

(RANKING of ADJUDGERS and APPRISERS.)

No 31. for the bygoners of the annualrent, more than for the principal sum; and seeing Rosehaugh, as an adjudger, will be after all the real creditors, he can have no benefit thereby, as was found, the 22d of December, 1671, Campbell against ——. Stair, v. 2. p. 33. See RIGHT in SECURITY.

‘ THE LORDS found, That the adjudication being upon the personal obligation, and not upon the pointing of the ground, the same had no privilege to be drawn back as to the annualrents; but that he was only to be ranked thereupon amongst the other adjudgers.’

*Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 16. Dalrymple, No 12. p. 16.*

1720. June 23.

Competition BARCLAY of Towie, with the other CREDITORS of Crimonmogat.

No 32.

Adjudgers within year and day, brought in *pari passu* after expiry of the legal, as well as before.

THE lands of Crimonmogat, belonging originally to John Hay, were apprifed by Peter Meldrum in the 1654, and in the same year by Towie's grandfather; and Peter Meldrum stands infest on his apprifing under the Great Seal. Meldrum the apprifur, in the 1675, difponed to Mr William Hay, who was infest in the 1677, upon Meldrum's resignation. Mr William Hay, or his fon, contracted debts, whereupon diligence going on againft him, there enfued a ranking and fale of the eftate: In which procefs, compeared Towie, and craved preference upon his grandfather's apprifing, which had been long neglected, through the misfortune of fucceffive minorities of his grandfather, mother, and himfelf; and his ground of preference was, that the creditors their rights depended upon Peter Meldrum's apprifing, who was their original author; and that Towie had right to come in *pari passu* with this apprifing, as being within year and day thereof.

The creditors *pleaded*, That Towie's apprifing never being completed by infestment, claiming only upon the act 1661, the benefit of Meldrum's apprifing and infestment, cannot now, fo long after the expiry of the legal, compete with fingular fucceffors, poffeffing by heritable rights conveyed from the firft effectual apprifing, whereupon infestment had followed.

It was *alleged* for Towie, That the infestment on Meldrum's apprifing, was, by the law, juft one, as it had been upon his own; in which cafe, the competing creditors could not controvert, that he would come in equally with them, notwithstanding of their deriving abfolute real rights from Meldrum; who could give none better than he had, fince the Lords have found, that the right was not excluded by prefcription.

It was *answered* for the creditors, That the act 1661, was only intended to regulate the competitions of apprifers during the legal; and that the nature of the right, after the legal, or the confequences thereof, was noways altered, but left *in ftatu quo prius*: So that whoever is found to have the firft infestment, after expiry of the legal, whether led during the currency, or thereafter, has thereby an abfolute title of property, exclusive of all the other adjudications, though led

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within year and day: Which seems plain from the act 1661 itself, particularly the preamble of the clause, which gives the reasons for the statutory part: A creditor living at a distance, was prevented by the more timely diligence of other creditors; so that the preference depended upon mere chance, and not upon the negligence of the other creditors; this is regulated, by preferring *pari passu* all creditors doing the same diligence within year and day. The preamble further says, "That posterior comprisers had only right to the legal reversion, which does often prove ineffectual to them, not being able to redeem within the legal." Here the time during the currency of the legal is only in view; the inconveniences arising to creditors during that time, is the motive of the statutory part, and these are effectually prevented, by giving opportunity to the co-appriser, to recover his payment within the legal, or to do such diligence as may prevent the expiring thereof; which, without using orders or declarators, he may do by a simple suspension, or summons of multiplepoinding, where the creditors will be obliged to produce their interests; and this continues the legal, at least prevents one creditor's taking advantage of another upon the expiration.

*Replied* for Towie, That an infeftment upon an apprising, after expiry of the legal, is no more exclusive of other apprisings, than during the legal. It was never before questioned, but that infeftment *quandocunque* taken, did accresce to the remanent apprisers within year and day: As, for example, three persons apprise or adjudge, but the last without year and day of the first; if the first shall infeft after expiry of the legal, it will accresce to the second, in exclusion of the third; and yet, if the third should first infeft, though the legal of the first be expired, they will all come in *pari passu*: because, by the act of Parliament, the last is the first effectual: For the law considers not whether the apprising be expired or not, but in general the first effectual apprising; and, if the apprising be not made effectual till after expiry of the legal, still, as to all apprisers and adjudgers within year and day, it is a right to be communicated. And here is the mistake of the creditors; an apprising after expiry of the legal, even without infeftment, turns to be a right of property in a question with the debtor; but, in competition with co-apprisers, they are no more but so many several creditors *missi in possessionem*, and by the law, the deed of one accresces to the rest; especially as to the matter of their infeftment, which, by the statute, is designed to be a common right: And, if it were otherwise, the inconveniency would be great; for whereas, now adjudgers often rest upon a charge against the superior, or infeftment taken by any of their number, every one for their security, behoved to take charters, during the legal, for themselves; since otherwise they would be cut off by the first infeftment that should exist after the legal, which would create the utmost expence.

It was *urged* for the creditors in the *second* place, That if Towie prevail, it shall then be unsafe to purchase from any who has right by apprising, or even from persons who have absolute rights; because perchance some time or other they might have been founded on comprisings: Now the great design of our lawgivers

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No 32. all along has been, to make onerous purchasers secure in all events ; which, in a great measure, must be disappointed, if Towie's apprising be sustained, there being no records to show incumbrances by apprisings.

To which Towie answered, *Incommodum non solvit argumentum* ; no law can be made so perfect to meet every inconveniency : But if this argument obtain, then apprisings hereafter, in the persons of singular successors, shall not be reducible upon nullities, or even upon payment made to the disponent. But the answer is obvious ; every one who purchases upon an apprising, has an open intimation made to him, that he is purchasing *cum periculo*, and particularly with this, that he may have competing apprisings ; it is a rare example, that an estate is carried off without more than one : So that the very nature of the right speaks loud to him, without another certification. Besides, our law has afforded public records, whence purchasers may be certified of apprisings ; for by the act 1661, allowances are introduced ; and before that time, as appears by that statute, apprisings were in use to be fully recorded and registered, which was a full notification.

“ THE LORDS found, That the privilege introduced by the act of Parliament 1661, in favours of adjudgers, before, or within year and day of the first effectual apprising, is competent to the said adjudgers, before, or within year and day, against the singular successors of the first effectual appriser, as well after the expiry of the legal, as within the same.”

*Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 20. Rem. Dec. v. 1. No 19. p. 40.*

1665. January 7. GRAHAM of Blackwood against BROWNS.

No 33.

Manner of proportioning rents and expences among apprisers.

JOHN and William Browns having apprised certain lands, and William Graham having apprised the same, within a year after, pursues an account and reckoning against the first appriser, upon the last act of Parliament, betwixt Debtor and Creditor ; and craves to come in *pari passu* with the first appriser, not only as to the mails and duties of the lands, intromitted with by the appriser, since the said act of Parliament ; but also for those duties that were intromitted with before the said act ; and that, because the act bears expressly, That such apprising shall come in *pari passu*, as if there had been one apprising led for both. It was answered, for the first appriser, that what he did uplift *bona fide*, before any process intended against him, at this pursuer's instance, he cannot pay back a part thereof to the pursuer ; because he is *bona fide* possessor, and because the act of Parliament bears, That such apprisings shall come in *pari passu* ; which, being in the future, must be understood to be from their intending of process, at least from the date of the act, but not from the beginning.

THE LORDS having considered the tenor of the act of Parliament, found that such apprisings should only come in *pari passu*, from the date of the act ; but that the by-gones uplifted by the first appriser, before the act, should be account-