

1798. June 13.

HUGH MONTGOMERY, *against* STRANG, LENNOX and Company.

THE arbiters, in a submission between Hugh Montgomery, and Strang, Lennox and Company, having differed in opinion, they named Mr John Orr, advocate, as umpire.

Mr Orr pronounced a decree-arbitral, by which he, *inter alia*, 'decerned against the said Company, and the said Hugh Montgomery, jointly and severally, in payment to James Knox, the clerk, his account of expences, amounting to the sum of L. 14 : 2 : 11 Sterling.'

One of the articles of Mr Knox's account was, a fee of five guineas to Mr Orr, which appeared to have been given on the day the award was pronounced.

Hugh Montgomery brought a reduction of the decree-arbitral, in which he, *inter alia*,

Pleaded : The umpire's having given a gratuity to himself must be fatal to the award. The payment of an honorary cannot be enforced by diligence ; and if arbiters were permitted to fix the extent of their own remuneration, it would be the source of much oppression ; Blair against Gib, *infra b. t.* ; 15th December 1789, Elliot against Elliot, *infra b. t.*

Answered : If the award is to be set aside on the ground stated by the pursuer, it must either be on the footing of corruption, or because the umpire has exceeded his powers. But corruption is not even alleged ; and nothing is more common than for arbiters to give a decree against one or both of the parties, for the expences of the submission, which must necessarily include the gratuity to themselves ; Dunlop against Ralston.*

At all events, the pursuer's plea can set aside only the particular clause which awards the gratuity, it being wholly unconnected with the other parts of the decree-arbitral ; 6th March 1777, Jack against Cramond.†

THE LORD ORDINARY, 'in respect the decree-arbitral under reduction, decerns for payment of an account of expences, wherein there is five guineas stated as paid to the arbiter himself, reduced the said decree-arbitral.'

On advising a reclaiming petition, with answers, it was

Observed on the Bench : Cases may be figured, where an arbiter's giving decree, for a gratuity to himself, would set aside the decree-arbitral *in toto*. But as it happened in this from no improper motive, that branch of the award only ought to be reduced as *ultra vires*.

THE LORDS 'found the last article in the decree-arbitral, decerning against the parties, conjunctly and severally, for a sum of expences, was *ultra vires commissi*, and that the decret falls to be set aside to that extent : But found, That

* Not collected, and the date not mentioned in the printed papers. See Appendix.

† Not yet collected. See Appendix.

No 13.

A arbiter cannot award a gratuity to himself ; but if he do so from innocent mistake, the other parts of the decree-arbitral will not on that account be set aside.

No 13. the arbiter's having exceeded his power in this instance, affords no objection to the other parts of the decree-arbitral.'

Lord Ordinary, *Justice Clerk Braxfield.*
Alt. *H. Erskine.*

Act. *Geo. Fergusson.*
Clerk. *Home.*

Davidson.

Fac. Col. No 82. p. 189.

Arbiters may be compelled to determine.

No 14.

A party submitter, petitioned the Lords to compel an arbiter who had accepted, to meet and determine. There happened to be no clause of registration; The Lords declared, if there had, the arbiter might have been charged with horning, but they would not supply the defect.

1699. June 30. CHEISLY against CALDERWOOD.

SIR ROBERT CHEISLY, late provost of Edinburgh, gave in a petition against Mr William Calderwood, advocate, complaining, That though the said Mr William had accepted to be his arbiter, in a submission betwixt him and Cheisly of Dalry, his nephew, he refused to meet, though the term prefixed was near expired; therefore craved the Lords might ordain him to meet and determine, conform to the title of the common law, *de receptis qui arbitrium in se receperunt ut sententiam dicant.*—Answered by Sheriff Calderwood, That the Provost's claim did not appear so clear and legal, and for that and other reasons he resolved to let the submission fall.—THE LORDS considered, if there had been a clause of registration he might have been charged with horning to meet and determine; but this being omitted, the LORDS refused to interpose in this case, or supply their defect.

Fol. Dic. v. 1. p. 49. Fount. v. 2. p. 55.

1704. February 8.

WALTER CAIRNCROSS of Hillslap against JAMES HUNTER.

No 15.

Found, that an arbiter cannot renounce a submission accepted of, since he can be charged with horning determine.

HILLSLOP having obtained a decret against Hunter his tenant, for some rents; he suspends, and when the suspension comes to be discussed by the course of the roll, Hunter *alleges*, You cannot insist, because the affair stands submitted.—Answered, One of the arbiters, by a writ under his hand, has declared he will not meddle in the concern any more, so it is deserted and expired.—Replied, Having no definite time filled up therein, it lasts year and day from its date; and the renouncing of his arbiter, at his interposition and desire, cannot make it expire; *imo*, Because he can be charged with horning, to meet and give out his decret. *2do*, The other arbiter, with the concurrence of the overman, may determine without him.—Duplicated, The other party's design is not that the affair should come to any sentence or determination, but to postpone Hillslap in diligence, while the tenant is *vergens ad inopiam*, and putting all his goods and stocking away; so that before the year expire, there will be nothing left to affect.—THE LORDS found the submission was yet standing, notwithstanding one of