

Concerning the casualty of Relief.

1. Wee are not herte to suppose that King Malcom conveyd to his subiects all the Lands in Scotland, as if he had been sole proprietor or self holder of the country, as the Czar of Muscoby calleth him selfe. It is indeed probable that man of Estates or Lords of manors did at the first institution of our Monarchy oblige themselves for the support of the Government agreed upon, to pay an acknowledgement to the crown to assist the King with their counsels, to helpe him in his administration and to maintain his authority by their arms both against foreign enemies and domestic rebels, and all this in proportion to the Estates they were possess'd of so that as they invested the King with a sovereignty over persons, they did in like manner cloth him with a ~~sovereignty~~^{superiority} or dominium directum over their Estates, to be held in his name as the head of the Government. After the monarchy was sett up, more Lands falling to the Sovereign by conquest, for failure of Rebels, or as ultimate heress; some were annex'd to the crown for the support of the Government; others were reserv'd to be confer'd in the Kings name upon such as serv'd him, for serving their country. But it is very Improbable that the antient Scots would part with the dominium nullius or property of their Estates to their King when they first sett up their State. So that the King Malcom must be understand either to have gotten only away his crown lands or the Kings lands among his subiects, as Buchanan says (Histor. Nat. Scot. Lib. 6.) In such number of them gave him the ward and Relie of their Heires; or he might have prevaile upon them by that distribution, to change their antient tenures, what ever it was, into that of ward holding.

Concerning a Scots peer made an English peer since the union.

2. Queen Anne by Letters patent dated 26 May in the seventh year of her reign created James the Duke of Queensberry (the present Duke's Father) Baron of Ripon, Marquess of Bessborough, and Duke of Dobier, to hold those titles and dignities to him for life, and afterwards to his second son Charles (the present Duke) then Earl of Gowrie in Scotland, and the heirs male of his body, remainder to the third Son George Douglas and the heirs male of his body, remainder to the fourth son in last male issue, successively, the eldest son of the said Duke being an idiot, and therfore passed by in the patent). A purgation of this patent a writ issued to summon the late Duke to the parliament, who was accordingly 19 Novem^r 1708 introduced into the House of Lords, where he took his seat and continued to sit and vote in his successib^r parliaments, dying during the Infancy, i.e. minority of the present Duke, who coming to age petitioned the King to cause a writ of Summons to be issued to him for his coming and voting in parliament, and upon the 18 Decemb^r 1719 his majesty referred to the House of peers to take the petitioners claim and right into consideration, and to do and determine thereupon what should be found just and right upon this the House gave leave that the present Duke of Queensberry should be heard at the Bar of the House by his counsell. The Duke, finally was that in the late Duke of Hamilton's case of 16 Decemb^r 1711 it was resolved by the Lords, that no warrant of honour granted to any peer of Great Britain who was a peer of Scotland at the time of the union should enable him to sit in parliament. This Resolution was founded on the construction of the Articles of the Union of the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland. Article cap. 5. After which union the patent of the Duke of Dobier was granted to the Duke of Queensberry in manner above mentioned. The Articles of Union affecting this case were the 9th, 22d and 23d.

It was urged in favour of the petitioners, that in those articles it was difficult to find out words which could be thought to disable the King from granting to a Scots peer a warrant of peers of Great Britain, with the privilege of sitting in parliament, for which disabled a Scots peer from accepting such a patent. Especially when the Rule of Law was (and it was a Rule without exception) that the prerogative of the King, of which the Law was so regardfull could not be taken away by any act of parliament without plain and express words, more especially so valuable a part of the prerogative whereby the Crown was enabled to encourage the merit of the Subjects by bestowing on them honours and titles. The words of the articles seem so far from importing any such disability, that there is not so much as a negall in any of the articles; There is indeed what seems to be the reverse of such construction the fourth Article saying that there shall be a communication of all Rights and privileges between the Subjects of either Kingdom except where it is otherwise expressly agreed by the articles. And there is nothing expressed to the contrary in any of the articles. That by the Treaty of Union only sixteen peers represent the peers of Scotland: yet this doth not hinder, but that by Letters patent more peers might be created. Could it be intended by the above mentioned articles of Union, that those Scotch peers should be in a worse condition than the meanest of their fellow Subjects; nay the meanest of their own servants; in a worse condition than those who are no Subjects, but aliens; nay worse than criminals; since by such construction of the articles all those things