

only have an action for the real damage sustained; and not even that, if tender of amends is made before any action is brought (8).

VI. THE seising of heriots, when due on the death of a tenant, is also another species of self-remedy; not much unlike that of taking cattle or goods in distress. As for that division of heriots, which is called heriot-service, and is only a species of rent, the lord may distress for this, as well as seise: but for heriot-custom (which Sir Edward Coke says<sup>t</sup>, lies only in *prender*, and not in *render*) the lord may seise the identical thing itself, but cannot distress any other chattel for it<sup>u</sup>. The like speedy and effectual remedy, of seising, is given with regard to many things that are said to lie in franchise; as waifs, wrecks, estrays, deodands, and the like; all which the person entitled thereto may seise, without the formal process of a suit or action. Not that they are debarred of this remedy by action; but have also the other and more speedy one, for the better asserting their property; the thing to be claimed being frequently of such a nature, as might be out of the reach of the law before any action could be brought.

THESE are the several species of remedies, which may be had by the mere act of the party injured. I shall, next, briefly mention such as arise from the joint act of all the parties together. And these are only two, *accord*, and *arbitration*.

<sup>t</sup> Cop. § 25.

<sup>u</sup> Cro. Eliz. 590. Cro. Car. 260.

(8) The statute directs that the action shall be an action of trespass or upon the case, and therefore an action of trover cannot be brought to recover goods taken under an irregular distress. 1 H. Bl. 13. To an action under this statute, the defendant may plead the general issue. But if a party pay money to redeem his goods from a wrongful distress for rent, he may afterwards maintain an action of trover against the person who distrained them.

I. ACCORD is a satisfaction agreed upon between the party injuring and the party injured; which, when performed, is a bar of all actions upon this account. As if a man contract to build a house or deliver a horse, and fail in it; this is an injury for which the sufferer may have his remedy by action; but if the party injured accepts a sum of money, or other thing, as a satisfaction, this is a redress of that injury, and entirely takes away the action<sup>w</sup>. By several late statutes, (particularly 11 Geo. II. c. 19. in case of irregularity in the method of distressing; and 24 Geo. II. c. 24. in case of mistakes committed by justices of the peace,) even *tender* of sufficient amends to the party injured is a bar of all actions, whether he thinks proper to accept such amends or no. [ 16 ]

II. ARBITRATION is where the parties, injuring and injured, submit all matters in dispute, concerning any personal chattels or personal wrong, to the judgment of two or more arbitrators; who are to decide the controversy: and if they do not agree, it is usual to add, that another person be called in as *umpire*, (*imperator* or *impar*<sup>x</sup>), to whose sole judgment it is then referred: or frequently there is only one arbitrator originally appointed. This decision, in any of these cases, is called an *award*. And thereby the question is as fully determined, and the right transferred or settled, as it could have been by the agreement of the parties or the judgment of a court of justice<sup>y</sup>. But the right of real property cannot thus pass by a mere award<sup>z</sup>: which subtilty in point of form (for it is now reduced to nothing else) had its rise from feudal principles; for, if this had been permitted, the land might have been aliened collusively without the consent of the superior. Yet doubtless an arbitrator may now award a conveyance or a release of land; and it will be a breach of the arbitration-bond to refuse compliance. For, though originally the submission to arbitration used to be by word, or by deed, yet both of these being revocable in their nature, it

<sup>w</sup> 9 Rep. 79.

<sup>x</sup> Whart. *Angl. sac.* i. 772. Ni-

cols. Scot. hist. lib. ch. i. *prope finem*. 115.

<sup>y</sup> Brownl. 55. 1 Freem. 410.

<sup>z</sup> 1 Roll. Abr. 242. 1 Lord Raym.

is now become the practice to enter into mutual bonds, with condition to stand to the award or arbitration of the arbitrators or umpire therein named<sup>a</sup>. And experience having shewn [ 17 ] the great use of these peaceable and domestic tribunals, especially in settling matters of account, and other mercantile transactions, which are difficult and almost impossible to be adjusted on a trial at law; the legislature has now established the use of them, as well in controversies where causes are depending, as in those where no action is brought: enacting, by statute 9 & 10 W. III. c. 15. that all merchants and others, who desire to end any controversy, suit, or quarrel, (for which there is no other remedy but by personal action or suit in equity,) may agree, that their submission of the suit to arbitration or umpirage shall be made a rule of any of the king's courts of record, and may insert such agreement in their submission, or promise, or condition of the arbitration-bond: which agreement being proved upon oath by one of the witnesses thereto, the court shall make a rule that such submission and award shall be conclusive: and, after such rule made, the parties disobeying the award shall be liable to be punished, as for a contempt of the court; unless such award shall be set aside, for corruption or other misbehaviour in the arbitrators or umpire, proved on oath to the court, within one term after the award is made (9). And, in consequence of this statute, it

<sup>a</sup> Append. No. III. § 6.

(9) A motion to set aside an award under a submission by an obligation, must be made before the last day of the next term after the award is made. 9 & 10 W. III. c. 15. § 2. 2 T. R. 781. But this does not extend to an award made in pursuance of an order of *nisi prius*. Str. 301. If a motion be made to set aside an award under the statute, because it has been procured by corruption or undue means, or for any matter extrinsic the award, it must be made before the end of the next term; but an application for an attachment for not performing an award, may be resisted at any time for defects appearing on the face of the award itself; for such an award, after that time, might be pleaded in bar to any action

is now become a considerable part of the business of the superior courts, to set aside such awards when partially or

not be set aside for such defects after the end of the next term. 1 East. 276.

Submissions to arbitration were entered into by a rule of the court at the common law when a cause was depending, and the statute of king William was intended to give the same efficacy to awards where no suit or action was instituted. 2 Burr. 701. A verbal agreement to abide by an award cannot be made a rule of court. 7 T. R. 1.

A submission to an award cannot be made a rule of court, where an indictment as for an assault has been preferred for the subject referred. 8 T. R. 520. An agreement to enlarge the time of making an award must contain a consent to make it a rule of court, otherwise no attachment will be granted for non-performance. 8 T. R. 57.

Where a cause is referred by an order of *nisi prius*, and it is agreed that the costs shall abide the event of the award, this signifies the legal event; and if the arbitrator awards such damages for a trespass or an assault as would not, if given in a verdict, carry costs to the plaintiff, he cannot recover them under this reference, the award in such instances being not equivalent to the certificate of a judge. 3 T. R. 138. But arbitrators may award costs at their discretion, unless there is an express provision in the rule, that the costs shall abide the event of the award. 2 T. R. 644. If it is awarded that one of the parties shall pay the costs of the action, the costs of the arbitration are not included. H. Bl. Rep. 223.

When arbitrators have the power of electing an umpire, they may chuse him and call in his assistance as soon as they begin to take the subject into consideration. And this is the more convenient practice, as it secures a decision upon a single investigation of the controversy. 2 T. R. 644. The agreement to a reference must be expressed with great caution and accuracy, for if it is agreed to refer all matters in difference between the parties in the cause; the arbitrators are not confined to the subject of the cause alone, as they are when it is agreed to refer all matters in difference in the cause between the parties. 2 T. R. 645. Yet after an award under a reference in the first case, either party may main-



illegally made; or to enforce their execution, when legal, by the same process of contempt, as is awarded for disobedience

tain an action for a right or demand subsisting at the time of the reference, but not disputed before, or referred to, the arbitrators. 4 *T. R.* 146.

The court will not grant an attachment against a member of parliament for non-payment of money according to an award. 7 *T. R.* 448. If an arbitrator award that an administrator, who has submitted to the award, shall pay a certain sum, he is precluded afterwards from objecting that he has no assets to satisfy the demand. 7 *T. R.* 453.

Courts of equity exercise a jurisdiction in setting aside awards, particularly if a discovery or an account be prayed; but an arbitrator cannot be made a party, if it is agreed by the submission bond that no bill in equity shall be filed against him. 2 *Atk.* 395. Where it was one of the articles of co-partnership that all differences should be referred to arbitration, it was decided, that a court of equity could entertain no jurisdiction of the subject until the parties had referred their disputes to the consideration of arbitrators. 2 *Bro.* 336. But it has since been determined that an agreement or covenant to refer all differences to arbitration, and not to file any bill in equity, or bring any action at law, cannot take away the jurisdiction of any court in Westminster Hall. But an action might be brought for the breach of this covenant. 2 *Ves. jun.* 129. And where a submission to an award is made a rule of court, and it is part of the rule that the parties shall file no bill in equity, it is in the discretion of the court of law, whether they will enforce that part of the rule by attachment or not. *Ib.* 451.

The same has also been decided by the court of King's Bench. 8 *T. R.* 139.

When a verdict is taken *pro forma* at the trial for a certain sum, the plaintiff is entitled to enter up judgment for the amount of the sum awarded, without applying to the court for leave. 1 *Easf.* 401. 3 *B. & P.* 244.

An award to pay money in consequence of such an illegal transaction as would have been a bar to its recovery in an action, will be so far set aside. 3 *B. & P.* 371.

An award will be set aside if it is contrary to law. 3 *Easf.* 18.

to those rules and orders which are issued by the courts themselves.

Unless it was clearly agreed by the parties, that the judgment of the arbitrator upon the question of law should be conclusive. 9 *Ves. jun.* 364.

Arbitrations being unattended by the inevitable delay and expence of public litigation, are of such infinite importance to the community, that it is rather surprizing that the legislature has not yet given to arbitrators a power of compelling the attendance of witnesses, or of administering an oath to them. For until they possess this authority, like courts of justice, however wise and righteous their awards may be, it cannot be expected that they can give the same satisfaction to those who are interested in the event of the controversy.