

Taylor v Laird (1856) 25 LJ Ex 329

The case about the violation of contract law.

Evidence

The plaintiff was the captain of the defendant's ship. During a voyage, he voluntarily gave up his post as a captain and worked as a crew member on the ship. When the ship returned home, the plaintiff asked to be paid as a crew member though the defendant was not aware of this change in positions.

Problematics

It was important to define whether the owner accepted the plaintiff's request despite not being aware of the change in positions. Additionally, the court had to decide whether the defendant was obliged to pay the salary of an average worker to the plaintiff.

Resolution

The court held that the defendant was not obliged to pay the plaintiff wages for doing a different job because it was not stated in any contract. Besides, there had been no other notification that the plaintiff had worked as a crew member. Thus, the request of the plaintiff was treated as a violation of contract law.

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