

(OF THE ACT 1491.)

1790. *January 27.* PRIMROSE YOUNG *against* CHARLES CAMPBELL.

No 29.
Aliment
found due to
a widow by
the represen-
tatives of her
husband, her
legal provi-
sions being
insufficient.

THE husband of Primrose Young died in possession of effects, both heritable and moveable. But, in consequence of his engagements as a partner of Douglas, Heron, and Company, which were found to be a burden on his moveable estate, she could derive little or no benefit from her *jus relictae*, while the subjects liable to her claim of terce, were too inconsiderable to afford her a sufficient maintenance.

She therefore instituted an action against Charles Campbell, the nephew and general representative of her husband, for a suitable aliment out of her husband's whole effects. See 6th March 1776, Macculloch*; 15th December 1786, Maclean†.

It was considered as a fixed point, that an aliment was due, nor indeed was this disputed by the defender.

THE LORDS found the pursuer entitled to an aliment; which, by a subsequent interlocutor, of date 10th March 1790, they fixed at L. 50; this being considered as equal to a fourth of the free produce of the effects belonging to the deceased, both heritable and moveable.

Reporter, *Lord Dregburn.*
Craigie.

Ast. M. Ross.

Alt. Macnochie.

Clerk, Sinclair.

Fol. Dic. v. 3. p. 22. Fac. Col. No 104. p. 198.

1764. *July 11.* HELEN ADAM *against* SIR ANDREW LAUDER.

No 30.
A grand-
father hold-
ing an en-
tailed estate,
was found
bound to ali-
ment his son's
wife. See No
26. He was
not bound to
continue the
aliment after
his son's
death.

WILLIAM LAUDER, junior, of Fountainhall, intending to go abroad to the East Indies, as an ensign in the service of the East India Company, married, privately, Helen Adam, a servant in his father's house, and soon after left this country. In his absence she brought a process of aliment against Sir Andrew Lauder, her husband's father, setting forth, That he, the defender, was bound to aliment his son, and consequently his son's wife as part of the family; and that she was entitled to claim a share of this aliment for herself, as her husband had deserted her. An aliment was accordingly decreed her of L. 15 Sterling yearly. But the son afterward having died in the East Indies, Sir Andrew stopped payment of the aliment; and, being charged upon the decree, he brought a suspension upon the following ground, That he was under no natural or legal obligation to aliment his

* No such case is yet reported.—The case probably meant is, Thomson against M'ulloch, 6th March 1778; Fac. Col. No 19. p. 34, which will be found in the next division of this Title, viz. ALIMENT due *ex debito naturali*.

† The case meant here is Lowther against M'Laine; Fac. Col. No 297. p. 456. See next division of this Dictionary.

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son's wife after his son's death. And the Judges, by a great plurality, found, That after the dissolution of the marriage, Sir Andrew was not bound to aliment his daughter-in-law.

Fel. Dic. v. 3. p. 21. Select Dec. No 220. p. 284.

No 30.

1751. July 10. AUCHINLECK of Woodcockdale against JANET WINRAM.

No 31.

James Auchinleck of Woodcockdale, left at his death, 1735, James, a son, and several other children; and his estate burdened with the liferent of the lands of Woodcockdale, of 800 or 900 merks yearly rent, and a house in Edinburgh of 300 merks rent, to Janet Winram his mother; an annuity of 1300 merks to Elizabeth Turnbull, his relict; and the liferent of the lands of Balglaffie, of 800 merks, to Katharine Garden, relict of George Turnbull of Balglaffie, his mother-in-law: With these burdens, and the interest of his debts, without reckoning children's provision, the estate was more than exhausted.

No aliment found due to an heir, where the provisions due by the proprietor's contract of marriage to younger children, exceeded the value of the estate.

James Auchinleck of Woodcockdale, the heir, pursued the three liferenters for an aliment; in which the defence was chiefly made for Janet Winram; and for her it was *pleaded*, That being a woman now above ninety years of age, she was not obliged to aliment the heir out of what was no more than sufficient for her own aliment.

2do, The estate, when her liferent was laid upon it, afforded, besides, a competency to the proprietor: And as it is since reduced by the contractions, not of the granter of her liferent, but a subsequent heir, these contractions cannot bring a burden upon her, to which she was not originally subject.

3do, There is no estate to which the pursuer can succeed; his father being bound, by his contract of marriage, to pay 54,000 merks to the children of the marriage, according to a division thereby settled, and not to leave him the estate, which is not of the value of this sum.

Pleaded for the pursuer: He is an heir in the estate of Woodcockdale; and is entitled to an aliment from the liferenter thereof. By considering the civil and feudal law, it appears there is a foundation for this obligation, older than the statute 1491; by analogy from which it is generally supposed to have been introduced. Justinian statutes, that when an universal liferent is left to the relict, the children shall be entitled to a third of the effects for aliment, 18. Novel. c. 3. Craig, l. 2. D. 17. § 20. says on this constitution, 'Providendum filiis putat ne egeant; quod ad heredem feudi tractum est; ut semper aliqua ejus cura habeatur ne egeat; ita tamen detrahendum, vel ex custodia, vel usufructu uxoris, si heres non habeat aliunde quo alatur;' and cites a decision in the case of the Laird of Swinton. It is the same thing whether the estate is subject to an universal liferent, or if that part of it which is not subject, is exhausted by debts; Hope, *de heredibus*; Stair B. 2. tit. 6. § 5.; Mackenzie, title *Servitudes*, § 45.