No. 43. was proved that they belonged to the defunct, was found liable in spuilzie.

Richard's gear at the time of his decease, and therefore the defender did no wrong in intromitting with the gear libelled, but might have lawfully done the same by reason of his gift of escheat foresaid. The pursuer alleged, that after the decease of her husband, the defender should not have intromitted therewith at his own hand, until it had been proven before the Judges that the gear had ppertained to the said Richard at the time of his decease, and a declarator past thereupon; which allegeance of the pursuer the Lords found relevant, and referred the libel to her probation, and repelled the allegeance of the defender.

Fol. Dic. v. 2. p. 391. Colvil MS. p. 249.

1576. December 4.

Kelwood against Earl of Cassillis.

No. 44. The pursuer ought to have his oath in litem in the case of spuilzie of writs, although the defender may have had a colourable title.

Anent the action pursued by the Laird of Kelwood against the Earl of Cassillis, it was alleged by the pursuer, that the said Earl entered by violence into his house, and not only spuilzied the goods and gear being there, but also took away his whole evidents and writings pertaining to him. It was alleged by the said defender, that he did neither wrong nor spuilzie in entering into the said pursuer's house, and intromitting with the gear being therein, because at the said time the pursuer was denounced the King's rebel, and put to his Highness's horn, and the said defender had obtained the escheat of the pursuer, and therefore did neither wrong nor spuilzie in intromitting with his gear; and if recklessly, among other gear, he intromitted with his evidents and writings, the pursuer could not call that spuilzie, but allenarly wrongous intromission; which allegeance of the defender was repelled by the Lords.

Fol. Dic. v. 2. p. 291. Colvil MS. p. 254.

1583. July.

BALMAINS against BALVAIRD.

No. 45. Found in conformity with the above.

In the action pursued by the Laird of Balmains for spoliation of certain evidents, the libel being admitted to probation, and the process being advised, and the libel found proved, it was alleged by Balvaird, that the said Balmains ought not to have the quantity of the evidents and writs contained and expressed in his libel to his probation, because the Laird of Balvaird intromitted with the evidents bona fide, and by gift of Balmain's escheat being disponed unto him, he raised letters thereupon, and by virtue of the same did intromit with the evidents. It was answered, That the gift and disposition of the escheat takes in dispositions of sums of money, but heritable evidents and infeftments could not come under escheat conform to the daily practice and laws of this realm; and therefore, in so far as he did intromit with his heritable evidents and infeftments he committed spulzie, and having