Church* in equity: it was all *res inter alios acta*. *Bishop* might indeed by his own act part with his right by his behaviour, and rebut his equity, he would otherwise have: but upon *Clive's* applying to him to get in the money of *Owen*, *Bishop* tells him, he is content with the security; the interest is paid him, and therefore he is not obliged to do so. A man may make that answer; because he likes the interest, he

12 Dec. 1750.

One obligor in a joint bond dies: the

other becomes bankrupt;

though the legal lien is

one, if no partiality or

collusion by obligee, equity

will set up his demand

against both heir and executor of the

deceased; but the real only

in default of personal assets.

Obligee unless paid, not

obliged to lend his name

to sue survivor.

Though the obligations

and penalty gone, the

condition is considered as

agreement to pay.

receives, and has no objection to the security: but surely nothing arising from thence will bar him from any remedy in law or equity. He has his election. As to the farther request, repeated more than once, for putting the bonds in suit in his name to recover the money of *Owen*, I am of opinion, he was not obliged to do that but upon such terms, as he offered to do it, and the only terms on which a court of equity would give relief; for I am not to inquire, whether a man might not act more kindly or generously. Where a just debt is due, a demand against one in law and equity, and against another in equity. if a bill had been brought, the court would have relieved on payment of the principal and interest to *Bishop*, and leaving them to recover that against *Owen* to prosecute that decree in *Bishop's* name: but no relief would be, until after the representatives of *Church* had paid the money. The terms, on which *Bishop* agreed to *Clive's* proposal, were on paying him off his bonds. That is the strict equity between man and man as well as of a court of equity; and whether he would have acted more kindly in letting them have his name to put the bonds in suit, to regard that, would

If strict tender
not made by
mortgagor,
interest is not
stopt.

make such remedy very precarious. There are several instances of mortgages, where there are many attempts by mortgagor to pay them off, and reasonable offers of payment; yet if a strict tender is not made, the court cannot stop the interest: though cases may be, where the court would wish to do it: that of acting a more generous kind part, if mortgagee had taken it, is not what the court is to go by. Nothing of that kind was done or tendered to *Bishop*; no offer of payment at all. It is not reasonable, taking it strictly, to expect that from any man having two bound for his debt. A man who has received his money, is safe in all events; therefore out of danger however faintly the suit is prosecuted: but if he had lent his name without payment, and judgment had been against him, he never could bring another action upon that bond. It certainly is therefore liable to accidents; and a man then trusts the merits of his demands and of his bond to another: which is not reasonable.

If one obligor
pays, and
sues the other
at law in
name of obligee,
payment
may be
pleaded: but
not payment
by a stranger,
as representative
of deceased
obligor in
joint bond is.

But it is said, *Owen* might have pleaded that payment was made by representatives of *Church*: and certainly on the act of parliament for amendment of the law this great difficulty arises, that if one of two obligors pays off the money, the condition being forfeited by the day being past, and puts the bond in suit against the other in name of obligee, the other may plead, that the other obligor has paid the principal and interest on that bond before bringing the action; and, I believe, instances of that have been, of bills in this court for relief: but that depends on proof of the payment. But *Owen* could not plead so; for no man can plead payment of money on a bond at a day or after the day but by the obligor: he cannot plead payment by a stranger; for that is demurrable; it is no plea: he must plead payment by himself or some person bound in law to payment, which could not be done in this case;

case; for by the death of *Church* in life of *Owen*, the representatives of *Church* were to be considered as strangers; therefore it could not have been pleaded: but supposing it could, and that nicety out of the case, what would it have brought it to then? only to the equity of the case, to compel him by bill here to have a contribution, or to pay the whole, if he was liable to the whole. A proper bill was depending in this court; and the court would have directed, that *Owen* should have paid, or at least have restrained him from pleading the payment by the representatives of *Church* at law. A bill had been brought by the representatives of *Church* against *Owen* to call him to an account of the debts due on either side, and compel him to pay. That was proper for them to do; and they should have proceeded in that cause; which it does not appear they did, though five years passed to the death of *Bishop*. Plainly therefore there is no ground for a court of equity to say, the plaintiff shall be stripped or rebutted of this equity from a partial favour and indulgence to *Owen* and collusion with him. The terms required by *Bishop* on their proposal is a clear answer thereto. Had they complied with them, they might have taken those bonds, and arrested *Owen*; which would have been no favour to him. Another strengthening circumstance is, that the executors plainly did not think any thing that passed between *Bishop* and *Clive* had rebutted this equity, or discharged them from being bound. There was no occasion for them to apply to the representatives of *Bishop* to put the bonds in suit, (which was done, and occasioned the bankruptcy), if they thought such a defence could be made. They thought themselves still remaining liable; and I am of opinion they are so far as not received out of the commission of bankruptcy against *Owen*.

The next consideration is as to the heir at law. I am of opinion, the plaintiff has the same equity against him. In all the cases where two, their heirs, executors, and administrators are bound in a joint bond, and by death of one in life of the other, the legal lien and action at law has been gone, if a court of equity has allowed the equity, and set up the bond, they have always set it up, not only partly, against the personal estate and executor, but against the heir also; because that is a very different case from that which was put, where the heir was not named. Here he is named in the condition and bond also. Then consider the case of *Aston v. Pierce*, 2 Ver. 480. So *Probat v. Clifford*; where, though a joint covenant only, Ante. not several. I set it up, and against the heir as well as executor. So in *Welsh v. Harvey*. The reason the court has gone upon is, that Ante. the bond is considered as an agreement in writing; and therefore, though the obligation and penalty is gone by the legal demand being gone, yet the condition, taking it altogether, is considered as an

agreement in this court to pay the money, and an agreement under hand and seal; therefore in *Aston v. Pierce* the court considered that condition as an agreement, and set it up against both executor and heir. There is as much reason to construe this as an agreement for heirs to pay as in other cases. That is the reason, though the formal part is gone: but the real estate comes in only in default of personal assets.

Case 120.

*Price versus Lloyd, July 26, 1751.*Ante, July
13, 1750.

ON the Master's special report it appeared, that the witness to the will at the time of this second examination was not a creditor of testator; and it not appearing that at the time of the attestation he was, *Lord Chancellor* said, he would not enter into a minute inquiry about that whether he was or no.

Case 121.

July 27, 1751.

On a question
with whom in-
fant should re-
side, infant's
inclination of
weight, where
no imputation.

MR. *Nicoll* by will appointed Mrs. *Oakaver* guardian of his daughter, who being above the age of sixteen withdrew herself, and preferred a petition complaining of ill usage and severity. Mrs. *Oakaver* preferred a petition complaining of the infant's behaviour, and at the same time renouncing all further care and trouble, but joined with all the rest of the daughter's relations in requesting, that she might be put under the care of, and reside with, Mr. *Tracy*, who was himself a relation: but the infant desired Mr. *Hexeter*, a stranger and no relation to the family, only a neighbour of her father's, might be the person.

It was ordered to be referred to a Master to see which was the proper person. The Master reported in favour of Mr. *Hexeter*, chiefly upon the great disinclination she expressed to go to Mr. *Tracy*. Exception to the report. Several affidavits were read on both sides: it was argued that little weight should be laid on the inclination of infants; for that would be very dangerous, were they allowed to have the nomination of their guardian; a scholar might then apply to change his school as not liking it.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Though in such a case of a scholar I should lay very little weight on his desire: yet in this of a young lady near 17, above the age of puberty and marriage, (though perhaps the canon law has fixed that

age too low, for reasons which hold not here), and that also in a question, not whether the court should remove a testamentary guardian or no, that guardian having renounced, but only a question with whom the infant should reside, and who should have the personal care of her education; I think, weight ought to be laid on the inclination of the infant. In so doing I ought to go a little farther than even the law does; for supposing there was no testamentary guardian, nor a mother, if the infant has any *socage* land, and is of the age of twelve if female, of fourteen if male, they are allowed to chuse their guardian; as is frequently done on circuit, and is the constant practice, and what this court frequently calls on infants to do: though this still is liable to any reasonable objection made to such choice. But there is no imputation on Mr. *Hexeter*: and this is not a case who should have the guardianship, which Mrs. *Oakaver* will still have, but only of the personal residence.

If no testamentary guardian or mother, infant having socage land may chuse guardian at 12 if female, 14 if male: done on circuit if no reasonable objection.

The exception was disallowed; and it was ordered, that the person concerned in her withdrawing, should not have access to her; and that she should not be married without leave of the court.

Pitcairn versus Ogbourne, July 29, 1751.

Case 122.

At the Rolls.

BILL to be relieved against an annuity-bond entered into on the marriage of plaintiff's son with *Rebecca Grovenor*, niece of *Felix Chambers*; whereby it was stipulated, that the plaintiff during his life should pay 150 *l. per ann.* to the husband and wife, if she survived him. She did survive her husband: the bill was to reduce the payment to 100 *l. per ann.* upon an agreement said to be entered into between these parties previous to the marriage; whereby though the bond was to import payment of 150 *l.* yet for reasons given on the transaction the actual agreement was for 100 *l.* only.

Parol evidence admitted to shew that tho' a bond on marriage was for 150 *l. per ann.* yet the agreement was for 100 *l.* but the bill dismissed, as being a private agreement to deceive a maternal party.

The plaintiff's reading parol evidence of this agreement was objected to. The court notwithstanding the stat. of frauds sometimes goes into parol evidence; as where the statute would otherwise be the occasion of fraud; which was the case of *Walker v. Walker*, Dec. 11. 1744; where on bill for performance of agreement for surrender of copyhold it was insisted, that the agreement was also, that the other should reciprocally surrender his copyhold for benefit of defendant's son; parol evidence was admitted, as it was setting up an agreement to be performed on the other part as

Ante, June
1751.

a consideration of the former agreement, not to contradict it. So in the late case of *Legal v. Miller*, it did not contradict, but came in on a new agreement. But it is never admitted to contradict the written agreement, and to support a fallacious private one, entered into to deceive the person who had the disposal of the wife, as here; this bill being to establish a fraud to which the plaintiff himself is a party. *Necis artifices arte perire sua*, a good rule in morality. It is of publick concern. There is no instance where a written agreement on marriage notoriously between the parties, that this court ever admitted evidence to prove a private clandestine treaty that the agreement should not avail, what on the face it imported.

Sir John Strange.

Parol evidence
admitted to
prevent fraud.

Written a-
greement dis-
charged by
pa. ol.

Anie.

The stat. of frauds says, all contracts in consideration of marriage shall be in writing, otherwise void, *i. e.* if people by parol only treat for a sum of money to be advanced on one side and an estate settled on the other, if not reduced into writing, it shall be void. However there may be cases wherein courts of law and equity (and the rule is the same in both) will let in circumstantial evidence to prevent that fraud taking place, which would arise from insisting, that something was got into writing, which would deprive the party of the benefit of detecting that fraud. On a bill for specifick performance of a written agreement, the defendant may insist, it has been since discharged merely by parol between the parties; and that defence will be received. *1 Ver. 240.* on which authority chiefly *Legal v. Miller* was determined; where I admitted the evidence offered. The same objection was made there as here, that the written agreement should speak for itself, and no evidence could be admitted to the contrary: but the court received evidence to the contrary, and on that dismissed the bill for specifick performance, and with costs. *Walker v. Walker* was there cited, where notwithstanding the objection, Lord Chancellor allowed the evidence to be read: though he said, it might be doubtful, had the defendant been plaintiff, for that less evidence would suffice to rebut an equity than to obtain a decree. The present evidence offered is not to contradict the import of the bond on the face of it, but to shew that notwithstanding the agreement was that it should be but 100 l. which is expressly contradicting the agreement itself: but it is admitted, the written instrument is, as it was designed, to appear at the original transaction. It differs therefore from the cases, where you come on the construction of the instrument to abate, what arises on the force of the face of it. This is in fact setting up a new agreement. I remember a case of *South Sea Company v. D'Oiff*, where by the agreement the Company were not bound to answer

answer for any irregularity by supercargoes, unless information was given in two months after return home. The instrument was not drawn up until on board the ship and in a great hurry, and executed there by the party; who, when he got out to sea, and read it over, found it was six months instead of two; and brought a bill to be relieved against that variation in the instrument. Lord King sent it to an issue: it was tried on a question, whether it was the original agreement, it should be two instead of six months. Verdict in favour of plaintiff, that the agreement was designed to be in two; and a decree in consequence of that to relieve the plaintiff against any difficulty by that variation. That is a stronger case than this; setting up parol evidence to contradict the very words of the written agreement itself; but it was considered, that the variation would be a fraud, and therefore the court, which was to relieve against fraud, must admit it: otherwise if it could be got in black and white, there would be no relief: from this case therefore and others, it is proper to receive this evidence; the weight of it will be afterward for consideration.

To encounter the strength of the evidence of the written agreement, the case, the plaintiff attempted to make, was this. That he being a clergyman with about 200 *l. per ann.* benefice, was willing, as far as he was able, to give into his son's inclination for the defendant, who had no fortune; he told him, he would agree to pay 100 *l. per ann.* and with this proposal the son was to go to wait upon her at her uncle's; that she rose in her demand by saying, that her expectations were from her uncle, having nothing of her own; that her uncle would be induced to do more for her, if he did more for his son, and therefore he should let the bond run, as if it was for 150 *l.* instead of 100 *l.* which would be an advantage for her and the children; that he was angry at the proposal; and the treaty was in danger of being broke off; but by importunity he was prevailed on to execute it; but that she was so far from considering herself as intitled to 150 *l.* that they actually received at the rate of 100 *l.* and she insisted on no more, when she became intitled to it in her own right. On this foundation the plaintiff insisted on this agreement in contradiction to the bond; and that the defendant should not avail herself from any thing arising on the face of the bond against her own proposal, or reject the parol, which was the true agreement: that the answer denying positively all these circumstances was disproved by several witnesses. It was begging the question to say, that plaintiff came into court on the foot of fraud, not of equity. The uncle was not *in loco parentis*; for she had a mother alive at the time; he was only nominally a trustee in the bond, and and so not an interested party. This

agreement was with the privity of every party concerned in the marriage-agreement, the father, son, and intended wife; the uncle whom it was calculated to deceive, having neither contracted or given any thing on his part, it differs from all the cases on that head in the material circumstance, on which they all turn, that it is a deceit to a party. The uncle then cannot be said to be deceived. Though he has by his will made a provision for his niece, the husband is not at all benefited thereby; for it is to her separate use. This is like the case, where two contract for a sale, and vendee for sake of appearances desires a larger sum than he really gave, may be inserted in the conveyance: should vendor afterward insist, he received no more than such a sum, if it was proved to satisfaction of the court, that the real agreement was such, and that it was inserted merely for that reason, he would be intitled to no more in a court of equity, which would interpose. So if husband for the sake of appearances inserts in his marriage-agreement his wife's portion to be double; the receipt given is a waiver of any more than 100*l.* like the late case where two annuities of 10*l.* each was given by will executed according to the stat. of frauds; but a codicil by two witnesses only, reduced them to 5*l.* each: it being alledged in the pleadings that these last annuities had been accepted, *Lord Chancellor* considered that as a waiver of the 10*l.* and as a new agreement, and sent it to a Master, to know whether they had accepted. Where a deed imported an absolute conveyance, on a bill to redeem they have been let in to prove a defeasance: but plaintiff here not only shews the agreement different, but also accounts for it.

For defendant. The bill is to establish a pretended underhand agreement on treaty of marriage to reduce the publick, open agreement, to carry an appearance to the uncle with whom the treaty was, and on whose regulation of it the marriage itself depended; so that he was the proper party with whom to treat, and not only nominally a trustee. There is a material letter during the treaty from the plaintiff to his son, where it appears under plaintiff's own hand, that the uncle had promised to do something on his part, though the plaintiff thought better not to have it inserted, but to trust to his generosity, concluding with bidding his son go on to marry, and leave the management of the uncle to him. False inducements and special appearances are a fraud on the person treated with on that foundation. There is nothing in writing to alter the original bond still in force: written evidence at the time cannot err, nor is liable to defect of memory as parol evidence, which is hardly possible to remember precisely at any distance. On that principle was the stat. of frauds made; which, it would be better and safer, if never broke

in upon, notwithstanding the specious argument that it may in some instances cover fraud. Though a third person's being defrauded, and induced to give more than he otherwise would, is an ingredient, that is not the principle upon which the court goes; which is not to endure any thing underhand, derogatory to the publick agreement: but this the first time such was ever endeavoured to be established by a bill. Sir *Jos. Jekyll* looked on young people paying their addresses in way of marriage as intoxicated, and not *sui juris*. Instances have been even of parties to the transaction being relieved against the underhand agreement, though made by themselves; 2 *Ver.* 499. 1 *Ver.* 475. and other cases.

Sir *John Strange*.

First, is the parol agreement, on which plaintiff insists as the grounds and foundation of the relief prayed, in point of fact made out to the satisfaction of the court? I think, it is sufficiently established; and the answer, which absolutely denies every particular of this private agreement is falsified by several witnesses, corroborated by defendant's receipts and other acts.

But however strong the evidence may be to falsify the answer, and make out the parol agreement, next whether on the whole the plaintiff is intitled in a court of equity to the relief prayed? The general rule as to these private agreements is certainly, and admitted to be this; where any such stipulations between some of the parties is to deceive or draw in any other part to the agreement to do more than he otherwise would, this court looks on it in light of a fraud, and will relieve against it. 1 *Sal.* 156, *P. C.* 522, 1 *Ver.* 475, and several other cases to prove that general rule. But it is said, this differs, the uncle neither contracting nor giving any thing; which leads to the question, in what light he is to be considered? Laying all the transaction together, especially the letters of the plaintiff, I am of opinion, the uncle is to be considered as a material party to the agreement on the marriage, and as one intended to be imposed on by the private agreement of the others. Defendant's whole dependence was on him; she lived and continued to live with him to the time of his death; and though probably defendant had a mother then living, yet it was not in her power to do any thing for defendant; so that the uncle is treated with as proper to intervene *in loco parentis*. It is true, he is only named as one of the two obligees; nor could he be otherwise a party. The bond being only executed by the obligor, assent of obligee cannot be shewn on the instrument itself: but he must be necessarily apprised of it. But from plaintiff's letter to his son during the treaty, no one
can

can doubt but that he considered himself as treating with a person, who was in some shape or other to provide for his niece out of his own pocket. It shews clearly, the uncle promised to do something; and it was the plaintiff's own choice, that this promise was not inserted in the written agreement between the parties; trusting to the honour of the uncle, whom the son was to leave to the management of the plaintiff himself; and what the uncle did, shews the plaintiff acted wisely in trusting thereto, they living with him until his death, and by his will he gave almost every thing to his niece, very amply answering the plaintiff's expectations. Though given to her separate use, that is notwithstanding to the benefit of an husband, lessening his expence: and by the will the children, had there been any, are sufficiently provided for. If the uncle had contracted to give ever so little, the private agreement could not be supported. But shall the father avail himself of that circumstance of its being left out of the written agreement, when it was by his own choice? The whole ought then to be considered in equity as an open transaction between four parties for a treaty of marriage, and a secret transaction between three of them only in deceit of the fourth. I do not see why it is not like the case of *Sir Geo. Naxwel, Eq. Ab.* 19. where a marriage agreement was designed to be put into writing, as the statute requires, but, by fraud of one of the parties it is prevented. The court does not suffer the Party, who was the occasion thereof, to come and insist it was void. The court says, it was a fraud and owing to him, and he shall not claim the benefit of the statute. As I see it therefore in this light, (and in that I principally ground myself on, that last letter of the plaintiff), I cannot be justified in lending the aid of this court in carrying it into execution. That it was calculated to deceive, is avowed on all sides: whether the plaintiff was drawn in by the defendant, or not, is not very clear; it rather seems he was. One of the parties then to this, which I look on as a fraudulent agreement, cannot be allowed to come here to have it carried into execution for his benefit. Consequently the bill, so far as it seeks to establish that agreement, or to be relieved against the payment of 150 *l.* for the time to come, must be dismissed. But considering the behaviour of the defendant, the proposer of the fraud, and for want of the merits in the plaintiff's case left to reap the benefit of it, (for which I am really sorry) and considering the answer she put in, I do not think proper to give her the costs of the dismissal, The plaintiff is intitled to relief against the penalty of the bond; but then must pay the arrears in a certain time.

No cost.

Marquiss

Marquis of Anandale *versus* Marchionefs of Anandale, Case 123.
July 29, 1751.

THIS came on upon the Master's report upon an order of reference containing these heads; whether it was for the interest of Lord *Anandale*, or for the benefit of the trust estate of the testator *Vanden Bempde*, or of the persons who may be intitled to it according to his will, to call in the money placed out on security of the *Scotch* estate of Lord *Anandale* to be invested in the purchase of lands in *England* according to the trust, regard being had to the present condition of Lord *Anandale*, who had been found a lunatick? The will had directed it to be laid out in purchase of lands of inheritance in a particular county of *England*. The Master reported, that he conceived, it would be for the benefit of the trust estate, and of the persons intitled according to the will, so to do.

For Lady Anandale and her children by her second husband.—Lord *Anandale*'s property and rents and profits of his real estate, wherever they lie, must necessarily follow his person for his maintenance, &c. as the court shall direct. But however, the principal and interest on his securities ought to be considered as land and as the profits of land in *England*, and absolutely under direction of this court, the money being bound by a trust which this court has decreed to be carried into execution, and placed out in mean time pursuant to several orders in the names of trustees, who are to act by direction of this court. The reverse of this is claimed by Lord *Hoptoun*. It is a question of great value to Lady *Anandale* and her children, who have nothing but what may be the distributive share on the chance of Lord *Anandale*'s dying in this state and condition, from which there is no probability of his recovering, and yet in which he may live a long time. The real justice as between these two funds, his *English* and *Scotch* estate, is, that they should contribute rateably to his maintenance and personal debts, which are a lien on no fund. The savings, if he dies in this state of mind, will go different ways. By the *Scotch* law the personal estate will be given only to his nephews and nieces, excluding his mother, &c. which would be very harsh; so that the *English* rule is much more just; for otherwise all the income of her fortune will go to strangers to them. Both ought to contribute to his maintenance, and the savings of each wait the event: not the whole come out of the estate in *England* to increase the fund, that is to go to his representatives in *Scotland*. He was found lunatick in 1747: yet

A sum devised to be laid out in lands in *England* in trust for A. remainders over, is by act of parliament secured on A.'s estate in *Scotland* during his minority. A. attains his age, and becomes lunatick: it may be called in and laid out pursuant to the trust. It is to be considered as an estate in *England*, and a proportion to be settled for his maintenance and debts between his estates in *England* and *Scotland*. Another sum in the Exchequer in *England*, arising from sale of heritable jurisdiction in *Scotland*, considered as real estate in *Scotland*.

in *Scotland* he is a person in his own senses: for his stewards there, under authority from him, have gone on above four years, and received the whole profits, accounting to no one: though no doubt it is safe: then a proportion of his maintenance, and to pay his debts should be contributed according to the value of that fund to this. A lunatick here, residing here, having relations here, and in *Scotland*, where no commission is taken out, but having money due by his stewards acting as if he was of sound mind, that ought to be applied to his maintenance, supposing he had nothing else to live on. The court can order an action to be brought by the committee for those profits in the proper courts there in name of the lunatick; as was solemnly determined in the *House of Lords* in *Morrison v. Morrison*, Feb. 1749, which is very like this; for Mr. *Morrison* resided here, where he had relations, as he had, also in *Scotland*, and 2000*l.* personal estate there in hands of a debtor. An action had been brought on it; and it could not be recovered for want of authority to bring the action. On petition to *Your Lordship* an action was ordered, and a proxy to appear for him to be executed by the lunatick himself. They stated in the declaration his being a lunatick and the order to execute this authority; which gave occasion to the dispute. The court below allowed the objection to the action. The *Lords* were unanimous, that the order was right, and the action to be maintained. The sentence was reversed; and the action went on; and it was held, that if a lunatick resided in *France*, having an estate, debts, and actions here, the courts would not go into the question, that he was a lunatick, to make objections to it, unless at the same time they shewed a grant of the custody. This is that case; for if the action is brought, it must be recovered, being settled by the highest authority to be a proper action. In whatever country a lunatick happens to be, the care devolves on that country; and perhaps the profits ought to follow his person, which is the case here: but we desire only the strict justice, that the two funds should contribute rateably; they now stand on very unequal terms; for Lady *Anandale* and her children will not come in for savings there, though the other side will for savings here. As to what is to be esteemed *English*, what *Scotch*, estate, 36,000*l.* is by the will to be laid out in purchase of lands in *England*, and by act of parliament is secured on the *Scotch* estate: it is to be looked on as land in *England*, this court considering that which ought to be done as done, and pursues that notion through all its consequences: and this even in the most favourable case for considering it otherwise, and for which the court is sorry, viz. against creditors. In *Trelawney v. Booth*, money borrowed from Mr. *Trelawney* was to be laid out in land, of which the party would be tenant in fee: he died, and his family disputed

puted it : *Your Lordship* determined, that it was land ; that it was a simple contract-debt ; and Mr. *Trelawney* lost it. Here the court has established the will, and decreed the trusts to be performed ; then it is bound to be considered as land in *England*. The laying it out on securities is a temporary custody, until a purchase can be made. Then the interest of this is profit of land in *England*, under the direction of the court, *viz.* to be laid up for his benefit. It is trust money ; not a debt to Lord *Anandale*, but to his trustees. The private act of parliament has made no alteration ; it was applied for to authorise this court to lend out the trust money on these securities during minority, on express recital, that the end of the trust could not then be performed, as no purchase then offered : but the act has not determined, that the money cannot be recalled. If this court ordered the trustees to bring a proper action in *Scotland* to recover this money to be placed out in land in *England*, the courts there could not have interfered in the construction of the will or of the decree, or carried the trusts into execution, which are all under the proper consance of this court. They could only judge whether this money was due on that security, whether taken on good security or no, and due to the trustees ; and that was all a court of law could have done here ; if it was lent out on legal security, and the money had not been paid, a court of law could not enter into the trusts. It was only meant, these securities should be taken as mortgages here ; the trust is not to be postponed for ever ; and there are several circumstances to induce the court to direct it now. Next as to 3200*l.* arising from a sale under the late act of parliament, 20 G. 2. of an heritable jurisdiction in *Scotland*, of which Lord *Anandale* was seised in fee. This, whatever it was originally, is now money, in the *Exchequer* here, and is his personal estate to all intents : and if he died in the mean time intestate, must go according to the stat. of distribution, not by the law of *Scotland*. *Thorne v. Watkins*, 30 Oct. Ante. 1750.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It will come to this. Here is, by virtue of an act of parliament, a sale of a real estate in *Scotland*, of one judged a lunatick in *England*, and under custody proper for that here. The question is, whether this court, notwithstanding it is such a sale authorised by law for publick purposes, will not consider that as if a sale under direction of the court, as of a sale of timber growing on the estate, not to change the property of those who were to come after ; whether it is not part of his real property, and to go in that manner ; and whether it will not be subject to some
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sort of trust in consideration of this court? For if the court has directed a sale of timber on the estate, or if a sale of timber is made by the committee wrongfully, (which was the case in *Norfolk*), though the court there could not set aside the sale, yet directed it to be laid up to be considered on the same foot of property as if it had remained timber. The consequence then will be not to give it to the personal representative in *Scotland*, but it concerns the heir at law alone.

For Lady Anandale. But this is a compulsory sale, and could not be made by any ordinary court. The legislature did not consider the heirs at law as *Chancery* does, which will take care of a mere possibility; therefore on a direction to fell timber, it is real estate, and will go to the heir, not to executor or next of kin; who will not be put on a better foot than if the order was not made. This act gives the money in lieu of the hereditament, not considering its original nature, unless where an entail, some cases being excepted. Where the hereditament was affected with prohibitory, resolute, and irritant clauses, the money was not to be paid immediately, but to be laid out in land to be entailed when purchased, or applied in ease of debts; but wherever not entailed, the money is to go to the claimant.

E contra. As to the 36,000 *l.* this act of parliament was, at the instance of Lady *Anandale* and her son, and an expedient very beneficial to his estate, a salutary method during his infancy, which will have the same consequence during his inability. The reason given by the act for interposing is, that the estate was liable to several adjudications in *Scotland*, if therefore not redeemed, it would be conclusive on the family. It was to prevent a foreclosure, and taking the estate at under value; which reason holds still. The calling in his money would ruin the *Scotch* estate, and open those difficulties. Land in *England* hardly yields more than three *per cent.* especially when the land-tax is high. If Lord *Anandale* should recover (of which there is no impossibility) he would not thank the court for doing this. Next the court should not, to deprive the representatives in *Scotland*, issue such an order as to the rents and profits. He is not found a lunatick there; and the court there has the absolute jurisdiction as to those: otherwise a different rule as to that part of his estate merely from living here. Though it may be true, that the court there cannot judge of the trust, so far as it rests on the will, yet must it look into the act, by which it was to continue thus, while both estates remain in the same branch: then the court there would have a right to consider, whether they would permit such a suit by the trustees. The 3200 *l.* paid in money as the measure

of the value of the hereditary estate, and as the government could find nothing else to substitute, is given to him absolutely, who had the whole property in the jurisdiction; so that he can immediately convert it into real estate: but this comes to one who has no will or power to alter it: the court finding that, and it being turned into personal by the legislature on peculiar motives, ought to put the lunatic's estate, as far as it can, in that channel, in which it was before the compulsory sale.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is one of those cases that shews the union of the two kingdoms not yet complete: and really as the union already made has caused a greater intercourse than when divided, and more frequent marriages and alliances, there happens to be such a communication of rights between the two kingdoms, as makes this separation of the laws and jurisdiction of the courts attended with great inconvenience and difficulty: but we must take it as it now is. I concur with the Master in the general opinion he has given, that in general it will be for the benefit of the trust estate, and the persons who may be intitled to the same, according to the will, to call it in. How that is to be reduced and carried into execution, is of another consideration. It has been insisted on by those who oppose this direction, that it cannot be for their benefit, or if it can, not for Lord *Anandale's*, because it may tend to bring the same mischief on the estate, (which the act intended to preserve), that the leaving those securities and adjudications in the hands of the original creditors might have brought, by splitting and dividing it for satisfaction of those demands: but it is carrying it too far in that extent. Consider it first on the original nature of this trust, supposing the money had remained in the hands of the trustees, and no direction of the court had been given concerning it, and the trustees had taken upon them without direction of the court, or interposition of the act, to have placed this money out on securities of an estate in *Scotland*, and particularly Lord *Anandale's* own estate; the trustees would have acted improperly and without power to do it: and strictly speaking, this court would have gone a great way, notwithstanding it was in two instances done by the court before the making this act. How far the trust was considered there I know not; but it was done; and it was thought not, properly speaking, in the power of the court to do it, or, if the court could, that it would not prevent the inconveniencies, and that produced the act of parliament; but if the trustees had done it without direction of the court or of the act, they might have made themselves liable to answer to the estate for any loss by breach of the trust. But undoubtedly notwithstanding they have placed it out on security on Lord

Anandale's own estate, who was tenant for life of it, the trustees would have it in their power to have sued for this by regular process according to the law of *Scotland*, either to have the rents and profits so applied, or to have a sale of the estate or part of it, (provided it could be brought within the rule of their law relating to bankrupt estates), or to have a decree for *expiry of the legal*, i.e. for redeeming the estate. They might have taken all these remedies; and if they had, or attempted to do it, Lord *Anandale* or any court of justice in *Scotland* could not have said, these trustees, who placed out and appeared to be owners of this, should not call it in, because when so done Lord *Anandale* would be tenant for life of this estate. No court would have said so; because not only the interest of Lord *Anandale* is to be considered, but also the trust of the will, if the court of *Scotland* could have entered into the consideration of that trust, which is to lay out this in purchase of lands, and that even in a particular county, in *England*, if it could be procured; which may not always be had; and opportunities are to be taken when it can be had. All the direction in mean time is to place it out on securities. No court then can say, that during his life it should remain on securities; for several persons are intitled in remainder, and the trusts of the will are to be regarded. Land may rise; and opportunity of purchasing when lower should not be lost. If therefore it had been done by the trustees or this court without direction of the act, it could not be said it was not to be called in by reasonable discretion of the trustees or this court. What then has the act done? it was to preserve the estate that nothing should be done to call it in during his minority, which is expired. It is plausible enough, that the same reason arises from his inability by insanity: but on a very different consideration. The one may continue his whole life, and that several years: the other the legislature saw would end by computation of time. Perhaps it might bear debate, which would be most for his benefit: but the direction to the Master is in the disjunctive: then I must weigh, which ought to overbalance: and that is what is for the interest of the trust estate. Consequently I must declare, that all proper methods be used by the trustees to call it in, either by assignment of these securities or by proper remedy at law.

The next question, though not properly within the report, is as to the appointment of money to be raised for maintenance of the lunatick, and payment of his personal debts between the produce of the two estates, by reason that the personal estate in *Scotland* at his death will be subject to a different rule of distribution from the difference between the two laws. I am of opinion, that, as this trust money is part of the personal estate of *Vandenbempde*, and to be laid out in land in *England*, it is to be considered in this court as an

estate in *England*; and that the interest from thence, though arising out of an estate in *Scotland* now, yet as it is a mere transitory thing, arising on changeable securities which may and ought to be called in (and it is directed by the will to go as the profits of the land when purchased ought) must be considered as part of Lord *Anandale*'s personal estate in *England*, and be so applied. Any other personal property indeed, that he has in *Scotland*, will be considered as personal estate in *Scotland*. Let the Master settle the proportion for his maintenance and debts between the two personal estates in *England* and *Scotland*.

The other part of the question, brought in but incidentally into the report, is as to the 3200 *l.* whether part of his personal estate at all; next, if it is, whether in *England* or *Scotland*. Now as the money is in *England*, if it comes to the latter, it must be as part of his personal estate in *England*, where it is, and where it must be directed to be placed out; and if he died to-morrow, as it is found here, it must be so. But my doubt is, whether it is not as part of his real estate; and if so, to be sure part of his real in *Scotland*; for this act was for publick policy, not meaning to change or alter the rights of any private persons whatever; for there is an express provision made in all cases, where the party had not the absolute power over it. This heritable jurisdiction comes not indeed within the first provision; for it is not pretended, that it was under any strict intail so as to prevent Lord *Anandale* from aliening: but it comes within the other description, for this jurisdiction was comprised in those securities; and then is so mortgaged and encumbered, that he could not depart with or sell. I remember it was mentioned (though not entered into) in the debate of these jurisdictions as an inconvenience, that they were appriseable by creditors, and therefore they might come into mean hands. If he had been of sound mind, he could not alien without consent of the incumbrancers, though he might alien the equity of redemption: but that would not answer the purpose of the crown. Then there is another clause; and taking it on that abstracted from the former, there is a provision relating to lunatick, fatuous or furious persons, that their guardian may apply on their behalf, &c. which goes farther than the former, providing that in whatever way such persons are seized in fee or in tail, the Court of Session is to proceed in a summary way, and agreeable to justice, and nature of the case. I should be glad to know what the Court of Session would have done if he had been found a furious person there. Would that court, on application, have said, that this, though rising out of his real, should be considered as part of his personal, estate, and if he died, to go to his personal representative? This occurred at time of making this act; and it was not proper for the legislature to
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enter into consideration of such things: they thought proper to leave it to a court of justice. A man furious, and therefore incapable, might have debts: if the legislature had bound it down, and said, the Court of Session should be obliged to lay that money out in purchase of land to the same uses, that might be very inconvenient: for it might be better to lay it out in paying off those debts affecting his estate: a man in that condition might have a family and younger children, for whose benefit it might be applied: it was left open therefore for the Court of Session to make such order as should be just. I am of opinion, that being found lunatick here, and this arising out of *Scotland*, in a court of equity I ought to follow the same rule and make the same direction as the Court of Session would if found furious there: and perhaps the true rule will be to apply this money to discharge in part those debts; it arising out of this estate which is the security. That is the direction I shall give, and think it would be unequitable to say, that, when it arises out of this estate in *Scotland*, it should be considered as personal estate, and that in *England*, because it happens to be in the *Exchequer* in *England*; which would be carrying it too far. It ought therefore to be considered as part of his real estate in *Scotland*, subject to these securities and incumbrances, and should be applied in a proper manner to discharge of those incumbrances.

Case 123.

Ex Parte Bax, July 30, 1751.

Exceptions to
certificate of
commissioners
of bankrupt.

SEVERAL exceptions were taken to certificate of Commissioners of bankrupt: but it appeared, that the counsel attending there waved all but one, *viz.* that the commissioners proceeded *ex parte*, which, it was said, they had no authority to do without special order of the court. The question now was as to the regularity of the exceptions.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Course of the
court.
Their pro-
ceedings ana-
logous to ta-
king accounts
in equity and
on actions.
The reason
why so few
actions for ac-
counts.

These proceedings under commissions of bankruptcy have been formed by way of analogy to the proceedings of the court as a court of equity; and whenever an account is to be taken, the court by its ancient constitution is to be aided in taking it by some proper officer, (as Masters now are); because it is impossible for the court to take accounts originally; as that would so take up the time of the court, that justice could not be administered in other causes. And it is analogous to proceedings at law; for in an action at law an account is to be taken by auditors. Indeed when the auditors have taken the account, and on charging and discharging the items, issues may be joined; and so many issues then may be tried; actions at

at law therefore for accounts are so few, because so long time is required. That being the rule of law, and ancient constitution of the court, the same has been followed in proceedings under commissions of bankruptcy by referring accounts to be taken by commissioners as in causes by a Master. Sometimes indeed the court refers it to a Master, but always to some proper officer. In these proceedings before a Master, the party has liberty to take exceptions to the report: but it is an established rule, that objections must be made before the Master as the foundation for those exceptions; otherwise the course of the court could be quite defeated: as the consequence would be, that if there were not objections to warrant the exceptions, this court must originally take that account, and then the very end and ground of making the reference is thereby defeated. But if on these objections so taken either the Master or the commissioners vary the report or certificate, to the matter so varied, on which the party has not had a further opportunity of being heard, he may take exceptions not warranted by the objections in substance the same; for then the court will go into it, though not exactly and numerically the same. There is no such rule of the court, that commissioners may not proceed *ex parte* without order. They as well as the Master may do so, if the parties will not attend; for the other side is not to be thereby delayed or prevented of justice. Accordingly the commissioners, the proper officers, have done so, and certified *ex parte*, and that the objections were waved by the counsel for the objectors; and their certificate is proper evidence of it: nor does it appear there was any saving of right to take exceptions notwithstanding these objections are waved. This is a method to draw in the court to take the account minutely on a reference before themselves, or occasion a reference and so a further delay.

Let these exceptions therefore be over-ruled.

Harrison *versus* Southcote and Moreland, July 31, 1751. Case 124.

PLEA to the discovery and relief prayed, consisting of two parts. First as to so much of the bill as seeks to compel a discovery, whether the defendant *Southcote* or his late wife was a papist? Secondly as to so much as seeks to compel *Moreland* to convey an estate purchased from *Southcote*, and to discover any of his title-deeds or writings relating to said estate, and to impeach his title.

This estate was by settlement limited to *Southcote* and his wife and the heirs of their two bodies, remainder in fee to the survivor. The wife died without issue; and in nine days after her death this

purchase was made, and the inheritance of the estate immediately conveyed for 4500 *l.* of which only 100 *l.* was paid by delivery of a bank-note, and the personal bond of *Moreland* given for the 4400 *l.* to be paid within a year: but the purchase-money was afterward reduced to 3400 *l.* *Southcote* still continued in possession of the greatest part of the estate.

The bill was by *Harrison* and his wife in her right claiming this estate as heir at law to the wife of *Southcote*.

For defendant. The bill is not by a protestant next of kin under the statute of distribution, but as intitled by descent, stating a bar against which they come to be relieved, *viz.* the settlement, charging that both husband and wife were papists at time of the marriage and execution of the conveyance, and consequently the limitation to him as survivor is void in point of law; and that after death of the wife he, being conscious that a question might be started, looked out for a protestant to whom to convey it, and that *Moreland* a friend of his agreed to appear a purchaser; and charging several things to impeach this conveyance, as the consideration not being adequate. &c. its being done with great precipitation to defeat the heir's claim on the disability, and without giving opportunity to enter the claim at the quarter-sessions. The bill is barely for a discovery on the popish acts of an incapacity in some person, under whom *Moreland* derives. If any title at all, it is a mere legal title; for if *Southcote* did not take under that settlement, nor the conveyance to *Moreland* prove good, there is a clear title at law, and nothing in plaintiff's way; so that they come here on a legal ground arising from that incapacity to have a discovery of the incapacity. It is now settled, that no one shall be obliged in this court to discover whether the person, under whom he claims, is or was a papist. There was originally a distinction between the papist himself being liable to make the discovery, and a person claiming under the papist; and there are certainly additional reasons why the papist himself should not make the discovery, because that subjects him to several other penalties and disabilities beside that, which arises in the cause: whereas a protestant claiming under a papist is liable only to that incapacity, which affects his title. But that was very deliberately considered by *Your Lordship* in *Smith v. Read*, 18 March 1736-7. where the bill was to impeach the defendant's title, as the deviser, under whom he claimed, was a papist, and being therefore incapable to take was incapable to devise it: the defendant a protestant put in a plea stating the act of King *William* and other disabilities. *Your Lordship* taking time to consider was of opinion, that defendant was not bound to discover whether the person under whom he claimed was a papist; that it was a certain rule, established on good reason, that no one should discover what might subject him-

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self to forfeiture penalty; that this act was to be considered as a penal law depriving the papist of the same protection of law, he would have, if he was not a papist; and that if the bill was against the papist himself, he would not be obliged to discover it, though he should be liable to no other penalty than that incapacity. Then there was no difference between that person and one claiming under him, standing in his place. In the case of forfeiture for waste, a person is not obliged to discover, yet he himself did not commit the waste. The distinction relied on was, that this was not to defeat what vested, but to shew an incapacity for ever to take the thing: but *Your Lordship* said, it was not so; it was an incapacity inflicted by the legislature; that the case of a bastard or alien, which was argued from, was on different grounds; for that incapacity arises from the general rule of law, to which all the King's subjects are liable; so in case of bankrupts; these not being considered as penal but remedial; so of fraud attended with forfeiture; and so of civil rights; and there never was a case since that act, where one was forced to discover whether the person under whom he claimed was a papist or not: therefore *Your Lordship* allowed that plea. This authority is taken notice of since in *Jones v. Meredith, Comyns 661*. There can be no distinction between the present case and that, the flaw in defendant's title arising by reason of the incapacity of the person from whom he claims. There a volunteer was not obliged to discover; *a fortiori* a purchaser for valuable consideration should not. If defendant discovers it, it defeats his estate by reason of that law, which must be penal. Like the case of waste by the ancestor, under whom the party claims; an act by which the title is lost; he is not obliged therefore in this court to discover that which occasions a forfeiture on foundation of misbehaviour or a crime, or being in such a situation the law does not approve, and in consequence of which that disability incurs. If therefore they can make out the fact, they must do it by evidence. As there was at that time no case in which a person was obliged to answer, whether the person, under whom he claimed, was a papist, there has been none since. There are several cases where advantage has been taken of these popish acts, as in *Ireland*; wherever the legislature means there, that a person shall discover, there is a particular clause for it; of which they have many cases: but there are always particular clauses. So in many cases here, as in the late gaming law, and of persons trading, in case of the *East India Company*; which acts shew, that without a particular clause for it a court of equity will not compel thereto.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Part of this bill is on a suggestion of facts tending to discover whether this is not a trust; the question therefore will be, supposing

sing you prevail on the first point, whether yet the plea does not go too far in covering other matters, *i. e.* whether this is not a trust for *Southcote* himself and colourable?

For defendant. As the plea may be divided, and be good in part and bad in part, it is of no consequence. It is averred positively, that there is no trust whatever, and that it is a *bona fide* purchase: and supposing this plea to be all true (as it must be taken *pro hac vice*) it is a bar to that relief prayed. This will depend on the construction of 3 G. 1. which is a material act to many protestant purchasers. The policy of the act of King *William* was to prevent papists having their fortune in land, to induce them by the difficulties laid on them to sell those estates, and prevent their purchasing others and laying out money in that sort of property; for it was thought then, that the credit and influence, land-property gave, was greater than that of money; and to a certain degree it is so. This invited them to sell and change the nature of their property. If then a protestant purchaser could not be safe in his purchase, the view of the act would be defeated. The exceptions in the act are out of the case; for it is averred by the plea, that plaintiff had not recovered, nor given notice of his claim, before bringing the bill, nor entered his claim at the quarter sessions; and this conveyance is inrolled. The requiring the particular solemnity of six months shews, the legislature requires the purchaser to know, that a papist is selling; and clearly meant to encourage him to sell as fast as he could, lest the next heir should claim, and to make the protestant safe in buying; so that unless any of those exceptions happen, a sale to a protestant shall bar. Admitting *Moreland* knew him to be a papist, and that *Southcote* himself knew the objection could from these acts be made to his title, and therefore determined to sell, and that expeditiously: the single question then is, whether this is a purchase *bona fide* and merely for benefit of protestant purchaser, as sworn and averred by plea and answer? The exact value is not material; for the act does not say *to the full value*, but *full and valuable consideration*; and on that it will not be set aside, merely because another would give one year's purchase more; as *Your Lordship* held in *Wildgoose v. Moor*, and that as to the consideration it was only one evidence of the reality of the purchase. If a trust can be proved, it falsifies the plea; but it now must be taken for truth. The vendor's continuing in possession was under a lease by the purchaser. Supposing *Moreland* had a good bargain, if a purchase for his own benefit, that will not impeach it. Whenever a papist sells without waiting the market, he sells at a loss; that is an argument of the fairness: the reducing the purchase-money 1000 *l.* strengthens the credit and reality of the purchase. If an inquiry is to be made, whether it was worth a year's or half a year's purchase more, it will overturn the act. The value of land
has

has risen, as that of money decreases: but that will not defeat the title of a protestant purchaser merely for his own benefit.

For plaintiffs. There is a distinction between this case and *Smith v. Read*; for as defendant there claimed only by voluntary devise, if compelled to discover that devisor was a papist, it would undoubtedly defeat his title: but defendant here has not pleaded himself devisee or voluntary grantee, but purchaser for valuable consideration, from a papist; and has made all the averments necessary to bring himself within the protection of 3 G. 1. therefore is safe, let him discover what he will. The first part of the plea that the discovery would be fatal, is inconsistent with the latter, in which he insists on being within the protection of the act. The transaction is under suspicion, and must be a trust from the circumstances. *Moreland* lived at 100 miles distance, yet the conveyance was made in nine days; in which time *Southcote* neither was, or could be, reputed owner, nor in perception of the rents. A full consideration was not paid; nor is the residue of the purchase-money yet paid; and if vendor cannot come at it, vendee is considered as trustee for him, and the real interest remains in him until payment.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Though in general it is so, where vendor labours not under any incapacity: it is not in this case, for that would be giving an interest in land to a papist.

For plaintiffs. Where an estate devised is to be sold, the residue to a papist, that is void, because under appearance of continuing the sale he may evade the act. Here *Southcote* continues in possession under the lease: if this plea is allowed a bar, a papist may in any case protect his right to the estate.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The general rule is, that penal laws are not to be taken or construed by equity; and therefore no over-rigorous or strained construction is to be made in any court of justice, much less of equity: but notwithstanding that, I am very apprehensive, If I should allow this plea generally, as insisted upon, I should lay down such a rule for conveying estates in the hands of papists, as would tend entirely to overturn and defeat the operation and effect of this act in cases in which it ought and was designed by the legislature to have its operation and effect: for the consequence would be, that such sort of sales or contracts for sales, attended with a conveyance as this is, may be made: the real agreement shall be, if there is no litigation

concerning this in a reasonable time, it shall be a trust for the papist: if it comes to be controverted on ejectment or bill brought by the protestant heir, then it is a good Sale. This would be the method, if allowed generally; yet the court must not make such a determination, as will break in on former, or on that general rule established with great justice and tenderness in the law of *England*, that none shall be obliged to discover what may tend to subject him to a penalty, or that which is in nature of a penalty. Hardly a case can come before the court under stronger circumstances of suspicion of a colourable transaction than this. I agree, it is not sufficient to over-rule the oath of the defendant positively sworn in his answer, which I must take to be true: but it would go to require very strong proof: not that I am now arguing the merits of the case. In nine days after death of the wife (in which time it is very difficult to acquire a reputed ownership) is this purchase pretended to be made from *Southcote*, whom, as it is not answered, I must presume to be a papist; made without any knowledge or previous treaty concerning it; taking a mere bond for all this consideration money except 100 *l.* without security, other than what may be supposed to arise from a lien in a court of equity. No man in his senses ever so transacted, unless something was intended to be covered by it: nor has any thing more the appearance of being colourable than his continuing in possession under a lease by the purchaser. The reducing the purchase-money afterward is said to give credit and reality to the purchase; but I do not take it to be so. It shews, they lumped it in an extraordinary manner; finding the consideration-money to be greatly above the value of the estate, which would have been an imputation upon the reality of the purchase, they reduced it afterward to give a better appearance; which induces great suspicion. It comes on a plea, which must be taken to be true, as stated: but it is not a plea of purchase for valuable consideration without notice, though it is to the discovery and relief both: and if it had been so pleaded, and notice denied, it would not be sufficient in this case: because, as it is not pretended that more than 100 *l.* in part was paid, that takes it out of the rule of plea of purchase for valuable consideration without notice; for if you have not parted with your money, you are intitled to relief against any security you give.

As to the first part of the plea, of the act 11 & 12 K. *Will.* and 3 G. 1. that of K. *Will.* brings a disability on papists, and consequently affects all claiming voluntarily under them or by conveyance not protected under *Stat. G. 1.* The defendant is delivered from one part of the danger which may arise from discovery of that fact, as it is not pretended he is a papist himself, therefore no personal disability can fall on him: but the penalty suggested is, that if obliged to discover that the person from whom he purchased was

was a papist, it would tend to defeat his title to the estate as a purchaser, and as having a title to it; whether his purchase-money was all paid or not is not material to that part of the case, as he has given a security for the rest. In general that point is established, at least as to my opinion, by the determination in *Smith v. Read*; which was without any long time taken for consideration. So far that is a judgment by me, and, as no ground to vary my opinion, must bind myself, that where there is a plea of a title derived voluntarily from a papist or by voluntary conveyance, not suggested to be a colourable trust for benefit of that papist, in that case, by reason of the penalty which would arise from such discovery of the incapacity of the deviser or grantor; he shall not be obliged thereto; and this case appears in *Jones v. Meredith* to be allowed. There is indeed such a distinction as has been argued, which makes this case not so strong as that; but not such a distinction as will finally prevail and oblige defendant to the discovery; for certainly a purchaser is not to be hurt by discovery of a matter, that will tend to forfeiture of his estate, or be a loss in consequence of a penal law; and he may plead or answer so as to shew a case within the protection of this act or any other law; and he pleads according to his knowledge. Several things are necessary, which he has averred here; as no recovery before his purchase; no notice of plaintiff's claim, nor entry thereof in quarter sessions. All this he has averred, as every one must, according to the best of his knowledge or information. Yet part of this may be disproved at hearing the cause; and if he should fail in any one of these circumstances, (which a man may very innocently do) and has made the discovery, there is an end of his conveyance; that discovery binds him, and is the loss of his estate out of the power of this court; and this notwithstanding he had paid his whole money. It is so as to his 100 l. This court could not help him, or make that 100 l. a charge on the estate against the plaintiff. When once he has made the discovery, the law makes void the conveyance, and there may be a recovery by ejectment at law without coming here. As therefore it is settled in *Smith v. Read*, it is a consequence from thence, that he shall not be compelled thereto, for it may overturn his purchase; which is sufficient to bring him within the protection of that rule. It might be very dangerous to fair purchasers, who had paid their money, if obliged to discover whether vendor was a papist or not, leaving it open to several doubtful circumstances. Consequently the plea of 11 & 12 Will. 3. to discovery, whether *Southcote* or his wife was a papist or professed the popish religion, ought to be allowed.

But as to the other part of the plea a different kind of question arises; and no ground to allow it either as to the discovery or relief. First in respect of the discovery: the defendant has not indeed
pleaded

pleaded to the discovery of his own purchase deeds; nor can any purchaser do so, for he must set them out in order for his own title. But on what foundation does he plead this? It impeaches the very settlement; for this heir at law is intitled to know what that settlement was, and by what means and manner he is disinherited thereby: and yet this plea goes to the discovery of his title deeds. There is no ground for that, especially as he has not pleaded himself a purchaser for valuable consideration without notice; and if he had, all but 100 l. part of his purchase-money is in his own pocket. Then as to what he seeks to impeach the title, it is a very general plea, *viz.* to all the further discovery and all the relief prayed by the bill. Now notwithstanding the defendant's strong averments in his plea as to the denial of this being colourable, and averring that it is for his own benefit, the plaintiff is intitled to sift him by exceptions, if there is ground for it, to know all the circumstances of this transaction, which would be all covered, if the plea was allowed as to that; for the plaintiff then cannot except to his answer, but must be bound by this general answer. Next as to the relief, it would bar the heir at law of every thing; for though the heir at law is not intitled to come into this court by ejectment bill to have a decree and account of rents and profits, he is in a certain degree intitled; as if there are any old satisfied terms on the estate, he is intitled to bring his cause to be heard, and have them set out of the way, that he may try his title at law on the clear right; but supposing nothing of that, there is a certain degree of relief, the heir at law has, which is peculiar to this, to have an order for the inspection of all deeds and writings relating to this estate, to see whether he is disinherited, and by what means. If this plea is allowed, and plaintiff should come without at all insisting on the papers, and pray it, he will be told, he comes too late for that, and cannot have it; and I think, he would be so.

The plea therefore as to all the other parts, except as before mentioned, ought to be over ruled: then no costs can be on either side. But the best way is, that as to all the other matters they should stand for an answer until the hearing the cause.

Case 125. Lord Montague *versus* Dudman, July 31, 1751.

Demurrer to
injunction to
mandamus al-
lowed: so to
indictment, in-
formation or
prohibition.

DEMURRER to a bill charging that plaintiff as lord of the borough of *Midhurst* was intitled to a valuable heriot on the death of any tenant within the borough; and that several conveyances were made to defendants in trust, to defraud the lord thereof, whereas no person in trust for others are intitled to those conveyances, praying therefore a discovery of those deeds, and an injunction or order in nature of injunction to stay proceedings on a *mandamus*

mandamus issued to compel the plaintiff to hold a court and admit defendants as tenants.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

How can I grant an injunction to a writ of *mandamus*, and that to a *mandamus* at common law, not within statute 9 Queen Anne? though I do not know, I would in that case.

For plaintiff, There is a very general demurrer both to discovery and relief. There are charges in the bill to support the ground of equity, suggesting facts done by defendants to deprive the plaintiff of the benefit of his services or tenure. It is a fraud, if the real owners, who were to pay the services to the Lord, should convey to insolvent persons. If a lessee assigns to a beggar, this court has interposed, though circumstances may rebut the equity. Bills are often brought by Lords for discovery of goods and chattels of his tenant and satisfaction of his heriot. Heriots are protected by statute 13 Eliz. Actions of debt have been brought to recover against fraudulent gifts. 2 Leon. 8, gift to defraud a Lord is void. Defendants ought to discover, whether these deeds are really executed or not; for if not, the Lord is not bound to admit. This is a question of private property affecting the Lord. A bill may be brought to know the reality of a bond, upon which an action is brought. Next no person ought to be admitted in trust for another. These are material facts on the face of the bill, of which plaintiff wants a discovery: and whether to defend against a *mandamus* in a matter of mere private property, or against an action at law, it is a foundation for a bill and assistance of this court, whether it is a right in equity or at law. Then the remedy taken at law will not prevent interposition of the court, though they proceed by *mandamus* nominally at suit of the crown. Though this is a *mandamus* at common law, it is only to try a private right. 1 Will. 349. is very strong for the interposition of this court; and Mo. 820. even in case of indictments an injunction has been granted. In *The Mayor of York v. Pilkington*, a right to fish in a river being controverted, several persons, indicted by the corporation, applied for injunction: *Your Lordship* held, you could not grant an injunction, as you would, if action of *trespass* had been brought: yet granted an order to stay the proceedings; which is the same as is prayed here, whether by injunction or order.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

If I should over-rule this demurrer, I should open a new door of jurisdiction to this court, which, I believe, would afford a scene of very great inconvenience and mischief, and bring all the corporation and borough-causes in this kingdom in some shape or other on the foot of discovery or relief. This court has no jurisdiction to grant an injunction to stay proceedings on a *mandamus*; nor to an indictment; nor to an information; nor to a writ of prohibition, that I know of. The reason is, that a *mandamus* is not a writ remedial, but mandatory. It is vested in the king's superior court of common law to compel inferior courts to do something relative to the publick. That court has a great latitude and discretion in cases of that kind; can judge on all the circumstances; and is not bound by such strict rules as in cases of private rights. That therefore must be given up, as no colour for such injunction. As to the cases cited, 1 *Wil.* 349, is quite of a different kind: that did not come into this court on the foot of an equitable jurisdiction at all; but the consideration was, whether the court should enforce that return or not. A writ of error will lie on a proceeding on the statute 9 *Queen Anne*, where they can traverse: and yet there is no *superfedeas* to the writ of *mandamus*: but in that case it was a sort of compromise, and on that the court proceeded, and therefore gave the time desired: but there is no determination that this court would interpose on that. As to the old case in *Mo.* I cannot go so far by any means. If indeed that came to be mixed with civil proceedings in this court relating to the title of the estate, that would be a very different consideration. As to *The Mayor of York v. Pilkington*, the court granted an order to stay proceedings, because the question of right was depending in this court in order to determine the right; and therefore it was reasonable, they should not proceed by action or indictment till it was determined here: and there it came in incidentally. All then, that remains, is the discovery, which is sought in aid of the defence. A bill of discovery lies here in aid of some proceedings in this court in order to deliver the party from the necessity of procuring evidence, or to aid the proceeding in some suit relating to a civil right in a court of common law, as an action: but not to aid the prosecution of an indictment or information, or to aid the defence to it. It is said, this is a *mandamus* to compel the holding a court: but this court has nothing to do to aid the discovery upon that. This is a borough; and the question is plainly relating to the rights of voting therein as a *burgage* tenure. Then it is said, they conveyed their estates to those persons as trustees for them, and consequently have put them into the hands of people

Mandamus
not a writ re-
medial. B. R.
has great lati-
tude therein.

Where the
right depend-
ing here, or
does not to pro-
ceed by action
or indictment.

Bill of disco-
very lies to aid
proceedings
here or at law
as to a civil
right, not in-
dictment or
information;
nor by a Lord
for discovery
whether this
or that person
is capable to
answer an he-
riot.

people not able to pay the duty to the Lord on death of the tenant. If I should lay it down as a rule, that a Lord of a manor can come into this court, whenever any one comes to be admitted, by bringing a bill to discover whether that person is a trustee for another, and whether he is so capable to answer a good heriot to the Lord, as another person might be, that would occasion infinite confusion. If this court was not to entertain bills of discovery, whether this or that person was of the best ability to answer the heriot, it would lay such difficulties on copyhold estates, there would be no end of it; for this concerns copyhold estates. And though this concerns a farther question relating to the right of voting in this borough, that is a farther reason against it; as it tends to lay a restriction upon that right. I will go by *Littleton's* rule, that it is a good argument, an action lies not, because one was never brought. I never knew a bill of this kind, and therefore will not make the precedent. Let this demurrer be allowed.

Beard *versus* Earl of Powis, *August* 1751.

Case 126.

THIS cause abated by the marriage of *Miss Herbert*, one of the co-plaintiff's with the defendant, and was not revived.

Where a cause abated, money may be ordered to be paid out of court without revivor upon consent: but not without all parties interested.

Petition, consented to by the plaintiffs, that the executors might raise money by sale or mortgage of a term, and pay it to defendant, with a view to putting an end to the suit.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

By consent of parties I may indeed order money to be paid out of court without revivor of the suit, where it has abated. I may go so far as to declare, that the defendant is intitled to so much: but the question is, how much I can go farther as to the prayer of this petition? I can make an order in nature of a decree on motion or petition, provided it is consented to by all the parties interested: but here are not parties to consent: for as to the raising money out of the estate it concerns the estate and those interested in remainder, it being limited to the defendant for life, remainder to first, &c. son in tail, remainder in fee to his wife, who is an infant and a plaintiff, so that she and her heirs will be concerned. How then can I make a decree on motion for sale or mortgage of a term, which must be a charge on the estate or inheritance of an infant? I can do it by decree on the hearing; but not by order on consent of these parties: and though there is a private act of parliament, I cannot carry that into execution

by order or petition, any more than I can the trusts of a deed. The act of parliament could not give me a better jurisdiction, than I otherwise should have. If *Lady Powis* was of age, that might be another consideration, and make it stronger: though there the contingent remainder might stand in the way; but here is that further objection, nor can I order the parties to be paid the costs of suit. Here are not parties to consent to make the decree on petition completely; I can only declare, that on the plaintiffs affirming their consent to the prayer of the petition I will not restrain the trustees from raising and paying it to the defendant.

Case 127.

Welford versus Liddel, August 3, 1751.

BILL for an account of the estate of plaintiff's father.

Plea of statute
of limitations.

Plea of the statute of limitations, not to the general account prayed, but to an account concerning the transactions between plaintiff and his father in his life, averring that if plaintiff had any cause of action against his father, it accrued six years before service of process to answer the bill.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The exception
therein as to
merchants ac-
counts was to
prevent divid-
ing the account
where run-
ning, and part
within the
time, part be-
fore.

A plea of the statute of limitations covers the discovery always. It is a pretty difficult construction how to apply that exception in the statute relating to merchants accounts. It is not, that defendant may not plead the statute in all cases, where the account is closed and concluded between the parties, and the dealing and transaction over. It was not the meaning to hinder that; but it was to prevent dividing the account between merchants, where it was a running account, when perhaps part might have begun long before and the account never settled, and perhaps there might have been dealing and transactions within the time of the statute. But that is not the case here.

Case 128.

Griffith versus Griffith, August 5, 1751.

PETITION to remove a receiver; the two sureties joining in the petition.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That varies not the case; for if people voluntarily make themselves bail or sureties for another, they know the terms; and will be held very hard to their recognisance, and not discharged at their request to have new sureties appointed; for then there would be no end of it. It does not appear he could get better sureties. No regard therefore is due to their application; unless for benefit of the parties in the cause, or something of that kind.

One charge of misbehaviour on this receiver was his letting the owner of the estate continue in possession of part, by whose going beyond sea a loss was likely to happen to the estate.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The course of the court is, that if a receiver is appointed, and the owner of the estate is in possession of part of the premises, application should be made to the court, that the owner should deliver possession to the receiver; who cannot distrain on the owner in possession, as he is not tenant to him. If therefore a loss arises, it was the parties fault in not applying for that.

Ex Parte Southcot, August 6, 1751.

Cafe 129.

PETITION for commission of Lunacy against *Thomas Southcot*, who was positively sworn to be a lunatick, still continuing so, now at *St. Venant in French Flanders*; to which place he was in the life of his father *Sir Edward Southcot* removed from *Ghent*, as not properly taken care of there.

Argued, That the court is not now to determine, whether he is a lunatick or not; for that he will be still before the commissioners. Upon the affidavits there is sufficient ground of probability to issue that commission; but then the difficulty is, whether a subject, who is abroad, can have a commission issued against him in *England*, which inquiry will intitle the crown to those lands and tenements he is described seised of in *England*. It is difficult to prove the lunacy of one, who cannot be brought before a jury for inspection, if the commission is opposed and the least contrariety of evidence. Next it is difficult to get rid of such an inquisition by setting it aside; for he must appear in person to traverse it. In *F. N. B.* where one is found lunatick, which is

returned into *Chancery*, he is not concluded by it; for he may come in person, &c. In *Roberts's* case 1743 it is a traverse in person; so in *Stone's* case in *Tremain*. This shews the difficulties in taking out commissions in these cases, and the reason they are so rare. In the present case it is impossible to bring him over without endangering his health. This is of great consequence; as several subjects of this kingdom live abroad, and though in other parts subject to the king of *England* they will be all subject to the same question. In the *Plantations* indeed the governors will have a power to take care of the person and estate there by virtue of the king's commission appointing them governors: but no farther. They cannot take care of a lunatick's estate in *England* for to that there must be a commission under the great seal of *England* appointing a committee of the estate. The ground of the crown's granting a commission of lunacy or idiotcy is not by the statute *de Prerog. Regis*, but by the common law: and yet that statute has been held to extend thereto. The crown by the general law of the land is to protect the person and estate of the subject, wherever the person himself cannot; which is the case of infants, and of estates derelict: though they come to the crown in their own right as *Escheats*. *F. N. B.* lays it down, that the king is to defend all his subjects if not capable of defending or governing themselves, or ordering their rights, goods, and chattels; which is from the necessity, extending to the person and the property; and the only way to do it is prescribed by the law by commission of inquiry first to ascertain that he is a lunatick, after which being found it is immaterial to the care of the estate, whether he is or is not in the kingdom: though the common cases are, where both the property and the person are under care of the crown, they are not so dependent, as that the crown cannot grant one without the other. It is often done; as where a receiver is appointed. The law gives this inquiry with two distinct views; for sake of the lunatick or idiot himself, and for sake of the crown's right. The first is, that the party may not do himself a mischief, may be taken proper care of, and put into proper hands; which inquiry, when the person is beyond sea, would be fruitless, as it could not have effect: but in the other view it is absolutely necessary to have such inquiry relating to the prerogative of the crown as to these lands in *England*: of which right by the common law, and declared by the statute *de Prerog. Regis*, the crown cannot be deprived by the person's being beyond sea. In the case of Lord *Wenman* an idiot, a question was strongly litigated; and if they thought, that carrying him beyond sea would do, they would have done it: this is the case of a lunatick. The whole management of his estate in mean time is in the crown, though subject to account on his recovery except as to what cannot be accounted for; which

which is the real interest and benefit of the crown; as a presentation to an advowson on a vacancy during the lunacy. If a common Lord of a manor has a right to the custody of estates of lunatics or idiots, their secreting themselves would not deprive thereof, because it is in right of his tenure. In *F. N. B.* there is a particular writ of *livery* to the heir of an idiot, who held in *capite*: nor is there any thing from the nature of the commission or practice to infer, that an inquisition cannot be issued, where the person cannot be inspected. There are two forms of these writs: the first to the escheator; the principal point of which is to take care of the person; and therefore is the escheator required to go in person and examine, but there is no production to the jury required: the other is to the sheriff, which is with a view principally to the right of the crown; and therefore he is not required to go in person, as the escheator is. The first form of writs has not issued for a long time; but the commissions, which issue now, are formed according to the last set of writs, which do not require the going in person; though that is frequently supplied by a collateral order to be produced before the jury: but that is different from the commission. There have been several verdicts without his being produced or seen, for though the whole effect cannot be had as to his person, yet as to his estate, which will be taken care of, it may. *Beverley's case 4 Co.* makes use of an argument from the form of the writ, which may be used now; *viz.* that a man cannot be examined after his death: but he seems mistaken as to the reason, he gives, why a commission cannot be taken out after his death: for the plain and better reason is, that then that care vested in the crown cannot be made use of, so that the end cannot be answered. There is no negative authority, that where a person is beyond sea such a commission cannot be had; and it would be attended with great difficulty; as in the case of a son of a natural born subject, born beyond sea, who (by 7 *Anne* is still a subject of the crown) never was in *England*, and becomes lunatick. In the late case of *Sir Butler Wentworth*, though a fine or recovery cannot be set aside on suggestion of lunacy, yet it is held in *C. B.* that the deed making him tenant to the *præcipe* was void, and consequently his estate descended to his heir notwithstanding the uses of that recovery. But there is a case in point of *Thomas Richard Halse* an infant, 30th *November* 1743: where application was made by *Francis Sadler*, intitled to the reversion of an estate of 1500*l. per ann.* in *Jamaica* after death of this infant, who was said to be a lunatick, and resided with his mother in *Hertfordshire*. A commission was directed to inquire into the lunacy; and *Sadler* obtained an order from the court, that whoever had the infant, should produce him at the execution of the commission to be inspected and examined. The commissioners met; a jury

jury was summoned, and proceeded, though the infant did not appear according to the order, the mother secreting him. The verdict found, that he was not a lunatick, but judged him not proper to take care of his affairs during his fits. *Your Lordship* thought the verdict repugnant, and ordered the commission into *Hertfordshire* to be superseded, and a new commission into *Middlesex*, where he was last though but for a very short time, and that whoever had the infant, should produce him. On affidavits that the mother went over to *Antwerp* to prevent this, the commission was executed, and the jury found him to be a person of unsound mind, and not sufficient to govern himself, and the custody of his estate was granted to *Sadler*, and that in general terms, though it appeared, that custody could not operate unless in *Jamaica*: which goes a great way, determining so far that though not in *England*, yet might a commission go to inquire of the lunacy; and this though there was a guardian appointed, who was accountable; for he was also an infant. A subject cannot transfer his allegiance; the crown has a right to its subject, wherever he is; can send for him over; and then the committee of the crown may take his person. That is the proper method by giving authority in an amicable way to bring the person over, though it cannot be done by force. So the court has granted the guardianship of an infant though beyond sea. Another difficulty mentioned is, that the jury must be summoned by the sheriff of the county, in which the person resides; which is from the conveniency of the neighbourhood: but it may be directed to the sheriff of any particular county, where the person last resided, or to the next county to the place where he resides, as has often been done in cases at common law.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This comes before me on very particular circumstances, such as create doubts, how far I can consistently with the rules of law and proceedings in this court interpose. I had two doubts; first as to the fact whether it sufficiently appeared by affidavits before me, that the person, against whom the commission prayed, was a lunatick, or that the evidence was applicable as to the person: for as it then stood, it appeared only, that two persons had been sent over, who never saw *Thomas Southcot* before, had gone to *St. Venant*, where a person was produced to them as such, of whom they could know nothing but by relation. But considering what I am to do in the present instance, being only to judge whether it is proper to put this into a method of inquiry, and not conclusive that the person, against whom it is granted, is a lunatick, that is sufficiently supplied by further affidavit, which brings it up

up to the circumstances sworn in the other affidavits, and applies them to the person of *Thomas Southcote*. If a person had been sent over, who had seen him in *England*, and could swear to the identity, such evidence, if it can be had, would be very material to lay before the jury and commissioners: but they are judges of that. As it is before me, there is sufficient probable evidence for this, provided I am warranted by law to do it: which brings it to the question of law; as to which I doubted upon this, that the commissioners and jury have a right to inspect the person of the lunatick, and examine him before them; and, I believe, most commonly do so. They do not always cause him to be brought before the commissioners, unless a considerable doubt was raised on the evidence as to his sanity: but they have a right to require it; and it has been determined in this court, that, if the commissioners think it proper, he ought to be produced before them without the prior order of this court: and if the persons, in whose custody he is, have refused to produce him, the court has blamed them extremely, and made them pay costs. The other thing creating a doubt was, that in common standing orders for the Great Seal for these commissions they are to cause a jury of the county and neighbourhood, where he resides, to be returned; which *prima facie* carries an evidence, that he is supposed to be resident in some county in *England*: but notwithstanding this is the common form, and what is usually and ought to be done in common cases, that does not determine, that in all cases of necessity it must be so. These commissions are of a various nature: the old way was by writs directed either to the escheator or sheriff: the modern way, and for a long time, is by commissions in nature of these writs; and so it is called, a writ *de lunatico inquirendo*. These writs were variously directed; but I cannot find any precedent of a writ to the escheator to inquire of the lunacy of any person, which I take to arise from hence: the escheator was an officer of the county to inquire of the revenue of the crown, and therefore where lands come to an alien, or on forfeiture, or death of a tenant *in capite*, to the King where the guardianship came to the crown, the writ went properly to the escheator to inquire, because it was for the profit and interest of the King, and the escheator was an officer for revenue of the crown. But in the case of a lunatick, where the King is to take no profit to himself, but merely a right arising from the care, the King, as father of his country, is to take of all his subjects not capable to take care of themselves, there should be no writ to the escheator, who, I believe, was not a proper officer for that. It is true, that in all writs to the escheator there is a direction that he should go to the party: but is not to found his return thereon, for he must have the jury beside: whereas the writ to the sheriff in those instances in *F. N. B.* and the register,

Commissioners and jury have right to inspect the person.

Costs if not produced.

The common form of these orders not of necessity to be observed in all cases.

The old way by writs to escheator or sheriff: the modern, by commission.

does not direct the sheriff to go to the person: the reason of which distinction I cannot find; nor does there seem, that any good reason can be given for it. But whatever was the ground thereof, the commissions have put that out of the case; for the commissions (the form of which is printed in the register 19) direct not to go to the person, but to make the inquiry. The ground of turning these writs into commissions was, that, as it stood by law as to lands of aliens, or on forfeitures, or guardianships where the crown was to have the custody, &c. they might be by writ to the officer of the King or to the commissioners; and as they might be to one or the other, and the commissions were more large, they fell into that. The forms are various; so that nothing arises from thence to shew the law to be, that the lunatick or idiot must be in *England*. Then to consider it on the reason of the thing there can be no good reason, why, if any subject having an estate in *England* happens to be an idiot or lunatick but is out of the kingdom, there can be no inquiry here. No inquiry can be made beyond sea; for it is not to be executed by the commissioners only, as in taking an answer or assigning a guardian, which may be executed beyond sea, but there must be a jury to inquire of the fact; which must be of a county in *England*: then if no inquiry can be here, both the person and his estate would be in a very unfortunate case, and also the King as to his prerogative. As to idiots the King has an undoubted prerogative; and that prerogative has prevented a great many proceedings for the care of idiots, and has occasioned a jury to find the contrary in many cases in order to avoid that. But if any one can convey the idiot beyond sea, the King cannot have the benefit of the lands and person, as he ought. As to lunaticks it would deprive them of that care and protection they are intitled to from the King, which he is bound by his regal authority and power to exert; for then no such commission would issue or care be taken, which would be very unfortunate. This whole matter must be inquired before the commissioners and jury; so that no mischief can arise from this. If they are satisfied by clear evidence, that he is a lunatick, they will find so without inspection; if not satisfied without inspection they will make no verdict, or return, that he is not, and there it must rest, nor can any effect arise from it. Nor is this conclusive; for if he is beyond sea, and is of sound mind himself, the laying hold of his lands is notice to him, that such proceedings are against him, and he may come and appear, or any person opposing the commission in his behalf will be heard, and if insisted upon, and reasonable evidence laid, he must be then inspected. I am therefore of opinion, there is ground to issue a commission, and that according to the nature and circumstances of the case; and that the common form of these orders is not evidence of the strict confined rule of law, that

that cannot be exceeded. As to what Lord Coke says in *Beverley's* case, the reason given there is not the right or true reason; for there would be no fruit of a commission of lunacy or idiotcy against a person dead. The next consideration is in what county to be directed; for it cannot be in the common form? I am of opinion, it ought to issue into *Essex*; for there is the mansion-house; which is supposed to be the place of residence, and is considered as such, as in parochial payments and other cases; and it is better to do so here than to find out the county where he last was, or the nearest county in *England* to *St. Venant*, this being of use as great part of the inquiry relates to the estate in *Essex*, where the mansion-house and great part of the estate lies.

Ex Parte Hillyard. Aug. 6, 1751.

Case 130.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

IF a debt in law is not made out, though ever so strong a case of Bankruptcy a debt in equity, it will not be a foundation for a commission of bankruptcy. must be a debt in law.

Ex Parte Price. Aug. 5, 1751.

Case 131.

PETITION to be paid his bill of costs in taking out a commission of lunacy out of the fund of the lunatick's estate, and not to be obliged to come under the commission of bankruptcy against him who took out the commission of lunacy. Solicitors have a lien on the fund.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Solicitors have this equity allowed to them to be intitled to a satisfaction out of the fund for their expences, whether it was in the way of suit, or prosecution in lunacy or bankruptcy.

Lord Donegal's Case.

Case 132.

IN 1750, a petition having been preferred for a commission of lunacy against Lord *Donegal*; Lord Chancellor ordered a personal examination, which was necessary, a caveat being put in. Upon the examination in court and asking him several questions relative to his estates in *England* and *Ireland*, the situation and value thereof, and his reasons for his expecting a great rise and improvement Lunacy. Commission denied, though of very weak understanding.

ment from the *Irish* estate, to all which he gave very rational answer, but not to any questions touching figures, as to which he could not answer the most common, *His Lordship* did not think that a foundation to grant a commission.

June 15, 1751, a new commission was applied for on matters since appearing.

Lord Chancellor said, what was done before, was by no means conclusive; and in *Lord Wenman's* case no less than three commissions were applied for, before he was found *non compos*. The matters since appearing were much more material than answering questions of figures, &c. such as making a will and revoking it, granting judgments, &c. but there having been a personal examination formerly, he thought, he could not go on now without a new inspection.

April 22, 1752, *Lord Chancellor* said, an idiot was such, as was *so ex nativitate*; and therefore the court at common law held, that finding a man idiot for so many years past was good; for finding him idiot was including, that he was such from his nativity, and the rest was mere surplusage. Lunacy is a distemper occasioned either by disorders or accident; and to one of these two cases were commissions at first confined: but in some time this part of the prerogative, this paternal care, was enlarged and extended to one, who is *non compos mentis*: but here it stopt, and this at least, this court insists, must be found to intitle any one to a commission: and therefore though a jury finds, that one is incapable of managing his affairs, yet such a finding is not sufficient, but they must expressly find him to be of unsound mind. In the present case I allow, *Lord Donegal* is of very weak understanding and of no resolution of mind: but that is not sufficient for me whereon to ground a commission. If I was to grant any, it must be that of idiotcy; for no time is mentioned, when he was of better understanding. Beside the petition is in behalf of infants, whose remainder might by this means be defeated; but this court will take care, that an infant shall never be hurt by any proposal that may be made in his name. It is objected, that there must be a very large personal estate at death of *Lord Donegal*, and if the commission is not granted, he may dispose of it by will: but fraud and imposition upon weakness is a sufficient ground to set aside a will of real, much more of personal estate; and yet such weakness is not sufficient to ground a commission. There was a case in *Lord Harcourt's* time, where, though one could not be proved a lunatick, yet from the imposition upon his weakness this court relieved against a deed obtained from him; immediately after the decree the grantee in the deed got a release of the decree from him:

him: against this also the court relieved: and I have heard it said, that Lord *Harcourt* ordered that he should not execute any future deed but with consent of the court: It may be very difficult to draw the line between such weakness, which is the proper object of relief in this court, and such as amounts to insanity; however the denying a commission does not exclude from relief against any deeds or wills, which may be improperly obtained.

Serjeant Prime *versus* Stebbing, *July 1, 1752.* Case 133.

JOHN SHEPPARD having by his marriage-articles covenanted, that the lands settled on his wife were of the annual value of 1600*l.* above all incumbrances, made his will in this manner: "I do hereby ratify and confirm my marriage-articles, and I do also give to my wife all my lands in *A. B.* for life."

The wife and her second husband brought this bill in her right to have a deficiency in her jointure-lands supplied; which was not disputed: but it was insisted, the lands devised should be taken instead thereof.

For plaintiffs. The lands devised are not equal to those covenanted to be settled, and therefore cannot be a satisfaction. In *Eastward v. Stiles*, *June 1731*, the question was, whether a devise of an estate of 85*l. per ann.* was a satisfaction in the whole or part of an agreement to settle an estate of 100*l. per ann.*? The *Master of the Rolls* held, the representatives had the same election the testator had, as the time had not elapsed; but that if the time had elapsed, he might possibly be of another opinion: but independent of that he held it no satisfaction; first because the lands were not equal in value to what was to be settled; next because it was a devise of part freehold and part copyhold, and as copyhold could not be settled, and both given together, testator could not intend a satisfaction: but the first was the governing reason. This was affirmed by Lord *King* 29 *April 1732*. Where testator says, *I give*, he intends a bounty; the same as if he said *over and above*. It has happened to be determined by a case a great while ago, that a legacy should be a satisfaction for debt; yet never unless equal or greater. This can only be a presumed satisfaction; and in case of a wife the court does not generally favour satisfaction, either where it arises under articles or dower at common law. *Lawrence v. Lawrence* (2 *Ver.* 365. *Eq. Abr.* 219.) all cases of satisfaction arise from a supposed intent; but it is clear from this will there was no such intent, it confirming the articles expressly.

For Defendants, Executors, and Legatees. This is not a case of satisfaction, but of performance. Satisfaction is, where one thing given in lieu of another, always means an equivalent: in which case it is attended with several rules, as to the value, and that it must be total, not in part, &c. whereas performance may be in part, *Leckmere v. Leckmere*. It is a performance by getting the very thing itself. *Wilcox v. Wilcox*, 2 Ver. 558. *Blandy v. Widmore*, 2 Ver. 709. 1 Wil. 324. *Lev. v. D'Aranda**, Hil. 1746-7, though partial, it is so far a performance.

* Ante 1.

Another question was made upon *John Sheppard's* further covenant; which recited, that as he was to be absolutely intitled to all his wife's personal estate, in consideration of the said portion and personal estate, and for making a further provision for his said wife and the issue of the marriage, he covenants in respect of any sum, that should come to her afterward, that he will then make a further settlement upon her in the same proportion of 100*l.* per ann. for every 1000*l.* and so for a less sum; and that if he should die in her life without issue, or if such issue should die in her life, then she should be paid back a moiety of all such sums, as he should receive as her portion. They had brought a bill for an account, of what should be due to her out of her grandfather *Chaplin's* estate, and obtained a decree for it: but he never acted under it, and refused to accept 400*l.* part of the said estate, which was offered him by the person in whose hands it was. The question was, whether the plaintiff's wife was intitled to have a further jointure of 40*l.* per ann. and also to have a moiety returned to her out of his estate; it being insisted for defendants that she was not so intitled, as her husband had not in his life actually received it?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is as extraordinary a case to come into a court of equity to supply the deficiency of a jointure or settlement, as any that has come into the court: yet the same rule of justice must prevail, and if a husband upon his marriage in consideration of disparity of years or any other personal consideration, will make a very large settlement, whatever that is, the parties claiming under it, whether wife or children, are intitled to have that carried into execution according to the intent, notwithstanding the husband has agreed in an extraordinary liberal manner, beyond what is the rule. I must therefore go by the same rule, as if the settlement was made in the usual terms.

As to the first question the defendants do not dispute, but that notwithstanding the largeness of this settlement the plaintiff's are in-

intituled to have any deficiency of jointure on the foot of the covenant supplied and made good : but insist, that the court ought to consider, and according to the rules established to allow the lands devised to be either a satisfaction or performance, or at least part-performance, of this contract, and to go so far as they may in point of value to make up the deficiency. If the court can in any case do that, they ought in this ; but I am of opinion, that if allowed in this case, I should make a precedent not agreeable to the rules established, and which might be of ill consequence and inconvenience in other cases. The same rule of justice therefore must prevail in this as in others. The husband was bound by his contract to make the jointure, then settled to the value of 1600 *l. per ann.* this was therefore what she had a right to as a purchaser ; and whatever arose from thence was her own estate, which she was intitled to as a debt from her husband to her. Then to consider what he has done by his will. In the very first clause he seems anxious for and to take care of her ; therefore it cannot be imagined he intended to prejudice her. The husband's covenant, that these lands are of such annual value, does amount to a covenant on his part to settle and make good to that extent in case of deficiency ; for she might have damages : therefore it has been argued, that when the husband by his will has given lands of the same or in part of the value, that is so far a performance of his covenant ; for that he has by that act so far made it up. It is compared to cases, where a husband covenants to settle on the eldest son of the marriage, and lets lands descend to him in fee ; which is considered as a performance so far ; and where husband covenants, and dies intestate, which was held a leaving to his wife so much ; because whether left by will or to go by the rules of law it was the same and a performance ; and indeed it was a strict performance. So where lands descended to an heir at law, who claimed in place of his ancestor a sum of money to be laid out in land. But I am of opinion, this differs from all the cases that have been of that kind. It has been considered, whether this is to be taken as a question of satisfaction or of performance : and possibly it may be more properly considered as a question of performance or part-performance : but in my opinion this is not strictly any of those cases. It is a question of construction of a will, and of intent of the husband therein. All the above-mentioned cases have been of implied satisfaction or presumed performance, where the husband or father has done nothing, as in the suffering lands to descend without any declaration what way he intended they should go. The court was there to consider from circumstances, whether there was ground to imply or infer a part-performance, the person having said nothing : but here is a will made, and therefore the question is upon the construction of that will, and the intent to be put on that construction : and he could not intend to give these lands thereby as a satisfaction

Cases of implied satisfaction and presumed performance of articles.

tion for what she was in strictness of law intitled to under the articles, but clearly as an accumulated bounty over and above. It is the same, as if he had repeated every *iota* in these articles, and said, that every clause therein should be performed, and then said, I also give her such lands. An inquiry therefore must be directed of the deficiency of the jointure; and, whatever it is, must be made good out of the estate of *John Sheppard*.

As to the next question it is perhaps the most extraordinary part of this settlement; and on that I have had some doubt: but on all the circumstances I am of opinion, she is intitled to what the plaintiffs insist upon: that is the meaning of these articles, and it is impossible for the court to get the better of it. There was at the time of the settlement a prospect of further sums, to which she would be intitled, and was to have this further settlement in consideration of it. The question is, whether this 400 *l.* or whatever else shall be coming under this decree, is to be considered as some part of the personal estate of the wife, in consideration of which she was intitled to this further settlement, and to have a moiety returned her. That depends on the covenants; there is certainly a variety and shortness of expression in the clauses; but I must found myself originally on the recital in the articles, of what was the agreement, which has very general words, and is express, that the husband shall be intitled to all the personal estate of his wife absolutely. That must mean, all, whether in possession or action, that she became intitled to during coverture, and which he might in her right have had, if he had used diligence for it is within this covenant. Whatever indeed came after the coverture was determined, which she had not possession of nor was intitled to before, would be her own estate. The decree also has expressed, that he should return a moiety, not only of what he shall have received, but of what he shall become intitled to, in her right. He clearly was so intitled to what was to rise out of *Chaplin's* estate, in law in her right, and in equity by way of absolute property, and which nothing could defeat him of: there is no ground then for the court to stop short, and draw the line at his actually receiving it. He might: it was his laches in not carrying on the decree. It is objected, where is the harm? and that it is unreasonable, she should have such a jointure and a moiety returned. But notwithstanding the shortness of the covenant which is for security of the wife's jointure, yet upon the recital the further settlement to be made on any further part of the estate coming in, was to be made not only on the wife, but on the issue. Then suppose, there had been a son, and a decree for this, and the wife had said, she would claim no additional jointure, but claimed the whole money as her's in point of law by surviving her husband, who

who had not received it, that son would have a right to oppose this and say, he was by this agreement intitled to have it settled on him in tail, and that his mother should not run away with it: the court must have so decreed upon these articles and a bill by that son. If so there must be the same construction in both cases, there being no distinction between what it would have been, if there was issue, and if not: and this was the intent of the articles. The plaintiffs therefore in strictness of right are intitled to that decree.

Scrafton versus Quincey, July 2, 1752.

Case 134.

Sir John Strange, for Lord Chancellor.

THE plaintiff came into court under a mortgage-deed in Sept. 1746, to be paid 500 *l.* advanced by him to *Thomas Robertson*, and interest, or to have the estate sold, and to be paid thereout.

Deed of appointment of lands in Middlesex pursuant to a power in a former, postponed to a mortgage subsequent to, but registered before it.

The objection thereto was, that *Robertson* had no power to convey to the plaintiff, because he had before properly conveyed or appointed the premises for benefit of others; for that by deed and fine in 1742, this estate was settled to use of him and his wife, and afterward to such uses as he and she or the survivor by deed or will should appoint. This power was by a deed in 1744, executed by the husband and wife, and appointments made therein for the benefit of the defendants; who therefore claimed prior to the plaintiff's mortgage in 1746.

It was answered, that the appointment of the uses of that deed and fine cannot be set up against the plaintiff, because the premises lie in *Middlesex*, where there is a register act, by which this deed of 1744 will be void against the plaintiff as not being registered until 1748: whereas his incumbrance was registered in 1746 immediately after the date.

For defendants it was argued, That this deed in 1744 was not of such a nature as was required by the statute to be registered; and was compared to the case of a devise of copyhold wanting the formalities in the statute of frauds; which statute has very general words; yet, though such devise has no attestation at all, it will pass; because it passes not by the will, but by the antecedent surrender; which shews, this court will take into consideration the nature of the instrument to see whether or no it is within the act of parliament. That is indeed the case of a will, this a deed or conveyance: but not a deed or conveyance within the statute, for the defendants de-

rive no interest under the deed, but it is a mere power of appointment, and so just as a will of copyhold is not within the statute of frauds. The defendants therefore will have prior title.

Master of the Rolls.

Consider the intent and meaning of the act. This case is clearly within the mischief recited; for here is a person in 1746 lending out his money on land-security, and what is to defeat him is a deed in 1744, prior to him. He is clearly the very person intended, being by a secret or pocket deed to be defeated of the incumbrance, he has advanced his money for, and taken care to register. He has used all due diligence required by the statute, and is therefore *prima facie* intitled to the relief prayed. Next to consider whether the deed or instrument is of such a nature as to be within the provision of this act. The words are general, all deeds and conveyances. This is undoubtedly a deed: was executed as such; and conveys so as to affect lands, tenements and hereditaments; because those claiming under the execution of the power claim under a deed, which, as far as it can operate, affects lands, &c. But it is said, this deed is not to be considered as a separate conveyance, but only the execution of a power; and that all of it arises under the deed in 1742. If that construction was to prevail, there would be an end of the registry and of the act of parliament; for by this means a secret deed might be set up to defeat him, who had registered before. This then being a conveyance, actually affecting the lands, though in virtue of a preceding power in another deed, is within the intent of the statute and common understanding such an incumbrance, as ought to have been registered: otherwise an innocent person induced to lend his money on land-security would be defeated. The plaintiff is therefore to be considered as a prior incumbrancer.

Case 135.

—————, July 4, 1752.

Injunction against use of a market refused.

Remedy at law. If after title at law established. 2.

MOTION for injunction to stay the use of a market set up by defendant *Brown*.

Lord Chancellor refused it, saying this was a most extraordinary attempt, of which he never knew an instance before. The plaintiff has several remedies: there may be a *Scire facias* in the name of the crown to repeal letters patent granting a market to the prejudice of his market as being too near thereto; or without the aid of the crown he may have a common action upon the case for the prejudice to his market; whereas the plaintiff comes originally into court for this injunction. What great confusion would it cause to bring all the persons who use this market into contempt upon the

injunction; and to what purpose? If in any case this court ought to interpose, it would be after the title was established at law; which is not done here, though there are so many means of doing it. Injunctions are granted to quiet in possession, as at the time of filing the bill and three years before: but that is drawn from the equity on the statutes of forcible entries. Upon the equity founded on that statute, where there has been such possession for three years, this court will prevent beforehand: but there is no such statute in this case: it is founded on the common law, which gives the above-mentioned remedies. This court will not interpose before the title at law is established: though I will not say, that even then the court will not interpose, because of the inconveniencies.

Lewin versus Lewin, July 6, 1752.

Case 126.

LEWIN having a wife and two children, by will gives an annuity of 120 *l.* to his wife during her natural life, payable half yearly, subject to limitations over if he had a son, &c. afterward directs his executors to purchase, if they could, the said annuity of 120 *l.* in government securities of ninety-nine years or some other longer term: if they could not do that, his executors should purchase lands of 200 *l.* a-year value to be settled so as that the said annuity should be to his wife free from taxes with remainders over. He directs, that if he should leave any child living at his death, his executors should out of the profits of the residue of his estate pay to his wife 30 *l. per ann.* for maintenance of such child. He gives legacies to some collateral relations and friends, and all the residue of his estate both real and personal to be put out to and for the best advantage for every child and children at his death, equally to be divided share and share alike, to be paid them at their respective ages of twenty-one or marriage.

Annuity by will to wife unprovided, on deficiency of assets not abated in proportion with other legatees, upon the intent of testator.

This bill was brought by the wife for payment of her annuity and arrears, insisting, that though on deficiency of assets the general principle was against the plaintiff, whose annuity would abate in proportion with other legatees according to later determinations, yet considering the persons for whom this provision was designed, a wife and children, and the particular manner in which it is given by the will, it ought not upon the deficiency to share the fate in common with the other pecuniary legatees. This annuity is in nature of a specifick legacy; for that is not confined to what is called an individual legacy existing among testator's property at the time of his death, but includes also any thing to be purchased by his executors. The other parts of the will shew, he did intend this provision should be clear of any deduction whatever. He has made two residues;

fidues; first where he directs the maintenance out of the profits of the residue, which constitutes a remainder of the personal estate after first taking out this annuity or the fund to purchase this annuity; and then a second or general residue after taking out the intermediate legacies.

For defendant. This is no specifick legacy in any light, not being a devise of any thing the testator had or intended to have during his own life, but a general devise of a sum of money out of his personal estate to be laid out to particular purposes: nor has the court ever from a form, in which a legacy is to be enjoyed, considered it as specifick: nor has a wife or children any preference so as not to abate in proportion with other legatees. In *Brown v. Allen*, 1 *Ver.* 21. was a very strong circumstance to shew intent of testator to prefer one legatee to the others: yet on deficiency he abated in proportion. This is not to be considered as two residues of his estate, but as one; and amounts only to this, that after this annuity, he has directed maintenance for his children out of the general residue of his estate; then gives pecuniary legacies; and then directs what should be done with the principal or capital, if any, which he did not intend to be divided among them until twenty-one or marriage.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

All these testamentary causes depend on the particular penning of the will or testament, and the intent arising, which is to be collected out of the words of the testator, and the order in which he has placed them. It is certain, that the placing the words or clauses in a will in different orders does often not induce the court to make a construction to vary the intent of the testator, but that notwithstanding the clauses are placed out of time in the will, the general rules shall prevail; as the court still lets such rules prevail on the whole, though wills are commonly inaccurately made, testator being considered as *inops consilii*. But this is a very strong case to shew, that this annuity, and the fund for it, was intended by the testator to be preferred to all the other legacies in the will. It is not suggested, that either the wife or children have any other provision; and when a man is so situated, as he was, and (as appears from other words in the will) having a prospect of more children, and no provision by settlement or otherwise under which his wife or children could claim, it was natural for him in making a disposition of his estate so to give it, that their provision should be in the first place, and not to abide by the contingency of his estate producing more or less at the time of his death, and of sharing in proportion with others, strangers in blood though friends to him,
or

or collateral relations, to whom he had given legacies: it was natural, he should not intend, they should abide by that event, though that is the general rule of law. As to annuities, whether to be considered as specifick legacies; there have been cases in this court, in which annuities in general have been so considered; because it is a direction of the testator, that his personal estate should be a fund to answer that. I believe, the first case in which that was broke in upon, was by Sir *Joseph Jekyl*, when he was first *Master of the Rolls*, in *Alton v. Medlicot*, where there was not a gift, but a direction in the will to lay so much out of the personal estate to purchase an annuity; which he held a pecuniary legacy and to abate in proportion. Afterward the court considered, that the distinction was extremely nice between such a direction in the will and a gift in the will of that annuity out of his personal estate; that in sense and reason it amounted to the same thing; therefore, and as the court endeavours to favour equality, there has been since, I believe, a determination, that even an annuity by will out of personal estate by way of direct devise or legacy should abate in proportion with pecuniary legatees: but still that is only in general cases; for the intent of the testator on the construction of the will must be followed; if he prefers such annuitant before other legatees. This case is very strong for that; for it is natural, that his wife and children should have this out of his estate before the gift to strangers; and, as appears to me, he has expressed that. There certainly may be cases wherein such a construction may be made, as the defendant's counsel insist upon as to these residues: but the question is, whether that was his intent? To find out which consider the consequence, it is this; that I must presume, he intended, the whole maintenance for his children at the time of his death should depend on this contingency; whether there would be any surplus after purchase of this annuity, (the whole of which was to go to the wife for life) and after all these pecuniary legacies to collateral relations; which were merely voluntary in him, he not being under obligation to make provision for them, as he was for his children. I am of opinion, that is an unreasonable construction, and contrary to the intent. It is said, there are cases, wherein the court has gone a great way to level legatees, and make them abate in proportion, as in *Brown v. Allen*. I do not remember the state of that case; and there may be a difference in the state of it; for if the testator says, "*Imprimis*," or "in the first place, I give such a legacy," that amounts only to the order, in which he expresses his gifts in the will; to nothing more. But if he had said "to be paid in the first place," and it had been in that case a provision for a wife, I should have doubted of that determination; and should have inclined to think, it was a declaration of his intent,

that that provision for his wife should come out of the personal estate, and be paid in the first place; because there is ground for that from the preference to a wife and children unprovided for. If indeed in that will they all stood in equal degree, it was sufficient ground for the court not to presume a preference; but if it was a provision for a wife or child unprovided, that is different: but this is a stronger case from the other observation. I am of opinion therefore, that this annuity must be preferred.

Case 137. Rudstone *versus* Anderson, July 7, 1752.

At the Rolls.

Surrender of a
lease of tithes
and taking a
new lease, after
devise thereof
with the estate;
the tithes pass
not without
republication
of the will.

TESTATRIX devises “all my lands, tenements, and hereditaments at *Westow* in *Yorkshire*, and all my tithes and ecclesiastical dues payable out of *Westow* aforesaid or any other towns or places near the same.”

At the time of making the will she was seised in fee of her estate at *Westow*, and possessed of a lease of these tithes under the Archbishop of *York*: but after making this will she surrendered that lease, and took a new one; of which she was possessed to the time of her death.

The question was, whether these tithes were to be considered as given by her will to the person, to whom *Westow* estate was given, or whether by the alteration of the nature of her interest they are separated from the estate at *Westow*, and make part of her personal estate?

That it was the same, as if she had in terms given the lease, which she held; and that this renewed lease was a revocation, was cited *Sir Thomas Abney v. Miller*, 10 June 1543. where one possessed of two different college-leases devised them particularly to two persons, and afterward surrendered one, and entered into an agreement for surrender of the other: as to the last, *Lord Chancellor* held, that did not create an ademption, nor make any alteration, for that still the legal interest was in him, though he had agreed to alter it: but as to the other actually surrendered that was altered, and the interest under the new lease would not pass: that if an ejectment was brought, and the executor had assented, the legatees could not have recovered the renewed term, because by the surrender and acceptance the term or thing itself was gone, and a new one acquired: that a house devised, which is afterward rebuilt, will pass, because that is the same thing: but a term granted, and a new one taken, is another thing. In *Lord Lincoln's* case a settlement was held a revocation of a will though contrary to the mind of

of the owner; which shews, the court goes on the same principles, without entering into the question whether it was a revocation according to the intent. Revocations are frequently adjudged here against the intent; as a devise of annuities which are afterward subscribed by act of parliament, was held a revocation in *Thompson v. Roebottom*, 22 July 20 G. 2. The case of *Carte v. Carte* in 1744. (cited on the other side) was on very particular circumstances. The father of Mr. *Carte* the historian, being seised of the equitable interest of a college-lease made a will annually, and repeated it: it happened, that after renewal of the last lease he had failed to make a will: but that was accounted for: and on those circumstances *Lord Chancellor* considered it as a kind of accident, and the intent was plainly shewn by such frequent repetitions of his will.

Sir John Strange.

No doubt but that by this will the testatrix designed, both her estate and tithes should go together, she giving them in the same breadth and sentence to the same person: however if by any accident that supposed intent cannot take effect in point of law, the rule of law must take place against that; and consequently so far as she has not well devised, it must fail. I own, I cannot see any real distinction between the words in this will “*all my tithes at Westow*”, and if it had been “*all my lease or interest in that lease at Westow*”; because that must refer to the interest she had at the time of making. That interest does not remain at the death of testatrix; for by the surrender she so far altered her interest, that what were her tithes under the lease at making the will, cannot be considered under the foot of this clause as being the same at the time of her death; but she acquired a new estate in them to commence at, and run out to, a different period of time. The question then is, whether this is in such a light as will sufficiently pass these tithes, her property in which were so greatly altered by the surrender and acceptance of a new lease? *Sir Thomas Abney v. Miller* (as stated to me) as in point; for it was held, that the lease being thus altered the interest under the new lease would not pass. There is no difference between that case and this. There it was mentioned *his estate*: here it is *my tithes*, that is, *my estate in the tithes*: so that though it may be a little harsh in a case of this nature to separate these interests, yet I cannot see how the court can say, these tithes under the description of this will have not received such an alteration in their nature as to require republication of the will. It must then be considered, that the testatrix acquired a new interest subsequent to the will; and consequently they will not pass by the words used, but go into her personal estate.

Blower

Case 138.

Blower *versus* Morret, July 10, 1752.

Legacies.

Pecuniary legates abate in proportion; notwithstanding a direction in the first place or time of payment: but it may be otherwise on a strong intent, or if it is a purchase of dower and wife intitled to dower.

LANDS were devised to trustees to be sold for payment of debts, legacies, and funeral: testator afterward gives to his wife a general legacy of 500*l.* “to be paid her immediately after my decease out of the first money belonging to me, that should be got in after my death; and it is my further will, that my wife shall be intitled to the several legacies given to her, in full satisfaction, bar, and discharge of all dower or thirds, which she might be otherwise intitled to out of my real and personal estate.”

It was insisted, this 500*l.* legacy should not abate in proportion with others, from the particular directions attending it, and being given to her for her better support and maintenance, and intended as a provision for a wife, which is always favoured: nor does this break in upon any rule of law, it not being a dispute as to creditors, but legatees. Testator has clearly given a preference to this legacy by directing it to be paid immediately; which would therefore carry interest immediately, if enough to answer all: whereas other legatees would not be intitled to interest until a year after. Beside this is given in compensation for dower; and *Burridge v. Bradyl*, 1 *Will.* 127. shews, that clauses of this kind have had weight.

For defendant. Testator meant by the direction attending this legacy only to make it due to her sooner than the other legacies, to bear interest if not paid, and not to wait until a year; and the court implies that for a child unprovided or for a wife. The year given to executors is upon an arbitrary construction put on the statute of distribution, that executors might have that time to look about them. If the plaintiff is to have a priority, it must be on this principle, that a legacy with direction to be paid immediately shall not on a deficiency abate in proportion with others, which have not that direction: but there is no such rule: this only denotes the time of payment: and though there are several times in a will fixed to several legacies, if a deficiency appears, they must all partake of it. There is nothing in the will to shew, that if testator had thought there would be a deficiency, he would have made this so. In *Clark v. Sewell*, 6 July 1744. testator gave 10,000*l.* which he directed to be paid in one month after his decease and to be laid out with all convenient speed in the fund, and the interest to his mother for life. The first question made was, whether that should not be a satisfaction for another sum of 2000*l.* Your Lordship held, it should not from that direction to be paid in one month; for that the court would lay hold of any inconsiderable circumstance in cases of satisfaction: but there was a great deficiency to answer all the legacies:

legacies: and the question was, whether this, designed as a maintenance for a mother, should be preferred? It was held, it should not, but should sustain the loss. *Hinton v. Pink*, 1 Will. 539. shews, Lord Macclesfield was not satisfied with *Burridge v. Bradyl*.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Cases of this kind, of a claim by pecuniary legatees of a priority of satisfaction, so as not to abate in proportion with others, seldom come before the court; and there are fewer in which the court has given way to claims of that kind; there must be therefore very strong words to induce the court to give way to it; for in most cases the court has disclaimed the laying weight on particular words, as the saying *imprimis* or *in the first place*, or a direction for the time of payment. All these are always disclaimed, and that upon just and solid reason; because if the court was upon such grounds to give a preference to one pecuniary legatee, there would be no end of it, considering the variety of expression and the incorrectness with which wills are frequently drawn; and therefore in *Brown v. Allen*, 1 Ver. 31. the court did not lay weight on a direction of that kind. Yet there may and have been some cases in which the court has thought the intent of the testator strong enough for it; one of which came very lately before me, *Lewin v. Lewin*; the governing reason in which case was, that the testator had constituted two residues of his estate; the first to be computed after taking out the money for the purchase of the annuity to his wife; the other to be computed after taking out the money to the pecuniary legatees: but there is nothing of that in this case. This 500 l. legacy affects the personal as well as the trust of the real estate: but the direction *to be paid, &c.* is not sufficient to give her a preference: for that only relates to the time of payment. He directs, that, whereas the general rule of law is, that legacies should not be paid until a year, this shall be paid immediately. The consequence is, that if it is not then paid, it should carry interest immediately; which is always considered as a compensation for delay of payment, and puts her in the same condition as if it was paid. If therefore he had directed several different times of payment to several legacies, it might be as well said, that those given payable sooner after his death than others should not abate in proportion. Then the other words, "*out of the first money, &c.*" are only consequential to the direction, that it should be paid immediately; they are of no operation; and only a further explanation of his intent: but still all the legatees must abate in proportion, whatever time of payment the testator has directed; for that will make no difference in right or in preference. But the most material point insisted on for the plaintiff is the clause as to dower. That may depend on some facts. There is to be sure some

colour and reason, that a man giving a legacy or provision for his wife may have an intent to prefer her; because it is a duty he owes to nature; and so of children: whereas the others are out of mere voluntary bounty or favour. If the wife was at the time of making the will intitled to any dower or thirds out of testator's estate, I am of opinion she would be intitled to a preference; and that upon the ground Lord *Cowper* went in *Burridge v. Bradyl*, that the testator by setting a price on her dower, if she thought fit to take it, it became a purchase of her dower. So in a devise of an estate for payment of debts and legacies, out of which estate the wife was intitled to dower, the testator might set a price thereon, if she should think fit to take it. The reason Lord *Macclesfield* was not satisfied with this case when cited in *Hinton v. Pink*, was, because according to the book there was a wrong state of it, barely as if it was a gift of money to be laid out in land, without stating the circumstance that it was given to purchase an annuity for the wife she releasing her dower; which was the true foundation of that determination; for I lay no weight on what is mentioned beside by Lord *Cowper* as of some weight, that the annuities were to go to the children after the wife's death; for that was only as to the hardship; nor that it was directed to be laid out in land; which will not vary the case; for it is still a pecuniary legacy, and must then abate in proportion. The strong ground was, that it was a purchase of the wife's dower by giving her a sum of money in lieu and satisfaction of and upon her releasing it; and the wife may lay hold of that, if she will. It is the same as if testator says, "I give A 500 l. on consideration that he conveys such an estate to my devisee or trustee." A. has then an option to say, that is a contract; he closes therewith, and makes it absolute; and will part with that estate for that money; and is not bound to abate in proportion with other legatees. So is this a purchase from the wife, and the price fixed by the husband, provided there was any thing to purchase; which depends on a fact, whether the wife would be intitled to dower and had a title inchoate to dower out of his real estate; for if she had a jointure in bar of dower before the making the will, I should not then consider it as a purchase, but only as a closing every thing; and the words are only of course, and amount to nothing, if she was not intitled to dower.

Case 139.

Nicols versus Gould, July 10, 1752.

Purchase of reversion not set aside for undervalue after the event, there being no fraud.

THE plaintiff was a poor dragoon, intitled to a reversion in fee of a small estate after the death of a tenant for life, to whose first and every other son there was a remainder, but who then had no son nor was married. Defendant purchased this reversion; tenant for life died in about a month after. The bill was to set aside this conveyance as being at an undervalue.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There is no proof of any fraud or imposition on the plaintiff; nothing but suspicion; and therefore it is too much to set aside this purchase merely on the value. Every purchase of this kind must be on the foot of great uncertainty as to the value. The first of this kind, which may be purchased, is a reversion after an estate-tail; which the law does not consider of any value: and yet by accident it may be a most valuable thing, and will take place in possession, if tenant in tail dies without suffering a recovery: nor can the court say, it must be computed how much it was worth on all the contingencies, as of the health of tenant in tail, &c. according to *Demoivre's* rule. The next interest to that is the purchase of a reversion after an estate for life with contingent remainders to the children of tenant for life; which is a better reversion than the other; as it cannot be barred by tenant for life, until the contingent remainder comes *in esse*, and attains twenty-one, to join in the conveyance. But still this is liable to uncertainty and difficulty in computation as to the value, which depends on such a number of chances; as whether tenant for life is healthy and likely to have children, (in which case the reversion would be worth but little) that it is impossible to compute it: and though they have rules in *London* to make such a computation, still there must be strict evidence as to it; for no general rule can be laid down, it depending on the particular circumstances of every person. Then will a court of equity, after the contingency has fallen out one way, enter into consideration of the value? If indeed there was any degree of fraud or imposition, the court would come at it and set it aside: but there is none. The plaintiff was in the best situation to know the value, not being at a distance from the estate or from the tenant for life and his family. Looking on the event, it was purchased at an undervalue: but had he lived longer and had children, it had been different. It is asked, where is the harm, because defendant will have his money again? but I cannot set it aside without making him pay costs; and that argument might be made use of on every advantageous purchase, that he might have his principal and interest again. Some weight is to be laid on the behaviour of the plaintiff, who seemed satisfied, and did not complain of it until after death of tenant for life without issue; which if it had not been the case, I never should have had this suit; and yet there would be just the same ground, if the tenant for life was still living. These kind of purchases are a sort of chance: it is too hard to come at it, unless there was any proof of fraud or imposition, which then the court would lay hold of. Let the bill be dismissed, but not with costs; the defendant has already a very good bargain.

Ratray

Case 140.

Rattray *versus* Darlay, July 6, 1752.

Account, immediately directed, tho' by the contract payment postponed until death; as on covenant to leave by will so much, &c.

THE defendant lived with a woman thirteen years as man and wife, and had several children by her; she afterward married the plaintiff, they brought a bill to oblige defendant to account for the rents and profits of an estate belonging to her, which he had received during the cohabitation. Defendant brought a cross bill for account of the money expended by her, and setting up an agreement in writing by which he was to leave her by his will so much as he received of the rents and profits of her estate, deducting thereout what she stood indebted to him.

It was urged, that defendant should be obliged to give security, that he would make that provision.

Against which was cited a case, of a husband, who by marriage-agreement covenanted to leave a particular sum by will to his wife: but having been extravagant, and being old, and others getting about him, the trustees in the settlement brought a bill to have that sum secured: the court would not alter the agreement or security, on which the parties relied; it was to be done by his will, and though some circumstances arose why it should be reasonable to vary therefrom, yet the court would not do it. So here the court will not alter the nature of it, and make this contract to leave by will an immediate demand or obligation to give security to do so, to make that a debt on his estate now, which he voluntarily agreed to do by will.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The original bill is by a woman, whom, as there is no proof before the court of her being bad before, the court must take to have been modest until seduced by defendant: though there is said to be proof of her having lived with others before, but none that can be read, because not put in issue. There is no necessity to put every fact of misbehaviour in issue. Some general charges of that kind will do; which is the rule. This is a cause of great imputation and reproach on both parties, especially on the defendant, who has brought a cross bill for an account in general of all the money expended in housekeeping, &c. during this long cohabitation. Though it mentions the agreement, yet it is upon the sense and construction the defendant himself puts on it. It is like the common case on marriage-agreements, where a father on marriage of his daughter gives a sum of money with her, and covenants by will

will to give so much more: that is an agreement; and creates a debt on his estate; whether he leaves it by will or no: in what order and priority of payment is of a different consideration. This is a contract to leave by his will, what should be the amount, of what he received of her estate, deducting thereout only what she was indebted for. Suppose, by marriage-contract husband agreed to leave his wife at his death so much, as should be the amount of her fortune, which was an uncertain thing: upon a bill by the *prochein amy* of the wife to have this directed accordingly, the court must direct the account to be taken in life of the party, though the money was not to be paid until after his death: for otherwise it would be impossible to have the account taken: so that there are several cases, wherein an immediate account must be taken notwithstanding by the contract of the parties the payment must be postponed. This is a contract to leave so much; and if you construe it to be a voluntary bounty or legacy, I will set it aside for fraud.

The cross bill dismissed with costs: and defendant to pay costs on the original bill to this time.

Attorney General *versus* Brereton.

Case 141.

Brereton *versus* Tamberlane, July 10, 1752.

THIS cause came before the court on two bills. First an information at the relation of *Tamberlaine* to establish his right to the chapel of *Flint* as curate there; to have an account of profits of that curacy for his own benefit; and to have possession of the chapel delivered to him for performance of divine service. The cross bill was by *Brereton* as vicar of the parish of *Northop*, to which this chapelry was said to be annexed, to establish his right and for account of the profits belonging thereto, and that he might have possession delivered to him for performance of divine service.

Charities.
A perpetual curacy or chapel from having parochial rights and privileges, and the inhabitants right to service, baptism, &c. and the curate's rights and dues, as small tithes and surplice fees.

Three questions were made. First what was the nature and species of this chapelry of *Flint*? Secondly in whom the right of nomination of the curate or chaplain is; whether in the defendant the bishop of *St. Asaph* for the time being as ordinary; or in the rector, who was a *secure* rector (which was now this bishop by annexation under the *Stat. 12 Anne*;) or in the vicar? Thirdly whether the rector or vicar, or whoever has the right of nomination has the right of amotion of the curate or chaplain at his will and pleasure?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Bill lies in name of chaplain or curate to establish his right: but not an information in name of Attorney General, unless for charities, as augmentations of vicarages are.

Before I consider the questions upon the merits, I will consider two objections; the first of which occurred to me during the course of the cause, and weighed somewhat with me: that this is an original information to establish this right as a perpetual curacy. Now I do not know that it belongs to the jurisdiction of this court to determine all sorts of ecclesiastical rights of this kind, though it does belong to it to establish rights of nomination or election at large to a chapelry and curacy; and there have been several instances of it; some of late in the *North*: but that has been by bill by the curate or chaplain in his own name, or by the person claiming that right: but this is an information in the name of the *Attorney General*; which can be only for a charity; and therefore I doubted at the opening of the cause, whether it could proceed in that manner. But I am satisfied as to that by looking into the act of parliament 29 C. 2. cap. 8. relating to augmentations of vicarages. These augmentations are charities to be sure: but at the latter end of that statute is a clause which considers them as charities within the intent of the *stat. 43 Eliz.* This is not indeed a proceeding by way of commission of charitable use, (which commission is founded on that statute) but is by the old way of proceeding in name of the *Attorney General* in this court for the charity: but that proceeding is not confined to cases considered as charities before the statute of charitable uses, but all others are taken to be within the extensiveness of this proceeding in name of the *Attorney General*: which remedy may be applied here. These augmentations may therefore be considered as charities; and proper to come into this court to establish as such; which is an answer to that difficulty.

On information for charity, tho' the title mistaken, if a title appears, it must be established.

Another preliminary objection (and which was mentioned at the bar) is, that the relator founds his case on a right of nomination in the rector or bishop, who is united with the rectory; and the defendants say, if the relator has any right, it is on the nomination of the vicar, and that he himself has been so nominated; and then, though a right appears in him, he must recover according to the right, he has made; for he must recover both *secundum allegata et probata*. This I am of opinion would be so, if this had been a bill in his own name; for then I could never make a decree to establish a right appearing in him contrary to that set up. But this being an information in name of the *Attorney General* is an answer to that also; for though such an information to establish a charity is mistaken in the circumstance of laying it, yet if it appears, there is a charity, and the right appears in the whole cause, that information cannot be dismissed, but a decree must be made to establish that charity. That doctrine has been frequently laid down in this court and allowed; because it is considered as a proceeding by an officer of

of the crown; and as the King is *pater patriæ*, the information therefore must not be dismissed: so that though the relator has mistaken his title, but however in the cause a title comes out for him and his successors, he must have that title established.

This brings it to the three questions properly made at the bar on the merits: but they will be reduced to two, for the third must follow the determination of the first.

As to which question, whether this is of the nature of a perpetual curacy or chapelry, or whether temporary only at the nomination of the vicar and amoveable at his will and pleasure like a common curate, I am of opinion, upon the evidence before me, and on the best consideration, that this is a perpetual curacy or chapel. To determine whether it is so or no, consider it first as to the rights and privileges appearing to belong to the chapel itself: next as to the right of the inhabitants within this district: thirdly as to the rights and dues belonging to the curate of this chapelry. If all these rights concur to shew the nature of a perpetual curacy, that must determine it.

As to the first consideration it appears, this is a chapel belonging to a county town. It has belonging to it all sorts of parochial rights, as clerk, wardens, &c. all rights of performing divine service, baptism, sepulture, &c. which is very strong evidence of itself, that this is not barely a chapel of ease to the parish to which it belongs, but stands on its own foundation; *capella parochialis*, as it is called in *Hob.* and this differs it greatly from the chapels in *London*, which are barely chapels of ease commencing within time of memory, which have not baptism or sepulture; all which sort of rights belong to the mother-church; and the rector or vicar of the parish, who has the cure of souls, has the nomination; as the rector of *St. James's* or *St. Martin* has; but they have no parochial rights, which clearly belong to this chapel. Nor have any of the inhabitants of of this chapelry a right to bury in the parish-church of *Northop*; and that right of sepulture is the most strong circumstance; as appears from *Selden's Hist. Tithes*, 3 Vols Fol. Column 1212, to shew, that it differs not from a parish-church.

The next circumstance to determine this question is the right of the inhabitants, *viz.* to have service performed there, and baptism, and christening, and having no right to resort to the parish-church of *Northop* for these purposes, nor to any other place if not here: nor are they or have they been rateable to the parish-church of *Northop*. It was determined in the case of *Castle Birmidge*, *Hob.* 66. that the having a chapel of ease will not exempt the inhabitants within that district from contributing to repairs of the mother-church,

unless it was by prescription: which would be then a strong foundation, that it must be considered as a perpetual curacy or chapelry.

Augmen-
tations of vica-
rages continu-
ed for ever by
St. 29 C. 2.

Next as to the rights and dues of the curate. All these concur to shew it to be a perpetual curacy, and not at all at the will and pleasure of the vicar; for the curate has always enjoyed the small tithes and surplus fees: nor is there any evidence to shew that the vicar has received the small tithes. Beside here is an augmentation made by Mr. Stone the *secure* rector in 1674. of 30 *l. per ann.* to be divided between the vicar and curate, as the bishop should think fit. Bishop Barrow in 1676. decreed 10 *l.* to the vicar for ever, and 20 *l.* to the curate for ever: this was reserved on a lease for twenty-one years, at the end of which then it determined. Nor is it shewn, that any new lease was made with new reservations: yet it has been paid ever since constantly: and that must be on the statute 29 C. 2. c. 8. which provides, that these augmentations should continue for ever, and that notwithstanding there is no reservation *de novo* on a new lease. It was then apprehended to be within that statute: which could be only on the foundation of its being a perpetual curacy: it would be otherwise absurd and ridiculous if amoveable at the will of the rector or vicar, and contrary to the intent of the donor and bishop, whose divisions and directions would then signify nothing.

On union of
parishes, one
is frequently
the parish
church, the
less as a paro-
chial chapel,
not as a cha-
pel of ease.

Next as to what arises rather from presumption and conjecture, I am of opinion upon the result of the whole evidence, that this was once a distinct parish, and afterward united to the parish of *Northop* on certain terms, though the memory of it and the instrument is lost. Since that time *Flint* has been considered as a parochial chapel, to which these old rights have been attendant. There are several instances of that kind in this kingdom, of an union of parishes, where one is considered as the parish-church, the lesser is kept up as a parochial chapel for convenience of the inhabitants, and after that the presentation has been to the principal *cum capella annexa*. *Savil* 17. and these parochial rights are evidence of this; it might be terms of the union, and will amount to a composition; and so it might grow up: and this supports all the evidence, and accounts for the whole: the expression *cum capella annexa* (as the presentation to *Northop* has been) supposes that; for there is no such thing as a presentation to a parish-church *cum capella annexa* in *London*, where there are chapels of ease within time of memory; which are of no consideration in law, but merely voluntary and *ad libitum*, and gain no right: but this expression imports a foundation of a chapel, and that with such rights.

As to the next question, I am of opinion, that the right of nomination of the curate to this chapel is in the vicar. As to the bishop's right he submits the whole to the court; nor is there any proof of a nomination by the bishop; and it was more natural, that on the union it should be in the vicar, who, (as it was by that union constituted) had the general cure of souls, than in the rector. The only colour to say, it was in the rector was, that the only act appearing in writing was the bishop's licence to preach. That is only the ordinary act of diocesan: but there is considerable evidence as to a nomination by the vicar. It is objected, that here is no nomination in writing, and therefore though there is by parol, it is evidence of a voluntary temporary curate at the will and pleasure of the vicar; for that a nomination to a perpetual curacy ought to be in writing. Most regularly it ought but I do not know, it has been determined that that is necessary. A presentation to a church need not be in writing, but may be by parol. 1 Sid. 426. Co. Lit. 120. If so, I do not see, why a nomination to a perpetual curacy may not be by parol; and the usage in the parish is very strong, that it is in the vicar.

The third question depends on the first; for if this is perpetual curacy, it conveys an interest for life unless deprived by the ordinary in proper course of law; and then it is a contradiction in terms to say, that a perpetual curacy is removeable at will and pleasure. Here is indeed one instance of it; but that was an act of power, and it would be absolutely inconsistent with this charity, which I have now established by this decree; for if the vicar did remove, I am of opinion, this 20*l. per ann.* would be rather lost than go to the vicar. Though the collations by the bishop are *cum capella de Flint annexa*, that confirms no more to the vicar than the right of nomination to the curacy. That might be part of the terms of the union; of which I think, there is a violent presumption. I am the more induced to be of this opinion from the reason and utility of the thing, and as answering the purpose of such foundation; which was, that there should be a resident minister at *Flint*: whereas if I should hold, that the vicar of *Northop* might take this into his own hands, and perform divine service there, the consequence would be, that *Flint*, which is a corporate and county town, and so taken notice of by the donor and the bishop, would be served only occasionally by the vicar of *Northop* preaching and reading prayers on *Sunday*; which is not half the duty of a minister.

I shall therefore determine accordingly, unless either side desire to try it at law.

Which was declined.

Case 142.

Trevanion *versus* Vivian, July 14, 1752.*Master of the Rolls for Lord Chancellor.*

Devise of residue of personal to A. if he attain twenty-one, means the profits to accumulate.

A Devise was made of the residue of personal estate if the party should attain twenty-one.

That the profits in mean time are given, and should accumulate, were cited two cases: first, *Green v. Ekins*, 6 Dec. 1742. where the residue of personal estate was given to such son of his daughter, as should attain twenty-one. *Lord Chancellor* held, the profits in mean time were not undisposed of, but should accumulate. Next *Butler v. Butler*, 22 June 1744. where a residue devised to A. if he should attain twenty-one; if he should not attain twenty-one, then over: *Lord Chancellor* would not suffer it to be argued, as having determined it before, that they should accumulate and make part of the residue. So here it makes part of that residue, not like an executory devise of land, which plainly descends to heir at law in mean time.

Case 143.

Hele *versus* Gilbert July 16, 1752.*At the Rol's.*

Devise of arrears of interest: arrears of annuity pass.

DE V I S E of "all my arrears of rent and interest due at my death."

Testator had at his death no arrears of rent, having collected it all in money, but had arrears of an annuity.

His Honour held, that though this clearly could not pass under arrears of rent, yet they might properly within testator's intent under the arrears of interest, especially as in another part of his will called this annuity his estate; which shewed he considered it as such.

On devise of "all my estate" arrears of an estate due at his "death" will be assets in hands of executors, only the rents accruing afterward passing thereby.

Cbina pass under furniture: unless on devise by shopkeeper.

Another question was, whether some *Cbina* would pass by the word *furniture*.

Held, they would, this not being the case of a shopkeeper, as a brasier, &c. who if he makes such a devise under the general word

word *furniture* only the goods of his trade will be construed to pass; as determined by the House of *Lords*, where the decree in *Chancery* was reversed.

Lewis *versus* Nangle, *July*, 17, 1752.

Cafe 144.

BILL by a devisee to redeem: but heir at law not made a party. Heir need not be party to bill by devisee to redeem.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Every devisee of a mortgaged estate, that brings a bill to redeem, need not make heir at law party. If the plaintiff claims to have the will established, it is necessary: if only a title under the will, it is not.

Ward *versus* Turner, *July* 20, 1752.

Cafe 145.

THE end of the bill was to have a transfer of 600 *l.* new *South Sea* annuities made to the plaintiff as executor of *John Mosely*, and to have certain specifick parts of the personal estate of *William Fly*, dead, intestate, delivered or made over to the plaintiff. Another prayer of the bill was to have an account of what was due to *Mosely* for services performed to *Fly*, against whose estate this demand was made. Delivery necessary to donation *mortis causa*; and delivery of receipts for *South Sea* annuities not sufficient, tho' strong evidence of the intent.

The case, the plaintiff made, was this: he was executor of *Mosely*, who was related to *Fly* by affinity, having married his aunt; that *Fly* had great obligations to *Mosely*, who took care of him in his infancy; and at his house *Fly* used to come from school, when it broke up: and afterward *Mosely*, who in the latter part of his life appeared to be in very mean circumstances, lived with *Fly* as his servant until *Fly*'s death; had his victuals there; performed services to him; and had now and then a shilling given him: from thence *Fly* made profession of a strong intent to do for him at his death, and had great kindness for him; in pursuance of which, as *Fly* drew near his end, being in a very bad state of health, during that time he made *Mosely* several donations *mortis causa* in prospect of death. Four times were fixed on by the witnesses, of which several were examined in the cause, speaking of actual gifts and declarations supporting them. First 1st *January* 1746, which was spoken to by the porter of *Furnival's Inn*. The second 6^{to} *February* 1746, which was the principal proof relied on by the plaintiff to support the gift of these annuities, and was proved by *Fly*'s barber; who being sent for by *Fly* found *Mosely* with him,

him, and no other; and swore to the particular words used, and declarations made, that *Fly* said to him; viz. "I intended to give him (speaking of *Mosely*) *Longford* estate for his life: but I have considered of it; and that which is worth 40 *l.* a-year to another, is not worth so much to him; for if the tenants wanted an abatement for repairs, he would allow it; and therefore I will do better for him." That thereupon *Fly* went to his *escritoir*, and taking three papers said, "I give you *Mosely* these papers, which are receipts for *South Sea* annuities, and will serve you, after I am dead." The third 23^d *February*, which was proved by one, who swore, that in his presence *Fly* said, "*Mosely* I give you all the goods and plate in this house." Forthly, 3^d *March* by the said barber, who swore, that *Fly* declared to him and to another person, who only were present, that he gave to *Mosely* all his household goods, money, arrears of rent, and every thing that should be found in his house except his sword, gun, and books; and that this together with those three receipts would make 2000 *l.* that he wished a gentleman of his acquaintance had his sword and gun, but all the rest he gave to *Mosely*. He died in *April* following.

These were argued to be so many declarations of bounty, supported by so many witnesses at different times. Two questions arose, First, whether in fact these things were given? Secondly whether properly given in point of law? Donations *mortis causa* are derived from the civil law. *Justinian's Inst. lib. 2. tit. 7.* shews the nature of them; and that in general any thing is properly the subject matter of such donations, that may be the subject matter of a legacy or donation *inter vivos*. Either rights in possession or reversion are capable of being so given. It is not necessary that donor should have a legal interest; an equitable will do, when by no act he can pass the legal property; consequently the formalities accompanying such donation must be according to the subject of the gift. Livery then cannot be always necessary; as in a *chose in action* or simple contract-debt, which lie not in livery, *choses in action* were not assignable: but now are in this court as much as things in possession by the rules of law: and therefore this court will carry into execution a voluntary gift of a *chose in action*. In *Lawson v. Lawson*. 1 *Wil.* 441. such a gift of a note drawn on a goldsmith, which in point of law passed nothing, was held good. *Jones v. Selby*. *Pre. Chan.* 300. *Gold v. Rutland*, *Eq. Ab.* 347. In *Bailey v. Snelgrove* 11 *March* 1744. Mrs. *Baily*, going out of town in a bad state of health, gave her maid a bond executed to her by a third person; saying, if *I die, it is yours*. She died intestate; the plaintiff was her administrator: thus it stood on defendant's answer. A bill being brought for discovery and delivery of effects of the intestate in hands of defendant, the question was, whether the nature of the property was capable of being so given? His Lordship held, it might

might as well as a specifick chattel: though no legal property passed thereby, nothing but the paper, a bond being evidence of a debt, and the intent being to give the debt not the paper, the court held it a good donation *mortis causa*, comparing it to the property which passes by assignment of a bond, which passes nothing in point of law, and the assignee must make use of the other's name for recovering on it. That case rested singly on the averment in the answer: in this is strong evidence. The court there put this case; that if a chattel in possession had been bought by the intestate, and a bill of sale made to a trustee for her use, the property would have been in the trustee, and the equitable interest in the *cestuy que trust*, who if she had given this chattel so circumstanced to the defendant, it would have been good.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That is a case put upon an equitable interest. There the chattel itself must have been delivered.

For plaintiff. Tho' these donations differ in some respects from testamentary dispositions, yet they participate in a great degree; for like that it is a declaration of his mind, what he will have with his property, when he is no more; he does not part with the property or even the use of the thing in his life; for that would prevent any such disposition from being ever made. Where the thing lies in livery, the livery is not made to complete, it is only evidence of, the gift: and if the moment after possession delivered (with a declaration that he intended, if he died, it should be the donee's absolutely) the thing was restored by donee, that would not tend to defeat the gift.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I apprehend it would; and that such an instantaneous gift and taking back would not do, which it would be dangerous to admit.

For plaintiff. But where livery cannot be, the best evidence the nature will admit, being only to shew the mind of donor, will do. Here is such a delivery over, as is sufficient evidence of the gift of these annuities. They certainly lie not in livery, there being other ways of passing them. There is no evidence of them but one's name being placed in the book. The delivery then with strong words of gift of these receipts, which were the only symbol of his property, was as much as he could possibly do toward giving it, except a mere transfer in the books, which was not necessary, nor could he conveniently do that; and it was giving with a prospect of not recovering of that particular illness; for that of itself would be a revocation: but he died of it, and within two months of the

gift. In cases of livery of seisin it is not necessary to deliver the thing itself or any part; for coming upon the land, and delivering a gold ring thereon is enough, 1 *Rep.* 44. though not participating of land: but there ought to be clear proof of the intent, which there is here. Next as to the specifick things it is said, there was not sufficient possession delivered: but in such a number of things it is not necessary every one should be delivered. The subject of the gift is, what was then in the house. If a delivery is absolutely necessary, the plaintiff has not indeed proved it: but *Mosely* was actually in the house with him; and is then as much in possession as if actually delivered to him; which is not necessary if he is in possession. If one is recited to be in possession of a house, livery is not necessary. If one does as much as he can towards possession, it is all that is required; as delivery of the key of a warehouse; so of a piece of parchment, delivery of a ship and of the actual possession of it to the mortgagee, as determined by your Lordship in *Brown v. Williams*. No more could be done here; for he could not carry the goods out of the house; and he was then in possession. However, as this is a bill for discovery of assets, if plaintiff is not intitled to these gifts, he is at least to a reasonable satisfaction for his services.

On the part of the defendant, administrator of *Fly*, there was no evidence to impeach the evidence of the gift, but to invalidate it to a certain degree, principally from the behaviour of *Mosely* after death of *Fly*, as not like one who thought he had a right to these donations from him; for it was sworn, that being at the house of *Fly* at his death, he continued there until *Midsummer*; he did not say, these goods were his own upon application made to buy them, but that they were *Turner's* the administrator and next of kin; sent to *Turner*, desiring him to take them away; that they were sent away, and *Mosely* assisted in packing them up, and declared, he would not go into mourning, for that *Fly* had given him nothing, that he could help. A donation *mortis causa*, (though there is indeed such a thing in the law), is of a very delicate nature, and from its import merely voluntary.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

[Such donations are subject to debts.

For defendant. If there is no distinction between testamentary dispositions and such a donation, and there is a former will, the statute of frauds will be overturned, which relates to all wills of personal estate: therefore since the statute, no nuncupative will or codicil can be set up, where a will was made before.

before. The statute has expressed an anxiety as to nuncupative wills, not taking them away absolutely for fear of breaking in upon the real intent, but, seeing them liable to uncertainty, litigation, and perjury, has put several restrictions on them: whereas if the said distinction is not observed, a nuncupative will may take place, proved at any time, and that by a single witness, where more than one would not be ventured for fear of contradiction, and that at any distance of time, nor confined to 30 l. as the statute required. A testamentary disposition is a gift in case of, and only has operation, after death. A donation then cannot be in general in case of death; but must have something peculiar differing from legacies. The characteristick of it is this. It is not on a general apprehension of approaching mortality, but where the particular recovery of the donor is annexed by way of defeasance to the gift, which would be otherwise absolute. It may be confined to an immediate illness; but the *Roman* laws puts the case of a man's going a journey, which was formerly more hazardous than now: so if going to battle, and in case he is killed, and makes that gift: so if under bad state of health he makes a complete gift, if he does not recover: that must mean some circumscribed time or illness, and there must be some sort of defeasance arising from the recovery or return home to these donations; otherwise it is an absolute gift. But though liable to be defeasanced, it must be a complete gift before *inter vivos*; and that is the reason, the ecclesiastical court has no probate or jurisdiction over it, as it would if testamentary. Next to consider what is meant by delivery in the *Roman* and civil law-books, as far as admitted in this country; for as it is in all those books, it will not hold here. Where delivery is necessary to make that complete *inter vivos*, if a man said, I give it, and there is no delivery, it would be *nudum pactum*, there could be no title or action. Then delivery is there put only to shew, that the gift must be complete. In that new species of property the actual delivery is supplied by that, which is equivalent to delivery; as in case of a ship delivered by bill of sale, which is defeasanced in case of recovery; that is enough: but it must be complete according to the nature of the thing, otherwise it cannot be distinguished from a legacy. A delivery is necessary according to *Swinb.* in each of three instances, he puts, of a donation *mortis causa*. *Lawson v. Lawson* turned upon it, and could not be admitted but on that foundation. There cannot indeed be such a donation by parol of a book or simple contract debt, or of arrears of rent; because there can be no delivery; and no inconvenience, because it may be easily done another way. Taking it in case of a specifick thing, as a horse, &c. possession is altered, (as *Swinb.* supposes) and then donee shall enjoy it: otherwise no difference between this and a testamentary disposition.

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This donation therefore takes effect: but still liable to that contingency. There is no case that donor must keep possession in his life; how then can he have the use or benefit of it, taking it to be a specifick thing? As to a *chose in action* being allowed to be given, that was a new case before *Your Lordship*; for *Baily v. Snelgrove*, which was of a bond, was the first ever determined upon any thing of a *chose in action*. The reason the court went on there was, that it was as complete a gift as could be made of a bond; for writing not being necessary to assignment of a bond, if all was delivered that could be, all that was required was done. It was a substantial gift of the paper and seal, without which there could be no recovery on it. A bond carries the debt itself, not only evidence or security of it; therefore is considered as *bona notabilia*, and not only where the party dies, like other *choses in action*; and a court of equity does not say, a bond must be delivered by deed in writing. In *Richards v. Syme* on gift of a mortgage to mortgagor by giving him the deeds *Your Lordship* held, that if that fact was proved, it was a gift of all the money on the securities, and not within the statute of frauds. So that the bond there is as completely given as can be, supposing that parol evidence is sufficient, and writing not necessary. If that was not the ground of that determination, and no delivery requisite, but that it is to remain with donor until his death, and only a formal delivery, it will not differ from the inconveniencies intended to be guarded against by the stat. of frauds; for then every loose declaration will be set up notwithstanding solemn wills before executed. It is dangerous to support parol declarations upon gifts of this kind, not accompanied with a visible act to give notice to all the world, as delivery: and the statute has thought it better, that some of these true gifts should fail, (as has frequently happened for want of the solemnities thereby required,) than that there should be a publick inconvenience. If a common *chose in action* cannot be delivered, how can this? which is stronger, as it is capable of being assigned by a proper transfer. If indeed one goes as far as he can, the court will perhaps supply it; as in those cases on the stat. 7. 1. in *Ryal v. Rowles*, but that not the case here. *Fly* was a man of business, an attorney; yet waits near two months without doing that which would effectuate it. That argument of the testator's having time to make a perfect gift, is often used in *Doctors Commons* on imperfect wills. This court will never support that as a donation, which may be a gift by will; for there must be a difference between them.

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Lord Chancellor in the outset laid the other goods out of the case, of which there was no pretence of any delivery; which would be very dangerous; and that it was impossible to make
such

such a complex donation *mortis causa* as a general bequest of all one's personal estate, or of a residue without some proof of delivery; for that would be the same as a nuncupative will: and it was a pity the stat. of frauds did not set aside all these kinds of gifts. But what weighed with him was, whether the stock without delivery was a good donation *mortis causa*: which question considering the vast proportion of property in such funds was of infinitely greater consequence than the value of it: therefore he should not determine it hastily. If courts of justice were compellable by rules of law to suffer such gifts without any transfer to prevail, it could not be helped; but then the stat. of frauds relative to nuncupative wills would be so far nugatory and vain.

Having taken time to consider. *His Lordship* now delivered his opinion.

There are two general questions. What is the weight and strength of the evidence in point of fact? Next the result of that evidence in point of law, or the law arising on this fact?

As to the first, and as to the conviction arising therefrom, there is to be sure very strong evidence on the part of the plaintiff of *Fly's* general intention of bounty, which is not to be disputed: but as to evidence of the particular gifts I cannot help taking notice, that the declarations relied on by the plaintiff to prove them are all made to persons of extreme low degree, his porter, barber, &c. It is observable also, that *Fly* was bred an attorney; had some property, some real estate, was a man of business; and must be presumed from his profession and education, to know something of what the law required to make a will; and certainly it would be more easy for him to have made a will in writing, than to have taken all these several steps to give away these parts of his estate. It is likewise observable, that the behaviour of *Mosely*, and his declarations after the death of *Fly*, are some impeachment and weakening of the plaintiff's evidence; for it is extraordinary, that, if he thought himself intitled, he should not insist upon these goods being his own instead of suffering them to be taken away and assisting therein. At the same time, if I was to ground my opinion upon any objection to the evidence in point of fact, I should not determine it, but send it to be tried; for this is as proper a case to be tried as any other. It is not insisted upon by the plaintiff as a testamentary cause; for if he was to insist on that, it would overturn his demand, as he has no *probate*: but is insisted on as a donation *mortis causa*. *Trover* might be brought for it; for it would transfer the property: but though I have searched for it, I do not find a case of that kind in the books, of such an action at law: but it might be tried at

law, was there a foundation for it: and if I was to ground my opinion upon the evidence in point of fact, I would direct a trial. But according to my opinion there is no reason to give the parties that trouble; for next, supposing the fact well proved, the consideration is the result in point of law.

The relief sought is founded upon these gifts being good donations *mortis causa*.

First as to any specifick parts (if they may be so called) except the annuities. They are clearly not good (as I declared at the hearing) there being no pretence of any delivery in any shape whatever. They are so general, as in my opinion, if they prove any thing, prove an intent to make a nuncupative will of all his personal estate (this is exclusive of the annuities) saying, *Mofely* I give you all the plate and goods in this house, or, if I die, all are yours: but nothing was delivered. It is said, he had possession by living in the house, and did not want delivery; but he lived as a servant who had no possession: so that if a servant had them in custody, it would be a possession for his master. The other declarations are not only of the goods, but of all money and arrears of rent, and to extend almost to every thing: consequently there is no ground to carry it so far; and it is impossible to support any of these as gifts in prospect of death, as I have declared already.

Next as to the gift of this annuity. If the witnesses deserve credit, it is strong evidence of a general intent of bounty: but it rather turns against the plaintiff, for it shews a general intent to give the whole to *Mofely*, by making a nuncupative will or wills at different times. If that was to be admitted to support these several gifts as so many donations *mortis causa*, it would overturn not only the letter but the whole spirit and intent of the stat. of frauds. But notwithstanding, suppose this gift of the annuities was just, as if it was a distinct and independent donation from the other matters insisted on as gifts, the question is, whether it is such a gift as the law of *England* allows as a donation *mortis causa*? First, the fact of the gift is proved only by one witness: whereas the civil law, from which this doctrine is taken, requires five witnesses thereto: for *Justinian*, when he allowed these gifts, was apprehensive of fraud arising from them; and takes notice in that very chapter relied on for the plaintiff, that he had made a constitution to regulate it, that it should be in the presence of five, limited in point of value, &c. which shews, how jealous he was of it. Beside the witness swears to this in very formal words: and though it is pretty hard to object to a witness as loose and uncertain on one hand, and the

contrary on the other, yet this argues either a very strong memory or a pretty strong assurance in swearing. But the express gift, as he swears, is only of the three receipts. That is the form of the gift. Taking it therefore according to the substance of the gift, that this amounted to a declaration, that *Fly* by giving these receipts intended to give the annuities, upon this the principal point arises; whether delivery of the thing given by way of donation *mortis causa* is necessary; and, if necessary, whether this delivery of the receipts is sufficient delivery of the thing given by way of donation *mortis causa*? I am of opinion, that delivery is necessary to make good such a gift; and that the delivery of these receipts for the consideration-money of the purchase of them was no sufficient delivery to validate this act. To clear this, it is proper to consider the notion of a donation *mortis causa* according to the civil and Roman law and the law of England. According to the civil and Roman law there is great variety, and several passages therein are pretty difficult to reconcile. *Digest*, Lib. 39. Tit. 6. Law 38. requires, that both donor and donee should be present at the time of the gift, *quo præsens præsenti dat*; which looks as if delivery was intended at the time. It is *quo* there and in several editions: but in the Lyons edition of *Gothofredus' Corpus* it is *quod*; which makes it sense. Next in *Digest*, same Tit. Parag. 1. it speaks of it throughout as a restoring of the thing, if donor should recover: as if a restitution was to be. It is proper to take notice, that in the Roman law there were three kinds of donations *mortis causa*. And in Voet on the *Pandect*, Lib. 39. Tit. 6. Parag. 3. in his 2d Vol. Page 710. the division is agreeable to that made of these donations by Swinb. The first is a donation by one in no present danger, but in consideration of mortality, if he died; and this is strictly compared to a legacy; for the property was to pass at the death, not at the time. The second kind is, where the property passed at the time defeasible in case of an escape from that danger in view or of recovery from that illness. The third was, where, though he was moved with the danger, yet not thinking it so immediate as to vest the property immediately in the person, but put it in possession of the person as an inchoate gift to take effect, in case he should die. Vinius's Comment on this place of Justinian is more particular; puts the remedy by action, donor might have, in case he repented or revoked. That is on the last kind of donation *mortis causa*; where he did not part with the property immediately, he should have a real action: but where he actually parted with the property, but the gift was to be defeated by his revocation, or recovery, or escape from that danger he was in, *conditionem habeat*, (which is a personal action) to make the irritancy, or to recover damages for the thing: so that it differed not but in the nature of the action. And in Calvin's Lexicon, &c. that is the distinction. Swinb. on the

Nature of a
donation mortis causa.

the text I have quoted, implies there should be a delivery; saying, that legacies differ from such donations; for that legacies are not delivered by the testator; but to be paid or delivered by the administrator; putting the distinction upon the one being delivered in life, the other after death. But notwithstanding this, several books in the civil law import the contrary: particularly *Vinius* in his *Comment Lib. 2. Tit. 7. Sec. 1. Numero 2. Cobaruvius, 1 Vol. Rub. 3.* and *Voet* on the *Pandect*, same Chapter, Num. 3. and Num. 6. which passages shew the different expression and opinions, some importing a delivery, others not. I have mentioned them to come at that which seems the distinction reconciling them all, according to what is laid down by *Voet*, Numb 6. that they did not require an absolute delivery of possession to the first or third kind of gift, I have mentioned: but in the other case, where the property was to pass immediately, it was required: which is the meaning of the expression in *Voet*, *in mortis causa donatione Dominium non transit sine traditione*, and of that other expression in *Voet*. With this distinction these passages in the civil law are properly reconciled. Though I know these donations *mortis causa* could never come directly in question in the ecclesiastical court, they might collaterally; and on these two heads I inquired whether there have been any cases there upon this; viz. in suits against an administrator on account of assets by the next of kin, where the administrator had insisted he had, he could not administer such a part, because it was given *mortis causa*; or if there is a will, in which there are specifick legacies, and one of those legacies he had given in his life by way of donation *mortis causa*, there it might come in question in the ecclesiastical court: but I cannot find it has. The nearest case to it is *Ousley v. Carrol*, June 1721, in the *Prerogative Court* before Dr. *Bettesworth*. There was left a writing in presence of three witnesses not in the form of a will, but a deed; viz. "I have given and granted, and give and grant, to my five sisters and children of the sixth, their heirs, executors, and administrators, in case they survive me, all my goods and chattels, and real and personal estate, and all which I may claim in right of my own, whether alive or dead." The dispute was by a person claiming as his wife, and who had been so, but divorced; who insisted, this was no will, but deed of gift *mortis causa* (and a gift *mortis causa* may be made in writing as well as otherwise, and so it might by the *Roman* and civil law) but the ecclesiastical judge was of an opinion this was testamentary; proved it as such as a testamentary act, and *probate* was granted; from which there was no appeal; but a case was there cited of *Shargold v. Shargold*, upon deed of gift by Dr. *Pope* not to take place until his death, and sixpence delivered by way of symbol to put grantee in possession; that was pronounced for as a will, not as a donation *mortis causa*; which I mention

mention to shew how far the ecclesiastical court has considered these things as testamentary. Having considered these donations, the different species, and how far delivery is necessary by the *Roman* and Civil law, I will consider it according to the law of *England*. They are undoubtedly taken from the civil law; but not to be allowed of here farther than the civil law on that head has been received and allowed. Taking the law of *England* to consist (as *Hob.* says) of rules of law and equity, it might have come in question in cases of action of *Trover* and *Detinue*: but I have never found any action on that head. Consider it therefore as in this court; the civil law not binding here but as far as received and allowed; which must be from adjudged cases and authorities, proving that the civil law has been received in *England* in respect of such donations only so far as attended with delivery, or what the civil law calls *traditio*; for which *Swinb.* who being an *English* writer on the civil law, what he lays down is some evidence of what has been received here, *Part* 1. *Sec.* 7. but in other places, *Sec.* 6. in *Tit. Definition of Legacy*, he is still more express. In both places, in one directly, in the other collaterally, he lays down, that delivery is necessary. Next consider it on the resolutions of this court: the same thing results from them. There are not many cases on this head; and they are somewhat loose. The first is *Drury v. Smith*, 1 *Wil.* 404. where Lord *Cowper* founded himself on this and the possession transmitted and changed: next *Lawson v. Lawson*, 1 *Wil.* 441. All that I can collect from thence is, that the purse was held good, because delivered to the wife herself. As to the other legacy of 100 *l.* bill, I cannot say on what it depended. It is a kind of compound gift; so many collateral circumstances are taken into it, that nothing can be inferred from it: but, being a draught on his goldsmith, that draught was delivered: so that it does not contradict what I lay down; and there was delivery, so far as it was capable. In *Jones v. Selby*, *Chan. Pre.* 300. the result is, that the opinion of the *Master of the Rolls* was founded plainly on this of the delivery of possession; holding that the gift of the tally, as contained in the hair-trunk, was a good donation *mortis causa*; and that Lord *Cowper* avoided determining that on the foundation of the subsequent point of a satisfaction or ademption, on which he grounded his determination. In all the instances it is absolutely necessary to be the person's after the party's death: though in some cases it vests the property, in others not. But to explain more fully Lord *Cowper's* opinion there, I will refer you back to *Drury v. Smith*, and to *Hedges v. Hedges*, *Chanc. Pre.* 269. which turned on another point: but there Lord *Cowper* laid down a necessity of delivery very strongly, where he says, testator gives with his own hands. In *Baily v. Snelgrove*, determined by me 11 *March* 1744, was urged; where

a bond was given in prospect of death: the manner of gift was admitted; the bond was delivered; and I held it a good donation *mortis causa*. It was argued, that there was no want of actual delivery there or possession, the bond being but a *chose in action*; and therefore there was no delivery but of the paper. If I went too far in that case, it is not a reason I should go farther; and I chuse to stop there. But I am of opinion that decree was right, and differs from this case; for though it is true, that a bond, which is specialty, is a *chose in action*, and its principal value consists in the thing in action, yet some property is conveyed by the delivery; for the property is vested; and to this degree that the law-books say, the person to whom this specialty is given, may cancel, burn, and destroy it; the consequence of which is, that it puts it in his power to destroy the obligee's power of bringing an action, because no one can bring an action on a bond without a *profert in Cur*. Another thing made it amount to a delivery, that the law allows it a locality; and therefore a bond is *bona notabilia* so as to require a prerogative administration, where a bond is in one diocese, and goods in another. Not that this is conclusive: this reasoning I have gone upon, is agreeable to *Jenk. Cent.* 109, *case* 9. relating to delivery to effectuate gifts, How *Jenkins* applied that rule of law he mentions there, I know not; but rather apprehend he applied it to a donation *mortis causa*: for if to a donation *inter vivos*, I doubt, he went too far. Another case is *Miller v. Miller*, 3 *Will.* 356; which is a very strong case, so far as that opinion goes, to require delivery; which case, I believe, was hinted at as inconsistent with my decree: but there is a great difference between delivery of a bond (which is a specialty, is itself the foundation of the action, and destruction of which destroys the demand) and the delivery of a note payable to bearer, which is only evidence of the contract. Therefore from the authority of *Swinb.* and all these cases the consequence is, that by the civil law, as received and allowed in *England*, and consequently by the law of *England*, tradition or delivery is necessary to make a good donation *mortis causa*: which brings it to the question, whether delivery of the three receipts was a sufficient delivery of the thing given to effectuate the gift. I am of opinion it was not. It is argued, that though some delivery is necessary, yet delivery of the thing is not necessary, but delivery of any thing by way of symbol is sufficient: but I cannot agree to that; nor do I find any authority for that in the civil law, which required delivery to some gifts, or in the law of *England*, which required delivery throughout. Where the civil law requires it, they require actual tradition, delivery over of the thing. So in all the cases in this court delivery of the thing given is relied on, and not in name of the thing; as in the delivery of sixpence in *Shargold v. Shargold*: if it was allowed any effect, that would have been a gift *mortis causa*,

not as a will, but that was allowed as testamentary, proved as a will, and stood. The only case wherein such a symbol seems to be held good is *Jones v. Selby*: but I am of opinion that amounted to the same thing as delivery of possession of the tally, provided it was in the trunk at the time. Therefore it was rightly compared to the cases upon 21 J. 1. as *Ryal v. Rowles* and others. It never was imagined on that statute, that delivery of a mere symbol in name of the thing would be sufficient to take it out of that statute: yet notwithstanding, delivery of the key of bulky goods, where wines, &c. are, has been allowed as delivery of the possession, because it is the way of coming at the possession, or to make use of the thing: and therefore the key is not a symbol, which would not do. If so then delivery of these receipts amounts to so much waste paper; for if one purchases stock or annuities, what avail are they after acceptance of the stock? It is true, they are of some avail as to the identity of the person coming to receive: but after that is over, they are nothing but waste paper, and are seldom taken care of afterward. Suppose *Fly* instead of delivering over these receipts to *Mosely*, had delivered over the broker's note, whom he had employed, that had not been a good delivery of the possession. There is no colour for it; it is no evidence of the thing, or part of the title to it; for suppose it had been in a mortgage in question, and a separate receipt had been taken for the mortgage-money, not on the back of the deed, (which was a very common way formerly, and is frequently seen in the evidence of ancient titles) and mortgagee had delivered over this separate receipt for the consideration-money, that would not have been a good delivery of the possession, nor given the mortgage *mortis causa* by force of that act. Nor does it appear to me by proof, that possession of these three receipts continued with *Mosely* from the time they were given, in *Feb.* to the time of *Fly's* death; for there is a witness who speaks, that in some short time before his death *Fly* shewed him these receipts, and said, he intended them for his uncle *Mosely*. Therefore I am of opinion it would be most dangerous to allow this donation *mortis causa* from parol proof of delivery of such receipts, which are not regarded or taken care of after acceptance; and if these annuities are called *choses in action*, there is less reason to allow of it in this case than in any other *chose in action*; because stocks and annuities are capable of a transfer of the legal property by act of parliament, which might be done easily; and if the intestate had such an aversion to make a will as supposed, he might have transferred to *Mosely*: consequently this is merely legatory, and amounts to a nuncupative will, and contrary to the stat. of frauds, and would introduce a greater breach on that law than was ever yet made; for if you take away the necessity of delivery of the thing given, it remains merely nuncupative. To this purpose consider the clauses in the stat. of frauds relating

to this; which seem to me to be applied directly to prevent a mischief of this sort. The clauses are in *sec.* 19, 20, 21, 22. which have very anxious provisions against dispositions of this kind, requiring three witnesses, solemn declaration of testator, fixing the place of making, and to be reduced into writing in six days after making. These are in cases where no will was made. Next comes another requisite, where a will has been made. If what the plaintiff insists on is right in point of law, that this gift of the annuities by delivery of the receipts was good, yet, though *Fly* had made a will before, it had been equally good notwithstanding that will, because this relates to revocation of a will in writing by any thing amounting to a testamentary act. It would be good against the will, as appears from the cases. Would not that be quite contrary to the plain provision of this clause, taking away delivery of the thing? Here is then a revocation of a will by words only; *viz.* "this is yours when I die." All these clauses therefore will be overturned, if such evidence is admitted. But it is said, if this is not allowed, it will be impossible to make a donation *mortis causa* of stock or annuities, because in their nature they are not capable of actual delivery. I am of opinion, it cannot without a transfer, or something amounting to that: and there is no harm in it, considering how much of the personal estate of this kingdom, vastly the greatest proportion of it, subsists now in stock and funds: and all the anxious provisions of the stat. of frauds will signify nothing, if donation of stock, attended only by delivery of the paper is allowed. It might be supported to the extent of any given value, and would leave these things under the greatest degree of uncertainty; and amount to a repeal of that useful law as to all this part of the property of the subjects of this kingdom. Therefore notwithstanding the strong evidence of the intent, this gift of annuities is not sufficiently made within the rules of the authorities; and I am of opinion not to carry it further. If any doubt remains in any one's mind, I will add (what I very seldom do, though it has been done by my predecessors) that I should be very glad to have this point settled by the supreme authority; for it highly ought to be settled, if there is a doubt, considering so large a property of this kind.

The bill ought to be dismissed therefore without costs as to the demand of these annuities, or any other part of the intestate's estate by way of donation *mortis causa*.

But as there was a plain intent of bounty and kindness to this old man, who lived with him as a servant, and, it seems, in expectation of what should be given at his death, therefore on the other part of the bill an inquiry should be, what *Mosely* deserved
over

over and above his maintenance for services performed during life of *Fly*. The account should be taken from a reasonable time, if the plaintiff thinks fit to pay it.

Mitford *versus* Featherstonhaugh, *July 21, 1752.* Case 146.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

WHERE there is usury, extortion, and oppression, as in Mortgage. making a mortgage and accumulating interest on interest, the court often directs in the decree to take every thing most strongly against such a person; and rightly. Where direction to take it strongly against a person in decree.

Buden *versus* Dore, *July 22, 1752.* Case 147.

THE bill set out a title, and that certain old terms were standing out. Defendant did not plead thereto, but set up a title inconsistent with the plaintiff's, though he might have pleaded it. Exception to the answer for not setting out what deeds and writings defendant had relating to defendant's title. The Master allowed the exception. Defendant not obliged to discover his title deeds.

Lord Chancellor allowed the exception to the report; for that you cannot come by a fishing bill in this court, and pray a discovery of the deeds and writings of defendant's title. If indeed there was any charge in the bill, general or special, that defendant had in his power deeds and writings of plaintiff's title, an answer must be given thereto.

The Bishop of Winchester *versus* Bernard Fournier, Case 148.
July 23, 1752.

At the Rolls.

THE bill was on the foundation of a large demand being set up against the plaintiff upon a common negotiable promissory note for 8,800 *l.* which the plaintiff said, he was a stranger to, knew not under what pretence demanded, and therefore came here to have a discovery from defendant, for what consideration and how obtained, and whose writing it was. Promissory note fraudulently contrived, deposited with the Register without trial whether forged or not; and if not sued on in a reasonable time, to be delivered up.

The note being produced appeared to be written on a small scrap of paper in these words: *I promise to pay to Mr. Bernard Fournier,*

Fournier, Min. or his order, three months from Date hereof the sum of Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Pounds for value received, as witness my hand. September the 4th, 1740.

B. WINCHESTER.

The defendant admitted the hand-writing to be all his, except the name at the bottom; and that the plaintiff admitted to be his.

The considerations given for it, as set up by the answer, were in this manner: that the defendant was a curate in *Jersey* in 1740, and courted the sister of Mr. *Payne* the Dean; who being averse to the match, and to prevail on him to desist, after promises of preferment gave him a promissory note for 1000 *l.* or to procure him some ecclesiastical preferment in *Jersey*; upon which defendant desisted, and married another woman. That after this there happened some disturbances in the church, of which he was Curate; on which he instituted a suit before the Dean, who determined it against him; and that he appealed to the plaintiff, who, from the great intimacy and friendship between him and the Dean, being averse to hear the appeal, proposed to defendant to withdraw it, and something would be done for him; and afterward that the plaintiff signed this note, written by defendant by directions of the plaintiff, as a recompence to him.

This answer was in almost every instance contradicted by plaintiff's witnesses.

Evidence.

The evidence of the Dean as to the note, said to be given by him, was objected to; as setting up a forgery in the defendant, and the party himself should not be admitted to prove a forgery in avoidance of his own note, as he cannot be admitted in indictments for forgery at suit of the crown.

For Plaintiff. Allowing that rule in proving a forgery in indictments, this is not read to prove the forgery, but to falsify the answer, which said, the not prosecuting the Dean on that note was the consideration of the present note; the validity of that note being not now to be tried at all.

His Honour for these reasons allowed him to be read, only regarding the substance of the deposition, not any thing therein as to forgery.

Counsel or attorney submitting to be examined read.

One of the plaintiff's witnesses (it is said) being counsel concerned in the affair, ought not to have submitted to be examined,

amined, as no counsel, attorney, or solicitor should betray the secrets of their clients, and might demur to the interrogatories.

Sir John Strange.

It is a very right rule; but as he himself has not objected to it, the court has nothing to do with it. It never was determined, that the court refused his evidence, but the contrary has been determined, that the court is bound to accept it.

For Plaintiff. This note ought to be immediately delivered up without further inquiry. 2 *Ver.* 123. In the case of *John Ward of Hackney* the Lords directed the *Attorney General* to prosecute for the forgery. In *Succomb v. Fitzgerald*, June 15, 1743, the representatives of Mr. *Merrit* (who died intestate, soon after he came of age, and had been preyed upon by several) brought a bill to have securities delivered up to be cancelled, and among others a bond said to be executed by him in *Flanders*. It appearing plainly from the bond, it could not be of the date it imported, it was ordered without further inquiry to be deposited with the Register. So by Sir *Joseph Jekyl* as to a conveyance in *Masters v. Brambill*, 16 July 1735. In *Baker v. Loman*, 5 July 1742. the bill was to have the consideration of a promissory note set forth: It appeared to be given in consideration of a bill of exchange: which was a false one. The late *Master of the Rolls* enjoined proceedings, and ordered the bill of exchange to the Register subject to further order. One *Jones*, a schoolmaster in *Kent*, provided and did every thing for a scholar, intitled to a small real estate, the income of which was not sufficient to maintain him; and desired the scholar, when sick and likely to die, to make him amends, and took an absolute conveyance of this estate: on a bill by the heir to inquire whether the consideration was really paid, Lord *Talbot* ordered the deed to be set aside as an absolute conveyance, and to stand as security for what was justly due. There are several cases of that kind. Plaintiff has no means of proceeding at law. Defendant may, when he will, and is to take the first step. The stat. of limitations only takes away the legal operations; so that if the plaintiff makes a provision for payment of debts, it may be set up at any future time against his executors, when a proper defence cannot be made. Several observations occur on face of the note: it seems the superscription of a frank erased; which ingenuity the defendant, who is a *Frenchman*, has brought from the seminaries where he was educated: and a strong argument arises from one in mean circumstances letting a legal bar run, when the person against whom, was of ability to pay.

For Defendant. Though this imports a common negotiable note, defendant did not consider it as such, but as an obligation on plaintiff to give him a living. The bill is *quia timet*, and that defendant has forged a note on a fictitious consideration. It can be ordered to be delivered only on this, that defendant is guilty of forgery: and the decree must be, that it be cancelled, and, according to some old books, damned. That will never be done without first a proper examination, if there is but a bare possibility of its being just. None of the cases cited are on forgery: all on fraud and particular circumstances, on which this court has the only jurisdiction; for there are two species of fraud: that on the 13 and 27 *Eliz.* is more proper to be determined at law than here; but complicated fraud in the sense of imposition is the proper business of equity, and not to be tried at law. It was attempted to be tried in *Holt v. Teril* 1727, upon an issue, whether the party executing a deed well understood it or not. Lord Raymond thought it an extraordinary issue to be sent out of a Court of Equity. If there are two reasons for setting aside an instrument, one the complicated question, fraud or not, the other whether it was the act of the party or not, the court will first inquire into this. In a late case of *Bridge v. Eddows*, Mrs. Eddows brought an action on a bond; the bill was to set it aside as forged and without consideration, and to be delivered up: it was proved plainly, that the party said to execute, was at another place at the time fixed on for execution: Lord Chancellor said, he could not try it, it was a fact of forgery he could not enter into, and that must be tried: but it never was, the issue being taken *pro confesso*; which shews, that though there is a great charge of improbability, the court will not do it without a trial.

Sir John Strange.

The bill is indisputably proper to be entertained and proceeded on in this court. The defendant has answered it as such, and entered into proof of it. As to the light in which the court is to see this transaction, if in a fair light, the bill must be dismissed: if doubtful, so that inquiry is necessary, the court ought in some shape or other to send it to an inquiry: otherwise not. But the light it appears in, is the most iniquitous, even in the manner insisted on by defendant, I ever saw before a court of justice. The defendant, being called on to this discovery, puts it by his answer, not upon its being a voluntary note (which would have been a very different case) but that it was on a proper consideration, and as such is not relievable against in a court of equity: but the consideration he sets up, and the original foundation which he lays of the transaction with the Dean, are not proved by him, but on the other hand are falsified every one of them.

them. But supposing it taken, as argued, to be only a sort of hank on the plaintiff to oblige him to get the defendant a living, a Court of Equity would not suffer such a note thus obtained, even by the account defendant gives, to stand out against the plaintiff, when the defendant avows he does not or ought not to expect any money by it, but to obtain a benefice merely by having such a note hanging over plaintiff's head. In that light therefore it is proper to consider it as an imposition, and not to receive countenance in a Court of Equity. It is admitted, there are great improbabilities against this note: all that is insisted on is a bare possibility. But great suspicion arises from the face of it. Supposing every word of it to be the hand writing of the plaintiff, and so found by a jury, if after such a verdict I see fraud apparent and an iniquitous transaction, why should I say, the plaintiff should not have that relief in a Court of Equity, merely because the imposition and fraud may be attended with a worse crime, than the fraud and imposition itself? I do not ground myself on setting it aside, because it appears forged; but on this, that whether forged or not, it is not fit to stand in a Court of Equity: which, if it was found, the plaintiff had wrote with a view only to get defendant a living, the court would not let stand upon such a consideration, or establish such a demand if a bill was brought for it. The cases cited to be sure differ materially from this; being where the instrument itself is admitted in a court of law, and relief is sought against it upon circumstances: here the note itself is not admitted. I am not quite warranted by precedents to order it to be delivered up: but am well warranted to order it to be left in the hands of the officer, subject to the order of the court, and declare, that the plaintiff is intitled to be relieved against this note as a gross fraud and contrivance of the defendant, and that nothing is due upon it. My reason for leaving it in the Register's hands is, that though I do not require any trial to inform my conscience, yet I will not deprive him of liberty to bring his action, if he thinks fit. If he does not assert it in a reasonable time, then to be delivered up.

The defendant must pay costs.

In *John Ward v. Duke of Buckingham*, *Ward* insisted on an allowance of 700 ton of allum. The court decreed him not intitled thereto: but obliged him to leave on the land the quantity required by his lease: He appealed; and to intitle him to that allowance produced an exhibit; which the Lords laid hold of, and directed him to be prosecuted: but there was no decree of Chancery upon that.

Case 149.

Senhouse versus Earl, July 23, 1752.

Plea.

PLEA to a bill for redemption.

If no final order for foreclosure it is not a good plea.

Lord Chancellor said, he remembered a case of this sort, *Jones v. Henrick*; where to a bill for redemption there was a plea of decree for foreclosure in the common form, with averment of non-payment of the money, &c. but no final order for foreclosure: and it was an old decree: but notwithstanding that, *Lord King* allowed it. From which, he knew, there was an appeal; and (though it was said at the bar to be compromised) he took it to be reversed; for it was apprehended to be wrong; as, notwithstanding such plea and length of time may be a good defence, yet as a plea it could not stand for want of a final order.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Mortgagee not to discover title-deed, if he denies notice.

But special charges to be denied as well as notice in general.

Jointress must produce the deed to her confirming her jointure.

It is a constant, invariable rule, that any mortgagee may protect himself from discovery of his title-deed, if he denies notice. As to a jointress it is otherwise: where the plaintiff claims as heir at law to the person, who made the jointure, and no appearance of any settlement, the court will upon plaintiff's offer to confirm the jointure oblige a production of the deed. But as to a mortgagee, if the plaintiff brings his bill to redeem ever so strongly, he is not intitled to see mortgagee's title deeds; because a third person may find out a flaw in them. The same appears on motion, where a sale is to be to raise the mortgage-money; which shews how cautious the court is as to that. It is a first principle, and not to be argued; it depends therefore on the denial of notice. The rule of the court is, that where the plaintiff charges not only notice in general, but also special facts and circumstances, they must be denied as well as notice in general.

Case 150.

Chetwynd versus Lindon, July 23, 1752.

Demurrer to discovery of conspiracy in setting up a bastard; over-ruled.

DEMURRER to such part of the bill, as sought to compel defendant to discover a conspiracy or attempt in the defendant in setting up a child, she pretended to have by a person who kept, and was desirous to have a child by her. The demurrer was, as it might tend to subject defendant to punishment or fine, or the penal laws of this kingdom.

Lord Chancellor desired to be read out of the bill, what charges there were of that kind as to subject defendant to such penal laws. She may demur to the discovery of any thing which may prove cohabitation. The question is, whether it is so charged, as, if confessed in the answer, would be a ground for a criminal prosecution in a court of law; for it is not every conspiracy will be a ground for a criminal prosecution. If that was the case, almost all the causes in this court would come within that description. The boundaries are often very nice, where a matter is near indictable and a fraud in this court. This setting up a bastard child is a private fraud, does not impede the course of descent in law so as to defeat the heir at law; for if so, perhaps it might be a conspiracy indictable: but this is to the disherison of no one: and by this means several frauds in this court might be covered by demurrer. Nor is it distinguished what the particulars are which are demurred to; so that the court must look over the whole bill in order to see. It is like the case of a plea, which begins with, as to so much of the plea as is not after answered to, the party pleads; which has been often over-ruled; for it cannot be known what would be pleaded to, and what answered.

Particulars demurred to should be distinguished.

Anonymous, *July* 24, 1752.

Case 151.

ON motion relative to a proceeding in Ecclesiastical Court for a church-rate *Lord Chancellor* would not receive it. It was turning every thing into *English* bill in this court: the Ecclesiastical Court had jurisdiction of it. If there was any thing like prescription to discharge therefrom, that must be pleaded, and denied; which is the common case of a *modus*, for which there may be a suit in the Ecclesiastical Court, or for a customary payment, as well as for tithes. If the *modus* is admitted, they may go on in the Ecclesiastical Court: if denied indeed, there must be a prohibition. Next as to the discovery sought, the coming into this court in aid to the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction is always denied here. The plaintiff cannot, because this court will not be ancillary to that: nor does the defendant there want it, because he may exhibit articles in that court, and have an answer on oath, which is the constant method there.

Ecclesiastical Court has jurisdiction as to church-rates.

This court not ancillary thereto.

Anonymous, *July*, 24, 1752.

Case 152.

ON motion *Lord Chancellor* said, that before the making the act of parliament as to solicitors bills, the rule was, that in a court of common law, if application was made to tax an attorney's court as formerly.

Solicitor's taxed without bringing the money into attorney's court as formerly.

The judgment
not afterward
opened for the
client to have
an account
taken.

ney's bill, it was not done without bringing the whole demand and money into court, and then to have it taxed. This was thought a great hardship on clients at the time of making this act; because an attorney might make a very unreasonable bill, and put a burden on his client to raise it; the act of parliament therefore varied the rule both of courts of common law and equity; so that the client submitting to pay what should become due, the bill should be taxed, and that without bringing the money into court. Then the client cannot afterward come, and say, he had an antecedent demand before, and desire to have that deducted out of what was taxed due to the solicitor for his bill. The court is to be sure to see, that solicitors do their clients justice: yet the giving way to this would repeal the act of parliament, and put solicitors in such a condition, they might never come at their demands, if the court was to say, they would open the judgment (for it is a judgment of the court upon the client's own submission to pay what should be due) to let in this, and have the account taken. The party therefore has precluded himself; for he had two methods; he might apply to tax the bill, and then must submit to pay; or, if there were accounts between them, might have brought a bill for that account, and alledged, he was indebted the solicitor, or that the solicitor pretended, he was, for bill of fees and disbursements, and prayed to have that account taken: but he has waved that, knowing it to be so. And in general, accounts cannot be taken on taxation of a bill. The court could not now stop the payment of it to have the account taken; that would make these things so uncertain, there would be no end of them: nor would it make a precedent of that kind.

Case 153. Griffith *versus* Hood, July, 24, 1752.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Bill for wife's
separate estate
by Prochein
Amy: but
where with
husband, or-
dered to trust
for her.

WHERE there is any thing for separate use of a wife, a bill ought to be brought by her *Prochein Amy* for her: otherwise it is her husband's bill. However there have been cases of such a bill by the husband and wife, and the court has taken care of the wife, and ordered payment to some person for her.

Case 154. Morris *versus* Lessees of Lord Berkeley, July, 25, 1752.

Injunction to
stay building
must be on
stopping an-
cient lights by
prescription,
or on agree-
ment.

MOTION to continue injunction to stay building.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Whoever comes into this court on such a right, must found it either on defendant's building so as to stop ancient lights, for which he has a prescription, (notwithstanding that he must lay a particular prescription) or else on some agreement, either proved or reasonable presumption thereof. An insufficient answer is not a ground to continue an injunction: it must be excepted to, and then if reported insufficient, application may be to revive.

Attorney General, at the Relation of Gray's Inn So-City 155.
ciety, *versus* Doughty, July 24, 1752.

MOTION before answer to stop proceeding in certain buildings, which would intercept the prospect from Gray's Inn gardens. Injunction not before answer in a special case on a particular right: otherwise in a plain case of waste or nuisance.

The interposition of the court was desired not on foundation of a nuisance, but on a long enjoyment of the right to this prospect by this society; which right has been admitted formerly by parties concerned to dispute it, and by a court of equity; viz. in 1686, when several orders on petition were made by Lord Jefferies to restrain the building so as to intercept this prospect; and the manner of defence thereto shews, this right of the society was not disputed, it only going upon this, that the court was imposed on by the plan shewn. That rights of this kind have been taken notice of, appears from the act of parliament made for adorning *Lincoln's Inn*, where the parties acquiesced under such a right.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Before I determine this, there is a previous question, whether I can do it in this way. It is true, that by the course of the court in a plain case of waste upon a certificate, and affidavit of it, there may be an injunction before answer. So there may in a plain case of nuisance, as for stopping up lights, upon affidavit, certificate and notice; because the court will not suffer it to go on to prejudice the party in the mean time, but will stop it beforehand: but now you come in a very special and particular case on a particular right to a prospect. I know no general rule of common law, which warrants that, or says, that building so as to stop another's prospect is a nuisance. Was that the case, there could be no great towns; and I must grant injunctions

tions to all the new buildings in this town: it depends therefore on a particular right; and then the party must first have an opportunity to answer it. As to the orders made by Lord *Jefferies* (who was too apt to do things in an extraordinary manner, *fortiter in modo* as well as *in re*) they were made on petition without a bill filed; and those I lay out of the case. There may be such a right as this; as upon the act of parliament touching *Lincoln's Inn*. That was upon agreement of the parties; which if shewn here, it would be different; or if there was ground to presume such an agreement: but then the party must have an opportunity to answer that. This is not such a right, as that the court should interpose before answer. It is like the common case of a bill to stay waste upon a special case attended with special circumstances; in which the court will not grant an injunction before answer. I have often denied those motions; and it has been often formerly denied. If it is shewn, that the defendant claims under the party, who made those submissions and admissions, (as it is said) before Lord *Jefferies*, and a presumption of an agreement, it may be a different case. As you have given them notice by filing your bill, and stronger notice by this motion, if they do wrong, it is at their peril; and it might be a ground for the court to order these buildings to be pulled down: so that if they build, it is at their peril. I have great respect for this society: but must notwithstanding go by some rule, and cannot do it in this summary way.

Case 156.

Grayson *versus* Atkinson, July 17, 1752.

2 Stra. 1109.
Not necessary
on Stat. of
Frauds that
testator should
sign in pre-
sence of the
witnesses;

acknowledg-
ing his hand
to them suffi-
cient, though
at different
times.

But one of
the witnesses
being beyond
sea, and no
other proof
as to him,
there should
have been a
commission to
examine him,
and the same
credit is not
given to his
handwriting
as if dead.

BILL to establish a will against an heir at law, who by his answer made a doubt, whether as all the witnesses did not see the testator sign, though he saw all them sign, this was a good attestation within the statute of frauds.

For plaintiff. The question is, whether by the statute every witness should see the testator sign? First on the statute itself; next on similar decisions leading that way. This is a matter merely positive, not depending on reason. If the statute has laid it down as a solemnity, it must be observed; otherwise not. There are no words saying, that the witnesses shall see the testator sign, or that he should sign in their presence; which if the legislature had required, they would have so said, but not having required it, a court of justice cannot, though it might be a further guard: for this would be adding a further solemnity to the statute. Indeed the common form of attestation of wills is so; but the question is, whether it is absolutely necessary? So is sealing and delivery a sufficient publication without

without actual publication: yet most wills are in that form, signed, sealed, and published. Next the cases go a great way to settle this. If the authenticity is secured by the testator's signing, it is not necessary to see it: all the cases and doubts go upon a supposition, that it is not necessary. The very arguing the doubt, whether it is necessary for all the witnesses to sign at once, goes upon this, that it is not necessary for the testator to sign in presence of them all; for the legislature did not intend, the testator should sign three times over. In 2 C. C. 109. and *Cook v. Parsons*, P. C. 184. and *Lemayne v. Stanley*, 3 Lev. 1. it is taken for granted that the witnesses did not see the testator write his name. In *Smith v. Codron*, 7 July 1732, A. signed and published a will in the presence of two, who attested in his presence; then a third person was called in; and the testator shewing him his name tells him, that is his hand, and bids him witness it; which he did, and subscribed his name in the testator's presence; and two hours after tells him, that, which he had subscribed was his will. Sir *Joseph Jekyl* held this a good execution, the statute not saying that the will should be signed in the presence of three, and it having been determined not to be necessary that they should see him sign his name, nor that all the witnesses should sign at one and the same time. So *Stonehouse v. Evelyn*, 3 Will. 254. But a later case was that of *Jones v. —* in B. R. Hil. 1742. where a case was made upon ejectment against the defendant, who claimed for life under a will made all in the testator's own handwriting. In December 1735. two witnesses signed, and he signed his name, and took off his seal from the wafer, which had been fixed before. In January 1739. the testator, producing the paper so signed, desired another to be witness to his will; and then with a pen dipped in ink the testator went over his name, and then delivered the paper as his act and deed. The only question was, whether it was well executed within the statute, not being done in presence of all the witnesses together? Against the will was cited an *obiter* opinion of *Holt* in *Cartbaw* 38. and *Justin. lib. 2.* that by the civil law seven witnesses were required and all at the same time. In favour of the will P. C. 184. *Lee* C. J. said, that from the words of the act there was no direction, that the witnesses should be all together at the time of signing; that the case in P. C. determined soon after the making this act, was, that if the testator signed in presence of three at different times, yet it was within the act; so was *Eq. Ab.* 402. that the opinion in *Cartb.* was not material to the point in question there; and that the foundation, upon which wills under these circumstances were supported, seemed to be, that the act of parliament had laid down no further requisite than to be attested by three in his presence. The rest of the court were of the same opinion; and what all the judges

judges went upon, was this, that by the words of the statute it was not necessary for the witnesses all to see the testator sign; and did not go upon the circumstance of drawing his pen over.

For Defendant. The legislature meant that the testator should sign in the presence of three. Witnesses are not only to subscribe, but to attest and subscribe; therefore, it must mean more, than one single word would answer. The attestation must be proper and relevant to the act of the testator, an attestation that the testator did sign in their presence; and therefore necessary they should see it. The subscribing was for another purpose to be in the testator's presence, that those witnesses should not impose another will upon him, and that he might have a check over them, that they signed that very will in his presence. That was the intent, though not fully expressed: but the next clause, of revocation, makes it stronger, and must be taken together upon a similitude of reason. The sense and usage of mankind is a key to the equivocal words of an act of parliament; and drawers of wills say, signed, sealed, and published in presence of three. Many of the cases cited have been founded upon this, whether it was necessary to sign in presence of testator at the same time; which is not all, that was intended, being provided for by the act of parliament. Any solemn act, as putting a mark, is the same as signing. So is sealing a solemn act. It has been held at *Nisi prius*, that where the three witnesses were dead, a jury would imply, that it was properly done, signed in testator's presence, though not proved. There was a case lately before *Your Lordship* upon this very question, which came from *New England*; it was sent to *B. R.* to see, whether it was good or not.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

That was upon the clause of revocation. This has been *vexata questio* a great while; whether to make a will effectually according to the statute, the signing of the testator thereto should be in the presence of all or indeed of any of the witnesses, or whether the testator's acknowledging the handwriting to that will to be his is not sufficient? Sometimes it has come in question upon wills: at other times upon the clause relating to revocations. The present question relates particularly to a will, and is a proper question at law to be determined thereupon a trial, if the heir insists upon it. Sometimes in cases of little value, or where the parties to avoid expence are desirous to submit it upon the evidence here, the court has gone into it (as appears on the cases cited) and given an opinion. So will I do; but leave it to the election of the heir, whether he thinks fit to have it tried. The question arises upon the first

first clause ; but it is certainly true, that the second, which immediately follows, is to be coupled in the construction, and an exposition of the act drawn from both together. The difference in the penning of the two clauses has created the doubt. It is material to consider the original and natural import of the words upon the first clause ; and then how far the sense and construction of them is varied and operated upon by the subsequent clause. Taking it upon the first ; it is insisted, that the word *attested* superadded to *subscribed* imports, they shall be witnesses to the very act and *factum* of signing, and that the testator's acknowledging that act to have been done by him, and that it is his handwriting, is not sufficient to enable them to attest : that is, it must be an attestation of the thing itself, not of the acknowledgment. To be sure it must be an attestation of the thing in some sense ; but the question upon this clause, as abstracted from the subsequent, is, if they attest on the acknowledgment of the testator that that is his handwriting, whether that is not an attestation of the act, and whether not to be construed as agreeable to the rules of law and evidence as all other attestation and signing might be proved ? At the time of making that act of parliament, and ever since, if a bond or deed is executed by the person, who signs it ; afterward the witnesses are called in ; and before those witnesses he acknowledges that to be his hand ; that is always considered as an evidence of signing by the person executing, and is an attestation of it by them. It is true, there is some difference between the case of a deed and a will in this respect, because signing is not necessary to a deed, but *sealing* is ; and I do not know, it was ever held, that acknowledging his sealing without witnesses, has been sufficient. But notwithstanding, that is the rule of evidence relating to signing. If it was in the case of a note, or declaration of trust, or any other instrument not requiring the solemnities of a deed, but bare signing, if that instrument is attested by witnesses, proving that they were called in, and that he took that instrument, and said, that was his hand, that would be a sufficient attestation of signing by him. That is the rule of evidence : considering therefore the words of the act of parliament it seems upon the penning of that clause, that if the testator having signed the will did before those witnesses declare and acknowledge, he had so, and that that was his hand, that might be sufficient within that clause ; for as to the subscribing that makes no difference in the case ; that further circumstance is required by the statute to make it necessary, that they should certify their attestation all of them in presence of the testator ; therefore is subscription mentioned. Other guards are put on the statute on the execution of a will beside the subscription ; as that it is to be in writing. The testator must do some act materially declaring it to be his will, though no particular form of words is necessary. It is true, there are cases, where an instrument sealed, and delivered, and subscribed by the testator has

been held sufficient to make it a will; but there must be some act or declaration importing this to be a solemn act by him to dispose of his estate. I should have thought, the greatest guard upon the testator's executing a will would be the requiring all the witnesses to be together at the time: yet it is admitted, that so far the cases have gone, that the testator's signing in presence of the witnesses may be at different times. In that case, in which there was the circumstance of the testator's dipping a pen in ink and drawing it over his name; that was insisted upon at the bar there as a material circumstance, though it is now said not to be thought so by the court: but still it dispenses with the testator's signing in their presence at the same time. It is a much greater security against perjury to require all to be present at the same time and instant of doing the act; because they then are checks on one another: but if suffered to be witnesses at different times and places, a more material guard is dispensed with than this, which relates barely to the act of signing. Thus it stands on the words of the clause itself, penned on the common practice and usage in point of evidence as to the signing of instruments which do not require the solemnities of deeds. Now to the other clause as to revocation, how far to be coupled in construction and operating in the exposition upon the former. This clause supposes two kinds of revocation in writing, by a proper will disposing of the estate or other writing declaring the same not being a will. The other example of revocation by burning or cancelling is not material to this case. It consists of two members referring to two different instruments; and I hold, that a prior will may be properly revoked by another will made according to the directions of the former clause, that is, a perfect will published by deviser attested by three witnesses, who all subscribed in his presence; and then the sense is complete. Then those words *signed in presence of three witnesses* refer to *other writing* of the deviser, *viz.* some other writing or revocation, and do not operate on that, which is a perfect will; for that, which is a perfect will, will revoke a former; and therefore those words are added to put a guard on that other writing, which may not be a will. If then this is the sense of the legislature, the words *other will or codicil* must be taken according to the requisites and solemnities necessary by the former clause to a will or codicil: but if it is a distinct writing, not a will, then is this additional requisite: and if this is the true construction of the latter clause, it will not affect the words *attested and subscribed in presence of, &c.* Next to consider the cases, which, I thought, had been more various, than they appear. First 3 *Lev. 1.* is an express authority, and must have been by an acknowledgment of the testator's hand (for it could not be otherwise) and yet held good. No answer can be given to it but a presumption, that the testator might write the will in the presence of three witnesses: but that is not a natural presumption, for if the fact

was

was so, that would be found by the jury, as it would put it out of all doubt, It is true, that three judges differed from *Levinz*, upon another point, as to the sealing. I own, I should have much more doubt of that, which they held further; for the statute requiring the will to be signed, undoubtedly meant some evidence to arise from the handwriting; then how can it be said, that putting a seal to it would be a sufficient signing? For any one may put a seal; no particular evidence arises from that seal: common seals are alike, and one man's may be like another's; no certainty or guard therefore arises from thence. The answer of *Levinz* (who was a great lawyer) is material and strong thereto; that where an act of parliament mentions signing, it is meant something different from sealing: but the whole court agreed on the former reason in that, which must go upon the point now in question. The other cases are some of them in point. The opinion of Sir *Joseph Jekyl* in those two cases are very strong to this purpose: and if so, and the words of the statute are answered by it, there is no ground for me to hold the contrary. As to the case in *B. R.* the reason according to the state of it goes upon what I go now, not upon the circumstance of drawing the pen over. I do not see, how that strengthens the guard; and it is allowed, that signing *toties quoties* is sufficient. Therefore on the penning of the act and the authorities, my opinion is, that this will is well executed: but being a question of law, if the heir at law insists upon having it tried, I will direct a trial: if not, I will found my opinion upon his declining it.

Hoil v. Clerk, 3 *Mod.* 218. was then cited as strengthening his *Lordship's* determination, although there was a difference of opinion.

A farther objection was made for the defendant, that one of the witnesses being beyond sea the other two prove all the solemnities except the signing: but though they swear, the testator acknowledged his handwriting to them at different times, yet they do not swear, he acknowledged to that third witness, who is abroad: nor is there any proof about him.

For plaintiff, The court requires to the establishment of a will, that the subscribing witnesses should be examined, if they can: if they cannot, the court gives credit to the handwriting, so as to establish it if all the three witnesses are dead; and therefore it is only necessary to prove that they are dead, and that that is their handwriting. A court of law does the same: the court goes one step farther here, requiring all three to be examined if alive, and can be had: but if beyond sea and not amenable to the court, so that he may refuse to be examined, the court does not require a commission to go. There is no instance where two witnesses are
here,

here, and an attestation of a third who is proved to be beyond sea, that the court stopt the declaration to have that witness examined. It is not necessary to the title at law to have him examined. So as to all deeds and instruments, if the witnesses cannot be had as not being within the process of the court, or dead, credit is given to their handwriting. They may all three attest at different times, as is now clearly established. It may happen, that no witness can be of their attestation but the witnesses themselves. If dead, and credit is not to be given to their handwriting, there is no way in which such a will can be established. Where a witness cannot be had, the court does not require an impossibility; for that third witness may be in *America*, may refuse to be examined, or may expect money for it: the court will establish it without him; or otherwise fraud may be used. The same credit is to be given to his handwriting as if dead.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Of that I doubt. I do not know, that it is determined, that the same credit is to be given to the handwriting of a witness beyond sea as if dead; because it is not necessary to presume, that it is out of your power to get him, if you please; and I am apprehensive, fraud may be used on the other hand. It not being proved that the testator published his will in the presence of the other witness, not only of those examined, and that the other witness subscribed in their presence, it stands on the proof of the attestation. If the witness was dead, it might possibly be sufficient; that is the act of God; and therefore the court gives credit to his handwriting: but you have brought a bill to establish the will by a decree, and only prove his being beyond sea. The question is, whether your proof is not defective, and whether to establish this you should not have some proof, that this act was done, which he has attested: because you may have a commission to examine the witness beyond sea; for in this court you are not under the difficulty as in a court of law, where it must be *viva voce*; how then can I make a declaration, that the will is proved, under this witness himself is examined? I know no such rule of law as exempts you from the necessity of proving the facts materially, although you are exempted from the necessity of bringing that witness. You must therefore try it, if you think fit.

For plaintiff. It was formerly not required to have all the three witnesses examined: it was first established by Lord *Talbot* in this court; for in the case of the *Duke of Buckingham* they were not all examined.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

All I can do at present is to direct a trial at law.

White *versus* Hayward, July, 1752.

Case 137.

THE bill was at the hearing dismissed with costs to be taxed; Costs die with the party, unless taxed: when something is to be done, &c. they are taxed; and the proper process issues for them against plaintiff, who for non-payment of them is brought into contempt and in the *Fleet* on attachment with proclamations. Defendant dies; there is no revivor, plaintiff moves to be discharged out of custody, because there is no person in being who has a right to detain him there, nor to sustain the execution; the reason given for the cause not being revived was from an apprehension in the parties that there could be no revivor for costs only. *Lord Chancellor* held there clearly might for costs taxed, by which they are reduced to a certainty and a duty decreed, but the doubt was whether the plaintiff must be detained in custody to wait for that revivor, or be discharged? And he desired to know how that was in the courts of common law; for there if defendant is in execution for costs; lies in execution, and the party to whom costs are given, and who took out execution, dies; there may be a proceeding for those costs by the representative of the party's taking out a *scire facias*, and there may be a new execution. But the question was, whether the judges on application do not discharge him out of custody, or whether they wait for the bringing the *scire facias*? He apprehended, they do discharge out of custody: in cases of injunction in this court, the court exercises a more liberal jurisdiction than courts of common law; as, if plaintiff obtains an injunction on the merits, and dies; yet the defendant cannot immediately proceed at law, but must come into the court to dissolve the injunction. But courts of common law have not the same power to compel the party to bring a *scire facias*, or to put terms on him; but must take things as they find them. It was urged, that the cause was out of court by the bill's being dismissed with costs. But *Lord Chancellor* said, it was not out of court as to this; that if there is a judgment against plaintiff, the judgment is, that defendant *eat sine die*: yet there is a judgment for costs, which is a distinct judgment, and a *scire facias* may be brought for that; so that as to this the cause was not out of court. But the question was, how far he could detain the person of the party in court, until a bill of revivor is brought or a *scire facias*. He took it, that this followed the rule in cases of accounts; where the court gives liberty to defendant to revive after a decree for account; because both parties are considered as actors. And so were to be considered in this case; but desired to see what was the rule

of the common law courts as to this, before he determin'd it, and that it should be mentioned again.

July 25th. It was moved again: when having looked into the common law cases, the *Lord Chancellor* delivered his opinion.

Post.
Kemp v.
Mackrell,
8 August
1754.

This is a thing which does not often happen, and deserves consideration. No doubt but as to costs the established distinction is, that whether given to plaintiff or defendant, by death of the party before they are taxed, so that they are uncertain and unliquidated, they fall to the ground; because it is a personal demand in nature of a *tort*, and dies with the person. But if taxed, they become a certain duty decreed; and though the party to whom they are given dies, they go to the representative, who is intitled to some remedy or process of revivor for those costs. This has been determined by Sir *Joseph Jekyl*, and by me in *Basset v. Prideaux*, *March 1742*. where the bill was for costs only, which had been taxed; defendant pleaded, that plaintiff as administrator could not revive for costs on y; I was of opinion, the plaintiff might; and that is the difference. Here the person for whose benefit the costs are given and execution taken, dies; plaintiff on this process of contempt in nature of execution for this, which by the taxation is a kind of duty decreed, being in custody and in nature of a defendant, applies to be discharged; the question is, whether any one has on this process a right to detain him, or whether he is to be discharged? To determine which it is necessary to consider how far the process of the court is to be resembled to proceedings at common law, and how far they differ; for in some instances they do differ; because the proceedings at common law in writs of execution are either *in personam* or *rem*; if *in rem*, it is clearly for the thing: if *in personam*, it is not to take for a contempt, but to take so that the sheriff have his body in the King's courts such a day to satisfy plaintiff such a sum of money; these are the words of the process; and this is the end of the writ, therefore that is to pay a certain duty. But all the processes of a court of equity are for a supposed contempt, yet the court makes a distinction, and supports its process for contempt after a decree by way of analogy to the common law. Suppose a judgment obtained by defendant against plaintiff, that defendant *eat sine die*, and a judgment for costs (all which judgments are by the statute) defendant may take out a writ of execution for those costs against plaintiff; suppose plaintiff is in execution and defendant dies, who is as to this an actor; or suppose a plainer case, plaintiff had judgment for debt and costs, and takes out execution by *capias ad satisfaciendum*; defendant is in custody thereon, and then plaintiff dies; which comes to the same thing; in that case defendant has no right to be discharged out of custody, in my opinion; my reason is this. Judicial writs do not ordinarily abate
by

by death of the party, though there are certain writs called judicial, which may: original writs do abate by death of the party; but writs of execution do not; and therefore if the party is in execution, he continues in execution, until he satisfies the end thereof, which is the payment of the sum of money, for which the judgment and execution was against him. I cannot find a case on that point on a writ of *ca. sa.* but there is a very material case, 1 *Salk.* 322. *Clark v. Withers*, which is a determination, that a writ of *fi. fa.* does not abate by death of plaintiff between the issuing and return of it, and that if the execution is begun, which is always begun by lodging the writ in the sheriff's hands (an alteration from the common law made by the statute of frauds, for before it was an attaching on the goods by the *teste* of it) it does not abate, then consider how far this goes. So far that an execution does not abate by death of plaintiff, for whose benefit it is, after it is sued out. How does that hold on a *ca. sa.* on a judgment? Just in the same manner, and it has been often determined, that where there is an execution by *ca. sa.* *Teste* the last day of *Trinity term*, the party dies between that day and the return, which is the first day of *Michaelmas term*, and defendant is taken after his death; that is a good execution; which shews the death of the party does not determine it. Then consider what the effect will be where the execution is completed. If there is a *ca. sa.* on a judgment, defendant is taken and in custody; suppose the writ returned; plaintiff dies, the effect will be nothing at all; it does not abate the judicial writ according to *Sal.* the return of the sheriff is, that he has taken the body, and has it ready to satisfy plaintiff. In consequence of that, I am of opinion the executor or administrator of that plaintiff, without any new process, has a right to this new demand, and defendant must lie in execution until he has satisfied him. For as the interest of the judgment goes to the executor or administrator so on the imprisonment of the body of the defendant by virtue of the *ca. sa.* which is an execution completed, the benefit and interest of that pledge (as it is now by the rule of law according to *Hobart*, though *Coke* held otherwise, and to settle the difference between two such great men at last the law was determined by act of parliament 21 *J.* 1. that it is a pledge) vests in the executor or administrator, and defendant has nothing to do but to say, he will pay the money, and desire to be discharged. Thus far I will go, though I cannot cite cases for it, that if no executor or administrator appears, as if he has died without a will (for if he has made a will, though not proved, an executor may certainly receive the money, and release before probate) but if he has died intestate, and nobody will take out administration, I am of opinion, that defendant being in custody might make a special motion to the court on notice to the next of kin, representing to the court that he was in custody, and ready to pay the debt; and if the next of kin would not take out administration in reasonable

able time, the court would find means to relieve him according to equitable rules. But this would be the rule at common law; and the ground of it is, that it is a thing vested, going to the executor or administrator, the party being in custody for the very duty for which the judgment was given, and the executor or administrator for whose benefit the sheriff has his body, has a right to detain him without new process. But the next consideration is, how this is to be applied to process of contempt out of this court, after a decree, in nature of an execution? I am of opinion there will be a difference. In this case plaintiff is in custody on process of contempt under a decree for costs on dismissal of the bill, but I do not think that will differ from the case of a defendant in custody; for where the court gives costs against plaintiff, that defendant is in nature of a plaintiff. But a difference will arise on the nature and foundation of the process; which is always by way of process for contempt, not for a debt or duty to have the body here to satisfy that; but all for a contempt in not obeying the order and decree of the king's court. Consider it therefore in case of sequestration, which is the nearest to a *fi. fa.* that can be; though perhaps more analogous to a *cap' utlagatum*, but it is often compared to a *fi. fa.* If a sequestration issues for a duty decreed, or costs, and the party dies; that sequestration must be revived, as I take it; and so it was done in *Wharām v. Broughton*; the reason is, because the process is for contempt, and that process must die with the person. This differs it from the *fi. fa.* in *Sal.* which was held should go on, though the party dies before it is completed. If therefore it is to be compared to a *fi. fa.* throughout, that sequestration must subsist on the goods of the defendant according to that case in *Sal.* until the whole sum is levied, but that is contrary to the established rule of the court. For if the party dies it must be revived, otherwise he is to be discharged out of custody. The method in that case is, that the court will not immediately turn the sequestrators out of possession, but give time to revive that sequestration in a reasonable time; and if that is so in case of sequestration, how ought it to be in process of contempt against the body of plaintiff for costs decreed to defendant? Is the plaintiff, who is now the debtor, to be kept in custody on the process sued out by the original defendant? Notwithstanding his death, I am opinion he is not, on this difference taken between the ground of an execution in this court and a court of law, because this is in execution merely for contempt, which process falls with the person suing it out, unless some method is taken to revive it: whereas at common law it is an execution *in rem*, or if *in personam*, it is for payment of the duty, but neither is he immediately to be discharged, and therefore the like method is to be taken as in case of sequestration, that unless revived in a reasonable time by the representatives of the party dying, he must be discharged.

Johnson *versus* Peck, July 1752.

Case 158.

A Motion was made at the desire, as was said, of the Master of the *Rolls*, to have it moved as soon as *Lord Chancellor* should have given his opinion in the above case. It was that the cause which had abated by marriage of a *feme* plaintiff might stand revived.

The plaintiff came only to revive in respect of costs, which were unliquidated and due to plaintiff.

Lord Chancellor having ordered the decree to be read, said, this was a decree out of assets of testator; which was an executory decree, something was to be done; and therefore there might be a revivor for the whole, though the costs not taxed at all. It has been the rule, though a very strict and hard rule, to be sure, that if a man, to whom costs are decreed, especially in this court, where costs are sometimes very considerable, happens to die, and the suit abates, there should not be a revivor, because the costs were not taxed. Perhaps it was too strong a distinction, and too much weight laid on it originally; and therefore the court has always endeavoured to get out of it, so as always to hold, that if any thing remains executory in the decree, besides payment of costs, the party might revive though not taxed; and that would carry revivor for costs along with it. Now this is a decree out of assets, and though the court has not gone on and directed as it should have done, that if assets are not admitted, they should go on and take the account, the court would supply that on petition. An account of these assets must be taken; and on that distinction the suit ought to be revived.

It was urged that the account of assets was but incident to the right of the costs,

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Suppose defendant, whether executor or administrator, had died, the costs not being decreed against him personally, but a debt on testator's or intestate's estate (for so it is taken) why might not that be revived against the administrator *de bonis non*?

Case 159.

Taner versus Ivie, July 27, 1752.

Prochein Amy
allowed costs
on dismissing
infant's bill.

PETITION to be allowed costs paid on the part of the *Prochein Amy* on the dismissal of the infant's bill with costs.

A bill had been brought for account of the estate of ——— *Ivie*, which stood out on several securities; the common decree was made; a receiver appointed; and an account to be taken of debts, and of what the trustee received out of the estate. An order was obtained, that the Master should look into the examination of the executor *Berry*, defendant in that suit, to see what money he had in his hands. That order produced a report, by which it appeared, that *Berry* had received money on a mortgage of *Wigington* and several other sums. Application was made to direct him to pay those several sums. The court directed him to pay 1000*l.* not all that he had charged himself with. *Berry* was then taken to be solvent and in good circumstances, but after his death appeared to be insolvent. A supplemental bill was then filed against *Hull*, to whom *Berry* had assigned the said mortgage. (which he had as executor of *Ivie*) in 1738, in order to make *Hull* liable to this sum upon the transaction between him and *Berry*. After an answer was put in, there was an application to refer it to a Master to inquire, whether it was for benefit of the infant to proceed in that suit? The Master reported, that it would be for his benefit to carry it on against all the defendants. It was brought to a hearing in *July* 1746, and dismissed as to *Hull* with costs: the costs were paid by *Leigh*, the receiver on the part of the *Prochein Amy*.

To have these costs allowed out of the infant's estate was this petition preferred; for that notwithstanding the determination, the *Prochein Amy* had not misbehaved in carrying on that suit; for it was at that time very doubtful matter, whether the specifick assets of testator, applied (as this way) by the executor, could be followed into the hands of the assignee of that executor; and therefore very proper to have the judgment of the court upon it: though the judgment was, that it could not be so followed, that ought not to turn the costs upon the *Prochein Amy*, and make him pay them out of his own pocket. It would be very dangerous to do that, wherever the *Prochein Amy* did not succeed in the suit, and render it impossible to recover debts for infants. *Your Lordship's* judgment in 1746 was grounded on two determinations by *Your Lordship* not long before. The first was *Nu-*
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gent v. Giffard.* The other *The Executors of the late Duke of* ^{* Cited ante in *Jacomb v. Harwood*.}
Buckingham v. Mead the Banker; where an assignment of a mortgage, part of the estate of old *Mead* (to whom young *Mead* was executor) was taken as a security for the young Duke, for his duly accounting. He did not duly account; but died in debt. The whole question was whether an executor could so as to make the assignee secure assign part of the specific estate of testator to purposes, which on the face of them did not seem to be any part of the trust of the will; for after *Nugent v. Giffard* it was too strong to argue, that an executor could not raise money on it, and apply that money afterward: but a difference was insisted on, where the executor did not receive the money, but paid it off himself; *Your Lordship* held, and for the sake of convenience, that there was little difference between an executor's receiving the money and being intrusted with applying it as he pleased, or actually paying it off himself. Consistent with these determinations *Your Lordship* could not determine otherwise in the present case, as it settled a point that was unsettled before: and therefore it is a proper suit to be carried on.

Against this it was insisted for plaintiff, that by the event of the suit against *Hull* and other circumstances antecedent, it was a frivolous suit: dismissing the bill proves no probable cause of litigation. It is a general rule, that *Prochein Amy* shall pay defendant costs of dismissing infant's bill: and though there may be an exception, it is dangerous to admit one, or to say that where the Master reports the suit to be for the infant's benefit, if it turns out otherwise, the infant should bear the costs. - It must be a very special case to take it out of that rule. Notwithstanding the order to see whether it was for the infant's benefit to carry it on, there was collusion and concealment from the Master, of matters proper to be laid before him, which would have shewn the weakness of this demand: and there was laches in carrying it on, so that it was set down to be heard at request of defendant *Hull*.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is a very uncommon question to come before the court, how far a *Prochein Amy* in a suit for an infant, which is carried on by approbation of the court, shall be charged with costs in the event of that suit, or have an allowance for those costs against the infant. To be sure the court ought to take care of infants, that they are not prejudiced by persons debtors to their estates, or who have the management of their estates: but was the court to go by such strict rules as are now laid down for the plaintiff, who opposes this petition, it would be very dangerous to attempt the management of infants estates. They must act under great degrees

degrees of uncertainty and under probabilities; and so must the Master's who cannot upon such references to them hear the other side, against whom the bill is brought, but only judge on circumstances *prima facie* whether it is reasonable to carry on such a suit for the infant. Application to refer to a Master is very common; a *Prochein Amy* will venture to bring a bill to see on what foot the answer puts it: but after answer comes in, and that it will probably be attended with expence, then is that application made. Thus far it appears, care was taken by the *Prochein Amy* that an order was obtained in that suit for the examination of *Berry*, before the general account on the report was obtained, to see what money was in his hands, and how far there was ground to direct him to pay money into court for the infant's benefit. I cannot say, the 1000 *l.* the court directed him to pay was merely on the foot of that mortgage in controversy: nor know I, out of what the court extracted that 1000 *l.* which was not particularly applied to any specifick sum, with which he had charged himself. It is material, and has produced the present controversy, that *Berry* was then in apparent good circumstances (nor is his credit impeached, so far as appears) but afterward that he died insolvent, which occasioned the supplemental bill; and that might be very reasonable; for before his death there was no reason to look further; but after his insolvency it was reasonable for the receiver and those concerned for the infant to see the transaction of that mortgage, and whether there was any other person, whom they could charge with this sum in aid of the infant's estate. As to the grounds insisted upon to shew the costs ought to be borne by the *Prochein Amy* or the receiver, who swears, he paid them for the *Prochein Amy*, the dismissing the bill with costs as against *Hull* does not prove, that there was not a probable cause of litigating; for *Hull* being a mortgagee and real creditor, and brought before the court to have his security impeached, if the bill is dismissed, there is hardly an instance in which it is not with costs; for being brought before the court without just grounds, the court would not do him justice, unless costs were given to him, as he is a creditor and incumbrancer. The court does not in that case inquire, whether there was probable cause of litigating. It is a different question between the *Prochein Amy* and the infant, in whose behalf he has brought the suit; for then the question is, whether he was sufficiently warranted to bring it; whether it was brought and carried on in a reasonable manner and without laches; for if so, the infant ought to reimburse him in that suit, especially in a case of this kind where every thing as to the account and management of the infant's estate was under the direction of the court. As to the collusion and concealment mentioned, it is a sufficient answer thereto, that this matter was referred to the very
same

same Master, before whom the account was, and before whom *Berry* admitted this sum to be in his hands. If there is collusion between an executor and another person, as to playing over part of testator's estate into the hands of that other, both would be liable to make satisfaction; but at the hearing no such fraud or collusion was made out, as was sufficient to charge *Hull* and make him answerable; which was the ground of my determination; not upon any general principle that an assignee or person taking security of an estate from an executor is not to be answerable. I do not know, that there can be any such principle in these cases; they all depend on circumstances; and therefore my determination in *Nugent v. Giffard* was grounded on a case in *Vernon* in Lord *Cowper*'s time, where the court had in their decree said, that contrivance appeared between the executor and assignee of the mortgage to make a *devastavit*; and wherever such contrivance appeared, notwithstanding any of those determinations, the court would hold the assignee liable. But I was not satisfied in *Nugent v. Giffard*, that there was sufficient evidence to come up to the ground of Lord *Cowper*'s determination; nor was there in the present case. Next there does not appear any laches or misbehaviour in carrying on the suit: its being heard on request of the defendant is no proof thereof; for that they could not help; and might not upon further inquiry chuse to bring it on themselves. The ground of the proceeding against *Hull* plainly arose after that report from the insolvency of *Berry*. They have done nothing but what a man would do in his own case: and though it has turned out unfortunately, the court will not say, they ought to bear the costs. The Master upon those references to inquire does not perhaps look so far, as he ought, and reports it a proper suit; that is not a reason, if afterward found improper, to make the *Prochein Amy* pay the costs. I have known bills to establish the custom of manors: It has been referred to a Master to inquire, whether it was for infant's benefit to carry it on: the Master can go only upon probabilities; nothing is so uncertain as the evidence of such customs: that bill may be dismissed. If it shall be said, that the receiver and *Prochein Amy* shall bear the costs of it, nobody would undertake the management of such an estate of an infant. The petitioner therefore ought to be allowed this.

Assignee of
executor not
liable, unless
collusion.

Case 160.

Champ versus Mood, July 28, 1752.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Interest not
commonly re-
served under
general direc-
tions, unless
after trial at
law.

RESERVATION of further directions in general hath not been taken to reserve interest; and interest ought to be expressly directed by the decree to be reserved. I do not say, but there may be a case, where it has been pointed out in the cause, perhaps the court would take interest to be reserved on such general directions. After a direction of a trial at law reservation of general directions will be taken to include costs, interest, and every thing: but in the common case of reference to a Master it is taken to be otherwise. The reason I take to be, that the question of interest should be pointed out to the Master that he may have notice and attention to that matter so reserved, that his report may be adapted to it.

Case 161.

Ex Parte Watkins, July 29, 1752,

Guardian.

PETITION that the court should appoint a guardian of the personal estate of *Anne Watkins*.

A petition may be without bill filed: there is no person before the court who has any legal right; no testamentary guardian so as to be valid; neither father or mother. The governor of the *Leeward Islands* appointed a guardian; but that fails, as soon as the infant came to *England*. An instrument is set up, by which the infant names a guardian: but the infant, though, fourteen, has no right to do so, because she has no *free* lands. If she had, the court would not suffer the infant to be bound by such an act, but turn it rather the other way; as held lately by *His Lordship* in the case of Mr. *Locker*, who of the age of eighteen had appointed a guardian under his hand. If then no legal right, it devolves on the court, which can now appoint, the infant being resident here. The application is made to avoid expence; and the question is, which of the parties applying is fittest?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It is not proper for me to determine; it must go to the Master.

Bickham

Bickham *versus* Crofs, July 29, 1752.

Case 162.

ON petition, the question was, whether interest should be carried on upon the whole sum reported due for principal, interest, and costs?

Lord Chancellor said, there was no instance of the court's computing interest on costs except as to a mortgage. It was certainly the strict rule of the court, that where mortgagor came to redeem, and mortgagee to foreclose, and afterward there is a report computing what is due for principal, interest, and costs, all that is considered, as one accumulated, consolidated, sum; and if the court enlarges the time, and it goes back to the Master to compute subsequent interest and costs, the Master reports the subsequent interest on the whole sum. The ground of that he took to be, that the mortgaged estate is a pledge for the money. The court gives relief contrary to the rule of law, (for at law it is absolute) and can do it on such terms, as the court thinks fit. If a person comes for enlargement of time, that is a favour, granted by the court not only beyond what the law, but beyond what the decree, allows; and computation of interest shall be for the whole: but in several other cases, as suppose it was on a personal demand, as on a bond, to be relieved against the penalty, and that on payment of principal, interest, and costs, there should be relief, and afterward there is subsequent interest, he did not know, that the court carries on the subsequent interest on the whole sum reported due for principal, interest, and costs. In other cases it happens more frequently; as on an account taken, and for performance of a trust decreed, a general report is made by the Master of what is due to creditors, and creditors are of a different nature; they afterward come for a subsequent computation of interest; he took it, that the Master does not carry the subsequent computation upon the whole. He very well knew, that if some of these creditors are mortgagees, and they come to the court for a separate report, the court sometimes puts it on them to consent, that notwithstanding the separate report that shall not carry interest on the whole sum: but did not know, that the court puts these terms on other creditors except mortgagees. In performance of the trust of a real estate, where several debts are to be preferred, this must have occurred in several instances. The court only directs subsequent interest to be carried on, and leaves it to the Master, except as to mortgagees, in which the compound sum always carries interest: yet the court always considered that as in their discretion: and that

that discretion introduced, what he did some time ago as to the variation of interest.

But it being apprehended that the practice was to compute interest on the whole sum, *His Lordship* said, he would consider in what manner the subsequent interest should be carried on; and afterward (as I was informed) directed it to be carried on the whole sum.

Ante.
Abley v.
Powis, 1750.

Case 163. Earl of Pomfret *versus* Lord Windsor, July, 30,

1752.

Fine by persons in possession, and non-claim thereon, the legal estate being in trustee, barred not an equitable charge under the deed of trust, though after great length of time.

THE end of the bill was in right of Lady Pomfret, plaintiff's wife, to have a general account of the personal estate of her father John Lord Jefferies, and as connected with that, to have an execution of a trust for raising 20,000 *l.* out of a real estate, which when raised was by that trust and a private act of parliament passed on it to become part of the personal estate of Lord Jefferies.

The material facts constituting the case, on which the plaintiff's demand arose, were, that Lord Jefferies, before the revolution, intermarried with Lady Pomfret's mother, sole daughter and heir of Philip Earl of Pembroke, and in that right was intitled to a very great real estate in several counties. It did not appear, nor was it alleged throughout the cause, that on the marriage any settlement or articles were entered into, but after the marriage things stood in the same way until 1697, when the trust, upon which the valuable part of the plaintiff's demand arose, was created; and then the family took it into consideration to make mutual settlements; by one of which Lord Jefferies was to make a settlement of a real estate and jointure for his wife, and on the other side she was to make a settlement of her estate, by which in default of issue still she would be mistress of it, but to be charged with 20,000 *l.* to be raised out of that estate in nature of a portion Lord Jefferies was to have with her, but to be applied to particular trusts. By that settlement by Lady Jefferies three estates in Monmouth, Wilts, and Glamorgan, were conveyed nominally: but the *Wiltshire* estate was not material to the present consideration, the family never being in possession or claiming any part of it, going along with the male branch of the *Pembroke* family: so that this was to be considered as a conveyance only of the other two estates, as it was in effect. They were thereby conveyed to three trustees in fee, of whom Sir John Trevor was one. The first trust was on the *Monmouth* estate to sell it with all convenient

speed, and by the money arising and by the rents and profits until sale they were to purchase in an annuity, if the premises appeared to be charged therewith; and then to pay off portions with which the premises should appear charged; then to pay off the debts of Lord *Pembroke*; and afterward to raise 20,000 *l.* as and for the portion of Lady *Jefferies*, and for the use and benefit of Lord *Jefferies*, in manner following: first to be applied to clear the lands settled in jointure on Lady *Jefferies*, and particularly a mortgage which was on that estate, made by Lord Chancellor *Jefferies*: and out of the residue of it they were, if they thought fit, to pay any charge for portions or maintenances of the sisters of Lord *Jefferies* or other incumbrancers: but there was a direction, that they should not be compelled to pay off the said portions and maintenances, unless they thought fit: and after payment of the said mortgage-money and of the portions and maintenances, if they thought fit to pay them, the surplus to Lord *Jefferies*, his executors, administrators, and assigns. Then a direction how the residue of the *Monmouth* estate was to be settled. Afterward the trust was declared of the *Wiltshire* estate, supposed to belong to them: but it was entirely left to the discretion of the trustees, whether they would make any use thereof, and to which they were not to be compelled in a court of equity or otherwise. The next trust was as to the *Glamorgan* estate, now in question, to sell it, and with the money arising and the rents and profits until sale to raise 4000 *l.* of which 1000 *l.* was to be paid to Lord *Jefferies* himself; 3000 *l.* to his wife to her separate use, or of such person as she should appoint; and next that if the money arising by sale of the *Monmouth* estate, and also of the *Wiltshire* estate if they thought fit to use it, should not be sufficient to raise the 20,000 *l.* then the trustees should out of the *Glamorgan* estate raise so much as should not be raised by sale of the others: and when this 20,000 *l.* was made up, there was to be an end of this trust.

After the execution of this deed they had issue a daughter in 1698. In 1702 Lord *Jefferies* died intestate. His widow took administration, and soon after in 1703 intermarried with Thomas Lord *Windsor*; who thereby stood in her place as to administration of Lord *Jefferies*'s estate and the powers over that estate, and also came into possession of such real estate as she was intitled to; which was the whole of her real estate subject as to those charges, as Lord *Jefferies* died without issue-male; and also had the power of guardianship of the infant, then of very tender years, and the management of her affairs.

Soon after this marriage in 1703, Lord *Windsor* levied a fine of the wife's whole estate, particularly of those estates subject to the

trust of the deed of 1697, they being in possession of the estate, and having continued in possession in her right from the death of Lord *Jefferies*. The uses of that fine were declared to Lord *Windsor* and his heirs.

Two bills were brought for demands out of Lord *Jefferies*'s estate, and debts which he owed. A private act of parliament was obtained in 1708, which related to several matters; the principal and longest part to the estate of Lord *Chancellor Jefferies*: but it also took up the consideration of the trust of the estates, created by the deed in 1697, which deed is particularly recited in the act: and there was this clause therein, that for preventing all controversies as to this 20,000 *l.* it was declared and enacted, that it shall be taken to be part of the personal assets of Lord *Jefferies*, and liable to pay his debts, and to reimburse Lady *Windsor* two sums which she allowed and deducted out of the value of her jointure toward discharging a mortgage made by Lord *Chancellor Jefferies*, and portions and maintenances, and the surplus to be distributable according to stat. of distribution.

After this the creditors of Lord *Jefferies* brought on their bill to a hearing in 1712; when a decree was made by Lord *Harcourt* in this manner; to refer to the Master to take an account of the debts due to the creditors of Lord *Jefferies*, and tax their costs; and in order to the distribution of the 20,000 *l.* according to the act of parliament, it is ordered and decreed, that so much of the said trust estate as shall be sufficient to raise the said 20,000 *l.* be sold to the best purchaser, and the trustees are to execute their trust by making such sale, and the defendants Lord *Windsor* and his wife to join therein; and out of the money the wife first to be paid before all the creditors those two sums mentioned in the act, and next the creditors their several demands respectively; and afterward it is ordered and decreed, that the rest of the said sum be distributable according to the stat. of distribution; and the defendant Lord *Windsor* being in right of his wife intitled to one third of the residue, let that be paid to him; and the daughter and only child of Lord *Jefferies* being intitled to the other two thirds, and being an infant, let the said two thirds be brought before the Master to be put out at interest for the benefit of the infant; and let the defendant Sir *John Trevor*, who has in several transactions taken care of the infant's concerns, have notice when the Master is to be attended by the creditors, and for placing out the money; and that Lord *Windsor* come to an account for the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies*.

A report was made in 1714, by which it appeared, that the directions in the decree were not in the least pursued; and Lord *Windsor* stood out process to sequestration, which issued against him for production of the deeds and writings of the estate. In 1717, Sir *John Trevor* died. In 1719, the infant attained her age, and in 1720, intermarried with the plaintiff. After this it did not appear, that any care was taken as to the proceedings in those causes; but Lord *Windsor* continued to pay the debts of Lord *Jefferies* in the country and in a private manner: nor was any account as to this laid before the plaintiffs on their marriage. In 1729, Lord *Windsor* mortgaged this *Glamorgan* estate to *Benjamin Hoare*. In 1733, Lady *Windsor* died. In 1738, Lord *Windsor* died, having by his will created a trust upon his real estate for payment of debts, and made his son, the defendant, executor; who upon the sale of this *Glamorgan* estate under that trust created by Lord *Windsor*, purchased it. There was after this an intercourse of letters between the defendant and the plaintiffs and the solicitor of the plaintiffs; but the bill was not filed until 1746.

For plaintiffs. It is seldom that a demand at this distance is so well established. It is a good demand under the deed, as part of the effects of Lord *Jefferies*, purchaser of it under a settlement: but afterward established both by the act of parliament and decree. There are four general objections. First that the fine and five years nonclaim are by the statute of fines an absolute bar: but considering it first as a fine to operate in point of law, and as if now argued in a court of law, it is null and void, and never affected the legal estate in the trustees. If one, after notoriously turned out of possession, will continue so long without asserting his right, he shall be barred: but he must be turned out of possession, divested, or put to a right, so as to be called on to bring his action. Therefore no fine by tenant for years, life, copy, or will, the rent being paid all the while, will bar the landlord. So where privity of estate; as in tenant for life, remainder for life, tenant in tail remainder in tail, the possession is in privity. Then the possession of Lord and Lady *Windsor* is the possession of the trustees, and would be so in point of law. They come in in privity, and are allowed to have possession of the estate by permission of the trustees, whose duty it was to permit them; so that at law they were only tenants at will to the trustees, and have done no act to disaffirm the title of the trustees; it is incident to all mortgages to let mortgagor continue in possession as long as interest is paid; and no fine can bar mortgagee, because mortgagor must be considered as tenant at will to him, and in privity of estate. Lady *Jefferies* was in effect mortgagor of this estate; for the deed was made to secure this debt of hers on the death of Lord *Jefferies*; she continued in the same way, intitled to the equity

Ante.

equity of redemption and to the money arising from it; to one third in her own right, and to two thirds as trustee for her daughter. The intent of this fine by her and her second husband was to put that equity, she had in her own right, in him; a mere donation of her to him, who took it as a volunteer; and by his will speaks so. Being an equitable interest it could not be conveyed to him but by fine; the design could not be answered otherwise. Then this fine cannot be now set up contrary to that design, and be said to turn the trustees estate to a right. The general rule of law is, that a fine operates according to intent of the parties, and not further. There is no evidence, that they meant a disseisin of the trustees: they all along aver the contrary, in their petition upon obtaining the act of parliament, in their answer to the creditor's bill; and both the legislature and decree considered it as a subsisting, continuing, settlement, not as barred; and establish it. Lord *Windsor*, as long as he could, kept off the sale of this estate decreed, as knowing that the residue, after payment of the creditors would be brought into court for the infant's benefit. The court directed a receiver: this fine then must be a disseisin of the court; must run against that possession, the court had for benefit of the infant; like the late case of Lord *Portsmouth v. Vincent*, where an estate was stolen out of possession of the court, and a fine and length of time, 38 years of possession, insisted upon: *Your Lordship* held, it should not bar, being founded in fraud; and that is another ground to set aside this fine in a court of law, that it is covinous to defeat this settlement. *Farmer's* case. If there should be any doubt in a court of law, there is none in equity. Trustee cannot levy a fine to defeat *cestuy que trust*; for every one in possession with notice of the trust is a trustee; and *cestuy que trust* has nothing to do with the possession: but it may be rested on this, that in point of law it is no bar; for they were in possession in privity of this deed. No one can be disseisor who comes in in privity of another. It is a maxim of the *Roman* law, that none can change the cause of his possession; because it is a fraud; does not give the rightful owner notice; and if the parties at time of the fine had nothing, being only tenants at will to the legal owners, it is void, and cannot after be made good, *Saffin's* case, though a voidable act may. The second general objection is the distance or length of time at which this demand is made, whether, laying the fine out of the case, that is any bar by any positive rule of law. No statute of limitations extends to it: the legal estate remains still in the heir of the trustee, who cannot keep it. The court must say on what terms, that must come out of him; which cannot be without satisfying these trusts. The first view in which length of time may be of weight, is, where it furnishes presumptive evidence of satisfaction. It never pays a debt: but will in many cases presume payment: as where no demand is made on a bond for eighteen years, a jury will pre-

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sume payment. So of a legacy, and the acquiescence not being accounted for, this court will presume: which will stand until the contrary appears. If there is any appearance of this debt being paid, length of time would have great weight; but there is no suggestion of it: not so much as a belief formed. The late *Master of the Rolls* said, that where defendant insisted on length of time, but could not form a belief whether it was paid or not, the court would not form a belief of it. It is indeed long since *Lady Pomfret* came of age; but several accidents since account for it: no care was taken from Sir *John Trevor's* death. Until 1736. she had no notice of this demand. The plaintiffs then went abroad for above three years; during which and ever since it has been under treaty. A second view, in which length of time may be material, is, where it would lay the parties, against whom the demand is made, under great difficulties; but with this restriction (which is a third view) to whose fault the acquiescence is owing: for the party cannot benefit himself by that acquiescence, into which he unjustly deceives another. If some hardships were to fall on the defendants by this length of time, it was owing to the misbehaviour of Lord *Windsor*. The third general objection, in which all the defendants are concerned, is as to the interest, the rate and from what time. It will clearly follow the principal, as a satisfaction for detention of the demand, a charge by way of portion on a real estate, out of which it is payable and to be raised immediately. Then until raised, Lord *Windsor*, who received the benefit, must pay the interest. The land is the debtor; the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies* the creditor. A charge of a precise sum on land carries interest always. From the report the residue of the 20,000 *l.* became liquidated: but it ought to carry it from the act of parliament or decree; and not less than the present legal rate. The next head of objections are those peculiar to some of the defendants; which, if good, will cover the whole of these assets from this demand. The first is by the representatives of *Hoare*, whether they have a right in this court to have his mortgage preferred to the plaintiff's demand? They have no legal estate in them nor in any trustee for them. Then having nothing but an equity as well as the plaintiffs, the court must decree according to the prior equity. But if they had the legal estate, they had notice, and so must become trustees. Perhaps the act of parliament, because private, may not be notice: but there is a decree, which has been determined to be notice. 2 C. C. 48. A suit in equity is such a *lis pendens* as to affect all mankind; which, though a hard rule, holds, because it is otherwise impossible to come at justice. Then a decree, which is to be carried into execution, is fuller notice than a suit. But if there was not this constructive, there is actual, notice; as notice to the solicitor or person transacting always is as well as the party himself; and that would appear, if they produce the copy of this deed in 1697. and the ab-

tract of the title deeds of this estate; which the representatives of *Hoare* admit, they found in his custody, and that they were laid before his counsel. If they do not produce, notice, which is charged, will be presumed. That is the constant rule; and has been so ruled by Lord *Chief Baron* at *Nisi prius* upon the not producing shop-books. Next as to *Clavering's* mortgage made afterward by Lord *Windsor*, the estate is thereby taken subject to *Hoare's* mortgage expressly: nor have they a legal estate of any sort, not even under this colourable fine, but take a mere equity. Another particular defence is by Lord *Windsor* as purchaser of the *Glamorgan* estate: but whether or no that was fair and for a full price, he had undoubtedly notice.

For defendants. Defendants admit, this was originally part of the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies*; but insist on plaintiffs shewing, that this residue of it still remains not applied in a course of administration to answer prior demands; for if those are sufficient to exhaust the whole, the plaintiffs have no right. Courts of equity discountenance suits for old, stale accounts. Presumption from length of time is used by the law for the sake of publick peace and quiet, (which is the ground of the statute of limitations), and that otherwise it were to do justice but by hazard, especially here where the sum is not specifick or liquidated. On these two principles are bonds, legacies, and judgments presumed paid, mortgages satisfied, and so the whole equity of redemption and right to an estate is given up after letting mortgagee continue in possession twenty years. Length of time will presume a fine, recovery, tenant to *præcipe*, or even an act of parliament, and deeds to be executed. A merchant here sends over to his correspondant an account; if not objected to, it is presumed right. In conveyances of real estates after twenty-five years livery of seisin is presumed. There is a bar from a positive rule of law, considering it as an action of account which must be within six years after infant attains his age. *Eq. Abr.* 304. The question is not, whether the plaintiffs have not satisfied this demand, but whether this 20,000 *l.* has not been satisfied in the way it ought; for then the plaintiffs have no demand, and length of time will presume it properly administered. Lady *Pomfret* must have had notice of this settlement: this is not a case, in which defendants are to prove notice. Lord *Windsor* might pay the debts without selling the estate: and it cannot be thence inferred, that endeavours were used to prevent her from knowing her right. The next defence is from the effect of the fine levied upon her thinking proper to settle this estate on her husband, and of the nonclaim. It is said to be no bar, because this is a trust. It would be laying down the rule too general to say, a fine would not bar a trust: suppose an estate in trust for *A.* and his heirs, who is in possession, and conveys to another for valuable consideration;

tion : that other has only a mere trust : a third person gets into possession, and, while he enjoys it wrongfully twenty years, levies a fine : if he, who had the legal right originally, was to bring an action at law or ejectment, he could not recover. If he could, a fine would amount to little in most of these estates, which are purchased, as the legal estate often cannot be got in. Estates in trust, as most in this kingdom are now, depend on possession, which is good against the owner of the legal estate. So likewise as to any claims and charges out of the estate, which must also be barred. It is said, a fine bars only according to the intent : but it may be used for every purpose to support that, for which it was levied. The breaking through this would break through all equitable fines, on which several estates are held. But though from the privity it should not be a bar as to Lord and Lady *Windsor*, the subsequent purchasers shall have the full operation of it, when they come in, and the nonclaim run from thence. The general principle, why a court of equity will not relieve against purchasers for valuable consideration, is not, because they have the legal estate, but because it will not for the sake of another, who has no better equity, take away from him that which he has equitably purchased. It is mistaking the rule to say, the prior equity shall prevail ; for the defendants are purchasers for valuable consideration, insisting that the plaintiffs have no right to come against them for aid in a court of equity ; and if they had pleaded their purchases, the court would not inquire, whether or no they had the legal title, but whether the money was paid, &c. Notice is not to be presumed, and is not shewn. If one directed to produce books, which will be evidence against him, will not, as he ought, the presumption in a court of law will be against him : but that is not the case of purchasers for valuable consideration without notice, whom this court permits to conceal deeds and writings. It does not appear, when the copy and abstract came into the custody of *Hoare* ; and it might be after his mortgage. The letters of the defendant Lord *Windsor* to the plaintiff and his solicitor, offering to come to an account and a reference, are no admission. It only means to refer the determination of the bar from length of time. As to interest, this is a residue of personal estate and assets, which do not carry interest.

Lord Chancellor allowed an objection made to the reading receipts, proved *viva voce* at the hearing, to shew certain debts of Lord *Jefferies* paid by Lord *Windsor*. On *plene administravit* the defendant must shew something, that such a debt was due ; and perhaps after such a distance of time ancient receipts may be reasonable evidence, that there was such a debt : but as to proving exhibits *viva voce* it is a certain, established rule, that you can only prove the handwriting of the person to that exhibit, or the handwriting of the witness : but cannot enter into any examination whatever, that

Evidence.
Exhibits *viva voce* cannot be read, where there is a right to cross examine.

that will admit of a cross examination. Then supposing these receipts might be some evidence of a debt due from Lord *Jefferies*, as otherwise his representatives would not pay the money, that is a fact, the plaintiffs ought to have liberty to controvert; and therefore it ought to be examined in a proper manner, where there may be that liberty; for suppose, the plaintiffs have a witness to prove, it was the debt of Lord *Windfor* or his wife, they could not call that witness here: therefore that very right, the plaintiffs have to controvert, and cross examine, is an objection to the reading these *viva voce*: not but that Lord *Windfor* may have the benefit of them some way or other.

His Lordship took time to consider of the cause; and said, it was material to see certain fines said to be levied; because whoever claimed as purchasers for valuable consideration without notice, were not bound by the recital in the act of parliament, which was not a publick act to bind all mankind: and now delivered his opinion.

I directed this cause to stand over for judgment, not for any material doubt in my own mind concerning the justice of the case, but in some measure to give opportunity to the plaintiffs to supply a formality in evidence; and also as I saw the case attended with such particular circumstances, as would require some special direction to attain justice, which would require consideration; and also as the cause consists of a great variety of facts, some of which are not without intricacy.

The material part of the case arises on the deed of trust in 1697, by which the trustees have the inheritance in them. The trusts are declared dividedly and in a different manner: though they amount at last to the same purpose. The prior charges to the raising the 20,000 *l.* are all uncertain and in the dark; and the trustees had a discretion, if they thought fit, to exonerate Lady *Jefferies's* jointure from those charges. By the act of parliament this trust is enacted to be carried into execution, and the money raised; and so it is ordered by the decree, which is a very uncommon one, and particular care taken in giving the directions.

Upon the state of the case there are two general considerations.

First the nature and original right of the plaintiff's demand; which is to be rather mentioned than considered, being as plain as can be, a bill for a common, ordinary, relief in equity by a child for an account of the personal estate of her father, and to have a distributive share of it according to the statute; and, as one part consists of a trust of a real estate, to call for an execution of that trust.

But the material consideration arises on the second head, to be divided into several parts upon the objections and defences to this demand, of which several kinds are set up by way of bars.

First all the defendants insist on the fine and nonclaim, which has arisen thereon: but I am of opinion, there is no colour for a bar from thence either in law or equity. First, to take it as it stands at common law, it was a void fine; and any person might plead thereto, that *partes finis nihil habuerunt*; for after the second marriage of Lady *Jefferies* they continued in possession by permission of the trustees, who had undoubtedly the legal estate in them upon several trusts, particularly to raise this 20,000*l.* which was an incumbrance therefore on this estate. Then in point of law they were tenants at will to those trustees; and therefore the possession of Lord and Lady *Windsor* after the marriage; and of her before the marriage, was the very possession in consideration of law of the trustees. Then what do they do, being thus in possession? They do no act to change the nature of it, but barely levy a fine: this then in consideration of law is only a fine by tenants at will to the trustees, and consequently void according to all the determinations; as in *Farmer's case*, 3 *Co.* *Saffin's case*, 5 *Co.* This proves, they meant nothing by the fine but to pass what they might; for if they meant a wrong thereby, they must have taken another method; as this could not work a disseisin on the trustees and turn their estate to a right, while they were tenants at will to the trustees. This way indeed they might do it according to the distinction taken in several cases, particularly in *Dormer v. Parkhurst*, if they executed a feoffment on the land; because it is a feoffment on livery, which is notoriety to the trustees, and puts it on them to make entry to avoid: but that not being done, things were just as before: no estate was gained to them by wrong, nor the estate turned to a right. Beside those general cases aforesaid, there is *Focus v. Salisbury*, *Hard.* 400 in which the opinion of Lord *Hale* as to the privity between lessor and lessee, where the fine should not bar, is very material to this, he comparing that case directly to a mortgage; and here is as much privity, as can be. This then has clearly no operation in point of law; and indeed the acts subsequent to the fine explain it to the contrary, and shew, it was not the intent of the parties to the fine to disseise or bar the trustees, *viz.* the private act of parliament obtained after the fine by Lord and Lady *Windsor* for an execution of this trust, and the decree in a suit to which they were parties, and did not complain thereof. All these cases amount to the cases put in *Farmer's case*, where the paying the rent was held evidence of no disseisin of the lessor, as paying the rent admitted possession of the lessor. I agree to what the defendants insist on, that the purchasers coming in since ought to have the full benefit of the operation

Fine by tenant at will, void: no disseisin. Otherwise of feoffment on livery.

Nonclaim on
a void fine of
no effect.

On fine by
tenant for life,
reversioner
need not enter
until five
years after
his death.

Where a fine
no bar in
equity, tho'
a bar in law

Mortgagee
is not barred
by fine by
mortgagor in
possession.

Length of
time how far
a bar in
equity to an

of this fine; but they cannot have more than the operation of it. As this fine was a nullity at first, nothing arising from length of time can make it good; and nonclaim on a void fine amounts to nothing, has no effect at all. There is no difference in that respect from length of time: but in cases where the fine was good in its original, and the parties to be barred by the fine have different times to enter, there is a prolongation of the fine for that purpose in the case of fines; as in a fine by tenant for life, which as soon as levied operates a forfeiture, and the remainder man or reversioner may enter presently, but is not bound so to do; and therefore the law gives him five years after death of the tenant for life, because he has no reason to look until the natural determination of the estate: but I know no other cases, in which the law will give different times of entry on nonclaim on the foot of fines. I will go still farther: that if this had been a bar in point of law to all intents and purposes, it would be none in equity: my reason is this. Lord and Lady *Windsor* were in nature of mortgagors of this estate; continued in possession just on the same foot as a mortgagor continues in possession, before mortgagee enters, who may enter on him at any time. This incumbrance has the effect of a mortgage: then it is a certain doctrine in this court, that a fine by mortgagor in possession, can not bar mortgagee; and that is the case put before mentioned by *Hale*. The case of this fine is still stronger than almost any that can be put, for this particular reason Lady *Windsor*, who levied the fine, was in the nature of trustee of this very sum of 20,000*l.* which was the charge; for executors and administrators to many purposes, though not to all, are in this court considered as trustees. She was administratrix to her late husband, and guardian to her infant daughter; both which capacities, the administratorship and more strongly the guardianship, infer a trust. She was intitled to the 20,000*l.* to pay debts, and distribute the surplus; two-thirds of which to her infant daughter, to whom she was 'guardian. Then being trustee of this very fund, she does not act, which is insisted on to be bar and extinguishment of this trust of hers. On this foundation therefore, supposing the fine good in law, this court ought not to stand by and suffer a fine, levied by such a person, to bar the equitable right, creditors had to this fund for payment of debts, and also the infant's; for suppose, the creditors wanted the residue of this sum to pay them, this court would not suffer it to be said, they should not come against the estate because of this fine levied by her: it would be absurd; and if a practice of this kind was suffered to prevail, a Court of Equity might as well be abolished by act of parliament.

The second point insisted on is the great length of time, since the right to this demand accrued to the plaintiff. This, I own, has the strongest appearance; but yet not of sufficient weight to bar this demand. It is true, that Courts of Equity do discourage suits for

for old, stale, accounts, and very rightly: but every case of that kind must be considered on its own circumstances, and ought to be determined by the Justice and Equity of that particular case arising from those circumstances. It is first to be observed, there is no statute of limitation stands in the plaintiff's way; for that was not pleaded, or insisted upon at the bar. Next it is clear, that no presumption of satisfaction arises from this length of time, that is to the plaintiffs; for it is not pretended, that any thing was paid to them, or that their right was in proper time fully disclosed to them. All that is said, is, that the whole money has been applied to payments of debts of Lord *Jefferies*. If so, it is rightly applied; but that does not appear to me: but, so far as the evidence in this cause goes, I must take it to be otherwise: not that I mean to bind the defendants, but then to determine how far length of time ought to prevail in this case, the particular nature of the plaintiff's bill, and what appears in the former cause, ought to be considered. First I do not take this bill to be a mere demand of a stale account of the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies*, but in part for the execution of a trust of real estate. It is true, that when executed, it will become part of the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies*: but still the fund and security, out of which it is to come, are real. Next it appears, that this partakes very strongly of a bill to have the benefit of a former decree in this court, and for performance thereof. The direction there for the general account of Lord *Jefferies*'s personal estate is placed a little oddly, but rightly; because the principal fund for all the purposes was the 20,000*l.* but neither that account nor the creditors proving their debts was to retard the sale for raising the 20,000*l.* which as soon as raised was to be brought before the Master for the purposes mentioned. I conjecture (for it is no more) that some objection was made at the hearing that cause, that the infant was not made party, and that the court over-ruled that objection; and rightly; because the creditors were not bound to bring the infant, who was intitled only to a distributive share of her father's personal estate, before the court: but still Lord *Harcourt* saw a specialty in it, that a trust was to be executed, on which a large surplus was to arise, and would not order the cause to stand over for want of parties, but went on to give all those directions, which would have been given, if the infant had been party: for it was but formality. Then he does not make a decree as if proceeding barely on a bill for satisfaction of creditors, (for then he would only have directed an account of the debts, the personal estate to be applied, and the surplus paid to the administratrix; which would be all that was necessary) but, finding the case in those circumstances, very rightly directed the raising the whole sum not only for payment of the debts; and decreed the trustees to execute the trust with just such directions as the court should have

Infancy.
This court
may give ex-
trajudicial
directions for
an infant; or
on a stranger's
application
and under-
taking to pay
costs.

have given, if the infant had been party; much the same as giving liberty to a person to come before a Master to claim an interest; which is frequently done in this court to accommodate families, and prevent variety of suits; just as legatees are directed to claim legacies. The way taken was to direct Sir *John Trevor* to be attended to check the account for benefit of the infant; which was all that could be done, if the infant had been a party. But suppose error in the decree, and that the court went farther than they should (though I think rightly) Lord *Windsor* and his wife have not complained of it: nor is there any appeal or bill of review, nor could there be after this length of time. But I do not take it to be an erroneous decree; for there are several things this court may do *ex officio* for infants. The court often gives extrajudicial directions for an infant, and hears a person as *amicus curiæ*. I remember in Lord *Macclesfield's* time in the case of the late Lord *Dudley*, on the mismanagement of his estate, a stranger came and complained of the guardian and abuse of the infant's estate; upon this application, and his undertaking to pay the costs, the court directed the Master to examine the receiver's accounts, to see whether the infant was wronged or not. Beside, this being a bill for execution of the trust and to have the benefit of that former decree, Lady *Pomfret* is not barely suing for her disturbative share, (which is another consideration), for she sues as administratrix *de bonis non* of her father, standing in that right also. If then this trust for raising 20,000*l.* has not been executed, what bar is there from length of time against an administratrix calling for an execution of this trust of the real estate, which belongs to the administratrix and representative of the personal estate to do? But beside, there are several other circumstances in this case sufficient to surmount this objection from length of time in a court of equity. First, the behaviour of the late Lord *Windsor*. It was his duty after that marriage to take care of the infant of very tender years, to whom his wife was mother and sole guardian; and in order to that ought to have delivered an inventory of the personal estate into the Ecclesiastical Court; if not, he ought to have kept an exact account of it and of the debts; which was not done. Beside, the directions of the decree of this court, anxiously given for the benefit of the infant were left totally unperformed and neglected, no account taken; the fund not raised, nor notice given to Sir *John Trevor*. He was pressed to sell this estate immediately for raising the 20,000*l.* according to the decree. To that sale a production of the deeds and writings was necessary; to avoid which he stood out to a sequestration, and took all methods to evade the obedience of the decree in that respect. That was plainly the point he so opposed until the death of Sir *John Trevor*; and then no other person remained to take care of the infant's interest except her

her mother, who was in the hands of the father-in-law, on whom all that power devolved; and how his interest lay, is plain. Next it is necessary upon the head of his behaviour to observe, there was no disclosure to Lady *Pomfret* after coming of age and marriage: and probable evidence, she did not know of this deed of trust till it was found among the effects of Sir *John Trevor*: that is not certain, but probable. Next upon this head of behaviour, the messages on which the defendant Lord *Windsor* was sent by his father in 1735 to the plaintiffs, desiring some account to be made up, particularly about the time he wanted to sell to a purchaser, who insisted upon Lady *Pomfret*'s joining; which shews, that as soon as it is necessary, a message is sent to her, but before that time industry used to conceal the deeds and writings. But under this head the behaviour of the present Lord *Windsor* is to be considered; which is very much to be commended; at least until the suit came on; and very different from his father's; which is not to be commended. The defendant's letters to Lord *Pomfret* and his solicitors speak a desire to do justice in the case; to have it determined in an amicable way; admit, he had been told, a ballance was due to Lady *Pomfret*, and that she was intitled to an account. The result in point of law is so strong, that if this had been a case within the stat. of limitation, and that was insisted upon against the account, it has been sufficient to take the case out of the stat. of limitation; and that here is a direct admission of a title to, and offer to come to an account not only before arbitrators, but in *Chancery* if the other party chose it; and a great deal less has been suffered to do on the stat. of limitation. As to the objection that this meant to refer to arbitrators the determination of the bar from length of time, and whether within the stat. of limitation, that is a most forced construction: that is never thought of to be referred to arbitrators, but commonly the justice of the case, and other expressions shew, it was for the account the reference was intended, and was the point under consideration.

Offer to account will take a case out of statute of limitation.

The next defence and bar set up, is the purchases for valuable consideration; which are several. The first (because it goes to the whole) is the defendant Lord *Windsor*'s purchase in 1740; which I will lay out of the case; because, if the plaintiffs are right in the demand on the other point, there is no colour to let that prevail, though for valuable consideration: as it is admitted by all his letters and other transactions, he had clear notice throughout of this demand, admitting that when he purchased, he took a collateral security to indemnify him. But what is material, is from the two mortgages, purchases *pro tanto*. First as to that to *Hoare* I am of opinion, there is sufficient evidence of notice to him from the admission in the answer of his

Notice. Second mortgagee with notice of a former, but without notice of a trust charge antecedent to both, of which first mortgagee had notice, must take subject to that demand.

Where all
claim in Equi-
ty, *qui prior*
tempore, po-
tior jure.
Save where
one has better
right to call
for the legal
estate.

representatives. No weight is to be laid on the objection, that it does not appear, when the copy of the deed found in his custody came there; for if a person admits a deed in his custody, whether as representative or otherwise, it is incumbent on him to shew when; for it is impossible for the other side to shew it. But there is no doubt of notice. Next as to the second mortgage to *Clavering*, which was after and with notice of *Hoare's* mortgage, it does not indeed appear, there was any notice of this demand; therefore I will take it to be a mortgage without notice of it. That will not vary the order and priority of the plaintiff's demand; because notice is admitted of *Hoare's* mortgage and incumbrance, which was prior to *Clavering's*, posterior to the plaintiff's charge on this estate by this trust, on which the legal estate continues to this day to the heir of the surviving trustee. Consequently as *Clavering* must take this mortgage subject to *Hoare's* it must be taken subject to every thing that was subject to. The considering the right and order of redemption in this court will prove it. The plaintiffs having a prior incumbrance, might compel *Hoare* to redeem them; which if done, *Hoare* would have a right in both capacities to compel *Clavering* and those claiming the benefit of that mortgage to redeem him or be foreclosed, which must be to redeem him as to both, not by piece-meal; not only as to the incumbrance taken in from the plaintiffs, but as to the other. A Court of Equity would say, they should not take away the legal estate *Hoare* would then have got from the trustees, but must redeem as to the whole. *Clavering* then could be in no better condition. But in this case I do not think, there is occasion to resort to all these reasons on the point of notice; for all these parties in both mortgages are all incumbrances in, and claim only an equity, the legal estate certainly standing out in the trustee. Then the Rule in Equity is, *qui prior tempore potior jure*; and as all the defendants as well as the plaintiffs have but an equity, that general rule must prevail with this distinction (which yet will conclude in favour of the plaintiffs) that it holds only, where none of the parties have a better right to call for the legal estate than the others; for there are cases, where it is held, that they, who have such a right, shall be preferred. In *Brace v. Dutcheffs of Marlborough*, 2 Will. 495. the general rule only is laid down without entering into any exception or particularity therefrom; but in another case in *Ver.* such exception appears. Now in the present case, laying aside the point of notice, which of these parties, all claiming for valuable consideration, has the best right to call for the legal estate out of the heir of the surviving trustee? plainly Lady *Pemfret*; for they are trustees for her, that is for the representative of the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies*, which she is administratrix *de bonis non* of her father, and in another light

light as trustees for her distributive part. Then neither of the others have an equal right with her; but she has better than any other to call for it.

None of these defences therefore can prevail in Equity against the plaintiff's demand.

The last question is as to the interest of this, whatever it should come out to be. Lord *Jefferies* was in possession of this estate until his death; after which, and after Lord *Windsor* on his marriage with the widow got the whole management, her real estate was the debtor, the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies* was the creditor, for this sum. The fund, on which it was charged, produced profits, which might answer interest; and it was a charge of a portion on real estate; from the time therefore it ought to be raised and paid, it in his own nature ought to carry interest, though not mentioned. Though it is not necessary to cite cases for this. Lord *Kilmurry v. Geary*, *Eq. Ab.* 341. was stronger than this; because it arose merely under a power, and has been cited in this court, and allowed a right determination. As to the particularities of the present case, the decree has not only directed this to be raised, but anxiously directed the two-thirds to be placed out for the infant's benefit. This Lord *Windsor* disobeyed, and in my opinion broke his trust as guardian; and if the court should stand still, and let all the profits of this fund be put into his own pocket, it would be a strange determination. The next consideration is, from what time it shall carry interest? In my opinion the times insisted on for the plaintiffs, the death of Lord *Jefferies* and the decree in 1712, are too early to commence from. Though Lord *Windsor* was greatly to blame, and the default has much the greatest part arisen from him, yet I cannot quite excuse the plaintiffs from some laches. Thus far appears; that from 1735 there was some intimation of this demand; which is material to be taken into consideration; but I do not so much go on that as on another circumstance, which furnishes me with a proper period of time in a case, attended with so great a length, to fix it. Lord *Windsor* and his wife in her right were guardians; and unless the contrary is shewn, it must be presumed, that until her marriage they maintained her. She was properly to be maintained by them; and what was advanced towards that, does not appear. The inclination of my judgment is to take the commencement of the interest from the time of the plaintiff's marriage in 1720; which will be carrying it back a great way in a case of this kind, that arises after so great a length of time.

Interest.
From what
time: when
it became a
duty decreed.
Portion on
real estate car-
ries interest
in its nature,
though not
mentioned.

For plaintiffs it was then urged, that the infant had been maintained out of her own estate; and further, that the debts paid by

by Lord *Windsor* should go to sink the interest of the 20,000 *l.* before it sunk the fund itself: otherwise Lord *Windsor* would have the profits of this sum in his own pocket from the death of Lord *Jefferies* to 1712.

Lord Chancellor took a little further time, and Aug. 3. said, this was on the best consideration his opinion. There were antecedent trusts on the 20,000 *l.* itself, before it was come to the personal estate of Lord *Jefferies*; consequently it is impossible to say at his death, how much was due to his estate; for nothing but a residue was to be paid to his executors and administrators. Then consider what alterations were made by, and what was the intent of, the private act of parliament. The liquidation is thereby made. It is an act for sale of the estate of Lord Chancellor *Jefferies* for payment of debts and portions. This trust is taken up collaterally: the plain result of the enacting clause, which is very remarkable, (and on that I ground my opinion) is, that the legislature discharged the 20,000 *l.* from all the other trusts and incumbrances on it before; but directed Lady *Windsor* to be reimbursed what she deducted out of her jointure; so that they meant to reduce the clear residue to a certainty, from whence then must the interest on that residue commence? (for it cannot upon the sums paid by Lady *Windsor*, which were at home) whether from the passing this act, or from the decree? In this case it is a reasonable measure to direct the interest upon the residue from the decree; for instantly from passing the act would be too strict: some time must be given for the sale. But from the decree (on the foot of which I am willing to take things, and not to do any thing to interfere therewith as it was so carefully made for the infant) *transit in rem judicatam*; and then this residue is not only a sum charged on land, but a duty decreed; and therefore it is right it should carry interest at four *per cent.* from that time,

Case 164. *Harrison versus Rumsey, July 30, 1752.*

ON petition.

Decree by
consent, not
set aside.

Lord Chancellor said, he would by no means set aside a decree obtained by consent of counsel on both sides; for it would be most dangerous. It was an established rule not to do it; nor would he make the precedent. There was a good while ago an appeal of that kind in the House of Lords, who desired the party to bring an action against the counsel, If they could prove collusion on the counsel, it would be a different thing.

Ex parte Skip. July 31, 1752.

Case 165.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

THE rule of the court is, upon a bill to be relieved against Bankrupts. demands of usurious interest, not to make void the Assignees not whole debt, but it must be on submission to pay what really is compelled to due: but it is different in a commission of bankruptcy. For pay what is then the question is, whether the assignees have not a right to in- really due on urious con- sist, that the whole is void as an usurious contract? They have tract. such a right; and unless the assignees and creditors submit to pay what is really due, I cannot do it. This has been attempted often, to turn this proceeding in a Court of Equity in commis- sions of bankruptcy into the nature of a bill to set aside an usurious contract; but refused.

Anonymous. *July, 1752.*

Case 166.

ON motion for *ne exeat regno*.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

An affidavit to found such a writ upon must not only say, that Ne exeat the defendant is indebted such a sum, but must also mention the regno. facts, on which it arises, and on which it is grounded. And in this case the bill being against an administrator, the affidavit ought to swear (or to the best of his knowledge or belief) that assets had come to his hands; because the demand arises in *auter droit*: otherwise it would be holding one, who would not be held to bail at law; and would detain a person here, whom they had no right to detain, the demand arising in *auter droit*.

Ex parte Artis. Aug. 1, 1752.

Case 167.

PETITION on the part of bankrupt's wife claiming an Bankrupts. annuity out of his estate; for the payment of the arrears of which annuity to her there was a decree, and that 1700*l.* part of the estate, assets being admitted, should be placed out to secure the growing payments to her.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

A value set on
a general per-
sonal annuity
on bankrupt's
estate.
But where an-
nuitant is a
creditor by
decree also,
deficiency
made good
out of the ca-
pital.

The general rule as to common annuities in general is, (as I take it) and is certainly right, that where one is intitled to an annuity from another, which is not a rent charge on land or on a specifick part of his estate, but a personal annuity to be paid by that person who becomes bankrupt, it is only a general demand on him and his estate, and there is nothing then a debt on his estate but the arrears of the annuity at the time of the bankruptcy; for those accruing afterward become a debt after the bankruptcy. The method then taken to do justice on both sides is this; was the annuitant to be admitted only as a creditor for the arrears before the bankruptcy, it would be a great prejudice to the annuitant, who would lose a right: was it to be put in another shape, so that the annuity was to be received from time to time as an accruing debt on the estate, that would make the division of the estate perpetual, and there could be no final division during the annuitant's life. To avoid therefore the injustice on one hand, and to attain a dividend of the estate at a certain time, the court puts it in another shape of setting a value on the annuity; because it was only a general, personal demand. That is the rule in general cases: but this is a very particular case. The petitioner not being a creditor only for an annuity in general out of testator's estate by reason of a *devastavit*, the executor, (in whose hands it is), may have made; (it having been argued that this case was only in nature of a *devastavit*, which is only a personal demand) but she is also a creditor by decree, and was intitled to have that sum placed out at the time of the decree. Then the commission of bankruptcy has made no alteration in that right except only as to the levelling, which is the effect of the bankruptcy; but she has a right to have the sum placed out, and then the right between her and the assignee is, if that does not answer her annuity, that she has a right to apply, as she would have against the bankrupt, to have it supplied out of the rest. That has often happened out of a deficient fund. It appears to be like the case of a covenant or agreement in consideration of marriage or other consideration to lay out money in purchase of land; if the bankrupt had so covenanted before his bankruptcy either for a jointure for his wife for life without more, or for a jointure and also remainder over; the right would be, not to set a value upon this, but to see what would be the proportional dividend to come out of the estate as to the money to be laid out in land, and that should be laid out in land: which if settled in strict settlement, than the wife could have no more than the interest and dividend during her life; because she could not draw out any part of the remainders; and they would be all losers equally. But if it was only to be settled on her

her for life, so that the reversion would be in the bankrupt himself, if the dividend would not produce that, she should then come upon the fund to make good that deficiency; for she would be intitled to that benefit against the bankrupt: but not against the remainders who would be equally intitled with her. This differs from a bond with penalty, which is a personal contract. This is the right, and in that manner must it be disposed of. Let her out of the dividends be paid the growing payments of her annuity. If that should prove deficient, let it be made good out of the capital to be raised by sale of sufficient part from time to time.

Finch *versus* Finch, October 24, 1752.

Case 168.

THE bill was for the execution of the trust of an act of parliament and will made by *Daniel Lord Nottingham*; the trust of which was to pay debts and portions charged on the estate, next to settle the estate in the several branches of the family. None of the sons who were to be tenants for life had issue male but *Edward* the youngest; who with his eldest son *George*, brought the bill for performance of the said trusts; praying also that the defendant *Henry*, one of the elder brothers of *Edward*, might discover whether he was married, or had any issue male, or gave out that he had such, who would be intitled before the plaintiff *George*. *Henry* insisted by his answer, that he was not obliged to make such discovery. The Master reported the answer insufficient, and also a further answer insisting upon the same, and that the making such discovery would subject to Ecclesiastical penalties.

Defendant without excepting to first report of insufficiency not absolutely precluded from insisting on the same matter in second answer.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There are two questions: the first on the forms and rules of the court and method of proceedings. The other on the merits of the case as made by the bill.

First, whether the defendant by submitting to answer without excepting to the first report of insufficiency has precluded himself from insisting on the same matter now by his second answer? Though to be sure in the present case it is somewhat odd to bring it before the court in this shape, yet I cannot say, he is absolutely precluded by the forms of the court from doing it. I have known this often in question and determined; that where an answer by the Master on the first exception is reported insufficient, the defendant submitted to answer, upon exception to that second answer the like report is made, the defendant has excepted to [that

No second dilatory allowed. But answerer may insist on what was over-ruled as a plea.

second report, and brought it before the court: where there are several exceptions, the court has always said, that, as this matter has not undergone the judgment of the court, they shall be suffered to go into it: if it was a single exception, perhaps it would be another matter. It is not like a second demurrer or dilatory, or a second plea, which cannot be put in a second time, if over-ruled: yet notwithstanding the court frequently allows the defendant an after plea, it has over-ruled to insist on the same matter by answer, which was over-ruled as a plea: and that comes on the merits at hearing the cause. The court has gone on the same way upon exceptions by letting in to shew, whether the Master was mistaken or not.

Plaintiff intitled to discovery of facts material to the merits, for want or in aid of proof, or to substantiate his proceedings.

Next as to the merits, whether this matter is relevant and material to answer; and supposing it so, whether there is a defence as to the answering it as to penalties; because, though material, yet if the defendant has an excuse against answering it as being matter of scandal, or subjecting him to penalties, he may plead this, and insist, that the plaintiff must be put to prove it, as he can? Two general grounds are insisted upon for the plaintiff to shew this is material. First that every plaintiff is intitled to have a discovery from defendants as to two heads; to enable him to obtain a decree, and to ascertain facts material to the merits of his case, either because he cannot prove, or in aid of proof; for a man may be intitled to an answer of what he can prove, to avoid expence. Next that he is intitled to a discovery of matters to substantiate his proceedings, and make them regular and effectual in this court. Then the question is, whether the point insisted upon to be answered is so material or not? As to the first of these, whether it is material as to the decree to be made on the merits, and the settlement to be directed by the court thereby, that is not the strong point for the plaintiff to found his present prayer upon; for the answer rightly insists, that whether he has a son or not, there is no occasion to name that son in the settlement; and it would be improper in many cases to do so. It is sufficient and proper to make the settlement with limitations to the several sons as tenants for life, remainder to trustees to support contingent remainders, remainders to the first and every other son without naming them. Though the sons may have been named in framing a settlement, where all the family agreed, yet in most cases it is most proper not to name them; for it may happen, that some remainder-man may dispute, whether he was a legitimate son or not. In that respect therefore I do not think it so material to have an answer to this. But on the other point it is material and necessary; for whom is it necessary for the plaintiff to bring before the court for performance of these trusts? It is admitted to be necessary to bring the first person intitled to the remainder

In settlements it is not proper to name the first and every other son.

On bill to execute trust the first intitled to inheritance is a necessary party if in being.

remainder and inheritance of the estate, if such is in being. It is true, if there is none such, in whom the remainder of the inheritance is vested in being, (as if none of the sons of this family had issue male at all), then it is impossible to say, the creditors are to remain unpaid and the trust not to be executed, until a son is born. If there is no first son in being, the court must take the facts as they stand. It would be a very good decree, and no son born afterward could dispute it; unless he could shew fraud, collusion, or misbehaviour in the performance of these trusts: otherwise he would be bound by it. But if there is a son born, which is a remainder in tail existing, it is a different case; for then if tenant for life brings a bill for performance of it without him, he would be intitled without shewing fraud or collusion to overhaul all this matter. I have known that done: in such case, if the court has seen every thing to be fair, the court has only given liberty to surcharge and falsify; or may open the whole, as the circumstances appear. But the fact is, that *Edward* has a son, who has a remainder in tail near or remote, vested in him who is plaintiff. If he is not the first remainder, the having him before the court is quite immaterial. If *Henry* has a son in being, it would be immaterial to make *George* a party; for the court only requires to bring the first remainder in tail in being before the court, without whom they having a second or third remainder party is not sufficient. In this respect then it is material to have the son of *Henry* before the court; as the trustees cannot, if there are such in being, act conclusively without it; since he may afterward controvert all this decree, because he was in being at the time of the decree, and may raise questions on the settlement. But the question is, whether he is intitled to have this discovery from the defendant, or to be left to prove it. As to the first objection to it, that it will subject him to ecclesiastical censures, and that the court will not compel him to answer on oath, which is like an oath *ex officio*, that is true: but there is nothing upon this that will do it: for it would be carrying this, to a great degree to say, that by possibility it may tend to this when no question is asked that may tend thereto: for every thing necessary must be proved in order to subject to that penalty. It does not tend to discover, whether he cohabited with any woman, if he should answer, whether he has or has not a son lawfully begotten. That would be going a vast way, and tend to cover facts, which ought to be discovered in this court. But next according to the general rule it is true, you cannot ask a discovery of him, as you may examine him as a witness; and it is true, that that discovery would not be conclusive: but that is no answer to what is insisted on for the plaintiff, for that may often happen: a man is intitled to a discovery, and no one is bound thereby but the person who made it and his

Defendant not compelled to answer so as to subject to ecclesiastical penalties. But must answer, whether he has a legitimate son; but not whether he is married or no, or whether he is an alien.

son after coming of age might bring a bill to controvert it. But why is it said, *Henry* is only to be examined as a witness? He is a proper and necessary party to the bill for execution of the trusts, and making the settlement; consequently he is intitled to know whether he had any child or not. Such questions are frequently asked here of the parties brought before the court, how many children they have, in order to settle their proportions among the children; and there is no other way but by asking the parents; for you cannot have a discovery from an infant, nor can you except to an answer of an infant; which is a general rule. It was the same in the case of Mrs. *Dupleffs*. There it was prayed, she should discover whether she was an alien, and next whether her child was an alien, and where born? I held, she was not bound to discover whether she was an alien: but that she was, whether her child was an alien, and where born, and obliged her to set it forth. So here *Henry* is the proper person to answer that. I am of opinion therefore, it is necessary for the plaintiff to have this discovery to substantiate his decree, which would be imperfect without it: nor can he have a binding decree on all parties without having this person before the court, if there is such a one. He is intitled therefore to have it on both heads, as to substantiating the proceedings, and as to the merits of the case. But then the question is, how far he should answer. I do not know, that it is material to answer all the exceptions; and doubt, whether you are intitled to have from the defendant any more than a discovery, whether he has issue male born and as to his declarations concerning that: but I doubt, whether you can compel him to discover whether he is married or not. Suppose he publicly lived with and avowed a woman as his wife, and had no son by her, and you brought a bill to discover whether he was married to her or not.

It was then urged for the plaintiff, that if this was discovered, they might be able hereafter to answer the evidence arising from cohabitation and publick declarations of marriage.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am not to compel a discovery to create evidence for some future cause. The ground I go upon to allow the exception to the answer is not as to the settlement, but that it is necessary to have proper parties to substantiate the proceedings. Therefore allow the exceptions so far, not as to the rest which would be carrying it too far.

Lord

Lord North and Guildford *versus* Purdon, July 1752. Case 169.

At the Rolls, Sir John Strange, M. R.

THEOPHILA MOOR devised all her worldly substance, after payment of debts and funeral expences, to *Mary Lovemore*, describing her as a poor girl whom she had brought up and educated, to be paid her at twenty-one or marriage, which should first happen, provided she marries with consent of ; or in case she dies before attaining the age of twenty-one or marriage as aforesaid, then all her worldly substance to : then makes the defendants executors, heartily requesting them to be so kind as to take on them the execution of the will.

Mary Lovemore dying under age and unmarried, there were now three claimants.

The plaintiffs next of kin to testatrix; who insisted on a resulting trust, and the late case of *The Bishop of Cloyne v. Young*. December 7, 1750.

The father of *Mary Lovemore*, as her personal representative, who insisted on its being vested in her, and within the old rule where only the time of payment is postponed, and the time of payment certain. As a condition, it is subsequent, especially as it regards marriage; and being impossible to be performed, is, according to Lord Coke, as none at all; no body being named to whom given over. Then it must remain vested, taking it as a contingency, that must happen to divest it.

The executors insisted, it devolved on them; it is plainly not intended to go in all events to *Mary Lovemore*, being determinable on a particular event; consequently cannot go to her representative. Tho' testatrix is silent as to the object, to whom given over, there is an object, and that in the will, by force of making them executors: nor is there any ground on the penning to take away their strong legal right, or to say they are executors in trust. A court of equity interposes on account of cases, which have by antiquity acquired stronger reasons, than they were at first introduced with; and it had been happy, if the known principle of law, which obtained until *Foster v. Munt*, had been adhered to. But the present case is not within any of the former, here being no legacy, nor any necessary implication to defeat the executors. The latter words of earnest request

request by testatrix are so much words of form, and taken from the ancient notion of the burthen of administration, and so commonly inserted, that no instance where such request has made executors take as trustees; and not for their own benefit. Though they meant to give some sort of trust, it was bounded and tied up to the care of the orphan. *The Bishop of Cloyne v. Young* was not so favourable for the executors as this: and it went farther than any other; and there are several circumstances to distinguish it.

Master of the Rolls, having taken time to consider, *November 13, 1752.* decreed in favour of the plaintiffs. The administrator of *Mary* is not intitled, as his right depends on this legacy's being vested in her, which was not so; for if she died before twenty-one or marriage, it was to go over, though at making the will testatrix was not resolved to whom; but plainly never intended, *Mary* should take, unless one of the contingencies happened. Next as to the executors: there are several cases where they are considered but as trustees for next of kin. First where a legacy is given for care and trouble: afterward, although those words are omitted, from the presumption by giving part. This court has gone further: and if a necessary implication or violent presumption appears, that they were not to take any thing to their own use, though no legacy was given to them, yet will they be only trustees: as was solemnly determined by *Lord Chancellor* in *The Bishop of Cloyne v. Young*, where, as the residuary clause was begun, there was the strongest presumption, that the residue was not intended for the executors. So here there is an inchoate clause, that on the event's not happening, whereby *Mary* should take, it should go over; though to whom testatrix hath not then settled. But when she mentions her executors by name, and only as such, in the following sentence, she plainly intended them no farther favour: and there are added pathetic, supplicatory words addressed to her executors to take on them the execution and burthen of her will; which words she could not be supposed to have used, had she intended them so great a benefit as the residue of her estate, if *Mary* died before twenty-one or marriage. The plaintiffs claim not from any intention to them, but as undisposed, and though part be given to the next of kin, yet shall not that hinder them from taking the rest, if the intent appears, that the executors were not to take the surplus.

Case 170.

—————, *July 10, 1754.*

Depositions
de bene esse,
where witnesses
are dead,
and no opportunity
to examine in chief, though after great length of time, published, but without prejudice to exception at the hearing.

MOTION on the part of the plaintiff *Duke Hamilton* that the deposition of witnesses, examined *de bene esse* in a cause in 1710, should be now published along with the depositions taken

in the supplemental cause upon affidavit of the death of several of those witnesses, and that upon inquiry nothing could be learned, of what had become of the rest of them.

It was said, that upon application to the *registers*, no instance could be found where the court refused to let such depositions be published on proof made to the satisfaction of the court of the death of such witnesses. There was no laches; for that by a judgment in the House of Lords in 1713. the plaintiff in that cause was held to be not intitled *in præfenti*; and the remainder in fee in the old family-settlement having now fallen in upon the failure of all the antecedent limitations in tail, therefore was the present application.

It was opposed upon this, that these orders for examining *de bene esse* being only provisional, if there is an opportunity to examine in chief, it must be done; and if any laches in so doing, these provisional orders are forfeited: otherwise all these examinations would be in effect examinations in chief: and that there had been such laches here.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The general rules of the court as to publishing depositions taken *de bene esse* are well known and established in common cases: but sometimes there are cases, in which particular questions arise on particular circumstances, and in which it is in the discretion of the court to determine. In the common case of these depositions *de bene esse* if they die before issue joined, and there is no opportunity to examine in chief, it is a motion of course on a proper affidavit to publish them. But this is upon special circumstances. The necessary foundations are, that these witnesses are dead or beyond sea at the time of applying, or before such time as there was an opportunity to examine in chief; which are both shewn on the part of the plaintiff. First I am satisfied of the death of these persons from the length of time. They must have been of a considerable age at the time they were examined; because the examination was as to things in the time of K. Charles the Second; where therefore there is such a length of time, the less positive proof will do. As to the next, sufficient is laid before the court on the part of the plaintiff; because issue has never been joined in the cause. The defendant never thought fit to apply to dismiss the bill: but both parties acquiesced. But the objection by the defendants is, that there has been a laches on the part of the plaintiff. There was no ground for the plaintiff in that cause to proceed after the judgment of the *House of Lords*. As to any the material parts of it nothing remained to do but perpetuate the testimony of the witnesses;

Bill to perpetuate, if set down, dismissed; but the testimony not thereby prejudiced.

nesses; and if the bill for that purpose had been set down to be heard, it must have been dismissed, as such bills always are: tho' that dismissal does not prejudice the testimony of the witnesses. But the question is, whether the plaintiff's not examining these witnesses in chief is under the circumstances such a laches as that these depositions shall never be published? As to that, this is a laches not only of the plaintiff but defendant; for a defendant to a bill to perpetuate testimony of witnesses may apply to dismiss the bill for want of prosecution as well as in the case of any other bill. Instead of that the defendant has rested under it; so that there is an acquiescence on both sides. But in all these cases of publishing these sorts of depositions in special cases the court must determine themselves by circumstances. If therefore any surprise appeared in this examination, the court would have laid weight on that to prevent the publishing them after this length of time: but no unfairness or surprise appears, but the contrary. Under these circumstances therefore and considering the defendant's acquiescence also in not taking advantage to dismiss the bill, I am of opinion, I ought to publish these depositions: but with this cautionary clause that this is to be without prejudice to any exception that may be made at the hearing by any of the defendants against reading these depositions against such of the defendants.

Case 171. *Earl Brook versus Bulkeley, July 13, 1734.*

Et e con.

Purchaser from tenant in tail with notice of agreement by him to renew a lease, which the father tenant for life had covenanted to renew, is bound to renew.

THE general question was, whether the defendant *Hulse* was, under the circumstances of the case, bound to renew a lease, claimed by the other defendant *Bulkeley*? This depended on the state in which things stood at the time of the purchase of the estate by *Hulse* from the plaintiff; and next upon the circumstances as to the agreement between the plaintiff and *Hulse*; and whether *Hulse* had any allowance for this renewal in the agreement, and has or has not submitted thereto as between them?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The first question will depend on the obligation the plaintiff was under at the time of the agreement for the purchase to renew; and next on the notice of that obligation; for if the plaintiff was under an obligation either in law or equity to renew, and *Hulse* or his agent at time of the purchase had notice of such obligation; the estate must be taken subject thereto, and bound by that obligation. It is said, the notice is not sufficient; for that the plaintiff's father, who covenanted to renew, was only tenant for life, with a common

common power of leasing, which could not extend to such a covenant to renew; nor could he bind his son the plaintiff, who was tenant in tail; and that the plaintiff afterward covenanted only out of honour to his father's memory; so that it is an agreement without consideration. But there can be no weight in that; for though it is true, the plaintiff is not bound by the covenant of his father, as his father exceeded his power, yet, as the plaintiff was intitled to his father's estate, whatever affects his father left, either real or personal, would be liable to that covenant. A bill might be brought for a satisfaction out of assets or an action for damages on the foot of that covenant; and therefore the plaintiff partly in point of honour to satisfy the covenant of his father, and partly to deliver himself from such a litigation and trouble, covenanted. If so then I am of opinion, that is a sufficient consideration to bind him: and consequently it would go over, and bind the person who took the estate with notice of that obligation he had laid himself under. Then on what terms is *Hulse* bound to renew? The plaintiff's aim at the time of selling his estate was to deliver himself from that obligation he was under, and for which he was liable to a suit in equity, and to lay that obligation on the purchaser: and then he certainly would not do it by halves. The plaintiff's bill is to indemnify and deliver himself from an action or suit in equity that might be brought against him by *Bulkeley*, and *Bulkeley's* bill is to have a lease made to him, or to have a satisfaction from the plaintiff. I must decree a performance of this agreement, and that a lease be made by *Hulse* agreeable to the prayer; which plainly appears to be the intent of the parties. The allowance appears to be made to *Hulse* at the time of the purchase in that respect, and not on account of an over valuation, as was endeavoured to be made out. The confession of *Hulse's* agent plainly shews it. It has indeed been said that confession is the weakest evidence; and the usual objections have been made thereto, that it may be made an improper use of, &c. and though it is liable to those objections, yet those objections never hold so far as to overturn and destroy that confession, where it is clearly proved, as in the present case. *Hulse* therefore, or his agent, having, at time of the purchase, notice of the agreement between the plaintiff and *Bulkeley*, is bound in equity to renew the lease.

Earl of Tyrconnel *versus* Duke of Ancafter,
Duke of Ancafter *versus* Lady Sherrard.

Case 172.

July 15, 1754.

SIR *Brownlow Sherrard* was by his father's will made tenant for life without impeachment of waste, with a power to make a jointure in these words; "that it may be lawful for my said son at any time or times, by any deed or writing attested
Power to husband to make jointure not exceeding clear yearly value of 100l.
" by for every

1000*l.* por- “ by witnesses to assign, limit, or appoint, to the use of, or in
tion : part of “ trust for, any wife as well before as after marriage for her life,
the portion is “ or any number of years determinable upon her death, all or any
limited, the “ part of the said manors and premises, not exceeding in the clear
interest to the “ yearly value, 100 *l. per annum* for every 1000 *l.* which my said
husband for “ son shall receive for and as her portion upon marriage, and so in
life, then to “ proportion for a greater or less sum ;” and with a further power
increase youn- “ to settle a certain sum of money on younger children.
ger childrens
fortune : if
none, to sur-
vivor of hus-
band or wife :

this considered
as received by
him as settled
fairly for the
family, and
for his benefit,
and within in-
tent of the
power.
After the death of his father, Sir *Brownlow Sherrard* in 1738,
intermarried with *Mary Sidney*, who had a portion of 10,000 *l.*
and in consideration thereof he thereupon made a settlement of
an estate in *Lincolnshire*, called *Lobthorp*, by way of jointure on
his wife, which estate was taken to be of the value of 800 *l. per*
ann. and by the same deed he covenanted to settle 200 *l. per ann.*
to make up the jointure of 1000 *l.* and as to 2000 *l.* part of the
10,000 *l.* it was to be continued at interest to increase the portion
of the younger children in such manner as the husband and wife
should appoint ; and in default of appointment to be divided among
them if there should be any such younger children ; and the in-
terest thereof in the mean time to be paid to Sir *Brownlow Sherrard*
for life, and then to the younger children ; and if none, then to
the survivor of the husband or wife.

Clear
must be as
at the time of
making the
jointure, and
not during its
continuance ;
which would
make these
powers fluc-
tuating.
He afterward, by a deed in 1745, made an additional settlement
of another estate on his wife to make her jointure equal to 1000 *l.*
per ann. rent charge ; and therein declared, his intention was to
execute his power as far as possibly he could, not having fully ex-
ecuted it before.
Sir *Brownlow Sherrard* died in her life without issue of the
marriage.

Clear means
free from
charges usual-
ly allowed be-
tween buyer
and seller, and
by course of
the country
borne by te-
nant, but sub-
ject to land
tax and those
borne by land-
lord.
Two general questions were now made. First what portion
he was to be considered to have received with his wife, and con-
sequently how many 100 *l. per ann.* she was intitled to have in pro-
portion to that fortune according to the power ? Next what that
jointure, or that number of 100 *l. per ann.* to which she was in-
titled according to the power, ought to be clear and discharged
from within the terms of the power and the execution of it by
Sir *Brownlow Sherrard* ? which last took in two considerations :
first at what time the value of the jointure in respect of certain
charges was to be considered ? secondly, what those charges are
from which it is to be discharged ?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The first question is upon the fact, whether Sir *Brownlow Sherrard* is to be considered as having received 8000 *l.* or 10,000 *l.* I am clear of opinion, that he must according to the nature of the thing be considered as having received a portion of 10,000 *l.* with his wife. It is not now to be disputed, but that on the marriage it was to be considered as 10,000 *l.* but then the objection arising on the part of the defendant is, that 2000 *l.* though part of her portion, was not received by Sir *Brownlow Sherrard*, and that in consequence of the settlement by his not surviving, it came back to her, as there were no younger children; and is to be considered as no part of the portion on which the jointure was made, and therefore not being received, no jointure is to be made for it. But I am of opinion that objection does not hold. I agree, that where a jointure is to be made under such limited powers of a portion to be received, the transaction must be fair, *bona fide*, without fraud and collusion; and therefore, if it is a nominal, not a real, portion, that will not do. It often happens, that a man marries a lady with a small portion, and he or his friends advance money to make up that a nominal portion, and take it back: that will not do. So if the wife had a portion of 10,000 *l.* and that is settled to her separate use; that will not do. But that is not the present case. Parents create these powers with this view, to compel their children to marry prudently with a wife of an adequate quality, certainly of an adequate fortune, and not burthen the estate with a great jointure for a wife, who brings nothing into the family, and who probably will not deserve it. Wherever therefore the portion of the wife is stipulated to be applied in a proper and reasonable manner in the usual way of settling for benefit of the family, that is to be considered as a portion received. Not that the father meant, that every part of this portion shall be actually received by his son to spend or waste; that could not be the meaning. If therefore it is settled so as to come for benefit of the family in the fair way of contracting and making settlements; that comes for benefit of the husband and his family: and that is the present case. These parties were young at the time of marriage, and might have several children. It was reasonable to take so much of her fortune as an increase of the younger children's portion, which the husband had under his father's will a power to settle: and it was for the husband for life (so far for his benefit) then to the younger children, if any, if none, the survivor to take a chance. Why might he not give her the chance of survivorship as well as to any other? This then is an application of the portion by the husband in a reasonable and fair way, according to the settling in families in a proper manner,

and therefore to be considered as within the intent of the power. If the interest of the 2000 *l.* had been only to the husband for life, and afterward the principal to the wife, that would be a strong case to say, that was not within the intent: but this being only in event, in failure of issue of the marriage and of his dying in her life (which happened) I am of opinion, it differs from those cases. It would be very mischievous in families to hold it otherwise. If the portion should be paid to the husband to do what he pleased with it, and not to be settled for benefit of the family, fathers should hardly create such a power; for then the husband might waste it. I consider what is settled fairly for the family, comes to the benefit of the husband. It is no objection therefore to the execution of the power as to this; and the plaintiff is intitled to this jointure of 1000 *l. per annum*; which makes an end of the cross bill.

The next consideration is, if the plaintiff is intitled to a jointure of 1000 *l. per ann.* (such as it ought to be) what ought it to be, and what is it clear and discharged from? The material words are *not exceeding in the clear yearly value*. What is the meaning of those words, and to what time to be applied? The time I will consider first; as to which I am clearly of opinion, that they must be lands of this clear yearly value at the time of making the jointure, and that there is no obligation upon the remainder man or lien upon the estate to have this jointure continue to be of a clear value of 1000 *l. per annum* during the continuance of the jointure estate: and that is always the rule in execution of these powers. A man seized in fee may covenant, that it shall always continue of such a value; which covenant will bind his assets real and personal to make it good. But there is nothing here to bind his estate, except according to what is laid down in *Coventry v. Coventry*, such a covenant as is a conveyance in equity: and of that opinion I was in *Lady Blandford's* case; where it was very minutely considered as to the great inconvenience in a contrary doctrine; that these powers would otherwise be executory, fluctuating, and defultory; that none would know when the power was executed; and that new bills must be brought, and against the remainder man; and it must be executed by subsequent tenants for life. Are subsequent jointresses to be called on to make good the first jointress? That could never be intended; therefore it was the time of the execution: and of that opinion I was in that case, not only in respect of the execution of the power as to charges on the estate, but in respect of the *quantum* of the land-tax; for though that tax might rise afterward the *quantum* of the jointure was not to be varied, and a defect in value of the jointure was not to be considered, because of an addition made to the land-tax afterward; it was sufficient that the Master should see it exonerated from the land-tax

21 April
1743.

Jointure not
varied from
alteration of
land-tax.

tax according to the *quantum* of the land-tax at the time of the execution and at that rate: for otherwise the before-mentioned mischief would follow, that whenever the land-tax varied, that is a defect in value of the jointure, and therefore they may come into a court of equity to make it good against the remainder man. It is impossible that it could be meant to execute the power in that loose manner. It was argued for the plaintiff, that it is taken upon that foot: but as to distinction taken that this power is not well executed, and therefore remaining to be executed, the court is to decree according to the value of the land at the time this power is now to be executed; I cannot agree to that doctrine; for Sir *Brownlow Sherrard* did by his first settlement execute his power as to 800 *l. per annum*, and make a legal settlement of these lands by virtue of his power, and covenant to settle more to make up a jointure of 1000 *l. per annum*; which he endeavoured to do in a subsequent settlement: therefore, I cannot take it, that this jointure is to be considered of the value, whenever a new conveyance is to be made; but I will consider how the lands were as to value at the time of the execution of that power in 1738: that is the true rule as to that part of the case. As to the other part indeed of the additional jointure in 1745, Sir *Brownlow Sherrard* has gone something farther, and declared his intent to execute the power as far as he possibly could do; and he was in the right therein; for a great fortune was brought by this wife, and she relieved him out of difficulties: but the question is, what he had power to do? As to that I must take that settlement not in the shape he has put it, which is to make a jointure equal to 1000 *l. per annum*, rent charge. I cannot take it in that way; so far therefore the power is defectively executed as not being warranted in point of law. But according to my opinion in *Hervey v. Hervey* * I shall * 1739. take that to be good so far as his power will warrant: therefore it must be part of these lands to the amount of 200 *l. per ann.* to make it up. Power defectively executed, good so far as warranted.

The great question then, and the only question upon which a difficulty arises is, from what charges, impositions, or outgoings this estate ought to be discharged at the time of making the jointure? As to the lands of 800 *l. per annum* it ought to be considered, as things stood at the time of making that settlement or execution of the power in 1738. What it is to be discharged from, depends on the construction of those words *not exceeding, &c.* For the plaintiff it is insisted, that it must be *clear* of every outgoing, clear at least as far as that jointure of Lady *Blandford's*; in which case the words were, *clear of any taxes, charges, or impositions*; so that there was an express discharge from taxes; if there had not, by virtue

virtue of the word *charges* I should not have taken it to be clear of taxes. The plaintiff insists, this is to be clear of taxes; and if it is within the power, they are in the right of it: which brings it to the construction of the words. I am of opinion these general words are not to be extended to the land-tax; but I am of opinion, the true construction is that rule I laid down in *Lady Blandford's* case; where I held, that the measure of charges to be deducted was to be taken, as things stood at the time of the execution of the power, and was to be free from all charges usually allowed between buyer and seller of estates, and all parliamentary impositions at that time: but that was because of the words. But where nothing but the word *clear* is used, it is a right rule to construe it, as it would be between buyer and seller of estates. *Clear* must not mean all outgoings like a rent-charge; as losses by tenants and management, to which a rent-charge is not liable. Then what is the rule to go by? What would be understood between buyer and seller; that is all reprises and incumbrances, and all extraordinary charges, unusual and not agreeable to the course of the country; and then the land-tax is not to be considered. It is true, the land-tax is to be considered as a burthen: but it is contingent in itself, because the value is contingent, and therefore that is a reason, it ought to be taken in: but it is not in between buyer and seller. Tithe is such as it ought to be free from. So of a fee-farm rent payable to the Duke of *Leeds*; which is an incumbrance by private title. Then as to poor-rates and church-levies, if in this country the usual course of letting estates had been to let them subject to these charges (as it is in the *Western* counties and some others) I should have taken this power in that sense, that the jointure should be charged with these payments; for when a person creates a power, and makes a jointure as a clear jointure in lands, it must be considered as lands of a clear rent according to the course of letting in that country, and not to be liable to extraordinary charges by contract. It is proved in this country to be usual to let them be discharged from these burthens; but in this estate these burthens are paid by the landlord; and the rents of the estate are raised to the tenant in proportion. If then the father thought fit to let the estate so as to increase the nominal value of it, and gives a power to make a jointure, that is no reason to burthen the jointure with it, but as the usual and ordinary method is of letting the lands.

Decree therefore *Lady Sherrard* intitled to a jointure not exceeding the clear yearly value of 1000 *l. per annum* at the time of the settlements made; that is, clear of incumbrances and all other charges which, by the course and usage of the country, in
which

which the lands lie, ought to be borne by the tenant ; but subject to the land-tax and all other out goings, which according to such course of the country ought to be borne by the landlord.

The cross bill is dismissed ; and so much of the original as sought to make up any deficiency in the *Lobthorp* estate according to *Lady Blandford's* case, and *Lady Clifford v. Lord Burlington*, 2 Ver. 579. that where upon an execution of a jointure in pursuance of a power there is a deficiency in the value of land, it may be made up in a court of equity ; the parties agreeing to take that estate to be of the value of 800 l. *per ann.* as *His Lordship* thought, there was reasonable evidence thereof deducting the above charges, rather than enter into an inquiry about it.

Deficiency of jointure in pursuance of a power, made up in equity.

Attorney General *versus* Corporation of Bedford.

Case 173.

July 15, 1754.

NEW College in Oxford having by a charter particular powers given them as to the grammar-school at *Bedford*, such as the removing the master for misbehaviour, &c. as to any thing of that kind, *Lord Chancellor* thought, it would be too much for this court to do any thing, though they were not appointed general visitors : but as to the management of the revenue of this school this court might.

Charity. This court will not interfere, where particular powers by charter as to a school, tho' not appointing general visitors : but will as to management of the revenue ; and make the master on collusion with usher account for 15 years salary.

The college in 1739. having appointed one of their fellows master, and also another fellow usher (which never had been done before) with a yearly salary, it appeared in evidence, that the usher never did any thing at the school, but constantly resided at the college, and never received any part of that salary, but the master put that entirely in his pocket. He admitted by his answer, that at the time of making him master there were but three boys in the school, and at the time of his answer but eleven ; and now insisted, that he looked on himself as accountable to the usher for that money ; and that having lived upon it, he should not now be obliged to refund it ; for which purpose there were several cases, where after having spent the money, and eat and drank it, the court would not oblige to refund.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

How can it be said he lived upon it, since he looked upon himself as accountable to the usher all along ? And the usher certainly did not live upon it, not having received any part. It was plainly a collusion between the master and usher, and a contrivance to make this a *finecure* ; for in fact there has been hitherto no occasion

for an usher where there were so few scholars: therefore as there was this collusion, the court must, in point of justice, and for the sake of the precedent, order him to account for this salary for 15 years back; for it must be now taken to be remaining in his hands; and for whose benefit? Surely rather for the charity than the usher, who did nothing: and though it is said, this account will ruin the master, I cannot help that; but must do it for the sake of justice and precedent.

Case 174.

Chapman *versus* Smith. July 17, 1754.Modus,
Tithes.

THE bill was brought by the rector of the parish of *Altringham* in *Kent* for payment of tithes in kind for lands therein.

Modus of
9d. per acre
marsh land,
except when
sown with
corn or
planted with
hops, not
determined
without trial.

The defence set up in the answer was a *modus* in this parish, time out of mind, that all occupiers in the marsh-lands in this parish have always paid, or ought to pay, yearly to the rector 9d. per acre and no more for every acre of marsh-land within the said parish and the tithable places thereof in their respective possessions, except when sown with corn, grain, flax, or planted with hops, as a *modus* and in lieu of all tithe of hay and pasture and all small tithes, except flax, hemp, and hops; and so after that rate for a greater or less quantity than an acre of marsh-land.

For plaintiff it was rested on the rector's title.

Aate.

For defendant it was argued, that this was a good *modus* and well laid; and a case cited in *Exchequer* in 1726, where a bill was brought by *Richard Bate* as rector of the parish of *Wareborn*, the very next to this parish, for tithes in kind; and a cross bill by *Sir Charles Sedley* and others inhabitants of that parish, to establish a *modus* of one shilling for every acre of marsh-land, laying it exactly as the present *modus*. Two issues were directed; and upon the equity reserved after the trial the *modus* was established. This is a precedent both in law and equity, shewing this as a *modus* well laid, and that in a court where these kind of bills are particularly attended to; and answers the objection of being too rank, this being laid only at 9d. per acre. In *Evans v. Price and Richards*, 26 October 1747. Your Lordship held, that the rankness of a *modus* is not to be judged by comparison of the sum to the rent reserved on the land; but to the value of the land; and that where it was necessary in point of proof, the court would direct that matter to be tried, but otherwise the court itself would judge of it. These lands lie in *Romney Marsh*, to preserve which the owners are at a very great expence, and therefore it is probable that they made this composition, and then the variation

tion of the land is not a reason to say, this is a rank *modus*; for the value of lands depends on particular husbandry, and is uncertain. It is impossible to say, what the value of the lands was at the time of this composition; and reasonable to think, a proper valuation was then made, and a proper reservation. The alteration in different times from the cheapness of money and value of land would destroy all *moduses* of this kind. In 2 Will. 572. this precedent in 1726. seems to be cited by *Fortescue* J. and weight laid upon it. As to its not being laid consistent, and impossible to be time immemorial, because it excepts hops, things newly introduced, not existing at the time this composition was supposed to be made, no such objection was taken in that case in the *Exchequer*; and it is not probable it would have escaped that court, if such had lain. Though the law has determined, that hops were introduced in Q. Elizabeth's time into this country, they were probably known and existed before, though in small quantities. The exception was introduced for benefit of the rector, who is supposed by the *modus* to receive the full value, as tithes in kind were then worth. It is not material that all the witnesses do not call it a *modus*; for it may be laid as a sum annually paid without calling it a *modus*; and it is hard to require exact precision in traditional evidence. Where the *modus* itself is reasonable, reasonable evidence is a ground for it. There is no evidence of payment of tithes in kind. This rector and his predecessors have agreed to this *modus*.

For plaintiff. The plaintiff need only shew, that he is rector; which by law intitles him *prima facie* to all manner of tithes, unless some legal bar is set up, which here is a *modus*; but it is neither proved in fact, nor good in law, and is contradicted by records. The difference to the plaintiff is, whether he shall receive the whole or half of his tithe? If things of this kind are not broke in upon, the clergy's revenue may be destroyed by compositions. It depends on this; whether it is such a *modus* as could have commencement beyond time of memory, or a modern composition within time of memory? According to Lord Coke's definition, a *modus* and composition are the same, only that by length of time one is run into something certain, an absolute bar, not to be broke by either parson or occupier. A composition is such an agreement, as since the disabling statutes must be made by the parson alone; and it may be, and is in general, a running composition from year to year, exactly like leases from year to year; so that on either side, if the composition is not intended to be continued, you must give notice at the beginning of a year; and so of a lease. A *modus* and composition differ materially in this; that one is a certain payment beyond time of memory: the other equally certain, but within memory. The one may be broke by the parties; the other not. A *modus* may indeed cease and revive according to the different species of culture,
in

in which the land is employed; and therefore where it is set up, that when sown with corn it shall be tithe in kind, when turned into hay it shall be satisfied by way of *modus*; courts of law and this court have held, it may cease and revive; and so far this *modus* is proper. But the objections to it are, first it is rank, and appears so large, that it is impossible it could be time out of mind. The court will always destroy such a *modus* on the face of it, where it runs so high, and goes so near the value of the tithe in kind. Every *modus* certainly presumes an original agreement before the disabling statutes, by parson, patron, and ordinary; and since by parson alone. That commencement then must be presumed consistent with right reason; and the court will not presume, that the parishioners (in whose favour all these original contracts between them and the parson are) made such composition, as was of more value than the tithes. The payments must be always in money, this being pasture-tithe; which is always pecuniary, cannot be specifick, and the only tithe in the kingdom which is not specifick. It is not to be conceived, that 9 *d.* would be paid, if the real tithe did not amount to half that. The value of an acre to support this as a reasonable composition at the time, must have been 7 *s.* and 6 *d.* So high a *modus* creates a strong presumption, that it was made not beyond time of memory. The law fixes that to a certain period in the time of K. R. 1. since whose death it is above 566 years. This then must be presumed an agreement before the time to pay 9 *d.* per acre; In fact in the time of K. H. 8. these lands were valued at 2 *s.* per acre; as appears from several records, particularly from a survey then taken, now produced out of the augmentation-office. How long this notion of the rankness of a *modus* has prevailed may not be known; but in *Layfield Rector of Chiddingfold in Surry v. Delap*, Hil. 1697, the defendant insisted on a *modus* of 3 *d.* for a lamb. The court held, that was too much, and could not be; for that a lamb was not worth 2 *s.* and 6 *d.* in that country. 2 *Ld. Ray.* 1163. shews how far back the opinions in the *Exchequer* have gone, and a *modus* was held too high by *Powel J.* and several afterward. *Benson v. Watkins*, Hil. 3 G. 1. (*Bun.* 10.) *Franklyn v. Jenkins*, Trin. 7. G. 1. (*Bun.* 78.) Yet in 1731. or thereabout, *Giffard Rector of Stoke in Surry v. Webb*, a *modus* of 3 *d.* for a lamb was set up; it was sent by the Barons *Carter* and *Thomson* to be tried; and on appeal that decree was affirmed. It has indeed been said, Lord *Talbot* was against that decree. The next objection, and which destroys the *modus* on the face of it, is from the exception of tithe of hops; which shews it a composition, the law taking notice that they are a modern invention, coming in in Q. Elizabeth's time; though perhaps they existed before, for there is a statute in the time of H. 8. prohibiting them as a venomous weed. It could not then be an agreement time out of mind; of which the judges take notice; and therefore prohibition was denied, 1 *Sid.* 443. 1 *Ven.* 61. The exception must

must be coeval with the prescription, which presumes an agreement at first by proper authority of patron, rector, and ordinary to take a pecuniary payment in lieu of tithes in kind. The exception must be taken entire with the *modus*; for the court never severs a *modus*, or considers one part as good and another as bad. Hops being alledged as part of the description, it is thereby as much *felo de se* as if laid particularly and precisely for hops; which is never allowed. In *Perch v. Gee*, Hil. 1698. according to Lord Chief Baron Dodd's manuscript on a bill by the impropiator of the parish of *Offham* in *Kent*, the question was in what manner hops are to be paid, and whether a *modus* could be good of the tithe of hops: and it was held not, nor a *modus extra ponendi*: so afterward in *Conner v. Sprattling*, Trin. 1703. because hops are a new plantation. There are but two kind of tithes; great and small: the great are only four; corn, grain, hay, and wood; all the rest small: and there can hardly be a new great tithe. And it is now determined fully by *Your Lordship* in the case of potatoes in *Smith v. Wyat* upon a precedent in the *Exchequer*, that great and small tithes depend not on the value or quantity, but on the nature of the thing; and therefore though the whole farm is turned into small tithe, it will be still small. Hay is a great tithe; there has been a modern culture, which makes that hay, which not so formerly; as foreign grafs, lucern, &c. a *modus* for tithe-hay covers it, because it is the same sort of thing now. A great difference has been made in small tithes with regard to culture, being formerly only used in gardens: yet if there is a *modus* for all small tithes, that prescription cannot be thereby overturned: the *modus* is applicable to whatever small tithes shall arise. A *modus* in lieu of all small tithes whatever will cover hops as well as others: though you cannot prescribe in lieu of hops particularly. Hops will pass under a grant *de minutis decimis*. An ancient grant of all small tithes would now carry any new invented tithe. In *Franklyn v. Jenkins* one point was, whether a vicarage, endowed before time of memory *de minutis decimis*, was intituled to tithe of hops; and so held (*Bun. 79.*) Next how appears it on the evidence. The parol evidence to support it varies, is inaccurate and contradictory. Very few of the witnesses call it a *modus*. They that do, prove it directly contrary to the laying it; one calls it a rate: a rate and composition are the same. Lord *Talbot* has said, if the witnesses would not call it a *modus*, he would not. Then as to the receipts or written evidence, they are always expressly said to be for a *modus*, where there is one; but these, though varying in other respects, are all for the *tithe*: and *tithes* and *modus* are opposite terms. The survey 26 H. 8. read for the plaintiff, is the best evidence, it is accurate, and proves, that the lands in *Romney Marsh* were then only of the value of 2 s. per acre. As to the precedent in the *Exchequer*, it appears, that court would have held contrary if the same matter had been laid before them, as is here. Until

that time and later the *Exchequer* sent issues to try a *modus*, without first determining whether it was good in law or not. This court has brought them to alter that, and also another practice of taking an account of tithes down to the time of the Master's report. It was there by *Page* and *Gilbert* directed to be tried, though *Price* held it in point of law a bad *modus*; and it was tried before *Eyre J.* who upon this record in the time of *H. 8.* being read, held, that the commission should be produced, and that if it was, he would certainly over-rule the *modus*. It is now settled by all the judges, that that is wrong. It is not necessary, especially at this distance of time, to produce the commission; and most of them are not in being. *Your Lordship* has allowed ministers accounts and a survey without producing the commission; and it would be strange to say, the parties are not to have the benefit of these surveys, because the commission is not to be found. Upon the equity reserved, where the validity of the *modus* only was argued (for the fact had been established) the court not only dismissed the bill with costs, as the plaintiff had failed on the trial and no motion for new trial, but also the cross bill, with costs; which was on odd determination, decreeing neither way. They were not clearly of opinion, that it was a good *modus* on the face of it: but do not say it was bad. The parties plainly did not look on it as determined; for they brought new bills afterward. But the rector in his answer to the bill for establishment of the *modus*, not caring to engage further, agreed to accept the composition, but not to establish the *modus*. If then that had been a precedent in this very parish, it would not conclude his successor, because it was collusion: but being in a different parish can be no precedent to a *modus* in another: so that as a precedent in fact, it will not bind; as a precedent in point of law it was not determined: and the opinion of *Eyre J.* was, that if that could be proved, which is proved here from the augmentation-office, he would over-rule the *modus*.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Upon the reason of the thing and the authorities that have been, and others which I will mention, I cannot determine this matter without a trial. the court certainly ought to support the rights of the church: and not to allow any *modus* or customary payment that by the rules of law is not to be supported. At the same time the court ought not, especially in cases of very extensive consequences, lightly to overturn and overthrow customary payments, that have prevailed for a great tract of years, which is commonly called time out of mind or the memory of man: though I do not mean strictly according to the notion of law before the time of the transportation of *K. R. 1.* I take it, that the question before the court in this case is of very extensive consequence, through a great tract of country

country. It appears in this case and in former cases in *Westminster Hall*, that it extends and runs through several parishes in this country. When therefore that is the case, and no instance or tradition of payment of tithes in kind, in this parish for a great tract of years, purchasers have come in and paid a price for the land according to those customary payments; and it would vary and alter the value of their property to overturn or overthrow them; which is a reason why these objections to them should be very well weighed and considered, and that they should not be too lightly overturned; as has been done in some instances.

The plaintiff upon his general right as rector is certainly intitled to his demand of tithes in kind of these lands, if no bar is shewn. The defence insisted upon is a *modus*; and undoubtedly as against the right of the rector it is incumbent on the defendant to maintain that *modus* in point of law and fact.

There are two general objections against allowing this *modus*, which are insisted upon as sufficient to over-rule it now. First, that it is not sufficiently proved in point of fact. The other, that if it was so, yet that it is not good in point of law; which objection in point of law divides itself into two objections. The first a general one, that the affirmative part of the *modus*, the payment of 9d. per acre, cannot have subsisted time out of mind, of which the court is bound to take notice; and that it cannot have subsisted time out of mind from the alteration of the value of money; because 9d. per acre must be much above the value of the tithe of this land at the time this *modus* or composition must be supposed to commence; which the law of *England* by a pretty extraordinary law (and which, I believe, no other country does) makes from the transportation of R. 1. to the *Holy Land*. The other is an objection tending to the same thing; that this *modus* cannot have subsisted time out of mind, because there is an exception of a product and culture, which was not and could not be in use at the time when it was supposed to commence; and that this exception, being part of the agreement, must be coeval with the agreement itself: which shews, it could not be an agreement time out of mind.

First as to the proof of the *modus* in point of fact; as to which many observations are made on the part of the plaintiff, and certainly in cases of this kind these observations have been frequently made, and have justly had weight; that there is a great variation in the proof; that none of the receipts call it a *modus*; only two of the witnesses call it so; the others say, there have been such payments for tithe generally and one calls it a composition; and Lord *Talbot* has said, he would not call it a *modus*, if none of the witnesses would. If not one, that might be a material observation;

but that, I am of opinion, is too slight an observation in general, that because these witnesses (who are *lay gens*) do not make use of a legal technical word, that customary payment shall be overruled. The question is upon the fact: the law makes the inference. Next that the receipts do not call it a *modus*, and that they are very nice in taking receipts. Very often ministers will not call it a *modus* in the receipt; because they will not prejudice their successors, tho' they will give a receipt for the sum as usual. In very few instances will the rector submit to call it a *modus* in the receipt; and if he will not, the parishioner cannot compel him; but must submit, or else pay without a receipt. And that sort of evidence is in some measure strengthened by a letter of the plaintiff's in which he does not (and very rightly) call it a *modus*, but insists on this payment as the payment usually made for this land formerly, and upon an account and payment to be made up on that foot as the right he insisted upon: whereas he might have demanded an account and satisfaction for tithe in kind, if this was not a composition or *modus* that bound him. But as to all these observations I should have laid much more stress on them, if there was any evidence for the plaintiff either of actual payment of tithe in kind or of a tradition thereof for this marsh land; of which there is none, either of the fact of payment of tithe in kind or any tradition from any ancient persons; which is proper evidence in cases of custom and usage. Then the positive proof on one side is strengthened by the weakness or want of positive proof (which implies a negative) on the other side. It is determining cases not on the merits, but according to the critical penning of depositions. The want of any evidence, not only of payment of tithe in kind but of any tradition, takes off the weight of the observation, that this might have commenced within a short space of time; for then some tradition would have been shewn, that tithe in kind had been ever paid, or even insisted upon or demanded: but there is none. If therefore it rested on the proof, it is impossible to say, that a decree must be made for payment of tithe in kind; which as at present I cannot allow.

Hops began in Elizabeth's time to be propagated, but existed before in small quantities.

But the most strong objections are those in point of law arising from facts; but such facts as, it is insisted upon, the court is bound to take notice of. First as to the exception of hops, which has something material in it; for hops are always allowed to have been introduced in modern times, that is modern in respect of long antiquity. They began to be used and propagated in Queen Elizabeth's time, and existed in this kingdom in Philip and Mary's time and before; as appears from the statute in the reign of H. 8. therefore they were here: but here, as tobacco is here, planted for curiosity and in small quantities: but they were in this kingdom to a certain degree before Elizabeth's time, though *non constat* how far. Is it possible, there should be such an exception in the begin-

beginning? or does the making this exception overturn the affirmative part of the *modus*? Suppose the agreement was to pay ninepence *per* acre for all small tithes of this land, except such small tithes as shall be afterward introduced: that would be certainly a good agreement. Then instead of laying it in those general words they have specified it with such a sort of product as these lands probably will be tilled with. But it is too much to lay such weight on this objection to overturn this *modus*, when I see what has already passed. I allow that case of *Bates* in the *Exchequer* not to be such an authority as to bind in the present case; and it seems as odd a proceeding as I ever saw in a court of equity. Issues were first directed on both bills; and afterward the trial was so had as not to determine the merits of the case, which the court expects after a trial; but it went off upon a nice objection in point of evidence, that the plaintiff in the original bill offered a record or survey in the time of *H. 8.* (which now has been read) and which was over-ruled by the Judge, and the merits were not entered into. Evidence is not to be destroyed, because some part of it is lost; for the law is not so unreasonable as not to suffer it to be supplied, if lost: but upon its coming back upon the equity reserved the court dismissed the bill with costs in law and equity, and dismissed the cross-bill with costs only in equity: the reason of which was perhaps, that there was no application by the plaintiff *Bates* for a new trial, and as a verdict was against him, his bill was consequently to be dismissed, unless he prayed an account on the foot of the *modus*; which, I presume, he did not think fit to do: and, I presume, the cross-bill was dismissed, because the court did not think the verdict, as found, was upon the merits, or sufficient to make a decree to establish the *modus*. But why it was dismissed with costs I do not know; unless the court had a mind to set the costs on one side against the other. But afterward a bill is brought by the landholder to establish this as a *modus*; and the defendant thereto by his answer says, he acquiesces to take the payment on that foot; but did not consent it should be established: yet the court did think fit to establish it as a *modus*. I believe, I should hardly have done that. But however, it was only to establish it as between the then rector and parishioner; for that decree could not afterward bind all the subsequent incumbents; because that must be on a *modus* established on proof and on the mere right of the case, which was not entered into. The only use therefore I can make of that precedent, is this; it is evidence to me of the opinion of a very learned court, when *C. Baron Perzelly* (who was a very learned Judge) presided there, that this inserting the exception in the laying the *modus*, which was exactly just the same as in the present case, was not sufficient to impeach and overturn the *modus* in point of law; and as that is a very nice objection, and may

Modus to bind
successor must
be established
on proof, and
on the mere
right.

be accounted for in different ways, and there being that opinion of that court, I shall be of opinion not to over-rule the *modus* upon that.

Modus too
rank, too high
or near the va-
lue of the tithe
not allowed.
But a differ-
ence where
for land or a
particular pro-
duct.

The more material objection is upon the affirmative part of the *modus* itself, whether it is not too rank? It is insisted upon as too high in point of value, and therefore that the court is bound to take notice of it, and ought to over-rule it. That doctrine has certainly prevailed in several cases, and, I believe, more strongly since the publication of Bishop *Fleetwood's* book; for before that, I believe these things were not so commonly known. That objection, though founded in fact, is taken to be allowed by the court without a jury: that objection has been more commonly allowed as to the value of particular things, for which the *modus* has been set up, as where it is so much for a sheep, or lamb, or a particular kind of product, the value of which may be shewn at these times: but it may differ as to a *modus* set up as to the value of lands, because several incidents and accidents may attend that: the alteration of traffick or commerce, or of the culture of land, either improved or falling in value by accident, that makes such a *modus* more uncertain than in respect of the value of a particular kind of product, as calves, sheep, lambs, and things of that kind. Therefore, though this objection is taken in point of law for the judgment of the court, the court does not always proceed as bound to determine it that way, but has considered it as a matter of fact proper for a jury. And this plaintiff has considered it as such, and has entered into proof of the fact, that is by records, to shew the value of the land in the time of *H. 8.* I cannot make a certain inference from thence. It is a material evidence to be sure; and more light might have been had in that case of *Wareborn*, if Justice *Eyre* had let that in. But when such commissioners are ever employed to make this valuation, I believe this valuation is never carried to the height; and that in the time of *H. 8.* has been always thought not to be carried to the height. Compare it with valuations in modern times, as on the augmentation of the *Queen's* bounty, not valued at a third part: and yet, I believe, they did not go stricter than in that of *H. 8.* I use this in this manner, not to throw it off, only to shew this is not conclusive evidence. Then the question is, whether it is not fit for me to do, as the Court of *Exchequer* did in the case of *Wareborn*, to direct an issue? and in that respect I have directed an inquiry to be made into that case of the Rector of *Stoke*, which was first in the *Exchequer*; where *Giffard* brought his bill for tithe in kind, and particularly for tithe of lambs. The defendants there insisted, that neither he nor his predecessors were intitled to receive that because of an ancient usage or custom in that parish, that every occupier having land paid three

three pence and no more as a *modus* in full satisfaction of the tithe of such lamb. The court did not determine it on the hearing, but directed a trial: but the plaintiff did not proceed to trial; and the court ordered the issue to be taken *pro confesso*, and afterward ordered his bill to be dismissed. From that he appealed; and the reason given for his appeal (as appears from the case) was, that the court ought not to have directed an issue, but should have over-ruled this *modus* as too rank because of the ancient price of cattle and other commodities, so that a lamb would not be worth formerly more than sixpence; and that it was proved to be only a modern composition. The answer given to that is, that the ground for that objection seemed to be, that the *modus* was so great and so near the value of the tithable matters, for which paid, that it must be a modern composition considering the decrease of the value of coin: but that this objection arising on matter of fact, was very proper to be considered by a jury. It was heard in 1735; at which I was not present, being then in the *King's Bench*. The *Lords* affirmed the decree; and therefore affirmed, that the sending it to an issue was proper and right. I sent to Mr. *Philip Ward*, son of *Lord Chief Baron Ward* (and who is a very good repertory of cases in the *Exchequer*) to know what cases upon this head had been in the *Exchequer*; and the case of *Layfield v. Delap* was sent to me, and also another, which comes up to the present, is very like it, and in the same country, of *Grascomb v. Jefferies*, 17 Nov. 1687; which is before any of the cases that have been cited upon this head; and the account of it is this. It begins with saying, This is a *Kentish* cause, and the plaintiff demanded tithe in kind for marsh-land. The defendant alledged a *modus* or custom time out of mind to pay twelvepence *per acre* for all marsh land within the parish in lieu of all tithes. Proof was made of this payment for forty or fifty years: and upon this, and as there was no proof of payment of tithe in kind, a trial was prayed to be directed: but the court denied the trial, and declared the pretended *modus* or custom to be void, as it was proved, that the marsh land was rented at so much *per acre*, that it was not possible, nor could a reasonable intendment be made, that the *modus* or custom time out of mind could be; and therefore the court over-ruled the *modus*, and said, that the court usually over-ruled a *modus*, which seemed too great, and which did not seem reasonable to the value. But *nota*, (and for this I cite it) this cause was reheard upon the defendant's motion, and the *modus* was sent to a trial at law by a *Middlesex* jury; but it does not appear what was done afterward. The use I make of this case is to shew, that the taking this sort of objection, founded on the height of the sum, to be a matter of fact in some cases for the consideration of a jury is not a new invention, nor first introduced in that case of *Giffard* or that of *Bate*, but was done
by

by the court in 1687 on great consideration; for it was twice before them. On the first hearing they were of a contrary opinion, and over-ruled the *modus* upon the arguing it; but upon rehearing and reconsidering, they reversed their own decree, and directed a trial. And I am of opinion, that in these kind of cases it is very fit to do so; and more so in a case where it concerns the height of a *modus* in respect of the value of land than any other, especially of land which has been greatly improving and improved for several years. *Romney Marsh* is the first level, which was banked in from the sea; and the laws of the *Sewers* and more modern laws have a reference to that of *Romney*, and make that the rule. There is a possibility, where lands were of little value at the time, but were improving and inclosing, the parson, patron, and ordinary might come to an agreement to give from that time much more than the tithe was, in order to prevent the parson's demanding tithe in kind afterward, when the lands were greatly improved at their expence. It is like the case, where a commonage is inclosed at a great expence, and much more is by agreement given to the parson than his tithe in kind at the present, because it is to prevent his receiving tithe according to the improved value.

Therefore I will direct it to be tried; but the question is, where it is to be tried? according to *Grascomb v. Jefferies* it is proper to try it in *London* or *Middlesex*. *Romney Marsh* is very extensive; and hardly a gentleman in *Kent*, who has not an estate there; which, I presume, was the reason of directing it in that manner in that case. If I had not found this precedent, I probably should not have thought so ill of my countrymen as to do it. Let it be tried in *London* upon an issue, whether the occupiers of the marsh land in this parish have paid, &c. just as it is laid in the answer: but the defendant in this court must be plaintiff at law, because the issue is upon him.

Case 175. *How versus Weldon and Edwards*, July 17, 1754.

At the Rolls.

Assignment of
sailors share of
prize money
at great under-
value, set a-
side for fraud,
but to stand as
security for
what really
advanced:
and a

THE plaintiff was a land-man on board one of the ships, which in 1745 made the great capture, which put into *Kinsale* in *Ireland*; and for 123 l. 15 s. 0 d. Sterling, agreed with *Weldod* for a sale of his interest, which, as was now confessed, amounted to 457 l. In *Sept.* 1745, the prizes came to *Bristol*. In *October* the money was received by the managers. On *Nov.* 15, 1745, *Edwards* by a deed, reciting the deed-poll of *August*, by which the plaintiff assigned his share for the consideration therein mentioned,

tioned, purchases it from *Weldon*; who covenants, that *How* was well intitled, and that *Weldon* had good right to assign, with covenant for further assurance, and warrant against all persons; and he appoints *Edwards* as his attorney to receive from the managers all bounty money, prize money, smart money, tickets, and all other sums of money due to *How* and the other persons owners of the share. This assignment was accompanied with a bond of the same date by *Weldon* and a surety in a sum equivalent to the purchase money, for *Weldon's* performance of the covenants; and two shares are assigned over as a collateral security to indemnify *Edwards* against any claim set up by any other, and to make him safe in the quiet enjoyment of these shares. There was afterwards a re-assignment to *Weldon*; who, upon this bill to set aside the sale now made default.

second assignee stood in the same place as the first.

For defendant *Edwards* it was insisted, he is a purchaser for valuable consideration without notice of *Weldon's* fraud; and that in all the cases cited for plaintiff there were badges of fraud affecting the defendant himself. As *Brown v. Newman* in 1745, where *Foley* the purchaser was affected with all the fraud of *Newman*. In the case of Mr. *Fitzgerald* he was no purchaser; he only received the money as agent for the person, against whom the bill was brought, having accounted for it with his correspondent in *Ireland*: but the reason he was charged, was, that he owed a duty from his having notice not to part with that money; therefore the parting with it was a breach of trust; and in that light was the decree against him. But there is no case, where a purchaser for valuable consideration from a person guilty of fraud without notice of that fraud should be affected therewith. Notice alone of the undervalue is not sufficient to impeach a contract. In *Baldwin v. Rochfort*, Nov. 11, 1748, Lord Chancellor held, that undervalue, though an ingredient, was not the same in the law of *England* as in the civil law.

Ante. Tylour, v. Rochfort, 18 May 1751.

Sir Thomas Clarke, Master of the Rolls.

It must be first determined, whether the bill of sale or assignment to *Weldon*, the original transactor, is in such a light in a court of equity as to stand or be set aside; that is, be converted into a security for what was really and *bona fide* paid, though it was an absolute security at first? Next whether, if the plaintiff would have been intitled against *Weldon*, had he alone been concerned, the assignment to *Edwards* will stand in his way?

The plaintiff's equity against *Weldon* is founded on the common and known principal, an instrument obtained from him by fraud and imposition; the actual proofs of which fraud are

Seamen considered as young heirs.

Contracts at half value set aside in the civil law : Not so here but it is a material ingredient.

charges in the bill of *suggestio falsi et suppressio veri*, admitted by *Edwards* (for *Weldon* makes default) to be made out by evidence; and being the same as in all the other cases, I shall only allude to them; *viz.* as to the circumstances and situation of the prize and of the plaintiff when he made the sale, from its being in jeopardy on account of the owner's being pricked run, &c. But the more material part is from the other circumstances upon the general head of equity arising partly from the person with whom the transaction was, and beside the value of the thing purchased. It is reasonable to consider the vendor at least in as favourable a light as a young heir. I am warranted in saying that, by what has been often said in cases of this kind, and what has been done by the legislature itself; which has considered them as a race of men loose and unthinking, who will almost for nothing part with what they have acquired perhaps with their blood; therefore are they restrained by two acts of parliament, the last of which was 20 G. 2. Then the price, for which the share was parted with, is about a fourth part. By the rules of the Civil Law, if half had been paid it would have been a mere nullity. Our law differs from that; but though the inadequateness of the value will not of itself be sufficient to set aside the contract, yet it is a very material ingredient, and, with other things, will go a great way toward it. It was a very odious case on the part of *Weldon*; and admitted to be a gross fraud, and the circumstances are the same as in the other cases, in which the bills of sale are set aside; and the risk and hazard at the time of *Weldon's* purchase, and the uncertainty whether it would turn out any thing in the event on account of claims set up, were greatly misrepresented, and ought not to have more weight than in the other cases, where the same objection is made; and as to the contingency whether the money would ever come safe, insurances were made upon it. No doubt then, but if he now appeared, and made defence, unless something more particular than in former instances, there must have been a decree against him.

Next whether *Edwards* is in a like condition or better than *Weldon*, will depend on the general rules and principles laid down, and on the application of them to this particular case, *viz.* that here is *dolus in re ipsa*, and *dolus circuitu non purgatur*; which is true, if admitted with allowance; and it is laid down by Lord *Bacon* not as a general rule, but as an exception to a general rule. It is insisted for defendant, that if seamen are to be favoured, fair purchasers are as much; and that mere inadequateness or smallness of price is not of itself sufficient to impeach a purchase; and that a legal interest differs from a mere equity. All these principles are true, as laid down generally; but to judge how far they are applicable consider the particular case made. It is *prima facie*

facie a strong defence, a fair purchase for valuable consideration without any notice of plaintiff's claim or right at the time or before payment of the purchase money. The deed, under which defendant claims, certainly is greatly more extensive, than *Weldon* had a right to make; and though probably no benefit could accrue to any on account of those other matters in the assignment, yet it was truly observed in the other cases, that this shewed the intent of vendee to grasp at every thing; and therefore it is not material, whether advantage did in fact accrue from them. No great stress is to be laid on the covenants, though the warranty is very extensive, and goes much further than usual; nor upon the bond. But though of no great weight singly, yet *juncta juvant*. But the collateral security shews strongly, how it struck *Edwards*, the supposed purchaser at the time. It was said, this was but a prudent precaution by a purchaser to secure himself against the event. If it is such a precaution, as a vendee would desire, it is such, as in a common case neither he could require, nor a vendor comply with; for it amounts to a sale of shares for money for his own present occasions, and the purchaser requires to lock up so much to deprive him of the use. Next as to the consideration. There is a receipt acknowledging the payment. The defendant thought it necessary to go further, and properly; therefore examined a witness as to the payment by draughts and bond. But that will not prove payment of the money so as to make defendant purchaser for valuable consideration; defendant therefore endeavoured to make out the payment of the draughts and bond: but only in this way, that *Weldon* owned it. Even at this time the bond may be unsatisfied: but if satisfied, it might have been now produced. So that the payment rests on *Weldon's* acknowledgment. It is said to be sufficient to produce the deed and receipt. As between *Weldon* and *Edwards* it would; unless *Weldon* had brought a bill to impeach payment of the consideration, and then it would not be sufficient against him: much less against a third person. *Edwards* endeavours to put himself, not in the place of *Weldon* (which would not answer his purpose) but in a better; therefore it is necessary to go further, and make out proof of payment; in which he has materially failed. Next as to notice; it is such a defence, as in most instances is out of plaintiff's power to produce positive witnesses to falsify, depending generally upon collateral evidence. But the answer is observable; it denies, that at the execution of the deed they had any notice of the plaintiff's having sold to *Weldon* under any such circumstances of fraud as are mentioned in the bill. I must consider this answer as if pleaded. Would such a general denial of knowledge of a sale under particular circumstances of fraud be sufficient? The generality of it makes it turn the other way. It is admitted, that *Edwards* had notice of the very inadequate price

price paid by *Weldon* to the plaintiff; and I cannot agree that there was no occasion to inquire farther; for it must raise a suspicion; and it was very natural to ask, how he came by so good a bargain: but the defendant more than suspected; and therefore took the collateral security beside. Taking all together a court of equity will be induced strongly to presume notice of another title.

I have hitherto proceeded on a supposition, that a legal right is in *Edwards*, and indeed otherwise the question of notice could not have been at all material; because if they took only an assignment of an equity, they would have taken it as in other cases clothed with all the circumstances in the hands of *Weldon*, whether they had notice of the fraud or not, and there is no necessity of charging notice of it. But it now appears clearly, that the legal interest is in *Weldon* (speaking according to the determinations of the courts of law that by these assignments the legal title passed) for it appears, that there was a reassignment of the plaintiff's share to *Weldon*; so that *Edwards* had not the legal interest; but must be considered in the same light as *Weldon* himself would; and any decree I should now make, in consequence of that opinion, will in fact be against *Weldon* himself; which satisfies me the better with my present opinion: and if the court was to dismiss the bill as against *Edwards*, it would be a decree in favour of *Weldon*; which would be a great injustice to the plaintiff, and is a strong ingredient.

The bill of Sale therefore by the plaintiff to *Weldon* must be set aside for fraud and imposition as an absolute assignment, but stand as a security for so much as was *bona fide* advanced; and *Edwards* upon all the circumstances is not in a better condition. The decree for payment must be against both jointly; and if satisfaction is made by *Edwards*, let him have remedy over, and liberty to prosecute the decree against *Weldon*, with costs just in the same manner.

Case 176.

—, July 18, 1754,

Publisher of
advertisement
as to proceed-
ings in court,
committed for
contempt: but
discharged on
submission and
disclosing
every thing.

MR S *Farley*, being committed to the *Fleet* upon motion of the plaintiff for having published an advertisement in the *Bristol Journal* relating to the answer in *Chancery* put in by the defendant, *Sir Robert Cann*, now moved to be discharged, having paid costs of the contempt and submitted; as also the defendant did, confessing the advertisement was put in at his instance; and it was not opposed by the plaintiff, who left it to the court.

Lord

Lord Chancellor said, his reason for committing was not only for the sake of the party injured by such advertisement, but for sake of the publick proceedings in this court to hinder such advertisements, which tend to prepossess people as to the proceedings in the court. But as on a prosecution for a libel in *B. R.* for publishing a scandalous advertisement, if they confess in what manner it was brought to them and every thing about it, that court takes that into consideration to alleviate the punishment; so here, though here ignorance of the law is no justification for the publishing the advertisement, yet having discovered in what manner it was brought to her with other advertisements, and disclosed every thing, it is a ground to alleviate the punishment; therefore he granted the motion.

Bullock versus Stones, July 19, 1754.

Case 177.

“ *I* *John Stones* do leave all my real and personal estate at *Ashgate*,
“ in trust by *B, C, and D*; my desire is, that all my debts and
“ funeral charges be paid, and such legacies as I shall after men-
“ tion.” Then after certain directions and legacies, he adds,
“ I desire, that the heir, which I shall hereafter mention, be
“ well brought up with good learning and well educated. Also
“ my will and desire is, that the first son lawfully begotten of
“ *John Stones* the file-cutter, when he comes to 21, shall have
“ all my estate real and personal at *Ashgate*, and his heirs for
“ ever: and as there is coal on the land, if it can be let for forty
“ or fifty pounds an acre, the mortgage debt may be got paid
“ off.”

Devise of real
and personal
to first son of
A. when he
shall attain 21;
the profits of
the personal
accumulates.
As to the real
it is a good
executory de-
vise: but the
mesne profits
descend to
heir at law.

John Stones the file-cutter, the defendant, was heir at law to the testator, had no son at present, and was not yet of age.

The first question was, whether there was any devise to the trustees? Next, whether this was a good executory devise to the first son of *John Stones* at twenty-one? Next as to the profits in mean time, whether the heir at law was intitled thereto only, until he has a son born, and to vest in such son immediately on his birth? But this it was said, could never be the meaning; for that would be providing for the son, and at the same time preventing *John Stones* from marrying; therefore they belonged to him, until he has a son who attains twenty-one.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The personal estate passes by this will to the trustees first for payment of debts: but the whole surplus of that will belongs to the son of *John Stones*, when that son attains twenty-one; which is a reasonable compass of time for such a bequest to take place; and until then the profits of that personal estate will accumulate, and the heir at law cannot claim any thing of that.

But as to the real estate, first I am of opinion, it passes by the devise to these trustees; and that there are proper devising words, though it is not said, "I devise to them," for it is in an inaccurate manner *by* them: but that must be construed with the subsequent acts to be done by them; *viz.* "I give my real estate on trust, " that the rents and profits may be applied by those trustees in " such and such a manner; then they must have the real estate for that purpose; and, I think, in point of law it will amount to a devise to them. The question then is as to the trust; and application of the rents and profits. It is an executory devise of the trust estate to the first son of *John Stones*, when he comes to the age of twenty-one; which is a good executory devise according to the later determinations; for in *Gore v. Gore* it was settled solemnly, that such an executory devise is good even of a legal estate; and there is no difference as to that, because it does not tend to a perpetuity, only suspending the power of alienation so long as the law would suspend it; because until twenty-one he could not alienate it. Where then are the rents and profits to go? Where there is an executory devise, whether of a legal estate or a trust estate in this court, the rents and profits go to the heir at law; because the legal estate in the one case, or trust in the other, descend in mean time to the heir at law. But I am of opinion, that this intermediate interest or benefit, arising to the heir at law as to the profits of this estate, will determine upon his having a son; for that son's education, which he has expressly directed, must come out of the rents and profits of the estate: that cannot be, if another person is to have the benefit thereof. Therefore the construction of the will must be, that this heir, whom he has instituted, shall have the benefit of these rents and profits from the time of his birth, at least so far as his maintenance and education goes. What the surplus afterward will be, does not appear; but probably nothing. But the conveyance of the estate and the possession must be suspended until he attains twenty-one.

Archer

Archer *versus* Pope, July 19, 1754.

Case 173

G. ARCHER, previous to his marriage with *Anne Price*, executed a bond, which recited the intended marriage; and that whereas *Anne Price* is intitled to 800*l.* or some estate, in land or houses after the death of her mother *Sarah Price*, which said sum or estate, or whatever sum or sums the husband shall be intitled to, is agreed to be settled to the uses following; to the uses of her and the children of the marriage, and afterward to the right heirs of the husband; but the wife was not an executing party thereto. Upon that the marriage was had. In the life of the husband the estate fell into possession, and was a real estate. The husband makes his will, in which he recites the bond, and devises the inheritance of the estate back to his wife, and all other his estates real and personal, and makes her executrix. She proves the will soon after his death, and marries *Peter Pope*.

Bond by husband reciting agreement to settle wife's estate, the wife not an executing party. By her acts after his death she bound herself to a performance.

After her death a bill was brought by her two sons by *Archer* against the second husband to have the benefit of the agreement entered into between their father and mother, and to restrain the defendant from proceeding at law against this estate as tenant by courtesy.

His Lordship thought, that as the interests of the two plaintiffs were incompatible, one of them, the elder brother, should be made a defendant. This was done by an amended bill.

The plaintiff offering to read the examination of another defendant *Harrison*, who was also a defendant to the original bill, it was objected to on the part of *Pope*; as this would give *Harrison* an opportunity of contradicting what he had sworn by his former answer, would destroy the rules as to publication passing in a cause, and open a door to collusion; and that on the part of *Pope* new proof could not have been entered into; although it was allowed, cross interrogatories might have been exhibited.

Evidence.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

When a cause comes on to hearing, and the court either for an improper arrangement of parties, or in a stronger case for want of parties, directs the cause to stand over with liberty to make new defendants or add parties, in which there is frequently

Where a cause stands over to make or add new defendants, and on

amendment publication is open, it seems that all the parties may enter into a new examination, and that a new examination of a defendant to original bill may be read against another defendant.

quently an occasion to re-examine; the question is, whether all the parties are not parties to that re-examination? I doubt they must necessarily be so. The bringing new parties before the court may make it necessary for all of them to enter into proofs. When there must be a new examination, and by amendment of the bill, publication is open, then why cannot all parties enter into a new examination? If indeed the court fees a contrivance, the court would meet with that some way or other; but there is nothing of that here: it was an objection made by the court. However this evidence certainly may be read against the other defendant, the infant elder brother of the plaintiff; and then the court may judge of it.

For plaintiff. This agreement was reduced into writing, and the marriage had in consequence of it; and the parties are only mistaken in point of form, in thinking it sufficient for the husband only to covenant, and therefore the wife did not sign it. It is common where a husband makes a settlement on the wife, by way of bond to the wife, which is void by law, so that no use can be made of it, yet this court decrees it on foundation of the agreement.

For defendant Pope. He has now the legal estate as tenant by courtesy; which right is endeavoured to be taken out of him by a supposed equitable agreement. The new evidence read is not admissible against him. The wife shall not be tied down to bind her land by any instrument in writing not signed by her. One view of the stat. of frauds was that agreements must be certain; but another view, that the assent of the parties must appear thereto in writing. She never joined in executing the bond, her assent does not appear; nor is her husband's will binding upon, nor can it effect her, in Law or Equity.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

In formal marriage agreements decreed notwithstanding statute of frauds upon acquiescence and acts in consequence of it, though not signed by one party, or though an infant.

This bill is in nature of a bill for specific performance of an agreement, which being only signed by the husband, the question is, whether it is sufficient to bind the wife or not? There are several instances of very informal, incorrect, and loose agreements on marriage, and where the parties have not been all bound, as things stood originally; yet after a marriage had, and acquiescence, and acts done in consequence of it, this court has decreed them, and that notwithstanding the statute of frauds; because all agreements in part performed, or performed on one side, the court carries into execution on the other. The wife is not executing party to the bond,

bond, which contains a recital of an agreement for settling her estate, nor consequently to the agreement: but the bond was fairly made and before marriage, and the wife was of full age, and fully conscious of the transaction; as appears on the evidence. It plainly proceeded on an uncertainty of the parties, of what nature and species the wife's fortune consisted, whether money or land. All, she was intitled to, was after her mother's life, who was not privy to the marriage. The bond recites an agreement with somebody; and *Pope* admits by his answer, that there was an agreement; Then there must be two parties to that agreement; which must be somebody interested in it, either the wife herself or some one for her. Though *Pope* has endeavoured to abate from that by saying, he does not know from whom the first proposal came, that is not material, since there was an agreement: although his admission will not indeed bind the heir at law. Nothing was done during the husband's life: it appears, he intended to act fairly at the time of making his will, and therefore has recited the bond in his will, and has cured what had the only appearance of hardship in this bond, and given the inheritance of the estate back to the wife, if no children, which by the bond was to go to the husband. Taking it upon the bond only, if nothing more was in the case, it would be difficult to say, that the wife should be bound by this bond; because if it is abstractedly taken on the instrument, she was no party; and the statute of frauds says, it must be signed by the party; who is to be bound. But notwithstanding the words in the statute of frauds, if there is a marriage-agreement, by which one party only is bound or signs, if the other parties act under that, and submit and assent they shall be bound by it. I may put several cases both on real and personal estate on this head. First as to personal estate; a man has made a settlement on his wife on marriage; and her personal estate has consisted of leases for years, mortgages, or things in action; he dies; the wife surviving is intitled to her own species of her personal estate, or any *choses in action*, or leasehold estate, or mortgages: yet notwithstanding, if the wife, though an infant at the time of the marriage, has insisted on the settlement made by the husband on the marriage, and taken the profits of it, and benefit and enjoyment of it, she is bound by that, and the representative of the husband is intitled; and the court will compel her to part with it for benefit of the husband's estate. So if a freeman of *London* makes a will contrary to the custom, and dies, though the wife is not perhaps executrix, nor does so strong an act as is done here by her proving the will, but has acted in this manner without declaring one way or the other; the court will not suffer the representative of the wife to insist on the custom, in contradiction to what was done by her; and that in cases where, if the wife had been before the court, she might have had an election; therefore if she has done it for a short time only, that acquiescence shall

So on will
by husband
contrary to
custom of
London: wife
by her acts
may be
bound.

bind her and her representatives; and it would be very mischievous, if the court should suffer her representatives to take it up in prejudice of the children, &c. These are instances of personal estate: but I will put the case of a real estate. Suppose a woman and infant is married, and intitled to a small real estate of inheritance, and the husband in consideration of that real estate, and that he shall have and enjoy the inheritance for his own benefit, settles on that wife a provision by way of jointure, whether of land or personal estate is immaterial, and dies, and she after his death takes to that provision so made for her and enjoys it, and afterward dies; I am of opinion, the court would not suffer her heir at law to insist upon the inheritance of that real estate by descent from her, but would hold her heir at law bound by her subsequent agreement to that marriage-agreement; and that she had bound herself by her own acts, and departed from her interest in that real estate, and would decree her heir at law to be a trustee for the heir at law of the husband, and that agreeable to the rules of equity; and I believe, has been so held.* If that be so, consider how far that goes in the present case. These instances, and the reason on which they depend, prove, that a wife may be bound by such agreement before marriage though not an executing party within the statute of frauds, nay though a person not capable to do so. This was not in all events that case; because no settlement was made by this agreement before marriage on the part of the husband; for it is merely an agreement to settle the estate of the wife, nothing moving from him. This might amount to an agreement to bind himself to oblige the wife to do it. But it does not rest on this only; for it goes farther, and the will must be taken into consideration; which makes it a mixed and very special case. The question will be, whether her proving this will, reciting the condition of the bond, is not an evidence of her assent, when she was free and sole, after the death of her husband, to this agreement to settle her own estate for benefit of herself and her children. Now without going into the evidence of the defendant *Harrison* (which is to be sure a very strong proof of her declarations) she not only proved but acted under the will, and possessed this personal estate of her husband; in what manner she possessed it does not appear: but if she enjoyed any part of his personal estate after his death under the will, I shall be of opinion, that was a submission and agreement to this settlement. It goes on both parts, I have been speaking of; on that part which relates to *Noys v. Mordaunt* and the other cases on that head, where a man will take under a will in one instance, whether personal or real estate, he shall not dispute the

* It was said to be so held in the case of *Felton Harvey*.

will;

will ; and on the other part of the case whereby it appears, she was constant of it, evidence arises of her intent. If then this was her intent, and by her express acts she has declared it, that will bind every body coming after her. The tenant by courtesy is equally bound to make good this agreement, if she was bound herself. The only matter of doubt might be, how far she had bound herself by her acts. I do not know, but it might be too hard to say, that barely by proving it a feme should be bound. It was proved very soon after ; and perhaps she might not know the state of her husband's affairs. If therefore the second husband insists on it, I will direct an inquiry, what acts were done by her toward submitting to the will and as an evidence thereof. I mean the general acting under the will and taking the estate, such acts as possessing the goods to her own use : but do not mean by way of giving her an election now. But that inquiry will be at peril of costs.

The inquiry not being insisted upon, it was declared, that by her acts shewing her acquiescence under the agreement in the condition in the bond, and also her submission to the will, she had bound herself to the performance of the said agreement ; and therefore it ought to be carried into execution against the defendants ; and the estate equally divided between the two children.

Whithorne *versus* Harris, July 20, 1754.

Case 179.

ELIZ. Whitborne devises thus : “ Item, I give and bequeath to “ all and every person and persons, who are near relations to “ me, if any such there be, the sum of 250*l.* to be paid them “ within a year after my decease ; and if there should be any such “ person or persons, who are related to me, and do not apply for “ payment of the said sum within a year after my decease, in such “ case I give the said sum to my two executors.”

Near relations in a will, such as within stat. of distribution.

The plaintiffs first cousins of testatrix applied within the year after an advertisement by the executors. No nearer relations applied ; but some doubt had been, whether second cousins should not be included as near relations.

Lord Chancellor declared, that such relations only, as would be intitled to a distributive share of her personal estate according to the statute for settling intestate estates, were within the description of near relations intitled to it ; and ordered it to be paid to the plaintiffs.

Case 180.

Chilliner *versus* Chilliner, July 20, 1754.

THE bill was for the execution of a marriage-agreement by conveyance of lands pursuant thereto.

On marriage the two fathers agree to settle lands. One does so; the other gives a bond of 600l. with 1200 l. penalty if he does not. He has not election afterward to forfeit the 600 l. or settle, the settlement being the primary agreement, and the 600l. only a penalty or further security.

28. March
1748.

On the marriage the father of the wife and the father of the husband agree each to conveyance certain lands to be settled. The wife's father does make the conveyance; but the husband's father not doing so at the same time, gives a bond for the payment of 600 l. to the wife's father, his executors or administrators, in the penalty of 1200 l. if he did not convey his part of the lands.

After death of the wife the issue of the marriage brought this bill against the husband and his father.

Objected for defendants, that the wife's father did not perform the whole of the agreement on his part; for that part of his estate yet remained to be conveyed; and next, that the defendant had an election either to settle the lands, or forfeit the 600 l.

For plaintiff. There is no evidence that the wife's father did not convey the whole: but supposing there was, it is totally immaterial to the plaintiff, who has a right to come against the other, though one of the contracting parties should fail to perform his part in pursuance of the marriage-agreement: as was on full consideration held by *Your Lordship* in *Harvey v. Aspley*, that issue of the marriage may come against either parent to have it performed, notwithstanding the other parent has refused to execute his part. It shall be executed as far as it can. In this, marriage-agreement differ from all others; for if there are mutual agreements between two who contract with each other, the whole shall be executed together, not in part; they shall not be left to their cross remedies in equity as at law: but it is very different in marriage-agreements. This was not at the time of the marriage reduced into writing: but it was in part performed, and it is reduced into writing by the bond. Next, wherever an agreement is secured by the sanction of a forfeiture, in this court the party shall be compelled specifically to perform though it would be most for his benefit to forfeit.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I have very little doubt upon what is the true construction of this agreement: though I do not know, but it may be of more consequence to other cases. I mean from the nature of the case, whether this

this sort of provision shall be considered as an election, or by way of penalty; for agreements are frequently entered into with some sort of provision or by way of penalty in case the agreement is not performed. The general question, whether the defendant has an election or option to settle the lands agreed in the bond to be settled, or to pay the penalty of 600*l.* will depend on the consideration, what was primarily and originally the intent of the agreement; whether it was, that the lands should be settled, and this 600*l.* only to be considered as a penalty or further security for it; or whether it was agreed and stipulated, that either the one or the other was to be the provision for the husband and wife and issue of the marriage? I am of opinion, that I must consider the agreement to settle the lands as the primary and original agreement, and that the other was only by way of further security or penalty, (call it what you will) and an enforcing the making that settlement. The court has in stronger instances taken it in this sense, when expressed in a disjunctive manner; particularly in the case of Lord and Lady *Coventry*; in which the articles on marriage were to settle lands and tenements comprised in his power, *or otherwise*, as he should think fit: the question was between Lord and Lady *Coventry* in the first instance; and next between Lord *Coventry* and the representative of the husband of Lady *Coventry*, whether this was such a covenant, as amounted to a kind of execution of the power in a court of equity so as to bind the estate against the remainder-man; or whether the remainder-man had not a right to say, he was not bound? The court there held, that Lady *Coventry* was intitled to have her jointure settled out of the lands within the power; because that appeared the original and primary agreement and intent of the parties; and that the going on afterward, and saying *or otherwise*, was only meant by way of further security to her to resort to the real or personal assets of her husband. In that case it might be said, that an election was given to Lord *Coventry*, which election he had not made, and that the remainder-man by reason of that disjunctive was not bound absolutely, and therefore it ought to come out of Lord *Coventry*'s own estate: yet notwithstanding, the court held Lady *Coventry* intitled as aforesaid according to the primary intent. That goes a great way as to the reasoning in the present case. To go by steps; suppose this agreement which is contained in the condition of the bond, (which is a common, but inaccurate way of making marriage agreements; and this is inaccurately expressed although the intent of the parties appear), had been in articles instead of the condition of a bond, and an express direction in the same words as it is here, that the husband and his father covenanted to settle these lands in such a time, or in default thereof that then they shall pay 600*l.* suppose all this had been in articles; the construction, the court would have made, would not be, that this gave an election to the husband or his father to settle the lands or pay 600*l.* certainly

not: but the court would without hesitation say, that this was an agreement to settle the lands, and that the payment of 600*l.* was only a penalty, if they did not settle in a certain time, and nothing else. If this would be so, then there is no ground to make a different construction, when this is contained in the condition of a bond. But on the part of the defendants a circumstance is made use of and very properly, from that form of working it up; that if this was a penalty, what occasion was there for making a further penalty of 1200*l.* and that is the only circumstance, that tends to the favour of the defendants in this cause: but on considering the whole I think that barely an inaccuracy in framing the agreement, and that no such intent or construction could be drawn from it, as is drawn for the defendant. They had made an agreement before marriage to settle the lands (as I must take it, for it is so recited) and if no settlement this penalty: they reduce this into a bond: what ground there is to shew, they intended this 600*l.* a satisfaction? If indeed it could be shewn, that no good title could be made, and that the defect of performance arose from inability; that they might have in view: but not if the husband or his father had had it in their power to make a settlement. For that reason I asked, what was the value; and it appears to be 80*l. per annum* subject only to the payment of 200*l.* which is vastly more than 600*l.* and then it cannot be thought, they meant to defeat the whole agreement, and to give an alternative to the husband or his father to perform one or the other. There could be no doubt, what election they would make; for the estate is near treble the value. That shews, that could not be the intent; because it was no option, as the weight of advantage on one side so far preponderates. Beside no trust is declared as to this 600*l.* but it is to be paid to the wife's father, his executors or administrators. If they intended that 600*l.* in lieu of the settlement, on default of a settlement, they would have gone further; and said, it should be for the husband for life, to the wife for life, and issue of the marriage; it is impossible, but they must have said so. Therefore I am of opinion, I must construe this 600*l.* only a penalty or further security to enforce a performance. Consequently the plaintiff is intitled to have a settlement made of the lands and premises in the bond according to the true intent and meaning of the agreement contained in the condition of the said bond; and a conveyance must be made accordingly.

Case 180.

Loder *versus* Loder, July 22, 1754.

Portions.

Power to father to raise for younger children not exceeding 3000*l.* if

JOHN LODER devises his *Hinton* estate to his son *Charles* for life, with power to raise thereout for portions for younger children a sum not exceeding 3000*l.* to fix the time for payment, and interest for their maintenance not exceeding 5*l. per cent.* and if
Charles

Charles should neglect to make an appointment of the portion, the estate should stand charged with 3000*l.* as a portion payable to the sons at twenty-one, to the daughters at twenty-one or marriage; with a clause of survivorship between them if any died before payable; if all died before, it should sink.

no appointment, the estate charged with 3000*l.* for sons at 21. daughters at 21 or marriage.

Francis, second son of *Charles*, attains twenty-one, and by death of his elder brother becomes the eldest son, but dies in the life of his father.

Nothing vested in father's life; and representative of one, who attained

The question was, whether the plaintiff, widow of *Francis*, was intitled as his representative to a share of this 3000*l.* as vested in him and transmissible? It being an immediate gift to grandchildren not taking through their father, nor to be divested out of them by any act of his, but on the events testator provided; so that upon attaining twenty-one it absolutely vested in *Francis*; and it is immaterial that he did not survive his father, whose power had no other effect than to suspend the raising the charge until his death. Then the accident of becoming eldest before will not vary the right; for though there have been several cases, where the court has taken great latitude to answer the purposes of families, in determining that if a younger child became an elder before the time of raising the charge intended for younger children; his capacity was defeated; yet in all those cases the time of vesting and of raising was the same; for where the time of vesting is first, as where a clause for maintenance or clause of survivorship (both which are in this case) though the child before the time of payment becomes elder, he will be intitled to the portion. This distinction taken in *Graham v Lord Londonderry*, in 1746, where there was a trust term to raise portions for younger sons at twenty-one, for daughters at eighteen or marriage which should first happen, with clause of survivorship and payment of interest; the elder died before twenty-one; and Lord *Londonderry*, though become the elder before the time of payment, was held intitled to the portion. The same distinction was taken in *Lord Teynham v. Webb*, 2 March 1750-1. There are several cases where it vests on a contingency respecting the person of the legatee, but the raising is postponed for reasons respecting the fund, though if the party dies before that, it shall be raised. *King v. Withers*, *Butler v. Duncomb*, and others. There is no such general rule that the child must continue younger to the time of receiving his fortune; and the cases so determined have been not upon the mere event of his becoming an elder, but upon his coming to the family-estate.

21, and became elder, but died in father's life, not intitled to a share.

Tal. 117. Will. 448.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Before I can come at the question, whether any thing was lost or devested out of *Francis*, I must first settle a previous question, whether any thing vested? And it does not appear, there possibly could be upon this charge. It is all left in the power of the father to consider, how much he would raise, as to the estate and as to the younger children; and the charge of 3000*l.* is only, in case he shall neglect to make a direction for appointment of the portion. He might neglect it during his whole life; and might do it by his will; and it was prudent and right; for he might have more children. I lay no weight upon the direction, that it shall be payable at twenty-one or marriage, where it is subject to such a power as to the *quantum*; because those words are only inserted to prevent the raising it in the mean time, if the father should die before. It could not be known how much was to be raised before the death of the father; and before that he is the eldest son. In *Butler v. Duncomb* the father was dead; the state of the fact could not be altered, and therefore it was held vested. In Lord *Londonderry's* case the charge was certain, and the father might have directed the proportion between the children; but in this case the *quantum* of the sum was absolutely uncertain; the father's power of reducing it and appointing a less sum, if he thought fit, existing during his whole life; and it was variable also with respect to the younger children. Then it would be making the most forced construction to say, that any thing vested, when it was quite uncertain during his life what the sum should be; and at the time of the execution of the power he was not a younger, but the eldest child; which makes it the strongest case possible.

For plaintiff. Then the consequence might be, that if all the younger children came of age, and left children, but died in life of the father, nothing could be transmitted; because nothing vested in life of the father.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I will not determine the case you put now; nor do I say, that the father could give it unequally. Nothing could vest during the father's life; because none could say, what could vest; and beside, the objects during his life vary. Then the charge of 3000*l.* arises on his making default to charge a less sum: suppose he had by will executed his power, and directed 3000*l.* or 2500*l.* to be divided among the younger children he had at that time, and not to the eldest son: would or could the court have set that aside? The bill must be dismissed without costs.

Berkley *versus* Ryder, July 22, 1752.

Case 181.

Et e con.

GEORGE RYDER made a settlement to secure provisions for his brothers and sisters, who were unprovided for by their father, creating a term of 500 years to raise 1000 *l.* apiece to be paid to his sisters upon their respective marriages, so as they married respectively with consent and approbation of their mother, brother George, and the trustee, the survivor and survivors of them: but if all or any of them should marry without such consent or approbation, then she or they so marrying should not receive the 1000 *l.* nor should any sum of money be raised for her or them so marrying without consent.

Gift on condition not to marry without consent; where good: where only in terror.

Provision by a brother for sisters unprovided for on their marriage with consent,

otherwise not: construed as if by a father: not so, if by a mere stranger.

The bill was for the payment of 1000 *l.* portion of the plaintiff's wife Anne one of the sisters.

The fact giving rise to the question, as stated for plaintiffs was this. Mr. Berkley, second son of his father, was intitled to 1500 *l. per annum* after his father's death; and living in the neighbourhood, a courtship between him and the other plaintiff ensued. He was then about nineteen; she was thirty-five; so that the disparity as to the age and fortune was greatly on her side. Her mother and brother encouraged so advantageous a match; but it was kept a secret from his family. The brother died before the marriage, and so did the trustee; so that it turns on the privity and approbation of the mother, and her consent. They were married with licence, and publickly in church; but the mother was not present, plainly because of her intimacy with his family: but as soon as they were married, she received them into her house, gave them her blessing and presents, and was much rejoiced at it. The brother dying just before the marriage left a son under age. The plaintiffs applied for this portion to the guardians; who refused to let them see the settlement; and they were willing to wait until the son came of age. He died; and the estate came to the defendant at that time abroad. The plaintiffs waited until he came over; he is now desirous of taking an advantage of this as a forfeiture, and puts his defence upon the marriage being without consent, and so the 1000 *l.* lost. The answer admits the brother died before the marriage: and yet a cross-bill is brought to shew that he was alive at the time of the marriage, and that therefore it was ne-

cessary to prove his consent: and there has been a forgery or rasure in the rigistry to make the marriage appear to be before his death. This 1000 *l.* is in fact the only portion of the wife, being provided for her by a person *in loco parentis*, a brother representing his father, who was under an obligation to make a provision for them if unprovided by the father; and this court does that by a circuit, by compelling the brother to maintain the child if unprovided for. This is indeed a voluntary provision in law; upon terms; and the question is, whether those terms are complied with? The object was to prevent improper matches: this was greatly to her advantage: therefore the mother could not reasonably have opposed it, and the less evidence of her consent will do than if otherwise. The declaration of this trust requires not any particular mode of consent, but only that a marriage should be had with their privity and approbation, or rather without their disapprobation. Consent and approbation are synonymous terms. A tacit consent, not putting a bar, has been determined equal to an open consent; as the suffering others to build on his freehold, where contiguous; a son's suffering his father's lessee to build, and afterward disputing his father's power. *Qui tacet, assentire videtur. Qui potest, et non prohibet, jubet.* So on endowment *ex assensu patris*, where the father does not expressly disapprove. Here the mother was privy; no evidence of her dissent; and a subsequent approbation. This court in construing consent to marriages has gone very liberally, and always regarded the substance. There are many cases, where a privity to the courtship with a subsequent approbation, determined a consent. *Mesgret v. Mesgret*, 2 *Ver.* 580. *Farmer v. Compton*, 1 *Ch. R.* 1. where only a subsequent approbation. There have been more modern cases. *Campbell v. Lord Netterville*, in 1737, an appeal to the *Lords* from the *Chancery* in *Ireland*. *Charles Campbell*, by will, gives to his grand-daughter *Catherine Burton*, who always lived with him, 6000 *l.* to be paid to her at her day of marriage, provided she married with consent of *Samuel Burton*, her father; but if she should die unmarried or without such consent, then over. The father encouraged proposals by *Lord Netterville*, representing her fortune to be 15,000 *l.* and afterward drew back because he could not make good his part of the proposals. They married privately; so that in fact there was not the consent of the father; to cure which, and prevent the forfeiture, articles were framed, making a proper settlement, and a second marriage was had in face of the church. This was admitted; and the reason of the father's drawing back was probably, because the bank in which he was engaged was tottering. It was decreed for the portion because of the courtship; and because it was a reasonable and proper match, from which the father but for that circumstance

circumstance would not have withdrawn; and on appeal that decree was affirmed. There was no pretence of any other consent than his being privy to and encouraging the courtship; and all the subsequent management did not hurt the case. Another case in 1738, of *Daly v. Lord Clanrickard*, the portion of whose sister, Lady *Anne Burke*, was to be paid on marriage with consent of trustees, and if without consent given over. Mr. *Daly* made his addresses to her, and proposed, that his father should settle her portion and 4000 acres worth 1200 *l. per ann.* the trustees met upon this, and wrote a letter to *Ireland* to inquire into his circumstances, in these words: "Though the Lady may marry better, yet we are afraid it has gone so far, that if the father makes good the terms, we shall be obliged to give consent." Nothing further was done by the trustees. The father made good the proposals; and they married. The question was, whether there was a forfeiture, it being argued that this consent was extorted, as appeared from that letter? but *Your Lordship* held, that though the court would not encourage these things, yet in a hard case it ought to be liberal in construing such powers, and would consider the substance of them; and whether there was any objection to the fortune of the man, which there was not, and would not suffer the trustees being in the place of parents obstinately to refuse their consent, and would not let them retract this conditional consent (if it may be so called) but held it a sufficient consent within the trust, and decreed it accordingly, the match not being unreasonable upon the proposals being made good. These cases shew, that questions of this kind have been considered here; and that the evidence of consent in this case is sufficient.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

If this portion is not given over, but is to cease, that brings it ^{2 May 1737.} to the case of *Harvey v. Aston*; where the decree was reversed by me with the assistance of the judges.

For plaintiffs. There it was a condition precedent; here subsequent. There a marriage with consent was necessary to enable the trustees to raise the money; here it is a defeasance subsequent to the direction to raise; a vested interest even before marriage though not payable until then. It is to be raised out of trust of a term, and therefore the construction is different from a will; and though to come out of land, the court has not made the distinction so strong, that therefore a forfeiture ensues, though not so as to personal. But here is sufficient evidence to intitle to this portion, and dispense with actual consent.

For

For defendant. This is very stale demand, due (if at all due) in 1730. Defendant not suspecting it has married, and settled his estate. It was a mere voluntary act and bounty of the brother; nothing vested: they were not to have these portions unless they married with consent: otherwise nothing was to be raised, no maintenance. This is very like *Harvey v. Afton*, where on the appeal Sir Joseph Jekyl's opinion was overturned; and all the rules in this court as to raising portions were settled. *Your Lordship* held it not material whether it was given over or not; for that there was no such rule as to portions; it relating only to legacies, and only on conformity to the rules and principles of the civil law; and settled, that in a legacy out of personal estate, a condition in restraint of marriage, whether precedent or subsequent, is merely *in terrorem*, unless a devise over; if out of real, this court follows the rule of the common law, and has said, that though no devise over, still the party must comply with the condition. Terms are part of the land itself, and, when the trusts are at an end, attend the inheritance; are subject to the rules of common law and natural equity arising on them as the lands themselves, and not to the civil law. This is a term created out of and attendant upon the inheritance, and different from a chattel, which is part of the personal. The law requires not any precise words to make a condition. This is precedent from the nature of the thing, or else a qualification of the event on which the portion is to arise; not barely on marriage, but marriage with consent. It is proved by the register, that the marriage was before the death of the brother. That is said to be a forgery or rasure; but the defendant was not then come over. As to the admission by defendant, he said, he knew nothing of it, but believed they might be married at that time according to the suggestion in the bill; so that the admission in the answer was owing to the following the bill. The court will indeed believe, where a defendant says, he believes: but will not go on that, where there is contrary proof, as here from the register, to which the defendant sent, and thereupon filed a cross bill. Next as to the mother's consent: where no precise form of consent is required in such a trust, the court will receive evidence of implied consent: but in all the cases cited it is a positive evidence of a previous approbation; not a previous, inferred from acts of subsequent approbation. There the court considered any thing amounting to evidence of previous consent as sufficient: but very different where only to be inferred from subsequent approbation. That may indeed afford presumptive evidence of previous consent: but not in this case. The court considers the circumstances under which that is offered, and will not always raise the same presumption on the same evidence, but different

as the parties appear in different lights. If this is offered by the issue, previous approbation might be inferred from subsequent: but from the parties precise evidence is expected because of their knowledge. Then the length of time will have great weight, as on all demands in law and equity. The bill was not filed until long after the death of the mother, who might have proved her consent. The marriage was had in a different parish from the mother's; and the plaintiff's evidence shews, she knew not of it; and there is proof for defendant, that she declared, she never did consent. In the answer to the cross bill they do not say they believe the mother knew it; but that is the opinion of disinterested persons, and that it is supposed, she concealed her knowledge. It is said, the subsequent consent is enough, as it is a proper match: but the court will not lay down a different rule for great or inferior people: and the publick advantage requires the strict hand of the court as to marriages.

For defendant it was offered to read the register, and the mother's declarations.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

You can read neither. As to the register, can you bring a cross bill to bring in question what you have admitted by answer to the original? It is a direct admission on oath; and I cannot help it. It would be a very dangerous precedent. If you mistook, you must correct that by moving to amend the answer, before you can bring that into the cause.

Evidence.
You cannot by cross bill question what is admitted by answer; but must prove to amend answer.

As to the merits, *His Lordship* said, it would be very hard on one side, that the plaintiffs under all the circumstances should not in a reasonable way have this portion: yet there were some things on both sides, which made him have a doubt in his own mind, which he would determine, if the parties could not agree: but asked, if the defendant would pay the plaintiffs 1000 *l.* with interest to a particular time without costs on either side: saying he should construe this settlement and trust, just as he should have done, if it had been a provision by a father, because it stands in the same state: that there has been a distinction, and reasonably, in the construction of clauses of this kind in a will or settlement by a mere stranger without consideration either of blood or duty to provide: but where a provision is by an eldest brother for younger children, five of them destitute of either portion or maintenance, and nothing but the mother's jointure to subsist on, he should take it on the foot it had been argued for the plaintiffs, that he is *in loco parentis*, and construe it in the same manner.

For defendant. Application has been made to the two other sisters to file the bills on the same question, and therefore the defendant fears to make the precedent.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

What I have proposed is matter of consent, and will be no precedent; therefore it is better for the defendant to take it on the foot of consent.

The proposal was agreed to. Interest settled at 4 *per cent.*

Case 184.

Ex parte Duplessis. July 22, 1754.

LORD HARDWICKE, LORD CHANCELLOR.

SIR THOMAS PARKER, LORD CHIEF BARON.

Post. 27 July.

PETITION by Mrs. *Rose Duplessis* to stay the execution of a commission into *Middlesex* to inquire whether the petitioner was an alien; she having been found not to be an alien upon a former commission by a jury of *Middlesex*.

Lord Chief Baron.

Alien.

The first question is, whether the finding the petitioner not to be an alien is conclusive? Secondly, if not, whether the commission is the proper proceeding? Thirdly, whether the crown still by law can have a *melius inquirendum* into the county of *Middlesex*?

Finding not alien not conclusive to the crown: but no new commission but a *melius inquirendum*, if ground for it; if again so found, conclusive.

For the petitioner has been cited 4 *H. 7. c. 16.* and *Brook, Office 33.* that an office shall not be taken on a surmise after an office, which is contrary to the matter of the first office, &c. and *Dyerr 248, 249*, where were three commissions upon an inquiry, and the first office allowed, &c. On the contrary for the crown it is insisted, that an office for the subject shall not bind any party; for it is only evidence; and in answer to 4 *H. 7.* is cited *Brook, Inquest 22*, and in answer to *Dyer Stamford Prerog. 52.* that a new commission may issue. I understand that learned authority to mean there a *melius inquirendum*. Several precedents have been left with me; and that of *Anthony Colley* seems to be relied on for the crown to shew, that there may be a new commission contrary to a former. It was 35 *Eliz.* but those were commissions to inquire after the deaths of different persons, not of one and the same person: but suppose they were for one and the same person, they would be no precedent for the crown in this case; because two different claimants may have

two

two original commissions, 7 Co. 45. A. and there by the commission upon the first *John Colley* was found to be son and heir of *Anthony*, and that commission was sued out by him: but the widow sued out a *mandamus* in behalf of her infant son *Anthony*. I apprehend that *Paris Sloughter's* case (which is the true name of it) Hil. 7 J. 1. and reported 8 Co. 168. will in a great measure rule the present. By those precedents left with me it appears a *melius inquirendum* has issued pursuant to the opinion in *Sloughter's* case. They confirm *Sloughter's* case; and shew in a great many instances, where after complete findings upon writs of *diem clausit extremum* & *mandamus*, that manors and lands were held of the King or mesne lords in common socage; writs of *melius inquirendum* have issued, and found to be held otherwise. In Mich. 10 J. 1. after the death of *William Nicholson*. Mich. and Hil. 18 J. 1. on the death of *Rowland Wynne*. Pas. 21 J. 1. on the death of *Mathew Rogers*. Mich. and Hil. 21 J. on the death of *William Furness*. And Mich. and Hil. 22 J. 1. after the death of *Peter Doleman*. Though in other respects between a *melius inquirendum* to inquire of the alienage of a particular person, and to inquire into tenures, there is a difference; yet as to this, that there may be a finding contradictory to the former, there is no other difference, but that the one relates to land, the other to the person; and therefore a *melius inquirendum* may issue in this case as well as in the case of tenures, provided there is sufficient ground for it. I have in my search met with a case or two contrary to *Paris Sloughter's*. In 2 And. 204. it is expressly held, that where there is a perfect finding on a *diem clausit extremum* no *melius inquirendum* should go: but the answer is, that case was in the reign of Q. Eliz. and before *Paris Sloughter's*; which last case is grounded on great reason; for otherwise the crown could not be on an equal foot with the subject; for the crown could not traverse, but would be bound by the first inquisition: otherwise as to a subject: which is Lord Coke's reason. Another is the case of *Ripley*, 2 Jo. 198, where it was held, that no *melius inquirendum* should go: but it was, because the party grieved had remedy by traverse; therefore that is no authority: for if a *melius inquirendum* is not to go in this case, the crown would be concluded by the first finding. It is proper to take notice of *Manlove's* case, 2 Sal. 469. where it is laid down as a rule, that where an inquisition is defective and uncertain, that cannot be supplied by a *melius inquirendum*: but that where it found some well, there may be a *melius inquirendum*. The same case is in 3 Mod. 335, which refers to three books, as authorities for what is laid down, but there does not appear to be any thing in them about it. I am not satisfied with the fidelity of this report of what the judges said in *Sal.* and *Mod.* because 3 Lev. 288 is silent as to this point. *Hob.* 50. says, a *melius inquirendum* is a supplement to a defect or uncertainty of a former office. And *Finch of the law* 129. 130.

(*cap. 23.*) says, a *melius inquirendum* upon any other defect in the office, as if the office was insufficient or uncertain, &c. I am of opinion therefore upon these authorities and precedents, and the answers I have given to those two cases, that the finding Mrs. *Dupleffis* not to be an alien is not conclusive to the crown: though I think the new commission has issued improperly, and to be superseded: yet still the crown may have a *melius inquirendum* into *Middlesex*, if there is a ground to grant it. What will be the proper ground to issue it must be submitted to the court, when application shall be made for it. Upon the whole, if a *melius inquirendum* should issue, and Mrs. *Dupleffis* be again found not to be an alien, it would be conclusive to and bind the crown; and so this course would not be liable to the inconvenience of commissions issuing *in infinitum*: but if the contrary is found she may traverse.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This has depended longer than I could wish: but it was not to be avoided; for at the former hearing it was upon precedents, which could be only found in the books; from which we received no light. Several material precedents for the crown have been laid before us, but not until after last *Hilary* term: since which this is the first opportunity the court has had to take it into consideration. Upon the cases and precedents, as they appear from copies of records left with us, *Lord Chief Baron* has taken great pains; therefore I shall contract what I have to say into a narrow compass.

The questions are rightly stated. The first is, whether the office which was found on the first commission into *Middlesex*, that Mrs. *Dupleffis* is not an alien born, is conclusive to the crown as to the lands in that county? The second, if that office is not conclusive to the crown as to the lands in that county, what is the regular method of proceeding for the King to have a new inquiry; whether by a new commission (which has issued, and is now prayed to be superseded) or by commission in nature of a *melius inquirendum*? These are the two questions; for I take the last, though in the disjunctive, as one question.

So little is to be found either on precedents upon record, or of judicial resolutions, or opinions in books, on this case in point upon a commission, whether alien or not alien, that it is agreed on both sides, and rightly, to argue this on analogy and on the general reason on other cases, as writs of *diem clausit extremum*, *mandamus*, or commissions in nature of such writs to find, who
 3 Lev. 288. was heir to the King's tenant, and what was the tenure. All the authorities except the *K. and Q. v. Manlove* have been of such cases;

cases; and indeed as to the point in question before us, I think the rule properly may and must be drawn from cases of that kind, as they appear in the books and upon records of the proper courts of revenue; for though these offices in the case of tenures as to the effects and consequences of it, but do not hold throughout in the present case, yet as to this method of proceeding, and whether the crown is to be concluded by one inquisition found against it, or can have a new commission upon a surmise contrary to the finding of the first, I am of opinion, it will be the same, and the law will be the same. The material difference between these cases (that is. cases of offices upon tenures and of offices found upon a commission to find whether a person was alien born) turns rather in favour of the crown; for here the King is suing; and the finding, when it is for the King in such a commission, is called the King's declaration. I say, the King is suing for the inheritance of the land, which he claims to be vested in him by purchase of an alien; and if he is to be absolutely concluded by one finding, he is barred for ever thereby: whereas in cases on a *diem clausit extremum* or *mandamus*, the question is only concerning the tenure and seignior, and upon the death of the next tenant the King might have a new writ according to his title: for however it may be said, that the King is concluded, it is only in that instance: for on the death of the next tenant he may have a new inquisition found, in case the real title is with him. So that there, in the cases of inquisitions on offices upon tenures, the mischief was only temporary: here, if the doctrine contended for the petitioner was to prevail, the mischief would be final and perpetual to the crown. To argue this case then upon these principles I take it (as the Lord Chief Baron has done) that the law was settled on great consideration in *Paris Slougher's* case; and nothing has been done since to unsettle it. Before that, it appears from Lord Coke's report, and more fully from the cases laid before us, that the law was somewhat unsettled and imperfect upon this question; and therefore Lord Coke concludes his report (as is usual where there is a variety of cases) that with these diversities all the books are well reconciled: this therefore being a solemn determination, and followed (as now appears) by a course of precedents on record subsequent to it, I need not run back to the original cases, and examine the first foundation of them: for then there would be no end of proceedings, and the law would be unsettled.

Taking that to be a full authority, let us consider, whether that does not furnish a clear resolution to all the questions before us.

The first question is, whether the office found, that Mrs. *Dupleffis* is not an alien, is conclusive to the crown? What was determined upon that question in *Slougher's* case? (for now I am proceeding

ceeding on the principle, that this is to be determined by analogy to those cases on tenures.) In that case the court held, the second commission of a *melius inquirendum* was a repugnant commission, and therefore were of opinion to quash that *melius inquirendum*, but immediately awarded a new one. One of the point, they determine is, that if a writ of *diem clausit extremum* or *mandamus* is found against the King, there shall not be a new writ of that kind awarded, but there may be a *melius inquirendum*; so that is a clear and express determination, that the crown is not absolutely concluded by that finding on that first commission; which furnishes an answer to the first question in this case, whether the King is absolutely concluded by the finding on the first commission; and equally so to the first part of the alternative in the second question, what was the regular method for the crown to take; for by this determination the King could not have a second original commission, but a *melius inquirendum*; and might have a second *melius inquirendum*, when the first was out of the case; for when the court were of opinion to quash that *melius inquirendum*, because it was absurd and impossible, they awarded a new one, because the first was out of the case; and that is the general doctrine that is laid down; and the book says, it stands with reason, that as the party may traverse, when found for the King, so when against the King, who cannot traverse, he should have a *melius inquirendum*: so that this is a clear authority, unless there is something in law-books to overthrow it upon all the questions.

But on the part of the petitioner several objections are made to that determination; especially that it is contrary to former cases, and particularly to Lady *Dacre's* case, 4 *H. 7.* 16. and *Brook's Office* 33, and to *Basset's* case, *Dy.* 248.

As to *Dyer* that is plainly distinguished from being a case where a remedy might be taken by *scire facias*; because the King had got possession, and there was an *amoveas manus*, in which case the King may have a *sci fa.* because within the statute of *Lincoln*, 29 *E. 1.* and that was was one of the determinations in *Sloughter's* case; for to bring it within the *Stat. of Lincoln* there must be necessarily a seizure and *amoveas manus* in order for the King to take that remedy. But however that is, it appears, that the rules in *Sloughter's* case are supported by a course of precedents subsequent, and as many authorities as could be expected; since all the laws as to this question of tenures were repealed not many years afterward. If indeed *Sloughter's* was a single determination contrary to former (which was, what I wanted to have looked into) it would have deserved less weight: but that is not the case.

But

But there are other objections to it, and one more modern authority. First that such rule as is laid down there, of giving the King a privilege to make a surmise contrary to the first finding and upon that a *melius inquirendum*, puts the subject on a very unequal foot with the crown; and therefore that these proceedings by commissions and offices found on them must be taken, as they stood at common law before the statutes, which give a traverse on *monstrans de droit* upon office found; for that those statutes extend only to the party, and not to the King; and that in *Sloughter's* case Lord Coke reasons from the liberty given to the party to traverse. The next objection was, that if a *melius inquirendum* may be in any case, yet not upon a surmise directly contrary to the fact found by the first office. Thirdly, that the objections against these are the stronger, because the consequence is greatly to the prejudice of the subject in order to turn the proof of being a subject born upon the party. And the fourth objection was drawn from *Manlove's* case in 1690. which certainly is made, as far as it goes, a great authority.

To consider the first objection, that this puts the subject on an unequal foot, because this proceeding must be considered, as it stood at common law. I agree to the principle, upon which it proceeds; that as to the crown this must be taken, as it stood at common law, that the King is not within those statutes, which give that benefit: but as it stood at common law, it put the crown on an equal foot only with the subject: for the subject had one remedy at common law, a petition of right. It is true, that was not so facile a remedy, as the statutes afterwards gave of traversing the *monstrans de droit*: this was an easier remedy, and was therefore given by those statutes: but the petition of right was a legal remedy, and therefore it is not to be said, that because a man has no remedy but by petition of right, therefore he had none: for when a proper case was laid before the King, the crown was bound to give a proper answer, and a commission was to issue under the great seal to inquire into the fact of the petition and title of the party set forth therein, (I am considering the case as at common law) and the consequence was, that after the subject had obtained the usual answer, which the crown was bound to give, he was to have a commission to inquire. There was a second commission to the party, though the first was found against him. What was the case of the crown? The King could not petition himself; therefore he was upon a proper suggestion to have a second commission out of the court of *Chancery* under the great seal in like manner: but not on petition, because impossible. Lord Coke's arguments in *Sloughter's* case, which are drawn from the statutes, which give traverse to a *monstrans de droit*, are only used as auxiliary

At common law the subject had petition of right: by statute a traverse.

ary arguments adding further strength to the King's having that remedy ; and certainly right therein ; for if the King had that right before, then when the statutes had given an additional one to the subject, it strengthens the argument, that the King should not be precluded by one.

Melius inquirendum on surmise contrary to first finding.

The second objection was, that *a melius inquirendum* cannot be on a surmise directly contrary to the fact found by the first office. But this objection is only encountering the authority of *Sloughter's* case, and not reasoning or citing authorities against it ; and also encountering the authority of other books. *Stamf. ch.* 17, 52, 53. has been cited ; which is a clear authority, that a new commission of some kind may issue upon a surmise even contrary to the first ; and I understand that book, as Lord *Chief Baron* does, that it means a *melius inquirendum*. But to that I will add *Fitz. Nat. Brevium* upon the writ of *diem clausit extremum, quæ plura* ; which was to find, if there were any more lands, of which the party died seised, than were included in that commission. It is in the *new edition* 572, 573. Upon what he says there, an observation may be made, perhaps of curiosity. *Fitzberbert* makes a distinction between a *melius inquirendum* to supply defectiveness or uncertainty in the first office, where that office was found by writ or commission to the escheator, and where that office was found by the escheator *ex officio* without writ or commission ; that in the last case it shall be absolutely quashed for the uncertainty ; if by commission, a *melius inquirendum* may issue to supply the uncertainty which perhaps may account for, what is said in *The King and Queen v. Manlove* ; for there the court were of opinion to quash the office for uncertainty, not entering into that distinction : perhaps it was not argued fully before them : but according to *Fitzberbert* (who was very learned in these kind of cases) the court would not give that credit to let it stand for any part in the one case, though it would give credit as to what was found certainly, by giving credit to the commission. But the principal point for which I cite this book, is under title *melius inquirendum* 573. by which it appears in terms, that several of these instances, he mentions, are of *melius inquirendum* issuing upon surmise contrary to the finding of the first office ; for it says, that it may find, they were held by other services ; as held in *capite* by *Knight Service*, though found before in common *socage* ; in consequence of which the heir would be in ward, though not by the first finding ; which is contrary in terms to the first : and the precedents which have been mentioned, are so strong, that some of them expressly take notice on the face of it, of the contradiction between the two findings. I am of opinion therefore, that this objection upon the contradiction to the first finding encounters the authority of *Sloughter's* case

case (which is fully established) and also other authorities in the books before that case.

Upon the third objection it was strongly urged, that this was a contention to gain an advantage greatly to the prejudice of the subject; for if this second commission was found for the King, that Mrs. *Dupleffis* was an alien, that would turn the proof on her. As to that I do not know, that it is of weight, if the fact is true, in the present question; because legal proceedings being established, they must be taken as they are, however the proof turned, as the law is settled. But if found for the King, she may traverse that within the statute; and must plead, that she is *indigena*, born in these kingdoms, and traverse, that she is an alien. The King must take issue upon that, and prove, that she is alien born. It is true; Pleading. Where King by prerogative may maintain his title, or traverse that of defendant. the King has a prerogative in pleading, and has an election in some cases to take issue on the traverse or inducement, that is, may reply maintaining his own title, or may traverse the title made by the defendant. *Vau. 62. The King v. Bishop of Worcester.* But the exercise of that prerogative must be, where traverse and inducement are both material; and where, if found against the party, would make an end of the business: but in the present case (such as I have stated) the inducement sets forth no new title in the subject, but both the traverse and plea relate to the same question: and if the *Attorney General* was to take a traverse on the inducement, and that should be found against the party, it would not shew a clear title in the crown, for the party might be the child of an ambassador born abroad, or within the statute of 7 *Q. Anne*, or within the statute born *ultra mare*: so that if the crown should take traverse on such inducement, it would not make an end of it, and 4 G. 2. cap. 21. therefore it is not material to take issue on such inducement, but the crown must take issue on the traverse.

The fourth objection, or rather an authority against *Sloughter's* case, was *K. and Q. v. Manlove, Mich. 1690.* which must be allowed to be a case of great authority, as far as light can be: but reflects none in the present case. Lord *Chief Baron* has given it a very proper answer. It appears in *Lev.* and in a great measure in the other two books, that it turned on another point; that the office had not found what estate *Manlove* had in the office of warden of the *Fleet*. That was in nature of a *quo warranto*; and the court held, that the finding was uncertain and void, for want of finding what estate he had in the office, whether for years, for life, or in fee. But as to that point, with vast deference to the authority of those great men, had it not been for their authority, I should much have doubted of it; for it was a strong presumption to make, that by possibility the crown might have granted out that office in fee, &c. when nothing of that kind was found or appeared to the court

at all. The court said, this was to find, whether there had incurred a forfeiture to the King or not; and it was only found, that he was warden of the *Fleet*; he might be warden for life, and other persons have the inheritance of the office, and the crown not have the reversion. That, I say, is a strong presumption; for *prima facie* by common intendment of law it is in the King, unless shewn to be granted out by him: therefore I suppose, there was some reason the court took that case in a strong light against the proceeding: but however that may be, another answer is to be given, which proves it not to be at all applicable to the present case. I should not observe so much on this case but for this; that if *Sloughter's* case had been encountered by others, or not confirmed by subsequent cases, I should not have laid weight so much upon it: but this is the only case against it. The court there quashed the proceeding. It is manifest, what was the contention in that case on the part of the crown; which was, that the inquisition should stand, as far as it goes; it has found the act of forfeiture fully and clearly; and a *melius inquirendum* goes to supply the defect of certainty as to the estate in the office; which, the court said, they would not do, as one material part of the finding was uncertain; they would quash the whole; they would not enter into the distinction in *Fitzberbert* as to the writ of *quæ plura*, but quashed the whole; and the consequence of that was plain, that the crown might have sued out a new original commission the same day; for the first, being quashed, was entirely out of the case. This was indisputable; for in *Sloughter's* case the court granted a new *melius inquirendum*, not because they can grant a new *melius inquirendum* after a *melius inquirendum*: (for the court resolved the contrary, that it should stop there, and there should not be a second; and the King is on a level with the subject in that) but the first was gone. This is the common course, where a writ abated, whether by plea or other exception, by motion a new writ of the same nature may be sued out. That creates no prejudice to the right of the party. This is an answer to the arguments drawn from other proceedings, as in real actions, that a new writ of the same nature should not be in that case one after another; and there shall not: but if the party sues out a writ of a *novel disseisin*, and that abates he has a new writ of *novel disseisin*, because the first abates. In that case of *Manlove* the first writ abated, and therefore there might be a new one. All that can be sensibly collected from the rough account of that case in the books, is a contention, that the crown might avail itself of the forfeiture.

Writs,
In real actions
no new writ
of the same
nature: unless
where abate-
ment.

I am of opinion therefore, that both the points are settled by authorities and precedents. First I concur, that there ought not to be a new original commission after a former found against the King is standing in force. If it had been quashed, it might be another matter. I am of opinion also, there may be a *melius inquirendum*
I upon

upon a suggestion though contrary to the first finding: but that this commission, appearing to be a new original commission, should be superseded. As to the latter part of this, it must be left to the consideration of the King's counsel, how far it is proper to pray a *melius inquirendum* or not

Lord Chief Baron.

In *Kelway* 199. the very same distinction is taken, as is taken by *Fitzherbert*.

Attorney General *versus* Bowles, July 24, 1754. Case 185.

WILLIAM Bowles by his will 3^d of May 1745. gives and bequeaths to trustees 500*l.* to be raised by and out of the personal estate upon trust to lay out part thereof in erecting a small school-house, and a little house adjoining for the master to live in; the whole purchase and building not to exceed 200*l.* the remaining 300*l.* to be laid out in the purchase of land or in some real security for the maintenance of the master.

Charity.
Legacy to be laid out in land or some real security for a school-master: void within stat. of Mortmain.

It was urged, that *real security* meant substantial, good, and effectual security; and therefore that it was not within the *stat. of Mortmain*, 9 G. 2.

Lord Chancellor held otherwise, and that he must take the word *real* in the known, legal, signification of it, and could not annex a new idea to it; therefore the 300*l.* legacy was void within that statute. But as to the 200*l.* if they could get a piece of ground by the gift or generosity of any person, not by purchase, they might be at liberty to apply to the court to lay out that 200*l.* in erecting a school-house thereon, when the trustees can lay a proposal before the court: but not to be laid out in land to build upon: and this proposal must be in a certain time.

Hylton *versus* Hylton, July 25, 1754.

Case 186:

THE plaintiff had considerable gifts or provisions left to him by the will of *Philippa Downes*, his aunt, and *Charles Palmer* his half brother. The defendant his uncle, was acting executor and trustee in both those wills, and also acted as guardian to him during his minority, having neither father or mother. Coming of age in April 1746, he in October 1747. entered into a transaction with his uncle, whereby the plaintiff granted to him annuity of 60*l.* gave him a general release and two written discharges, all signed

Annuity to guardian or trustee soon after coming of age set aside upon general principles of public utility; and also on particular circumstances of the imposition.

the same date with the grant, upon his delivering up several papers.

Not so, if
done with
eyes open
after put into
possession and
at liberty; as
are ward.

The bill was to set aside this grant of annuity upon the general principles of being made just after coming of age, without being thoroughly informed; and that it is not necessary to prove imposition, for these voluntary grants have not been allowed in several instances; and are to be compared to a gift to an attorney pending the suit; so of marriage brokerage-bonds. In *Pierse v. Waring*, 13 Nov. 1745. Mr. Hall coming of age made a present to his guardian of 3500*l.* stock: *Your Lordship* held, it ought to be set aside on the general principles from the dangerous consequences, if a guardian is allowed to take presents, before he delivered over every thing; for that it was an honorary trust, for which the law would allow them nothing; as that would induce guardians to flatter the passions of their pupils; and it was set aside for being retained by him on pretence of trouble during his minority, in the management of the trust; and that case is not so strong as the present.

For defendant it was said, there were particular circumstances distinguishing this from the common case; that all was fair, and the defendant delivered up all the estate under both wills, and what more would the plaintiff have? That it proceeded freely and voluntarily from the bounty of the plaintiff, and for services done, and to relieve the distress of his uncle and guardian; and that there appears a letter from plaintiff to defendant using many kind and favourable expressions, and shewing that he thought, the defendant had acted fairly.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The question is, whether the plaintiff is in this court intitled to be relieved totally against this grant, or whether it is to stand for the whole or any part. The grounds for relief are first the general grounds and principles allowed in this court: next particular grounds from circumstances in this case.

The general grounds to be relieved against this annuity are certainly of such a kind, as the court has allowed in other instances provided the circumstances of this case came up to the rule laid down therein. Where a man acts as guardian, or trustee in nature of a guardian, for an infant, the court is extremely watchful to prevent that person's taking any advantage immediately upon his ward or *cestuy que trust* coming of age, and at the time of settling account or delivering up the trust; because an undue advantage may be taken. It would give an opportunity
either

either by flattery or force, by good usage unfairly meant or by bad usage imposed, to take such advantage; and therefore the principle of the court is of the same nature with relief in this court on the head of publick utility, as in bonds obtained from young heirs, and rewards given to an attorney pending a cause and marriage brokerage-bonds. All depend on publick utility; and therefore the court will not suffer it, though perhaps in a particular instance there may not be actual unfairness. Upon that ground I went in the case cited; in which I have added at the end of my note taken at the hearing of the cause, "*to be absolutely set aside, being between a guardian and his ward just come of age, and on reason of publick utility.*" How does this case stand? The defendant appears to stand in the place, not of a common trustee barely of a particular estate, but of a trustee acting in fact as guardian for the minor his nephew, and taking care of his person and his estate; so that the condition of the persons, the plaintiff and defendant, comes within this rule. Next considering the nature of the transaction, which was when the plaintiff was about twenty-two, the result is, (and this brings it within *Pierse v. Waring*), that at the very time this uncle, who was trustee and acted as guardian, pretended to come to an account and deliver up the estate the plaintiff was intitled to, he took a voluntary beneficial grant of an annuity from this ward of his. That is the very time at which there is the best opportunity to take the advantage of getting such a bounty as this; for at that very time the estate is to be accounted for and delivered up. The thing speaks itself. "*I will not deliver up the estate you are intitled to, and account, unless you grant me this.*" Beside, it appears to be a previous design of the defendant, and that he stipulated and haggled for that annuity at that very time, when a trustee should avoid it. The rule of the court as to guardians is extremely strict, and in some cases does infer some hardship; as where there has been a great deal of trouble, and he has acted fairly and honestly, that yet he shall have no allowance: but the court has established that on great utility, and on necessity, and on this principle of humanity, that it is a debt of humanity that one man owes to another, as every man is liable to be in the same circumstances. Undoubtedly, if after the ward or *cestuy que trust* comes of age, and after actually put into possession of the estate, he thinks fit, when *sui juris* and at liberty, to grant that or any other reasonable grant by way of reward for care and trouble, when done with eyes open, the court could never set that aside: but the court guards against doing it at the very time of accounting and delivering up the estate, as the terms: for the court will not suffer them to make that the terms of doing their duty. This case therefore is within those general principles.

Bonds by
young heirs,
or to attorney
pending suit,
or on mar-
riage brokerage,
set aside on
publick utility

Next as to the particular circumstances relied on to distinguish this out of the general rule, I am of opinion they all bear against that, and tend to shew actual imposition on the part of the defendant. It does not appear, that the nephew was in circumstances to grant this clear annuity, any more than the uncle was to provide for himself; as to whose ability there is nothing in proof, except what arises from the plaintiff's letter. The circumstances plainly shew the defendant would not part with the estate until he was sure of this grant: then here is a ground to go not only on the general principles, but to shew that the defendant did actually make use of that influence. The plaintiff's letter and his kind expression therein shew, he was imposed upon, thinking every thing was surrendered up, whereas the legal estate is still in the defendant: nor is there any evidence of an account made up of the personal estate proved to have come to defendant's hands. Certainly, if any thing could make such a transaction supportable, it must be where there was a real and fair account; of which there is no evidence: yet a general release is given upon delivering up several papers and vouchers, as they are called.

Therefore on the general rule and nature of this particular case, and the delusion and deception under which the plaintiff was, this grant ought to be set aside with costs; and a conveyance, and an account, if plaintiff prays it.

Case 187.

Hawkins *versus* Penfold, *July* 25, 1754.

BANKRUPTS. Creditors receiving money or bills after act of bankruptcy committed; a good payment if no notice.

THE plaintiff and defendant were sureties in a bond for a woman, whom afterward the plaintiff marries. The plaintiff's wife pays the money due on the bond to the defendant the other surety, in order to pay off and discharge that bond. The defendant instead of doing that applies the money to his own use. An action is brought by the obligee against the plaintiff and his wife; the money is recovered; and the plaintiff pays it off. After this, and after an act of bankruptcy by the defendant; there is a further transaction between them; and the defendant puts into the hands of, and indorses to, the plaintiff two bills of exchange; upon which the money is received by the plaintiff.

The question was, whether the plaintiff must come under the commission; so that the bills of exchange coming to his hands should make no alteration?

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

If the creditor has no notice of the act of bankruptcy, I think it will make an alteration. It is some hardship in respect of a creditor of a bankrupt, when he receives the money. After recovery in the action by the obligee the defendant was discharged in respect of the obligee, and undoubtedly became debtor to the plaintiff for so much had and received to plaintiff's use. I take the putting the bills of exchange into the plaintiff's hands to be done in order to make satisfaction for the money on the bond. If this money was received by the plaintiff from the defendant before such time as the plaintiff had notice of the act of bankruptcy committed, it was a good payment; for there is an express *proviso* in the act of parliament, which indemnifies creditors in receiving money for their debts, though after an act of bankruptcy, if no notice; and there is no difference between an actual payment of money in satisfaction of a debt, and indorsing bills of exchange: provided the money was received on them before the commission of bankruptcy issued: for I should take that as only a *medium* of payment and no more: and otherwise it would be very hard. But if the plaintiff had notice of the act of bankruptcy at the time, there would be no ground to set off; for the act of parliament says, "where mutual debts are contracted before the act of bankruptcy, ^{5 Geo. 2.} "is committed." If therefore notice was given, it would be a *tortious* receipt. It depends then on this fact; and the consequence is, I must either direct an issue to try it, or give liberty to reply to the answer, in order that they may prove notice.

Attorney General *versus* Governors of Harrow School, Case 188.
July 26, 1754.

JOHN LYON in the reign of Queen Elizabeth gave certain lands ^{Charity.} to trustees, governors of Harrow School, that they should employ all the profits yearly towards repairing and amending the common highway from Edgware to London, when, and as often, and in such manner, as the governors should think fit; and if hereafter it should happen, that the said highway should be sufficiently amended, or not to require the whole profits to be laid out, as often as that should happen, the governors should lay out on the road from Harrow to London the whole, or so much as should remain after repairing the Edgware road. ^{Where trustees of charity have a discretion to lay out on a road, the court will not interpose, unless they act corruptly: yet will not dismiss the information.}

The information was grounded on the expending those profits on the Harrow, which should have been all laid out on the Edgware, road.

For

For *defendants*, an objection was made to the jurisdiction of the court, which proceeds only in cases where a charitable commission could issue; which could not in this case from the *proviso* in the stat. 43 *Eliz.* and that in a foundation of this kind, where no special visitor is appointed, the visitatorial power resorted to the heir of the founder. 2 *Wil.* 325.

Where there is a visitor, no commission within 43 *El.* Otherwise of a collateral charity.

Lord Chancellor allowed, that these persons by being made governors were not visitors; but as to the point of jurisdiction, the court had already taken it to be otherwise than was insisted upon, and had interposed; as appeared by a decree by Lord *Ellesmere* in 1611. The construction of that clause in 43 *Eliz.* is, that where a college, hospital, or school is founded, a special visitor appointed, or a visitor by operation of law, the commission by virtue of that statute should not interpose. If therefore this information was for the revenue of the school, that objection might arise: but this is a distinct charity from the school, a collateral trust, and upon that distinction the above decree has proceeded. Yet I do not see what decree I can make upon this information; and, I think, the founder intended to leave it in a good measure to the discretion of the governors of the school; though not absolutely, if they acted partially and corruptly. The *Edgware* road appears to have the assistance of two turnpike acts, which the *Harrow* road has not, and appears by the evidence to be in very bad repair. Suppose the *Edgware* road had or could have been put into the like condition or repair, it is now in, by the parish-rates, and the *Harrow* road proved to have been in the like condition it is now; it could not be said, the trustees had done wrong in applying the revenues in repair of the *Harrow* road. The question is, whether the trustees have not done rightly, in thinking the *Edgware* road is so good as not to want the assistance of this charity, and that the other did? At present I do not see how I can interpose; and if I should, it would be in contradiction to the intent of the donor; which was to leave it in the sound discretion of these judges; and where they act fairly, and not corruptly or partially, a court of justice would do too much to controul their acts. Beside, it would end in a trial between the parishes which road wanted it most: but though I will make no decree at present, yet I will not dismiss the information, but still keep a hand over them.

Case 189.

Stace versus Mabbot, July 20, 1754.

Trial.

A Motion was made for a new trial: the question was as to the forgery of a certain paper relative to the estate of Captain *Girlington*.

I

Against

Against it it was said, *Justice Foster*, who tried the issues, had certified, that he was satisfied with the verdict; and two cases were cited. The first an action of *Trover* brought among several other things for an ewer; wherein evidence was given, that those particular goods were delivered to one, who took them into his custody, was answerable for, and did not deliver them. A motion was made for a new trial; for that upon looking into Mr. *Deard's* books it was found, there were two Ewers: whereas upon the material evidence, on which the conversion was found, it was one Ewer only: but that was denied, for the court said, the parties might have introduced this evidence before. The other *Walker v. Scot*, B. R. Hil. 1749-50; which was an action for criminal conversation, and a motion for a new trial on evidence, that the plaintiff was married to another; and therefore was not husband to the woman, and could not maintain his action; and that the evidence given was infamous: but this was denied, because it would be dangerous, if the court was to permit the credit of evidence to be impeached by subsequent evidence, which was in the party's power before: and the fact of marriage might have been gone into before.

New trial upon new evidence, where the conscience of the court was not satisfied, although the judge certified in favour of the verdict, and where it would not be granted in court of law, which is stricter, and will not grant it to introduce new, or answers to evidence.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

If this had been an application for a new trial in a court of common law, in the ordinary course of proceedings there; I believe it is not such a case, that it would be granted; for they hold these motions for new trials by pretty strict rules. They have been a modern introduction; and by the discretion of the courts introduced in order to avoid the difficulties of defeating verdicts by attain, in which it was difficult to prevail. But however, on motions for new trials at law the rule is, that if a verdict is given on evidence fairly according to proper notice, and the judge does not report, that he is dissatisfied with it, or that it was against evidence, the court will not grant it in order to introduce new evidence or new answers to evidence; for the parties are supposed to come prepared to support the characters of the witnesses on either side; which is always presumed, and is right for courts of law to adhere to that: otherwise it would be endless. But this court directs issues to be tried at law to inform the conscience of the court as to facts doubtful before; and therefore expects in return such a verdict and on such a case, as shall satisfy the conscience of the court to found a decree upon; if therefore upon any material and weighty reason the verdict is not such as to satisfy the court to found a decree upon, there are several cases, in which this court has directed a new trial for further satisfaction, notwithstanding it would not be granted, if in a

New trials of modern introduction, and to avoid difficulties in attain. Granted here in case of inheritance or of value or where the court was not satisfied, particularly on forgery.

court of common law; because it is *diverso intuitu*, and because the court proceeds on different grounds. This is known to be the ordinary rule of this court, where a matter of inheritance is in question; for the court says, an inheritance is not to be bound by one verdict, if any sort of objection arises to the trial; and that notwithstanding the objection of inconvenience in examining over and over, which objection has not prevailed. This extends also to a personal demand, where of considerable value, and where the court is not satisfied with the grounds on which the determination was made at law, and when an objection is made and supported by proof; and particularly in a case of forgery new trials have been granted, and that by judges who have sat here, who have been as reluctant as any, and who inclined to adhere to the rules of common law. I remember a case in Lord *King's* time relating to a rent charge, granted out of the estate of Mr. *Hockmore* in *Devonshire*. It had been twice or thrice tried at common law, tried upon distress taken on the rent charge, and an avowry, and where the question was singly whether it was a forgery or not, and upon all those trials verdict was found for the deed. A bill was notwithstanding brought here to set it aside for forgery; and Lord *King* sent it to trial under an issue directed by the court; and, I believe, there was a new trial after that: and notwithstanding all those verdicts Lord *King* made a decree to have it brought into court and cancelled here, the former trials not being to the satisfaction of the court. Undoubtedly therefore it is in the discretion of the court to grant new trials, if they think fit, if there is a ground for it upon the circumstances here; and the question is, whether there is so or not? I own, I had very great suspicion, when it was on before me upon exceptions: however I did not think fit to determine it, but sent it to a jury. The judge has declared, he is well satisfied with the verdict; and if nothing appeared to me but what appeared to him thereon, I think I should have been of the same opinion with him. My opinion therefore in granting a new trial is grounded upon new evidence, which was not before the jury there, and which is material. I cannot say, that my conscience is satisfied as to the grounds and truth of the evidence, upon which this verdict is given. I proceed therefore upon the principles of this court in directing trials, and not to break in upon the rules which are wisely laid down by courts of law as to granting new trials; and shall therefore direct another trial upon these issues: but it must be on payment of costs.

Knight

Knight *ex parte* Dupleffis, July 27, 1754.

Case 189.

A Motion was now made on the part of the crown for a *melius* Ante. July 22. *Melius inquirendum* for the King on a proper surmise, pregnant matter. *inquirendum* in *Middlesex* upon this surmise, that since the execution of the former commission finding Mrs. *Dupleffis* not to be an alien, there had been material evidence on the part of the crown from *Switzerland*, the country in which she was said to be born; and a finding on a commission into *Norfolk* that she was an alien. That as to precedents in the court of *Wards* they lie in such confusion, that nothing could be collected from them: that on search of commissions by the great seal but one could be found, in 1697 moved *ex parte Regis*, where it issued on a surmise barely without affidavit of facts: whereas this is founded on affidavits; but according to that instance there is no need to read them. That indeed was not strictly *melius inquirendum*; it was to inquire into abuses by the *Warden* of the *Fleet*; and therefore a new commission was prayed and ordered accordingly. This is the only instance where it has been issued by order of the court.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This precedent is nothing like a *melius inquirendum*, but is a surmise for an original commission; therefore it is quite a new commission, and I do not know but it might have issued by *fiat* of the *Attorney General*. You must lay evidence before the court for your surmise; therefore read the affidavits.

This matter was fully considered upon the former question, whether the commission was regular; which was held not to be so by the *Lord Chief Baron* and by me, but that a *melius inquirendum* might go; and the finding in the county of *Norfolk* contradictory to the other, is proper to lay before the court to support a surmise for a *melius inquirendum*; which brings it within the ground of *Sloughter's* case, 8 Co. 168. determined by great men, and that upon grounds of equity as well as law. The rule as to *melius inquirendum* is this, that in sound discretion the court should not award it unless on some matter of record, or some other pregnant matter to shew the former to be mistaken: and *Lord Chief* 8 Co. 169. A. *Baron* and I were of opinion, that the finding on the commission in *Norfolk* was a pregnant matter to be laid before the court for further inquiry. What the *Lord Chief Baron* meant by a pregnant matter for the King, was matter pregnant with evidence of the King's right; and this is such; and here is further corroborating

roborating evidence laid before the court by witnesses. Therefore let the *melius inquirendum* issue in this case for the King.

Case 190. Gage *versus* Lady Stafford July 27, 1754.

A Motion was made for a commission to issue into *France* to prove some matters at *Paris*.

Foreign
courts.

The bill was against the representatives of Mr. *Cantillon*, late banker at *Paris*, for payment of what was due from him and his partner *Hughes* for money deposited by the plaintiff with them; for which they accounted with the plaintiff at a decreased value, the *actions* having in the mean time fallen.

Commission
to examine at
Paris as to ex-
tent of jurisdic-
tion of a
court erected
there, and the
nature and
effect of the
sentence and
proceedings:
but not as to
the original
constitution
of it.

A plea was put in of a sentence in a court of final jurisdiction (as it was said for defendants) erected at *Paris* to determine the cases of *actions* which regarded the *Missippi*, where the question was litigated between *Gage* and the representatives of *Cantillon*, and determined against *Gage*.

His Lordship held it not proper as a plea, but let it stand for an answer, and reserved the benefit of it until the hearing.

The facts now desired to be examined to were as to the matters in the plea, it being alleged for the plaintiff that the *arrêt* of the *French* King was never registered by the parliament of *Paris*, and that such registry was necessary to give a jurisdiction to that court. Next that it was a judgment by default, and that such judgment there is never final. Next that the subject matter was not proper for that court. An affidavit was read to shew, that it was necessary for the plaintiff to have this commission. The defendants in their answer rely on the sentence of the court of *Actions* in *Paris*, which makes it necessary for the plaintiff to inquire into the authority of that court, to shew it was not properly constituted; for though a judgment in a foreign court will not make judgment-debt in *England*, yet where between proper parties, it may have weight at the hearing. Where there is a sentence of a municipal court in a foreign country, it is proper to inquire into its jurisdiction; for it may be limited, circumscribed as to locality or matter; and then no faith is given to it in another country but upon seeing, that it proceeded on matters within its jurisdiction, and the cause proper for its determination. A judgment by a municipal court abroad is not regarded in a cause depending here, which is to receive the judgment of a court here; and in our courts of common law it has been refused; lately at
Guildhall

Guildhall in Trover for a large quantity of hemp at *Riga* to the amount of 2000 *l.* the action was brought to try the property here; and the question was, whether it was consigned so as to give a property to the merchant abroad, who failed, or whether only sent to him as a factor, who had the custody of it: the judgment abroad was refused by *Lee C. J.* who said, he could not take notice of a determination of a court abroad as to a matter, which came to be tried here.

For *defendants*, it was said, this extraordinary examination, as to points which would be very difficult to determine, would not be objected to, provided the plaintiff gave security to answer the costs, beyond the ordinary rule where the party lives abroad; and also consented, that the depositions and exhibits on both sides in a cause, wherein Lord *Montgomery* was plaintiff, may be admitted at the hearing; and to examine to this only.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It is an old rule established, that it should be 40 *l.* to answer Costs, costs of suit; but that is now very low; and the court has often taken notice of the lowness of it. That was settled at a time when the costs of this court did not run to any thing like what they do now. There are few causes now, where that is near the amount of the costs. I have directed an inquiry; and no instance is found, that the court increased it by their authority: though it has been done upon terms. It is doubtful, whether the court should make some rule, or leave it to discretion; I believe it should be discretionary: although that will burthen the court with motions, where the parties live beyond sea. If therefore you will take it upon those terms, that upon the plaintiff's giving security to answer 300 *l.* (which is proposed by the plaintiff) and upon the other terms, the commission shall issue.

Where the party lives abroad, 40 *l.* to answer costs is the old rule; which, though now low, is not increased by the court, unless on terms.

The proposals were agreed to on both sides.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Then I will give you some warning upon this examination. As to the first point, that this court or commission was not registered, and that it was thought necessary at that time, I will not enter into the determination of that question in an *English* court of *Chancery*; I will not determine here what is the prerogative of the *Most Christian King* as to granting commissions. I will tell you beforehand, what would be my opinion. Where a jurisdiction has been erected by the sovereign of a country, which has been *de*

facto

facto executed and submitted to in general by the subjects in that country, I shall take that to be a lawful court of that country; for otherwise this court would be to determine the original constitution of the several nations in *Europe*, and how far the power of the sovereign is absolute; which would be infinite. If therefore you enter into a general examination concerning that point, I will make you pay costs as to that. If indeed you examine as to the extent of that jurisdiction, that is proper for you to shew; and also to shew the nature and effect of the sentences and proceedings in the said court: but not as to the first question, of which I will not take upon me to judge: and, I think it would defeat the intent of the commission, if it was known there, that it issued to inquire into that. By consent of parties therefore as aforesaid, let the commission issue to be executed at *Paris*.

Case 191.

Hare versus Rose, July 27, 1754.

AN account is taken and an estate sold in pursuance of a decree in 1730, by which costs of suit were given to all parties generally out of the estate.

An order had been obtained last term for payment of costs to the plaintiffs and defendants before the report was made final.

A motion was now made to set aside that order for irregularity, and want of notice to the creditors before the Master.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The course of the court is, that when a bill is filed by parties interested in the surplus of an estate against proper parties to have the account taken, some of which are creditors, and a decree is made, and liberty to all other creditors to come in; in any proceeding in the cause between the plaintiffs and defendants (unless such as affect the particular creditors coming in before the Master, and concern their rights and demands) there is no occasion to give notice to such creditors; for then the particular solicitor of every creditor must have notice.

The court now does not often give costs generally, though it was frequently done formerly. Sir *Jos. Jekyl* did it upon the foundation, that it would be expensive to come again. Costs are given in this case, they are first to be paid before the debts; for costs of suit are always first to be drawn out when given in this manner. Upon an application to have their costs taxed, the court has made an order for that purpose on consent of the defendants, who had a right to consent; and they certainly had as against
creditors,

creditors, who come under the decree; and it was the same to those creditors, whether they had it sooner or later. In a suit by a mortgagee or one particular creditor against persons intitled to the surplus of the estate, and all other creditors to come before the Master, it often happens, that after a decree, if it be a deficient fund, and the plaintiffs and defendants are out of the suit, it is a common case for the creditors, who come in, to apply to the court to prosecute the suit in name of the plaintiffs for their own benefit; for the plaintiffs are not compellable to carry it on. Then consequently when these costs are taxed, the plaintiffs may be out of the case; and then it may be right for these creditors to apply. They must have their costs out of the estate, before any of these creditors are intitled to their demands.

Hawkins *versus* Obeen, July 27, 1754.

Case 192.

THE first limitation by a will was a charge of all debts and legacies upon an estate; the next to *Obeen* and his heirs on trust to the several uses and trusts afterward declared; to the use of the plaintiff for life without impeachment, &c. remainder to *Obeen* and his heirs to support contingent remainders; and so to others for life, remainder in like manner to *Obeen*.

Infant trustee bound to join in conveyance within stat. 7. *Q. Anne.* Not where infant has an interest, or doubt thereof, unless on proper suit.

A decree was made for sale of the estate, and that *Obeen* should join in the conveyance; who dies after the decree, leaving an infant son an heir.

Upon motion the question (said to be a new question) now was, whether that infant should join in the conveyance under the stat. *Q. Anne* made to enable infants trustees to convey?

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I have no doubt at present, but that he is an infant trustee within that act of parliament. To be sure in any case where an infant has an interest in an estate, or there is a doubt, whether he has an interest in it of his own or not, it is determined not to be within it; and the court will not determine it by such an interlocutory method to be within the act of parliament; but it must be by proper suit, where the rights of the infants themselves are in question: but here is no pretence that the infant has any kind of interest beneficially for himself. This may be possibly an use executed: but it is impossible to raise the charge on the estate but out of the fee of the estate itself. If there is such a charge for the debts so far he is certainly a trustee. But suppose this is a devise of the legal estate, and vests the whole legal estate subject to the debts in

in the several devisees, then the conveyance must be from the several persons, in whom that legal estate vested. Then the only doubt is the trust for contingent remainders. But if the first charge is for payment of debts, it is absolutely necessary for him to join to destroy the contingent remainders as to so much for the debts. He is but a trustee therein, and must join so far. Taking this as a devise of the legal estate; and suppose a son had been born of the plaintiff, and had attained twenty-one, that son would be decreed to join in this conveyance to raise money for payment of debts and legacies; this infant is nothing but a trustee for him; and must join therein. Here is no doubt as to any beneficial interest in the infant; and if there had been such doubt it would not be material; for here a decree has been; if therefore there had been once a question concerning the beneficial interest, and a decree binding his ancestor, that would bind the infant.

Case 193.

Sleech versus Thorington, July 29, 1754.

At the Rolls.

SEVERAL questions arose upon a will, the first on these words: "I give the remaining 500 *l. East-India* stock to all the other children of his said *George Randal*, which he now has or hereafter shall have by the present wife, equally share and share alike, and to be applied by their father to put them out to proper trades in order to get their livelihood."

The next was upon the words; "*Item*, I give to my cousin *Anne Becket* 700 *l. South Sea* annuities: but if she happens to marry again, I give and bequeath the same to the said *George Randal*." It was said for her, that the testatrix proceeded on a supposition, that *Anne Becket* at the time of making the will was a widow; that she was in fact married unhappily; her husband had embezzled part of her fortune, and gone abroad at the time of putting in her answer, and she had no maintenance from him; and therefore her property under the will should be paid to her separate use without the intermeddling of her husband.

The next on this bequest; "*Item* I give and bequeath unto the said *George Randal* 400 *l. East India* bonds on trust to pay the interest thereof from time to time to my niece *R. H.* until her age of twenty-one or marriage, and afterward to pay the said 400 *l. East-India* bonds to her." The testatrix recites this bequest in her codicil; and also recites another bequest in her will

will of three *Exchequer* orders, which she had since subscribed into the bank of *England*, and substitutes in the place of those orders a pecuniary legacy. At the death of the testatrix only one *East India* bond was found in her possession. The question was, whether this was to be considered as a legacy merely of quantity, so as to amount to a direction to the executor to lay out so much of the residue of the personal estate as would purchase it; or whether to be considered (as contended for the charities, to which the residue was given) as a specifick thing existing, and the property of testatrix at the time of her making the will, though not found in her possession at her death, and therefore as a specifick legacy of which there was an ademption.

The next concerning 2413 *l.* 13 *s.* given by the will to several persons in several parcels and different proportions by the name of *South-Sea* annuity stock or *South-Sea* annuities, giving to her coachman the remaining 13 *l.* 13 *s.* *South-Sea* stock standing in her name. It was admitted, that the *South-Sea* annuities, of which she was possessed at her death, amounted to no more than 2157 *l.* 12 *s.* 1 *d.* the question was, whether the deficiency should be made good out of the residue.

The next upon this part of the will; “*Item*, I give and bequeath unto the two servants that shall live with me at the time of my death 100 *l.* new *South-Sea* stock to be equally divided between them.” In fact the testatrix had but two at the time of making the will; and afterward took another, who lived with her to the time of her death.

Sir Thomas Clarke.

If there was a necessity for an immediate determination upon the first question, it would be attended with some difficulty; for the first words import a present vesting immediately on death of testatrix, because otherwise there could not be an equal distribution; *George Randal* could not know how many children he might have: the subsequent words refer to future events and contingencies, and contradict the design of a present vesting. But the same children exist at the making the will and death of testatrix; and it will be time enough to determine upon the meaning, when any of the contingencies require an application to the court. In the mean time let the 500 *l.* stock be transferred by the executors subject to the trust and purposes of the will.

As to the 700 *l.* if a proper case was laid to warrant what is insisted upon, the court would without difficulty take care of the wife's property from coming into the husband's hands; to which

Husband, suffering for wife's property, must make a settlement. The interest to wife, if left unprovided: otherwise if he maintain her.

purpose several cases have been. In general where a husband comes into court for the wife's property, or any thing he claims in her right *jure mariti*, he is obliged to submit to the terms of the court, and make a settlement or reasonable provision out of that. Various instances have been, where the wife has insisted, husband should have nothing; the court has not thought itself impowered to take from the husband the wife's fortune so long as he is willing to live with her and to maintain her, and no reason for their living apart; even where the husband will not come in before the master, the court will not go so far as to do any thing in diminution of the husband's right, so as to take away the produce from him, or prevent his receiving the interest; but constantly where he maintains the wife, accompanies the direction for a suspension with payment of the interest to the husband: it is otherwise where he leaves her unprovided; *Colmer v. Colmer* by Lord King. But more particularly in *Watkins v. Watkins*, Dec. 10, 1740, where exactly like this case the husband was gone abroad, and left his wife unprovided for, the court laid hands on the money, which was in the power of the court, and directed payment of the interest to the wife, until the husband returned and maintained her as he ought. Here no one appears for the husband. The wife is a defendant; and her answer is not replied to; so no proof can be of that fact of the husband's being abroad to warrant the court to give such immediate direction. All I shall do therefore will be to direct the master to inquire whether she has been deserted by her husband without a maintenance, and whether he has made any and what settlement or provision for her; and in mean time until such report made it will be under the power of the court, and shall be transferred subject to further order.

Cited ante in Avelyn v. Ward, March 19, 1749-50.

Legacy of 4000 l. East India bonds: only one found at testator's death: not a specifick legacy, but of quantity, and supplied out of the residue.

As to the *East India* bonds, it will depend partly on the will and codicil, partly on the fact of only one being found, and partly on what was laid down in *Perse v. Snabbling*. It is very certain, that in this as in every case where this question arises, it can only arise where there is a sufficiency; and there is in the present case. The words are general; and it is very material as a circumstance, that no pronoun possessive is added to the description of the annuities; which is the more observable, because the testatrix in the two legacies immediately preceding adds in terms that very expression *my*. If it happened accidentally to be omitted in the will, which might have been suggested, if it depended entirely on the will, yet in the codicil, wherein she recites the will, she has not added the word *my*, as she has to the two preceding legacies. It is remarkable, that if they existed at the time of making the will, and she had sold them out at making the codicil,

dicil, she must have taken notice of that ademption, as she has of the *Exchequer* orders, and substituted pecuniary legacies; it is impossible, if that had been the case, to give a reason why he should not have taken notice of it, and done the same to one as well as the other. The want therefore of the expression *my* in the will is strengthened by what appears on the face of the codicil; which makes a strong argument against those who contend it was a specifick bequest; for it was the distinction in *Perse v. Snabbling*; which distinction is fully established in *Swinb.* (though he sometimes contradicts himself) but it was established in other books, *The Digest*, *Just. Inst.* and *Missinger's Comment*; which I shall only allude to. It is said, that it is to be presumed she had this property at the time of making the will; because the other legacies are something in *specie*, which she had as part of her property at the time of making the will: but this fact does not warrant the inference, however it happens. It is not to be presumed that, because most of the other legacies did exist at making the will, this should be of the same kind; for if that prevailed, it was the very case of *Perse v. Snabbling*, where that was not of weight. There the testator had the identical stock existing in his name at the time of making that will; *The Master of the Rolls* made an equal division among the legatees upon a supposition of an intent to give but one: *Lord Chancellor* was of a different opinion, and did, what is contended for on the part of the legatee here, that it should be purchased out of the residue. I own, I am not the less satisfied with the present opinion considering the nature of the residuary bequest: though it is a very good and useful charity. It is very different from what it would have been, if the consequence of taking this out of the residue was to fall on any single person. It is such a loss as will be contributed to by an indefinite number. Though that would not induce the court to determine it a legacy of quantity without other circumstances, yet the court is not sorry that there are such. This then is not specifick, but a bequest of quantity; and to be made good out of the personal estate of testatrix, by a purchase by the executor of four *East-India* bonds. Let the Master compute the interest which these bonds would have carried from a year after death of testatrix, because I consider them as a bequest of quantity only; for if they were specifick, it would be from the death; and though one bond happened to be found after her death, that I consider only as accident; and then it would be absurd that it should be in a different way from the rest.

Interest from
a year after
testator's death:
if specifick,
from the
death.

As to the *South-Sea* stock or annuities, these according to the true sense and construction of the will are specifick bequests; and the last is a specifick parcel to the coachman as part of a greater sum standing in name of the testatrix. None of them are inde-

Devise of
stock in several
parcels, spe-
cifick; and a
deficiency in
the sum not
made good
out of the re-
sidue.

pendent,

pendent, but all connected from the original bequest of the first portion of *South-Sea* stock to the last; which she computed to be a residue, though erroneously; they are connected by this last being given by way of remainder; and this is only a specifick bequest of such an identical, individual, thing, as the testatrix apprehended she had. It is material, that there is a direction to her executors to sell and convert part of it into money; which direction it is impossible she could have given, if she meant, part of this should be purchased out of her personal estate: that was a vain circumstance, and was laid hold of in *Ashton v. Ashton*; which is in point; where the court put it upon the devise of a real estate, which the testator had not; the devisee could not come to have it made good out of the residue, it must take its fate. There are indeed instances, where testator had an estate, he was in possession of at his death, and devised it to *A.* who enters, and is evicted, the court has been of opinion, he should have an equivalent; but that was under particular circumstances which are not here; like the case of *Coventry v. Carew*, where an estate given to be exchanged with a college; the college would not exchange, though a beneficial one; and the heir at law insisted, that as the devise could not take effect, it was lapsed: but the court considered, that as the devisee could have the thing designed, he should have the thing in lieu. There are instances therefore, where the court has done it; but in general a devisee cannot come and insist, that such a thing should be made good out of the estate of testator. The deficiency therefore ought not to be made good out of the residue; but the loss must be borne in avarage by the several persons intitled according to the proportions designed for them, to be settled by the Master.

Legacy to the two servants living with me at my death. A third taken afterward is intitled. The word *two* rejected, as otherwise void for uncertainty. So on legacy to the three children, when there were four; all intitled.

As to the servants: suppose the testatrix had four servants, and had said, "I give to all the three servants living with me at my death," I think all the four would be intitled to a share; the indefinite word *all* would have warranted the court to have rejected the word *three* as repugnant; for she seems to me to have had no particular persons in view. Here, if these three servants had left her, and she had taken two or three others in their room, those new persons would have excluded the others before; because they answer in general the description of the persons she designed that bounty for. Then by analogy of reason it should be so in this case; the words, *the two*, being as inconsistent as in the case I put the word *all*, &c. *Ut res magis valeat* it must be determined in that way, otherwise the bequest is void for uncertainty; because it is impossible to distinguish which two she meant. But there is a case running *quatuor pedibus* with this; *Tomkins v. Tomkins* in 1745; where testator gave to his sister, 50 *l.* and to her three children 50 *l.* each, in fact she had four children. The

words

words were as indefinite, and intended to take in all, as if he had said *all his sister's children*; and the parties were disposed to let them in. Lord Chancellor said if that had not be agreed, his opinion would have been so; and relied much on that argument, that otherwise it would not be for the benefit of the persons contending as it would tend to give the legacy to the residuary legatee. Living with her at the time of her death is the circumstance of her bounty, and if she had taken two more, I should think, upon the afore-said reasoning, it would be divisible among the four.

Pit *versus* Cholmondeley, July 30, 1754.

Case 194.

ON exceptions to Master's report the general question was, Account. whether governor *Pit* in his lifetime received any and what satisfaction for 2000 *l.* *South Sea* stock, mentioned in an account in 1720, between him and his son Lord *Londonderry*; which 2000 *l.* Onus probandi on the party having liberty to surcharge and falsify. it was admitted, in some shape governor *Pit* was intitled to a satisfaction for, either in *specie* or money, as it was part of 6000 *l.* *South Sea* stock included in a contract entered into between Lord *Londonderry* and *Mitford* and *Mertins*, Bankers in *Lombard Street*, in which contract governor *Pit* was intitled to one third.

The Master by his last report on a reference stated his opinion, that satisfaction had been made, and the particular manner in which that arose, by a transfer of stock by the order of Lord *Londonderry* to governor *Pit* in 1722. Difference between that and an open, general, account.

To this way of the Master's accounting for satisfaction several objections were made as impossible or highly improbable, and two exceptions taken by the plaintiffs; one of which encountered the Master's way of accounting for this transaction; the other set up a way of the plaintiff's own.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

It is certain, that upon this question some things appear dark and obscure; as they must in the nature of cases of this kind, which arise on such a transaction, particularly in 1720, when they come to be examined after so great a length of time: but the court must proceed on such evidence, as arises on the facts and I am of the same opinion with the Master.

Some general observations are to be made by way of *postulatum*. I am not now upon a question arising on an open general account, but barely upon a liberty given to the plaintiff to surcharge and falsify. The *onus probandi* is always on the party having that liberty;

for the court takes it as a stated account, and establishes it: but if any of the parties can shew an omission, for which credit ought to be, that is a surcharge: or if any thing is inserted, that is a wrong charge, he is at liberty to shew it, and that is falsification: but that must be by proof on his side: and that makes a great difference between the general cases of an open account and where only to surcharge and falsify, for such must be made out. Now this is not only after a great length of time, but also after a number of accounts settled between the parties; which adds considerable strength to the objections made on the part of the defendant (executor of Lord *Londonderry*;) because after such a variety of accounts stated, and so often under consideration, it must be a strong case laid before the court to falsify. Another thing, material in all these cases, is, that this is a liberty to surcharge and falsify these several stated accounts between persons of great ability and capacity and very great experience in that way. It is not like a liberty to surcharge and falsify an account (which the court often does) stated between a guardian and ward just after the ward come of age, or between persons one of whom is conversant of the subject matter of account, the other not, or not in such a degree; in which the court will take it with a latitude, and make that the ingredient: here the parties were on a par, great and equal skill and knowledge on both sides, and therefore the court expects clear evidence, before they will make any variation.

After these general observations consider the evidence. In 1720. a great contract was entered into by Lord *Londonderry* by a transaction of 6000*l.* *South Sea* stock at 500*l.* *per cent.* which was purchased by him at that rate, and amounted to 30,000*l.* under a contract to be resold to *Mitford* and *Mertins* for 32,400*l.* This contract was not performed on the part of *Mitford* and *Mertins*, who broke; and it was not to be expected, their assignees should. Undoubtedly under this contract 2000*l.* was brought to the debit of governor *Pit*, who must have satisfaction for this in stock or money: and certainly unless something arises from the facts and transaction in the cause, which can take off the force of that transfer, and make it not applicable, it might be applicable to that sum, though not mentioned *eo nomine*. Was it so, or not? It is said for the plaintiff, that this is contrary to many things appearing in the cause; first from the answer of Lord *Londonderry* in 1728, after his father's death, wherein he does not pretend, that he had made satisfaction to his father for this contract, but states it as a thing then depending, and that a suit was depending with *Mitford* and *Mertins*. Certainly it was not finally settled and full satisfaction made. The assignees insisted, it was an usurious contract; and I believe, the jury found pretty favourably, in finding it was not. The greatest part certainly remained still to be settled: it is said, satisfaction could

could not have been made ; because if it was held an usurious contract, and the assignees had prevailed, that would have rescinded the whole: but as to that, this sum was at home. Suppose the assignees prevailed, and the court held this an usurious contract, and consequently that Lord *Londonderry* could not have had a decree, and the assignees had brought a bill to have that decree: the court would not have decreed a refunding, which is contrary to the rules of the court in every instance. This court does not relieve against an usurious contract to make a man lose his principal as well as interest. But however that be, this is said to be contrary to the nature of the transaction, and Lord *Londonderry's* own bill against *Mitford* and *Mertins*, wherein he says, he attended on the day, and had *Mitford* and *Mertins* called, and they not appearing, he sold this stock; so that the stock being sold could not be transferred to governor *Pit*, as the Master says. But I am clearly of opinion, that this allegation in the bill was nothing but a colourable sale, in the manner as those things were transacted in 1720, the mere common course of proceeding; so that I want no evidence of that; and if this had been in question in 1720. or 1721. a man would be laughed at, who thought this a real sale. That was a transaction they had established in *Change Alley*, to which courts of justice gave way, (though *Holt* has said, he would not suffer *Change Alley* to give law to *Westminster Hall*). Where a contract was for delivery of stock at a distance, they came on the day, and staid until the last period of time of doing the act, making the transfer, then had the buyer called to come in and accept the stock, otherwise it would be sold. In some instances perhaps they might make a real sale: but if not, they had it transferred at the price to some person for them. The ground they went on was, that there was occasion to alter the property of the stock; for otherwise, if the stock remained in the hands of the vendors, it might have risen again; and then if the stock bargained for remained at home without alteration of the property, the buyer would have said, he would take the stock and pay the money. But I do not go barely upon speculation and memory, but think Lord *Londonderry's* bill clearly shews this to be the method and constant usage. There is then no contradiction between this stated by the Master and the fact set forth by Lord *Londonderry* in his life; and there is not sufficient ground to surcharge these accounts with that sum, or to say this was an error; and if I should do so, I should make the strongest presumption of ignorance in these parties, that ever was made. I lay weight principally on this, that what is called a sale, is only colourable, and that this 6000*l.* remained at home, and was to be accounted for. In these accounts governor *Pit*, who appears to have used great caution in his affairs, could not have passed this over.

The exceptions must be over-ruled.

Hucks

Case 195.

Hucks *versus* Hucks, July 31, 1754.*Master of the Rolls for Lord Chancellor.*

Son not in
being cannot
take less than
estate tail.

BY articles before marriage, *Joseph Hucks* covenants, that if he should beget on his intended wife one or more son or sons, he would settle lands of 200 *l. per annum* to wife for life for a jointure, and afterward to trustees to preserve contingent remainders, for the son begotten on her body, and to the first son of such first son, with remainders over, but with power to the husband to receive the profits during his life.

In marriage
articles limitation to first
son, and to
first son of
such first son,
an estate tail.
to first son.

He left one son by the marriage, the present plaintiff; who was decreed an estate tail in the lands to be purchased. Even if the parties had designed an estate for life, it ought not to take effect; as in point of law a son not in being cannot be considered to take a less interest than an estate tail, when he comes in being. *Humberston's case*, 1 *Will.* 332.

But lands purchased by the father were considered as a satisfaction *pro tanto*, and part-performance.

Note; A case was cited upon the will of Duke of *Marlborough*, the drawers of which did not attempt to make the sons, who were to be born, tenants for life, but inserted a power in the trustees to reduce the estate-tail to an estate for life, upon a tender to the trustees by the tenant for life after he had a son; which was long a question; how far that was good or not; and *Lord Chancellor* called in the assistance of the judges, and thought it going a great way toward a perpetuity: but upon the death of the Dutches it never was determined.

Case 196.

Ellifon *versus* Airey, August 1, 1754.

Charge by
will of the
whole real
estate in aid of
personal for
debts and legacies,
not restrained by
subsequent
devise of a
particular part
for that purpose,
without negative
words.

FRANCIS NICHOLS by will charges all his personal estate with debts and legacies; and so much as the personal estate shall fall short to answer and pay, he charges all his messuages, lands, and grounds in *Durham* with payment thereof in aid of the personal estate, and directs the personal to be sold. By a subsequent clause he gives a particular farm to be sold for payment of his debts and legacies; and by another clause devises all his real estate so charged and chargeable to trustees to receive and take the first two years profits, that shall arise and become payable out of his estate in

in *Durham*, for payment of his debts and legacies, if the personal estate proved deficient, and to the maintenance and education of his nephew in such manner as the trustees shall think fit, and no more.

It was insisted, that only that particular part and the two years profits are charged, the generality of the first charge being controuled and restrained thereto expressly.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Upon all the rules of charging for payment of debts the whole trust estate is subject to payment of debts and legacies: the charge of the personal estate therewith was unnecessary. Afterward there is a full and complete charge on the real of so much as the personal proved not sufficient to satisfy. It must be something very strong in the will to restrain that charge to a particular part to go no further. If it rested on the clause, which gives the farm, would the express direction of the will to sell a particular estate toward payment of those debts and legacies, that the personal estate was not sufficient for, afford a negative implication, that no more should be sold? Certainly not; for there are several cases, where there is a charge of the whole estate for payment of debts, and afterward a direction that a particular part should be sold; that has been taken only to be a declaration of the intention, that that shall be first applied. Then the subsequent part is no more, than what is done by the former clause, taking out a particular part; as one was of the inheritance, the other the profits. If indeed negative words were added, it cannot go farther: but I take those negative words, *and no more*, to be applied to the maintenance. There are several cases of a general charge by words not near so strong as this, and a devise afterward of a particular estate for that purpose, yet that was not sufficient to restrain it. That was the case of *Lord Warrington v. Booth*. This general charge then subsists; and I cannot make any other construction.

Woffington versus Sparks, August 2, 1754.

Case 197.

At the Rolls.

THE plaintiff joined as security for another in a bond for the payment of 150 l. lent by *Sparks*, and now brought a bill against both, that the obligee might either put the bond in suit against the principal, or assign over the bond to the plaintiff, that even the principal may plead payment to action in name of obligee; but case lies, or perhaps

Bonds.
Assignment of
bond to co-
obligor, who
pays it, is of
no use; as
indebitatus

assumpsit.

the plaintiff might do it ; suggesting that the obligee had refused to do, when the principal was declining in his circumstances.

Sir Thomas Clark.

The assignment would be of no use to the plaintiff ; for if the co-obligor in the bond is paid off, the principal might take advantage of that, and plead payment in bar of an action instituted by the plaintiff in the name of the obligee, as it must be. There is no doubt of that ; because the bond was given only for the payment of one sum of money, and, when once satisfied to the obligee, is *functus officio*. There was a case of *Gammon v. Stone*, 7 Dec. 1749. upon that very point of the necessity or non-necessity upon the obligee to assign to the plaintiffs, representatives of a surety in the bond, who had tendered the money. *Noy* 75. was there cited : *The Attorney General* laboured it exceedingly for the plaintiffs ; but *Lord Chancellor* held, that the assignment was not to be insisted on, because it was quite an useless thing. That was accompanied with the stronger circumstance of a tender : here there was no such thing as a preparation for payment of the money. But it is said, though this is so in the case of a bond, a judgment would have been different : consider how that is. Suppose execution had been offered to be taken out upon that judgment ; if that judgment was entered up after the money was paid, no doubt but that the *King's Bench* would have set it aside : I mean, a judgment entered up in consequence of a motion for liberty to enter up judgment on a state bond by the obligee after such time as he had received the money. But taking it the other way, that the money was not paid, when the judgment was entered up ; if execution were offered to be taken out upon the money's being paid afterward, it is allowed relief might be ; I believe there might be an injunction (as it has been said) upon a bill here : but that brings it to what is now the question : for the plaintiff is now just in as good a condition, as she would be then, being now plaintiff, and having filed a bill against the obligee and her co-obligor. But it does not rest there : the plaintiff had no occasion for this circuitous way ; for she might have paid the bond, and had the remedy in her own hands ; for though it might be a doubt, whether or no a general *indebitatus assumpsit* would lie upon the implied contract for the surety, who had paid the bond, to recover the money back again from the principal, there is no doubt but that, independent of that question, a special action upon the case must always remain, if a surety pays money for a principal on a bond, having no counter bond. One remedy or the other was in her own hands : consequently the laches was her own. There is not a sufficient ground to relieve the plaintiff upon any other than the common terms, against the penalty, as the defendant is in the case of a common creditor.

The plaintiff reimbursed her costs against the co-obligor.

Wortley *versus* Birkhead, August 3, 1754.

Case 998.

A Decree had been made in 1748. in a cause wherein the now plaintiff and defendants among other creditors were plaintiffs, for the sale of the estate of one *Manaton*. The Master was directed to inquire into the priority of the demands. The plaintiff brought in an incumbrance in 1694. and made a claim before the Master to have it tacked to his mortgage, and thereby to be paid before the defendants: the Master refused to make any report as to that; whereupon the plaintiff filed this bill.

Demurrer. Paisy incumbrancer may *pendente lite* take in the first and gain a preference to a second, by tacking the first to the third: but not if done after a decree and direction to settle the priorities; for that would open a door to collusion between creditors.

A Demurrer was put into so much and to such part of the bill, as sought to have a satisfaction for the money claimed by the plaintiff to be due under the securities in the bill set forth in preference to defendant's mortgage.

For defendants. The demurrer is for want of equity in the bill, which is of a new kind; and an original bill to alter a direction under a decree between the same parties. That never is allowed, unless for fraud. The opinion of the court in one decree cannot be varied by original bill; nor can the decree be affected but by such proceedings, as will alter the decree itself. Upon error in the decree, apparent or newly discovered, there may be a proper bill of review: or if it is not inrolled, there may, according to the practice now established by *Your Lordship*, be a supplemental bill in nature of a bill of review, and application to rehear at the same time; which is an improper bill of review: but then if altered, the whole progress is altered. Either the matter is or is not concluded in the former decree, and either way this bill is improper. Upon a motion made for an order that the Master should be directed to receive evidence of this new discovered deed, *Your Lordship* refused it, thinking it a new attempt, leaving it before the Master, to whom the question of priority is properly referred; and upon exception to the report it will finally come. They must first get rid of that decree by some of the said methods; not by an original bill to vary the right as it stood then, by something afterward, and it is not like a discovery of that evidence, which if then before the court, there would have been a different decree. But upon the merits; it never has been held, that a subsequent mortgagee after a decree, to which he is himself a party, can take in a prior incumbrance in order to shut out a mesne incumbrancer. That would be attended with great fraud and confusion, and there would be no end to it; for then if any other person got a deed of a prior date, he might bring a new

new bill, and overturn all. The rule is indeed established in *Marsh v. Lee*, 1 C. C. 162, and 2 *Ven.* 337. that a third mortgagee might take in a prior mortgage or judgment, and exclude the second: but it was a hard rule, and has been doubted of by some judges: and though it is established, yet several distinctions out of it have been made, laid down in *Brace v. Dutcheffs of Marlborough*, 2 *Will.* 491. But no case has gone so far as to set up a priority after a decree. *Earl of Bristol v. Hungerford*, 2 *Ver.* 524. beside no legal advantage could be gained; for it is above 60 years ago.

For plaintiff. This arose incidentally before the Master and not appearing at the time of the decree, there may be a supplemental bill thereon to enable the court to do complete justice: there is no report, nor decree signed and inrolled. As things stood at the decree, the plaintiff was a prior incumbrancer under a mortgage in 1726. for the deed in 1724. which the defendants have since brought in before the Master, did not then appear; it was only recited in their deed in 1727. and no relief was prayed under it. The court directed the Master to state the priority of the incumbrances, and to inquire whether there was such a deed in 1724. not determining any thing; and therefore the Master could only report in pursuance of that direction, and leave it to the court to judge upon it; so when that deed in 1724. was discovered by the defendant, and brought before the Master, they thereby gained a priority against the plaintiff; who, not having the least notice of that deed at the time of lending his money, began then to look about for an older deed, which he had no occasion to do before; and having found this in 1694. took it in to protect himself, and produced it before the Master, who would only report as to the deed in 1724; and the plaintiff not prevailing in the motion, has now taken this as the only method to have justice done. Whoever has the merits, it is not proper to cut it short by demurrer. A purchaser for valuable consideration without notice is regarded in the most favourable light. The facts in the bill must be taken to be true: the staleness of this prior incumbrance is no objection; for the court will not by presumption, that it is satisfied, assist against it. The rule is admitted, and, though looked on as a hard case, was determined on principles of equity; which if varied, there will be no knowing where to go. Here the plaintiff has regained his priority; and the law does not stop any where; for wherever it can be done, a court of equity does not impeach it; for though the legal estate has been got *minus juste*, yet the law and equity will prevail against equity; or where equity is equal, the law shall prevail. *Marsh v. Lee*, and 2 *Ver.* 29, and 159. The question then is, whether the plaintiff has lost that priority by not getting it early enough? It is only an interlocutory decree to see, how the priorities stand at that time: that was the ground of the Master's not allowing the plaintiff to come in; because tho'

a lien upon the land, it was not such in the plaintiff, as could at the time of the decree be taxed. Until a final decree there is no judgment. An interlocutory judgment in a bill for discovery of assets is not pleadable, not affecting until it comes to be final: for a judgment to account is only interlocutory; and cannot be used as a judgment. So in the present case; if the plaintiff get a priority before judgment, that equity is got, which always is allowed; and the legal estate is such, as can be tacked to it. In *Ld. Bristol v. Hungerford* there was a report, and therefore probably a final decree. The plaintiff will have the same justice to have this done now, as when the decree was made; at which time if he had got it in, there is no doubt; and it is right to have an inquiry made on a new fact: but he could not bring a bill of review, as that would be praying to have that part reversed, which the plaintiff now desires to stand, that priority may prevail. Suppose articles for a purchase; a decree to see whether defendant can make a good title: if he can at any time before the report, it will be good. 2 *Will.* 630. The law looks on these things to be at the time, when judgment is finally to be given; and then the plaintiff apprehends, he will have a priority; from which he is not to be barred.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Two questions come before the court by this demurrer. First, whether the plaintiff has that equity, he insists on by his bill? Next, supposing he has, whether he has pursued a proper remedy?

The demurrer goes not to the whole bill; so that the whole matter demurred to is not the plaintiff's having satisfaction out of the estate upon the judgment, of which he has taken an assignment; but to that particular point of satisfaction, the preference, he claims, to have the judgment tacked to his mortgage of 1726, so as to give that a preference in point of payment; and upon that this question arises.

As to the equity of this court, that a third incumbrancer having taken his security or mortgage without notice of the second incumbrance, and then being *pursny* taking in the first incumbrance, shall squeeze out and have satisfaction before the second, that equity is certainly established in general; and was so in *Marsh v. Lee* by a very solemn determination by Lord Hale, who gave it the term of the creditors *tabula in naufragio*: that is the leading case. Perhaps it might be going a good way at first; but it has been followed ever since, and, I believe, was rightly settled: but rightly settled only on this foundation, by the particular constitution of the law of this country. It could not happen in any other country but this; be-

Notice.

cause the jurisdiction of law and equity is administered here in different courts, and creates different kind of rights in estates; and therefore as courts of equity break in upon the common law, where necessity and conscience require it, still they allow superior force and strength to a legal title to estates; and therefore where there is a legal title and equity of one side, this court never thought fit, that by reason of a prior equity against a man, who had a legal title, that man should be hurt; and this by reason of that force this court necessarily and rightly allows to the common law and to legal titles. But if this had happened in any other country, it could never have made a question; for if the law and equity are administered by the same jurisdiction, the rule, *qui prior est tempore potior est jure*, must hold. This has gone so far, (and the original case was) that if a *puisny* incumbrancer took in the first incumbrance *pendente lite*, still he should have the same benefit; for in *Marsh v. Lee* there was a *lis pendens*, yet was not the party affected with it; and so, I take it, in general it would be notwithstanding a *lis pendens*; because the principle, upon which all these cases depend, is this, that a man's having notice of a second incumbrance at the time of taking in the first does not hurt; it is the very occasion, that shews the necessity of it. It is only notice at the time of taking in the third, that will affect him; for then no act, he can do, will help him. Then a *lis pendens* is nothing but notice; an actual notice is certainly as good as that by a *lis pendens*; one notice is in consideration of this court as strong as another. Nay actual notice is stronger than that implied by a *lis pendens*; it will not therefore affect him. That was *Marsh v. Lee* and the other cases, which I agree to. But no case is cited, wherein a *puisny* incumbrancer, a party in a cause, and a decree made in that cause for satisfaction of incumbrancers according to their respective priorities, has taken in a prior to tack to his *puisny* incumbrance, that he shall be allowed to make use of that in any other shape, than that original incumbrancer would be. I am of the same opinion, as Lord Cowper was in the *Earl of Bristol v. Hungerford* in general, and do think, it would be most mischievous and pernicious, if the court should allow that doctrine of tacking to be carried to that extent. First, taking it upon the terms of the decree, all these decrees, where there are several incumbrancers before the court, a sale directed, and every thing necessary to be done to clear the estate in order to that sale, proceed on this foundation; that the rights of the parties are to be taken, as they stood at the time of the decree; and therefore direct an inquiry into the priorities. What are those priorities? Such as they stood at the time of the decree: not that afterward the priority shall be varied. The Master is only to inquire, and that is into the condition it stood in at the time of making the decree. It is very different from the case put for the plaintiff, of a decree to inquire as to a good title. Certainly where there is a contract for sale of an estate, difficulties to the title often happen; which must be cleared up afterward; and then, what was said

said for the plaintiff, shall be allowed. But the terms of these decrees are very different. Not to rest upon the niceties of the words of these decrees the sense, reason, and justice of the case require it; for otherwise where an incumbrancer on an estate, which is affected with several incumbrances, brings a bill for satisfaction of his incumbrance, and all proper parties, and has a decree for it as between himself and the owner of the equity of redemption; some of the incumbrancers are prior, others posterior, to his; if it is allowed, that after such a decree is made, one of those defendants who happened to be prior to him, should convey to another defendant, who was *puisny* to him, it would shut out the plaintiff after the decree made, at which time the rights are to be considered. What would be the consequence? Nothing could lay a foundation for greater collusion and contrivance between the parties, to exclude each other, than such a liberty would, and to the great deceit of the plaintiff; for then a man shall lose his costs by such a proceeding, the plaintiff having a right to his debt, principal, interest, and costs according to the respective priorities; and that is the direction of this decree; add here was a sufficient fund according to his then right to pay all that: but after that decree was made, two of these defendants may by collusion give a third incumbrancer more than his debt (and it would be worth while to do so) in order to exclude the plaintiff, who happens to be a second incumbrancer. It would be carrying securities to market in that manner; whereby the purchaser of them shall not only stand in the place of the party selling, but would acquire a new equity, which it would be mischievous to allow; I mean in general cases. This is just the same to persons incumbrancers, who were not parties to the suit, but who will come in under the decree; for they must come in upon and submit to the same terms of that decree, though no parties; and therefore this judgment-creditor of 1694, if they could not make a title without him, must have come in under the terms of the decree to receive a satisfaction out of the purchase-money, but shall not be suffered after this decree made to assign his judgment so as to give a new right to the assignee of it, not only to receive his but to increase that first incumbrance. That doctrine is contrary to the meaning of these decrees, and to the justice of the case, and would open such a door for traffick and marketing between creditors, as would introduce mischief, and therefore is not to be allowed. This is said to be an interlocutory decree, and like a decree *quod computet*: but why is it interlocutory? It is the judgment of the court, and not in the nature of such a decree, *quod computet*: which depends on a different reason. Therefore I never was clearer in opinion than upon this part of the case as to the general right. If the plaintiff can distinguish this from the cases, that might be a different consideration; and that will depend on his manner of charging it: but this is my opinion upon the general right.

But

Bill of review
must be on
new matter to
shew the right
of the party
existing, but
that it was
not known to
him, at the
time of the
decree.

But admitting the plaintiff may have this, or admitting it doubtful, and not proper to close on a demurrer, the question is, whether he has pursued a proper method to obtain that? I am of opinion, he has not. First, taking this as a general question, it is a point, the plaintiff might have come at under the former decree; because there is a direction to take an account of what was due for principal and interest upon all the incumbrances, and to inquire into the priorities of them; therefore taking it upon the general state, he should have come in before the Master, and said, that, though subsequent to the decree, he had taken an assignment of this judgment, which should be tacked to his mortgage, and therefore he had the priority. This question of priority he might have brought before the Master, and that without any new bill, and then it might have come properly before the court upon exceptions: but the Master's opinion will not be a ground to bring a new bill. The utmost, that could be wanting as to bringing a bill, would be this; if the judgment-creditor must have brought a bill for satisfaction, then perhaps the plaintiff standing in his place might; but I do not see, why the judgment-creditor could not, for it was an incumbrance hovering over the estate. But I think it would be a bill in nature of a bill of review with supplemental matter; and indeed on looking over this it looks like a bill of that kind, (but there has not been the leave of the court for it,) for it said in the bill, there is a new matter discovered, What has he discovered? Not a right in himself, but in another person: but that would not be a foundation for such a bill of review; for the new matter must be new to shew that the right of the party, who brings the bill of review, existed at the time of making the decree, but was not known to him at that time. But this is a right in another person, who was not hurt by that decree: but has since taken an assignment of this judgment and prior mortgage, and that is new matter, but not existing at time of the former decree: and therefore I doubt, that will not bring it within the rule. The only thing which can bring it within the rule, is, that in the former cause this mortgage in 1724, was so charged, that the present plaintiff could not know how far he was affected by it; for that they stated it only by way of recital; and that it did not appear, whether that affected the same lands; and therefore the present plaintiff might be misled thereby, and prevented from helping himself and getting this *tabula in naufragio*, which otherwise he might have done. If there is any ground for that, it may create another consideration: but not on this bill in this manner: it might be by bill of review for new matter. The court has so far taken notice of that deed in 1724, as to direct an inquiry as to all the incumbrances, and particularly whether any mortgage was made in 1724, preceding that in 1726. That inquiry was directed, because that did not then appear: but when that inquiry is made, if the Master

finds, there was such a mortgage, that mortgage falls under the direction in the decree to take an account of the several incumbrances: and therefore it is particularly taken notice of in this decree.

I am of opinion therefore, that in the point of equity insisted upon it would be attended with mischievous consequences; but if there is any thing in that, they must come at it in another method, and cannot by this bill. Therefore let the demurrer be allowed.

Kinsey versus Kinsey, August 3, 1754.

Case 199.

PLEA of a decree in a former suit as having determined the matter, wherein the present defendant was plaintiff and the present plaintiff in his answer thereto insisted on the same matter, he had charged by this bill; that there was a decree *nisi* by default, which was made absolute upon no cause shewn. Decree not signed and inrolled cannot be pleaded.

It was said, this bill was filed before that decree and to have a discovery; that the decree cannot be pleaded, because it was not signed and inrolled; and the *caveat* was entered to prevent inrolment, that the cause may be reheard, and both come on together. *Caveat* to stop inrolment for 40 days.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The great objection to the defendant is, that the decree is not signed and inrolled. It is a matter of great consequence to the proceedings in this court; for it often happens, that the court will not delay the original cause by reason of the depending of a cross bill. Indeed in general the court cannot do it, unless something appears to warrant it. So that the plaintiff in the original often happens to get a decree: but the plaintiff in the cross bill may by *caveat* stop the inrolment for forty days, petition to rehear, and bring on both together. Then the question is, whether by the strict rules you can plead that decree, that is not signed and inrolled? You may insist on it by answer; but that is another thing; this cannot be insisted on by way of plea. Let it stand for an answer with liberty to except, and save the benefit to the hearing.

Case 200.

Anonymous, *August 6, 1754.*

Publick
books, as of a
manor court,
ordered to be
produced :
but not books
in private
hands.

MOTION for liberty to examine the books of the manor of *Netherbury* near *Sarum*, to prove the admission of the plaintiff's ancestor to a copyhold estate, which was said to be purchased with notice of plaintiff's title, and this admission being necessary for the plaintiff's title.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I have no authority to make an order to take copies of books of this kind except publick books, as court-rolls, &c. If it is a question between persons, who are tenants of the manor, the court will make an order on the Lord or Steward to produce the court-books. Nay so far I will go, that if a book was ascertained or shewn to me to be a court-book or of the court-roll of the manor, and it got into the hands of another person, I should take that person to stand in the place of the Lord of the Manor or his steward, and make an order on him to produce it ; but that must be first shewn to be a court-book : whereas here is a book in the hands of a private person, proved to be the contrary to a publick book. It would break through all sorts of rules to grant it as to that. The plaintiff may file a supplemental bill, and make the person a party, and so get at it ; but not in this summary way.

Case 201.

King *versus* King, *August 6, 1754.*

Supplicavit
or rule for
surety of
peace, not
discharged,
unless on a
falsity or con-
trivance.

MOTION at the part of the husband to discharge an order for a *supplicavit* on the part of the wife.

It was made on affidavits ; and said to be more proper for friends to interpose than a court of justice.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I think so too : but when it does come before a court of justice, the court must go according to its rules. I never knew a writ of *supplicavit* or rules for surety of the peace in *B. R.* discharged, unless it has appeared to be a mere contrivance and falsity ; and then in a particular instance (or two, I believe) I have known them discharged. The reason is, that they are for prevention ; if therefore the parties conclude, they believe their life to be in danger, the court will not try these facts on affidavits on both

sides in such a case. It must therefore be some strong case to shew, that it was a mere contrivance or falsity that will be a ground to discharge a writ of *supplicavit* or rule of surety of the peace: but here the facts are not at all denied, and I am to take care of the person who swears her life is in danger. I cannot discharge this order.

Lubiere versus Genou, Aug. 6, 1754.

Case 202.

MOTION that depositions in the cross cause might be read on the account directed on the original cause; for though the cross bill is dismissed, that does not vary the truth of the depositions.

Ibid.
Depositions in cross cause, read on the account, though the bill was dismissed.

Master of the Rolls granted it, saving just exceptions.

Ex parte Higham, Aug. 8, 1754.

Case 203.

HUSBAND petitions, that his wife's fortune, near 1000*l.* should be paid out of the bank to him. They had been married about half a year; the wife was lately come of age; and being present in court, was very desirous it should be so; and the husband said, he could make much more of it in the way of trade of a trunk-maker than to make any settlement of it upon his family.

The whole of wife's fortune, present and consenting, not paid to husband.

Lord Chancellor said, though he might do so, he might also spend it; and would not suffer the whole to be paid to him; but let him have the greater part, the remaining 400*l.* to be settled on his wife and family.

Kemp versus Mackrell, Aug. 8, 1754.

Case 204.

ON exceptions to the Master's report for allowing several notes to be brought into the account by the plaintiffs, assignees of *Cordwell* a bankrupt, several issues were directed to try the validity of those notes. They were all found forged after a trial of four days in *B. R.*

Exhibits found forged cannot afterward be said to be immaterial, nor will the court go into other evidence, the verdict being decisive.

It was now said for the plaintiffs, that whether those exhibits were true or false, there was other evidence, which made them immaterial.

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LORD CHANCELLOR.

Whether this is the case of assignees under a commission, or of a person suing in his own right, I must go by the same rule. When issues are directed either on hearing of the cause or on exceptions upon facts of this kind, it is afterward taken to be decisive as to the fact directed to be tried, and as to the consequence of that fact, unless it is a distinct consideration; as where there was a double consideration, whether the deed was forged or not and the consideration of equitable circumstances. It is now said, that whether these exhibits are true or false, there is other evidence which makes them immaterial. If the court should now go into that other evidence, there would never be an end of things; therefore for the sake of precedent I will not do what is now desired by the plaintiffs. The parties must abide by the defence they set up; and if they set up a forged defence, they must rest upon it, and cannot afterward say, that piece of evidence is nothing to the purpose. Therefore I shall take this verdict, found after so long a trial, to be conclusive upon all these exceptions; which must be all allowed in consequence of the verdict; and I will direct all these notes to be cancelled by a line drawn through them, and to remain in the hands of the Master subject to further order.

Costs die with the party, if not taxed. But that is a hard rule and several exceptions are allowed; as where a duty is decreed; or where out of a particular fund though nothing more to be done.

On the original bill against the present defendant's father an account was directed, and costs to the hearing given to him as well as the plaintiffs; but his cross bill was dismissed with costs. He died, and an exception was now taken by the plaintiffs, because the Master had not allowed them the costs of that dismissal.

For plaintiffs, The general rule was admitted, that costs, being a personal injury, follow the rule of law, and die with the person, and there cannot be a revival for costs alone: but though a court of equity follows that rule, it is allowed to be a very hard case, and there are several exceptions thereto: as where costs are connected with the duty, or if there is any fund out of which they are to be paid, tho' the party dies, still costs shall be paid out of that fund. The reason of the rule is, that the decree is at an end: but here the decree subsists, and must be performed throughout, and the two causes are connected.

For defendant. The cross bill being dismissed with costs is at an end; is connected with nothing else, and out of court as much as if it had been a single bill only; and the whole decree is pronounced in the original cause. The plaintiffs might have gone before the Master for those costs. The general rule is admitted,

mitted, and this case is not within any of the exceptions; and then there cannot be a revivor or proceeding for those costs not made a duty before death of the party.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

To be sure the general rule is so; that where a bill is dismissed with costs, and nothing is done by the decree but giving the costs, and nothing remaining to be done; by death of the party before the costs are taxed they are lost: if taxed, there may notwithstanding the death be a proceeding for them against the representative of that party. That is the rule of the court, and the distinction upon which it is founded: yet it has been always said to be a hard rule, and to turn on a very nice distinction, *viz.* whether there has been a taxation or not. The right is as certain before taxation as afterward. Wherever the court sees a reasonable foundation out of that rule, the court always allows it; and I am of opinion this is one of those cases; for wherever any thing of a duty has been decreed, there undoubtedly it is out of the rule; or wherever costs are given out of a particular fund, though nothing more is to be done, the court has taken it to be out of the rule. I determined it so in one or two cases of late; and it is right so to determine to answer the justice of the case. Here is a case heard on bill and cross bill at the same time; the court makes an entire decree; dismisses the cross bill with costs, and then goes on to give the defendant costs to the time of the hearing, and that if any surplus remains, that should be paid to the plaintiff in the original cause; so that those costs given at the hearing were to come out of that fund. The cross bill is considered as one part of the defence: The court has ordered the defendant to pay costs on one part of his defence, and that he should have costs on the other; then should not those costs given against him be deducted out of those to be given to him on the other part of his defence to the original bill? I am not clear, that the plaintiffs could have gone before the Master to tax the costs given against the defendant's father; for he might have said, that there was a long account, and that costs on the original bill were given to him, that therefore one should be deducted out of the other, and that the plaintiffs in the original should not proceed to recover those costs given against him, and leave him to take his chance to recover those given for him out of the estate, until the event of the whole is seen. They are therefore connected together. Here is a long account, and the cross bill is part of the defence to the original. This brings it within those cases, where there is a fund out of which it is to come. I am of opinion therefore, the Master ought to allow these costs.

Ante.
White v. Hay-
ward, 25 July
1752, and
Johnson v.
Peak.

Case 205.

Tudor *versus* Anson, August 9, 1754.

Defect of surrender of copyhold, supplied for widow, children, but not for a grandchild, or natural child.

AT the hearing 22 July last, the defect of surrender of the copyhold to the uses of the will was directed to be supplied in favour of the widow and children; the court declaring it need not be said they were unprovided, for the father was a judge of that; but that a grandson or natural child has been held not within the rule, and *a fortiori* a cousin of the testator is not.

It is supplied for creditors, where no other real estate, and a general devise of real estate after a direction to pay debts.

A petition was presented by the creditors to rectify the minutes by extending the direction to them; the will being introduced with these general words, "*I will, that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid and satisfied*" The testator left no other real estate; and therefore the general devise will carry the copyhold; and be a charge for payment of debts in aid of the personal estate; 1 Ver. 41. 2 Ver. 29, 708; and Lord Warrington's case; and Colley v. Mickleston 20 May last, where the words were, "I will, that my debts and funeral expences be first paid and discharged," and then followed particular distinct devises of his real estate.

This was not opposed, it being the intention of the court at the hearing; and Lord Chancellor ordered the defect of surrender to be supplied for benefit of creditors, if the personal estate proved not sufficient.

Case 206.

Ex parte Dumas. Aug. 9, 1754.

Bankrupts. Merchants a-broad draw bills on correspondent for a particular purpose, and remit other bills to answer that: the correspondent becomes bankrupt: those bills remaining unnegotiated must be delivered up by assignees, or the money received by them thereon, to the original owners.

TWO houses of merchants were correspondents, *Dumas and Co.* at *Paris*, *Julian and Co.* at *London*, and they had in general a dealing between themselves. During the course of that, and not long before the bankruptcy of *Julian*, the former drew bills of exchange to the amount of 1115 l. upon the *Julians*, with an order to place those to a particular account marked letter G. The *Julians*, partners here, accept those bills, and in their answer expressly declare, they will place them to that particular account. The partners at *Paris* soon after draw other bills of exchange on other persons here for the sum of 1146 l. 11 s. 11 d. these they send to their correspondents the *Julians* with a direction to place them to the account letter G; and it was sworn that this was done in order to answer and reimburse the *Julians* for what they should pay upon the bills so drawn before upon them. The form-

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er bills not being paid when due, are sent back protested; and the *Julians* become bankrupt. Part of the latter bills of exchange remaining unnegotiated at the time of the bankruptcy, to the amount of 580 *l.* the petition prayed, that the assignees under the commission should return those bills, or that, if they had converted them into money, they should account for the money received on them.

The assignees objecting that perhaps the petitioners at *Paris* had not paid those bills, it was ordered to stand over to have that fact cleared. Affidavits to that purpose were now read.

For the petitioners it was now insisted, that those bills, which remained in specie at the time of the bankruptcy, and were sent over to be appropriated to a particular purpose, which could not now be answered, should be considered as the property of the drawers, who had paid them on their coming back, and not as cash in the shop or as blended with the bankrupt's estate and become part of their property, so as that the petitioners should be only as common creditors. *Julian and Co.* being all along indebted to *Dumas and Co.* these bills remitted to them are only authorities to them to receive so much money on account of *Dumas and Co.* which they may negotiate for valuable consideration: but receiving them only for a particular use as agents trustees, that use being absolutely at an end, the authority is revoked thereby; so that if upon these bills becoming due the *Julians* had received the money on them, it would not be on their own account, but money had and received to use of the drawer; and then the assignees, if they have converted them, can only stand in place of the bankrupt. This court, and courts of law go as far as they can in cases of bankruptcy to follow the property. If goods can be traced, before the property is converted, the original owner shall have them, notwithstanding they were consigned to a factor, who might have sold them. So in other things liens are allowed in that case. *Trower* might have been maintained for these bills upon shewing the particular circumstances, and that the property was then remaining in *Dumas and Co.* These bills therefore must be considered distinct and separate from those which had been negotiated by the bankrupt in his time; the money received upon which cannot be pursued, as being changed into the property of the bankrupt, and vested in his assignees.

In order to narrow this, *Lord Chancellor* said, it might be a very extensive question, whether the property of these bills in point of law remained in the petitioners, so that they might maintain *Trower* at law. They were all made payable to *Julian* or order; and then he doubted no action of *Trower* could be maintained; for
the

the property of the paper will follow the *chose in action*: but it would be sufficient, if they could be made trustees for the petitioners; and suppose they had remitted over goods, would it not come to the same case?

For the assignees. There is no specifick lien upon these bills; they were part of the general estate of the bankrupt; who cannot be considered as a trustee, but as acting in general as a merchant, and these as general remittances, and not appropriated to a special purpose; for though to be placed to the account G, meaning (as it is insisted) the house at *Cadiz*, that is in fact to the use of their house at *Paris*: for the house at *Cadiz* was their own, and belonging to the same partnership; so that it cannot be said to be on account of another house, but accepted to the use of the partnership in the general account between them. Then the special circumstances of the case not shewing any trust, it is within the ordinary course of negotiating bills of exchange, and comes to the general question, whether such bills, remitted and indorsed to *Julian* or order, (by which the property is vested) and remaining unnegotiated, are to be considered on the same foot as goods undisposed of in the hands of a factor (which are held to be the property of the merchant who sent them over) or as cash? This is a question of great consequence to trade in general. No authority is produced, where they have been considered otherwise than as cash in the hands of those to whom they come; as from their nature and the consequences they seem to be. In general they are of the nature of cash; are discounted with bankers soon after their coming to hand, and are considered as part of their substance or stock; as they have credit in proportion. These bills might have been negotiated immediately before or after the day of payment at discretion. The remitters themselves must have considered them so; as otherwise they could not answer the purposes for which they were remitted; which was to enable the *Julians* to pay other bills which would become due sooner. Beside, there was an actual treaty not long before the bankruptcy was entered into for the assignment of these bills in trust to pay the bankrupt's creditors; which assignment is an appropriation of them, independent of the first question whether they were cash or no. But it will depend on the taking the general account, in which the amount of these bills must as cash be considered as an *item*, and applied as the balance shall appear; which, there is reason to think, will turn out in favour of the bankrupt against the petitioners on the general account; and which ought to be set against the balance on the particular account.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This appears a very plain case to intitle the petitioners to these bills remaining unnegotiated, amounting to 580 l. It is true it is a question (if a question at all) of great consequence; and that may be said either way: but I think, it is of the greater consequence the other way: and turns against those, who urge that: that is, that one man's property, whether a chattel in possession or a *chose in action*, may not be dissipated to pay another's debts. It is true, the general end, intent and view of the laws of bankruptcy is to level all creditors, and that all, which belongs to the bankrupt, may be equally divided among all without regard to superiority in point of law: but that is the bankrupt's estate, and therefore whatever is both in law and equity his, is so liable in an equitable proportion but if the subject matter of the question is not the bankrupt's estate in point of law and equity, especially if not in equity, the consequence is, that it is not considered in the distribution as his estate, but that the person intitled either to the legal interest for his own benefit or to the equitable is intitled to have that to himself in *specie*: for the assignees under the commission take the estate of the bankrupt and any legal interest in the bankrupt subject to all the same equities, as it stood in the bankrupt at the time of the bankruptcy: otherwise the admission of commissions of bankruptcy would be intolerable, for it would so change the property as not to be endured. Consider, how far courts of law and equity have gone. All shall be equally divided among the creditors: but if that bankrupt was a factor, and his principal abroad had sent over to him a parcel of goods by consignment to him or his order (as these bills of exchange are made payable) which come to his possession, and he might (if he pleased, or if he had an opportunity) have sold them the next day, and taken the money, in which case the party could only come as a general creditor upon his estate and taken his dividend, yet notwithstanding that legal property the factor had in, and power over them, if they remained in *specie* in his hands, it has been determined over and over, that those goods being in the hands of the factor unchanged shall be delivered to the principal, who has a lien upon them as his own property, and the bankrupt only as trustee and agent for him. And this has been determined contrary to the words of the *Stat. 21 J. 1.* which took up so much debate in *Ryal v. Rowles*, which statute says, that all effects in the hands of the bankrupt, or in his controul, power, &c. shall be divided among the creditors: yet as the business of a factor is a distinct thing, and they were not put into the hands of the factor for a fraudulent purpose, that has been considered as a case out of that act of parliament in order to support the right of the parties, and not to interrupt the course of commerce. Even courts of common

Intent of bankrupt laws to level all creditors; but as to the bankrupts estate only; for assignees take it subject to all equities at the time of bankruptcy.

Factor, to whom goods are consigned, has a legal property or power and may sell, and principal only a general creditor: but if unchanged, has a lien on them; or upon notes taken for them.

Ante, 27 January 1749-50.

law have gone further : there was a case not long ago in the *Common Pleas*, in which the factor had sold the goods, and taken notes for them ; it was determined (I believe) that the original owner had a specifick lien upon and was intitled to those notes : though they held, that if the money, which has no ear-mark, had been received, it would be different ; so far it has been carried in the case of a factor. Then consider the present case, and the state of the evidence : this is endeavoured to be compared to the case of a general transaction ; but I do not take it so, but that these bills were drawn to be appropriated to particular purposes, not only for that account *letter G.* but to answer and reimburse the *Julians* those bills which they accepted. The account *G.* meant the account of the house at *Cadiz* ; it is said to be the same person's with the house at *Paris* : but I take it not so, and there is a distinct person. The *Julians* never paid those bills they accepted ; consequently were intitled to no indemnity or reimbursement for them. When those bills drawn on other persons came into the hands of the *Julians* indorsed, they might have negotiated and discounted them, and received the money, which I could not have followed, and would have a right to retain certainly, and did so as to part : but as to that part they did not, the question is, what must become of them ? Now it would be very hard to say that these bills should go to be distributed among all the creditors under these circumstances. The ground upon which that is contended for, is, because they are *choses in action*, and the bankrupt might have disposed of them ; and so he might. Suppose, instead of drawing bills on others to reimburse them, they had remitted a cargo of goods to answer that, and they had come to the hands of the *Julians*, and remained undisposed of, the court would consider the *Julians* barely as trustees as to those goods, and would have ordered them to be returned, because not sent to answer the general account, but for a particular purpose which the *Julians* had not answered, and were not damnified ; and consequently they remained in their hands as trustees for those at *Paris* ; and this court is to consider, as if the legal property was still in the original owner. It is attempted to make a kind of assignment of these bills so as to affect them before the bankruptcy, as disposed of before the bankruptcy : but that must be laid out of the case, for nothing was done upon it, and therefore no alteration of the property of these bills : after the bankruptcy the bills remain in the hands of the assignees and in the same case : the acts of the assignees will not alter the rights. It is said, there is reason to think, *Dumas and Co.* will on the balance of a general account be debtors to the bankrupt ; and then that notwithstanding these bills are remitted over to be placed to a particular account, they will consider that as their account ; and therefore if they are creditors on the balance of a general account, the money on these bills may be applied to answer that, though remitted to a particular purpose : but it clearly appears, that *Dumas* and

and *Co.* are not debtors on the general account, but that the *Julians* are. However supposing the contrary, the consequence would not have been that, which is inferred, that the whole of these bills should be considered as part of the bankrupt's estate; but it should be taken upon the foot of mutual demands upon the act of parliament, and that whatever was such balance, should be deducted, and not deduct the whole. It appearing therefore that *Dumas and Co.* have paid and taken up all the bills amounting 1115 *l.* drawn on the *Julians*, and their acceptance being struck out and discharged, and also that the assignees have since the issuing the commission of bankruptcy received the money on the remaining bills amounting to 580 *l.* let the assignees pay that sum to the petitioners or to such person as they shall appoint.

5 G. 2.
On mutual
demands the
balance only
deducted.

Earl of Bath *versus* Earl of Bradford, *Octob.* 26, 1754. Case 207.

LORD BRADFORD makes several leases with covenant for quiet enjoyment during the term. By his will he creates a trust for payment of his debts, *viz.* that the trustees should by mortgage or sale of a competent part of the estate raise so much money to pay debts and legacies, as the personal estate was not sufficient to satisfy.

Interest.

The tenants under those leases are after his death evicted by the remainder man, and bring actions at law against the executors, and recover.

The person, to whom a real estate was devised by the will until the defendant Mr. *Newport* came of age, joins with the trustees in paying off those debts and taking assignments thereof.

The Master being directed to compute the debts of the testator computes interest upon these debts: the report is made in 1753. and absolutely confirmed without exception.

The question now upon petition and exceptions was, whether the defendant Mr. *Newport*, who was a lunatick, and committees appointed, should be let into the exceptions to the report?

That interest should be allowed on these demands were cited *Carr v. Lady Burlington*, 1 *Will.* 229. and *Maxwell v. Wettenball*, 2 *Will.* 26.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Lessor cove-
nants for quiet
enjoyment,
and devises in
trust to pay
debts; lessee
evicted reco-
vers against
executors, and
assigns the
judgment: it
is a debt by
specialty, and
assignee inti-
tled to inter-
est.

The first question in the natural order of things is, whether there is sufficient ground for the court to let in the defendant to take exceptions to the report; and this from the circumstances of his person, being a lunatick, and the custody committed under the seal of this court; and also (for both ingredients must concur) by reason of injustice having been done for want of proper care taken of that person? All these reasons must concur to induce the court to take such a step; for that must be determined before the entering into the merits. This brings it to the question arising upon the petition; which question must be determined upon the ground of those ingredients, that is, the disability of Mr. *Newport* to take care of himself, and there having been injustice by neglect of his interest. But though that is so in the order of things, it is proper for the court to take into consideration for the saving time, whether or no, if I saw sufficient ground upon the first point to give him relief, there would be so on the latter point; for if substantial injustice is not done, the court would not give that circuitry: and I think, upon considering the latter that will prevent entering into the other.

Lunaticks.

I will not enter into the question, whether there is a difference as to a lunatick's or an infant's being concerned. I agree, in consideration of law and the strict rules of the court, there is a difference: but as to the discretionary power of the court to give a liberty of this kind, I know no difference.

Ante,
Barwell v.
Parker, 22
July 1751.
Lloyd v.
Williams
1740.

As to the two cases cited at the bar, I doubt, if one of them is considered, it is contradictory to the standing proceedings in this court; that is, that where a man creates a general charge by will for payment of all his debts, that shall make simple contract debts carry interest as well as others. I do not say, I give an absolute opinion upon it: but I take it, that such simple contract debts shall not carry interest, unless there is a particular ground for the court to say so. I think, it would be very mischievous to lay down such a rule: it would frighten people from doing that justice to creditors, by creating that kind of trust, which an honest man ought to do, where he has reason to think his personal estate not sufficient. I will make some observations upon those cases. As to the first of them I do not take the opinion of Lord *Harcourt* there to be founded on the general course of the court. It is said there *by this trust term*; and no doubt but a trust term may be drawn so as to induce the court to do it; and, I believe, it was so there. What words might be in the clause there to induce the court to think it was intended, there should be a compensation for delay of payment to the simple contract creditors as well as the others, I cannot tell: but

On general
charge by
will to pay
debts, simple
contract debts
carry not
interest.

there is a particular clause, giving ground to think there was such. Next as to *Maxwell v. Wetenhall*, it is so laid down in general in that book: but there are two observations to be made. First no state of a case is there; and it is always very difficult to apply the resolutions of a court laid down in that general manner, especially in a court of equity where cases depend on circumstances: it may be otherwise of a court of law. Another observation arising upon it is this; I am inclined to think, that arose on the Master's report; and then the question might be only of giving interest from the particular time.

But laying these two cases out of the way, I will determine it on the particular circumstances of the case; and upon that I am of opinion, that these creditors, that is, the persons standing in the place of the creditors by paying off the debts, are intitled to have interest.

As to that I will consider it in two lights. First, supposing Lord *Bradford* had not created any trust by will for payment of debts, but let his estate descend to the heir, or made a plain devise to a devisee, which would be void as to creditors by the statute of fraudulent devises; and in the next place upon the foot of the trust.

As to the first consideration what would have been then the case? This is not a simple contract demand, but a debt, a demand arising by specialty, a covenant under hand and seal. Taking it against the executors, it is a demand by specialty, by covenant. A circumstance occurs to me, which shews how far the court go to do this. Supposing a writ of error had been brought in the *Exchequer Chamber* by the executors upon these judgments; I am of opinion, interest would have been taxed in damages; for it is the course of that court, where the rule is to tax interest in costs for delay of execution; and I have done it frequently. That shews it is in the power of courts not only of equity, but of law, to do it. But to put another case, (I am now on a supposition that there was no devise to break the descent, or such a devise as before mentioned) suppose they had brought an action against the heir at law, or against the heir at law and devisee jointly: if the heir in case of a descent, or heir and devisee jointly in case of a devise, had come in and confessed real assets (which in justice they ought to have done) in that case there would have been judgment against them for the debt to be levied out of the estate: but because it could not be known how much the value of the land descended is *per annum*, there would be a writ of inquiry to the sheriff, and then the judgment would have gone on, that the sheriff should deliver the lands to the plaintiff, *donec debitum prædictum levaverit*: that would have been the judgment. Upon that the sheriff makes an inquiry in nature of an extent; fixes the ex-

Interest taxed in damages on error in Exchequer Chamber.

The judgment against heir or heir and devisee jointly on a devise void by 3 & 4 W. & M. cap. 14. according to extended value the lands delivered by the sheriff to plaintiff. No relief in this court according to real value, but on paying interest

tended value, which is always much below the real value of the land, and delivers them to the plaintiff according to that. What remedy would the heir, or the heir and devisee have? By *scire facias* to have an account and the lands delivered back: a court of law would have done that only according to the extended value by the sheriff. All, that could have been done, would be to come here to have it extended according to the real value, and to have it back afterward. But upon what terms? Upon paying interest; for otherwise this court would not have extended their equitable arm to assist the heir at law or devisee, but according to equity, by making him answer satisfaction and do justice. This shews the opinion of the court, what is the just and equitable way of proceeding.

Devise in trust
to pay debts,
is out of the;
statute of frau-
dulent devises.

But here is a devise that takes it out of the statute of fraudulent devises; because it is a devise to trustees, and the first trust is for payment of debts; which takes it out of that: therefore there could be no relief for creditors but by coming into this court; for they could have no action against the heir, or against heir and devisee jointly. The personal estate must have been first applied, whether there had been such words in the trust or no. Then consider, whether there is a ground for the court to give interest. One thing is plain; that all these creditors might have joined in a bill for satisfaction of their debts, or all have brought separate bills to have had a performance of this trust by mortgage or sale of this estate for that purpose. Then the court must have decreed for the raising, by mortgage probably as this is a great estate, and considering the circumstances of the person; and the moment that mortgage was made, the money it is clear must have carried interest. Then how is the defendant Mr. *Newport* or his estate prejudiced by what has been done? It has prevented the sale or mortgage of that estate, and saved the expence of all those separate bills. Why therefore should not they be considered by the court as standing in the place of those creditors, avoiding that circuitry? It was objected, that though the court would certainly upon bills brought by the creditors have decreed by raising the money by mortgage or sale, yet the trustees could not have done it by joining with the person who had this particular chattel interest. But I am of opinion, that the trustees might; for they are not to wait for a decree of this court for the raising the money; which would oblige every person to come here: whereas they might do it without that, and therefore it has been common for trustees to do it fairly by sale or mortgage, and this court, if it came before them afterward, has always supported it. Decrees of this court do not give rights, but are only for an execution of that trust and power. But it has been further objected, that however that is, the master has no authority to give this interest; for that that must be upon a special case, laid before the court at
the

Trustees to
pay debts may
fairly raise by
sale or mort-
gage without
waiting for a
decree.

the hearing, so as to intitle to and pray a direction for interest for these demands. I think that would be the more regular method; and it might be an omission, and not attended to. It is generally required, that a special case should be made: but what would be the consequence of that objection? If it was the right of the parties, they might come at it certainly by a rehearing or supplemental bill. Then I am prayed in an extraordinary manner to open this report, which is absolutely confirmed without exception, and without any objection laid before the Master before the making the report, in order to ground any exception, and by reason of the disability and circumstances of Mr. *Newport* to let him in to that advantage. Ought the court to do it, when they see substantial and material justice done? Certainly not upon any point of formality; and the consequence would be, that Mr. *Newport* or those in his place would not thank the court for it; for it would create a new expence and a new cause; then further costs: and yet the same justice must be done.

I am of opinion therefore, that this petition ought to be dismissed; and I will order the exceptions with a declaration, that in justice the assignees of those judgment-creditors are intitled to interest.

Tomkyns *versus* Ladbroke, *July* 27, 1755.

Case 208.

STEPHEN JENKINS, a freeman of *London*, on the same day executes a will and a deed; by the last of which, he assigns 5000 *l.* part of his personal estate to trustees to the separate use of his daughter, who had married without his consent, but with whom and also with her husband, it appeared plainly he had been reconciled; but part of the trust of this deed was, that she should not have power to give it to her husband.

Custom of London. A freeman on same day with his will, by deed assigns part of his personal estate in trust to separate use of his daughter; he was then aged seventy-two; in the gout; and died in two days; the daughter had been married without consent; but he was reconciled. It is a testamentary disposition, in fraud of the custom, and may be disputed by daughter's husband. fact

At the time of making this disposition he was about seventy-two, and afflicted with an asthmatick gout; and, though he grew somewhat better before his death, died in two days after.

The husband in life of his wife brought this bill to set aside this assignment.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I shall not found myself in my opinion upon any of the aggravating circumstances of the cause; which, having been forgot in the family, should not be now revived. Nor shall I found myself upon an opinion of evidence or supposition of actual fraud; which in fact

1 Wil. 634.
 2 Ver. 666.
 Where wife
 of a freeman is
 compounded
 with, her
 third accrues
 to the whole
 estate; and
 she is consider-
 ed as dead.
 2 Ver. 665.

fact does not appear to be in the persons transacting this. Nor can I much blame Mr. *Jenkins* himself in what he did; for he looks to have intended a very reasonable disposition under the circumstances, provided he had a power to make such a disposition. My opinion therefore, and the decree I shall make thereupon, will be founded only on general principles as to the custom of the city; and, as Lord *Cowper* has said, I must not make a decree to defeat that custom. In that litigated case of *Blunden v. Barker*, (in which I was of counsel) precedents were mentioned. First *Hall v. Lumley* so long ago as in 1640. where the court, dissatisfied with a certificate that had been given in 1635. sent it to be reconsidered; and thereupon a certificate was made directly contrary to the former, the last being, that where there was a composition with the wife, the wife's third part should accrue to the whole estate, she as to that part being as dead, and that to be divided. More modern cases are *Hancock v. Hancock* in 1710. by Lord *Harcourt* on appeal, and *Rawlinson v. Rawlinson* in 1714. It is true, there was a certificate in 1704, when Sir *Salathiel Lovel* was recorder: but there the custom had not been found out by him: and therefore it is now a settled point as in *Hall v. Lumley*, and that upon great consideration. The marriage here was without consent; but that must be laid out of the case, for the daughter must be considered as a child married with consent because of the reconciliation.

Then the considerations are first, whether the plaintiff the husband is a person proper to call in question the act done by the father of his wife to defeat, or in fraud of the operation of the custom, as to his own benefit, or whether that is confined to the child? Next, if he is proper, whether the act of the father, the assignment of this 5000 *l.* is in fraud of the custom, against which he is intitled to be relieved?

Settlement to
 separate use of
 freeman's
 daughter an
 advancement
 as between the
 children, and
 brought into
 hotchpot:

As to the first I am of opinion, that the husband of the daughter of a freeman is a person proper; and not only the child, but any person standing in right of that child (as the husband does) has that right. Suppose the father died without any will, or without doing this act, the husband would be intitled in right of his wife to his own use, to what came to his wife, except that this court would oblige him to make a reasonable settlement; he would undoubtedly, and this upon the custom in right of his wife; it would be inconsistent otherwise; the husband has a consequential right; it arises from the custom, contingently at first, and vested in him in right of his wife after the father's death. But it is said to be determined, that a father may advance his daughter by a settlement in trustees for her separate use, part of his personal estate, and that this has been held an advancement of a daughter; and therefore that act by the father in giving this part of his personal estate to his

his daughter for her separate use, being an advancement, shall bind the husband: the case cited for the defendant of *Cox v. Belitha*, 2 Wil. 272, is right, that it shall be considered an advancement for a daughter, that it shall be brought into *hotchpot* to prevent fraud between the father of the wife and her husband to the prejudice of the other children: therefore that does not tend to the point, how far the husband is intitled to be relieved against an act of this kind: it only tends to shew, that as between the children themselves they shall be so intitled. Another case, cited to shew that the husband could not controvert this, was *Merewether v. Hester*, 5 G. 1. before Lord King; where a freeman gave part of his personal estate to the separate use of his daughter, who was married; the daughter and her husband both survived the father; and the husband after the father's death suffered the wife to enjoy it to her separate use, and died; and his representatives would have called this in question as coming to the wife by virtue of the custom, and the husband intitled to it, and the settlement to her separate use void: but the court held otherwise, because the husband let the wife enjoy it so long: but if the husband had, as in the present case, immediately after the father's death called it in question, and insisted on his matrimonial right, *non constat*, what would have been the determination there. That case goes upon this; and where a freeman by will disposes of his whole personal estate between his wife and children, and after his death the wife has submitted to the will, (not by declaratinon in writing, but without disturbing it), and the wife dies, and her representatives bring a bill for an account, insisting that the wife was intitled to her share by the custom, and that her husband's will was void, the court has denied that relief to the representatives of the wife in several cases; because her enjoying it under that was an evidence of her assent, and upon that principle only, not to disturb things long acquiesced in families upon the foot of rights, which those, in whose place they stand, never called in question. These cases then being laid out of the way, the general question is, whether the husband is a proper person to call this in question; and if not so held, it would destroy the whole faith and credit as to the custom of *London*. The very custom supposes, that that inchoate right (if I may so call it) of the child of a freeman is a ground of advancement of marriage. If then that is the general reason, and if the father might by a collusive act vest that share, which would accrue to the daughter, in trustees for the separate use of the wife, it would destroy all faith of that kind. It is true, that notwithstanding a freeman may in his last illness lay out his personal estate in land; that goes upon a supposition, which the custom does not make: for the custom goes on a contrary supposition, that a freeman as a trader would not lay out his personal estate in land. But though that was in the power of the father to have done, it is not to be brought into consideration. Therefore considering the intent

but her husband may be relieved against it, if he does not acquiesce, yet must make a reasonable settlement,

Freeman's widow, acquiescing under his will, bound.

Freeman may in his last illness lay out personal estate in land; but the custom goes on a contrary supposition.

and the matrimonial right of the husband, though it was an act done for the wife, yet if it excludes him, he may take advantage of it. But not only the husband, but the child itself, is concerned; for it tends to give power to the father to tie up and bind it so, that the child itself should not have a right over it; and that appears by the trust in this very case, that she shall not have power to give it to the husband. A father has not that power to bind the property of a child. This might be very unjust and uncharitable; for suppose a husband reduced to distressed circumstances, and the wife reconciled to him, and desirous to make some provision for him, by this deed her hands are tied up from so doing; therefore such a deed as this is what the husband has a right to call in question in this court.

Freeman may on his death-bed by act give away any part of personal estate, if he reserves no power over it: but there must be the clearest evidence of enjoyment under it, or that it is not a testamentary act in fraud of the custom.

The next consideration is, whether there is a ground to call it in question upon the acts that have been done? Upon this I divest the case of any fraud; and I wish, they had taken it upon the foot, Mr. *Jenkins* meant it: but I think, it appears to be an act in fraud of the custom. It is said, that a freeman may by act in his life, and *in extremis*, give away any part of his personal estate, provided he divests himself of all property in it: though if he reserves to himself a power over it, that is considered as void. Indeed in general those propositions are right; but then where there is any case of such an act by a father upon his death bed, and no evidence of actual possession or effect of possession or enjoyment during life of the father, (which could not be here indeed), then the consideration is, what construction ought to be made upon the nature and intent of the act done? It appears to me, that this act of the father was in nature of a testamentary act, done at the same time as he made his will; and therefore must be judged to be an act in fraud of the custom, though not in actual fraud. Then the general question is, how far a freeman is allowed to do this; and to use the words of Lord *Cowper*, If this is allowed, it would defeat the children's customary shares. Here was a man aged seventy-two, had a dangerous and a flattering distemper, had a fit of it then, and thought proper to make a will and a disposition of his affairs, executes a will and a deed both at the same time (as it seems) and dies in two days. This is a case as to the custom of a very suspicious nature. This was not much above a third part of his personal estate; and as to all the testamentary part, he might have told his daughter, that if she insisted on the interest of this 5000*l.* during his life, he might dispose of that testamentary part to her prejudice: there ought therefore to be the clearest evidence of an enjoyment under it. It is said, that if the father had lived, the daughter would be intitled immediately to receive the interest of it; but I am of a different opinion: for it is a mere voluntary assignment of an equity, and passes no legal estate. Suppose in the father's life

life the daughter had brought a bill against him and the trustees, to compel payment of the interest during his life; and the father had opposed it, and said, it was true, he had made such disposition, but he meant to have the interest during his life; the court would not decree it for her, being merely voluntary and *nudum pactum*. Then consider, upon what tender ground I stand; and how hard it is to say, this is not an act done in illusion of the custom; being done under these circumstances, executed together with his will, it is right to consider it as a testamentary act, and that that was the view of the father. It would certainly be so in the case of creditors: but that is not the present case, although in some cases the child of a freeman is said to be a creditor: but that is only an analogous expression. As to the cases cited, first from *Detbick v. Banks*, 2 C. Rep. 48. no inference can be drawn, nor can I tell what to make of it. As to *Hall v. Hall*, this comes pretty near to that ^{2 Ver. 277.} case; for all these securities remained in the hands of the father still without being delivered up. Next *Turner v. Jennings*, and ^{2 Ver. 612.} considering the accumulation of reasons of that decree, one is, that the deed being just before the death must be considered as *donatio causa mortis*; so is this to be considered, though not strictly so; and therefore it is a fraud upon the custom. Upon applying the reasoning in that case to the present this has all those particulars, which attended that: which explains the meaning and nature of the act, and is a corroborating evidence together with his not delivering over the securities to the daughter, that he intended to retain the interest of it during his life.

Then this 5000 l. falls into the bulk of the personal estate; and as to the testamentary part must go according to his will; as to the other moiety, the customary part, it belongs to the husband in right of his wife.

But it must go to the master to see for a proper settlement upon her; which has been the general rule. The only objection thereto is, that here are other provisions for the wife's separate use; but that is not a reasoning, to which I can give way: for there are several cases, where there are settlements by husband on wife, and before marriage, yet if a great accession afterward comes, the court will not suffer him to exhaust great part of the wife's property notwithstanding those other settlements before, and much more so where there is no provision: let the Master therefore settle it.

In *City v. City*, 2 Lev. 130, the custom was tried upon an issue. I cannot conceive how that could be: nor do I know what to make of it. *Levinz*, though a good lawyer, was sometimes a very careless reporter.

I make this decree for the sake of the precedent ; for I do not know, if one was to allow of these dispositions, how far they might go, though done with a very upright intention.

Case 209.

Moore versus Moore, June 28, 1755.

Bill of review.

A Decree having been made at the *Ro'ls* in 1743, but not signed and inrolled, a bill of review was brought for matters existing before : but no petition to rehear or appeal.

John Moore, nephew and one of the executors of *Charles Moore*, was made party to the former bill as executor, and, as the plaintiffs insisted, acted as executor, and ought to be decreed to account in that cause for so much of the estate of testator as had come to his hands, it now appearing (which was not then known) that 2500*l.* part of the mortgage-money had come to his hands before the putting in his answer in that cause. He was not decreed to account, and therefore refused to account under that decree ; and, that that ought to be now set right upon this discovery, relief was prayed against him as executor named in the will, though he never proved it, (but a power was reserved to him, when the others proved it, to come in and prove at any time), or as trustee of part of the personal estate of testator, which he was in the mortgage ; and next that he might be called to account as a debtor to the estate by having actually received the money (as he now admitted) from the mortgagor before his answer in the original cause.

In general this demand arose from hence ; that there were three legacies given by the will of *Charles Moore*, one of 1000*l.* another of 1000*l.* which were to be paid at twenty-one or marriage, and another of 500*l.* by another clause and charged on the freehold and copyhold estate of testator ; which copyhold the testator surrendered to the use of his will in 1706 ; that was presented in 1723, and by his will devised to his grandson, provided he should pay to his three executors 500*l.* to be paid in two years after his decease ; and that the interest thereof and of another sum should be paid to the maintenance and education of the children of *Henry Moore*, and the principal to be divided among them as the executors thought fit.

Two objections were made against *John Moore's* accounting as to these sums : that he was accountable only to the executors, who proved the will, he himself never having proved or acted : but if he was to be called to account by the legatees, it was not proper in this way by supplemental bill in nature of a bill

bill of review with new matter; but only by original bill charging him with colluding with the executors to defraud, or that the executors were insolvent and that it was not proper to let the estate come to their hands. The only foundation to decree him to account as executor is meddling in the administration of assets, of which here is no averment. If an action lays against an executor, who pleads a co-executor, and does not aver he administered, plaintiff may demur. A debtor happening to be made executor, and refusing to act, was not charged as executor but as debtor: though upon a special case charged and proved of insolvency of executor and collusion, the debtor will be decreed to account originally. If he is then to account as debtor to the estate, he must have allowance for payments by him to the executor; and if they are good payments, his being named executor does not charge him with administering. The executor might sue him; and then he may pay without suit. The executor is the proper person to receive. If several trustees join in a receipt, and one actually receives, he is only liable in accounting. As to executors it is so to a certain extent different between creditors and executors: both joining in receipt, or one receiving and paying over to the other, both are liable in point of law, and therefore liable here; because courts of equity found the rule established at law, where courts of law had concurrent jurisdiction, and therefore could not vary it: but in accounting between them and legatees or persons intitled under the statute of distribution, they can only account in this court, and are considered merely as trustees. 1 *Wil.* 241. 1 *Sal.* 318. He must then have such allowances, and account in the capacity he was originally liable to the testator, as his trustee or debtor, not as executor.

Next as to the 500*l.* whether the plaintiffs could affect the copyhold estate therewith in equity; both the mortgagee and the grandson, owner of the equity of redemption, insisting that the testator was only tenant in tail of this copyhold, which could not be barred by surrender to the use of the will; especially as that surrender was not well presented; for not being presented until several years afterward, several courts intervened, and so it was not the next court. But supposing it not intailed, or the intail barred, yet the estate has borne its burthen in this cause, consequently there is no ground to affect it; for that *Thomas Moore*, one of the executors, entered on the lands, possessed them several years, received the rents and profits, and became insolvent.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

This is not a proper bill of review, but is brought upon the foundation of that order I made *October* 17. 1745. Though
 Vol. II. 7 N a bill Improper bills of review put under the like restraint as the

others: but a bill of review could not be brought upon a decree signed and inrolled for new and supplemental matter in being at the time of making the decree, but discovered and come to knowledge afterward, without leave of the court and making deposit of 50*l.* yet, if the decree had not been signed and inrolled, they had got into a way of supplemental bills in nature of a bill of review at large without deposit or leave of the court at all, and then brought a petition to rehear or appeal. This was growing into abuse; and several of them were brought for vexation. To put these improper bills of review under the like restraint as the other, was that order: but then it is absolutely necessary to have a petition to rehear or appeal to bring the former properly before the court. Here is a supplemental bill in nature of a bill of review with leave of the court before the decree was signed and inrolled, upon making such deposit as is required; but without any petition to rehear or appeal; which I must have, before I can enter into it or make a variation. One reason of making that order was, that men were at a great expence obliged to sign and inrol; which was absurd. But here is more than matter of form: there is matter of substance. The rule upon a strict and proper bill of review is, that the decree can be varied only upon such errors as are complained of, whether errors on the face or errors of injustice, upon this new matter on the real merits of the case; unless any consequential matter arises; for if there is a consequential direction, the justice of which depends entirely upon the variation made; the court may vary that consequential direction in favour of justice; and that is the practice in the *House of Lords*, who will vary a decree in favour of the respondent in any matter consequential to the relief they give to the appellant. It is the same on a bill in nature of a bill of review: but that is not so at the *Rolls*. If there had been a petition of appeal, that cause would be entirely open: but the cause shall not go off for that, but before I pronounce my decree, they may prefer such a petition.

July 8, 1755, *His Lordship* pronounced his decree.

This cause stood over not so much for doubt (unless as to a particular point) as to make the proceedings regular; that is, that a petition of appeal might be preferred; which has been done; and the decree now must be all taken as of this day.

The matter before the court is upon a new bill, partly supplemental in nature of a bill of review with new matter said to be existing at the time of the former decree and discovered since, and partly original as against the Mortgagee, and on petition of appeal from the *Rolls*; all of which are distinct.

First

First to consider the relief prayed by the supplemental bill against the nephew, who is several ways attempted to be called to account; and certainly in some shape the plaintiffs are intitled to have this part of the personal estate of the testator applied according to the will. I am of opinion, that neither of the objections made is a sufficient answer against his being called to account. I do not go upon this ground in directing an account against him, his being a trustee of part of the personal estate and the trust-money coming to his hands after the testator's death, which makes him debtor to the estate; that that is sufficient to call him to account as executor, or that he is for that reason to be considered at law or in this court as acting as executor; for then every man happening to be trustee in a mortgage, or trustee as to part of the personal estate, and happening to be named executor in the will, will not be able to discharge himself from it: that would be carrying it much too far. Nor do I lay it down as a general ground, that every one trustee of part of the personal estate of the testator, may in that respect only be called to account by a particular pecuniary legatee; for that would be carrying it too far. Such trustee is proper to be called to account by executor or administrator; which is a discharge as to him, if he fairly accounts; and he is not liable to every creditor or legatee. But yet this case is under very particular circumstances; that when made executor, he never renounced, but the other two executors proved the will; he was made a defendant by those legatees to have a general account of the personal estate; and he now admits by his answer, that before he put in the original answer, he received this whole 2500*l.* and the interest due on it upon the mortgage. I think he ought to have disclosed that by his answer; he should have gone on, as he does now, that he had received that part of the testator's personal estate. If he had, the court would have decreed him to account for that part come to his hands; for when an account is decreed, where there are several parties in different rights, all having received, are according to the common course of the court decreed to account, though not named executors or in that right. But on another ground, if this matter had been disclosed, he should be then decreed to account, that he was debtor to the estate and named executor in the will, which is a release of the debt; and this whether he proves the will or not; for his co-executors cannot sue him, or have an action at law against him for this demand; it is extinguished by making him one of his representatives; and if it should be said, that the other executors might sue him at law, as he does not prove, they may, but he might come in when he would, because of the power reserved to him to come in and prove at any time: therefore if this special matter had then appeared, I am of opinion, that he was proper

Account. Trustee and executor not proving the will, but receiving trust money, may be called to account, but not as executor; and have proper allowances before the Master. The executor or administrator is the proper person to call him to account, which is a discharge as to him.

to be called to account. The next consideration is, whether it is proper by bill of review in this way or by original bill? I am of opinion, it is proper by bill of review; for if this matter now charged and shewn against him did exist at that time (as it did) and if upon the other head it would have been a ground to have directed him to account in that cause, had it then appeared, the consequence is, that he is liable to be directed to account on this bill in nature of a bill of review with this new matter, which existed then, and has been since discovered. The only question is in what shape; whether to be charged with all this money and interest, or to have the allowances he claims of sums paid by him to the acting executors. This is not sufficiently ripe for me to determine; because the circumstances of it do not appear; these allowances will be proper before the Master; for under certain circumstances he may be allowed, under others not. It is true, that he, standing trustee in this mortgage for *Charles Moore*, owner of the surplus of the mortgage-money, might have paid to the testator part of this original money, and would then stand in place of testator as to so much as he paid off; and if done to the testator, it could not be objected to: but it is different, when he pays it to the executor; for any circumstances that might make a *devastavit*, and the executor becoming insolvent, might vary the determination: so payment to the executor should go to sink the interest before the principal, though paid otherwise by him. But all that is proper before the Master, and I will reserve the consideration of interest and costs until that account is taken.

Appeal.

Whether residuary legatees paid by executor shall refund to legatees who were not to be paid immediately.

Another matter arises on the words of the former decree, and is now properly before me on the appeal (as the decree at the *Rolls* is not signed and inrolled) which is an error complained of in dismissing the bill with costs as to the account prayed of the surplus of testator's personal estate. I own, I cannot conceive how that came to be directed, when the next clause directs a general account of the personal estate; and that part of the decree must be reversed to make it consistent. The consideration is, how far there is a right to call on the residuary legatees to pay back money they have received as to the surplus from the executors on account of the personal estate? That is hard after such a length of time and no proof of fraud. I do not doubt, but that might be done as to debts: but here is something particular in this case; all these three legacies were to remain in the hands of the executors, and not then to be paid. Were the residuary legatees necessarily to wait until all these particular legacies became payable, before they received a voluntary payment from the executors? It is hard to say that: the testator has trusted the executors with this money in their hands, they have not.

Next

Next comes the point as to the 500 *l.* with which it is insisted, this copyhold is chargeable, which must be considered as to the mortgagee and as to the grandson owner of the equity of redemption; it is to extend this decree for the sale of the copyhold, and to apply the money arising by sale, and that the mortgagee may join therein as having taken his mortgage with notice, &c. The question is, whether the plaintiffs can affect this in equity? I am of opinion there is no ground in a court of equity to affect the mortgagee, but sufficient to affect the owner of the equity of redemption. As to the great objection made to this; that there was in fact an intail of this is plain: but as to the custom for creating an intail in this manor, that is not made clearly to my satisfaction. All the books say (except those which go on the particular notion, that copyhold estates may be surrendered in fee *vel aliter*, &c.) that it takes in all kind of estates, lesser as well as greater. But that is not satisfactory; for it is hard to say that will take in a particular kind of estates under the *stat. Westm.* 2. formed and created only by that statute; it is strong to say that, though there are cases that go so far. Others say, that before the *stat. de donis* there might be a custom to create estates tail in manors; for that what was done by the statute, might be by the custom: but then that is a particular custom not arising out of the general custom of tenures capable of being surrendered in fee *vel aliter*, &c. All the books upon this say, that it is not sufficient to shew, that lands have been granted to men and the heirs of their bodies; but to shew that by custom an estate tail might be created, you must shew that there have been surrenders in tail with remainders over, (for otherwise that may be a fee simple conditional) or that the lands had been enjoyed for such a length of time, have gone so long in a course of descent according to the limitation, as to exclude the supposition of a fee-simple conditional. Nothing of this is proved: but supposing there was, here is a surrender to the use of the will, and that is insisted to be sufficient to bar it. I think that estates tail in this manor may be barred by a good surrender; for upon this point, concerning which there is a surprising variety and diversity of opinion, I have always thought, that where there is a manor, in which copyhold might be intailed, either by special custom, or by that general doctrine of a surrender in fee *vel aliter*, &c. if a custom did not appear to bar by recovery in that manor, they might be barred by surrender; because otherwise it would create a perpetuity, and make estates unbarrable; and that was the opinion of Lord Cowper in *White v. Thornborough*, 2 *Ver.* 705; and there have been cases at law that way; and so are the modern cases: though the old cases are both ways, and, I believe, most of them the other way. But here is another point, that

Copyhold.
Intail of copy-
hold barred by
surrender tho'
to use of the
will only,
where no in-
stance of bar-
ring by reco-
very.

To shew a
customary e-
state tail it is
necessary to
shew remain-
ders over, or
long enjoy-
ment, so as
to exclude a
fee simple
conditional.

this is a surrender only by tenant in tail to the use of the will, and therefore supposing a common surrender parting with the estate could do it, yet this parting with nothing until death, here the descent in tail shall be preferred. This came in question in *C. B. Pasf. 1750, in Carr v. Singer*; where three judges against *Willes C. J.* held, that a surrender to the use of a will was sufficient to bar the estate-tail. They first held, that a common surrender would bar the intail of copyhold; for there was no custom of barring by recovery; and next that a surrender to use of a will would. There *Isaac Singer* died in 1746, without issue, seised of the copyhold premises as tenant in tail general by virtue of an intail created by his father to himself and the heirs of his body upon his wife. The son had six sisters, one of which was lessor of the plaintiff. There was a custom admitted for intailing lands. In 1746 the son was admitted to hold to him and his heirs in tail; so that he was admitted in tail *secundum formam doni*; and, at the same time he was admitted, surrendered those premises to such use or uses, as he by deed in writing or will in writing should direct, limit, or appoint according to the custom. He declared only by his will; and devised the copyhold in question to one of his sisters, paying 50 *l.* apiece to the rest; "but if I have no power to devise and dispose of this estate, I revoke those legacies of 50 *l.*" which shews, he doubted his power to do so. One instance was found of a surrender to bar an estate tail; but under that surrender it did not appear what had been the enjoyment: that therefore was nothing; and it was found in the cause, that there was no instance in the manor of a common recovery barring estates tail. So it is here; and the question there was, whether the intail created by the father is or is not barred by the surrender by the son and his devise. The judgment was, that the surrender to use of the will did well bar the estate tail. This goes a great way; and upon this foot only I should be fully of opinion, that by the surrender to the use of the will the estate tail was well barred; and if one was to examine it, (which there is no occasion to do, as there are these authorities), there is a strong argument for it; for a surrender to the use of any other person passes the estate; and so it is in a surrender to the use of the will: for the estate passes by the surrender, and then comes within the same reasoning. But another objection is, that this surrender is not well presented. By the general custom of copyholds a surrender ought to be presented at the next court, as appears from *Lord Coke*: but by the special custom of a manor it may be presented at any subsequent court. What is the custom here does not appear: that is not a ground for me to determine that the surrender is void. Therefore after all that has passed, and this uncertainty, this is a reason why I should not give relief against the

Surrender by
general custom
of copyholds
to be presented
at next court:
but may by
special custom
be presented
at a subse-
quent.

the mortgagee upon this point; and it is greatly strengthened by the other point, that this land had borne its burthen. *Thomas Moore* was trustee in possession, and receiving the rents and profits, if he receives sufficient to answer the charge, in general cases the land is disburthened; for you ought to have looked out, and must resort to the trustee and compelled him to execute the trust; and then shall not come against the land again. This mortgagee saw the trustee all the time in possession, and therefore had reason to think the estate had borne its burthen; this is therefore a corroborating reason not to affect him; nor will I at this distance of time direct a trial. As to the owner of the equity of redemption it is true, that these points might concern him as well as the mortgagee; and another point has been mentioned that might concern him, that he has a legacy by the will, and should be put to his election: but that is out of the case, for unless he had his legacy, I should not put to election. If a man intitled to an estate not well devised from him by will, but by the same will has a legacy given him, and a power in the will to a trustee for him during his minority; it is paid to the trustee; but if he loses that legacy by failure of that trustee, and receives no satisfaction for it, I will never carry that rule in *Noys v. Mordaunt* to that extent, as to put him to make his election merely because the trustee received that legacy for him during his minority. But it is not within *Noys v. Mordaunt*, for he was not owner at the time: the estate tail descended to his father, who might bar him; but, because he has not barred, shall you be put to your election, when you had not that option at the time? But he has submitted to sell, and does not complain of it; and therefore there is no ground to enter into that point as to him; but as to the doubtful point as to the surrender it is just as to him, that the decree should stand as to the surplus of the money. As to the other point he defends himself by, that his estate has borne its burthen; there is no ground for that, although the mortgagee might say so; as to whose mortgage there is no ground to relieve: but the defendant the grandson, as to the surplus, is liable to answer the principal and interest, that shall be found due for the legacy of 500 l.

Trustee in possession becoming insolvent, mortgagee may say, the land has borne its burthen, and is not affected: otherwise as to the owner of the equity of redemption, who is not however put to election by a legacy received by said trustee and never paid to him.

Carr on Demise of Dagwel *versus* Singer,

May 25, 1750.

Case 210.

In C. B.

This case is cited in the foregoing.

EJECTMENT. Verdict for defendant as to part, and for plaintiff as to part. The verdict for the plaintiff was the subject for the opinion of the court.

Isaac

Intail of copyhold barred by surrender to use of will, where no custom by recovery or surrender. By three Judges against Willes Ch. J. who thought it might be by recovery without a custom, and therefore not by surrender.

Isaac Singer died Oct. 30, 1746, without issue, seised of the premises in copyhold as tenant in tail by an intail created by his father to the heirs of the body of the father on the body of his wife. The father, beside *J. S.* left six daughters, whereof the wife of the lessor of the plaintiff was one. A custom was found in this manor for intailing copyhold lands. *J. S.* the son was admitted into the premises to hold to him and his heirs in tail according to the custom; and he surrendered into the hands of the lord to such uses as he should by any deed under hand and seal attested by witnesses or by last will or writing so attested limit or appoint. He made his will devising the customary messuages and premises in question, which he had surrendered to the use of his will, to one of the defendants. Upon the rolls of the manor there was found one single instance of a surrender to bar an estate tail; but it did not appear what enjoyment was under that surrender: and no instance was found on the rolls of a recovery suffered to bar estates tail.

The case having been twice argued, the court taking time to consider now delivered their opinions.

Birch, J.

The question is, whether the estate tail, created by the father, is or is not barred by the surrender by the son and the devise in pursuance thereof. As it is admitted, there is a custom in this manor for entailing copyhold lands, it must be admitted, there is some method to bar such intails; or else there would be a perpetuity, which the law abhors: and I think, this surrender is a good bar to this intail. Three methods of barring were mentioned. First, by recovery in the Lord's Court. Secondly, by surrender. Thirdly, by forfeiture and re-grant; of which last kind instances are found in 5 *Sam.* 422. 2 *Keb.* 127. 1 *Sid.* 314. *Sti.* 452. but all those cases are restrained to the manor of *Wakefield* in *Yorkshire*: therefore this method of barring may be laid out of the case. As to the recovery it must be agreed, that 1 *Roll. Ab.* 506. B. 2. tenancy in tail of copyhold may be barred by common recovery without custom. *Mo.* 637. by special custom. *Cr. E.* 3^o 391. otherwise, and for a considerable time these recoveries seem to be looked on as discontinuances only, few ancient cases going so far as to hold them to be bars without special custom. In *Snow v. Cutler*, *Ra.* 162. it was held by *Keeling* and *Twisden*, the recovery of copyhold doth not dock the remainder without custom. So 1 *Lev.* 136, where all the judges agreed, that if it was an executory devise, it was not barred by recovery according to *Pell v. Brown*; much less in case of copyhold

hold which is not barred without custom. Comparing together these cases and others in *Dan.* 192. the effect of a recovery without custom upon estates tail is plain, and is out of the present case; and consequently the surrender must take place. This is the only method of barring copyhold intails remaining to be considered; and it seems the easiest and most natural way; a surrender seeming the foundation of copyholds. But it is said, that a surrender without a custom is no bar, according to *Co. Lit.* 60 B. Supposing a recovery without a custom works not a bar according to *Snow v. Cutler*, and can only make a discontinuance, a surrender must be a bar. But there has been one instance in this manner, which has a tendency toward a custom; because a custom begins first by a single instance, as in the case of a carrier, and is often taken in a restrained sense, not necessarily importing time out of mind. In *Cr. E.* 484. surrender by tenant in tail of a copyhold makes a discontinuance. Indeed it is difficult to reconcile the cases on this head in the same book. In 148 surrender is held no discontinuance without custom: but that seems wrong, for surrender by custom is admitted to be a bar by the custom; therefore one would think, that according to 484 it must be a discontinuance without custom. In 2 *Ver.* 583 and in 702, Lord Cowper's opinion is that where there is no recovery by custom, a common surrender will bar the intail. But it is objected, that though in some cases a surrender might bar a copyhold estate tail, yet this surrender to use of the will shall not because it passes nothing; and he might do what he would with it. This is indeed like all other cases depending on wills, that nothing at the time of making passes; no immediate interest until death of testator: but if not prevented by any intermediate act, the interest certainly passes at his death: and there is no case making a distinction between a surrender taking effect immediately and further taking effect at the death. Wherever there is a custom to surrender, which will bar an estate tail, it is always held, that a surrender to use of the will will bar the intail also. There are therefore but few cases, where a recovery without a custom is held a bar. Even in 1 *Roll. Ab.* there is a *Dubitatur*. In many cases in *Cr. E.* such recovery is held only a discontinuance. In 2 *Ver.* a common surrender will do where there is no particular method in the Lord's court; and a recovery without a custom is of no force; and as in this case it appears, there is no such custom, and in fact no recovery at all, the consequence is, that a surrender will bar the intail, of which there is one instance. It is proper to establish this method by surrender; and the rather as *Chancery* has a concurrent jurisdiction with all courts in these cases, frequently considering how far a surrender should be supplied, &c. This method also tends to the security

and the quieting the title and possession of the copyholder : but a recovery, if examined into, would be found very inconvenient in some respects, as in 1 *Ver.* 368. in this method it is hardly possible to mistake. The verdict therefore for the plaintiff ought to be set aside.

Burnet, J.

I must concur in that opinion. The whole of the case comes to this. Here is a manor, in which custom has established the intailing of copyhold, and no method of barring ; for one instance so modern will not weigh with me ; and an instrument without enjoyment is not an instrument. I will consider it in the light it was at the bar. First whether recovery without custom to warrant it will bar ? Next, whether surrender without custom will ? Lastly supposing a surrender will, whether this kind of surrender will have that operation ? But it is necessary to premise, what will not be disputed, that neither the custom nor the *stat. de donis* alone will establish it, but both must co-operate, and will then produce a regular intail of copyhold ; for which might be cited *Co. Lit.* 60. B. and 3 *Co.* 8. for it was once *rex a quaestio*. Next it will be admitted, that a custom intailing will be void, if there is no method of barring ; and therefore the law will introduce a method of unfettering that estate : nor can an estate tail be granted on condition not to bar it. *Co. Lit.* 224. 1 *Ven.* 322. It was contended, that as this surrender was to take place *ex necessitate*, there might be intended a way by forfeiture and regrant ; which not being stated in the case, the court will never doubt of what is not submitted to it : but if we were to enter into that, there would be a great deal of doubt as to the validity of that custom : and it is certain, that all the cases thereof relate to a particular manor. That, which is submitted to the court, is, without a custom which is the proper way, recovery to surrender. To consider therefore the first point : there are two books, for which I have great esteem, where it is laid down rather as an opinion than a resolution, that such a recovery would bar. In *Kitchin* 176, and 178, it is his reasoning and delivering his own opinion, not the determination of any court. 1 *Roll. Ab.* 506. goes further : he seems to chalk out some method, he thought would do it, and mentions a *dubitatur*. That case was before *Rolle's* time, and does not depend on his own collection, but must be some note he received ; and in the next term 44 and 45 *Eliz* the same court did not look on *Morris's* case as a resolved case. But the opinion of *Kitchin* and of *Rolle*, if it stands, must stand, on what is in *Lit. sec.* 76. that plaints in nature of a real action may be in the Lord's Court : but it will not

not therefore be certain, that a warranty could be annexed to such an estate, and consequently that there can be voucher and recompence in value, which is the foundation of barring in common law courts. If no warranty could be annexed, it can only work a discontinuance, which will not avoid a perpetuity; because there may be a re-continuance of the estate-tail; and this point is doubted by several authorities. The remedies of parliament were not of such easy access as of late years. The necessity of a trading country making the *stat. de donis* a general inconvenience with relation to the power of not alienating, the courts here introduced a complete remedy, the legislature an inadequate one, not perfect as to the remainders, though absolutely good as to the issue in tail. The courts here built feigned recoveries upon the foundation of real recoveries in real actions: and it seemed hard, that lesser people should not have the same power of transferring their estates of copyhold (which was only a base fee originally) as the greater had. In process of time, when common recoveries were confirmed and most favoured, there were some manors, in which custom had introduced a new method of barring; which was the occasion of a litigated question in the time of K. H. 8. and pursued in the time of Q. Eliz. The first case was 27 H. 8. *Bro. Tit. Recovery in value*, Pl. 27. In Dy. 373. the court inclined, that a recovery in the court of *ancient demesne* would work a discontinuance. Then comes *Dell v. Higden*; which is the first case, where *dubatur*. In Mo. 358. it is mistaken; for he gives it as a bar: whereas in *Cr. E.* 372. *adjournatur*. In *Co. Entries* 206, is the whole of that case; and Coke says, he looks on it only to work a discontinuance. 1 *Roll. Ab.* 634 says, Coke was mistaken, for that it is rather a bar, upon the strength of *Morris's* case. *Cr. E.* 380. the court agreed, it was a discontinuance: but not whether it was a bar or no. *Cr. E.* 391. held it a discontinuance, but that it could not work a bar. In *Cr. El.* 907. this would not have been reckoned as a point of doubt, if the court were conscious of such a judgment in *Morris's* case just before. In Mo. 753. there is a *dictum*: but it might as well have been said, whether a grant of tenant in tail would work a discontinuance, for undoubtedly a surrender could pass nothing, but what the tenant could convey, and could no more work a wrong, than where a thing passes by grant. It is there said indeed, there might be a recovery in the Lord's Court, which will bar the intail, but not whether there was a custom for it; for I admit, it might be, if there was such a custom, *Cr. E.* 391. being directly contrary to *Morris's* case, so shortly mentioned in *Rolle*, and *Cr. E.* 907. being the next year to *Morris's* case, it seems to stand on the old books *vexata quæstio*, of which there are great opinions either way; *Kitchin* and *Rolle* against *Croke* and *Coke* and later

later authorities; the first of which is *Cr. C. 42.* which was the only case, where that point came under consideration of the court; the next is *Snow v. Cutler*; upon the strength of which and of some authorities, I shall mention under the next head, a recovery without custom to warrant it will not be a bar to an intail of copyhold. The next question is; whether a surrender will; as to which there is *Co. Lit. 3 Co. 8. 1 Brownl. 1 Sho. 288.* Indeed in *Skin. 307.* the words of *Holt* are general: but I will understand them in the restrained sense in *Sho.* This opinion, that where there is no recovery by custom a common surrender will do, is mentioned by Lord *Cowper* in *2 Ver. 583.* which indeed was not the point he needed to have considered: but though this is an opinion only, his next determination *2 Ver. 702.* is delivered as a judge upon the very point in judgment. My opinion therefore is, that the same rule must hold, that a surrender of copyhold will be a sufficient bar of the intail, where there is no recovery by custom to bar it. As to the third point according to *1 Bul. 200.* and many other cases, I can consider the will only as a declaration of the uses of the surrender. The will is the same as if it had been inserted by matter *ex post facto* in the surrender, and will have relation; which is determined in a case of a similar nature. *Co. Lit. 59. B. and Cr. 7. 199, 200.* This surrender therefore is a good bar of the intailed copyhold; and consequently the whole verdict must be entered for the defendant.

Willes Chief Justice.

I am the less concerned at differing in opinion in the present case, because, tho' I cannot concur in the point of law, yet I think the opinion of my brothers attended with less inconvenience than mine; therefore am glad it will prevail: and I differ but in one point. I agree, that an estate tail in copyhold is not created by custom, but custom, co-operating with the statute; and agree, that if it may be created by custom, some way to bar it must be found out to prevent a perpetuity. Whether the custom will be void, if there is no method of barring, I doubt. I agree also, that a surrender will bar such estates, if there is a custom for it, according to the express words of *Co. Lit. 60.* and Lord *Coke* would never have said, that if an estate may be created by custom, a surrender by custom will bar it, if it was then established, that a surrender without a custom will bar: his opinion therefore must be, that there must be a custom to make a surrender good. If there is no other way to bar, I admit, a surrender would without a custom from necessity to avoid a perpetuity: but if there is a way of barring, there is an end of that question. Forfeiture and regrant is not an adequate argument, that there is no occasion for a surrender. I will not enter into that,

because it is not before me, but should at present rather think, that if there was a manor, in which such a custom existed, that custom would bind all the parties, and that might be a good way of barring: but although without a custom it might be a bar, it is not such a method as will preclude the other, because not in the tenant's power; for unless there be a custom, if the lord will not consent, it cannot be done, and is therefore no method at all. I agree also, that if a surrender will bar, this surrender to use of the will will do it. It is objected thereto from the absurdity that would follow in other cases, which I do not concern myself about; as that if tenant in tail can bar, it must be by some act in his life, whereas a will cannot take place until after death, and the surrender and will making but one conveyance the surrender operates not until after death, and then it is absurd to say, a man can bar, after he is dead. That has already received an answer; and further, when there is a will and admittance, that has a retrospect to the surrender to all intents; and it is therefore a bar from the time of the surrender, not from the death of the testator: otherwise a surrender to use of the will would not bar survivorship in the case of joint-tenants. In *Co. Lit.* 59 *b.* taken notice of in 3 *Lev.* 385. are parallel instances to this. But I cannot think, a surrender will bar, if there is any other method. If a recovery will do, there is no necessity of a surrender to bar: but there is plainly no custom one way or other. A custom must be time out of mind; so that one instance has no tendency to a custom. I think, a recovery without custom will bar; and if so there is no occasion for a surrender to bar. *Lit. sec.* 76. Plaints in nature of real action may be in the Lord's Court. *Kitchin* (a book of good authority, and the rather because founded on old determinations not advancing fancies of their own) is clear, that such recovery will bar, making a distinction between recovery with voucher and without. Except *Cr. E.* 391. there is no case before *Snow v. Cutler*, where it is said it will not bar; but many cases, where it is said it will; some, where *dubatur*. In several cases it is said, that with voucher they will be a bar, without voucher only a discontinuance. *Cr. E.* 391. does not appear whether with voucher or not. I should rather think it implied from Lord *Coke's* inclination, that a recovery will bar without custom, though he has not said it. Consider the other cases since; but first as to an objection to these recoveries barring from the reason of recoveries barring in cases of freehold, *viz.* the recoveries in value the remainder man has, which cannot be in copyhold cases because to the Lord's prejudice; it is well known to be nothing but a fiction; the common vouchee is to make satisfaction; and I cannot argue merely from a fiction, or say that a thing, which is a fiction in the case of freehold, shall be a reason why recovery in case of copyhold shall not bar. This would be a strong argument against barring either by surrender or recovery with custom, because there is

no satisfaction ; which would go too far : therefore as to the reason of the thing there is no objection. I do pay great deference to the last case ; though not so great as to say it is always binding : but no deference to cases is due, without they appear to be the point in question : and there was no occasion in *Snow v. Cutler* to determine that point at all. I cannot look on that as an authority, and much less the cases cited out of *Ver.* against the authority of the former books. I have a great regard for a court of equity, and for Lord *Cowper's* memory ; and if this had been the point in question, and sent by him upon his doubting to a court of law, that indeed would have great weight : but there was no occasion to determine that there : nor is *Vernon* a very exact reporter. I agree with the particular method mentioned by Lord *Cowper* : but this *vexata quæstio* was not at all considered there. As a recovery may be suffered in the Lord's court, I cannot think, a surrender will bar : but am satisfied, that unless this comes to be the established opinion, great inconvenience will arise to copyholds, and wish, the legislature would remedy it : nay I hope, my brother's opinion will determine it : but I cannot think, the law is so. The occasion of this method is from the ignorance of stewards of copyholds, who know not how to suffer a recovery, and therefore chuse to do it by surrender.

My brother *Abney* before his death declared himself of opinion with my two brothers : therefore a general verdict must be for the defendant.

Case 211. *Southby versus Stonehouse, June 30, 1755.*

THE daughter of Sir *Nicholas Crisp*, being intitled to a very considerable fortune both real and personal, the former of which only was now in question), intermarried with the defendant. Articles were made before the marriage ; but what they were, did not appear. Afterward a settlement was made of her estate by two deeds ; the first in *July 1740.* which comprised her estate in *Wiltshire* ; the other in *May 1748.* comprising her estate in *Oxfordshire*.
 Estate tail, in a will.
 Feme covert by will pursuant to power leaves to husband
 " all the profits and revenues of my estate of A and B. for life ; and after his death my said estates to my children, if I should leave any to survive me ; but if I should leave no such child or children, nor the issue of such, the said estates to J. H. making him sole heir in default of issue and after the death of my husband." The children take an estate tail, not fee simple and the remainder to J. H. is good ; not a contingent executory limitation on her dying without children living at her death, but a general dying without issue.

The first was to trustees and their heirs during the lives of husband and wife to preserve contingent remainders ; and the trust of that estate was declared to be to the separate use of the wife for her

her life ; and after her decease the trustees were directed to pay the profits to the husband for his life, or so much as she should direct and appoint ; and after decease of the survivor of them it was declared to be to the use of such child and children of them for such estate and estates, and in such shares and proportions, manner and form, limitations and conditions, as the wife should limit or appoint by act in her life, or by will, or writing in nature of a will ; in default of appointment, to all the children equally to be divided as tenants in common and their respective issues with cross remainders in tail ; if only one child, to such one child and the heirs of its body ; in default of such issue, to such person or persons as she should appoint ; in default of appointment and of issue, to the defendant the husband for life, remainder to her own right heirs.

By the second deed of the *Oxford* estate a term is created to raise money, remainder to trustees during the joint lives of husband and wife for her separate use, and afterward to the husband, and after decease of the survivor as she would appoint ; in default of appointment to the husband for life, reversion to the right heirs of the wife.

In execution of this power the wife in 1751 made a will, taking notice that she had notwithstanding her coverture by her marriage-settlement power to dispose of her fortune, as she should think fit, and desiring her executors to dispose in manner following, with this clause ; “ *Item*, I leave and bequeath to my dear husband all the
“ profits and revenues of my estates at *Buttermee* in *Wiltshire*, as
“ also all the profits and revenues of my estate at C—— in *Ox-*
“ *fordshire*, both for his natural life, subject to the payment of an-
“ nualties ; and after the death of my dear husband I give and be-
“ queath my said estates to my dear children, if I should leave any
“ to survive me : but in case I should leave no such child or chil-
“ dren nor the issue of such child or children, and after the decease
“ of my dear husband, then I give and bequeath the said estates
“ to my worthy friend *J. Hutton*, making him hereby sole heir
“ of this my last will and testament in default of issue left by me,
“ and after the death of my dear husband.”

At the time of making the will she was with child, and was brought to bed of a daughter *Anna Benigna Stonehouse*, and died not very long afterward. The daughter survived her mother, but died without issue an infant of tender years, and at the time of her death left the plaintiff heir at law on the part of her mother, who brought this bill claiming to be intitled to the reversion in fee of the estates in question, to have care taken of the deeds and writings concerning the title of the estate, and to restrain the tenant for life from committing waste ; she left also an uncle her heir at law on
the

the part of her father; and *J. Hutton* claimed the remainder in the will of her mother.

Lord Chancellor taking time to consider of the case, now delivered his opinion.

The question arising upon this state of the fact is a question of construction; for the court must make such a construction as is most reasonable and warranted by the words and intent. The relief prayed by the bill (if the suggestions therein are right) is an ordinary relief for a remainder man or reversioner in fee against the tenant for life, and for the equal benefit of all parties interested; but as to the latter part of the relief prayed (which if the facts warrant it, is proper) there is no proof of any waste committed, or of an attempt toward it

Writing in nature of a will by feme-covert under a power not a proper will and the appointees take under the power coupled with the writing. Yet it has effect of a will to three intents; the words have the same liberal construction; it is ambulatory until testator's death, whom appointee must survive, and can take only from testator's death.

Before I go to the particular point, I will lay down three principles, by which I shall govern myself in my determination, and by which all cases of this kind are to be governed. First, this is not a proper will, but a writing in nature of a will by a feme covert in virtue of a power reserved to her in two deeds of settlement; and therefore whoever takes under this will, takes by virtue of the execution of the power and by the power coupled with the writing, and as if the limitation in that writing of appointment had been contained in this deed creating the power; for they take from the author of the power. But notwithstanding that, though such writing is not a proper will, it has the effect and consequence of a will to three intents. First, the words are to have the like construction as if it was a proper will; for otherwise there would be a strange confusion in the construction of writings, if they were to have one construction where proper wills, and another where improper; the words therefore of such writings are to receive the same liberal and beneficial construction as the words in a proper will. Secondly (and that is the second principle I lay down) such writing in nature of a will, though not a proper will, is ambulatory until death of the testatrix; and therefore though the party taking thereby takes by virtue of and under the power, yet notwithstanding that, such appointee must survive the testatrix, before he can take. Next, if they do survive the testator; thirdly they can take only from the time of the death of the testator, that is the consummation of the writing; and then they do not take as from the time of the power, but the operation and effect is only to take and vest the estate from the time of the consummation of the act by the death of the testator. So far such writing has the property of a will. These points were fully considered and so held by me in *The Duke of Marlborough v. Lord Carlisle*, though there was no particular case where it was so determined. The next principle, I lay

lay down, is, that it appears, the testatrix intended to dispose of and to execute a power over her whole estate, and to die intestate.

Next as to the points in the case; and there is really and truly but one question; that is to determine what estate the infant took on the death of her mother: all the other questions will follow the determination of that.

Three constructions have been put on this will, and the interest the infant took upon the death of her mother. First, for the plaintiff it is insisted, that she took an estate tail, but that as to the reversion in fee expectant thereon, that did not pass by the will either to the heir or to *J. Hutton*; that *J. Hutton* had not an absolute vested remainder, but only a contingent executory limitation upon her dying without any children living at the time of her death; which event not happening, *J. Hutton* the remainder man cannot take; and therefore the reversion in fee upon the estate tail being in this event not given away, descended to the daughter from her mother as her heir at law, and then it must descend from her to her heir on the part of her mother. The construction put for *J. Hutton* is this; thus far he agrees with the plaintiff, in saying that the daughter took by the devise an estate tail: but afterward they divide, and *J. Hutton* insists, that the reversion in fee expectant on the estate tail did not descend from the mother to her, for no reversion in fee was left to descend, but the remainder in fee is devised to *J. Hutton* upon a general dying without issue, which has happened, and attached now in possession. The uncle insists, that neither of these is the right construction, but that the infant took an estate in fee by virtue of the devise; for that it is a devise of the fee with a double aspect according to *Lodington v. Kime*, that is, the fee simple itself to take place in different persons upon the event happening one way or the other; and that may be good and clear law, that though a remainder cannot be mounted on a fee, yet there may be a fee-simple with such a double aspect, which is not a remainder mounted on a fee: and therefore he says, that the infant would take this estate by virtue of the appointment, but referred to the power, and consequently as if her name was inserted in the power, and so by purchase, and then to her heir on the part of the father, not of the mother.

Eq. Ab. 183.
Fee simple
with double
aspect, not a
remainder or
a fee.

I will first consider the construction put by the uncle, to lay it out of the case; for I am of opinion, that I cannot construe this a devise of the fee simple to the infant. That it is not so, appears plainly from the words of the will. A good deal has been said at the bar concerning the passing the inheritance by this will, and in what manner; and that the fee passed by virtue of the words *all my*

Eq. Ab. 178. *estate*, according to the general words in *Lady Bridgewater v. Duke of Bolton*, that *estate* is *genus generalissimum*; in answer to which a distinction was made, that this was local, describing only the thing, not the interest in it, and therefore that was not sufficient to carry the fee. Now if it rested upon that, I should think otherwise; because it is not certainly determined, that the barely saying *all my estate at such a place* without more words is to be considered as so local as not to comprehend the interest in the thing. *Wilson v. Robinson*, 2 Lev. 91. was local: and yet the court held, that *all my tenant right estate*, notwithstanding the locality of the subsequent words, was a devise of the fee, and carried the estate and interest in the lands as well as the lands. It is stronger in the present case from the distinction made by the testatrix, that when she gives to her husband, she gives by express words the usufructuary interest, *all the profits and revenues*; when she gives to her children, she gives *all my said estates*; and that shews a different intent, that one was only as a gift of the present profits during life, the other as a gift of her whole interest. But this point is not necessary, and therefore not quite proper to determine. But here are words of limitation added by the will; and then whether the testator uses the words *lands*, or *tenements*, or *estate*, it is the same; for then the words of limitation shall govern what the appointee or devisee shall take, and not the general words. I am of opinion upon these words, that they create an estate tail in the child or children; and the particular reasons for that I will give under the next head. But I think, the court can never construe it to give them a fee simple; for where there is such imperfect will, as this is, and the court is compelled to make construction upon the words to answer the intent, the court ought to make a reasonable construction; and there would be an absurd consequence from construing this a devise in a fee simple to all the children; the consequence would be to make a construction, that if she left issue of a child or children living at the time of her death, this issue must take this estate; and if all the children are to take a fee simple, they must take as jointenants in fee; then suppose, she had lived longer, and had two or three children, and one or two of them died, leaving children in her life, and then she had died, leaving a child surviving her, and several grandchildren, would all those have taken by these words? How must they take? Should the surviving child only take an equal share as jointenant with the grandchildren, how absurd that would be. Then if any one died, the whole estate of that one would survive to the others, though he left children, and so his family be unprovided for. Indeed if that child came of age, he might sever the jointenancy: but if he died before, it would survive to the other jointenants. In making a construction the court will never resort to that, wherein are these absurdities; therefore I am of opinion, together with the additional reasons mentioned under

Devise of all my estate at A. not so local as not to comprehend the interest in the thing, as well as the lands.

Argumentum ex absurdo.

the next head, that this is not a devise of the fee simple to the child.

If so, then the next question is, whether the child or children, that should be left by her would take an estate tail, and with what kind of interest, or whether there would be a reversion in fee to descend, or a remainder over? I am clearly of opinion, that the child took an estate tail by virtue of this, though an imperfect will; and much stronger constructions to create estates tail have been made by courts of law. First, consider the interest, the children take; which will determine the other. It has been objected, that these words must be construed only children and issue she should leave at the time of her death, and that therefore the remainder given over is contingent, executory interest, to take place only, if she left no children at the time of her death. The words, *if I should leave any to survive me*, are quite nugatory; for no person can take under a will unless upon surviving the testator; and then the question is, whether it is necessary to carry on those inoperative, ineffectual, words to the subsequent part of the devisee? It is not at all necessary: she meant to describe, if I shall leave no children at the time of my death, nor issue at any time, I give my estate over. To make estates tail continue in the regular intail, much stronger decisions have been made, notwithstanding the words seem to have been confined to a particular time, and not a general dying without issue; as in *Lee's case*, 1 *Leo.* 285. where a construction was made to answer the intent of the testator, and to keep the estate in the proper channel of descent according to the intent, by holding that though the words pointed out a dying, without issue at the time of the death, it related to a failure at any time afterward. Another case is *Spalding v. Spalding*, *Cr. C.* 185. which was a very strong construction upon the words of a will imperfectly penned, and helped out even by the insertion of words. This shews how liberal a construction courts of law have made to continue estates tail in the line. Upon this head another case is material to the general doctrine though not directly: that was a case of great argument, *Shaw v. Weigh* in *B. R.* afterward in the *House of Lords* by the name of *Sparrow v. Shaw*, where the *Lords* reversed the judgment of *B. R.* and their opinion was grounded upon this, to preserve the estate in the right channel according to the intent of the testator; and for that general reason only I mention it, that such construction is to be made of a will, as to preserve the estate in that channel of descent the testatrix intended it should go. The plaintiff therefore and *J. Hutton* are in the right in this, that the infant took an estate tail.

Wills construed to preserve estates in the intended channel of descent.

But then the next question arises upon the point, in which they differ, who has the fee expectant upon that estate tail? Upon the words

words of this will I am opinion, that on the construction already made of the infant's being tenant in tail, it is an unavoidable consequence that the estate has gone over to the remainder man *J. Hutton*. According to the opinion already given I have construed the word *issue* to mean issue happening to be and determined at any period of time whatever, not to be confined to the death of the testatrix. Then the next limitation must be upon that event to *J. Hutton*, the devisee. The only objection to this construction is, that this will not construe the words according to her expression in the former clause, but puts a different construction upon the same words or the reference to the same words in two different events. Now that that may be done, there are authorities, and in a much stronger case, *viz. Forth v. Chapman*; where the greatest difficulty in the way of Lord *Macclesfield* was, that the freehold and leasehold were devised by the same words: and yet he held, those words were to receive a construction according to the subject matter. This case is in 1 *Will.* 664. the editor of which books has been very careful, and adds in a note there, that the limitation was confined to the leasehold estate; but I think, that is a mistake in the register's book, for I have brought with me the brief, I had in the cause, and it is there, as Lord *Macclesfield* took it: and that was a difficulty, Lord *Macclesfield* started himself, which he never would have created against his own opinion, if it had not been so in the will: that therefore shews strongly, that the same words may in the same sentence have different constructions applied to different matter. But abstracted from that, there are other words afterward in the latter clause, upon which, laying the authority of Lord *Macclesfield*'s opinion out of the case, it is impossible to confine the construction of *issue* there to issue at the time of her death, but then whenever there was a default of issue, *J. Hutton*'s remainder should take place. *Default of issue* means failure of issue. Here the testatrix has only expressed in words the double contingency, that is in every limitation in remainder after an estate tail. Suppose an estate devised to *A.* for life, remainder to the first, second, third, and fourth sons of *A.* and the issues of their bodies, and in default of such issue, over to *B.* those words of limitation over include two contingencies, *viz.* if no son, or all such sons die without issue. That was the distinction taken in *Higgins v. Dowler* by Lord *Cowper* upon the limitation of a term; and this is no more than saying, if I die without issue living at the time of my death, it shall go over to *J. Hutton*, and it shall go over to him in default of issue left by me or on failure at any time. On this head I will mention no authority further, but a general one, *viz.* What is laid down by Lord *Hale* in the great case of *Puresfoy v. Rogers* 2 *San.* 388. that wherever a devise may be construed as a remainder, courts will never construe it as a contingent executory limitation; which I think of consequence in the present case. This is very

Words in a will have a different construction applied to different matter.

Double contingency in remainder after estate tail.

1 Will. 98.

Remainder devised never construed an executory limitation.

very reasonable and naturally construed as a remainder vested, and then the court ought to construe it so. What were the merits of this remainder man, is not for my opinion, but for the opinion of the testatrix.

I think myself bound to give this opinion to preserve the uniformity of determinations given to preserve estates tail in the channel according to the intent: consequently if the plaintiff has not a claim to the reversion in fee, he has no claim to the deeds and writings, and the bill be dismissed, but without costs.

Clark *versus* Guise, July 1, 1755.

Case 212.

Master of the Rolls for Lord Chancellor.

THE plaintiff *Margaret Clark* served as housekeeper to *Richard Guise* and his partner, during the course of which he contracted a debt to her, and also for money for the purchase of furniture, and money lent. In 1748. he makes a will, devising among several other legacies 50 *l. per ann.* to the plaintiff during life out of his real and personal estate to be paid punctually every year, and then goes on, "whereas I am indebted to her in the sum of 500 *l.* she having my obligation for 680 *l. 2 s. 4 d.* *Memorandum* paid her 100 *l.* to let Dr. *Blagrove* have, and at divers times having paid her 80 *l.* I make the balance, and I am indebted to her in the full sum of 500 *l.* I ordain this to be paid out of my real and personal estate."

A. in his will recites the amount of a debt due from him, and orders it to be paid, and gives a legacy to the creditor: who may claim that, and also dispute the calculation of debt by the testator, whose intent was to pay the whole, and give the legacy beside.

The bill was brought to be paid her whole debt, the testator having miscalculated it, and also to have her annuity under the will.

For defendant, the general rule in *Noys v. Mordaunt*, 2 *Ver.* 581. was insisted upon, that if the plaintiff resorted to her legacy, she must waive the demand against the testator's estate, and take the computation made by him in his will. So in *Jenkins v. Jenkins*, where a father recites by his will, that he as executor of *David Lewis* was obliged to pay his son several sums particularly, and several payments having been made (some of which were allowable, others not) he liquidates it to a sum certain, and gives the son several legacies; on a bill by the son it was decreed at the *Rolls*, that he was intitled both to the legacy for which his father was debtor to him, and also to the legacies under his father's will. Lord *Talbot* varied that decree, saying the plaintiff must make his election, must submit to the adjustment of this debt, otherwise the persons

prejudiced by his resorting to his debt must have the benefit given to him under the will.

Sir Thomas Clarke.

The question is, whether the plaintiff is to be concluded by the description or account (as it is called) liquidated by the testator in his will, and is obliged to make her election? The general rule relied on for the defendant, which has obtained since *Noys v. Mordaunt*, is clear, that where a man does by will more than he has strictly a right to do, and gives a bounty to the person, whose prejudice that is done, the person prejudiced by one part shall not insist upon his right and at the same time upon the bounty by the will. The same thing was attempted in Lord Somers's time, but did not prevail; as appears from *Lawrence v. Lawrence*: but since *Noys v. Mordaunt* it must be looked upon as settled, that claiming in one part of the will by the intent of the testator they shall not contradict another part. To examine whether the general rule is applicable to this, what was the intent of the testator? It was not to make a composition of a debt he owed the plaintiff, not to give part in lieu of the whole of it, but to pay her her whole debt beside the 50 *l.* annuity. Suppose the testator had not been so particular, but recited in general, that whereas he had given her 50 *l. per ann.* and whereas he was indebted to her 500 *l.* he orders her to be paid that 500 *l.* out of his real and personal estate; the testator's misrecital would nor preclude her from saying, more was due to her. It falls within the case of *Milner v. Milner*; where the court rectified the miscomputation of the testator; saw the intent was, that the daughter should have 10,000 *l.* in the whole; and though the testator mistook the particulars to make up that sum, it was *error demonstrationis*, as it is called in another law. That case is much stronger than this; for that was a mistake in a bounty intended by the will; and it was a contest with the person, who had the honour of the family. Beside the present case would have been much more favourable for the defendant, if there had been a connection between the *quantum* of the bounty and of the debt; but the testator has left them unconnected; gives the 50 *l. per ann.* independent or unconnected with the other; and therefore free from that circumstance which has arisen in other cases of this kind, where that rule has been insisted on. It is not a stated regular account, nor can it have that consequence or effect, but at random a kind of lumping the sums paid her; therefore the testator could not think himself, that he took it in an accurate way; as appears from his following words, *I make, &c.* His material design was to pay the whole debt; the bounty was unconnected with the debt. In *Jenkins v. Jenkins* the court went on this, that the testator knowing what he owed, made a composition with his son. But it is said, what service would it be

be to take that account in his will, if that was not his intent. It might be of service before the master as a check on the plaintiff and to prevent an unreasonable demand. Nothing then, that will be done in this case, tends to weaken that reasonable and established rule, from which this is distinguishable, the testator not intending that any particular sum should come out of his estate, any otherwise than as such sum amounted to the whole of the debt. Nor does this prejudice the residuary legatees; for the residue being given after payment of debts, it is consequently uncertain; and they cannot say, they sustain prejudice, if this debt turns out larger; so that the rule is safe, and the intent of testator is preserved this way, and no otherwise.

Flight versus Cook, July 1, 1755.

Case 213.

At the Rolls.

UNDER articles, executed on the marriage of *Philip Cook*, the plaintiff, in case she survived *Philip Cook*, claimed a contingent interest in two several sums of 100*l.* each, the one in *South Sea* annuities, the other due by a promissory note of *J. B.* both which were specifically appointed for payment of the plaintiff in that event.

A. covenants, that a specific sum should be paid to B. if B. survived: A. having aliened part of it, on a bill by B, A. gave security, that it should be forthcoming.

The bill was upon the principle *quia timet*; for that as the defendant had aliened or threatened to alien those sums, there might be nothing to answer that interest, which may become beneficial to the plaintiff; and the defendant admitted, he had sold out 100*l.*

For defendant was cited Lord *Warrington v. Langham*, P. C. 89. *Eq. Ab.* 132. that parties must rest on the original agreement, and no further security should be given: so 1 *Will.* 460. and 2 *Ver.* 635. 1 *Wil.* 107.

Sir Thomas Clarke.

This bill is not for a specific performance, but to vary the agreement of the parties, and to put the plaintiff in a better situation than the agreement itself left the plaintiff, the agreement being to put 200*l.* in such a situation as to be forthcoming at defendant's death if the plaintiff was then living: whereas this is to accelerate the payment in defendant's life, and instead of leaving it in his power obliges him to pay it into court or give security. It is truly said, that though this is a jurisdiction this court has often exercised, yet will it be extremely tender in so doing; because it materially varies the agreement of the parties at the time of the

transf-

transaction, and it would make strange work in trading kingdoms if done lightly. The laws of other countries admit of cases to prevent extravagancy: though not here, as a trading country. In instances of this kind the court always very tenderly interposes. Though the court cannot accelerate payment, or put payment of the money in a better situation, yet in certain circumstances parties have met with relief. The question then is, whether a proper foundation is laid before the court to interpose and exercise that jurisdiction for the plaintiff's security? In opposition to which several cases are cited. *Lord Warrington v. Langham* is an authority so far as it goes where the bill was dismissed, though it ended by compromise in the *House of Lords*; yet it shews, that the court will not put covenantee in a better situation than the covenant left him; for it is different from the case of executor as to him and legatees. The other two cases are distinguishable: in one the party had an alternative, and no ground to take it away; and as to the government of tenant in tail not to bar but let it go to the issue in tail, he there did an act tending to keep it longer in his family. But on considering how this stands, I cannot say, but there is just ground, from what has been done (which is a fair way of arguing) to induce the court to interpose in some manner for the plaintiff. In general the marriage-articles leave it so as to be a specifick agreement binding them; and the defendant has confessedly altered the thing itself so specifically engaged; which makes it stronger than *Lord Warrington v. Langham*, which was a general engagement to pay: this was particular and specifically engaged, and left in his hands as trustees to answer the purposes of the marriage-articles. His sale is such an alienation or breach of contract, that the party comes into equity in a stronger case than in former instances of interposition by this court even before breach of covenant. Here he has directly broke his covenant; and therefore it would be a rash action to trust to the event of things by the plaintiff's taking a chance, when this 200*l.* is gone; therefore certainly some way or other the plaintiff is intitled to relief. But is the defendant willing to give security to be approved of by a Master for the 200*l.* that it may be forthcoming at his death for the plaintiff's benefit, if the plaintiff survives?

Defendant agreeing thereto, it was so ordered; and that in default of such security he should pay 200*l.* into the bank.

Case 214.

Anonymous, *July* 3, 1755.

Injunction, to stay trial in actions by a corporation for petty customs, till answer, where defence at law may arise out of the answer.

MOTION on the part of the plaintiffs certain traders to stay trial in actions at law, brought by the defendants the corporation of *Exeter* for petty customs, and to continue the injunction already granted until discovery made by the answer of what those customs were.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The demand made by the actions at law is of great consequence to the trade of this kingdom. Here is nothing but a shipload of hemp, which is a cheap commodity, and the demand for that is no less than 58 *l.* for petty customs; which, if they have a right to, is a great burthen on trade; that makes it of consequence. But tho' it is such a demand, I will not introduce a new rule of equity to enable the defendants at law to make defence to it: but I am of opinion this motion is upon the old rules of equity. It has been refused to inspect at law into corporation books, and rightly; because courts of law will not give that liberty to any one who has not some right or claim to it as being a member of the corporation: so as to a manor, in a question between lord and tenant a court of law will give liberty to inspect books of the court-rolls, but not in a question between a lord of one manor and a lord of another: yet on a bill in this court for a discovery, this court will grant it: so that the rule of discovery here by answer (unless a discovery is prayed, which subjects to a penalty) does not depend on the rule at law for inspecting books of a corporation or court-rolls. This is a motion to extend an injunction to stay trial; and the general rule is on such motion, that some reasonable matter is laid before the court, that the defence at law must or may arise out of the answer of the defendant here; and it is highly reasonable to stay proceedings at law in this case until that discovery is made, and that from the nature of the declaration. It is a demand of petty customs; which, I doubt, whether they can be claimed by prescription; being different from tolls, which may arise from private rights, though they must be by grant of the crown. To support tolls there must be either proved or presumed a consideration on which they are founded. Petty customs and ancient duties of the crown are different. It has been doubted, whether or no the crown could have them otherwise than by an act of parliament presumed to be lost; and that was a controversy between Sir *John Davis* and *Yelverton*, concerning the right of the crown to imposition upon merchandise. If then the crown must have it by act of parliament, which must be within time of memory, how can a corporation or private person claim them by prescription? By shewing a grant from the crown they might have them: upon this trial it may come out upon either of the *counts*; especially on the *indeb. assumpsit*, which was last laid, they may shew some grant of the crown; and then the defendant in the action might have liberty to shew something against that. This happens in several cases, and where, notwithstanding plaintiff is to recover by

The rule of discovery by answer (unless subjecting to penalty) depends not on the rule of law.

Discovery granted here on dispute between two Lords of a manor.

Petty customs differ from tolls; it seems they cannot be claimed by prescription even by the crown; but may by grant from the crown.

his own strength, yet shall have a discovery, as in a dispute between two lords of a manor.

The injunction must be to stay trial until answer or further order.

Case 215.

Walker versus Preswick, July 5, 1755.

Trade.
Bill of sale of
a ship assigns
the property.

PRESWICK and *Lacy* entered into a contract with the plaintiff that the plaintiff should, pursuant to the articles, build a ship for them; which the plaintiff did. *Preswick* paid his moiety; *Lacy* did not. The builder of the ship gave the plaintiff a bill of sale of the ship, the plaintiff gave *Lacy* possession of it to sail therewith pursuant to the articles, but kept all the documents, &c. of the ship, and was to draw on *Lacy* for his moiety; which he did, and the draughts were protested for nonpayment. *Lacy* died; and his executors sold his moiety of the ship to the other defendant *Preswick* with full notice of all this; and he sold to one without notice, for ought that appeared.

The bill sought to come upon this ship as a specifick lien.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Specifick lien
against vendee
of land for pur-
chase-money.

If the conveyance had been made of land, the money not paid, as against vendee, his heir, or any claiming under him as purchaser, with notice of this equity, the land may be resorted to. This indeed is a chattel, the moiety being sold as a chattel to *Preswick* with notice, and he has sold without notice. Must not he be liable to pay out of the money he received? I do not go upon the plaintiff's having a lien upon the ship from the building, &c. but upon having the legal and equitable property in this ship by bill of sale made by the builder to the plaintiff; and therefore I have no occasion to resort to that other question of the plaintiff's having a specifick lien, the plaintiff having the property, which never altered. In all these cases you are to consider the nature, course, and practice of the business; which in the case of a ship distinguishes it from the common case of sale of goods; for in the case of a ship the constant course is, that the bill of sale assigns the property.

One defendant
may prosecute
decree against
another; as
whereco obli-
gor pays for
principal.

The rule of the court is, if the plaintiff is intitled to relief against both defendants, and one ought to indemnify the other defendant, who is decreed to pay to the plaintiff, the court often gives liberty to that defendant to prosecute the decree against the other. As where a surety pays money, the principal must undoubtedly

doubtedly indemnify the surety, and the court will make that decree over. Therefore the executors of *Lacy* must out of the assets reimburse *Preswick* for what he shall pay to the plaintiff for the moiety.

Co-defendants may read any thing proved on the part of the plaintiff, because that is proof examined to against all the defendants. Co-defendant may read evidence proved for plaintiff.

Drinkwater versus Falconer, July 8, 1755.

Case 216.

At the Rolls.

SARAH IRESON in 1746, having 400 *l.* new *South-Sea* annuities, and 400 *l.* *East-India* stock, makes her will; by which she orders all her debts to be paid; then gives "to my friend and servant *James Falconer*, 10 *l.* per annum for life, to be paid out of my dividends of 400 *l.* in the joint stock of *South-Sea* annuities, now standing in the company's books in my name, by half yearly payments;" and after his death the said annuity to his wife for life in the same manner; "and I do hereby charge my said annuity stock with payment thereof accordingly; and I give to *J. D.* my 400 *l.* *East-India* stock, and also my 400 *l.* joint stock in *South-Sea* new annuities, subject to the payment of said annuity, to my cousin *Mary Burkett*, and after her decease to her children;" and after some pecuniary legacies all the rest and residue of her personal estate to *Sarah Thomson*. In Feb. 1749 she buys another 100 *l.* *South-Sea* annuities; and in March following sells 400 *l.* *East-India* stock, and the produce thereof she adds thereto to buy in new *South-Sea* annuities, 800 *l.* Notice being given to the creditors of that fund to accept the reduced interest, she not accepting the terms is paid off the 400 *l.* new *South-Sea* annuities, she originally possessed, and the 100 *l.* she bought in afterward, by a draught on the bank; which draught she delivers to one Mr. *Fisher*, with directions to him to invest it in the three per cent. annuities, if he should think best. *Fisher*, without signifying to her (as far as now appeared) that he did not think the three per cent. best, vested that in these very *South-Sea* annuities. The testatrix shortly before her death makes a codicil, and thereby gives "to my loving cousin *Thomas Bow* my note of 500 *l.* which Mr. *Fisher* now has for me;" then after some pecuniary legacies says, "I desire this may stand as well as the will, which is in the hands of Mr. *Fisher*."

The bill was brought by the surviving executor to settle the claims of several persons under the will.

Sir

Sir Thomas Clarke.

If the payment is a mixed act by the debtor and creditor, it is doubtful. But if testator makes a subsequent disposal of it to another, it is deemed.

The bequests of the 400 *l. East-India* stock, and the 400 *l. new South-Sea* annuities, and also the 10 *l. per annum* charged, are undoubtedly specifick bequests, describing the fund by a proper pronoun, *all my, &c.* The rules as to specifick legacies are known; in several things they are preferred to pecuniary legacies, in others not. They are intitled to this advantage, that if there is not a penny for the pecuniary, a specifick legatee shall take the whole, if that exists; on the other hand if it does not appear on the death of testator, it is gone, and the general assets cannot be resorted to. To apply these rules: first as to the 400 *l. South-Sea* annuities; that existed, and is rightly compared to a debt owing from the publick to the testatrix. The debtor afterward insisting on better terms, or to pay it off, the testatrix in consequence of not accepting the terms offered by the publick is paid off. If it rested here, merely upon the notice of the company and her not accepting the terms, it might upon the distinction taken in several books have admitted of some doubt, how far that shall amount to an ademption of the legacy or not; because as to the payment this was a kind of mixed act, and so far different from those cases; for it might be said, the payment was partly owing to what was insisted upon by the debtor, and partly to the non-compliance on the other side. But I will take it both ways without regard to the distinction between voluntary and compulsory payment. The payment was occasioned by a mixed act of the debtor and creditor. But supposing it was a voluntary act, and that she was merely passive, it is clear, that a voluntary payment of a debt to a creditor, who has specifically bequeathed that, will create no variation in the thing bequeathed; because the testator is out of the question, has done no act to signify a variation of intention. Next, supposing the payment compulsory, that is upon not accepting the terms offered; that does not of course vary the case, but may or may not adeem the legacy according to the circumstances with which it is accompanied. If a man after having given a legacy compels payment in of the debt, that does not of itself import an ademption of the legacy; for he may have other sufficient reasons to induce him to call it in; which may be a compulsion of payment for the benefit of the legatee, so far from being an ademption, as if the debt was in danger of being lost: the court therefore, where payment is compelled, does not consider it as an ademption, but enters into evidence *quo animo* that debt was called in; and then it may be a doubt, whether or no it was owing to a change in the testator's mind: but if a particular reason is given, it will be far from being an ademption. This payment upon her refusing to comply

comply with the terms, which was partly for her own benefit, partly for the legatees, had it stood on that alone, so far from being a change of mind in her to the prejudice, rather shews a design in favour of the legatee. Suppose a person compels the payment of a sum of money, and afterward replaces that sum upon the same fund again; if there is nothing more in the case, I think strongly, that the will would have operated upon that new fund so acquired in the same way as before, so as to have passed it to the legatee notwithstanding that previous change, it sufficiently answering the description in the will. If this 400 *l.* had been replaced out or even ordered so to be, by her, I should have thought it no ademption of the legacy, if the case had depended on that without other circumstances. But she happens to have done a great deal more, making a second disposition of this very property; for the draught is delivered by her to *Fisher*, (if in a different fund, it is still stronger), and afterward by codicil gives that identical draught to the defendant *Bow*. The effect of that bequest is saying, “if he has not executed my direction by investing in that fund, which, I take for granted, he has not, “I give the thing coming in lieu of that;” according to the case where a real estate was devised, and evicted after death of the testator, and damages were recovered by virtue of a covenant in the purchase-deed; the question was, to whom the damages should go; and the court gave the damages in lieu of the thing to the devisee. So in *Carew v. Coventry*, which was a devise of an estate to be exchanged with another belonging to a college in *Oxford*; and that the estate, the college was to give, should go to *A.*; the college (whether prevailed on by the heir at law, as was most probable), refused to exchange, though greatly for their benefit; upon a question between the heir at law of testator and his specifick devisee of that estate the heir said, this is not the estate given to you, but another the college was to give; but the court held the devisee intitled. So here the testatrix meant *Bow* should have the note, if it existed; if not, the thing in lieu of it. Next consider the 400 *l.* *East-India* stock: this she voluntarily sells out; and with the produce and other money of her own added to it, purchases 800 *l.* new *South-Sea* annuities. It is insisted on the part of those, who had a specifick lien on the 400 *l.* new *South-Sea* annuities, that this being converted into the same fund, by virtue of that circumstance and of the codicil, ordered to stand as well as the will, it intitles them to have recourse to the 800 *l.* new *South-Sea* annuities. This 400 *l.* is to be considered as a debt, and within those cases where the debt is called in. It is to be considered as a share in a partnership: then suppose, one interested in a partnership to a particular amount or share, devises specifically to *A.* his stock in trade and share in partnership; afterward sells that out to another for a valuable consideration; no

Ante.
M’Kenzie v.
Robinson.
March 18,
1741.
Ante.
22 July 1742.

On eviction of
estate devised,
the damages to
devisee. So
of an estate
in lieu of it.

Codicil directing the will to stand, makes not good a legacy lapsed or adeemed.

doubt but that is an ademption of the specifick legacy; for such legatee must suffer the disadvantages and inconveniences, as well as be intitled to the advantages, attending that kind of legacy. Thus would it be, if it barely stood upon the selling out, without regard to what was done with the money; for if the testatrix places out that money upon another fund, it would be going a step farther in prejudice of the legatee. Beside she has added more money to that; whereas if she had designed this to answer the original specifick bequest, she would have kept this sum distinct and entire. If under these circumstances the immediate legatee of the partnership or *East-India* stock could not have recourse to that when changed and converted, *a fortiori* a person intitled to another fund can never have recourse to this, unless there is something in the codicil to occasion that. It is clear therefore, that the original specifick lien is gone. The case as to the 400*l.* *South-Sea* annuities will go a good way toward deciding the question as to this 400*l.* It shews the testatrix knew, what an ademption was, the effect and consequence of it; and then could not be ignorant of it, where she was sole actress, as she was as to the selling of the *East-India* stock. The will was ended as to the 400*l.* *South-Sea* annuities, the testatrix shewing a change of mind as to that; and so entirely inconsistent is the codicil with the will, that it not only gives the same thing to a different person, but gives legacies, which cannot possibly be paid together with those in the will, there not being enough to pay all. One great objection is from that general direction in the codicil, that the will should stand; but that cannot operate in the extent, the specifick legatees would take: for it cannot operate to make good a legacy adeemed. A lapsed legacy by devisee's dying in life of testator could not be made good by such direction in a codicil, nor by parity of reason could a legacy adeemed, which is as much gone as a legacy lapsed. If it could not operate in contradiction to the operation of law, much less can it in contradiction to the acts of testatrix. Then the direction amounts to this; that the will shall stand so far as not contradicted by the codicil or other acts done by me; it does not operate by way of analogy to republication, which it is improperly called. Her acts operate in direct contradiction to the will; consequently she meant not to put the will in a better condition, which the specifick legatees insist upon to make good the legacies adeemed. These annuities therefore are gone together with the specifick legacies of the funds themselves out of which they were to come: and the defendant *Bow* is intitled to the produce of the note bequeathed by the codicil.

Bridgman

Bridgman *versus* Green, July, 9, 1755.

Case 217.

THE bill sought to call several persons to account for a sum of 5000*l.* obtained from the plaintiff by the following means.

George Green, who was at first footman and afterward *valet* to the plaintiff, prevailed on his master, over whom he had got great influence, to convey an estate to him on pretence of qualifying him to kill game. Though there was a formal livery of seisin, he never was in possession, and the rent was still paid to the plaintiff, who afterwards sold that estate, and conveyed another to George Green in consideration of his delivering up that and upon the same pretence as before; but the rent still continued to be paid to plaintiff. These conveyances were executed at such time, as G. Green had got the plaintiff to live separate from his wife, and imported on the face to be in consideration of 3500*l.* but no money was ever paid or intended to be paid, and on the defendant's part was read a letter under the plaintiff's own hand desiring to have 3500*l.* inserted in the deed as a consideration. Then the plaintiff makes a mortgage of his whole estate, in which G. Green was not considered as owner; and the pretence of mortgaging was to enable the plaintiff and G. Green to travel and to learn the languages for that purpose. The money raised by the mortgage was 5000*l.* of which 3000*l.* was paid to G. Green and his wife; 1000*l.* to Thomas the brother of G. Green; and 1000*l.* to William Lock, the attorney employed in the mortgage, but in trust for son of said William, who also got from the plaintiff two promissory notes for 105*l.* and 123*l.* the one for procuring the money, the other for his bill of costs.

Deeds entered into by fraud and imposition relieved against. Conveyance, for consideration, not afterward to be set up as a gift. And being for fictitious consideration inserted by grantor himself, though found a gift by a jury, set aside in equity.

The plaintiff brought his action for this money, and was nonsuited at Gloucester assizes.

The grounds of his present bill were two. First, that he was weak and liable to be imposed upon, and that advantage was taken by an artful servant: secondly, that this is a conveyance made, and this money paid on a fictitious consideration now set up as a gift.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Next to the surprise and concern one has to see persons enter into such a combination as this, is the surprise to see it contended in a court of justice. It is most extraordinary to think a court of justice

justice can wink so hard as to suffer it to be supported. As to what was alluded to at the bar, I will only say, that in case what was alluded to was proved, I should notwithstanding be obliged to make the same decree as now; for it is incumbent on a court of equity to act by such rule, as tends most to discountenance the crime; by the like rule courts of law make as to conditions: but I make no such construction, but go on the facts and evidence before me, by which it is the plainest case of imposition of some kind or other. As to the 1000 *l.* which *Thomas Green* and *William Lock* have got, there is nothing to support it, not a syllable of gift or intention of gift; and not only no consideration, but there is nothing to found a conjecture upon; this is left entirely undefended; and that throws a complexion upon the whole, if it wanted that; it shews they did what they thought fit, and divided his property, as they pleased. It is plain, that the original of this took rise from a pretence of qualifying *G. Green* to kill game; and as plain, whether from that cause or pretence or any other, that this advantage was taken at the time that they had got the plaintiff's wife away from him; and as plain, that this *G. Green* was the evil instrument in creating dissension between him and his wife; and under the influence he had gained, however it was, he got the conveyance of an estate under this pretence of qualifying, frequently so declared by himself; which was plainly not intended to be a real conveyance; and when that estate was sold, no conveyance was made as from *Green*. The next conveyance took rise from the same cause, and that by reason of delivering up the first estate: and therefore all these are connected together; and the money got for the mortgage was distributed among them. As to the improper parts *Green* acted as to his master and his wife, it is not necessary to repeat them. As to the first ground for setting this aside I do not go upon this, that the plaintiff was so weak as not fit to manage his affairs: he was not so; he was a very imprudent man, but not so weak as to be called a fool. Liable to be imposed on he was; but the strong ground here is, that these conveyances, in consideration of which this money was paid or pretended to be paid, were made originally upon a consideration pecuniary inserted in the deeds, which is now set up as a gift. This court will not suffer one to take a conveyance for consideration, and afterward set it up as a gift; and many conveyances have been set aside upon that. The ground of that was said for the defendant to be, that if a fictitious consideration was inserted in a conveyance, arising from the grantee, the court would not suffer it to be set up as a gift, because contradictory to his own act; but that if grantor, meaning and intending a gift, inserts a colourable consideration, he himself shall not take advantage of it afterward, and say, it was not a gift: and here the plaintiff by letter under his
own

own hands desires that to be inserted. But I must take that to be only consistent with the rest of the evidence, that he, intending to make a conveyance for a sham qualification in lieu of the conveyance of the first estate which had been afterward sold, makes this colourable conveyance for the same purpose, but still upon the same ground that the first conveyance was; and therefore still the tenant in possession swears, he never delivered possession to *Green*, but paid rent to the plaintiff as before. Hence then it appears, that the conveyance was made on this colour and pretence. He takes advantage of it now to set it up as an absolute gift; which does not really appear to be intended, nor a real consideration: but considering the transaction, and the manner of dividing this money without any colour or pretence of consideration as to the other defendants, it shews, they divided his property as they pleased, without any intention of gift. Under all these circumstances it is impossible to let this conveyance stand; and I never saw a more barefaced and shameful transaction. It is said, this has been tried, and the jury have found it to be a gift; but the jury could find no otherwise, they could not enter into the consideration to set it aside for fraud, and therefore found for the defendant at law. I must then set aside all this transaction, and direct the defendants to account for and repay this money so received, as obtained and divided without any consideration and by imposition; and must charge them all with the whole, all being combined together.

The plaintiff objected to reading the deposition of *Lock* on the part of *Green*.

Lord Chancellor said, he would read it, if he could: but it could not to be done. It has often been a question, whether *particeps fraudis* should be read or not; and sometimes the boundaries have been pretty nice. If he was concerned as an attorney and trustee, he has been read, and it has gone to his credit only, though not to his competency; but here he is directly charged as guilty of the whole, and not only that, but as interested: for here he is a trustee for a considerable sum given to his son, which I much consider as given to himself: otherwise all frauds would be easily covered; beside he is interested as to the setting aside the two notes.

Evidence of co-defendant *particeps fraudis* and interested, not allowed. If only as attorney and trustee, it goes to his credit only.

Anonymous, July 9, 1755.

Case 218.

At the Rolls.

ON a bill for specifick performance of an agreement to let the plaintiff into trade, *His Honour* said, he never knew an instance, that the court decreed an account of the profits of that

On decreeing performance of agreement to let into trade, an account back

of the profits
not decreed :
but infant,
whose trust
money is laid
out in trade
has an option.

that trade from the time the plaintiff ought to be let in, as was now desired. Where a trustee has money of an infant to lay out in the funds for the infant's benefit, and lays it out in trade, which produces 10*l. per cent.* the court will give that infant an option either to have interest for the money or the profits of the trade : but that is a very singular instance, and the only one of that kind, and he knew it done in the case of a brewhouse. The court would not decree performance of an agreement for letting the plaintiff into a trade, and then decree damages for the plaintiff for delay in not letting him in sooner ; for that the plaintiff might have had, if he had used his remedy at law.

Case 219.

Anonymous, *July 12, 1755.*

Injunction
Bill by principal
debtor for
injunction
being dismissed,
the bail
cannot bring
another taking
up the same
equity : unless
for collusion.

A Bill by the principal debtor to stay proceedings in action at law being dismissed, the bail brought another bill for the like injunction.

Lord Chancellor, upon shewing cause against dissolving the injunction, said, that where the equity was determined as to the principal by dismissal of his bill either on hearing or for want of prosecution ; he never knew an instance of a new bill by the bail to the action taking up that equity ; which would be most dangerous to admit. The common method of proceeding is, where the principal brings a bill against an action at law, and injunction being granted, it is a motion of course notwithstanding the injunction, to proceed to make the bail liable. If the doctrine now insisted upon is true, it would be necessary to make the bail party to that bill ; for it is now said, that the bail is not bound in that suit. If so, and if other persons are allowed to set up the equity again, and overhawl the whole matter, injunctions to stay proceedings at law would never be at an end, and the plaintiff at law might never come at his right, or at least could not get out execution until after a great number of years ; and it would be necessary to have an act of parliament against the power of this court to grant injunctions. But notwithstanding this, if there is a collusion, or a charge in the bill of collusion between the principal (defendant at law) and the plaintiff at law, and the injunction is dissolved by collusion in order to charge the bail at law, the bail might take up the equity : but it would be then a new equity ; for fraud and collusion affect every thing, and would give a right to resort to the original equity : but in this case there is no pretence of it, therefore dissolve the injunction absolutely.

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Anonymous,

Anonymous, *Ibid.*

Case 220.

THE plaintiff having lain by a considerable time after answer, and then an order being obtained to refer the answer for impertinence, *Lord Chancellor* discharged that order, comparing it to the rule as to exceptions, where not brought in in two terms; there being no rule as to the time for referring an answer for impertinence, which is discretionary in the court. But a bill cannot be referred for impertinence after answer, nay after submitting to answer, as by praying time, &c. though for scandal a bill may be referred at any time.

Bill referred for scandal at any time; for impertinence not after answer or submitting to answer. Referring answer discretionary.

Hinton *versus* Hinton, *July* 14, 1755.

Case 221.

HUSBAND, copyholder for life of an estate in which by the custom of the manor his widow was intitled to *free bench*, when in gaol enters into an agreement for valuable consideration for the sale of that estate to his son, but dies without executing the agreement before actual surrender of the copyhold and the passing of the legal estate to the son, who brought this bill for specifick performance of the agreement, and that to the exclusion of the widow's customary *free bench*.

Post, July 16. Copyholder contracts for valuable consideration to sell to his son, and dies before actual surrender; the son is intitled to performance, and to compel the widow to surrender *free bench*.

For plaintiff. Such an agreement is an alienation of the husband's estate so as not to intitle the widow at the time of his death to her *free bench*; which can only be of such copyhold lands whereof her husband died seised, and not like dower at common law, which is a right in the widow in such lands as the husband was seised of during the coverture, and therefore by the marriage the wife gains an inchoate right to the dower, which the husband cannot defeat without her levying a fine, and then not without her consent; which is not the case of *free bench*, for the husband by parting with the estate during the coverture prevents that right; and his widow therefore derives from him, as she was in his power. This is not like the death of a jointenant; in which case the survivor is in by his original right, which cannot be prejudiced by a will. Here was no original right; her right not taking place until the husband's death, and depending on his acts, which may alien either in law or equity. It is like the right of a bond-creditor, who has a lien upon all the lands, of which the debtor dies seised, but the debtor may at any time during his life alien that land; and if such debtor articles to convey his estate, that will take away the right of the bond-creditor, for it is the estate of another; and there may be severance of jointenancy by articles in equity or equitable conveyance.

veyance. A fair judgment creditor of one, who has articted for sale of the estate postponed to the purchaser; an agreement for sale for valuable consideration being considered to all intents in this court as an actual sale, and the husband as trustee for the other from the time it ought to have been executed.

For defendant. They, who claim under the person enter into an agreement for conveyance of an estate, may be bound thereby as an heir at law, &c. but the defendant comes in in another right, by virtue of the custom. She has an initiate right by marriage, if she survives the husband, and he dies seised; and then if not legally defeated, the question is, whether this court will carry that equitable lien into execution against one claiming in another's right. If tenant in tail enters into a contract for sale of the land, he may bar by fine or recovery, yet if he does not do it in his life, but suffers himself to lie in gaol, it has been held in this court, that it shall not be carried into execution against the issue in tail and remainder. So if tenant in tail contracts for sale of timber, for actually cut down in his life, the contract will be so far good, but not for the rest, though a tree happens to be half cut down; for it must be done in his life; and so it is as to tenant for life without impeachment of waste, who makes a contract for the sale of timber. But *Musgrave v. Dashwood*, 2 *Ver.* is in point. Therefore although, where husband is seised as trustee, the widow cannot claim either dower or *free bench* against *cestuy que trust*, this is not that case; for she had a right before. *Free bench* or copyhold is *sub modo* as much the right of the widow as dower. Husband committing felony bars not right of dower, or if husband with his wife enter into agreement to levy a fine, and he receives the money thereon, but dies before such conveyance is made, that will not bar dower.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

There are two questions. First, where a copyholder for life with a customary widow's estate, entering into an agreement for valuable consideration for sale of that estate, dies without executing that agreement, and without making that surrender and passing the legal estate, and the widow survives, whether the purchaser of that estate by such agreement in equity is intitled in a court of equity to have a specifick performance not only against the representative of the husband, but against the wife so as to exclude that *free bench* or that customary estate, she would be otherwise intitled to? Next, supposing there may be such a case, and the court would carry it into execution, whether in the present case there is sufficient proof of what this agreement was, to warrant a court of equity to carry it into execution?

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As to the first there might originally be some difficulty : but notwithstanding *Musgrave v. Dasbwood* I think, taking it as a general proposition, this court might do it. Copyhold estates are liable to agreements and trusts to be declared on them, as freeholds are ; and therefore notwithstanding that general reason as to the Lord's fine (in 2 *Ver.* 63.) it has been often determined, that if a copyholder enters into an agreement for sale and dies before surrender, or makes a surrender, and dies before presentment (which makes that surrender void) this court will decree that, being for valuable consideration, to be carried into specifick performance against the heir or voluntary claimant standing in place of that copyholder. That was particularly the case of *Taylor v. Wheeler*, (2 *Ver.* 564.) which underwent a good deal of consideration, and is often cited, but cited on another head, to shew that assignees under a commission of bankruptcy take the bankrupt's estate bound by all the equity to which the estate was liable in the hands of the bankrupt ; which has been so settled ever since. As it would be so against assignees under a commission of bankruptcy, and against heir at law of the copyholder, or any person intitled to the benefit of the life-estate as special occupant during life of the bankrupt, the question then is as to the widow, by reason of *free bench*, and whether she is in the like case of such assignees, or heir, or person claiming voluntarily under the copyholder ? It is insisted for the plaintiff, that she is, because *free bench* differs from dower at common law, as it is a right the widow has upon death of her husband of such copyhold lands, whereof her husband dies seised ; that is the custom : whereas dower is a right in the widow of such lands, as the husband is seised of during the coverture, and therefore by marriage the wife gains an inchoate right to dower, which the husband cannot defeat without her levying a fine, and therefore not without her consent : which is not the case of *free bench*, for that the husband by parting with the estate during coverture prevents that right, and therefore the widow derives from her husband, as she was in his power. Now that is a mixed question : she does so far take from the husband, that her widow's estate is in the power of the husband to deprive her of, if he surrenders fairly during the coverture : but it is a right arising from the custom of the manor, and that is a reason, that breaks in a little upon the other part, for the custom of the manor is the ground of the right. But yet there are several cases, in which this court will take the benefit of it from her, notwithstanding she had the benefit of it by law ; and therefore it is admitted, that if the husband is seised only as trustee, as if another person purchased a copyhold estate for lives or in fee in name of the husband, and paid the purchase-money, if the wife claimed *free bench*, this court would prevent her claiming it against *cestuy que trust*, because he was owner in equity of the estate ; and in this it

Copyhold as freehold, liable to agreements and trusts.

Bankrupts. Assignees take the estate bound by all equity.

Free bench differs from dower : but arises from the custom of the manor.

Trustee cannot claim either.

Agreements
not carried
into execution
against issue
in tail or re-
mainder,
claiming *per
formam doni*.

does not differ from dower at common law ; for if husband is seised merely as trustee, the wife would be intitled to dower at law, but this court would not suffer her to take advantage of it ; because it would be taking part of that estate, the whole of which was in another, and against conscience. This is not a trust declared, but a trust of construction of this court ; that is, where a contract for purchase of an estate whether freehold or copyhold, and vendor dies before conveyance of the legal estate by surrender (as it is in this case) if the contract is performed on the part of the purchaser, or if he has done all that is necessary on his part, the court considers things contracted to be done for valuable consideration, as done, and considers the other as trustee from the time he ought to have performed. That goes a great way to this point : the principal case against this is that of the issue in tail and remainder ; and it is truly said, that if a man, seised of an estate tail with or without remainder over, contracts for sale, and receives the purchase money, and dies in the first case without levying a fine, or without a recovery in the last case, this court would not carry into execution against the issue in tail ; as was the case of Mr. *Savil* of *Medley*, who when tenant in tail chose rather to live in gaol, and be served in plate there, than to perform his agreement but the ground of that is, the issue in tail in the one case or remainder man in the other claim *per formam doni* from the creator or author of the estate tail, and therefore though in the power of tenant in tail to be barred by a particular conveyance, that not being done, the court cannot take away that right they derive not from the tenant in tail but from the author : that is a different ground. If therefore it had not been for the case of *Musgrave v. Dashwood*, I should have but very little doubt to determine this case. The ground there, that the widow's estate was not to be considered as an incumbrance, must be, that it was not created by the husband. I do not understand that part of the case, where the book says, the court of law was divided ; I do not see, how that could come in question in a court of law ; nor do I see, how the lord was concerned as to the fine in that case, where the bill was dismissed ; for that does not at all seem to be a reason to support it. If the articles were such as amounted there to a severance of the jointenancy in equity, in such case this court would decree against the survivor. But I should not think that authority sufficient to determine this, if this case rested upon that ; for where it is a clear case for valuable consideration, the court may do it. But the nature of this agreement makes the doubt. The court would expect it should most clearly appear, what were the terms of that agreement ; that it should be certain, plain, and fair in all respects. Then considering the agreement before me, I cannot say, that appears ; I do not know, what it was ; and in order to carry into execution the terms thereof must appear. The agreement was entered into between father and son

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while

while the father was in gaol: that is an objection, unless it is cleared up. I have no doubt, but a man might make such an agreement in gaol: but it must be having proper assistance and advice and in a fair manner. Courts of law will of course set aside on motion warrants of attorney, unless of an attorney attending on his part, of his own procuring, employed by himself, and not procured by the person taking the warrant of attorney; which is a very prudent and cautious rule, and a good rule for this court to go by. How that was, does not appear in the present case. No consideration is mentioned in the letter of attorney; it is only for divers good causes and considerations him thereunto moving. That may, as it is said, let into proof; but in this case of a specifick performance the court expects the whole to be in writing in some way or other. It is said, the real consideration was, that the son was to undertake to pay debts of the father: but there is no proof of that to my satisfaction, nor what debts he was to pay, nor reduced to any kind of certainty. Then in a case so circumstanced, of an agreement from a father while in gaol, and in a case doubtful of itself, and where there is this authority, it is too hard, and the agreement does not appear with sufficient certainty to decree it.

For plaintiff. Further proof was then read to shew a consideration paid; whereupon *His Lordship* said, it was then reduced to that question, whether, taking it be an agreement for valuable consideration and performed on the part of the purchaser, it could be against the widow; which was very material, and he must take care of the precedent; therefore ordered it to stand over, and he would look into the register's book in that case of *Musgrave v. Dashwood*.

Mathews *versus* Mathews, *July* 15, 1755.

Case 222.

Master of the Rolls for Lord Chancellor.

ADMIRAL Mathews had upon his marriage a real estate of 300 *l. per ann.* in strict settlement, so as to make his first son tenant in tail. Long afterward he enters into a deed in 1733. which is an agreement between the father and son upon the son's marriage, whereby the father agrees to take 800 *l.* part of the fortune of the son's wife, and to make a settlement in this way; that in consideration of the 800 *l.* he shall in one month afterward convey to trustees for a term of years lands subject to these trusts, to secure 50 *l. per ann.* to the son, and 800 *l.* to the younger children of the son to be paid at such days, times, manners, and proportions, as *Thomas Mathews* the son should direct and appoint, and for want of appointment to be paid to them equally at twenty-one or marriage, with benefit

Debtor devises a much larger legacy upon a condition, which by a subsequent deed it becomes impossible to perform; by the will it would not have been a satisfaction, as it was for another purpose: but being freed from

the condition by the deed, it is a satisfaction. benefit of survivor upon the death of any before ; and if he had no child, the said 800 l. should not be raised, and the term should attend the inheritance.

In 1749. he makes a will, and devises 700 l. *per annum* to his son, upon condition that the son within twelve months after testator's death should convey the whole family-estate for better securing to the testator's sister in law *Anne Burgefs* 100 l. *per annum* for life, which he had before given her out of the said lands ; with another condition that the son should confirm his will, otherwise the 700 l. annuity to cease ; and then makes a very large provision for the grandchildren at their age of twenty-five or marriage.

In 1750. the testator by a deed makes his son tenant for life instead of tenant in tail, as he was before, by levying a fine and resettling an estate in the strictest settlement, and to no other uses.

After his death the question upon the present bill was, how far the claims of the son, his wife, and children, under the agreement in 1733, are barred by any other provision in the will of the father ; and whether that is a satisfaction ?

Sir Thomas Clarke.

General rule, that a legacy, larger than or equal to a debt, is a constructive satisfaction ; but any minute circumstance is laid hold of to take it out of that ; as it must be as certain as to the duration and commencement.

The deed in 1733. was a contract between father and son so as to make the son and his family purchasers from the father, and created a debt owing from the father to them. As to the wife, she has clearly received no satisfaction for that debt contracted to her. As to the children, the rules of satisfaction are well settled and known ; and it is strange, how that general rule came to be established ; that is, where a debtor by his will gives a larger or equal benefit, it is extraordinary to say, that, if the estate is sufficient for both debt and bounty, the testator upon the rule of constructive satisfaction should not intend both. However that rule has been so settled, and not broke in upon : yet the court dislikes it so much as to lay hold of any minute circumstance to take it out : as that the thing in satisfaction should be as certain as to the duration and commencement of it, otherwise, though ten times larger given by the will, it will not be held a satisfaction. I remember a case before the *Lord Chancellor*, where an old lady indebted to a servant for wages, by will gave ten times as much as she owed, or was likely to owe ; yet because made payable in a month after her own death, so that the servant might not outlive the month, although great odds the other way, the court laid hold of that. By the articles in 1733, the children were intitled to 800 l. so as that every child must have had part of it. By the will he has given twenty times as much in the whole among them : but then it is so given them,

them that if they do not arrive at twenty-five years of age, or do not marry, they would be intitled to nothing. It falls not within the rules of satisfaction, to which the court has adhered; and it is too much to say, the children are not intitled to both.

Next as to the annuity of 50*l.* for life to the son, independent of the deed in 1750; what is given by the will is not a satisfaction of what was given by the deed in 1733. The testator has contracted a debt by the deed in 1733: it is contended, that the annuity given by the will is a satisfaction for that: but it is given by the will *diverso intuitu*. It is the same, as if the testator had devised the settled estate to his son for life, &c. subject to the annuity to *Anne Burgefs*; and then if the son had performed that condition, he would be intitled to claim under the deed in 1733. The court never carried the rule of satisfaction so far by construction as to make that answer a double purpose. Suppose, a man gives a pecuniary legacy to his executor, and dies indebted to that executor, and no disposition of the surplus of the personal estate; the question was, whether the executor should be intitled to the undisposed residue; and, having a legacy by the will, by the common rule of the court he was barred: but it was insisted, that that legacy should also bar his debt, which was less than his legacy: but the court would not let that operate for two purposes so as to make it pay the debt beside. This case is similar; for the testator has, upon condition that he will settle the family estate, given him the 700*l.* annuity; and now it is contended to make that 700*l.* annuity pay a debt; the son upon performing the condition would be intitled to have recourse to the payment of this debt under the deed in 1733. Thus if it stood on the will: but it is necessary to consider the deed in 1750, and the force thereof upon this question. The testator having by the will made an injunction upon the son with which he might or might not comply; in 1750. they come to an agreement to levy a fine and settle the estate to the uses and intents afterward with strong negative word to no other. It is a new agreement, and it is truly said, the will left is executory, and the testator executed this part of the will himself: but in what manner? Which decides the question, however the son is satisfied. They put the estate which was the subsequent matter of that deed in 1750. out of the son's power to perform that condition annexed to the devise of the 700*l.* *per annum*, which the son might have done when the will was made, being tenant in tail of that estate: but having got the son into this settlement, it was out of his power to secure that for the life of *Anne Burgefs*, though he might grant *pour auter vie*, that is his own life: Then this shews a variation of intention by executing part of it in his life, and putting it in such a way as if no such provision as to the annuity of *Anne Burgefs* had been in the will

will. This annuity of 700*l.* is by the deed in 1750. a pure annuity and free from the condition; and then it is the same, as if the condition comprised in the will never had been mentioned; and if it had been pure and free, it would be a satisfaction of the 50*l. per annum.* By the deed in 1750. then it is within the general rule of satisfaction, though by the will it would not have been so.

N. *His Honour* mentioned a late case of *Sewel v. Clark*, where *Godfrey* a brewer, had devised the produce of 10,000*l.* to his mother for her maintenance, and determined that that should abate in proportion.

Case 223.

Hinton *versus* Hinton, July 16, 1755.

Ante July 14.

LORD CHANCELOR gave judgment.

This case is now reduced to the first point. I inclined to be of opinion, that in such a case of an agreement by a copyholder for a sale to his son for valuable consideration, paid as to the greatest part at least, the father dying before actual surrender, the purchaser was intitled in a court of equity to carry that into execution, and to compel the widow, who, by the custom of the manor, was intitled to *free bench* out of this estate to surrender her right thereto in execution of this. The only doubt, I had, arose from *Musgrave v. Dashwood*, mentioned in two places in 2 *Ver.* 45, and 63, and so obscurely reported there, that I desired the register's book, and looked into it; where it is entered in two places, and the days in *Ver.* appear to be right, but in neither of those places is there in the Register's book any state of the pleadings or case; in the latter place is a common short order of dismissal; so that no state and no light can be from thence. Then the authority of that case depends on the book, where it is so imperfectly stated, it is difficult to know the ground of it; for it might be only a bare contract for sale, the day for surrender not being come, nor any money paid by the purchaser: that may be a ground for a difference, for then vendor was not become trustee for vendee in that case, for it was to be performed until the death of the husband. That authority then cannot have weight to govern my judgment; and I must consider it upon the reason of the thing and other authorities. No other authority can be found; and therefore it is divested of any determination to conclude the judgment of the court; and therefore I have looked into what cases at common law upon imperfect conveyances by husband, and left so at his death, have been made as to *free bench* of the wife upon such a conveyance. Some are very relative to the
pre-

present; and the analogy and reason thereof will go a great way; for it is a general rule, that *equitas sequitur legem*. The first authority is only a general one to shew the nature of the wife's estate; *Rennington v. Cole*, Noy 29. the ground of which was, that the *free bench* estate of the wife is but a branch out of the estate of the husband; and other cases shew, that in events it is in the power of the husband. Another case, in 1 *Inst.* 59. b. goes a good way in this; which is a very strong case, that a surrender barely to use of a will, the use of the copyhold lands directed by the will, and no presentment until after death of surrenderor, surrenderee shall take the lands in preference to the surviving jointenant, the surrender though no presentment being a severance of the jointure: which is a strong support of the determination of C. B. in *Carr v. Singer*, cited by me the other day, that a surrender to use of a will will bar an estate tail of a copyhold; for if such a surrender, though not presented until after death of the jointenant, will sever the jointure (the objection to which was, that the will took place but at the death) though the estate tail and the use by the will are to take effect at the same time, yet it should bar the intail; that goes a great way to the present case. Another case is *Benson v. Scot*, Sal. 185: where there was a surrender by the husband, the conveyance imperfect at his death for want of presentment, that presentment was made after his death, and held to bar the *free bench*. Another case is in *Freem.* 516. For want of authorities and precedents in this court, I have cited these at common law to shew how far and to what degree courts of law have considered *free bench* in the power of the husband. This is clear; that where the husband dies, having made an imperfect conveyance, that is held compleated after his death, and to exclude *free bench*; which shews, how much they held it in power of the husband. Then consider, how far the reason of that goes in a court of equity. The husband has for valuable consideration contracted to sell the whole of this estate, all that was in his power in it; he had an interest in it for his life, and a contingent interest to dispose of that right of his wife; and the question is, whether analogous to those determinations at law she should be bound by this act? I am of opinion it is so; for it is parting with the whole estate in equity; and this court considers the thing as done, from the time it ought; considers vendor as trustee for vendee; and that they, who come in his place, ought to perform that. The only objection to that was from analogy to cases of issue in tail, who claim *paramount* and *per formam doni*; which is compared to this, that here the widow claims not under the husband, but from the custom of the manor, and therefore something distinct from the husband. But the determinations at common law go not upon that at all; for according to that case, that *free bench* is a branch of the estate of the husband, it arises from the estate of the husband, though it is from the custom of the manor; and you might argue in that

Ante, in
Moor v.
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way

way as well in *Borough English*, wherein lands descend to the youngest son; and yet if the father in his life contracts only to carry into execution, the youngest son is as much bound to carry that into execution as customary heir, as much as the heir at common law. Nay that youngest son shall be obliged to surrender the copyhold lands, and the consideration-money to be paid for them shall go to the father's personal estate, not to him: yet it might be said, that son claims not from his father, but by the custom of the manor. This is very near that case, though not quite; for courts of law and equity consider that custom only as directing the derivation of that out of the husband's estate.

I am of opinion therefore, that the defendant is under the circumstances of this case bound to surrender her widow's estate in these copyhold lands to the plaintiff at his expence in performance of her husband's agreement: but without costs.

Case 224. *Alexander versus Alexander, July 17, 1755.*

Master of the Rolls for Lord Chancellor.

Power to appoint among children; each must have a part, not illusory, nor reversionary: but a particular interest, as for life, may be given to one. But not to grandchildren; nor can a discretion be given to another to appoint. But though that would be void, it would not devolve on the court, which is only where the power is well created, but by accident cannot be executed by the party. Where given to those not

JAMES ALEXANDER by will bequeaths to two trustees 6000 *l.* describing particularly the funds of which it consisted, upon trust to pay the interest and produce to his wife for life, and directs them to place the same out at interest with her consent; "and I give unto my said wife the absolute disposal of the said sum of 6000 *l.* unto and among such children begotten between us, and in such proportion, as she shall by last will and testament, or by any other deed or deeds, writing or writings, to be executed by her in her lifetime, attested by two or more credible witnesses, direct, limit, and appoint;" then directs the trustees to pay the same according to such will or appointment; and for want of such a will or appointment, that the said 6000 *l.* should fall into and go in the same manner as the residue of his personal estate: but if his wife should think fit to apply in her lifetime any part of the said 6000 *l.* as an increase of any of the portions given by the will to his said children, or any of them, for their better advancement in marriage or otherwise in the world, then the trustees should out of the said 6000 *l.* issue and pay such part thereof for the benefit of such children, as his wife should by any writing as aforesaid direct and appoint.

The mother makes her will, there being then five of the children living, she thereby recites her power, and in pursuance thereof gives to her daughter *Anne* 100 *l.* to be paid out of the sum of 5390 *l.* which she computed to be the only remaining sum

sum of 6000 *l.* after deducting what she had before paid to some of her children ; and as to the remaining produce after payment of the said 100 *l.* she disposes to her daughter *Mary* and son *James* for their own respective use each one full fourth part thereof (the whole into four parts equally to be divided), and to the said *Mary* and *James* also the other remaining two fourth parts ; but as to those two-fourth parts upon the trusts following ; viz. as to one of the same to place out or continue on securities during the life of their sister, her daughter *Catherine*, wife of *Thomas Clipperton*, and to pay the interest thereof to such person or persons and for such purposes as she shall from time to time direct, and in default of such direction into her own proper hands, my will being, that such interest shall be for her separate use and disposal, and not subject to the debts, controul or engagements of her present or any future husband ; and upon trust at her decease to pay and apply the principal of such fourth part to such child or children, if any, as she shall happen to have living at her decease, in such manner as she shall by writing under her hand in nature of a will or otherwise appoint ; and, for want of such appointment, to such child, if but one, if more to them equally ; in default of such child or children the principal of such fourth part, if she survives her husband, to be wholly paid to her for her only use and benefit ; but if she dies in his life, the said principal at her decease to go to the said *James* and *Mary*, yet for their own respective benefit only as for one third part thereof to each of them ; and as to the other third part thereof, and also as the other of such remaining two-fourth parts, whereof no disposition is herein yet made, upon trust to pay and apply the principal and interest thereof or any part of either from time to time weekly or otherwise in such manner as said *Mary* and *James*, their executors, administrators, or assigns shall in their discretion think most beneficial for the personal support and maintenance of their brother, my son *Francis*, and his wife and children, but not for the payment of his debts.

capable, the
other capable
takes the
whole.

It cannot be
given exempt
from debts of
appointee.

Sir *Thomas Clarke* said, there were some particularities in the case, and he would consider of it, and next day delivered his opinion.

Considering the nature of the power, the wife was confined as to the objects to give it to, but left to her discretion as to apportioning it among them. In consequence of this she was obliged to give the whole among the children ; every child must have some ; such share as she pleased, provided not illusory ; which has been the language of the court as to such appointments. If then she might apportion, as she pleased, it is necessarily implied in that, that she

might apportion it out in such manner as she pleased ; for it is such kind of proportions, as she should think fit; and therefore the power in the first part of the will does not differ from the latter part, where the word *manner* is added ; for the first word means kind of proportions. This is the nature of the power ; consequently she might give an interest for life in a particular share to one child, or limit the capital of the same share to another, or even go so far as to limit it to a third child upon a contingency ; provided she doled out the whole in this various way among all the children only. One restriction she was under, that she could not have given any one child merely a reversionary interest ; for it was intended as a provision, and therefore it would be deemed illusory. The power did not require that she should dole it out in gross sums, and give each child an absolute interest in that gross sum ; for which among several other cases *Thwaytes v. Day*, 2 *Ver.* 80. is a strong authority, that such a power will enable the giving particular interests and to apportion such interest, as a general power of apportioning land itself would. As this is necessarily implied, there is nothing in the objection, that where this is designed, the power is more extensive, and words added.

As this is the nature of the power, consider what is done under it. It is observable, that in consequence of the nature of the power the mother has given to each of the five children then alive a share in possession, not merely a reversionary interest ; which I should have doubted whether it would be good. The 100 *l.* to *Anne*, and the one-fourth of the residue to *James*, and the other fourth to *Mary* absolutely, are undoubtedly good ; so is the interest to *Catherine* for life in the other fourth part ; and the giving it to her separate use is so far from being an objection, that it is more strictly carrying into execution the will of the father, a stronger execution of the power agreeably to his intent. But next the provision for the children of *Catherine* is not a good appointment. The mother had a power to do something similar to this, but in another way ; for though that power would have enabled her for better advancement in marriage to make a strict settlement, that is implicitly contained in that power to limit any share she thought fit to give for advancement of marriage, in that way, but she has not taken that method ; for she has made a disposition of it by her will, and therefore it must correspond with every circumstance in that will. No case will, under a power to appoint to children, warrant to give to grandchildren ; there is a case in point to that, if it needed it, in *Vernon* : but it clearly cannot. *Thwaytes v. Day* is more like an authority on that side of the question ; but that is no authority to contradict the reason of the thing, that the appointment to the children

dren is bad. Next, as to the contingent interest to *Catherine* if she had no children and she survived her husband; but in default thereof two-thirds to *James* and *Mary*, the other third to go over with the other fourth to *Francis*; suppose *Catherine* leaves children at the time of her death, it is impossible any of these limitations over should take effect; it will fall into the residue, because it was no appointment, being only a partial appointment of that fourth, given only to *Catherine* for life; and the children, though they could not take themselves, would yet prevent the limitation over. But the most material limitation is that given last to *Francis*, his wife and children. Consider the effect of this appointment: first on a supposition that this discretionary power was good, and had been exercised by *James* and *Mary*. It is clear they could not have duly exercised that power without giving a share to the wife and children of *Francis*; otherwise it is not consistent with the mother's intent; nor can I say they could discreetly have given the whole to *Francis*; and it is clear, that if they had exercised this power to the wife and children, it would have been bad. If they had given any thing (as they must something in consequence of their power) it would have been giving so much contrary to the intent and effect of the power: but I am clearly of opinion, this discretionary power was not good; because, if there is a power to *A.* of personal trust or confidence, to exercise his judgment and discretion, *A.* cannot say this money shall be appointed by the discretion of *B.* for *delegatus non potest delegare*. It was determined by Lord Chancellor in *Attorney General v. Berryman*, Feb. 11. 1752; where a personal estate was given to such charitable use as one Dr. *Berryman* should appoint; he directed the money to be applied as another Dr. *Berryman* his brother should appoint; which the court would not allow. Next consider the consequence of this: if the power could not be exercised, will it devolve on the court? It clearly cannot; for powers devolving on the court are powers well created in the original, but such as by accident, as the death of persons, cannot be executed by those persons; there is a natural substitution of the court in the room of those persons. But if a power is void in the original, there is nothing to devolve on the court. It is the same as if the mother had given it herself indefinitely for the benefit of *Francis*, his wife and children, laying the discretionary power out of the case, as if never inserted in the will; and certainly so far as the wife and children were to have the benefit of it, that would not be good. Nobody could say how much the wife and children were intitled to, because it is given indefinitely. Had it been free from that circumstance of uncertainty, how much each was to take, it would be void as to the wife and children just as that given to *Catherine*. Suppose she had given it to the husband, his wife,

Power may be good and bad in part, and the excess only void; where the execution is complete, and the bounds between it and the excess clear.

wife, and children, in gross sums absolutely, equally to be divided, that would have been bad and an excess of her power; and if it had been such a partial appointment, so far as void it would have fallen into the residue. The material question then is as to the consequence of this; whether the wife and children being incapable of taking will carry the whole to *Francis*, or whether the whole will go over, or whether any *medium* can be found out? it is said to carry the whole to *Francis*; because the execution of a power may be good in part and bad in part; and that even at law an irregular execution of a power will be supported, and not amount to no execution at all; and that in many cases only the excess of a power will be void, the residue good. All that I admit; first that the execution of a power may be good and bad in part: but the consequence of this will be various, as the circumstances of the cases are. As suppose a power to a man to appoint 1000 *l.* among his children; he appoints 100 *l.* among the children, and 900 *l.* among others who are strangers: the appointment of the 900 *l.* will be so absolutely void, as that it will not be prevented from going over, if limited over for want of appointment, as if he had made none; and something of this has happened in this case, or may happen as to *Catherine*. On the other hand if the father gives the whole 1000 *l.* to his children, and annexes a condition, that they shall release a debt owing to them, or pay money over, the appointment of 1000 *l.* would be absolute; and the condition would be only void; and the boundaries between the excess and proper execution are precise and apparent. The ground and principle of all this is, that where there is a complete execution of a power, and something *ex abundanti* added, which is improper, there the execution shall be good, and only the excess void: but where not a complete execution of a power, or where the boundaries between the excess and execution are not distinguishable, it will be bad. Suppose, one has power to jointure a wife for life, and appoints to her for 99 years, if she so long live, as in the case of Mr. *Newport*, at law it was held in *B. R.* to be void, but in equity good *pro tanto*; because he has done less than his power, and it clearly appears how much less the boundaries are clear and distinguishable; if the wife should outlive the 99 years, the estate as to the residue of her life will be undisposed, and will go over to the remainder or other person intitled. Now to put a case *vice versa*, suppose a power to lease for twenty-one years, and he leases for forty; that shall be good for the twenty-one, because it is a complete execution of the power, and it appears how much he has exceeded it. If the court can see the boundaries, it will be good for the execution of the power, and void as to the excess. Now is this appointment for benefit of *Francis*, his wife, and children, a complete execution as to *Francis*? (for that is contended for.)

I

I think

I think certainly not; for the wife and children were to have something, and so far as something is designed for them it is bad, and no possibility to distinguish how much she has exceeded the power; it falls therefore within neither of those circumstances, which are essentially necessary. But it is proper to consider if there is no other way to make this good; because the court will strongly lean in favour of that side, if it can. I own, I incline to think there is a method: suppose the mother, instead of using the words she has, had given this one-fourth to be applied in such way as most beneficial for her son and his wife and children, if they shall by law be capable; I should not have doubted, but that as the wife and children are not by law capable, it would be absolute to *Francis*; and the question is, whether there is any difference? This bears an analogy to what the dispositions by the mother would be, if she had given it to a son by name, who never appeared to have existence, or was never capable of taking; if given to these four indefinitely, and three were incapable of taking, the fourth would have the whole, must take such, as the others were incapable of taking. It falls within the reason of the late case of *Humphries v. Taylour*; where a personal estate was given to two in jointenancy; one was outlawed; and therefore the testatrix made a codicil, whereby she adeemed what was given to one of the two; the question was, whether the other jointenant should take only a moiety? But the court held, he was to take what the other did not, they were to take the whole between them. The mother never designed this fourth part should fall into the residue; and it would be extremely hard that it should. Then he will be intitled to the whole of that. As to the subsequent restraint, that it should be exempt from debts, she has there exceeded the power given by the law, as in the other case she exceeded the power given by her husband; for it will be left to take the fate of being his property and subject to be come at as his creditors shall think fit.

One joint legatee being outlawed, a codicil adeems his share, the other takes the whole.

I declare therefore, that the execution of the power, so far as it concerns other persons than the children of the testator, is void and of no effect.

Note; At the bar was cited the case of Lord *Conway*, who, having power to grant leases of his estate by one instrument, granted several; some of which were not within the power; and tho' all were within the same instrument, they were considered as several leases, and it was sent to the Master to separate them.

Also the *Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's* case, to shew that where a power exceeded is void at law in the whole,

this court will hold it good as an agreement, and direct a specifick performance, restraining the contract according to the power ; as was done there.

Case 225.

Garth versus Baldwin, July 18, 1755.

Devise of real and personal in trust for A. for life, afterwards for B. for life, and afterwards for heirs of his body ; afterwards for the other sons of A. successively in tail taking testator's name ; then for the daughter's in tail ; for want of such issue to convey to C. in fee. B. is intitled to a conveyance in tail of the real, and to the absolute property of the personal. The intent being at least doubtful, the legal operation of the words cannot be taken away. And as to the personal, it vests absolutely by this limitation whether so intended or not.

EDWARD TURNER in 1736 devises all his real and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever subject to annuities and legacies, and all estate, right, title, and interest in law and equity, " to *Charles Baldwin* in trust to pay the rents and profits of the real, and profits of the personal, to my cousin *Sarah Garth* to her separate use for life, and as if sole and unmarried ; and after her death to pay the same to *Edward Turner Garth* her son for life ; and afterwards to pay the same to the heirs of his body ; and for want of such issue to pay the same to all and every other son or sons of the body of *Sarah Garth* begotten, or to be begotten, and the heirs of the bodies successively, the eldest to be preferred in priority of birth ; and for want of such issue to all and every daughter and daughters of *Sarah Garth* and the heirs of their bodies respectively, as tenants in common, not as jointenants ; and for want of such issue in trust to convey all the real and personal estate to my cousin *Thomas Gore*, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns forever, the bulk of my estate coming from his family ;" with a direction that by act of parliament or otherwise, as should be thought proper, all the sons of *Sarah Garth* should take upon them the name of *Turner*.

Sarah Garth never had any other son except *Edward Turner Garth*, but left also a daughter now an infant.

Edward Turner Garth having read an affidavit of his coming of age, brought on petitioning to ascertain his interest in this real and personal estate.

For petitioner. Upon this question, whether or no the petitioner is tenant in tail of the real, and absolutely interested in the personal, estate, some difficulty may arise. As cases of this nature often happen, it is of general consequence to settle it on a reasonable and just foundation. To effectuate as far as possible the intent of testator, courts of equity have-carried the notion as to trust estates farther than formerly : but care must be taken, that we do not for that reason lose all rules of law and land-marks of property. To construe this will according to rules established upon the trust as it concerns the real estate, the nature of the instrument and the words are to be considered. Nothing can be inferred

inferred from the instrument to imply an intent to make a strict settlement. A distinction is established in several cases, as in *Bale v. Coleman*, 1 Will. 142. that in articles on marriage the court will construe *heirs of the body* or *issue* so as to carry into strict settlement for the issue, who are purchasers and upon the consideration of marriage; the court, respecting the course of marriage-settlements, presumes, that the parties in the articles mean to contract accordingly; and therefore an implication arises on the nature of the instrument; which fails in the construction of a will, where all take under the bounty of testator, and the legal operation shall take effect. Next upon the words: it is only a limitation to *A.* for life, remainder to heirs of his body. In *King v. Melling*, 1 Ven. all the judges admitted the legal operation would be to vest the limitation in *A.* the first taker, but the doubt was as to *issue of the body*: but whatever debate it bore formerly it is now settled, that whether it is to *heirs*, or *issue, of the body*, the first taker should have it vested in him, and that opinion of Lord *Hale* has been followed ever since. Though here an estate for life is expressed, the testator might as well mean an estate tail. Wherever an estate tail is given, an estate for life is impliedly given, the two limitations being connected together and looked on as an estate tail executed. If that then is the legal sense, the only cases, which varied, have been, where other words are superadded, or a special designation, as *Burchett v. Durdant*, 2 Ven. 311. *Archer's case* 1 Co. 66. being an indication of intent that *heirs of the body* shall be a description of the person as words of purchase; that intent is followed even in a court of law. So a direction not to alien may shew the intent of testator. Here no words of limitation are superadded to those, which always carried an estate tail. It is objected, that this being under a trust the court must say, the testator intended only an estate for life: but the construction of these words will be the same on a trust as a legal estate, *Bale v. Coleman*; and admitted by *Your Lordship* in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*, 12 Nev. 1748, that if there is nothing more Ante. in the will to indicate the testator's intent, they should have that effect according to the legal operation, not according to any supposed intent. The two leading cases are that and *Papillon v. Voice*, 2 Wil. 472. but this cannot be determined on the same grounds. In *Bagshaw v. Spencer*, the precise ground on which *Your Lordship* determined it, was, that by interposition of trustees to preserve contingent remainders the testator intended an estate to the tenant for life forfeitable, such as if he did any act to prevent the intail or contingent uses from taking effect, the trustees might enter. The judges of *B. R.* had a short time before determined, what had been the effect at law of limitation to trustees during life of tenant for life to preserve contingent remainders with a limitation afterward to the heirs of his body; they held, that the interposition of trustees prevented the estate for

Colson v. Colson, May 8, 1740. Cited ante.

Cited ante
Bagshaw v.
Spencer.

Ante.

for life in the first taker from merging in the inheritance, and therefore he took an estate for life and a remainder in tail after the limitation to the trustees; and grounded themselves on *Duncomb v. Duncomb*, 3 *Lev.* 437. *Your Lordship* going upon that ground considered the court as pressed with this consequence, that if the court inserted in the conveyance the limitation to trustees, they would follow that estate with the contingent uses to be preserved, and limit them in a regular and proper manner: but that if the court omitted them, then the court would give upon the execution of that trust a different legal estate upon the legal operation of the words, from what the testator intended; for that the consequence would be, that the estate for life would merge in the inheritance, and he would take an estate tail contrary to the intent. In the case of Serjeant *Maynard's will* (Sir *John Hobart v. Lord Stamford*) the reason, inducing the court to go as it did, has not been in any other instance before or since. The ground of the determination in *Withers v. Algood* by Lord *Talbot* was from the absurdity, and to make all take in the same manner by way of purchase: but there is no instance where this court ever carried a bare trust for life, remainder to heirs of the body, into strict settlement. It will be contended, that there is a difference between the limitation to the petitioner and those following to the other children; and therefore that the testator knew how to limit an estate tail properly, and did it on this ground, that the petitioner was in being at the time of making the will, and therefore could be made tenant for life, but that as to the rest not *in esse* he must make the limitation to them an inheritance. It is strange to suppose a less beneficial interest intended to the eldest son than to the other children; nor is it absolutely true, that no one not *in esse* an inheritance must be limited; for it might be made by way of contingent remainder for life, supposing it to arise within the time allowed by law, tho' beyond that an inheritance must arise. There might be one reason to limit it to the petitioner for life particularly; he might have a doubt whether the petitioner and his son, if he had a son at his mother's death, might not take jointly; which might occasion that limitation in a different manner. Whatever weight this objection might have in those two leading cases, where the court did argue from it as auxiliary (for there was a much stronger argument) no case was ever yet determined on that ground; it is too slight; for it would be saying, one cannot limit the same *species* of inheritance to different persons in the same will by different words. If in one part a proper estate tail is limited by correct words, in another by words construed to carry an estate tail, the court will not say, the latter should not carry it because of the former correct words. So on a devise in fee. If it is said, the intent was, that the rest should not be barred, that intent could go no farther than the first; for the second son unborn had a certain estate tail; there is no plain indication therefore of intent of a strict settlement, or that the

petitioner should not be able to bar the remainders; and it is the construction of this court, that must take away the legal effect of these words. As to the inconveniencies if otherwise the court has no power to make him tenant for life without impeachment of waste; for that was never done but in *Lecnard v. Lord Suffex*, 2 Ver. 526. and the court might as well arbitrarily give him power to make a jointure as cut down trees, for it is equally inconvenient to want both powers; the last of which could not be done by this court, though perhaps the other may. All these inconveniencies, full as great as the giving him power to bar the remainders, will be avoided by this construction. As to the trust of the personal estate, there is no direction to lay it out in land. Where it is limited for life, remainder to heirs of the body, and in default of issue over, the whole vests in first taker. Some cases on peculiar grounds of distinction have gone so far as to make *heirs of the body* words of purchase, as *Peacock v. Spooner*, 2 Ver. 195. but all the authorities subsequent to *Webb v. Webb*, 2 Ver. 668. concur to vest in first taker. Indeed a contingent limitation over will take effect, if it can; but not on a general dying without issue, as here. In all those cases of a double contingency it has been to A. for life, remainder to first and every other son, in default of issue male to daughters, in default of such issue to B. If no son or daughter is left, the court will consider it as if those limitations were never inserted, and the remainder to B. as immediate after the limitation for life: but on the present words the court is compelled to say, the whole vests in the first taker. If so as to the personal estate, that is a strong ground for the court, (which inclines to make an uniform determination) to go on as to the real. Words of limitation over have sometimes been construed different as to the real and personal, as in *Forth v. Chapman*, 1 Will. 663. but the court there went on the word *leaving*.

For *Thomas Gore*, It is to be hoped, this question is reduced to a certainty, at least as to estates devised in trust; for as to legal estates, where to the ancestor for life with a limitation to the heirs of his body, it must be despaired ever to see it reduced to a certain principle; for the determinations go upon neither principle. One is, that the intent signifies nothing. The law has said, that the ancestor never shall take an estate for life, and make the heir purchaser; because it was a fraud upon the tenure; not upon the construction that if an estate for life is given, remainder to his heirs, the same was meant as if given to him in fee: but the law says, you shall not do it, because taking an estate for life and making the heir purchaser, will destroy all the fruits of the fee: it is not that the man does not intend it, but the law upon principles of policy says, that the limitation is void, not going upon the intent: and so it is as to perpetuities. That rule being once established, though

the reason ceased, by the abolition of tenures, yet courts of law might do right in adhering to the rule. If therefore the determinations had been uniform, that in a limitation for life to the ancestor and to heirs of any sort they were never words of purchase but of limitation, it would be a consistent rule. But courts of law have allowed an exception out of this rule for the sake of the intent; and have in many cases at law laid hold of a word of intent, that the testator meant an estate for life, and therefore the general rule should not take place; as in *Backhouse v. Wells*, (Eq. Ab. 184.) on the word *only* for if it had not been for that word, *issue* (which in a will is the same as heirs of the body) would not alone have done. So in *Pibus v. Mitford*, 1 Ven. 372. *et non aliter* were the words. In *Legat v. Sewel*, (Eq. Ab. 395.) it was grounded on the intent; and that intent was upon words of limitation grafted. So in *Lisle v. Gray*, 2 Lev. &c. they went on the word *heirs*, from the intent even in a deed that it should be so. But the determinations at law will not put it on the intent; for in *Celsson v. Colson*, which was a mere legal estate, if they were to go on the intent, the mere interposition of trustees to preserve contingent remainders was a stronger indication of intent than *only* or *non aliter*; as it shewed he had a notion, that his limitation was contingent. Then it goes not upon the intent, but results to the original point, that whatever was the intent he shall not do it: and yet it was never laid down in any case at law, that notwithstanding the intent it shall not be done. In *Broughton v. Langley*, 1 Lut. 814, and imperfectly in *Sal. 769*. the intent is gone upon but by saying, that it was not an indication of the intent; as *Holt* in his answer to the objection shews, although a power to tenant in tail in the will to make a jointure, does seem a strong indication of the intent. From these cases one cannot say, whether the intent was to govern or not. Thus it stands at law: but where the estate is in trust, it is to be hoped we are now come certainly to know the rule, by which the question is to be determined; for what is said in *Boraston's* case will hold much stronger in case of a trust; that if improper words are used, the law will consider by what proper words he might have done it; and if his intent was clear, that shall be supported: but if he endeavours at a perpetuity, or giving an executory devise beyond the time allowed, that he could not have done by proper words, and that shall not be supported in favour of the intent. That holds *a fortiori* in case of trusts; for if the intent is clear, he cannot commit a blunder in point of form; and upon this sensible reason; the trustee is to make a conveyance under direction of the court; when the court is to give direction, they are to translate into technical terms. Then the direction, the court is to give here, is put into proper words. In *Hopkins v. Hopkins*, (Tal. 44.) it was on the point, whether the remainder over would vest immediately, there being no trustees to preserve, &c. in the declaration of trust;

and it is certain, that where the whole legal estate, the fee simple, was given to trustees they interpose in the trust, would support what followed as to contingent remainders*, and there is no occasion to repeat them. In *Bagshaw v. Spencer* there are trustees interposed in the trust. That might introduce the distinction (there doubted of by *Your Lordship*) between trust executed and executory; for in executory trust, as to lay out money in land, the whole not being compleated, it is in the form of it a direction to them to settle; in the other case the whole was settled; and this court adhered to the determination of courts of law; but not where a court of law had nothing to do with it, but would determine according to the intent; whatever the legal estate is to trustees, in point of form (provided the meaning was clear) that must be carried into execution according to his intent, and that by apt, technical words and forms, and that is the distinction between legal and those, which are to be carried into execution in this court; for it is settled, that notwithstanding determinations at law upon the formal words of a legal estate, where this court interposes in execution of a trust, no technical words will prevent decreeing according to the intent an estate for life, though the word *heirs* is afterward used. If then this is admitted to be a trust, not an use executed, as to the real estate, and the prayer of the petition is to have a conveyance pursuant to the trust, the court must find out what the testator meant as to the subject of the devise both real and personal estate. First as to the personal which is much the most considerable. The old rule of law (that where the ancestor took an estate for life, the heir should not take as purchaser) did not extend to personal estate; because the reason did not, as there could be no consideration of tenure or fraud upon the Lord; whatever therefore in such a limitation of a contingent interest that construction has been adopted, it has been by way of analogy, and upon foundation of the intent: but otherwise the word *heirs*, as applied to personal estate, is in its nature a word of purchase, not limitation: *e contra* as applied to real. To consider the authorities and rule of law as to this applied to personal, unless something particular in the manner of giving it, in settling or intending to settle personal estate, *heirs* is in general a word of purchase, though by way of analogy to the limitation of freehold estate the first taker may take it absolutely, where it was intended barely to mark the line of succession in which to go. The leading case is *Peacock v. Spooner*; where the judgment, that they were words of limitation, was reversed, and that reversal, upon the reason of the thing, affirmed by the *Lords*. A strong confirmation of that was afterward by Lord *Somers* (who must have known

* *Lord Chancellor*: It was first determined by lord *Somers* in *Pembay v. Hurrell*, that the original trust served all the remainders, 1 *Will.* 56. *Ante*, *Allanfon v. Clitherow*, 23 July 1747.

the whole of it) in *Daffern v. Daffern*, 2 Ver. 362. P. C. 96, where they were held words of purchase; and in those two cases there is no argument of intent beside being a limitation for life and a settlement on husband and wife and the heirs, that is the children, of the marriage. Nothing is there said of an argument drawn from *stat. 11 H. 7.* It is true, that about eleven years afterward a case came before Lord *Harcourt* in 1710. which certainly contradicts both the former and the judgment of the *Lords*; and the question will be, whether since *Webb v. Webb*, (best reported in 1 Will. 132.) *Your Lordship* has adopted that determination, or adhered to the former. Though there was a great diversity of opinions among the judges, yet *Your Lordship* upon searching the minutes found, they did not go on *stat. 11 H. 7.* It was a marriage-settlement in *Webb v. Webb*, and the words *so long of the term as she shall live*, which *Your Lordship* in *Hodfel v. Buffy* held to be as strong as *for life only* or *non aliter*; and in a marriage settlement this court will never presume an intent to defeat the issue. Lord *Harcourt* had then no notion of a distinction between a trust and legal limitation; and the differences taken by him between that case and *Peacock v. Spooner* have nothing material in them: and that case has since been doubted of, and the former adhered to. The first in point of time is *Witthers v. Algood*, 4 July 1735. where Lord *Talbot*, the next day after he had fully pronounced his judgment, cited in favour of his opinion *Daffern v. Daffern* as strongly supporting *Peacock v. Spooner*, and mentioned *Webb v. Webb* as decreed by Lord *Harcourt* to the contrary without assigning any, or at least satisfactory, reason. In *Sands v. Dixwell*, 8 December 1738. Freehold and leasehold were devised in trust to convey to the separate use of his daughter for life without the intermeddling of her husband, and after her decease in trust to the heirs of her body; the question was, whether an estate tail or *heirs of the body* were words of purchase; *Your Lordship* upon consideration held them in that case words of purchase, arguing from the intent, and also that as to the real estate they may be proper words of limitation, but as to the leasehold they were proper words of purchase; and that the direction to the separate use of the wife shewed, it meant for life. Another determination by *Your Lordship* was in *Hodfel v. Buffy*, 5 December 1740. where *Edward Buffy*, seised of a reversionary term, assigned to trustees to permit *Grace* the wife to take the rent and profits during the term, if she so long live; afterward to the use of *Edward* during life; and after the decease of *Edward* and *Grace* in trust for the heirs of the body of *Grace*, begotten or to be begotten by *Edward*, their executors, administrators and assigns; the question was, whether it vested in *Grace* absolutely; which it did, if *heirs, &c.* are words of limitation, not if words of purchase; and this was a deed, and voluntary for ought appears: yet it was held, that *Grace* was only intitled for life; that they were words of purchase, and that from the subsequent

sequent limitation to executors, &c. grafted thereon: and *Your Lordship* laid a stress on this, that *heirs*, as applied to personal, was a word of purchase properly, not of limitation. The intent here undoubtedly was to create a succession of estates tail as to this personal estate; but his intending more than the law allows, will not vitiate that part founded in law, for this court will carry that trust into execution, so, as that he could dispose of it. If a daughter had not been born, *Thomas Gore* would have been intitled to this personal estate upon the question of a double contingency. The reason, that in the cases of double contingency, the birth of any child of the tenant for life defeats all the remainders over, is, that thereby the only contingency, which was good originally, is become impossible, the other being bad originally: but it has never been yet determined, that the birth of a child of a subsequent remainder would defeat contingent remainders over properly limited on an estate tail. If the birth of this daughter vests an estate in her though capable of being divested by birth of a son or daughter of the petitioner while in contingency, yet if the petitioner was to die leaving a wife *ensient*, it could not divest for that after born child. All this therefore remains in suspense until the contingent remainder over comes to take effect or be determined. It is common in this country, where there are large chattel interests, for a man to limit them to his first son for life, remainder to his first and every other son in tail, so to his brothers, and remainders over: if any of those intervening remainder men should have a child, in life of the tenant for life, who then had no child, and that should defeat all the limitations behind, and not be considered as in suspense, it might be of bad consequence as to these limitations. This then is an executory trust with contingent limitation over to *Thomas Gore*, provided the antecedent limitations in tail were spent in his life. If this, agreeable to the intention is the construction as to the personal estate, it affords an argument as to the real blended therewith; for certainly *heirs*, &c. are not meant words of limitation in one case, and of purchase in the other. It is material, that a settlement by the will is plainly intended; that upon that a stress was laid by *Your Lordship* in *Coriton v. Coriton*. He is giving to collateral relations, and means *Sarah Garth* to be the stock; and probably he and the drawer knew how to make a strict settlement by giving to the object in being only for life, (which express words of the will must not be left out), and how to give an estate tail, and how the absolute property, and that he could not make a child unborn tenant for life, and give it to his issue. There cannot be a contingent limitation on a contingent limitation. If the petitioner is construed tenant in tail, there will be no difference, the testator having limited proper estates tail to the rest unborn; if he meant the same before, why not use the same words? The court, especially in execution of a trust, will support that intent, which is lawful, and set aside that which is not so; which is no more, than what *Your Lordship*

has done upon the *stat. of Mortmain*, where to to be laid out on two funds, the one legal, the other not. He intended to make a family, from the direction to take his name. The particular reason, he has given, shews his anxiety to preserve the last remainder. He meant this to be executory, vesting all in trustees with a positive direction to make a conveyance at some period of time. The court in directing a conveyance can no more adhere to the words of the will than in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*, or *Colson v. Colson*; which must therefore be departed from to find out the meaning. If that is clear to give only an estate for life to the petitioner, the subsequent limitation must not be to heirs of the body, but the court to answer that plain intent must change those words into first and every other son.

For *Sarah Garth*, the infant daughter, it was insisted, that the money ought not now to be paid to the petitioner.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Since this cause has been brought on, I have had so much opportunity to consider it, and have lately had so much opportunity and necessity of looking into all the cases upon this question in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*, that, though I had formed no judgment, until I heard the argument, yet I am better ascertained in my judgment now, upon what is proper to do.

This is now brought on upon a point, that has long exercised the skill and *acumen* of the judges both in law and equity, and has undergone various determinations in different times and different cases; and when a determination is to be made upon arguments of intention from clauses in a will without positive expressions of intention, no wonder it should be so, and that one case cannot be made an authority for another: but however though different judges at different times have varied from one another, I should be very unwilling to vary from and contradict myself in my present determination from that in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*; and therefore my opinion I hope, will be consistent with that, upon the distinction between the two cases.

There are two general questions; and I will take them according to the order of the will, and in which the petitioner's counsel spoke; first as to the real, next as to the personal estate.

The first is, whether or no this court can now decree a conveyance of the real estate to the petitioner? If it can, in what manner to direct that conveyance and with what limitations; that is, whether he has a right under this will to be tenant in tail of the real estate

estate or barely tenant for life; for that must be settled to govern the court in the direction for the conveyances? I am of opinion, that upon the construction of this will I am obliged by the rules of law and equity to direct the conveyance to be in tail to him. Several cases have been cited, or rather properly alluded to as being well known. For *Thomas Gore* it is insisted, that by several determinations in this court, particularly in *Papillon v. Voice*, and in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*, he is clearly intitled to have a remainder in fee limited to him, and nothing but an estate for life limited to the plaintiff; for that those cases have laid down a rule, that a construction is to be made on the whole will, and this court is not bound by the legal, technical sense of the words used, but to follow the intent; and as there are reasons and proofs of intention in those cases, so there are here, to make him tenant for life. The principle, I go upon, is what I went upon in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*; it is this principle, and not departed from before or since, that in limitations of a trust either of real or personal estate to be determined in this court, the construction ought to be made according to the construction of limitations of a legal estate; with this distinction, unless the intent of testator or author of the trust plainly appears to the contrary: but if the intent does not plainly appear to contradict and over-rule the legal construction of the limitation, it never was laid down, nor was it by me in that case, that the legal construction should be over-ruled by any thing but the plain intent. I lay down the rule therefore, as Lord *Hobart* did in *Counden v. Clerke*, *Hob. 29.* in *margin* (for they are known to be his words, and in his emphatical style) so I say, that I am not in a court of equity to over-rule the legal construction of the limitation, unless the intent of the testator or author of the trust appears by declaration plain; that is not saying it in so many words, but plain expression or necessary implication of his intent, which is the same thing. That was my ground, and is so now. I have brought my argument in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*, and will repeat what I there said. The first question was, what appears to be the true intent of the testator? The second, whether that is consistent with and can take effect according to the general rules of law and equity? The third, whether there is any particular settled rule or determination of this court standing in the way to prevent the intent from taking effect? As to the first question I took it very clear, that he vested the whole fee in trustees, and after directing the particular trust divides it into moieties, one to his nephew descending from his sister *Bagshaw*, the other to his nephew descending from his sister *Spencer*; to every nephew in being, and proper to be made tenants for life, expressly devises for life, and adds to all of them without impeachment of waste; which clause, though not alone sufficient to prevent the operation of law, is one mark of his meaning; then devises to four of his trustees to preserve contingent remainders during the life of *Benjamin Bagshaw*.

Construction in equity of trust of real or personal, is according to the limitations of a legal estate: unless there is a plain intent to the contrary.

Upon

Upon this I construe it, that the testator had declared, he meant to give *Benjamin Bagshaw* such estate, as might be forfeited, not only an estate for life; because giving it to trustees after the determination of that estate during his life, could mean nothing but a determination by forfeiture; and further that it amounted to the same thing, as if the testator expressly declared his meaning to be to give only an estate for life to *Benjamin Bagshaw* forfeitable, and contingent remainders to those described afterward as heirs of his body. This was the ground, and this plain declaration of his intent, enforced me to make that construction. Then to bring it within that case; the question is, whether the proofs and evidences of his intent come up to those in that case; not the same in *specie* (which cannot be in any case), but whether equally strong and cogent to compel the court to make the same construction. I am of opinion, they are not, and that they are only doubtful evidences and inferences of intent, not clear, nor by declaration plain according to the emphatical expression of Lord *Hobart*. Then to consider the arguments of intention in this case. The argument is, that he has created a trust: without doing that he could not have answered that intent to the sole and separate use. It is argued for the defendant that an intent is shewn to keep the estate in the hands of trustees all this time, and that the plaintiff should receive the rents and profits of the real estate from the trustees, and they should pay over to him, and therefore an intent to keep him out of possession and absolute property, and it should go to the heirs of his body. I do not doubt, but that he had a very large, general intent; but it is plain, that his intent could not take effect according to the rules of law: for after limiting it in this manner to the petitioner for life and heirs of his body, the same evidence of intent appears here as to all subsequent remainder men, and as to all of them certainly it could not take effect. He could not create such a series of remainders one after another with a restraint of alienation, if that was his intent; for if the plaintiff died without issue, and the estate came to his brother or sister, they would have the absolute disposal of it, that is by suffering an equitable common recovery, which would bar all their own issue and the remainders. Taking that therefore to be his intent, it could not take effect. Consider what next evidence of his intent is mentioned, *viz.* that he has directed all those, who were to take successively, to take his name; and so he has, but I should rather think, that in directing that, an argument of his intent arises the contrary way. Then what is the legal construction unless clear evidence of his intent? And how have courts of law and equity both construed that evidence of intent? First in a court of law; and it is true, courts of law are to govern by the intention in wills as well as courts of equity. In a case very like to this, *Broughton v. Langley*, 1 *Lut.* 814, *Sal.* 679. expressly held to be an estate tail notwithstanding there was a stronger evidence of
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intention

intention there. The construction of *B. R.* there was, that the direction to stand seised to the uses aftermentioned, to permit to receive the rents and profits during life, and afterward to use of heirs of the body was an use and legal estate for life in him, and therefore *heirs of the body* united with that according to *Shelley's* case, and gave him an estate tail: whereas if that was construed a trust (for which there was some ground there to hold the first limitation to be a trust, for it was not said an use there) he would have a trust estate for life; afterward the trustees were to stand seised to the use of heirs of the body; which could not then have united with the estate to him for life, but was kept separate, and heirs of the body would consequently take as purchasers. I have heard, that this determination of *B. R.* was meant, that this court should turn trusts into uses again; and it has an eye to that. But what was the strongest evidence of intent to have gone upon was the power given there, not to the party alone but to the trustees and him, to make a jointure; which was strong evidence. It is true, that has been held, as in *King v. Melling*, not to be a cogent argument to make a tenant in tail by uniting, because it might be a convenience to tenant in tail to make a jointure without barring: but it was also to the trustees as well as to him, which is the strongest evidence of intending the estate should remain in those trustees: and yet by the unanimous opinion of that court the rule of law held so strong, that notwithstanding that evidence, it could not be got over. There are several other cases at law: but this is so like, it is needless to cite them. Then how is it in a court of equity? First *Legat v. Sewel* by Lord Cowper, who at that time had no notion of a distinction since taken up between trusts executory and executed, but thought, that a settlement directed to be made was the same as a positive immediate limitation; and, though it was a case of money to be laid out in land, directed a case to be made, as upon lands devised in possession; upon which three judges held, it was an estate tail. The opinion is stated expressly in 1 *Will.* 87. Indeed *Tracy J.* held otherwise; upon that Lord Cowper seemed to doubt (as I have heard) but held himself bound to agree with the three judges, and so decreed. In that case was the strongest evidence of intention; for there are words of limitation mounted on the words *heirs male of his body*; yet they held the rule of law so strong for uniting the estates, that there was not sufficient evidence of intent to over-rule it. After that came *Bale v. Coleman*, which never has been denied to be law or a rule of this court. I took the liberty to observe in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*, upon the general declarations of Lord Harcourt in that case, and did differ upon some of those; but I there expressly declared as to my own opinion, though I differed as to his general reasonings, that after all Lord Harcourt's reversal of Lord Cowper's decree did not stand in need of those general reasons, but that it was plainly distinguished from *Bagshaw v. Spencer*;

Spencer; and therefore in the general case of *Bale v. Coleman*, I was of opinion, that it was right to adhere to it. The tradition is, that it was reheard by Lord *Cowper*, and that he affirmed Lord *Harcourt's* decree contrary to his own: but the fact is not so, for second rehearings are seldom or ever granted. I believe, it was cited before Lord *Cowper* again, and that he spoke to that effect; so that the tradition I believe true, though upon a different reason. I will mention but one case more as to evidence of intention; though before two of the cases already cited, yet I mention it last, because relative to another kind of objection, *viz. Leonard v. Earl of Suffex*, 2 *Ver.* 526. which was such a declaration of intention, as could not possibly be got the better of; and there was personal mixed with real. Lord *Cowper* directed an estate for life, and took the liberty to add *without impeachment of waste*. That was the plainest case; for if he had directed a settlement in tail, and added that clause which is in that will, it would be contrary to law; there being no way of making that intent effectual but by making the sons tenants for life, remainders to those persons who would be heirs of their bodies; which was a necessary construction and a coercive argument to submit to. It is said, here is a declaration of an intent, that there should be no conveyance to put the legal estate out of the trustees, until the remainder to *Thomas Gore* took effect. It has undoubtedly an eye to that: but that is directly contrary to the rules of law, and what the court cannot comply with. Suppose the plaintiff should die, and the estate came to his brother, if he had one; now to his sister; she would be intitled to call on the trustees to convey the estate to her, and no one could refuse it; nor could it be refused to any purpose, because she might suffer an equitable recovery and bar. This young lady is now intitled to bring a bill by her *prochein amy* and insist that her brother is intitled for life, and such limitations, and call for a conveyance; then it would come for the judgment of the court, what kind of estate should be first limited to the plaintiff: that therefore can be of no weight. Consider it then upon the latter clause directing a change of name, which he has confined to the sons, and has not carried to daughters. What objection now to the plaintiff's taking an estate tail, to his brother's taking an estate tail? None arises from thence to over-rule the construction of law. Then consider what evidence there is on the other side, or to rebut that evidence of intent. I am of opinion there is very material, which at least goes so far as to reduce it to great doubtfulness, and to leave it *in equilibrio* at least; and then the rule and construction of law ought to prevail. He must be bare tenant for life without power to make a jointure, or make a lease, or to cut down trees; which he cannot do if only tenant for life. I cannot be warranted to make it without impeachment of waste. Lord *Cowper's* ground in so doing was, that it had an eye to an estate tail, and therefore he would give it; for there was nothing

nothing in the will to do it. Now suppose the question had been put to the testator, whether he meant, this cousin, his first object, then but a year and a half old, should, if he lived to take the estate, have no power to make a jointure; whom he had obliged to change his name on a supposition of continuing the estate in his blood under that name, to erect a new family, and intended, he should marry, (and that made me say, the argument from that clause turned the other way and for the plaintiff), and yet restrain him from making a jointure, which can be the only possible way of continuing legitimate issue? Next did the testator intend he should not have power to make a lease for three or seven years, which should bind the remainder man? He certainly could not mean that, having given an estate tail to the younger brothers and sisters; how then could he intend to give the elder brother a power to make a lease or cut down trees? Then his intent stands in *equilibrio* as on the face of the will, and the court is not warranted to take away the benefit of the legal operation of the words. But it is contended, that here is a limitation for life, and that the court must make a settlement and a construction in order to the limitations of that settlement; and therefore must either leave out those words *for life*, or let them stand; and in letting them stand it will be an inaccurate conveyance; for if left out, the supposed intent will be departed from. I agree, it would be an inaccurate conveyance to limit this to him for life, and from and after his decease, to the heirs of his body begotten or to be begotten; which would be incorrect: but in a deed as well as a will, whatever the conveyance be, according to *Shelley's case*, if the ancestor takes an estate for life, and in another part of the conveyance to the heirs of his body, that unites and is an estate tail in him as well in a deed as a will: if therefore the words *for life* for form or nicety's sake should be put into this conveyance, it would not change it. That was not the case in *Bagshaw v. Spencer*; for if there the court had left out the limitation to trustees to preserve contingent remainders, the consequence would be, that the court would give an immediate estate tail in possession, whereas according to *Colson v. Colson* it was an estate tail in reversion only severed from the estate for life; it would be not only varying from the words but from the legal operation of the words. On the whole therefore it is clear, that I am not warranted by any authority to say, that the plaintiff is to be made but tenant for life according to those words *for life*, but that the legal construction of the limitation ought to take effect. The ground I go upon, (and for the sake of certainty I will repeat it, that is, such certainty as there is in these cases), is, that the court ought never to do that without such plain evidence of intent, as is cogent and coercive, as Lord *Hobart* says: but here, admitting it as strongest for the defendant, it is doubtful and in *equilibrio*, and then according

ing to all the rules the legal takes place, Thus as to the real estate.

As to the personal estate it is as plain, if not plainer, That does not concern *Thomas Gore*, the last remainder man in fee, but only the sister or the issue of the plaintiff himself. There is no direction in this case to lay out the money in land; which might have made a different case: but it is a plain trust and a gift of it on the face of the will. It is said to concern *Thomas Gore*, because that in all these cases the limitations over are to remain in suspense, and never vested during the life of the tenant for life, and then if this lady died in the life of her brother, and he died without issue, it would go over to *Thomas Gore*: but I am of a contrary opinion: and the case put does not answer it. It is said, if you do not make all in suspense during life of the tenant for life, you will defeat the issue of the plaintiff himself; not the issue born during his life, for that would divest and defeat the vesting in the sister, and vest it in him; but it is asked, whether, if he dies leaving a wife *ensient*, the birth of that child afterward would divest the estate vested in this daughter. I am of opinion it would, and that upon two grounds. First, that is such a time as the law will wait and expect, as in *Gore v. Gore* (2 *Wil.* 28.) and other cases; that the birth of the child after the father's death cannot exceed ten months. But another ground is, in that case I should go upon the equity of the *stat. 7 Will. 3.* which was made subsequent to *Reeve v. Long*, which has declared, that as to real estates a contingent remainder shall wait until the birth of that child; I should go by analogy thereto, and hold so. Then as between the brother and sister it comes to this; whether this is such a limitation of personal estate as will be admitted. The only case cited for it is *Peacock v. Spooner*: but that case is so particular, has had so much said upon it, and has been so varied from, that I shall not go upon that. Lord *Harcourt* has said, the court would not go upon that case, unless on that in *specie*, and no other. It is true, it was so determined in the *House of Lords*, but with great variety of opinion among the judges, and no peer in the house was of the profession of the law; and there was something particular by reason of the limitation to the heirs of the body of the wife; but that is a single case, and this is not that in *specie*. *Webb v. Webb* was directly to the contrary, and has stood ever since, and allowed to be rightly determined as not being the same in *specie* with *Peacock v. Spooner*. All the other cases have been upon particular distinctions of evidence of intention. In *Heddel v. Buffy* I held the adding the words *executors, administrators, and assigns*, strong evidence of intent to give only an usufructuary interest for life, and to vest the property in the heirs of the body. So were the words in *Withers v. Algood*. So that

that those differ plainly from the present case; which is then reduced to this, a gift of personal estate to one for life and heirs of his body; that must vest the property of the money in him, whether the testator meant it or not, unless there was something to warrant the court to lay it out in land: but there is nothing of that: and that was the case of *Lord George Beauclerk v. Miss Dormer*, June 17, 1742, heard by consent at my house, and fully considered at the bar and by me. The words there were, *Miss Dormer* I make my sole heir and executrix; if she dies without issue, then to go to *Lord George Beauclerk*, he to pay *Lady Diana Beauclerk* 5000*l.* and the question was, whether that was a proper limitation over of personal estate or too remote? I was of opinion, it was too remote, and that has been the constant doctrine, all the cases amount to that, and has never been varied from. It was there contended, that the word *then* imported a time, and meant then immediately after her death it should go over: but the court said, if such construction was allowed to the word *then*, it would overturn all the rules of construction; and that a failure of issue at any time, was what was there meant; and all the other cases are very strong to that effect. *Sands v. Dixwell* was very different. The governing reason, I went on, was, that it was impossible to make such a conveyance as the testator had directed, that is to be settled so as to be to the separate use of the daughter for life without intermeddling of her husband, unless such a construction was made; for if tenant in tail, the husband must have been tenant by courtesy. As to the argument of intent, how can such an intent in the testator be reasonably supported? That is to make the plaintiff a bare usufructuary for life as to the personal estate, but the moment he should have a child born, the personal estate should vest in that child; and so restraining it thus only to give it to a child unborn, whom he could not know; and if the child should survive, and die a minor, this great personal estate, instead of being for the benefit of this family, would go to the personal representative of that child. No one could mean that. It is a limitation of personal estate to one for life and the heirs of his body; which vests absolutely, whether so intended by the testator or not.

The plaintiff is therefore intitled to have the lands conveyed to him, and the personal estate to his use.

Anonymous, July 21, 1755.

Case 226.

EXCEPTIONS by the representative of Mrs. *Guidot* to the Master's Report for not allowing interest for arrears of her jointure.

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Lord

Interest not
allowed for
arrears of
jointure, un-
less a special
case made.

Lord Chancellor said, the rule of the court for allowing interest for arrears of a jointure is not general, but the court will expect a special case to be made for that, as the being obliged to borrow money and to pay interest for it; and then the court will give interest from a reasonable time; but this not being within the decree, nor within the reason of those cases, he would not allow it.

Case 227.

Leech versus Trollop, July. 21, 1755.

EXCEPTION to a report of a sufficient answer to a bill for discovery of title-deeds.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Jointure.
On offer to
confirm it,
widow not
obliged to
discover by
the answer,
until the act is
done.

I do not take it to be the course of the court, that upon an offer to confirm a widow's jointure, the plaintiff is intitled to have the discovery by the answer upon that offer, but by the decree; for suppose the plaintiff claims to be a tenant in tail, and offers to confirm the defendant's jointure upon discovery of the deed, and dies, his issue in tail would not be bound by that offer; the act must therefore be first done, and not the discovery had by the answer upon that offer.

Case 228.

Anonymous, July 21, 1755.

Prior mortga-
gee may tack
a subsequent
judgment, not
contra.
May tack a
bond against
heir of mort-
gagor, but not
against mort-
gagor himself
or creditors.

UPON settling the priority of creditors after Master's report, defendant the mortgagee insisted, that he could not be redeemed without being paid his judgment-debts, and also a bond-debt in preference to the plaintiff's claiming under a deed of trust by the mortgagor in his lifetime conveying the equity of redemption; and that though a bond cannot be tacked against the mortgagor himself coming to redeem, it may against the heir of mortgagor; and the plaintiffs coming after mortgagor's death stand in place of the heir.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

The ground, upon which the court does it against the heir of mortgagor, is, because otherwise there would be a circuit; for after redemption it is assets in his hands: but if mortgagor in his life conveys the equity of redemption, it is another thing. This Distinction has been taken; it is held, that a prior mortgagee having a subsequent judgment may tack the judgment to the mortgage: but a prior judgment creditor getting a subsequent mortgage cannot do it, because the judgment is not a
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specifick

Specifick lien upon those lands, that is, he does not go on the security, he has not trusted to the credit of the estate. As to the two judgments, which are prior to the deed of trust, the defendant *Chambers* ought to have the benefit of them, and as to what is reported due thereon is intitled to a priority to the creditors under the deed of trust: but the bond cannot be tacked, the bond is a charge upon the assets, and the court never does it against creditors.

Pawlet versus Delaval, and e contra. July 28, 1755. Case 229.

ON the marriage of Lord *Nassau Pawlet* with *Isabella*, daughter of Lord *Thanet*, in 1731 it was agreed between them, that whenever a sum of money, which she expected upon the death of the Dutchess of *Montague*, should come to her, it should be to her separate use, and should be paid to trustees for that purpose. Accordingly on the death of the Dutchess in 1734, the sum which was unascertained before, amounting to 23,000*l.* was placed out at interest on securities to her separate use. In 1738 the husband and wife call in this money, which was out on two several mortgages, and thereupon together with the trustee they execute two deeds, in which they recite the several facts and agreements, that the money was placed out on such mortgage, and that it was declared to be in trustees for the separate use of the wife, subject to her direction and appointment during coverture, but without any particular forms prescribed in which she should execute that appointment; and that the husband and wife had agreed to receive this money to their own use, and to discharge the trustees from any future trust concerning the same, and in consideration this sum of money was paid to the husband and wife by and with the consent and approbation of the trustees. These recitals were *verbatim* alike in both deeds as to both mortgages; and the money is thereupon so paid. It was received by Lord *Nassau*, and when afterward placed out on mortgages, it was in his name alone, and the interest was received by him until his death in 1741; from which time she as to this sum acted in his name and merely as his executrix, giving receipts for interest as such, and entering an account in the same book her husband did, and mixed it with his estate. In 1749 she intermarried with Mr. *Delaval*; upon which a short minute was taken between themselves without any other assistance, which was afterward further explained by articles, whereby after taking out so much as it was agreed Mr. *Delaval* should have, all the residue of her money, which she was intitled to or possessed of at the day of her marriage, should be to her sole and separate use. In 1750 they parted; afterward came together again; and

Nov.

Nov. 29, 1750 they execute a deed reciting the terms on which they married, parted, and came together; and expressly reciting that this deed was in order to make a division of the personal estate of Lord *Nassau* between herself and her daughter, the only remaining representatives of Lord *Nassau*; and reciting that in the events which happened, the surplus of the said personal estate was to be divided between them; and further that lady *Isabella* had possessed herself of all the personal estate in the schedule annexed, but that no distribution had been made: after these recitals came the schedule, intitled an account of the personal estate of Lord *Nassau Pawlet* and of what it consisted at the time of his decease. The personal estate was divided into moieties, one of which by the consent and direction of Mr. *Delaval* and his Lady was vested in trustees for Miss *Pawlet* and paid accordingly. There was added to the deed a *memorandum*, that any errors or defects, that may afterwards appear of the above estate of Lord *Nassau Pawlet*, are to be without prejudice of any of the parties, and are to be rectified.

A bill was brought in the name of Miss *Pawlet* for her benefit in general to have an account of her father's personal estate, and certain legacies out of it, and a share of the residue thereof upon the events which happened, and in particular to establish it that this 23,000 *l.* was to be considered as part of her father's estate, and consequently that she was intitled to one moiety of it: for though this was originally trust-money of the wife, yet she having by agreement discharged that trust, and declared no other, it became thenceforward the absolute property of her husband Lord *Nassau*, and was always treated by them as such; all her acts amounting to presumptive evidence that she intended, this should go as part of his estate; and in a transaction between husband and wife the court goes farther by way of presumption than in other cases, *Powel v. Hankey*, 2 *Will.* 82. so as not to expect that exactness in deeds between them as between strangers.

Another bill was brought by Mr. *Delaval* and his wife, the end of which was also to have a general account of Lord *Nassau's* personal estate; but that bill brought on a question also as to this sum of money, it being insisted that they were intitled to be relieved against several acts done by them, and in particular against the deed executed by both in 1750, by which that sum was acknowledged to be part of the personal estate of Lord *Nassau*, whereas it was originally and continued to be ever since part of the separate estate of Lady *Isabella*, and therefore that acknowledgment was by mistake, and it ought not to be so considered, but was claimed now to belong to Mr. *Delaval*. The court will not upon a conjecture of gift, admitted not to be proved, strip Lady *Isabella*

bella of this large sum secured to her by two solemn deeds on her marriage. It is the duty of this court to protect a *feme covert* from any inadvertent act of hers, and not to presume she intended to part with that property. This court follows with great jealousy the suspicion the common law has of the power of a husband over a wife, and is careful to prevent her affection and obsequiousness, or her fears, from operating to her prejudice. Her inheritance and dower must be barred by fine, the law itself being her trustee. Even as to *choses in action* this court will preserve her interest, though the husband may reduce them into possession, and though they will belong to him, if she survives. In joint acts over her separate estate the court will have the same jealousy as in the execution of a power by a *feme covert*, in which if the husband joins, it has been held void from the presumption that she acts *sub potestate viri*. Where any thing is given to the separate use of a wife, though no intervention of trustees, the husband (as now established, though formerly doubted by Lord Cowper) is often considered in this court as trustee for the wife, because it is to her separate use. So in marriage-settlements if the husband without interposition of trustees covenants to preserve money to the separate use of the wife, not subject to his debts or engagements as agreements in consideration of marriage must by the stat. of frauds be reduced into writing, this court will expect that act to be destroyed by an act of as high a nature; if therefore the wife afterward receives and pays the money to the husband, unless there is some act in writing to discharge the covenant, he will be still considered as a trustee under that covenant. In the deed in 1738 are no words discharging Lord Nassau from the covenant; it was only a personal discharge of the trustees, not of the money itself, from the trust, being made merely for convenience of the family to call in the money and place it on better securities; had it been intended to put an end to the trust, that must have been expressly mentioned in the deed. When a trustee attempts to discharge himself of a trust vested in him, especially a husband in a case of a wife, every thing must be presumed against him; and the court has gone so far as not to suffer a wife even to give up a separate estate, which she acquired before marriage, by any agreement between her and her husband, without the interposition of her friends and trustees consulted on the subject; as was held in *Cowey v. Richardson*. Lady Isabella's suffering Lord Nassau to act as he did, might all arise from the confidence between them, not meaning to part with her separate property to give him power over it, but the managing and receiving the income; for which, though he cannot now be called upon, yet that does shew, she intended to vest the principal in him. The *memorandum* shews that deed to be executed on a mistake, and sets the whole at large.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Bill by husband and wife in her right is the bill of husband.

The only question to be determined on both these bills is whether this sum is now continuing to be part of the separate estate of Lady *Isabella*, or was so at the death of Lord *Nassau*, for her sole and separate use, or whether by the subsequent facts and circumstances it is now to be considered part of the personal estate of Lord *Nassau*? This question is proper first to be considered upon the bill of Mr. *Delaval* and his wife; for though last filed, yet as that seeks to be relieved against the deed in 1750, executed by them, that naturally and in proper order brings on the question in the place; because if they have no right to be relieved against that deed, and their acknowledgment of this sum's being part of the personal estate of Lord *Nassau*, it must consequently be accounted for, and stand as part of his personal estate. Their bill must be considered as the bill of Mr. *Delaval*; for a bill filed in name of husband and wife claiming in her right is the bill of the husband. It is therefore in great measure a question of fact; and the merits will depend on the facts and the result of them in point of evidence. Before I consider the particular circumstances, I will lay this down that it is not to be determined by any one, two or three particular facts in the cause; for it may be admitted, that no one or two facts may be sufficient to turn the scale of evidence: but the question is upon the result of the whole, whether they do not constitute such an accumulated weight of evidence as is unsurmountable? I am of opinion, they do; and that there is not sufficient ground to relieve Mr. *Delaval* and his wife upon their bill against the acts they have done. It is proper to consider under three heads the facts and circumstances under which it depends. First those during the life of Lord *Nassau*: secondly those which happened since his death and before Lady *Isabella*'s second marriage: next the acts done since that marriage, and particularly the deed in 1750. As to the first, taking those facts and circumstances by steps, it was originally upon the marriage in 1731 agreed between them, that this money (then unascertained, Lady *Isabella* having then no right) whatever it should amount to, was to be to her separate use, and consequently would in consideration of this court be her separate property. They were desirous (for so I must take the transaction, from what they themselves have declared) to call it in, and put an end to the trust. The result is, that those two deeds in 1738 import an agreement to receive this large sum, (the separate property of the wife, and which she might appoint, as she pleased, by parol or not), to the use of the husband and wife. That imports an alteration of that use, and this by agreement under hands and seals of both, a formal Act. It is objected, this was the act of the husband; that
this

this court is cautious of the property of wives; will examine here, and will not suffer to be concerned with husband without intervention of trustees. But here is the consent of the trustee, who was an executing party. Supposing the doctrine true, that a wife is not to be admitted to dispose of her separate property without the intervention of trustees, (which I do not know to have been so determined), here is that assistance, which, it is insisted, she ought to have. Then they further agree to discharge, as far as words can go, that trust to her separate use, and declare no new trust concerning it, but declare a contrary use of it. After this no act was done during the life of Lord *Nassau*, by himself, or by Lady *Isabella* (which is more material) admitting, claiming, or insisting, that this money or any part was for her separate use. On the contrary it was received by Lord *Nassau*, placed out on mortgages in his name alone without any declaration of trust, and all acts of receiving interest, &c. by him. They lived in the best harmony; and therefore she might naturally intend to mix their properties together without distinction or claim to her separate use. The next head of facts and circumstances are all of the same kind, for she acted in the same manner, though she had several opportunities of considering this matter; and it is astonishing, if she had thought she had any separate claim as to this, that for eleven years from the execution of the deeds in 1738, to her marriage with Mr. *Delaval*, there is no one claim, instance or trace of any claim, or assertion on her part of this being her separate property or to her separate use. Next as to the third head, neither in the short minute or in the explanatory articles is any notice taken of any such claim as to this sum; and though there are words in both, importing that there was something to her separate use, there is nothing relative to this; and there were other sums settled to her separate use. The nature of this case weighs with me in my opinion, and turns the question. From all the facts very strong evidence arises of an uninterrupted intention of both parties to let this go in common as part of Lord *Nassau*'s estate. An objection was properly enforced that all this might arise merely from confidence, not meaning to part with her property to give Lord *Nassau* a power over it, but to give him the managing and receiving the income, and that it is not strong enough to prove, she intended to vest the principal in him. I think, it is strong enough. I will admit for argument's sake, that these acts (though thus uniformly repeated and all with one tendency) are equivocal, and may tend one way or the other, that she meant to give the property to her husband or only to trust him with the management and receipt, and then the question may be doubtful on these facts: who knew best with what view and intent these acts were done? She herself, who was a party to all the transactions. This then creates the

the strength of the deed in 1750. It must have been read to her ; nor is the contrary pretended. She had opportunities thereby given her to consider, whether this money was not her separate property, *viz.* in the recitals, and in the title as well as contents of the schedule ; yet she, executrix of her husband, privy to all, and having this notice, freely and voluntarily executes this deed without any sort of claim. There is no pretence of any compulsion, fraud or imposition by any one concerned for Miss *Pawlet* ; for any evidence of that might be considerable. There is no application from any other ; it must therefore proceed from what was the result of the transaction in her own mind. The *memorandum*, I am of opinion, cannot be carried so far as is contended. Mistakes in computation or errors in sums of money it might be natural to set right ; but it cannot extend to reverse and set at large every thing done : it can amount only to a general subscription to an account, errors excepted. Whatever be the weight of it, it cannot extend to such a question of right, depending on such a great weight of evidence, in the knowledge of Lady *Isabella* herself, and so leave it open to her to reverse all these acts upon such a subscription : it is impossible therefore that she, who best knew with what view all these acts, supposing them equivocal, were done, could by mistake let it go in this manner. It is said to be hard to deprive her of so great a property upon

Acquiescence material to determine property ; as where a freeman's widow acquiesces under husband's will : she is bound thereby.

such facts and acquiescence : but facts and acquiescence are material to determine great rights and properties, and many decrees have been thereupon in this court. Where a freeman of *London* has died possessed of a great personal estate, has by will divided that among his wife and children ; which wife, had she insisted upon her strict right, would he intitled to one clear third of it ; but she being reasonable and the family in strict harmony, desires to have no more than what is left her by her husband, and that the rest should go among the children, has made up accounts and acted on that foot for several years ; and if she was not executrix, has let the money be applied by the executors of the husband, and claimed no more ; and happens afterward to marry a second husband ; who in her right, or perhaps her executors after her death, insist all this was wrong, that the widow was intitled to one-third, and has not executed any release, or parted with her right ; and therefore, suppose she mistook her right, shall have a clear third, one other third as the orphanage part, and the other as the testamentary part : the court never has suffered that, but always said, that the manner of acting and acquiescing shews her intent, which shall bind and conclude, so that no account shall be afterward. Several decrees have been founded upon that, and those cases I take to be a very material precedent to the present ; for this is of that kind : it is taking equivocal acts (I speak upon that foot now) by one handle first, by another afterward. Suppose

pose to freeman's widow in those cases had executed a deed, as Lady *Isabella* has, affirming those acts, surely then she would not be so intitled; and this is strong as that. *Cowey v. Richardson* is mentioned at the bar among other cases not very conclusive; it is not in print, it was heard at the *Rolls* 11 July 1725, and is in the Register's book, *Lib. A. fol. 491, 492*: it was cited to shew, this court would not permit a wife to dispose of her separate property to her husband, who by the trust is excluded from meddling with it, unless it was by her judicial consent in this court, or by intervention of friends or trustees. There is not determination of that in this court, that I can find. Several instances have been, where wives by acts in *Pais* have parted with separate property to husbands; and where there has been no menace or imposition, it has taken place; and there are several instances, wherein wives concurred to pledge part of their separate property for a debt of the husband as a security; the court has never said, that the security should not take place, but held it to stand, as a pledge indeed, and that the husband should exonerate: which shews, that rule has been laid down too generally. It is true, that the court even as to personal property will not give that to the husband without the wife's own consent in court: but the reason of that is, that the court will make a decree where the husband and wife are parties, where the wife has a proper settlement, to pay to the husband and wife: and then, if the husband does not receive it in, it survives to the wife, just as they agreed in this deed in 1738, to receive to their own use: but where the wife has not had a sufficient settlement, the court will not; but that is, because all suits or defences in this court by husband and wife jointly, where there is no appearance by guardian for the wife, are considered as suits and defences of the husband, and therefore will not suffer the money to be paid to the husband on the prayer of his counsel, because the court knows, those instructions to counsel come from the husband, who has the power of the suit and defence, and therefore the court expects the wife should attend in court and give consent. But no certain rule is laid down, that husband and wife living together on proper terms as they ought, and the wife giving up any part of her separate estate to the husband without compulsion, fraud, *dolus malus*, or ill act by the husband, this court has said, it should not take place. If indeed the circumstances required by the trust, by which the act is to be done, have not been pursued, the court might say, it should not take place, but here are no particulars required to the manner of doing it. In *Cowey v. Richardson* the bill was by the executor of a wife against the executor of her husband to have the benefit of a bond executed by the husband before marriage to a trustee for the intended wife; the condition of which bond was to permit the wife to dispose by will

It is not determined, that wife may not dispose of separate property to husband unless by consent in court or intercession of friends.

It is done by act in *pais* where no menace or imposition appears. May be pledged for husband's debt, husband to exonerate.

Money decreed to husband and wife where a proper settlement not to husband alone.

Bond by husband to permit wife to dispose, and cancelled by him, subsists in point of law, and the benefit of it decreed for her executor.

of 300*l.* which bond had been cancelled by the husband in his life. The woman was at the time of her marriage a widow, and had children by a former husband; and made a will after this cancellation of the bond by her second husband, and by that will gave the 300*l.* part to her second husband, 150*l.* of it to her son and daughter by the first husband, and made that son executor. The bill charged, that before the death of the wife the husband got the bond from her by surprise in this manner; that the husband desired to see the bond; that she innocently shewed to him, by which opportunity he got it from her, and threw it into the fire, but that she got out the pieces, before they were burned. I guess what might have been proved there. The trustee of the wife was made a defendant to the bill, and was capable of being examined as a witness, and he swore by his answer, that the wife came to him to draw a will, and then told him, that her husband seeming one day uneasy and discontented, she asked him the reason of it, and he told her, he was informed, she had given out that bond to a stranger, which might hurt him after her death; and to make him easy she brought it down, and put into his hands, and said, he might do what he would with it; and thereupon the husband tore the bond, and put it behind the chimney; that she, after the husband had gone, took it up, finding it was not burned; that the trustee asked her, whether the husband took the bond in a fit of passion or against her consent; that she answered it was freely done by her, but that she had repented afterward. The *Master of the Rolls* declared, that the bond subsisted in point of law, being cancelled by the obligor not the obligee (for if by obligee it would not) and therefore the plaintiff executor of the wife ought to be relieved, and decreed payment out of the assets of the second husband: but consider, how applicable that is to the present case. Here was a bond for valuable consideration by the husband to permit his wife to dispose of this small sum; the husband appearing uneasy upon a real or pretended story, she willing to gratify him, and to procure and purchase her peace, shews him the bond to convince him she had not parted with it, gave it to him, and told him he might do with it what he would. There is nothing in this to shew that she intended to give up any right in it. He throws it into the fire, and she retrieves it. The benefit of it was decreed upon this foundation, that she shewed it was not her intention, and beside the bond subsisted in point of law. It was a sudden, instantaneous act of the husband, carrying the act beyond what the wife said or imported. That cannot be implied to a case, in which all these acts have been done for so many years without contradiction, and when the original act to destroy the trust was with consent of the trustee, who had the legal interest in this money; which destroys that, upon which that decree is particularly

larly founded, and therefore is not applicable. Another case shews, how far the court has gone against giving relief in a case of this kind, depending upon submission and acquiescence of parties even in a doubtful case, or perhaps coming out wrong at last, and yet the court will not relieve against their own acts, done freely and without fraud; *Smith v. Avery, Eq. Ab.* 269. which is applicable to this; for it was a clear mistake as to the right, and much more so than this; for here the utmost that can be contended for, is, that the acts done are equivocal. Therefore upon the whole together I am of opinion, the circumstances before the deed in 1750 are strong enough; but admitting them equivocal (for that I greatly rely on) Lady *Isabella* knew, what was her own intent in all those acts, and could not be mistaken as to her right or not having a right to this sum; and therefore there is no ground to relieve against those acts. Another consideration very material is, that this is the bill of Mr. *Delaval*. It might have been something of a different question, if the bill had been by Lady *Isabella* herself, or by her *Prochein Amy* claiming her separate property: not that it would turn the question; but every bill by husband and wife jointly claiming in right of the wife is the act of the husband, and the claim is by the husband though in right of the wife, though she joined for conformity. Consider what would be the consequence of giving relief. It is impossible to conceive, supposing Lady *Isabella* mistaken in what she did, that she meant to give Mr. *Delaval* so large a sum without mentioning it. Is he then to be taken in this court not only against Miss *Pawlet*, but against her to have a right to this large sum under an *et cætera*? If the court was to open all this upon a mistake, set aside this deed, and declare this to be part of the separate estate of Lady *Isabella*, they must decree this contrary to the intent of any of the parties. This bill therefore must be dismissed, and in taking the account under the other bill I declare, that this sum ought to be considered as part of the personal estate of Lord *Nassau*.

Note, The case of Mrs. *Harvey* had been cited, *Harvey v. Ashley, March* 1748, whom *His Lordship* held to ratify a settlement made previous to her marriage, and when an infant, by her receiving after coming of aged for a year, or year and a half, the jointure settled on her.

Anonymous, *July* 28, 1755.

Case 230.

PETITION by Mr. *Gardner* and his wife, that her personal estate amounting to about 3000*l.* should be paid to him out

out of court, the wife present in court consenting, and desiring to have it so as most advantageous to them.

Wife's money not paid to husband on her consent in court, though no children, and a proposal to settle. On the intermarriage of the petitioners in 1747 application was made to the court to take care of this money, and that the husband should make a proper settlement; for which it was directed to the Master; before whom proposals were given in and signed both by husband and wife, by which he was to settle an estate in *Jamaica* in strict settlement: but, before it was absolutely concluded on, they went to *Jamaica*, where they staid six years, and now preferred this petition, there being no children living; and insisted on not being bound by the proposal, the wife saying she should be contented with her dower.

Lord Chancellor would not grant it. Though the wife might give up her interest in this money, if she pleased, yet nobody could consent for the children, which may be. The proposal was binding; and if the husband had died before he came home, and left children, under these articles there would be a right to have it carried into execution: and the court has laid hold of a circumstance, much less strong than so formal an agreement as this was, to refuse what is now desired.

Case 231. *Wilson versus Harman, July 29, 1755.*

Money vested in *South Sea* annuities until laid out in land, go the same way. Tenant for life dying in middle of a quarter, no apportionment of the interest. BY articles money was to be laid out in land, and until laid out to be vested in *South Sea* annuities, the profits to go in the same way as the rent of the land would. The person, who would be tenant for life if laid out in land, dies in the middle of a quarter. On petition the question was whether there should be an apportionment between the representative of the tenant for life and the remainder man?

That there should be cited from *Viner, Title Apportionment, Letter F.* a case where it was done by Sir *Joseph Jekyl* on petition by the administratrix of *John Holt*, son of the *Chief Justice*, against the remainder man, where the residue of the *Chief Justice's* personal estate was to be laid out in land, and until then vested in these annuities to go in the same way.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am surprized at that precedent, and much doubt of it, wherever Mr. *Viner* got it; and suppose it was some compromise and by consent. Several instances must have happened between the tenant for life and remainder man; yet I never heard of such

a rule before. I take it, that these dividends ot go to the person whom they were due at the time. The trust is to be laid out in land; what kind of land I cannot tell; and must presume it would be land on which these would be the rent-days of payment. Next to determine so I must determine, whether upon making such a settlement under articles, (the court always directing all usual powers in directing a settlement in pursuance of articles to be made) here would not be a power to make leases. Therefore as I must make presumptions in order to make this analogy between land and money, I must lay the analogy out of the case. The question then is, whether this is to be considered as the interest of money? Where literally so, interest is supposed to grow due from day to day to be sure; and the person intitled to the produce is intitled to it to the last hour of the day: but that is never held that I know of, upon the dividends on *South-Sea* annuities and all annuities of that kind. I do not know what authority there is for it; and this happens so frequently, that it must be known in practice; as to which I will consult the accountant general, and consider of it. It would be dangerous to make a precedent contrary to the general practice, which, whatever it is, ought not to be broke in upon.

The next day the accountant general said, it was not the practice with them to make a division of the interest; and that this was determined by *His Lordship* in the case of Lord *Leicester* in 1744.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I do not remember that case or any other of the same nature. When the money is laid out, it is purchased with the dividends perhaps nearly due at that time; tenant for life immediately draws so much out of the dividends, and if afterward he were to do the same he would draw at both ends. But beside, interest on a mortgage becomes due from day to day; mortgagee may call in his money, when he will; and then the interest must be computed up to the day because no particular time is fixed: but by act of parliament the dividends on these annuities are made payable on certain days like rent: therefore it is like rent, and distinguishable from interest of money.

Ex parte Northleigh. July 30, 1755.

Case 232.

PETITION by committee of a lunatick to have the bond delivered up, and a less security given.

Lunaticks.
The bond delivered up,
and less security.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Although he said, it was an uncommon application, he granted it upon the circumstances.

Case 233.

Ex Parte Pereira, July 30, 1755.

Lunatics.

PETITION by a committee of a lunatick to have a bond delivered up, and to change the security by giving a greater.

Security changed on giving greater: but this not encouraged, as if he recovers he may have no remedy on a concealment

Lord Chancellor said, though it had an appearance of benefit to the lunatick's estate, and though he would grant this, yet he gave notice that he would not encourage applications of this kind, as they might be of dangerous consequence; for suppose the bond delivered up, and there happened to be a concealment of any part of the estate on taking the account, if the lunatick afterward recovered, he could have no remedy for that for the time past, and those accounts frequently are very superficially taken, and cannot be otherwise.

Case 234.

Ex Parte Emery, July 31, 1755.

Bankrupts. Factor has a specifick lien on the goods purchased by him.

ON a commission of bankruptcy the claim of the petitioners was, as they acted as factors for the purchase of goods, paid the whole money, and drew a bill of exchange, which was protested.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Notes taken by factor on sale of goods, followed. Ante. Ex parte Damas, Aug. 9. 1754.

In such case the court has followed the specifick effects in case of a factor or partnership to attain complete justice; and even where a note is taken by the bankrupt for the money, they followed that note; as was determined in *C. B.* in case of a sale by a factor, and no partnership, who laid out his money in purchase of goods; sent them to his correspondent in *England*, and drew a bill of exchange; the goods have come to the hands of the correspondent here, who has broke; the bill of exchange sent back protested, and the goods here at the time. It has been held to be a specifick lien on those goods, and not suffered to go for other debts until the price for them was paid. That held in several cases, and lately by me in *Crugar v. Wilcox*. Let it be directed therefore according to the prayer of the petition.

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Ex Parte Macklin, July 31, 1755.

Case 235.

PETITION on the part of Miss *Macklin* to be let in as a creditor on the estate of her father, become bankrupt, for the money he received from the managers of the theatres on her account, offering an allowance thereout for living with and being maintained by him during the time of her acting on the stage: that the court is so far from giving the father all the earnings of a child, as not to suffer a father to be eased of the maintenance of a child who has a fortune, but will let the whole interest accumulate, and the father maintain the child, unless unable to do so.

Bankrupts.
Father receives his child's earnings while living with him, and becomes bankrupt; the child by agreement admitted a creditor for a particular sum to avoid an inquiry: but dangerous to lay down such a rule.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am under some difficulty for the sake of the precedent; for it is true, that the question is the same now as it would have been between the daughter and the father, if he had not been a bankrupt, and could answer to an action for himself; whether after all this transaction the daughter could in an action have recovered against the father all this money as money had and received to her use? It may be dangerous in *London* to lay it down as a general rule, that if a father having several children, who earn money, which he receives, becomes bankrupt, every child can come and claim his debt for that money had and received, while they lived together, and were part of his family: that might have a very dangerous consequence. A father frequently sends out his son to work as journeyman, and his earnings are taken to be the father's. Here the father, mother, and daughter, were all actors; and lived together; the father received the whole. It is extraordinary to say, that after a length of time this shall be all called back because of an act of bankruptcy. I will refer it therefore to the commissioners to inquire how much the father received to the child's use, unless as to so much as was a covenant with the daughter herself.

But to avoid the expence of an account, it was agreed that the petitioner should be admitted as a creditor for a particular sum; but no allowance to be made for maintenance.

Garforth versus Bradley, Oct. 25, 1755.

Case 236.

ON the marriage between *John Bradley* and *Olave* daughter of *Elizabeth Garforth* a settlement was made in consideration of the marriage, and as well the present fortune and portion of the said *Olave* as the covenants therein after contained to be performed, and

Baron and feme.
Settlement in consideration of marriage, the wife's present fortune.

and subsequent covenants; one of which was that the mother should give to the wife or any child equal to what was given to the rest. The mother leaves her a legacy, and by lapse part of the residue comes to her. Wife survives husband; what he had not reduced into possession goes to her representatives by survivor, not to his; there being no contract to give him a certain right.

for settling a competent jointure on the said *Olave*. One of the covenants, which afterward followed, was with *Elizabeth* the mother; that she would pay to the husband 200*l.* as an addition to the daughter's fortune. The other covenant was with the trustees of the wife, that the mother would for the consideration aforesaid in her life or by last will, give, devise, or bequeath, to the said *Olave*, her executors or administrators, or some child or children of the said *Olave*, money or lands equal to what the said *Elizabeth* should give to her other children. The mother by will left *Olave* a legacy, and made her executrix. Part of the residue also of the mother's estate came to *Olave* by the death of the legatee thereof in life of the testatrix. *John Bradley* assigns over all these sums of money, with a proviso at the end of the assignment, that at his request the assignee should reassign all those sums. The wife survived the husband and died.

The question now upon exception to the Master's report and consequential directions was between the plaintiffs representatives of the wife and defendant's representatives of the husband, whether or no by the husband's dying in life of the wife the surplus of her estate (whatever it was) that arose either by the bequest in the will or by the accidental intestacy on the death of one residuary legatee in life of testatrix, survived to the wife or belonged to the husband?

For defendants it was insisted, the husband was intitled by his marriage-settlement as a purchaser, to whatever came to his wife by her mother. *Squib v. Wynne*, 1 *Wil.* 378. personal goods belonging to the wife are absolutely the husband's, whether he survives her or not.

For plaintiffs. *Lister v. Lister*, 2 *Ver.* 68. and *Cleland v. Cleland*, *P. C.* 63. unless an express agreement by the wife that the husband should have the thing, and giving up her contingent right by survivorship, a general settlement on the marriage without such agreement will not do. These *choses in action* were not disposed of by the assignment; and all this, which was not recovered, goes to representatives of the wife.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Wife's chose in action survives to her, if husband reduces not into possession by suing in his own name.

This question will depend entirely on the construction of the marriage-settlement and the covenants therein; for as to the general question it would certainly survive to the wife, if nothing by way of contract altered the case; for wherever a *chose in action* comes to the wife, whether vesting before or after the marriage, if the husband dies in life of the wife, it will survive to the wife; with this

this distinction that as to those which come during the coverture, the husband may for them bring the action in his own name, may disagree to the interest of the wife; and that recovery in his own name is equal to reducing into possession. In *Alleyn* 36. in case of a bond to husband and wife during coverture, husband might maintain an action on the bond on his own name alone, and have judgment in his own name alone, and that that was a disagreeing to his wife's interest, and it should not survive to her, but go to his representatives: whereas, if he had brought the action in the name of himself and wife, the judgment would be, that both should recover: and then the surviving wife, and not the executor of the husband, should bring the *scire facias* on the judgment; and the same is held in several other books. The case in 2 *Lev.* 107. is somewhat different; for there it is said, the husband ought to bring the action in the names of both: but in other books the husband has an election. But that question is out of the case here; it depends on the settlement. It is true, that if a man marries, and in consideration of that marriage makes a settlement upon the wife by way of jointure, and in consideration of such portion as she is or may be intitled to, if any thing comes afterward during the coverture to the wife, he is considered as a purchaser of it, and shall take it. If on the other hand the settlement on the wife is in consideration of her present portion or fortune, without reference to what comes afterward, and the husband does not reduce it into possession, it will survive to the wife in equity as well as by the rule of law; and that, which is laid down in *Packer v. Windham*, *P.C.* 412. is right: but this is a particular case, and the settlement very particular. The consideration is not barely the marriage and present portion, but further also the covenants contained therein. If the additional 200 *l.* in the first covenant had not been paid at the husband's death, his executors would be intitled thereto. The other covenant is very particular, and differs from the former as to the covenantees as well as to the persons to whom to be left. Here it is not only to the wife, but also to any child of the marriage. How then can I say, that by this covenant the husband is a purchaser? The mother might have left it to the separate use of the wife, or to any children of the marriage; which would have been a performance of the covenant; so that it is not a covenant inserted for benefit of the husband, but of the daughter and issue of the marriage. As then she might have left it in this manner, and has left part to her daughter, and the other part has come to her by accident, and no contract to give the husband a certain right in this at all, it must be considered on the foot of a general legacy to the wife abstracted from the contract, not such as the husband would be intitled to in all events by way of contract: but such as must go by the general rules of law and equity by survivor-

ship; according to which, what the husband had reduced into possession, will go to his executors; the rest will survive to the wife. Next as to the assignment by the husband he might undoubtedly have received in this money, if he thought fit; might have released it; or for valuable consideration assigned to a creditor or purchaser, which would be good according to a case before me: but this is the slightest case that can be for the court to say this, for the proviso at the end is a plain declaration of trust upon the face of it; so that it amounts to an assignment of a *chose in action*, which in point of law passes nothing, and that to create a trust for benefit of the husband, who subject to the wife's survivorship was the original owner; which makes no alteration in this property. This part therefore not got in will survive to the wife, and belong to her representatives.

Another question arose as to the interest due upon a mortgage, the consideration of which was reserved by the decree; whether, as there was an open account against the mortgagee, and several tenders were made of the mortgage-money, interest should stop from the time of such tenders.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

Interest on mortgage not stop but on proper tender and notice. Not upon proposals to deduct upon open account on the other side. Nor costs.

Mortgagee may bring ejectment and bill to foreclose.

I do not know that the court has ever done this. Here is a certain mortgage for the payment of money due on one side, and an open account on the other, quite a distinct thing and separate from the mortgage. Taking it for granted that upon the account more will be due, than the principal and interest of the mortgage will amount to; if therefore it is held, that upon proposals being made to the mortgagee to deduct, interest should stop from such time, that would put mortgagees in a bad situation: and yet there may be general cases, in which it may be wished to come at it. But the rule is so strict, that, where a certain security is taken by mortgagees, their interest shall not stop but upon a proper tender and notice; which rules, if not observed, the court will not stop the interest; for he has a legal security for his money; may bring an ejectment and bill for foreclosure at the same time, which the court will not prevent; it would be going a great way therefore in this case to say, that the interest should stop. But as he has interest on his mortgage to this time, he must answer interest as to the money in his hands, which will be due upon the account. As to costs, as I am of opinion, and am compelled thereto by the rules of the court, that the proposals made shall not stop the interest, I do not see how I can refuse costs to him.

But as the mortgagee appeared to have been vexatious, an alteration as to costs was made.

N. It has been often determined, that if a husband survives his wife, and does not take out administration, whoever takes it out, will be a trustee for him, being the only next of kin.

Mitchel *versus* Neal, Nov. 8, 1755.

Case 237.

UPON a bill for specifick performance of an agreement for sale of copyhold lands in *Corsham* in *Wilts* to the plaintiff by surrender by the defendant in court, the defendant insisted upon doing it by letter of attorney and not otherwise, and that he was ready to do so. The plaintiff insisted upon his doing it in person, and entered into proof, that the custom of the manor was, that whoever came to surrender, must, unless in special cases of disability, do it in person. By the decree at the *Rolls* a trial was directed as to this custom.

Purchaser of copyhold not obliged to accept of surrender by letter of attorney. A custom, that it must be in person, is not contrary to law.

On *appeal* it was insisted for defendant, that this issue was improper; because, if found for the plaintiff that by the custom of this manor it cannot be by letter of attorney, it would be void in law. Supposing it would be good in law, there is not sufficient proof to direct an issue to try the fact. There can be no such custom in point of law; for according to *Combe's case*, 9 Co. 75. it is a general law through all copyholds, that a copyholder of inheritance may alien by surrender. If so, it is incident to his property by the common law, and then it is incident to the nature of it, that he may do it by attorney; and therefore need not alledge a custom for it. Whatever act he can do by himself, he can do by attorney, as he may every act in *pais*. The argument from inconvenience is very strong; and it would be unreasonable, that a copyholder of inheritance could not surrender but in person: it is locking up his property; as then it may not be parted with without great inconvenience, and upon taking long journeys. It is unreasonably restraining that power, which is given not by custom but the common law: but next if such custom could possibly be supported, the court would attend to the evidence, and see that it was strongly proved, otherwise not send it to trial, agreeable to the present practice of the court of *Exchequer* as to a *modus*; which, though they formerly sent to be tried on an issue, before they determined, whether it was good in point of law, is now varied.

Ante, Richards v. Evans, 26 Oct. 1747. Chapman v.

Smith, 17 July 1754. The former practice in *Exchequer*, of directing an issue as to a *modus* first, is now altered; but not in every case. Ante, *Cart v. Ball*, Easter 1747.

LORD

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am of opinion, there is no ground in favour of the defendant to vary this decree. I am in the case of a purchaser of an estate, whom no court of justice will compel to accept of such purchase upon any doubtful title. It is not a question now, what kind of title a man may have in his family, but what kind of title a purchaser is compelled to take: upon this question, whether a good title can be made, the court in favour of the defendant has directed an issue, that if this may be a good title to the plaintiff by letter of attorney, he may accept of it; to which two objections are taken. It is true, that the ancient practice of the *Exchequer* in directing an issue first, before they determined it in point of law (which practice was founded on a specious ground of law, that *ex facto oritur jus*) has been very prudently altered by that court. But I do not know, that in every case whatever they do this; that is, that in a doubtful question, doubtful whether good in law or fact, I do not know, that they always determine the *modus* good or not before the fact is tried: but it depends on circumstances. But what is the objection? I incline to think, it might be so as objected: but I cannot say that, for the customs of manors differ. All law of copyholds arises from general custom, as Lord Coke says. This general custom of copyhold may be called the law of the land; yet in several instances that general law is broke in upon. By the general custom a surrender must be presented in the next court; but that is varied in several manors. So in some manors as to the number of days; as in a *tenant right* manor in a case which came out of the *North*; notwithstanding that may be perilous and inconvenient, yet the custom of the manor must prevail. A surrender by attorney cannot be out of court; for that would be for an attorney to make an attorney; which, unless there is a special power in the letter of attorney for that purpose, an attorney cannot do. But it is said to be contrary to law: consider, how all these things have arisen; the manner of acknowledging a fine by commission allowed formerly on the foundation of disability, is contrary to law now, the law not now requiring the disability to be shewn in the *dedimus* as formerly. I cannot say there is not a manor, in which there is such a custom as this not requiring the disability. In several manors there are unreasonable customs, though not so unreasonable as that the law will set them aside. It is too much therefore to say, that by law there cannot be such a custom. Then how does it stand on the proof? I cannot say in case of a purchaser, that he should be bound: but I go farther still, and think this rather a direction in favour of the defendant, and that the plaintiff had much more reason to complain of it; for the vendor can without the least inconvenience do that act himself, and then there is no instance of the court's compelling

Law of copyholds arises from general custom: yet is often broke in upon.

a person to take it by attorney. A purchaser may be put under difficulties by this means; for the letter of attorney may be lost; and the party is obliged to prove it and the execution of it: although I allow, that courts of law would make strong presumptions in such case; but why should a purchaser be put to that? A letter of attorney may be revoked the next moment; that revocation may be notified to the attorney without the purchaser's knowing it, and then the conveyance would be void, and the purchaser's only remedy would be by suit in equity. Suppose, the conveyance was to be made before a master under the direction of this court; and the vendor said he would do it, but would do it by attorney, though living next door to the master, and in his power to do it himself; this court would not allow that; and if the vendor said so to me, I would commit him for not doing it himself; for I would not compel a man to accept of a title under a letter of attorney; of which there is no instance unless a necessity appears for it. This therefore is very unreasonably complained of on the part of the defendant; consequently the decree must stand, and the plaintiff have the deposit.

N. It being said that a power by attorney is void, if the party appears himself, *His Lordship* denied that; for though the power of a deputy ceases in presence of the principal, it is not so of a power of attorney; for a man may appear and act by attorney notwithstanding he is present himself.

Williams versus Jekyl.

Elliot versus Jekyl, Nov. 8, 1755.

Case 238.

A Freehold lease for three lives was granted to *Elizabeth Elliot*, her executors, administrators, and assigns. She for valuable consideration makes an assignment of the premises, and all her right, title, and interest, in and to the same, to a trustee to the use of her son *John Williams* for and during the term of his natural life; and from and after his decease to the use of his issue lawfully begotten; and for want of such issue, to the use of *Elizabeth Elliot*, her executors and administrators, during the residue of the term.

John Williams died leaving a son and a daughter; the latter died soon after her father at six years of age.

The present question was between the son and *Alexander Elliot* the executor and residuary legatee of *Elizabeth Elliot*.

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For

Lease for three lives to A. her executors, &c. A. assigns all right to use of B. for life, and afterward of his issue; and for want of such issue to use of A. her executors, &c. The whole vests in the issue of B. and issue means children; and A.'s executor, who is a special occupant cannot claim against it.

For plaintiff the son. The objection made is, that this is to be compared to the limitation of a fee simple by a deed, in which *issue* is not a word of limitation, but must be a word of purchase; and consequently the issue, the son, must take for life only; and then there must be a remainder over to *Elizabeth Elliot* to take after his death. But there are several answers thereto. First, this is an agreement for valuable consideration mentioned, for which *Elizabeth Elliot* parts with this to those uses: next it is a conveyance by way of trust, not an use executed: there is no doubt of the meaning. She meant to part with, and *John Williams* meant to purchase, an estate for life to himself with a general limitation to his issue indefinitely. The nature of this property is a descendible freehold, and his heir takes it by description and designation as special occupant, not by descent; and though the heir or heir of the body takes it as special occupant, it is not like a fee simple, but goes all along upon the occupancy; so would it be, if it was limited to the heirs of the body. But as there cannot be a common recovery of such estates, if they could not be barred, there would be a perpetuity; and therefore it has been determined in *Westeneys v. Chappel*, and *Duke of Grafton v. Hanmer*, 3 Will. 267. that there might be such a limitation of these leases, and consequently it might by deed or any common conveyance be aliened, though it was to one and the heirs of his body. Supposing then this was a direct legal conveyance to one for life and remainder to his issue, it falls not within the rule of law, that one cannot take an inheritance unless by the word *heirs*. There are no technical words here, for this is a description of the person to take by special occupancy, not by descent. Who are the special occupants? First *John Williams* for life; next his issue indefinitely: there is no rule of law that it might not be so limited, since according to those cases it may be disposed of. The limitation over to *Elizabeth Elliot* can never happen, while there is issue of his body: if then that cannot be barred, it is void in point of law. As it is an agreement for valuable consideration, if there is a blunder in expression contrary to the agreement, this court will rectify it, as in a marriage-settlement; and its being for valuable consideration is a ground to come here to set it right. Beside it is in trustees, and their trust is executory; and they are to make an assignment of this lease pursuant to the sense of the court; which must be in proper terms and in an apt manner. Upon any of these grounds the plaintiff, now the only issue of this marriage, is to have this estate absolutely.

For Alexander Elliot. This is a lease for lives, and may consequently be limited for particular estates. The statute of uses extends to freeholds; and then there can be no reason why *John Williams* should be a *cestuy que trust*, and why not an use executed. The question

question is upon the effect of the words *issue, &c.* A limitation to one and his issue will never in a deed create an estate of inheritance. This is to all his issue as purchasers, to arise as they arise; as to all a man's daughters, it splits, as they arise. But what estate must be taken, as the father took an estate for life? They took estates as jointenants for life; for wherever a freehold without a particular limitation is granted, the party takes only an estate for life; and there is no variation as to leases for lives or a descendible freehold: it is the contrary in a limitation of a term for years, by which the whole is taken. Then according to *Wild's case*, 2 Co. and *Taylor v. Sayer*, Cr. El. 742. and *Cook v. Cook*, 2 Ver. 545. they take as jointenants and only for life, the limitation to the issue giving only estates to them as purchasers, not including issue of issue collectively as has been argued. It stops in the first instance; nor is the word *issue* ever construed so far as the word *heirs* has been, to have a double use. This being so in point of law, neither will the nature of the estate, a limitation for three lives, make any difference. An estate *pour auter vie*, limited to one and his heirs, may be given to another for life, and, if it determines during the life *pour auter vie*, shall revert to the donor. The second branch of this limitation should have no more power over it than the first: it is not absolutely vested in the son any more than in the father. Unless the word *issue ex vi termini* included *in infinitum* collectively, (which has not been the construction of law), it signifies no more than if, having three sons, they were called by their names. According to what is now insisted upon, if the plaintiff died, his executor or administrator would be intitled to the whole absolutely contrary to intent; for power of reverter was intended to herself; nor will a court of equity in this case go farther than the strict law.

LORD CHANCELLOR.

I am satisfied upon the construction of this deed; which construction I must make; and that such as is agreeable to the intention of the parties and nature of the estate. The first consideration is, that this is a deed of purchase. The principle I shall go upon in the construction is, that words in deeds or wills receive a different construction according to the nature of the estates to which they are applied. It is therefore held in *Forth v. Chapman*, 1 Will. 663.) and several other cases in this court, that the same words that would create a limitation of estates, or introductory of limitation of estates, if applied to real receive one construction, but when in a will or deed relating to personal estate receive another, *ut res magis valeat*, and that the intent may take place. Here is an assignment by way of purchase of an estate, which is a term for three lives, not created originally as a descendible freehold to go to the heir as special occupant, but to the lessee, her executors, administrators, and assigns;

Words construed according to nature of the estate.

so

so that the executor of the first lessee must take this as special occupant under the limitation: but still such as would be undoubtedly in the power of the first lessee, whose representative that executor is, to divest him of every thing, which he might take as her executor: that is the nature of the estate. Then what is the assignment? and the question thereupon is, who took by virtue of the description of *John Williams's* issue, and next what estate they took? As to the first it is not disputed, but that both children took by way of description of his issue: they would be jointenants; and one dying, the estate survived to the other; the ground of which is, that this is not an estate of freehold and inheritance; consequently could not be limited to *John Williams* for life, and then to his issue so as to unite with his own estate as an estate of inheritance; and therefore whoever takes by the word *issue*, takes as a purchaser, and consequently it survives to the child surviving. Nay supposing it had been *heirs of his body*, it would be the same in that respect, and according to the *Duke of Grafton's* case he would have power to dispose of it. Then taking them as purchasers, the next question is, what estate they took; which depends on the words of this deed? It is insisted that being limited to the issue, and no words of limitation added thereto, the issue must take as persons described only, consequently only the children of *John Williams*; and that they take as if named in the deed, and then only an estate for life according to *Cook v. Cook* and *Wild's* case; and that it could go no farther in the case of an inheritance. In a deed it would be so in the case of an estate of inheritance; but the question here is upon the nature of the estate. They appear to know the difference between limiting it for life and in another manner; what was the intent? Was it with an eye to an estate-tail, as Lord *Hale* says? Was it, that none but the children should take, and not the children of the children? I cannot say so, and that it should then go over to the executors. But it is said, it must be so by construction of the words and of law. I need not determine now how it would be of an estate *pour autre vie* limited to one and his heirs; for that is not this case. Supposing the assignment had been made to *John Williams*, and all her estate, right, title, and interest, to have and to hold to *John Williams* himself, and nothing more said; would *John Williams* have had the whole estate and interest in the lands under this lease? I am of opinion, he would by such assignment; and that the executor of *Elizabeth Elliot* could never have claimed it against him; for here is an estate to her and her executors, &c. she grants all her estate, &c. in it: and yet her executor, who is a special occupant, claims against it. In point of law the whole interest for all the lives would vest in *John Williams*, who is put in the place of her executor. Supposing this deed had been to *John Williams* for life, and after his decease to the issue of his body lawfully begotten,

and it had gone no further ; I am of the same opinion, that the executor being in her power could not claim against her grant. I agree, this case differs from that, from what follows ; upon which arises the principal difficulty. I must put a construction upon the words *for want of such issue* ; and what is the construction ? Suppose, the plaintiff should die leaving issue ; I agree, that issue could not by virtue of that limitation to the issue take the estate ; for *issue* here is not to be construed collectively, but issue in the first instance. Consider then, what construction the court must put upon the words *in default, &c.* and that was the reason I laid it down at first, that words must be construed according to the nature of the estate to which they are applied ; and I construe them to mean, in case *John Williams* has no children, then to her, her executors and administrators ; and that was the real intent of the parties, as I take it, to convey to her son for life ; if the son had children, they should have it absolutely ; if not, that it should come back to her executors. If the court is at liberty to construe those words *in default of issue* in default of children, the whole will vest in him according to the true construction. I have no doubt at all, but if it had been a plain assignment by her during the term to *John Williams* without saying more, he would have the whole in him.

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