

The issues being closed the Respondent produced as evidence of his claim firstly, the Trust Deed of the twenty-sixth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one — secondly, the said deed of sale by the said Trustees represented by their Attorney A. Workman, whose power of Attorney or authorization from the other Trustees is not however filed or proved to the Appellant; — thirdly, the said judgment of the Superior Court of the seventh day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven; — fourthly, a judgment of the Superior Court of the thirtieth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven — and fifthly, an admission on the part of the Appellant that the property mentioned in the Plaintiff's declaration as sold by the said Trustees to the Appellant, was a part of the property assigned to them by the Respondent, and that the objects for which the said trust was created had been fulfilled.

The Appellant having adduced no evidence the judgment appealed from was rendered in favor of the Respondent on the first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and sixty.

From this statement it appears that the Respondent made his claim to the debt in question upon two grounds which are of course inconsistent with each other. In the first place he claims that the Trust Deed became effective by the fulfillment of the objects for which the said trust was created, and as a consequence that the said debt became vested in him by mere operation of law; and in the second place, that the debt in question became vested in him by virtue of the aforesaid judgments of the Superior Court, which operated as a reconveyance of the said debt from the said Trustees to him.

Taking the Respondent's first proposition as founded the said judgments of the Superior Court have absolutely no significance — for then they would only give the said Trustees to transfer to the Respondent that which was his already, and of which by hypothesis, they had been divested by mere operation of law. And moreover, the authority of the said judgments of the Superior Court would destroy the Respondent's first proposition — for they are both evidently founded upon the presumption that the surplus of the said estate not disposed of was still legally vested in the said Trustees.

In regard to the Respondent's first proposition, viz., that the debt in question became vested in him by mere operation of law upon the fulfillment by the Trustees of the objects for which the said trust was created, and as a portion of the surplus of the said estate not required to pay the Respondent's debt, the Appellant would submit that the said proposition if proved is unconstitutional law. It is also inconsistent with the said judgments which the Respondent obtained against the said Trustees, and indeed in contradiction with the nature and stipulations of the Trust Deed above referred to. For the said Deed of Trust the Respondent absolutely conveyed all his property to the said Trustees and all other legal and equitable rights he may have vested in them, and, in consideration thereof, the Trustees agreed that should the said property be used to them be more than sufficient to pay the debts of the Respondent, they would execute on his remaining undivided interests even as should be necessary to realize the surplus in the Respondent.

The Appellant would further submit that admitting the legality of the said proposition, it was incumbent on the Respondent to prove that the debt in question formed a part of the said surplus of his estate undivided or undisposed of by the said Trustees for the benefit of his creditors, for this was all he could expect to recover under any circumstances. But if this defense was adduced, now was it a matter which could be proved in the said action, but one proper to be determined in action by the Respondent against the said Trustees.

In regard to the Respondent's claim to the debt in question, issued upon the said judgment of the Superior Court the Appellant has only to refer the Court to the copies of the said judgments by which it will appear that they have no reference whatever to the debt claimed by the said Respondent from the Appellant. They refer only to real estate debts accounts, &c., which were in the hands of the said Trustees undivided and forming part of the surplus so conveyed to them by the Deed of Trust. Whereas the debt claimed by the Respondent was never conveyed by him to the said Trustees for it was created after the Deed of Trust, and there is no proof that any such surplus exists or ever did exist.

Under these circumstances, with the documents and proof of record, and in the absence of any proof that the debt claimed by the Respondent formed a part of the said surplus estate undivided of and not applied by the Trustees, it is difficult to imagine what can be urged in favor of the said judgment in the Respondent's favor.

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