

same Session of parliament, "for explaining the law concerning the trial and admission of the Ordinary Lords of Session." This act of parliament gives his majesty the right of judging in future, with regard to the matters familiar to that which was at issue by the present appeal. 10.G.I.C.19.

Kenneth Mackenzie, brother of George Mackenzie of Balmuckie, Roderick Mackenzie younger of Reidcastle, Lewis Mackenzie his brother, Donald Mackenzie of Kilcowie, John Chisholm of Knockfin, and Archibald Chisholm his brother, *Appellants* ;

Mr. Daniel Mackilligin, and Mr. John Mackilligin, Ministers of the Gospel at Allness, - - - - - *Respondents*.

Case 96

6th Feb. 1722-3.

Spuilzie.—Art and Part.—Certain persons who were present with the rebels, (under the command of Lord Seaforth,) when a spuilzie was committed, are found liable in damages, conjunctly and severally, for the damages committed by the said party.

The amount of the damages ascertained by the oaths of the pursuers.
Interest allowed from the day, after the party of rebels had left the premises spuilzied.

Costs and Expenses.—The appellants having failed to appear, on the day appointed for hearing, the respondents' are heard, and the judgment affirmed with 100% costs.

IN May 1718 (a), the respondent Daniel, in his own right, and by virtue of a factory from the presbytery of Dingwall, and the other respondent John, brought an action of spuilzie against the appellants, before the Court of Session, for satisfaction of certain damages occasioned by the appellants; and the respondent stated, that upon Monday the 10th of October 1715, the appellants with a party of armed highlandmen, under the command of the late Earl of Seaforth, came to the village of Allness where the respondents resided, and continued there till Saturday the 15th, during which time, they took possession of the houses of the respondents, carried off a great part of the household furniture, and cut and destroyed the rest, carried off, or tore, and destroyed all the respondent Daniel's books, and likewise a library of books belonging to the presbytery of Dingwall, and likewise two parochial libraries, of all which the respondent Daniel was the keeper, destroyed all their corn, and cut and destroyed the planting, and every thing of value that could be found belonging

(a) This is entirely taken from the case for the respondents; none appears for the appellants, and as they deserted the appeal, it is probable that none was presented for them.

to either of the respondents, who upon the approach of the said rebels were obliged to fly for their own safety, and live private for some time; and could not return to their houses for above five months.

The appellants made defences, in general, denying the libel; and a defence of *alibi* was also set up by the appellants Roderick and Donald Mackenzie. In June 1720, of consent, a commission was granted for examining witnesses by the respondents to prove their libel, and for the appellants to prove their defences; and accordingly several witnesses were examined for the respondents, but none were examined by the appellants; and the term was circumduced against them.

The cause coming to be heard, the appellants did not appear, but the Court having heard and considered the depositions in the cause, on the 8th of July 1721, “found it proved, that at the
 “ time libelled a party of the rebels, which were then under the
 “ command of the late Earl of Seaforth, came to the town of
 “ Allness, within which the respondents’ houses are situated;
 “ and that the said party continued there several days, and that
 “ by the said party, the respondent Mr. Daniel’s house was
 “ plundered, his doors, trunks, and chests broken open, and his
 “ books and the plenishing and furniture of the house carried off
 “ and destroyed; and that his growing corns, his corns in his
 “ barn, and barn-yard, and his peats and herbage of his yard,
 “ were also consumed or destroyed by the said party: And also
 “ found it proved, that at the said time, and by the same party,
 “ the respondent Mr. John Mackilligin’s house was rifled, his
 “ plenishing carried off, his corns, peats, and planting destroyed,
 “ and his bee-hives and the locks and doors of his house carried
 “ off; and found it proved, that the appellants were all of the
 “ said party; and found the defence of *alibi* not proved; and
 “ also found that the aforesaid qualifications proved are relevant
 “ to infer that the appellants were art and part in the commission
 “ of the above spuilzies; and that they are therefore liable con-
 “ junctly and severally *in solidum* for the damages which were
 “ thereby done to the said Mr. John and Daniel Mackilligins, re-
 “ spondents; and remitted it to the then next week’s ordinaries
 “ or to either of them, to take the said Mr. Daniel’s oath *in*
 “ *litam* on the particulars and the extent and value of his
 “ damages, and on the violent profits.”

The respondent Daniel having been examined swore to the extent of his damages, and exhibited an inventory thereof; and on the 28th of July 1721, the Court “Having
 “ considered the inventories referred to by the respondent
 “ Daniel in his oath, and having advised the said oath, found the
 “ appellants liable conjunctly and severally to the said Mr. Daniel
 “ Mackilligin for the values of the books in the two inventories
 “ produced, and also for the sums in the inventory of the goods
 “ spuilzied from the said Mr. Daniel, extending in all to the sum
 “ of 2482*l.* 12*s.* Scots, and for the interest of the said sum from
 “ the 16th day of October 1715 years, and in time coming during

“ the not payment, deducing as is deduced in the above calcul
 “ the value of the books which the said Mr. Daniel expects to
 “ get back; and also found the defenders liable to Mr. Daniel for
 “ the expence of this process, and for his personal expence in
 “ attending, in so far as the same should be found necessary or
 “ reasonable; and remitted to the Lord Ordinary in the cause to
 “ liquidate the expence of the process according to the regula-
 “ tions, and to modify the personal expences.” And the Lord
 Ordinary accordingly decerned for Daniel’s expences amounting
 to 645*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* Scots. The appellants having reclaimed, the
 Court, on the 29th of July 1721, adhered to these interlocu-
 tors.

The respondent John being examined upon a commission, also
 swore to the particulars which he had lost, and the values thereof;
 and the Court pronounced another interlocutor (a) of the same
 nature in John’s cause, and decerned the appellants to make him
 satisfaction for the sum of 1279*l.* 7*s.* Scots, with interest; and
 his expences were decerned for, amounting to 134*l.* 16*s.* Scots.

Both these decrees having been extracted, the appellants brought
 an action of reduction; but after a hearing of the cause on the
 24th of July 1722, the Court “ repelled the reasons of reduc-
 tion;” and to this interlocutor they adhered on the 31st of
 July 1722.

The appeal was brought from “ several interlocutory sentences
 “ or decrees of the Lords of Session of the 28th of July 1721,
 “ 23d February 1721-2, and the affirmances thereof the 24th and
 “ 31st of July 1722.”

Entered;
 23 Oct.
 1722.

Heads of the Appellants’ Argument.

Whatever damage the respondents may have sustained, there
 was no proof that the same was occasioned by means of the ap-
 pellants, or that any of them took any of the respondents’ goods,
 or gave any orders for so doing; it were therefore unreasonable
 to load them with making reparation for what damage the respon-
 dents sustained.

There is no proof of the value of the respondents’ damages,
 but their respective oaths *in litem*; which was an indulgence they
 did not so much as pray to be allowed by their libel, and conse-
 quently must avoid the decree as being *ultra petita*, especially
 since the action was not commenced soon after the damage
 done.

The decree gives the respondents interest for their several de-
 mands from the 16th of October 1715, though in the libel the
 charge is, that the facts were committed on one or other of the
 days of September, October, November, December, January, or
 February of the said year.

The appellants are decreed jointly and severally, to pay the
 respondents their damages, though it was not prayed by
 libel.

(a) The date is not mentioned; but it appears to have been the interlocutor 2
 February 1721-2, which was appealed from.

The respondent Daniel had allowance for the expences of both actions, and his personal expence in attending the same; and yet, by the decree in favour of the respondent John, he is likewise allowed his expences; so that the appellants were subjected to a double payment of expences.

Heads of the Respondents' Argument.

It appears by the proofs in the cause, that all the appellants were present in the village of Allnesh with the armed Highlanders; that several of them were in the respondents' houses at that time; and that during the time the appellants and the rebels were there, the houses of the respondents were plundered by the said rebels, and every thing therein carried off and destroyed. These facts being established, the decree against the appellants must be just; for where a number of men commit violence, it may be very difficult (nor indeed is it necessary) to prove the particular persons who destroyed or took away the goods: It is sufficient to prove that the injury or damage was done by such a party, and that the appellants were of that party, which is sufficiently proved by a multitude of witnesses.

An oath *in litem* is, by the law of Scotland, as much the determined method of proof where a spuilzie is libelled, as writ or witnesses are in any other case; and indeed in most cases of that nature, any other proof is impossible: And no man in his libel is obliged to set forth the method of his proof, and consequently this decree has proceeded regularly and according to the usual forms in such cases. The action was commenced in May 1718, which will avoid any objection from delay.

The libelling of a spuilzie in its own nature implies violent profits, damages, and expences; that is, where the nature of the thing spuilzied admits of violent profits, they are decreed; otherwise the Judges decree interest: and the decree has been very indulgent to the appellants in giving interest, for certainly the respondents must have sustained much greater damage; and their demand thereof was actually libelled. It appears by the proofs that the rebels came to the village of Allnesh on Monday the 10th, and continued till Saturday the 15th of October, during which time the damage was done; and it was therefore regular to decree interest from the 16th of October, since before that time the damage was done.

A spuilzie being libelled against several persons, it imports their being liable jointly and severally; for since they were all accessory to the wrong, the judgment was rightly pronounced, and the same is particularly so libelled.

The respondent John has no allowance for expences, but such as were not allowed to the respondent Daniel; and therefore the appellants are not liable to a double payment; and the respondents conceive that the Court has made them but the just and usual allowances in cases of spuilzie, which indeed are less than the half of the expences which the respondents were out of pocket.

Whereas

Whereas this day was appointed for hearing counsel upon this appeal and answers: Counsel appearing for the respondents, but no counsel for the appellants, and the respondents' counsel being heard and withdrawn, It is ordered and adjudged, that the petition and appeal be dismissed; and that the interlocutory sentences or decrees therein complained of be affirmed: And it is further ordered, that the appellants do pay, or cause to be paid to the respondents, the sum of 100l. for their costs in respect of the said appeal.

Judgment,
6 Feb.
1722-3.

For Respondents, Ro. Dundas, Will. Hamilton.

James Macpherson, of Killyhuntly, - Appellant; Case 97.
John Macpherson, of Dalrady, - Respondent.

11th Feb. 1722-3.

Trust—Qualifications of trust found to be irrelevant.

THIS appeal related to certain deeds executed in favour of the respondent, by Elias Macpherson, of Inveresbie, being conveyances of his whole estate, bearing to be for onerous considerations, and containing absolute warrandice. These deeds were executed in 1693, 1694, 1695, and 1696.

The appellant's father had a wadset upon the estate of this Elias; and Elias, on the 7th of February 1696, conveyed his right of reversion of this wadset to a trustee for the appellant's father, by a deed bearing to be for onerous considerations. Elias also executed an instrument on the same 7th of February 1696, *declaring upon his soul and conscience*, that the deeds formerly executed by him, in favour of the respondent, were in trust only.

After this period, on the 24th of February 1696, Elias executed another deed in favour of the respondent, reciting certain bonds formerly granted by him in the respondent's favour for money lent, and that the same bonds being returned, he acknowledged the same as the price of his estate remaining unencumbered with wadsets. Elias died without issue, and the respondent having taken steps for the redemption of the wadset now belonging to the appellant, the appellant brought an action of declarator before the Court of Session, to have it declared, that all the deeds formerly executed by Elias Macpherson, in the respondent's favour, were only in trust for the grantor. In this action he insisted that the cause of action having arisen before the act 1696 c. 25. was passed, the trust might be proved by other means than writ, or oath of party, he founded upon the declaration of *soul and conscience*, and other special circumstances in the situation of the parties.

1696, c. 25.