

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

GRADDOCK, Appellant, vs. BALENCE. From Washington. Filed Sept. 2, 1906. New Trial.

(1) Where, at the close of the testimony, the court at once adjourned until the next morning, the appellant tendered in writing certain special instructions; it was error in the preceding judge to refuse to consider them.

(2) The time within which special instructions may be received by the court, at the sound discretion of the president judge and this court will be slow to interfere with the exercise of his discretion, but he should so order his time to prepare and present their prayers.

(3) After the argument commences, counsel will be permitted to file briefs for special instructions without the leave of the court.

(4) The title of the granted under a deed in escrow is a legal one, and especially so, if the title is held in trust.

(5) An escrow is effective as a deposit and control of it by delivery to the depository and it passes the title to him performed, without the necessity of a second delivery by the depository, and it may, by a fiction of law, have relation back to the date of its original execution.

(6) The purpose of doing justice or of effectuating the intention of the parties.

(7) The grantor in an escrow cannot add any condition not existing when due to accept a tender of compliance with the true condition and thereby defeat the grantee's right to the deed or prevent transmutation of possession and title.

WILLIAMSON vs. BRYAN. Appellant.

From Pitt. No Error. It is the duty of the trial judge to submit such facts as are necessary to settle the material questions involved on the pleadings, and in the absence of such issue or equivalent admissions record sufficiently to reasonably justify a judgment rendered thereon, the court will not interfere.

(8) Where, under the pleadings in an action to recover possession of land, the sole controversy relates to the allegation of a boundary line between the lands of the plaintiff and defendant, the plaintiff claiming on the west side of that line and the defendant on the east side of it, an issue to the location of the boundary line is responsive to the allegations of the complaint and taken in connection with the admissions was sufficient to justify the judgment.

(9) In an action to recover possession of land it was unnecessary for the plaintiff to show that he can not get the land admitted that the plaintiff owned all the lands on one side of the well established boundary line and the defendant all on the other side.

STATE vs. BARRETT. Appellant. From Pitt. No Error.

(1) Defendants indicted in a joint bill for an offence have no legal right to a separate trial. The granting of such a trial is within the sound discretion of the trial judge, which is unreviewable.

(2) In an indictment for murder, where it appears that about sunset of the day of the homicide a shooting may have occurred in which the prisoner participated, the warrant was issued for his arrest; that the prisoner armed himself after the affray, and that the deceased, a constable, shot his pistol at the prisoner, and the deceased, with a pistol in his hand, told the prisoner that he had a warrant for his arrest and to consider himself under arrest; that immediately the deceased fell down, and there was no sufficient evidence of his intention to kill the deceased.

(3) Where the prisoner weighs the purpose to kill long enough to form a fixed design and then puts it into execution, it does not affect the intent to kill. But where the intent to kill is formed simultaneously with the act of killing, the homicide is not murder in the first degree.

WOODARD, Appellant, vs. MILLING CO. Affirmed. Dismissed.

(1) Where, prior to the return day, counsel for plaintiff and defendant agreed that the case should be heard before the justice on a certain date, such agreement did not amount to a general appearance for trial, but to a particular date which appeared to be agreed upon.

(2) A defendant's exception for a refusal of his challenges for cause to four jurors, when he relieved himself of them by use of his peremptory challenges, did not challenge any other juror.

(3) An indictment for illegal sale of liquor, challenges for cause, and the removal of the same to the Anti-Saloon League were properly disallowed, where the jurors had taken no part in prosecuting or aiding in the prosecution of the defendant.

(4) An exception that the punishment is in excess of that allowable upon conviction on the first count need not be considered as the charge makes it clear that the one was submitted to the jury upon the last count, the others having been not proved.

THE DEATH RECORD.

Rev. W. A. Rogers, of Spartanburg, S. C.

Special to The Observer.

Spartanburg, S. C., Sept. 26.—Rev. William A. Rogers, one of the best known members of the First Colored Line Methodist Conference, died at his home on Hampton avenue, this city, Saturday at 10 o'clock after an illness of several months. He was taken to Philadelphia several weeks ago with the hope that a course of treatment in one of the hospitals there might benefit him, but this did not result in permanent benefit and three days ago he suffered a sudden relapse.

Mr. Rogers held pastorates in Charleston, Greenwood, Spartanburg and several other towns in the State, his last active ministerial work being done at Orangeburg. He was financial agent of Wofford College, assistant editor of The Southern Christian Advocate and a member of the board of trustees of Wofford College, his alma mater.

The deceased was 57 years of age and his life is a record of good works, love for humanity and Christian fellowship. Surviving are the widow, four sons and one daughter.

Death of Little Frank Cooke at Louisburg.

Special to The Observer.

Louisburg, Sept. 26.—Frank Cooke, aged 2 years, died last night after a long illness of typhoid fever. He was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Cooke, the grand-child of Judge C. M. Cooke, and a most intelligent and interesting boy. A little girl lies seriously sick with the same disease. The funeral services took place this afternoon in the cemetery.

Glen Royal Cotton Mills Declare Dividend.

Special to The Observer.

Wake Forest College, Sept. 26.—The directors of the Glen Royal Cotton Mills and the directors of the Bank of Wake met a few days ago and each declared a dividend of six per cent. The mill was found to be in the most prosperous condition in its history and the report to the directors was a satisfactory one. An additional engine has been installed in the mill during the past month.

Wake continued to prosper, and in addition to the six per cent, dividend declared, a surplus of \$2,000 was set aside by the directors. The bank is having built up its capital and is in a position to meet such contracts.

(2) A conductor in charge of defendant's freight train upon which plaintiff was injured had no authority to establish an contract between the defendant and the passenger, either as passenger or servant and impose any duty upon defendant, the branch or yard followed by injury, gave a cause of action.

(3) A conductor of a freight train has no authority, save in case of emergency, to employ servants to assist in operating his train and the burden is not upon the plaintiff to show that he had no such authority.

(4) In an action for personal injuries, the fact that several months after the injury the defendant failed to answer a demand for payment, by his employer, does not tend to show an ratification of the attempted employment by the freight conductor.

DUFFY vs. INSURANCE CO. Appellant. From Graves. No Error. Filed Sept. 22, 1906.

(1) A by-law of an assessment insurance company providing that notice may be given members of assessments by mail, is valid and binding upon the members.

(2) When the duty is imposed upon the company to mail the notice of assessments in order to sustain a forfeiture it must be affirmatively shown that the notice was mailed properly addressed, within the time fixed.

(3) The by-laws of such association when assented to by the members, as passed in the charter, constitute the law of the society and the law of the parties, provided they are reasonable and not in violation of any principle of public law.

(4) Whether a by-law is reasonable is a question of law, the court decides.

(5) A by-law of an assessment insurance company, providing that the certificates of the treasurer or book-keeper shall be the only conclusive evidence of the fact of mailing the assessments, is unreasonable and invalid.

(6) In an action for the wrongful cancellation of an insurance policy where the policy contained a provision that

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