

No 1.  
first aggressor;  
and the pe-  
nalty still  
holds, altho'  
the party  
assaulted de-  
fend himself.

THE LORDS found, That invasion by any stroke, though without blood, fell within the act of Parliament; and that it was to be understood of the first aggressor; and that the other party being invaded, although he did defend himself, and in his defence wounded and blooded the other, yet that did not take off the first invasion, and therefore ordained witnesses to be examined *hinc inde*, to know who was the first invader; and found the defence competent without a cognition of the crime before any other judge.

*Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 93. Stair, v. 2. p. 163.*

\* \* \* The same case is reported by Gosford :

In a pursuit at Bailie Sleich's instance, before the bailies of Haddington, against Swinton, for payment of a sum of money, which thereafter was advocated of consent; wherein the pursuer *insisting*; it was *alleged* for the defender absolvitor, because, by an act of Parliament 1555, which is ratified by 14th Parliament of K. Ja. VI. in the case of invasion by any of the parties in process, cognition should be first taken criminally before the Justice: *2do*, The foresaid act of Parliament relates only to processes depending before the Session, and not before inferior judges: *3tio*, Albeit the pursuer did strike, yet he was first invaded; and so falls not within the act of Parliament, having done it for his own defence.—THE LORDS did find that they themselves might take trial of the injury *ad civilem effectum*, that the parties who does the wrong should *cadere causa*; which did not prejudice a criminal pursuit for the breach of the peace; and did likewise find, that the act of Parliament did extend to all Judicatories where processes are intended: And whereas it was alleged, that each party did strike the other, the LORDS did find that the first aggressor was only liable to the pain contained in the act of Parliament; and for trial thereof, ordained both parties to lead witnesses.

*Gosford, MS. p. 306.*

1679. February 13. CRUIKSHANK against GORDON.

No 2.  
A party who  
had only  
*thrust* his op-  
ponent on the  
breast, in con-  
sequence of  
a quarrel dis-  
tinct from the  
law-suit,  
found to fall  
under the pe-  
nalty in the  
act of Par-  
liament.

GEORGE CRUIKSHANK having charged Gordon of Seaton to grant to him a charter of the lands of Longcraig, conform to his obligation in his disposition; he suspended on this reason, that he had fulfilled the obligation by a charter given by him, and accepted by the charger.—The charger *answered*, *1mo*, That the foresaid charter was disconform to the disposition, both in the tenor and *reddendo*. *2do*, The suspender, during the dependence of this process, had invaded the charger, and thereby had lost all his defences or reasons of suspension, by the act of Parliament anent parties invading one another during the dependence of process between them; and for instructing thereof, produced a decret of the Privy Council, bearing, that the suspender had invaded the charger, for which he was fined; which invasion was posterior to this charge.—It was *answered*, That the act of Parliament takes place only where the invasion is upon account

of the process. *2do*, That the invasion must be by beating, wounding, or other like invasion, amounting to a crime cognosceable by an inquest; but here the case of the decret of Council was a sudden outfall upon injurious words, wherein the suspender was only found to have thrust the charger on the breast; whereas the charger did pursue him with a durk; and being fined as being the aggressor in such a case, it could not amount to a crime; and so is expiated by a suitable punishment inflicted by the Council.

No 2.

THE LORDS found the invasion relevant to exclude the suspender's reasons of suspension, and approved of by the Council; and that there was no necessity to prove, that the invasion was upon account of the process; but that the statute was made to secure parties in law-suits against invasion, by beating, &c. which did comprehend thrusting, without respect to what followed from the person invaded, upon occasion of the invasion, and at the time when he was invaded.

*Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 93. Stair, v. 2. p. 693.*

1684. *January 20.* MAXWELL of Wethergate *against* STUART of Chambelly.

MAXWELL of Wethergate having charged Stuart of Chambelly for payment of a sum of money, conform to his bond: And Chambelly having suspended, upon several reasons of compensation, ~~whereof some were found relevant and proven~~; but before discussing of the other reasons, and before extracting of the decret, Chambelly having strucken over the head, with a reed, Maxwell of Nethergate, Maxwell gave in a bill to the Lords, craving, That Chambelly, upon the act of Parliament, might lose the plea; and that the letters might be found orderly proceeded, and the hail reasons of compensation repelled: Witnesses being adduced, and the fact proven, it was *alleged* for Chambelly, That none of the reasons formerly discuss, found relevant and proven, could be repelled; but only such reasons as were pendent, and not discuss at the time of the fact. And, *2dly*, Even as to these reasons, they could only be repelled *hoc loco*, to be received by way of compensation; but he could not be precluded by way of action to pursue for them.—THE LORDS found, that he ought to lose the hail plea, the same not having come to a period by sentence; and refused to reserve action for these grounds of compensation against Nethergate.

*Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 94. Pres. Falconer, No 45. p. 24.*

1687. *January.* DR STRACHAN *against* TOLQUHOUN.

FOUND, that when one party invaded another during the dependence, decret is to be pronounced conform to the libel or summons, and not conform to the act of litiscontestation, if it be narrower than the libel.

*Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 94. Harcarse, No 934. p. 262.*

No 3.  
In an action, where battery intervened, the Lords decreed the aggressor to lose the whole plea, though he had various interlocutors in his favour, as the whole cause had not been finally decided.

No 4.