94. Brit. Bailcourt.

#### REPORTS OF CASES

ARGUED AND DETERMINED

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IN THE

# Queen's Bench Practice Court;

WITH

### POINTS OF PRACTICE AND PLEADING

DECIDED IN THE

# Courts of Common Pleas and Exchequer;

FROM HILARY TERM TO MICHAELMAS TERM, 1850.

BY

JOHN JAMES LOWNDES, OF THE INNER TEMPLE,

PETER BENSON MAXWELL, OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE,

AND

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ESQUIRES, BARRISTERS AT LAW.

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#### REPORTS OF CASES

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# . Points of Bractice and Pleading.

IN THE

SUPERIOR COURTS OF LAW AT WESTMINSTER.

Bilary Cerm.

IN THE THIRTEENTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF VICTORIA.

Volume 1. 1850.

Ex parte WILLIAM DAGGETT.

January 11.

[Bail Court. Coram Erle, J.]

UDALL moved for a rule, directing the Master to sub- An attorney stitute the name of William Daggett on the roll of attorneys, who, without royal license, in the place of William Daggett Ingledew, and that the or any formal Master should be at liberty to make an indorsement of the change, such alteration of name on the certificate of the applicant.

It appeared upon the affidavit of the applicant, upon the roll, for a which the motion was made, that he was admitted an specified reaattorney in the year 1848, and signed the roll by the name the roll of William Daggett Ingledew, the surname, Ingledew, the assumed being that of his father, and which he then bore. That in name, if it December, 1849, his mother died, leaving him her heir at Court that

authority for another name son, may have such name has been taken

bonà fide and without fraudulent intention.

Volume I. 1850.

Ex parte Daggett. law, and expressing her desire that he would relinquish the use of the surname of Ingledew, and use that of Daggett only. That accordingly, in compliance with her desire, he did discontinue the use of the surname of Ingledew, and used, and was since commonly known by, the surname of Daggett only. That being in partnership with his father as attorney, the name of the firm had been changed to Ingledew and Daggett. An application had been made to Wightman, J., at Chambers, to the same effect as the present one; but his Lordship had referred the case to the Masters, who could find no instance of the change of name on the roll, unless the same had been changed by royal license, and Wightman, J., refused to interfere.

The correct and proper surname of a party is that which he himself uses, and by which he is commonly known; and no royal license is necessary to enable him to change it at any time. In Doe d. Luscombe v. Yates (a), where the objection was that a party had not sufficiently complied with the terms of a will that he should bear a particular surname, by merely assuming to use it, without obtaining a royal license or an act of Parliament for the purpose, Lord Tenterden, C. J., in giving judgment, said, "A name assumed by the voluntary act of a young man at his outset into life, adopted by all who know him, and by which he is constantly called, becomes, for all purposes that occur to my mind, as much and effectually his name as if he had obtained an act of Parliament to confer it upon him." In Davis v. Loundes (b), the point was expressly ruled by Tindal, C. J., in charging the grand assize. devisee, by the terms of the will, was to take the name of Selby; and a fine was held to be properly passed, which was passed by him in that name, although he had not obtained any act of Parliament or royal letters of license for the purpose. The case went afterwards to the Exchequer

<sup>(</sup>a) 5 B. & A. 544, 556.

<sup>(</sup>b) 1 Bing. N. C. 618. See also 5 Bing. N. C. 161, 178.

Chamber on this very point, and the judgment of Tindal, C. J., was upheld (a).  $\lceil Erle, J.$ —It may be taken as decided that the voluntary assumption of a surname is the legal assumption of a surname. That is clearly laid down as law. The formal change by act of Parliament or royal license may make it more known, but cannot make the change more valid than the assumption of a new name without any authority, so that it is done bonâ fide and without fraud. [Erle, J.—There was a case, I recollect, where the question arose as to misnomer.] Probably the case of Williams v. Bryant (b) is the one referred to. There the defendant, by the name of William Bryant, had been the obligor in the bond sued on; but the declaration complained against defendant as William Francis Bryant, sued by the name of William Bryant; and that was held, on non est factum pleaded, to be no variance. [Erle, J.-Are there any other cases?] It has been held in the Common Pleas that they would not grant an application of this kind where no sufficient motive was disclosed (c); but since then, the same Court have granted an application of this kind (d), and there is a case in this Court in which it has been granted (e). In a criminal case,  $Rex \vee . Norton(f)$ , the prosecutor's dwelling-house was described as the dwellinghouse of Mary Johnson: this name she had assumed for five years, her original name being Mary Davis; and it was held by the Judges, on a point reserved, that she was properly described by her assumed name. [Erle, J.—Are there any cases that shew how long it takes after the alteration to make the assumed name the legal name?] There are not; the test appears to be, that the alteration must be made bonâ fide and without fraud. It is for the interest of the public

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Ex parte DAGGETT.

<sup>(</sup>a) 7 Scott, N. R. 141.

<sup>(</sup>b) 5 M. & W. 447; S. C. 7 Dowl. 502.

<sup>(</sup>c) Ex parte Hayward, 5 Scott, 712; S. C. nom. En parte Ware, 6 Dowl. 463.

<sup>(</sup>d) Ex parte Benthall, 1 D. & L.

<sup>(</sup>e) Ex parte Ware, 6 Dowl. 311.

<sup>(</sup>f) Rez v. Norton, R. & R. 510.

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Ex parte DAGGETT. that the name a party is known by should be on the roll; such alteration may, in fact, prevent fraud.

ERLE, J.—I do not see any reason why the name should not be changed.

Application granted (a).

(a) Similar applications were made in the same case to the Courts of Common Pleas and Exchequer, and granted. Ex relat. *Udall*. See also the following case.

[The following case, decided in the Easter Term following, may be here conveniently inserted.]

[April 16, 17.]

Ex parte Thomas James.

[Bail Court. Coram Coleridge, J.]

See the marginal note, ante, p. 1. SIMON moved for a rule, directing the Master to strike out the name of Thomas James Moses, which now appeared upon the roll of attorneys, and to substitute in lieu thereof the name of Thomas James only.

The affidavit of the applicant upon which the motion was made, shewed that he had been admitted an attorney in the year 1848, and that he had signed the roll of attorneys by the name of Thomas James Moses; the surname of his father, and which he then bore, being Moses. That in the present month of April, his father had consented to advance a large sum of money to enable him to enter into partnership; but that before doing so, he was desirous that his son should cease to use the surname of Moses, and should use and be known by the name of Thomas James only. That accordingly he had since (a) ceased to use

(a) The day named in the affidavit as the day since which he James only, was the 8th of April,

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