

1707. March 12.

ANDREW KNOX, Tenant in Harley, *against* GEORGE HUME of Kames.

GEORGE HUME of Kames being charged at the instance of Andrew Knox tenant in Harley, to pay a certain sum contained in a decret-arbitral, as the price of some corns submitted by them to two arbiters, he suspended upon these grounds: *Imo*, That the decret was *ipso jure* null, because the blank on the back of the submission in which it was filled up, was not subscribed by the parties submitters; which, according to constant custom, is essential to a decret-arbitral, as an evidence that they submit implicitly to the arbiters' determination, whatever it be. *2do*, Though the decret should not be found null for want of the party's subscription to the blank it was filled up in; it could not be a warrant for a summar charge of horning; because, albeit the submission bears a clause for registering thereof, it bears no consent to the registration of the decret-arbitral, to follow thereupon; but only the arbiters do most irregularly, in their decret, consent to the registration thereof in any competent judge's books: And their consent to registration can be no ground to raise horning against the parties who subscribed not the blank in which the decret was filled up.

Answered for Andrew Knox: Albeit ordinarily submissions bear the blank on the back on which the decret-arbitral is to be filled up, to be subscribed by the submitters, and they actually do subscribe the same: Yet that is not essential to the validity of a decret-arbitral, more than the clause *renouncing the exception of not numerate money*, and the clause *but prejudice of suing execution hereupon*, &c. are necessary clauses in bonds. The decret is indeed most frequently written upon the back of the submission, that it may be insert in the same register with the submission: But *nihil impedit*, why a decret-arbitral may not be on a paper apart. Since a verbal decret-arbitral, proceeding upon a verbal submission, hath been sustained; February 7. 1671, Hume *contra* Scot*. And as a testament may be validly made up of three words, *Lucius Heres esto*; any words though never so few, importing the acquiescence of parties in what shall be determined by arbiters, are infallibly binding, as if they should submit thus, *Lucius Arbitrator esto*.

THE LORDS found the decret-arbitral was no warrant for summar diligence: reserving the consideration of the other point anent the annulling of the decret, because the blank on the back thereof was not subscribed by the parties. But they were generally of opinion that the want of the party's subscription to the blank, was not a nullity in the decret filled up therein.

Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 49. Forbes, p. 142.

1738. June 22.

LORD LOVAT *against* FRASER of Phopachy.

THE effect of arbiters not determining the whole particulars submitted, is settled by a distinction, whether it be a submission only of particulars, or only general, or of particulars with a general.

VOL. II.

4 K

* Stair, v. 1. p. 716. *voce* PROOF, verbal contracts.

No 7.

Arbiters cannot discern that their decrees shall take effect by summar diligence, unless the parties submitters interpose their consent thereto.

No 8.

In a case, where a submission to arbiters was made of cer-

No 8.

tain particulars, as also a general submission of all other claims, the arbiters having determined only as to the particulars, but not as to the general, the decree was found, notwithstanding, good.

In the first and second case, the leaving any thing open, voids the whole: in the third case, the particulars being determined, the decree stands good, though there be nothing done upon the general; *provided* that no claim upon the general, having connection with any of the particulars determined, be left undetermined.

Accordingly, in this case, where the submission was of particulars, with a general subjoined of all other claims, the LORDS sustained the decret-arbitral, whereby all the said particulars were determined, although there were other claims, falling under the general, left undetermined by the arbiters.

Fol. Dic. v. 3. p. 35. Kilkerran, (ARBITRATION.) No 1. p. 33.

1739. *January 24.*

WALTER GROSAT, Charger, *against* HENRY CUNNINGHAM, &c. Suspenders.

No 9.

Arbiters cannot decern for a penalty, other or greater, than is contained in the submission. The penalty will be restricted *quoad excessum*.

THESE parties entered into a submission, wherein they bound themselves to obtemper the decret, under the penalty of 20l. Sterling; and, by the decret-arbitral following thereon, the suspenders were decerned to pay 200l. Sterling, by equal portions, at Lammas and Martinmas then next, with 20l. Sterling of penalty for each term's failzie; and likewise it decerned for a penalty of 20l. Sterling, to be paid by the party failing to observe, to the party performing, or willing to perform.

It was *objected*, in a suspension of the decret-arbitral, That the arbiters had acted *ultra vires*, in decerning for 20l. Sterling of penalty for each term's failzie.

Answered: Wherever a liquid sum is found due, or decerned for by arbiters, they can either make it payable by the decret-arbitral at a certain term, or they can decern the party debtor to grant bond for it, payable at a certain term; and, in this last case, they would decern the bond to be extended in common form, that is, with interest from the date, or term of payment, and a fifth part of the principal, as penalty: And the case is the same where they decern a sum to be paid by their decret-arbitral; the decret-arbitral is, in that case, the bond, and the fifth part for penalty is, of course, a part of the bond. There is no absurdity at all in supposing two different penalties to be due, one by the bond, and one by the obligation to submit; and both are incurred in case of disobedience, the penalty in this submission by disobedience, and the other by failure of payment.

THE LORDS restricted the penalty in the decret-arbitral, to the penalty in the submission*.

C. Home, No 117. p. 188.

* This case in *Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 49.* is named, Boquhan against Groffart, and dated 24th February 1739.