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No. 22

HIGH COURT DIVISION.

SUTHERLAND, J.

AUGUST 6TH, 1920

RE SPROWL.

Will—Construction—Moneys Payable under Mortgage—Husband and Wife—Part Payable to Executors of Wife—Appropriation to Bequest Made in Will of Wife—Evidence as to Intention of Husband—Inadmissibility.

Motion by the executors of the wills of John Sprowl and Jane Sprowl for an order determining a question arising under the wills and a codicil to the will of John Sprowl.

The motion was heard in the Weekly Court, Toronto.

H. N. Farmer, for the executors.

. L. M. Goetz, for residuary legatees under the will of John Sprowl.

H. S. White, for the United Presbyterian Church at Manswood, legatee under the will of Jane Sprowl.

Sutherland, J., in a written judgment, said that John Sprowl died in 1887. By his will, after giving certain specific legacies, he bequeathed to his son James and his five daughters all the rest and residue of his estate to be equally divided amongst them. By the codicil he gave to his wife "the interest on all moneys of which I shall be possessed at the time of my death during the term of her natural life to be paid to her by my executors, and hereby direct that all the legacies bequeathed by my said will shall not be payable until after the death of my said wife."

Jane Sprowl, the widow of John Sprowl, died in July, 1916, leaving a will by which she devised and bequeathed and appointed all the real and personal estate which she was seised or possessed of or entitled to or over which she had any power of appointment to the United Presbyterian Church at Manswood "absolutely and

forever."

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In the lifetime of John Sprowl, namely, on the 2nd April, 1875, a mortgage was executed in favour of himself and Jane Sprowl, his wife, to secure payment of \$1,000; the mortgage to be void on payment of \$800 with interest at 15 per cent. per annum; \$400 to become due and be paid within 12 months after the death of John Sprowl, and the balance of \$400 within 12 months after the death of Jane Sprowl, if she should survive him; but, if she should die first, the balance of \$400 to be paid within 3 years after the death of John, with interest in the meantime to be paid half-yearly, the first payment of \$60 of interest to be made at the expiration of 6 months from the date of the mortgage and a like sum at the end of every 6 months thereafter, the one-half of the interest to be paid to John half-yearly and the other half to Jane; "said interest to cease at the death of the last survivor of said mortgagees."

The first instalment of \$400 was not in question; the second

\$400 was the subject of the motion.

The learned Judge said that it was the duty of the executors of John to collect and get in the first \$400 for his estate within the time mentioned in the will or any further time reasonably necessary; and the reasonable presumption was that the remaining \$400 was payable after the death of Jane to her executors.

Evidence to shew a different intention on the part of John

Sprowl was not admissible.

Everly v. Dunkley (1912), 27 O.L.R. 414, distinguished.

In the circumstances, the money in question must be regarded as the second \$400 payable under the mortgage, and, in consequence of its terms, payable to the executors of Jane after her death. Effect must be given to the bequest to the church, and the \$400 should be paid to the trustees thereof.

Costs of all parties of the motion should be paid out of the \$400.

DISHER V. LEVITT-SUTHERLAND, J.-Aug. 2.

Trusts and Trustees-Chattel Mortgage-Sale of Goods under-Satisfaction of Execution-Declaration-Costs. - Action for a declaration that the defendant held certain goods and chattels covered by a chattel mortgage in trust for the plaintiff and one H. B. Merrill and for other relief. The action was tried without a jury at Hamilton. Sutherland, J., in a written judgment, after setting out the facts, said that he was unable to find that there was any settlement arranged between the plaintiff and the defendant in December, 1918, by which the latter was released from the trust in favour of the plaintiff with reference to the Merrill execution on which he received the Yates chattel mortgage. The position of the plaintiff was plainly and definitely indicated in the letter from his solicitors to the solicitor for the defendant, dated the 23rd December, 1918, as follows: "In this there is, so far as we are concerned, no interference whatever with what we may call the Merrill trust under the chattel mortgage, and no assumption in any way by Disher of the liability of your client in respect to this mortgage." The learned Judge was not able to find that there was later any concluded agreement which had any other effect. On the other hand, the defendant, having converted the goods and chattels to his own use, and afterwards undertaken to sell them, had made it impossible for him strictly to carry out the trust. The cheques, the discharge, and the deed would naturally and appropriately be given on the appeal from the judgment obtained by the plaintiff in the former action (for redemption) being abandoned, as it apparently was. By converting the goods, the defendant must be taken to have paid himself the balance due by the plaintiff to him (\$743.22 or \$721.73), and thereafter to hold the goods to pay the Merrill execution. By selling these goods he made it impossible to hold them for that purpose. The sale might have been collusive and might be open to question as to its genuineness. If it should be taken to be a bona fide one-and the defendant could hardly be heard to say that it was not-he had obtained in cash and notes more than sufficient to pay the Merrill execution. There should be a judgment declaring that the defendant was liable to pay to Merrill the amount due on his execution against the plaintiff, and requiring the defendant to pay to the plaintiff the amount of such execution, to be ascertained by the officer entering judgment, and also the plaintiff's costs of this action. W. S. MacBrayne, for the plaintiff. George Lynch-Staunton, K.C., for the defendant.

TWELFTH DIVISION COURT OF THE COUNTY OF HASTINGS.

WILLS, JUN. Co. C.J.

JULY 15TH, 1920.

RE YOUNG AND WARD.

Criminal Law—Theft—Confederate States Treasury Note Found in Safe Purchased by Accused at Auction-sale—Intent—Purchase of Contents of Safe—Conviction by Justices Quashed on Appeal— Protection of Justices.

Appeal (under sec. 749 (a) of the Criminal Code) by Thomas Young from a conviction of the appellant by two Justices of the Peace for the theft of \$10 from W. A. Ward, the private prosecutor.

R. D. Ponton, for the appellant.

William Carnew, for the Crown and the private prosecutor, respondent.

Wills, Jun. Co. C.J., in a written judgment, said that, at an auction sale of the household goods and effects of Ward, Young bought a child's iron savings-bank with a combination lock, which was opened after Young had had it in his possession for some time. In it he found a piece of paper, slightly torn, which turned out to be a \$10 treasury note of the Southern Confederate States, dated, "Richmond, February 17, 1864"—of course worthless as representing money or as a security for money.

Young did not return the note, and Ward, hearing that Young had found a \$10 note in the savings-bank which he bought, laid

the charge of theft.

The learned Judge, after stating the facts, gave his decision as follows:—

"The contents of the safe, namely, the note, is absolutely valueless as money, and the intrinsic value as a piece of paper is so small that one cannot say readily that it has any value as such except that it is a piece of paper. Paper is worth money, and this must be worth something.

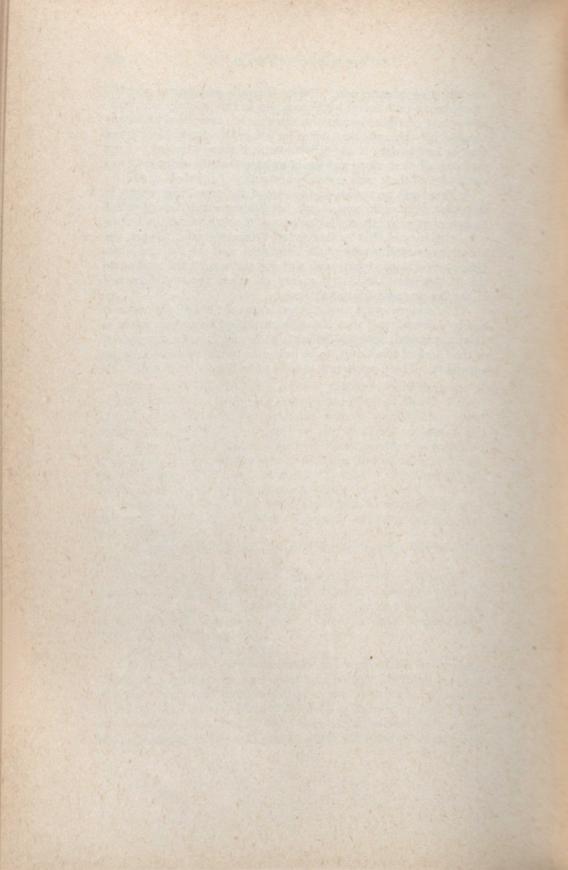
"Now, was theft committed?

"Theft is the act of fraudulently and without colour of right taking or converting to the use of any person, anything capable of being stolen with intent to deprive the owner, etc.: Criminal Code, sec. 347. Now, when the safe was handed to Young by the auctioneer there was no theft committed because he was the lawful purchaser of the safe, and in the safe, unknown to any one,

was the Confederate note. When the safe was opened and the Confederate note found by Young, did he fraudulently and without colour of right convert the same to his own use with intent to steal it? He says that, when he bought the bank, he believed that he had bought it and any contents, if there were any. I am strongly of that view, and am of opinion that the defendant was not guilty of theft, and certainly not guilty of the theft of \$10.

"There was no malice on the part of the prosecutor, shewn in this trial, nor would any charge have been laid if the defendant had promptly explained the contents of the safe, instead of letting it be understood that he had found \$10 in the safe. There was no arrest or confinement of the defendant, and the Justices of the Peace acted in good faith and without malice and are entitled to the protection of the Court, as are all other persons concerned in the hearing and trial of this case.

"I therefore order that the said appeal be and the same is hereby allowed, and that the said conviction be and the same is hereby quashed, with \$23.38 costs to be paid by the respondent to the Clerk of this Court, to be paid over by the said Clerk to the appellant. The Confederate note is to be handed to Ward."



CORRECTION.

In Re Young and Ward, ante 434, the last sentence on p. 435, "The Confederate note is to be handed to Ward," was not intended to form part of the dispositif of the judgment: it was merely a suggestion in view of some sentimental value placed by Ward upon the note.

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- 13. Agreement for Sale of Land—Title—Objection to—Sale and Conveyance of Lots Shewn on Plan of Subdivision—Building Restrictions—Covenants—Release—Sufficiency—Failure to Establish Requisites of Building Scheme. Re Peters and Waddington, 18 O.W.N. 115.—Kelly, J.
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- 3. Easement—Strip of Land Set apart by Owner of Block for Use of Lots into which Block Subdivided—Effect of Conveyance—Extension of Easement—Appurtenance—Estate of Grantee in Dominant Tenement—Equitable Right—Estoppel. *Adamson v. Bell Telephone Co. of Canada, Bell Telephone Co. of Canada v. Adamson, 18 O.W.N. 325.—App. Div.
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- 1. Construction—Absolute Gift of whole Estate to Widow—Subsequent Direction to Executors as to Division among Children—Effect—Absolute Gift not Cut down—Remainder—Trust—Right of Widow to Dispose of whole Estate by Will. Re Brenner, 18 O.W.N. 406.—Sutherland, J.
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- 6. Construction—Devise of Dwelling-house—Bequest to Devisee of all Testator's Furniture and other Articles of Household Use—Articles in House other than one Devised, Included—Motor-boat Used in Connection with other House not Included—Boat not Necessary for Occupation of House Devised—Residuary Clause—Costs. Re Small, 18 O.W.N. 184.—MIDDLETON, J.
- 7. Construction—Devise of Land to Son "and at his Decease to his Surviving Children as he may Devise"—Gift over in Event of Death of Son without Issue—Issue of Son Living—Estate Tail in Son. Re Smith and Love, 18 O.W.N. 181.—MIDDLETON, J.
- 8. Construction—Distribution of Estate among Children and Grandchildren—Several Periods for Distribution Fixed by Will—Grandchildren Surviving their Parents—Vested Estates—Right of Executors of Grandchild—Power of Appointment. Re Wilson, 18 O.W.N. 179.—MIDDLETON, J.

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- 9. Construction—Division of Estate among Children—Provision for Case of Child Dying without Issue—"My other Children"—Ascertainment of Class as at Death of Testator. Re Smith, 18 O.W.N. 407.—Sutherland, J.
- Construction—Effect of Codicils—Harmonising Varying Dispositions Made by Will and Codicils. Re Attwood, 18 O.W.N. 377.—Kelly, J.
- 11. Construction—Inconsistent Clauses—Disposition of Insurance Moneys—Supplying Word to Make Sensible Reading—Intention of Testator. Re Lennox, 18 O.W.N. 268.— Kelly, J.
- Construction Inconsistent Clauses Reconciliation Later Clause Explanatory of Earlier. Re Storey, 18 O.W.N. 55.— RIDDELL, J.
- 13. Construction—Moneys Payable under Mortgage—Husband and Wife—Part Payable to Executors of Wife—Appropriation to Bequest Made in Will of Wife—Evidence as to Intention of Husband—Inadmissibility. Re Sprowl, 18 O.W.N. 431.—Sutherland, J.
- 14. Construction—Power of Appointment as to Corpus of Fund Vested in two Persons—Joint Power not Exercisable by Survivor—Donees of Power Having no Interest in Corpus. *Re Simonton, 18 O.W.N. 9, 331.—Orde, J.—App. Div.
- 15. Construction—Provision for Benefit of Creditors of Son of Testator—Assignment by Son for Benefit of Creditors—Provision Limited to Creditors Entitled to be Paid out of Moneys Coming to Hands of Assignee—Application to Claims Barred by Limitations Act—Effect of Act on Claims Filed with Assignee—Debts Incurred by Son after Assignment. Re Maclaren, 18 O.W.N. 89.—Orde, J.
- 16. Construction—Specific Devise of Land Described by Metes and Bounds—General Residuary Devise—Possession Taken after Date of Will of Parcel Adjoining Land Described—Will Speaking from Immediately before Death—Wills Act, sec. 27—General Words Controlled by Particular Description—Appurtenance—Conveyancing and Law of Property Act—Easement. Re Rogers, 17 O.W.N. 441, 47 O.L.R. 82.—MIDDLETON, J.
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- 18. Discretion of Executors—Specific Legacy to Daughter Reducible in Discretion of Executors at Date for Distribution of Estate—Death of Daughter Intestate before Date for Distribution—Failure of Trust—Absolute Gift—Direction for Sale of Estate—Conversion of Realty into Personalty—Conveyance of land by Surviving Executor without Providing for Payment of Legacy—Breach of Trust—Knowledge of Grantee—Constructive Trustee—Action by Personal Representative of Legatee—Limitations Act, R.S.O. 1914 ch. 75, secs. 24, 47—Statutory Period not Commencing until Appointment of Representative—Following Trust-assets—Trustee Act, R.S.O. 1914 ch. 121, sec. 37—Rights of Surviving Husband of Legatee—Accounting by Grantee of Land. Ankcorn v. Stewart, 18 O.W.N. 204, 47 O.L.R. 478.—App. Div.
- 19. Jurisdiction of Supreme Court of Ontario—Action to Establish Later Will than one Admitted to Probate—Judicature Act, R.S.O. 1897 ch. 51, sec. 38—Preservation by Force of sec. 12 of Judicature Act, R.S.O. 1914 ch. 56. Giffin v. Simonton, 17 O.W.N. 419, 47 O.L.R. 49.—MIDDLETON, J.
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