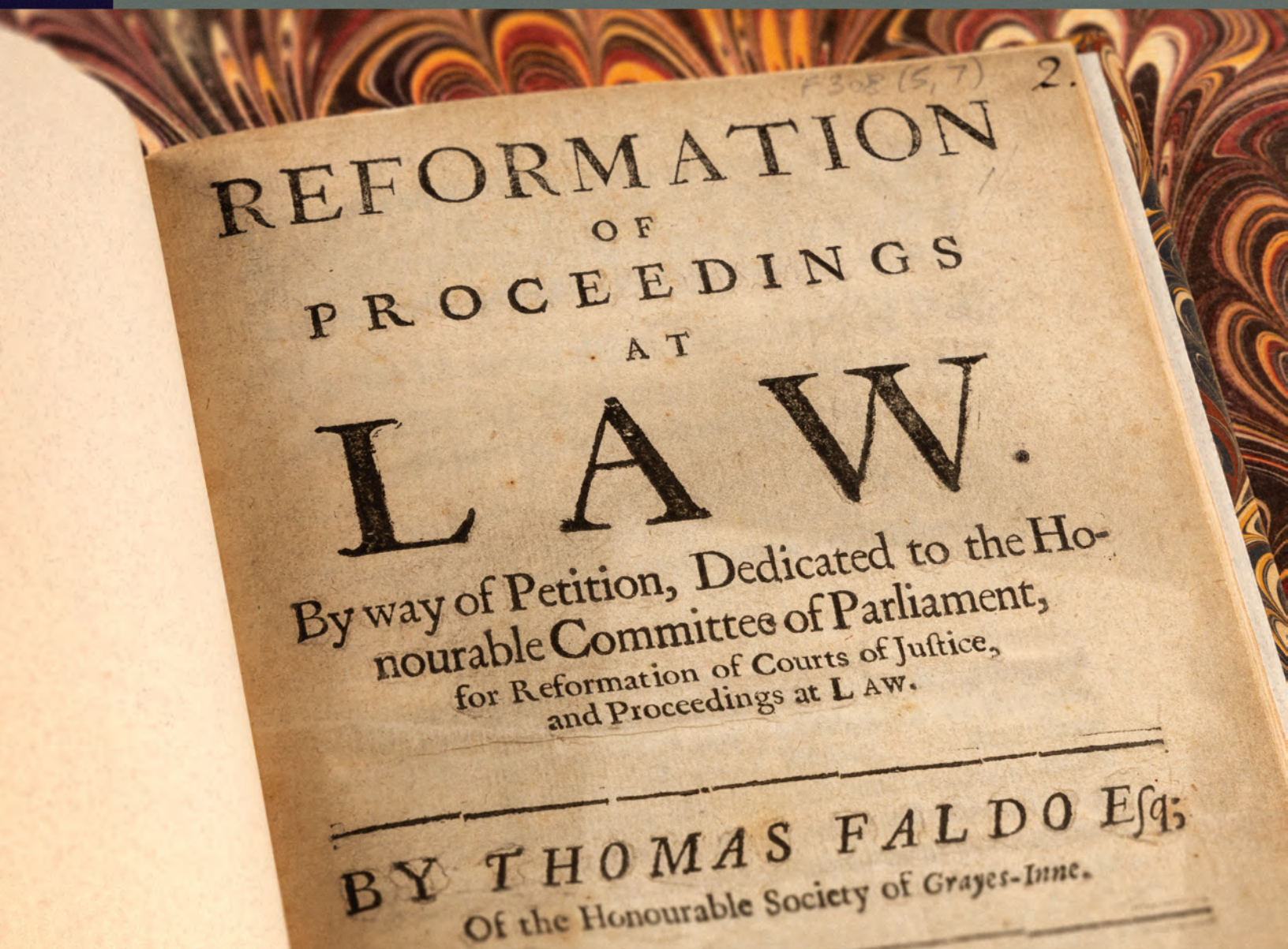


FEBRUARY 21, 2023

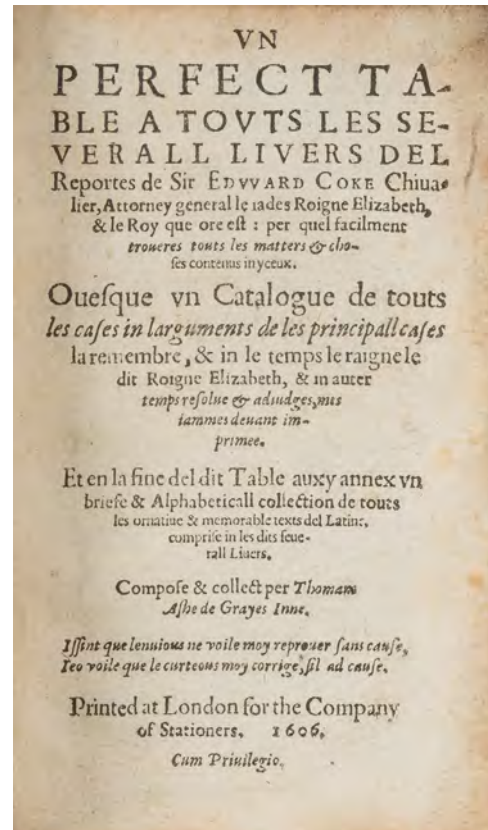
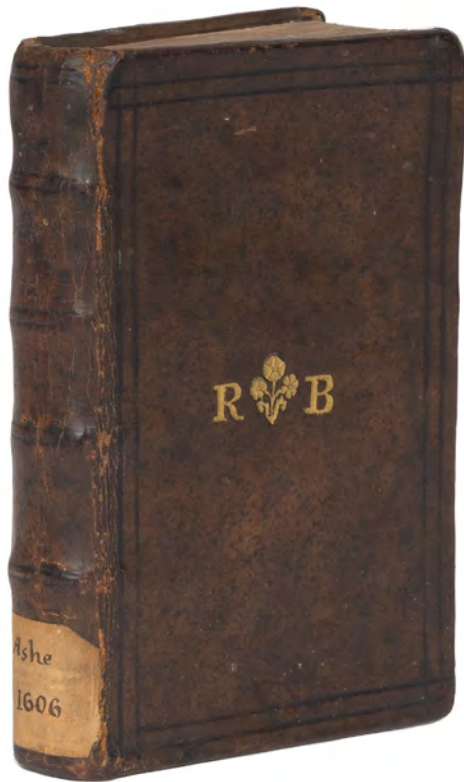
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English & French Law, 1592–1833

30 ITEMS



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### First Edition of a Notable Early Digest of Coke's Reports

#### 1. Ashe, Thomas [c 1556-1618].

#### [Coke, Sir Edward (1552-1634)].

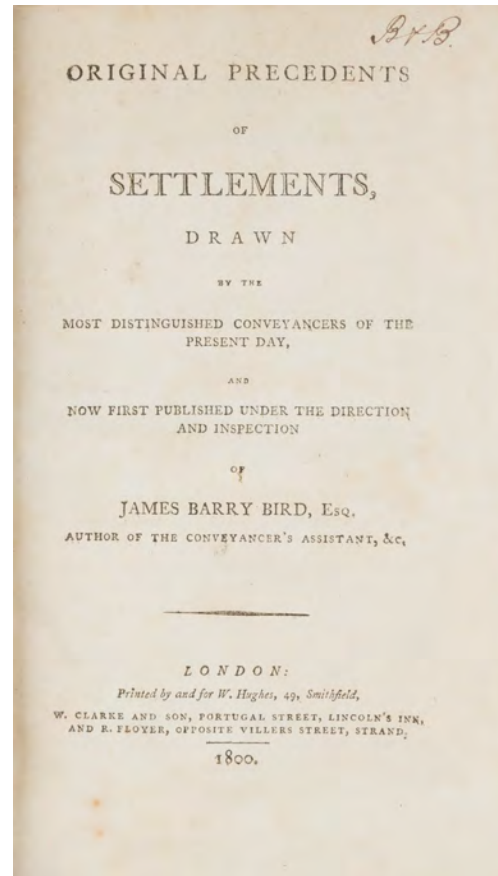
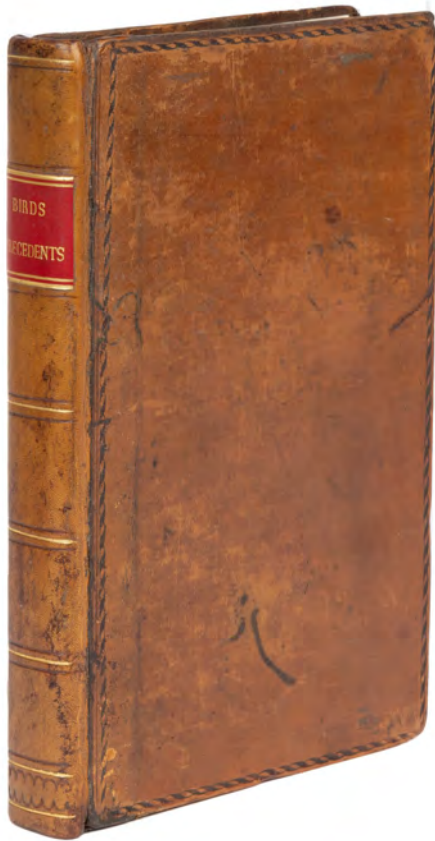
*Un Perfect Table a Touts les Severall Livres del Reportes de Sir Edward Coke Chivalier, Attorney General le iades Roigne Elizabeth, & le Roy que Ore Est: Per quel Facilment Troueres Touts les Matters & Choses Contenus in Yceux. Ouesque un Catalogue de Touts les cases in Larguments de les Principall Cases la Remembre, & In le Temps le Raigne le Dit Roigne Elizabeth, & In Auter Temps Resoluue & Adiudges, mes Iammes Devant Imprimee. Et en la Fine del Dit Table Auxy Annex un Brief & Alphabeticall Collection de Touts les Ornative & Memorable Texts del Latine, Comprise in les Dits Severall Livres.* London: Printed for the Company of Stationers, 1606. [xvi], 148 ff. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary speckled calf, blind rules and central gilt monogram stamp ("RB") to boards, raised bands, blind fillets and handwritten shelf label to spine, edges rouged. Light rubbing and a few minor spots to boards, which are slightly bowed, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, front hinge cracking, front free endpaper removed, faint offsetting and tears to rear free endpaper. Woodcut head-pieces and decorated initials. Light toning to interior, occasional very faint dampstaining to margins (and upper corner of last several leaves), light foxing to a few leaves. An appealing copy. \$850.

\* First edition. Main text in Law French, prefaces in Latin and English. This is an important early digest of the *Reports* of Edward Coke then published (Parts 1-5, first published 1600-1605). A popular and durable work, it went through two more editions (as *Un General Table...*, updated to cover parts 6-11) in Law French (in 1618 and 1631) and three editions in English (in 1652, 1653 and 1672). It was also reprinted following the 1664 and 1680 editions of Coke's *Reports*.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* S108463.

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### A Scarce Collection of Precedents From a Well-Regarded Author

#### 2. Bird, James Barry.

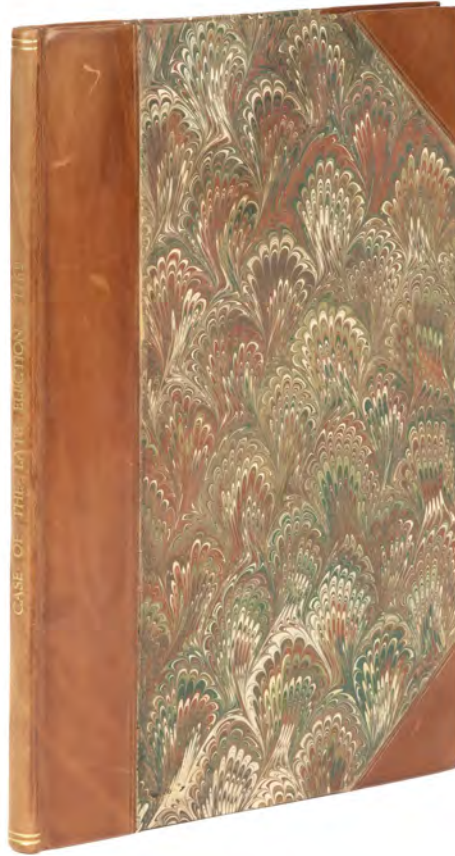
*Original Precedents of Settlements, Drawn by the Most Distinguished Conveyancers of the Present Day, And Now First Published Under the Direction and Inspection of James Barry Bird, Esq. Author of the Conveyancer's Assistant, &c.* London: Printed by and for W. Hughes, W. Clarke and Son, and R. Floyer, 1800. xii, 316, [6]; 8 pp. With a half-title and 8 pp. publisher catalogue. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5").

Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, rebaced in period style sheep with gilt and blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate rubbing and scuffing to boards and board edges, corners bumped and lightly worn. Light toning to interior, occasional light foxing, light soiling to a few leaves, early owner initials to upper right corner of title page. \$650.

\* Only edition. Bird produced a well-regarded series of handbooks on a broad range of legal topics. *Original Precedents of Settlements* seeks to update the precedents used in previous collections, as "the Science of Conveyancing, like all others, is susceptible of improvement" (vi). The thorough collection of precedents dealing with various topics in inheritance and settlement is supplemented by an index. The 8 pp. publisher catalogue appended to our copy is for W. Clarke and Sons and lists 174 "Law Books all of the latest and best editions." It is not recorded by the *ESTC* and we have not located any copies that list it. OCLC locates 5 copies of this title in North American law libraries (Harvard, University of Washington, UCLA, Los Angeles County, York University). The *ESTC* adds an imperfect copy at the Library of Congress.

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* T1327.

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### Blackstone's Remarks on the Wilkes Cause

#### 3. [Blackstone, Sir William (1723-1780), Attributed].

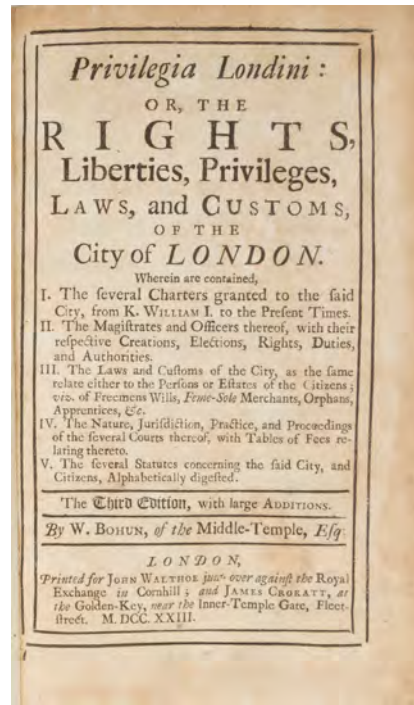
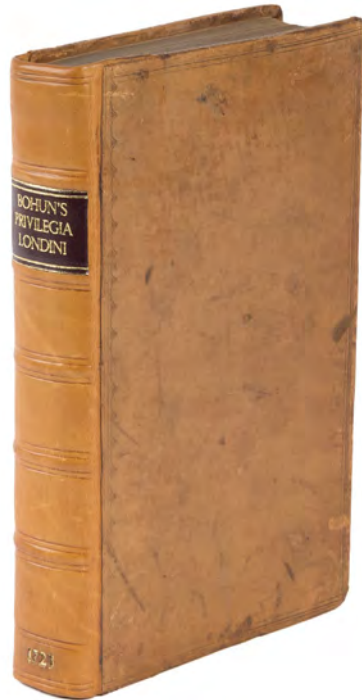
*The Case of the Late Election for the County of Middlesex, Considered on the Principles of the Constitution and the Authorities of Law.* London: Printed for T. Cadell, 1769. [ii], 44 pp. Lacking half-title. Quarto (9" x 6").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent three-quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets to calf edges, gilt fillets and title to spine. Binding very slightly cocked, moderate toning to interior, trimming to top-edge just touching headline in a few places without loss to page numbers, light foxing to several leaves. \$1,500.

\* First edition. In 1768 Wilkes [1727-1797], the publisher of the controversial paper the *North Briton*, was elected to Parliament by Middlesex County. However, he was imprisoned for seditious libel and expelled. While the legitimacy of his sentence was being debated, Middlesex attempted to re-elect him several times without success. Blackstone supported Parliament's position. During the expulsion debate, Blackstone was challenged by Grenville, who noted a discrepancy between his position on the floor and in the *Commentaries*. Unable to deliver a satisfactory rebuttal on the spot, he replied with the anonymously published *The Case of the Late Election*. It initiated a lively pamphlet exchange that involved Samuel Johnson, Sir William Meredith and others. This pamphlet has also been attributed to Jeremiah Dyson [1722-1776] and Owen Ruffhead [1723-1769].

Eller, *The William Blackstone Collection in the Yale Law Library* 231, which notes Ms. Eller had not seen a copy of this work. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T20210. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 539.

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### The Laws, Rights and Liberties of London

#### 4. Bohun, William.

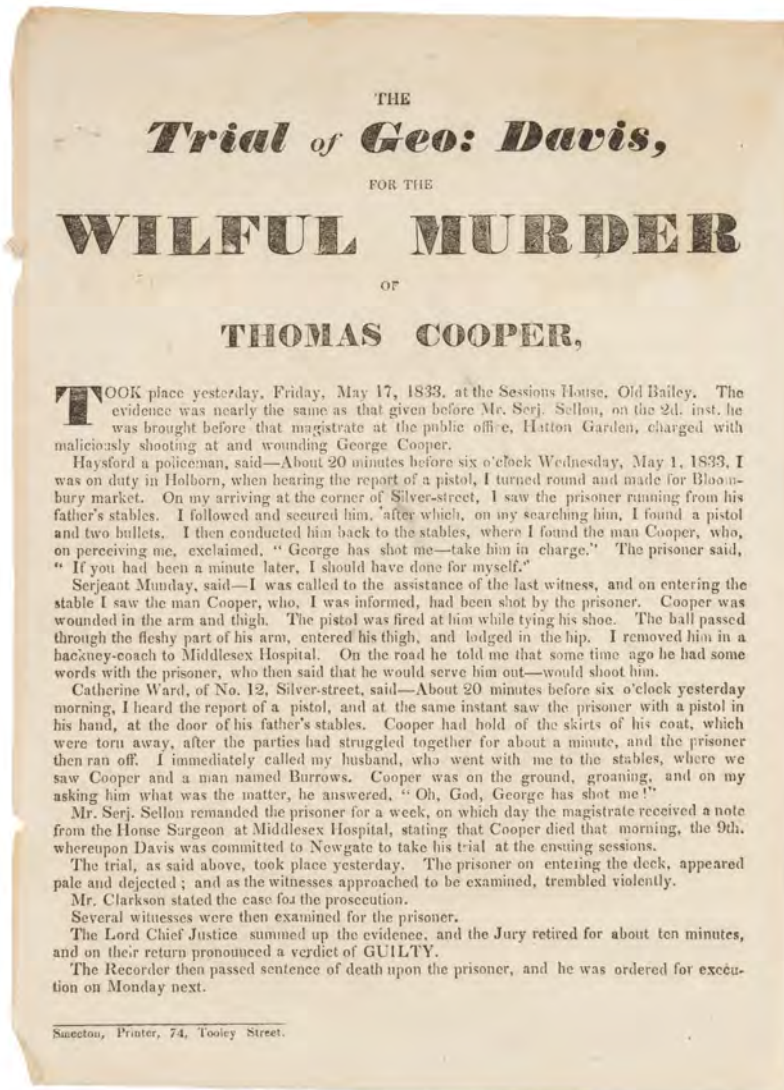
*Privilegia Londini: Or, The Rights, Liberties, Privileges, Laws, And Custom of the City of London. Wherein are Contained, I. The Several Charters Granted to the Said City, From King William I. to the Present Times. II. The Magistrates and Officers Thereof, With Their Respective Creations, Elections, Rights, Duties, And Authorities. III. The Laws and Customs of the City, As the Same Relate Either to the Persons or Estates of the Citizens; Viz. of Freemens Wills, Feme-Sole Merchants, Orphans, Apprentices, &c. IV. The Nature, Jurisdiction, Practice, And Proceedings of the Several Courts Thereof, With Tables of Fees Relating Thereto. V. The Several Statutes Concerning the Said City, And Citizens, Alphabetically Digested. With Large Additions.* London: Printed for D. John Walthoe Junr., 1723. xvi, 272, 273-296, 273-498, [22], [4] pp. Pagination irregular, text continuous (and complete). 4 pp. publisher list bound at rear of text. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4").

Contemporary calf, rebacked in period style, blind frames to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands, blind fillets, lettering piece and gilt publication date to spine, blind tooling to board edges, hinges mended. Minor nicks and scuffs to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and lightly worn. Moderate toning to interior, faint dampspotting and foxing in a few places, later owner inscription to front pastedown. An attractive copy. \$500.

\* Third and final edition. "Having observed in the Course of our English History many Attempts made (by the Ministers of some artful and designing Princes) to weaken and undermine the ancient, legal, and fundamental Rights, Liberties, and Privileges of the City and Citizens of London: I thought myself obliged to Endeavor to collect and ascertain such Laws, Customs, and Usages of the said City, Wherein the Original Constitution and Foundation of its Government seem to have been laid; and whereby its Happiness, Opulency, and Glory do (under God and his present Majesty) evidently subsist" (Preface). Though little is known about his life, Bohun was an attorney and prolific author who published well-received treatises on legal education, pleading, ecclesiastical law and other subjects. The first and second editions of *Privilegia Londini* were published in 1702 and 1716.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* T130094.

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### He Fatally Shot His Father's Servant

5. [Broadside].

[Trial].

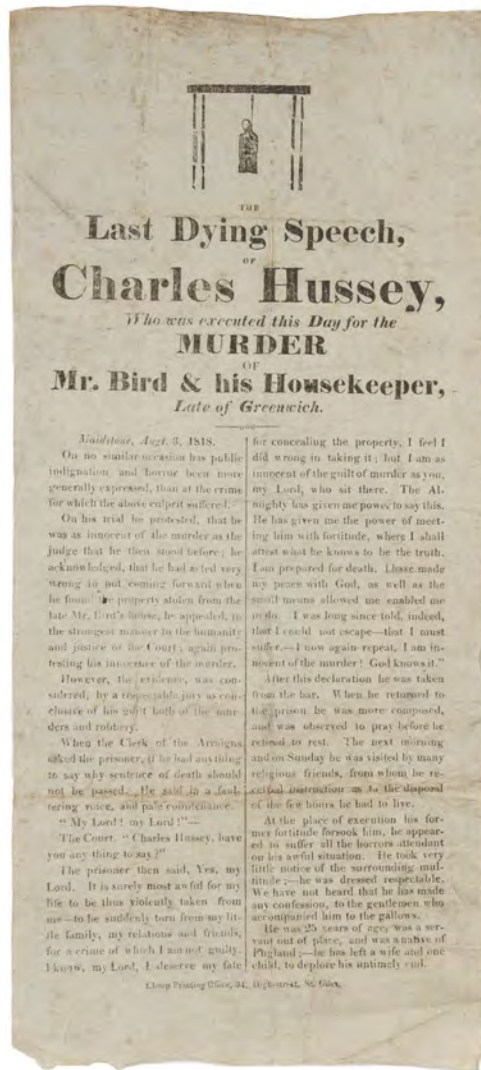
**Davis, George [d.1833], Defendant.**

*The Trial of Geo: Davis, For the Wilful Murder of Thomas Cooper.* [London]: Smeeton, Printer, [1833].

10" x 7-1/4" broadside, text in single column below headline. Light toning, light foxing, soiling and very light creasing in places, a few small chips to left edge, which is neatly reinforced. Rare. \$750.

\* Davis shot Cooper, one of his father's servants, and was apparently prepared to shoot himself as well until the police arrived and apprehended him. According to the arresting officer, Cooper claimed before his death that Davis had threatened him during an argument. Cooper's wounds proved fatal and Davis was tried and executed for murder. OCLC and Library Hub locate 1 copy of this rare broadside worldwide (British Library).

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**"I Have Made My Peace with God"**

6. [Broadside].

[Execution].

Hussey, Charles [d.1818].

*The Last Dying Speech of Charles Hussey, Who was Executed This Day for the Murder of Mr. Bird and his Housekeeper, Late of Greenwich.* [London]: Cheap Printing Office, [1818].

14-1/2" x 6-1/2" broadside, text in double columns below headline and woodcut vignette of execution. Light soiling and creasing, horizontal and vertical fold lines, light foxing to top quarter of sheet. Rare. \$1,950.

\* Hussey confessed to stealing from the home of Mr. Bird, but strenuously denied any involvement in the murder of Bird and his housekeeper. Despite this, he was convicted of murder and executed on August 3, 1818. Twenty-five years old at the time of his execution, he left behind a wife and child. This broadside is apparently unrecorded. No copies located on OCLC or Library Hub.

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**Carriages Over One Ton Banned  
"Upon Pain of Our Heavy Indignation"**

7. [Broadside].

[Highways].

**Charles I [1600-1649], King of England.**

*By the King. A Proclamation for Restraint of Excessive Carriages, To the Destruction of the High Ways.* London: Imprinted...by Robert Barker and by the assignes of Iohn Bill, 1635.

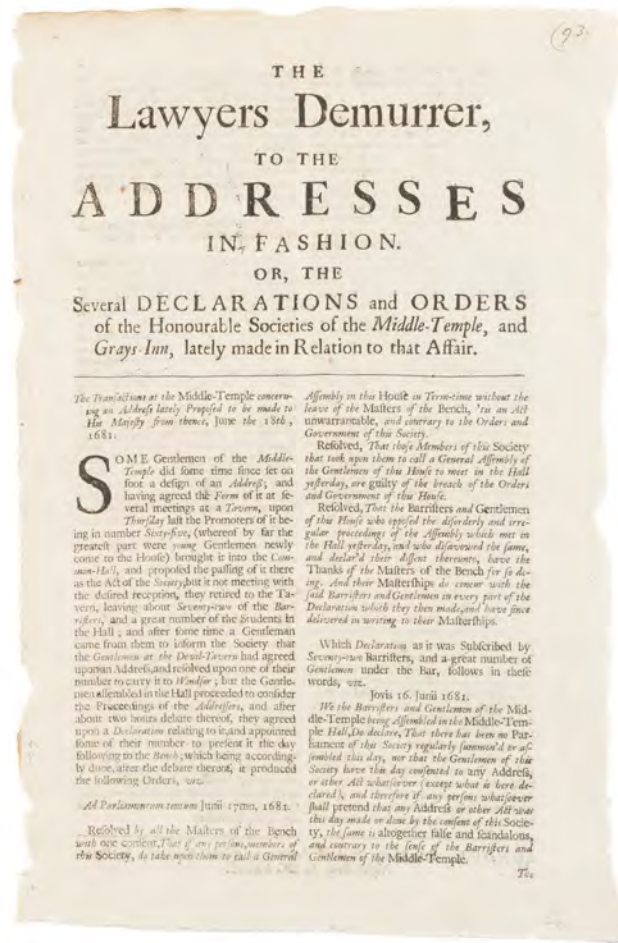
14-1/4" x 10-1/4" 2 ff. broadside, text in single column below headline and large woodcut royal arms, 8-line woodcut initial. Moderate toning, very light foxing and soiling, slight horizontal fold lines, faint dampstain to bottom and two small worm holes near top of both sheets, minor loss to woodcut but no loss to text, crease to left edge of first sheet, which is mended at bottom edge just touching a few letters of text without loss. Housed in attractive 15" x 11" green buckram folder with red morocco lettering piece to front. \$2,000.

\* Despite previous attempts to regulate excessively heavy carriages, the king and his people still found "by dayly experience" that "those great abuses" were "still continued and increased." This two-page proclamation restricts carriages to "twenty hundred weight" (one ton) and imposed limits of either five horses, five oxen or four oxen and two horses. It also encourages local officials to keep up with highway maintenance and "answere the contrary at their perils." Offenders were duly reported to the attorney general as a public nuisance, where they would receive "such punishment as their contempts and offences shall deserve." OCLC and the ESTC locate 1 copy of this scarce broadside in North America (Huntington Library).

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC) S122973.*

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### Supporters of Charles II Take to the Tables in Gray's Inn

#### 8. [Broadside].

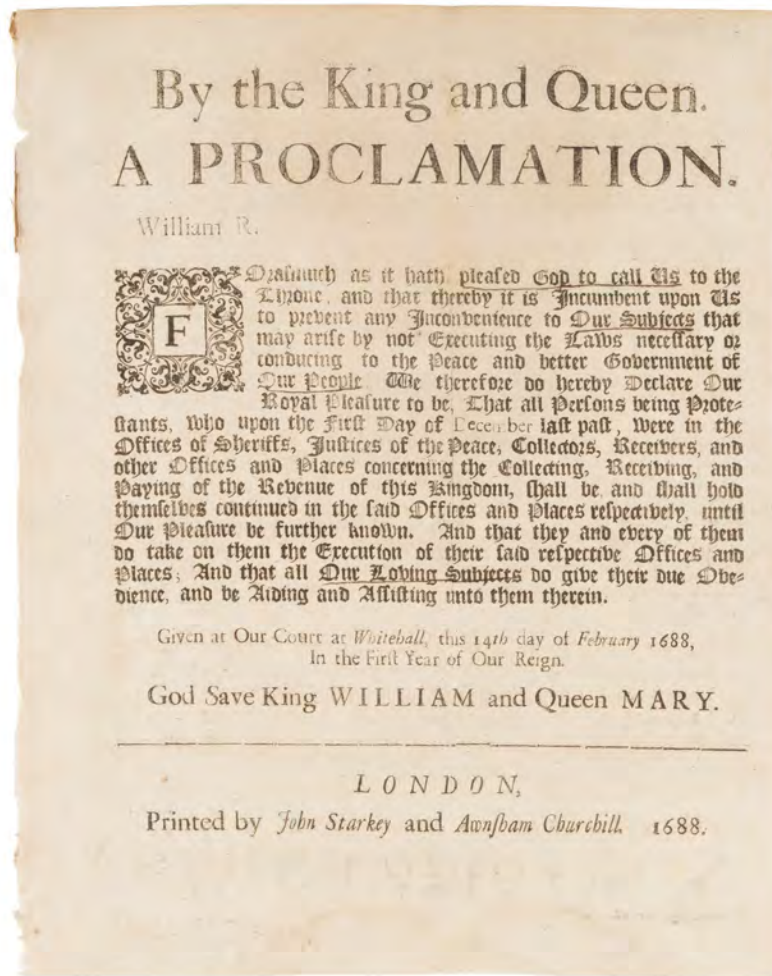
*The Lawyers Demurrer, To the Addresses in Fashion. Or, The Several Declarations and Orders of the Honourable Societies of the Middle-Temple, And Gray's-Inn, Lately Made in Relation to That Affair.* London: Printed for Richard Janeway, 1681.

12" x 7-1/2" broadsheet, text to recto and verso in two columns below headline. Disbound, edges untrimmed, light toning, very light foxing, later page numbers to upper corners. Housed in modern 13-3/4" x 9-3/4" buckram folder with red spine label. \$850.

\* This broadsheet describes a tumultuous episode at Gray's Inn, where a number of supporters of Charles II "assembled themselves in the Common-Hall of this Society... and in an Irregular and disorderly way encompassed the Bench, and by getting upon the Cupboard and Tables in the said Hall, with loud Acclamations, and flinging up their Hats, did very much disturb the peace" in celebration of Charles's prorogation of Parliament. Members of the Middle Temple attempted to make a similar address but were thwarted; the "Outrageous Assembly" did not spread to Lincoln's Inn or the Inner Temple.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* R17022.

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### Protestants Can Keep Their Offices After the Glorious Revolution

#### 9. [Broadside].

#### William III and Mary II, King and Queen.

*By the King and Queen. A Proclamation.* William R. London: Printed by John Starkey and Awnsham Churchill, 1688 [i.e. 1689].

10-1/2" x 8-1/4" broadside, large woodcut initial. Disbound, moderate toning, single vertical fold line, very faint dampstain to bottom margin, early ink underlining to a few phrases. \$1,500.

\* Issued the day after the passage of the Bill of Rights by Parliament, this broadside announces that, for the sake of "the Peace and better Government of our People," all sheriffs, justices of the peace, revenue officers and similar office-holders who were Protestants as of December 1, 1688 could retain their offices. Unspoken in this promise was the growing hostility to non-Protestants, particularly Catholics, after the Glorious Revolution. OCLC locates 3 copies of this broadside in North America (Harvard, Huntington Library, Toronto Public Library). The *ESTC* adds 2 North American copies (University of Pennsylvania, Yale).

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* R30207.

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### "A Free Parliament for the Preservation of the Protestant Religion"

#### 10. [Broadside].

#### William III [1650-1702], King of England.

*A Letter from His Highness the Prince of Orange, For the Summoning of a Convention, To be Held at Westminster, The 22th of January, 1688/9.* London: Printed by J. Starkey, and A. and W. Churchill, 1688.

14-1/2" x 10-1/2" broadside. Moderate toning, very light foxing and soiling, horizontal and vertical fold lines, portions excised from left margin, large clean tear and small hole affecting text without loss to legibility. \$1,250.

\* A broadside announcing William of Orange's intent to call a "Free Parliament for the Preservation of the Protestant Religion, and restoring the Rights and Liberties of the Kingdom" following the Glorious Revolution of 1688. By this time, James II had fled to France, and many were advocating for William's accession to the throne. Ultimately, the convention, which became known as the Convention Parliament, decided that James had abandoned the throne and installed William and Mary as King and Queen. OCLC locates 3 copies of this broadside in North America (Huntington Library, Library Company of Philadelphia, College of William & Mary), to which the ESTC adds 3 North American copies (Harvard, Newberry Library, UCLA).

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* R23228.

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**"Sooner or Later All Sin Comes to Light"**

**11. [Cheap Repository Tracts].**

**Fielding, Henry [1707-1754].**

**[More, Hannah (1745-1833)].**

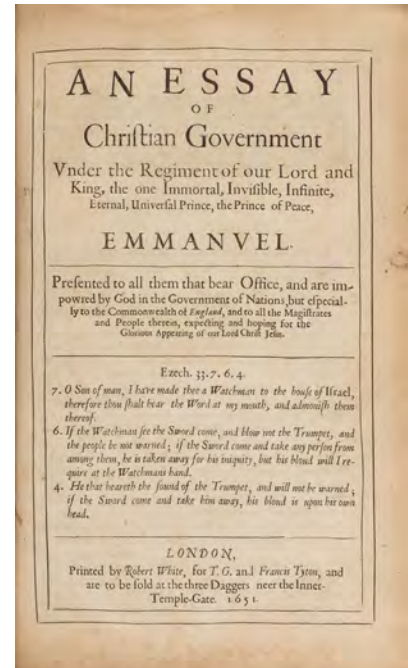
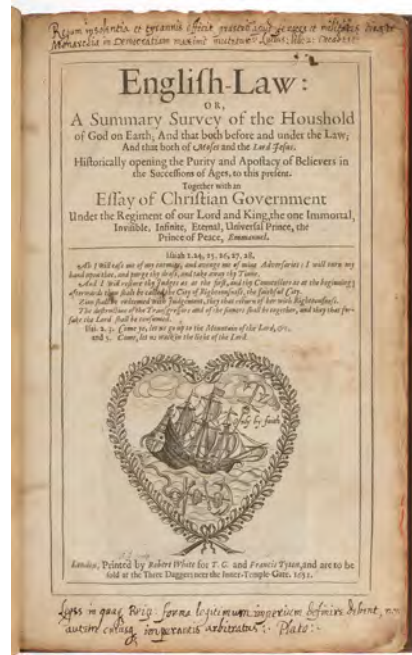
*Murders. True Examples of the Interposition of Providence, In the Discovery and Punishment of Murder.* Bath: Sold by S. Hazard, (Printer to the Cheap Repository for Religious and Moral Tracts); by J. Marshall and R. White, London, [1795]. 12 pp. Woodcut illustration to title page. 12mo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in self-wrappers, edges untrimmed. Moderate toning, light foxing to margins of a few leaves, first and final leaves starting to separate but secure, upper corner of front wrapper lacking, small "90" written in ink at its head. \$200.

\* Early edition. The Cheap Repository Tracts, issued from 1795-1817, were devised by More as an educational alternative to the sensational broadside and chapbook publications popular among the literate poor. Our tract is an abridgment of Fielding's *Examples of the Interposition of Providence in the Detection and Punishment of Murder* (1752), a short collection of anecdotes describing recent apprehensions of murderers with a religious theme. The work originally appeared in response to what many perceived as a notable increase in London murders; its publication was concurrent with the Murder Act of 1752, which introduced anatomization in the hopes that it would deter would-be murderers. The Cheap Repository abridgment was issued individually until 1797 and also appeared in yearly collections. The abridgment of Fielding's text is followed by an eight-stanza verse titled "A Prayer to God, that our National Crimes, may not bring down National Punishments."

*English Short-Title Catalogue* N508833.

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With "An Essay on Christian Government"

12. [Cock, Charles George].

*English-Law: Or, A Summary Survey of the Household of God on Earth; And that Both Before and Under the Law; And that Both of Moses and the Lord Jesus. Historically Opening the Purity and Apostacy of Believers in the Successions of Ages, To this Present. Together with an Essay of Christian Government Under the Regiment of our Lord and King, The One Immortal, Invisible, Infinite, Eternal, Universal Prince, The Prince of Peace, Emmanuel.* London: Printed by Robert White for T.G. And Francis Tyton, 1651. [xx], 95, [1]; [17], 101-194, [2] pp. "An Essay of Christian government" has separate dated title page. Pagination irregular, text complete. Folio (11" x 6-1/2").

Recent period-style calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, edges rouged, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning to interior, light browning to edges of text block, light foxing in places, moderate edgewear to preliminaries and final few leaves. Recent owner inscription to front free endpaper, early owner annotations to title page a few other leaves, faint, often very faint, recent marks in pencil and colored pencil to margins of several leaves. \$4,500.

\* Only edition. Cock's treatise is a characteristic and exceptionally detailed exposition of an important strain of Puritan thought during the Commonwealth era: that English law and government should be reformed along biblical lines, a belief shared by the New England Puritans. This core of the book's argument is encapsulated by its title vignette of a ship, representing the Commonwealth, in a storm-tossed sea. It will be saved because it has cast off the anchor decorated with crowns and scepters, that is, monarchy, and fastened itself to an anchor secured by the clouds with the caption "only by faith." This is a scarce title. It has appeared only three times at auction since 1939. The early annotations, in Latin and English, are quotations from Lucius, Plato and the Bible. (One quote, which we can't identify, appears to be a paraphrase of Proverbs 13.)

Combined, the ESTC and OCLC locate 16 copies, 8 in North America, 4 in North American law libraries (Columbia, Georgetown, Harvard, UC-Berkeley).

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* R37185.

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### An Authority Second Only to the Year Books

#### 13. Dyer, Sir James [1512-1582].

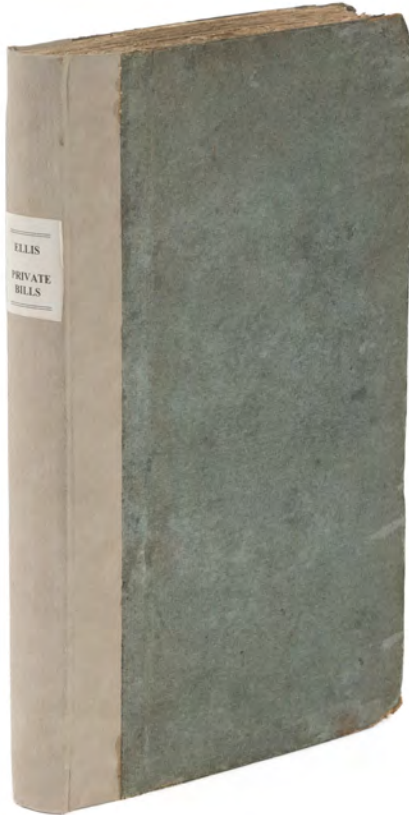
*Cy Ensuent Ascuns Novel Cases, Collectes per le Iades Tresreverend Iudge, Mounseigneur Iasques Dyer, Chief Justice del Common Banke.* London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1592. [iv], 62, 65-377, [1] ff. Complete. Folio (11" x 7-1/2").

Near-contemporary speckled calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands, blind fillets and later blank paper label to spine, gilt rules to board edges, edges rouged, endleaves renewed. Binding slightly cocked, light rubbing and a few minor spots, nicks and scratches to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, front joint starting at ends (neatly mended at foot), rear joint starting at head, corners bumped and somewhat worn, hinges cracked, early ownership signatures to front free endpaper (Edmund Pollexfen) and title page (Nicholas Pollexfen). Title page printed within woodcut border. Light toning to interior, light soiling and faint stains to a few pages, fold lines to corners of several leaves, first three leaves reinforced at gutter, title page and following leaf lightly soiled and edgeworn at lower right corner without loss, light creasing to final leaf. Occasional brief annotations in at least two early hands, a few affected slightly by trimming. An appealing copy. \$3,000.

\* Second edition. First published in 1585, Dyer's *Ascuns Novel Cases*, generally known as Dyer's *Reports*, contain cases heard in the Courts of Common Pleas, King's Bench, Exchequer and Chancery from 1513 to 1582. One of the first publications of its kind, it was also the first to be referred to regularly as "Reports." A work of great authority (second only to that of the Year Books), it went through six editions in Law-French, the last one in 1688. The annotations to our copy are case citations.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* S111772. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R482.

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#### A Pioneering Treatise on Private Bills

##### 14. Ellis, Charles Thomas.

*Practical Remarks and Precedents of Proceedings in Parliament: Comprising the Standing Orders of Both Houses, To the End of the Year 1801; Relative to the Applying for, And Passing, Bills for Inclosing or Draining Lands; Making Turnpike Roads, Navigations, Aqueducts; Building Bridges; For the More Easy Recovery of Small Debts; Paving, &c. Towns; Confirming or Prolonging the Term of Letters Patent; Obtaining Divorces; And Bills Called Estate Bills: With an Introductory Chapter, Containing Practical Directions for Soliciting Private Bills in General; And With Occasional References to Acts of Parliament, Adjudged Cases, &c.* London: Printed by B. McMillan, 1802. xiv, [2], 265 pp. Octavo (9" x 5").

Contemporary publisher's boards, rebacked in plain paper, renewed printed label to spine, edges untrimmed, endpapers renewed, several signatures unopened or partially unopened. Light rubbing and soiling to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and worn. Light toning to interior, occasional light soiling, light foxing in a few places, small faint dampstain to bottom-edge of pp. xi-5, clean tear to gutter of leaf D1 (pp. 33-34) just touching a few letters of text without loss. \$450.

\* First edition. A detailed look at the process for enacting private bills in Parliament with a thorough accounting of the relevant standing orders for both the House of Lords and the House of Commons. One of the earliest treatises on the subject, it is notable for its comprehensiveness and the wide range of covered topics, including infrastructure, marriage and debts. A second and final edition appeared in 1810.

Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 2:110.

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### "The Protestant Joiner"

#### 15. [Execution].

#### [Great Britain].

#### College (Colledge), Stephen [c.1635-1681].

*A True Copy of the Dying Words of Mr. Stephen Colledge, Left in Writing Under His Own Hand, And Confirmed by Him at the Time of Execution, August 31. 1681. At Oxford. Published by His Own Relations.* London: Printed for Edith Colledge, 1681. 2 pp.

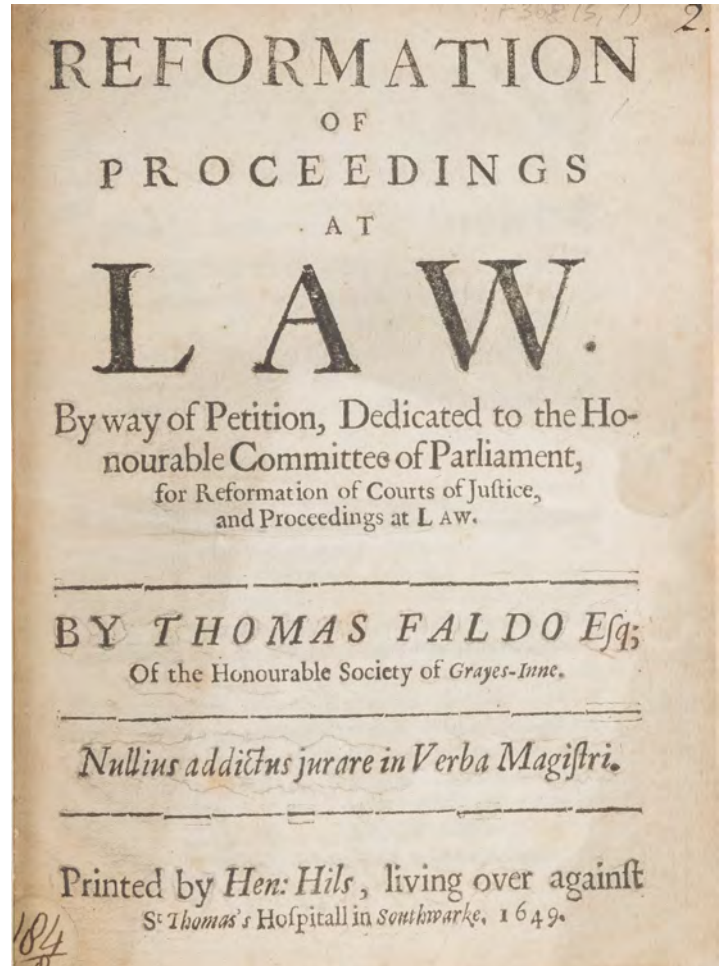
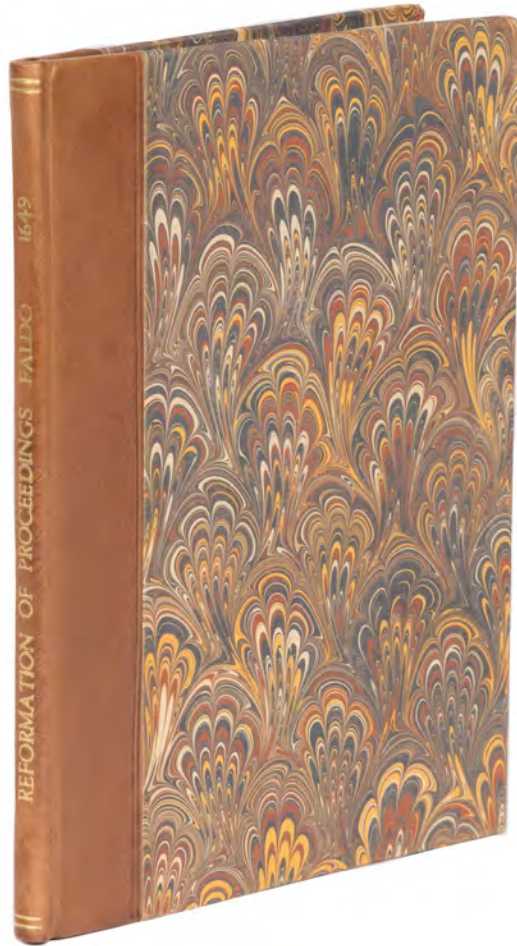
10-3/4" x 6" handbill removed from an early bound volume, affixed along left-hand margin to 1" strip of paper. Moderate toning, faint dampspotting, edges trimmed just touching catch-word at foot of p. 1, paper strip just touching text along right-hand margin of p.2. \$750.

\* Only edition. College, sometimes spelled Colledge, was a fervent Protestant propagandist and printmaker. (He also invented a weapon called "the Protestant flail.") He was known as the "Protestant Joiner," a reference to his original trade, fine carpentry. When Parliament moved to Oxford, in March 1681, College went there on horseback, armed and wearing armor, and advocated Parliament's resistance to the absolutist tendencies and Catholic sympathies of King Charles II. His willingness to incite violence led to his arrest on invented charges of sedition in June 1681, and he was eventually convicted, hanged and quartered after a show trial in August. There are two versions of *A True Copy*. In ours the first line of text ends with "des-." In the other, the first line of text ends with "so."

*English Short-Title Catalogue* R226696.

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### A Plea for Reform of the "Arbitrary" Chancery Courts

#### 16. Faldo, Thomas.

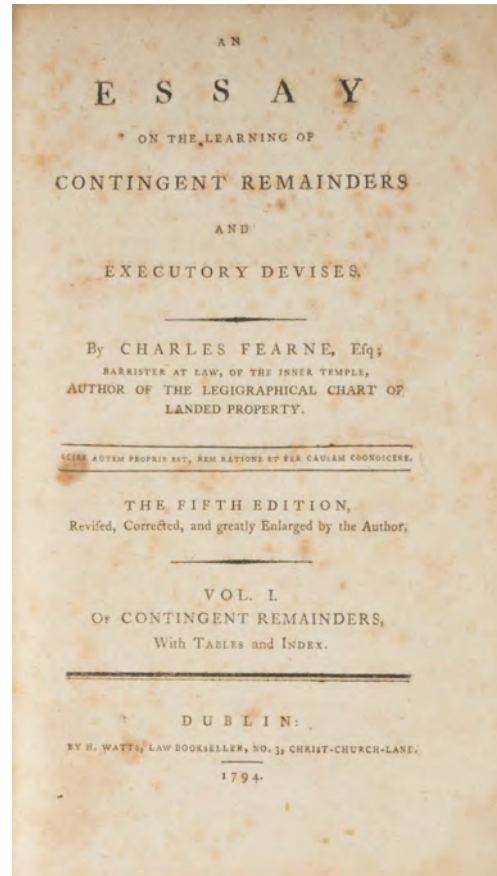
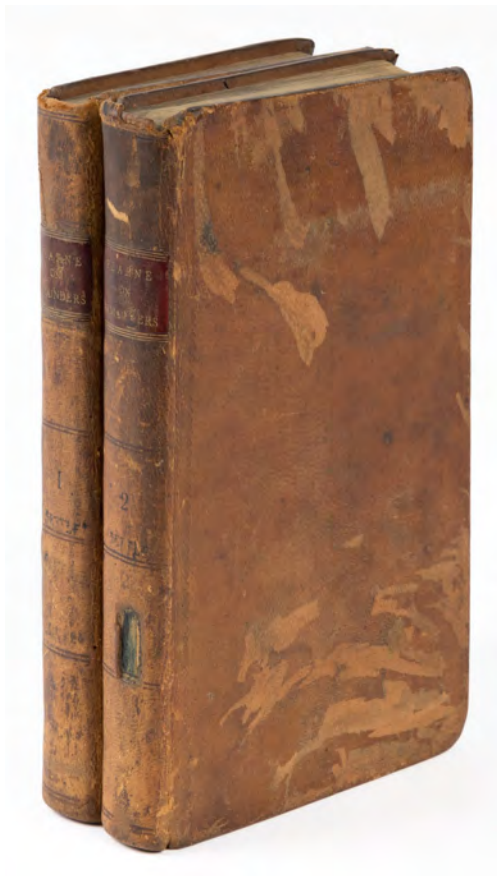
*Reformation of Proceedings at Law.* By Way of Petition, Dedicated to the Honourable Committee of Parliament, For Reformation of Courts of Justice, And Proceedings at Law. [London]: Printed by Hen: Hils, 1649. [ii], 25, [1] pp. Quarto (6-3/4" x 5-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound in recent quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt fillets and title to spine. Light toning, negligible light foxing to a few leaves, light soiling to title page and final leaf, trimming to top-edge just catching headline of two leaves without loss to page numbers. \$1,250.

\* Only edition. As the seventeenth century saw a wave of anxiety over the role of the Court of Chancery, the topic of chancery reform became increasingly important. Faldo, a member of Gray's Inn, describes the system as arbitrary at best and corrupt at worst and suggests that the common law could better meet the needs the court was meant to address. OCLC locates 3 copies of this title in North American law libraries (Harvard, Columbia, Library of Congress).

*English Short-Title Catalogue* R205978.

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### Kent Admired Its "Ability and Perspicuity"

#### 17. Fearne, Charles [1742-1794].

#### Powell, John Joseph [1755?-1801], Editor [Vol. II Only].

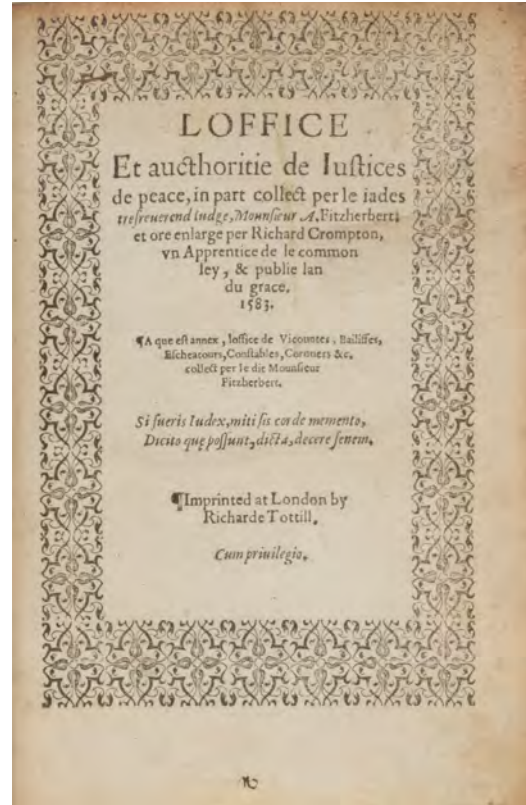
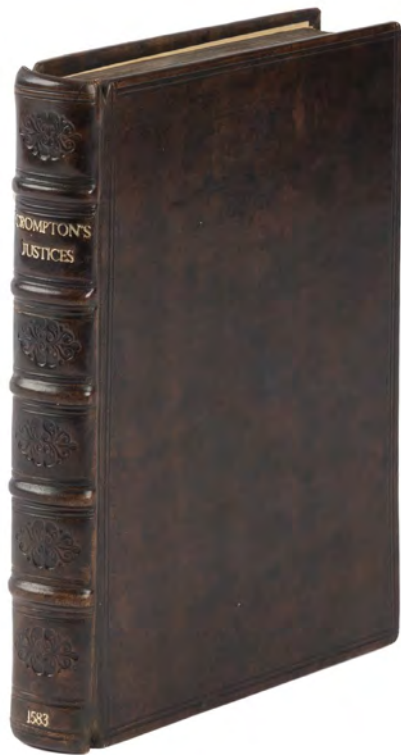
*An Essay on the Learning of Contingent Remainders and Executory Devises. Vol. I. Of Contingent Remainders, With Tables and Index. [...] Vol. II. Of Executory Devises.* Dublin: By H. Watts, Law Bookseller, 1794; Printed by John Exshaw and John Rice, 1796. 2 volumes. 15, [1], 572, x, 31, [1]; 15, [1], 556 pp. Paging irregular; star-paged to the 1795 London edition. Octavo (8" x 4-3/4").

Contemporary sheep, blind fillets to boards, lettering pieces, blind fillets and blind volume numbers to spines, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and some scuffing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, faint ink stamp ("Settle") to spines, chipping to spine heads, nick to spine of Vol. II, corners bumped, hinges cracked, early ownership signatures and printed labels (of Thomas Settle) to pastedowns. Moderate toning and light foxing to interior, light soiling and spark burns to a few leaves, clean tears to top-edges of leaves H2-3 (\*177-\*184) of Vol. I. \$750.

\* Dublin reprint of the fifth and final London edition, to which it is star-paged. According to Kent, "Fearne's *Essay on Contingent Reminders*...is a performance of a very superior character. It is eminently distinguished for the ability and perspicuity with which it unfolds and explains the principles of the most intricate parts of the law." Fearne died before the completion of the second volume, which was published posthumously with notes by John Joseph Powell. The *ESTC* treats these volumes as bibliographically distinct.

Kent, *Commentaries on American Law* I:514. *English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* N64699, N64701.

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**First Edition of Fitzherbert's  
Important JP Manual Edited by Crompton**

**18. Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony [1470-1538].**

**Crompton, Richard (fl. 1573-1599), Editor.**

**[West, William (1568-1594), Compiler of Index].**

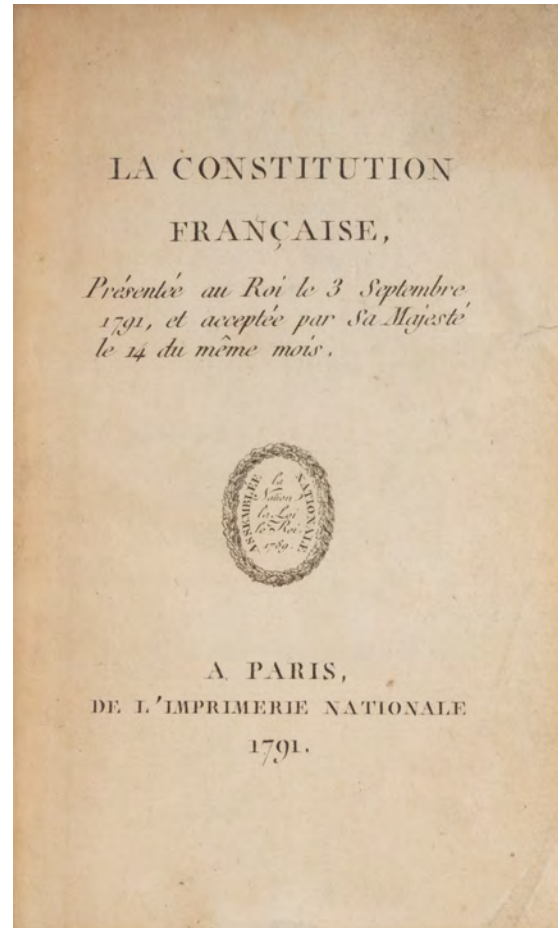
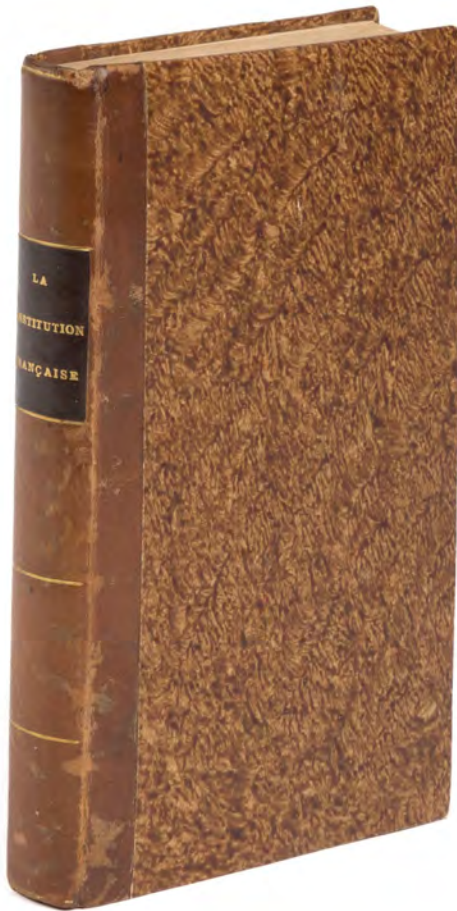
*Loffice et Aucthoritie de Iustices de Peace, In Part Collect per le Iades Tresreverend Iudge, Mounseur A. Fitzherbert, Et ore Enlarge per Richard Crompton, Un Apprentice de la Common Ley, & Public Lan du Grace. 1583. A Que est Annex, Loffice de Vicountes, Bailiffes, Escheatours, Constables, Coroners, &c. Collect per le Dit Mounsier Fitzherbert.* London: Imprinted by Richarde Tottill, [1583]. [xxvi], 206 ff. Lacking Leaf Z1 (fol. 177). Quarto (7-1/2" x 5").

Recent period-style calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands, blind ornaments, and gilt title and publication date to spine, "CF" in early hand to fore-edge of text block, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning, inkstains to margins of a few leaves, offsetting and light edgewear to first few and final leaves, annotations in later hand to front endleaf, illegible early owner signature to head of leaf following title page, which is lightly soiled. \$1,100.

\* First edition by Crompton. First printed in 1538, Fitzherbert's manual was issued eight more times; its final edition was printed in 1617. The editions by Crompton are significantly better. They are arranged more systematically and have a great deal of additional material. A feature unique to the first Crompton edition is an index, by West, which does not appear in other editions. Despite Crompton's efforts, this work was gradually superseded by William Lambard's *Eirenarcha* (1581). OCLC locates 6 copies in North American law libraries (Columbia, Library of Congress, San Francisco Law Library, University of Minnesota, University of Pennsylvania, Yale). The *ESTC* adds one more (Harvard).

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* S102178. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T329.

[Order This Item](#)



### The First Official Printing of the Constitution of 1791

#### 19. [France].

#### National Assembly.

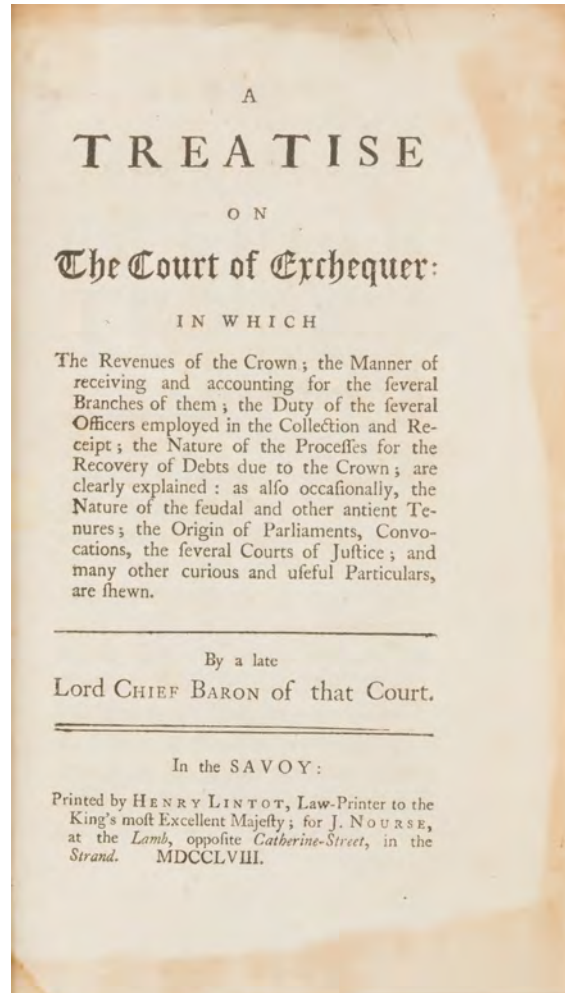
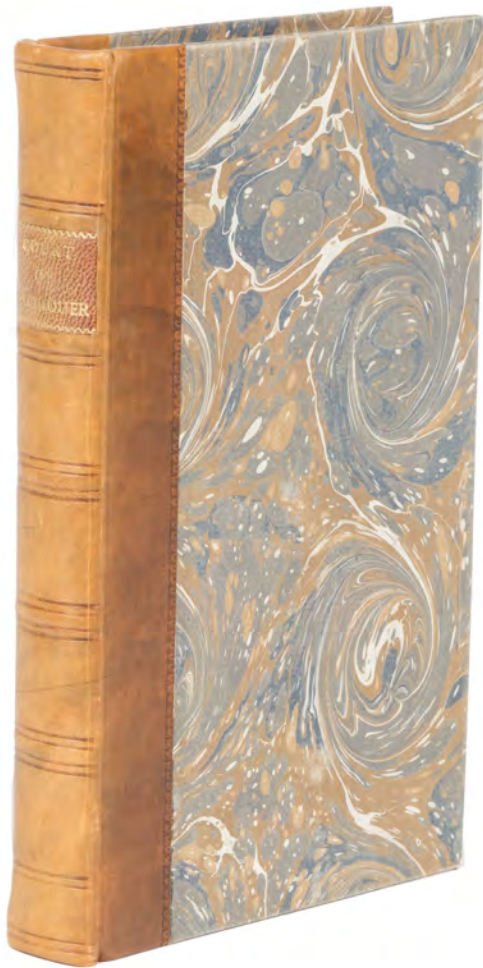
*La Constitution Française: Présentée au Roi le 3 Septembre 1791, Et Acceptée par Sa Majesté le 14 du Même Mois.* Paris: De l'Imprimerie Nationale, 1791. iv, 179 pp. 12mo. (5-3/4" x 3-3/4").

Later quarter calf over marbled boards, lettering piece and gilt fillets to spine, marbled endpapers. Light rubbing to extremities, a few minor nicks to spine. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing to a few leaves, light soiling and edgewear to preliminaries and final few leaves, half-title and final leaf of index re-hinged, their upper-outside corners mended. An attractive copy. \$850.

\* This is the first official printing of one of the most important documents in French political history, the Constitution of 1791. France's first constitution, it was submitted to King Louis XVI on September 3 and enacted on September 14 by the National Assembly. This edition is authenticated by the engraved signatures of the secretaries of the Assembly, King Louis XVI and the Assembly's printer, Armand-Gaston Camus, who guarantees the text's conformity to the original document kept in the National Archives. Most of these copies are printed on paper. There are also some otherwise-identical presentation copies printed on vellum.

Mongland, *La France Révolutionnaire et Impériale* II:90.

[Order This Item](#)



### Gilbert on the Practice of the Court of Exchequer

#### 20. [Gilbert, Sir Geoffrey (1674-1726)].

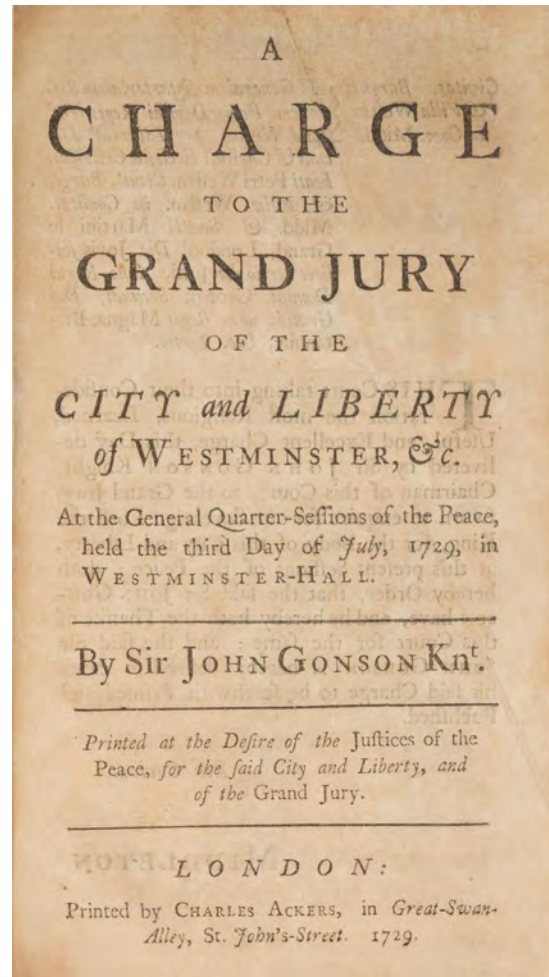
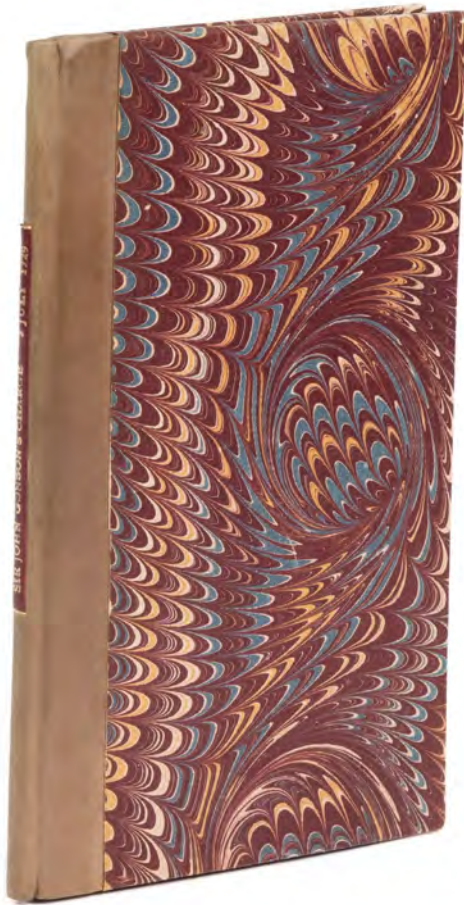
*A Treatise on the Court of Exchequer: In Which the Revenues of the Crown; The Manner of Receiving and Accounting for the Several Branches of Them; The Duty of the Several Officers in the Collection and Receipt; The Nature of the Process for the Recovery of Debts Due to the Crown; Are Clearly Explained: As also Occasionally, The Nature of the Feudal and Other Antient Tenures; The Origin of Parliaments, Convocations, The Several Courts of Justice; And Many Other Curious and Useful Particulars, Are Shown.* [London]: Printed by Henry Lintot; for J. Nourse, 1758. xvi, 343, [1] pp. Octavo (7-3/4" x 5").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, lettering piece, raised bands and blind fillets to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning to interior, offsetting to margins of preliminaries and final leaves. A handsome copy. \$325.

\* Only edition. Gilbert was a distinguished Whig judge and legal writer who served as chief baron of the court of exchequer from 1725 until the end of his life. He wrote two treatises on that court, which were published posthumously. The *Treatise* is one of them. The other is *An Historical View of the Court of Exchequer* (1738). Both works have a systematic arrangement that anticipates the method of Blackstone's *Commentaries*.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* T95586.

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### The Nature of Treason and Other Crimes

#### 21. Gonson, Sir John [d. 1765].

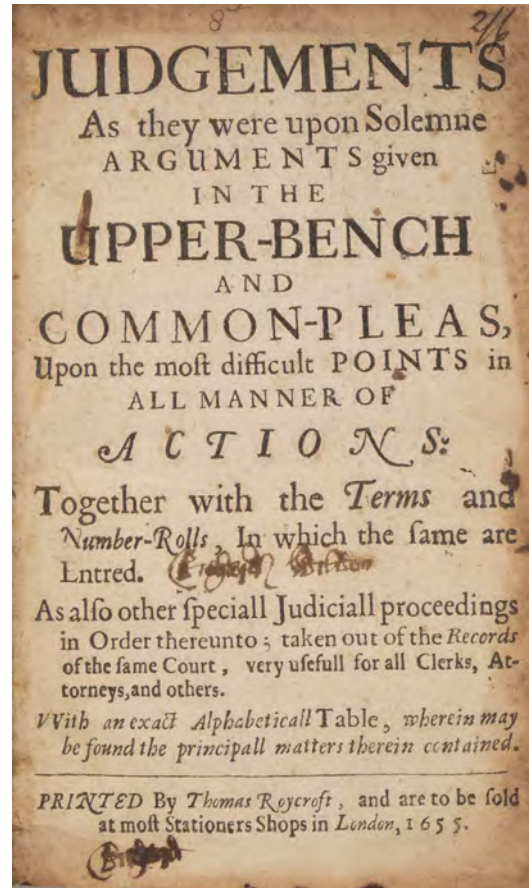
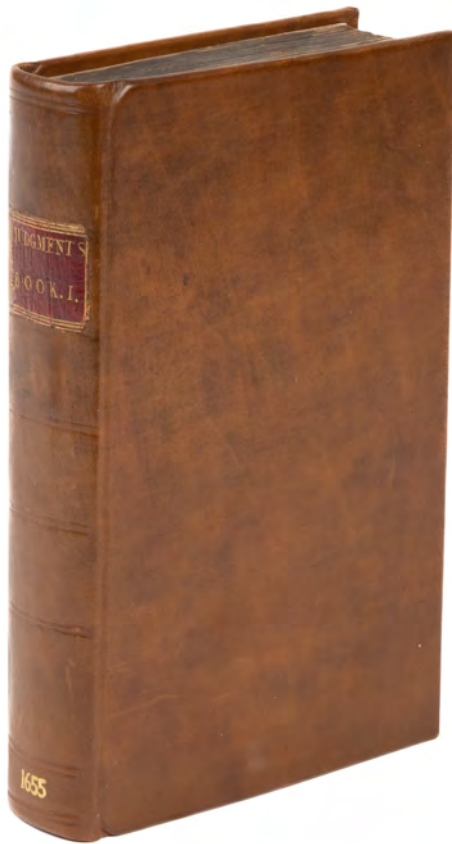
*A Charge to the Grand Jury of the City and Liberty of Westminster, &c. At the General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, Held the Third Day of July, 1729, In Westminster-Hall. Printed at the Desire of the Justices of the Peace, For the Said City and Liberty, And of the Grand Jury.* London: Printed by Charles Ackers, 1729. [iv], 32 pp. Octavo (7" x 4-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound in recent quarter calf over marbled boards, lettering piece to spine, endleaves added. Light rubbing to boards and extremities, moderate toning to interior, light browning to title page, faint dampstaining to endleaves. \$450.

\* Only edition, one of two issues, both in 1729. Often issued by the chairmen of the Quarter Sessions, grand jury charges of this period were a useful vehicle for the judge's social, moral and political views. Gonson, a judge and enthusiastic moral reformer commemorated in Hogarth's *A Harlot's Progress* (1731) and Pope's *An Essay on Man* (1733), frequently took advantage of this platform. This charge was given to a recently empaneled jury. It stresses the importance of juries and discusses the crimes in cases this jury will hear, among them treason and burglary. Both issues of this charge are rare. OCLC locates 2 copies of our issue in North American law libraries (Harvard, University of Pennsylvania).

*English Short-Title Catalogue* T59619.

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### Jefferson Owned a Copy of this Digest

22. [Great Britain].  
[Court of Common Pleas].  
[King's Bench].

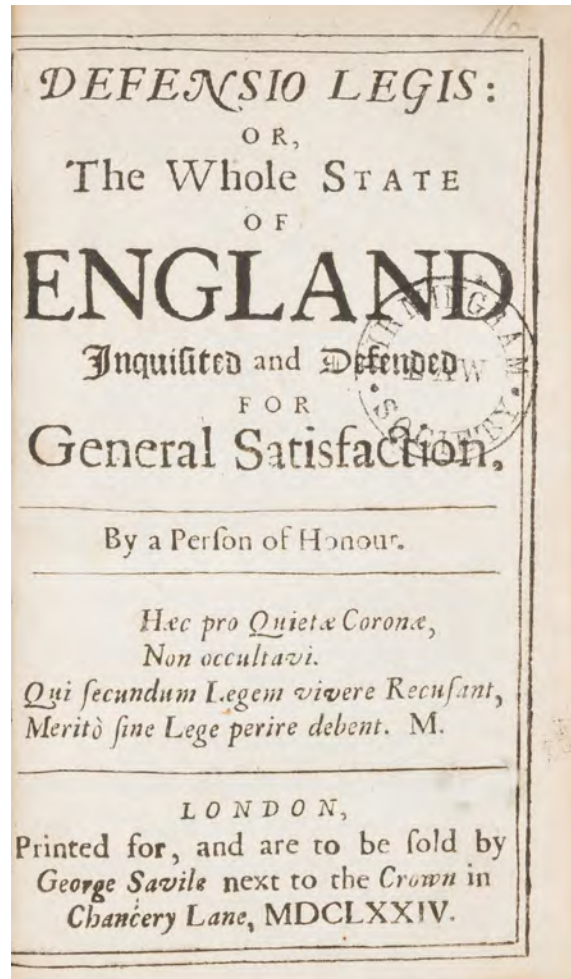
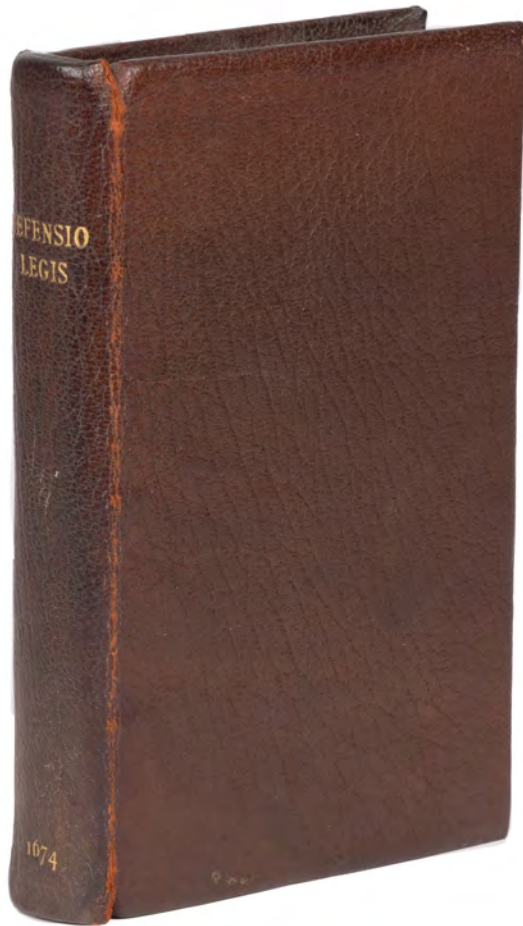
*Judgements as They Were Upon Solemne Arguments Given in the Upper-Bench and Common-pleas, Upon the Most Difficult Points in All Manner of Actions: Together with the Terms and Number-Rolls, In Which the Same are Entred. As also Other Speciall Judicial Proceedings in Order Thereunto; Taken Out of the Records of the Same Court, Very Usefull for All Clerks, Attorneys, And Others. With an Exact Alphabeticall Table, Wherein May be Found the Principall Matters Therein Contained.* London: Printed by Thomas Roycroft, 1655. [iv], 235, 240-336, 339-344, [22] pp. Pagination irregular, text complete. Octavo (6-1/4" x 4").

Recent calf, retained early lettering piece, blind fillets and gilt publication date to spine, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block, endpapers renewed. Light browning to interior, light foxing to a few leaves, offsetting to margins of preliminaries and final few leaves, a few minor marks to title page, which is lightly soiled. \$750.

\* Only edition. Cited as "The First Book of Judgements," this is a collection of cases digested alphabetically by topic. Unusual for this type of book, it provides the term of the court and the number of the roll on which the judgement is listed, a feature that facilitated the citing of precedents. Jefferson owned a copy of this book. OCLC locates 11 copies in North American law libraries.

Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 1922. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R43325.

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"Idle Belches Against the Common Law"

**23. [Great Britain].**

**A Person of Honour.**

*Defensio Legis, Or, The Whole State of England Inquisitioned and Defended for General Satisfaction.* By a Person of Honour. London: Printed for and are to be sold by George Savile, 1674. [iv], 313, [4] pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 3-3/4").

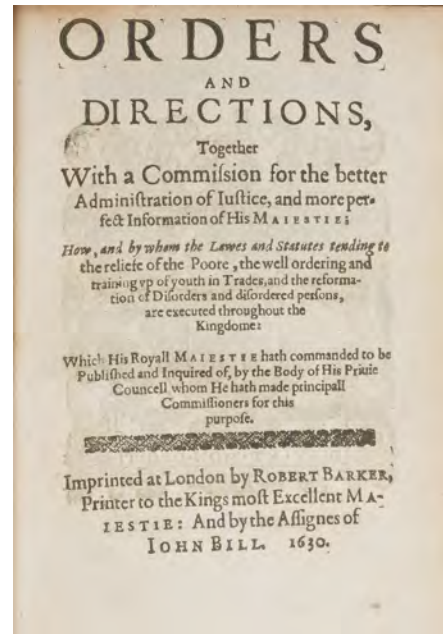
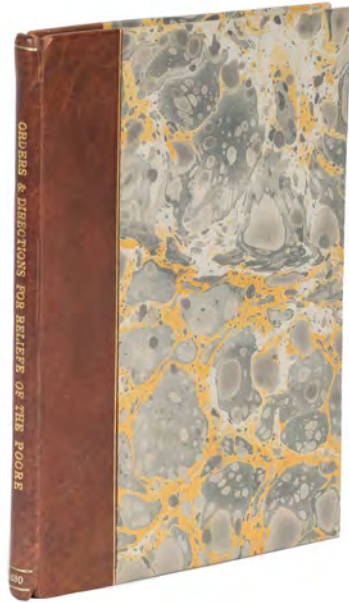
Later morocco, gilt title and date to spine, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing to joints, which are just starting at head, front hinge cracked, library bookplate and small circular sticker to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, light foxing and soiling in a few places, small tear to bottom edge of leaf A8 affecting text without loss to legibility, circular ink library stamp to title page and a few other leaves not affecting legibility. \$1,500.

\* Only edition, one of two 1674 imprints. A spirited and often comic defense of the laws of England written in the early years of the Restoration. The work covers a wide range of topics, including legal procedure, equity, women and family law, legislation to make English the official language of court proceedings, Catholicism and the relationship between church and state. OCLC locates 4 copies of our imprint in North American law libraries (Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, Saint Louis University, Library of Congress).

*English Short-Title Catalogue* R30292.

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### A Landmark in Poor Law Reform

#### 24. [Great Britain].

##### [Poor Laws].

*Orders and Directions, Together With a Commission for the Better Administration of Justice, And More Perfect Information of His Maiestie; How, And by Whom the Lawes and Statutes Tending to the Reliefe of the Poore, The Well Ordering and Training Up of Youth in Trades, And the Reformation of Disorders and Disordered Persons, Ande Executed Throughout the Kingdome: Which His Royall Maiestie Hath Commanded to be Published and Inquired of, By the Body of His Privie Councill, Whom He Hath Made Principall Commissioners for This Purpose.* London: Imprinted...by Robert Barker and by the assignes of Iohn Bill, 1630. [iv], 33, [21], 17 pp. With initial blank signed "A" not noted in the *ESTC* record. Quarto (6-3/4" x 4-3/4").

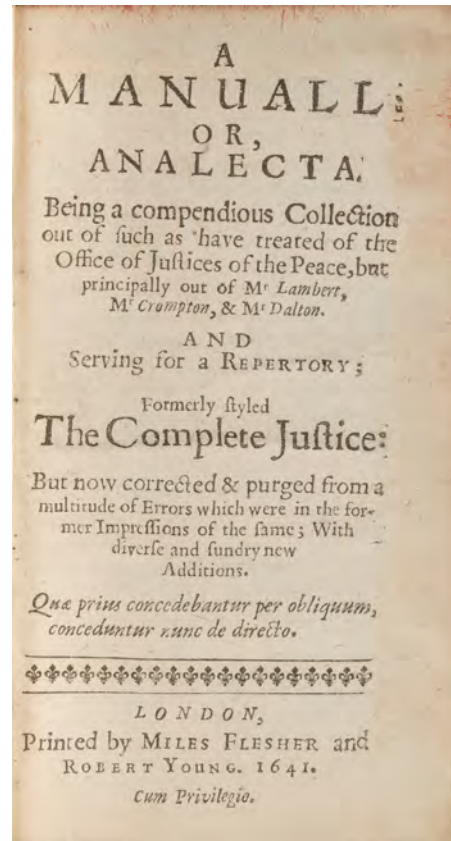
Recent quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt rules to calf edges, gilt fillets, title and date to spine, edges rouged. Moderate toning to interior, negligible light foxing and soiling to margins of a few pages, early marginal ink mark (crude manicule?) to p. [18], internally clean. A nice copy. \$1,250.

\* One of three 1630 issues, the only one to include a list of the privy counselors and their responsibilities. Commonly referred to as the Book of Orders, this collection of royal edicts represents a landmark in poor law reform. As established under the reign of Elizabeth I, the poor laws empowered justices of the peace and churchwardens to register the poor and raise funds for their relief by setting a compulsory sum to be extracted from each parish. They also distinguished between the "worthy" poor, who would be provided monetary relief, and the "idle" poor, who would be treated as public nuisances.

The versatility of the poor laws as a tool for social engineering is demonstrated by the wide range of the Book's stated goals: "the charitable reliefe of aged and impotent poore people," "the setting to work of idle persons," "the punishment of sundry Rogues and Vagabonds" and "the suppressing of that odious and loathesome sinne of Drunkenesse" (10-11). It established a royal commission of privy counselors to consolidate, supervise and approve the work of local JPs and sheriffs. This led to greater enforcement of the poor laws, both on behalf of the worthy poor and against the idle poor, but it also fostered resentment against Charles I and was viewed as one of the abuses of his Personal Rule.

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* S4250.

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**"Corrected & Purged from a Multitude of Errors"**

**25. Justices of the Peace, Great Britain.**

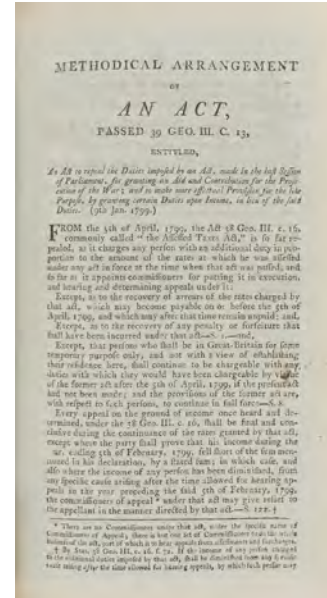
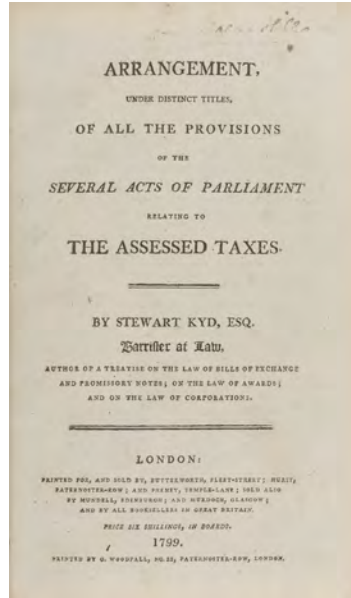
*A Manuall: Or, Analecta. Being a Compendious Collection Out of Such as Have Treated of the Office of Justices of the Peace, But Principally Out of Mr Lambert, Mr Crompton, & Mr Dalton. And Serving for a Repertory; Formerly Styled the Complete Justice: But Not Corrected & Purged from a Multitude of Errors Which Were in the Former Impressions of the Same; With Divers and Sundry New Additions.* London: Printed by Miles Flesher and Robert Young, 1641. [xiv], 367, [1] pp. 12mo. (5-1/2" x 3").

Contemporary sheep, blind rules to boards, rebacked in period-style calf with raised bands and blind fillets, brass catches to fore-edges, edges rouged. Light rubbing and a few small scuffs and stains to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and worn, hinges cracked, pastedowns loose, early note and later (illegible) ownership signature to recto of front pastedown. Light toning to interior, very small faint reoccurring dampstain to top-edge, light soiling in a few places. \$450.

\* Second edition. This was originally published in 1638 as *The Complete Justice: A Compendium of the Particulars Incident to Justices of the Peace*. It was well-received and went through several editions. It was popular in part due to its brief summaries and alphabetical arrangement. It also incorporated data from the treatises of Lambarde, Crompton, Dalton and other authorities. It was thus a handy guide that offered good value to the owner. It is fascinating to us because its subject headings, such as those relating to family law and witchcraft, open an interesting window on English society in the early modern era. OCLC locates 3 copies of this edition in North American law libraries (Harvard, University of Minnesota, San Francisco).

*English Short-Title Catalogue* R32507. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:226 (23).

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### Rare English Treatise on Taxation

#### 26. Kyd, Stewart [d. 1811].

*An Arrangement, Under Distinct Titles, Of All the Provisions of the Several Acts of Parliament Relating to the Assessed Taxes.* London: Printed for, and sold by, Butterworth, Hurst, and Phency [et al.], 1799. [ii], 4, 9, [1], 288 pp.

[Bound with]

[Kyd, Stewart].

*Methodical Arrangement of an Act, Passed 39 Geo. III. C. 13, Entitled, An Act to Repeal the Duties Imposed by an Act, Made in the Last Session of Parliament, For Granting an Aid and Contribution for the Prosecution of the War, And to Make More Effectual Provision for the Like Purpose, By Granting Certain Duties Upon Income, In Lieu of the Said Duties. (9th Jan. 1799.)* [Caption Title]. [London?: s.n., 1799 or 1800]. [3]-114 pp. Without title page (possibly not issued); lacking final blank leaf.

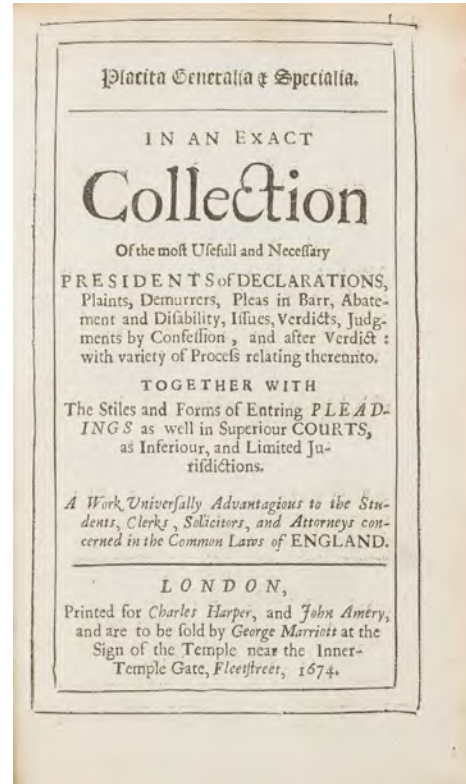
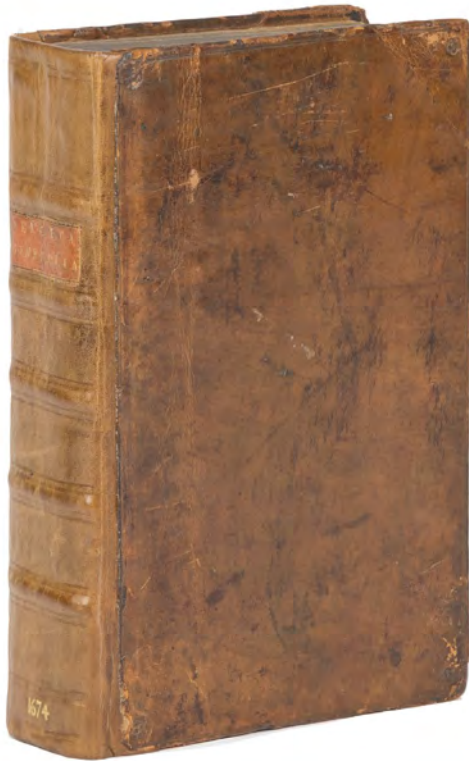
Octavo (8-1/4" x 4-3/4"). Contemporary three-quarter speckled calf over marbled boards, gilt fillets and lettering piece to spine, edges speckled blue, several blank leaves added after text block by binder. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, a few tiny nicks to spine, corners bumped and somewhat worn, hinges cracked, early ownership signatures to front endleaf ("Tho. Pyste") and head of title page (illegible). Moderate toning to interior, very light foxing and soiling to a few leaves, manuscript additions (dated 1802) to tables in first work, tear to gutter of its last leaf with minor loss to text but not legibility. A nice copy of two rare items. \$1,500.

\* First edition. Kyd, a Scottish lawyer and radical politician, was a well-respected writer of treatises on commercial law. *An Arrangement* is a fascinating overview of the various forms of personal taxation in Great Britain at the beginning of the nineteenth century. A second, enlarged edition appeared in 1801. Appended to the work is an explication of one of several income tax acts passed in 1799. The *ESTC* considers this work, possibly an expansion of Kyd's *The Substance of the Income Act* (1799), bibliographically distinct, but it appears in a similar or identical form alongside other copies of the first edition of *An Arrangement* that we have seen and may have been sold or issued with that title. Other copies also lack a title page.

Both editions of *An Arrangement* are rare. OCLC locates 3 copies worldwide of the first edition (British Library, Library of Congress, University of Cincinnati Law School). (The copy it locates at the San Francisco Law Library appears to be an error.)

*English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* T469910, T469913.

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**A Thorough Guide to Pleading, Jefferson Owned a Copy**

**27. [Pleading].  
[Great Britain].**

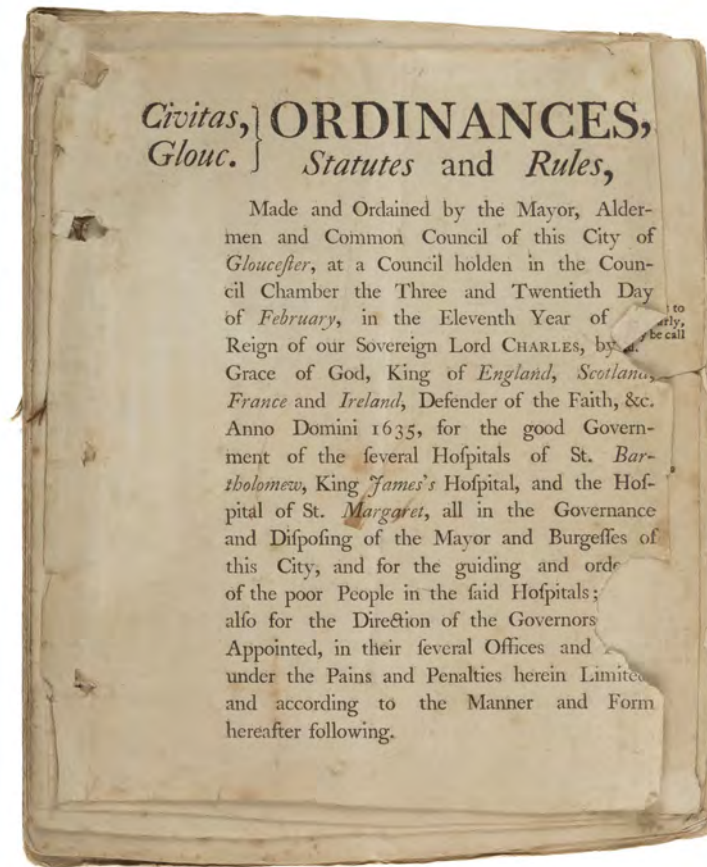
*Placita Generalia et Specialia. In an Exact Collection of the Most Usefull and Necessary Presidents of Declarations, Plaints, Demurrers, Pleas in Barr, Abatement and Disability, Issues, Verdicts, Judgments by Confession, And After Verdict: With Variety of Process Relating Thereunto. Together with the Stiles and Forms of Entering Pleadings As Well As in Superiour Courts, As Inferior, And Limited Jurisdictions. A Work Universally Advantageous to the Students, Clerks, Solicitors, And Attorneys Concerned in the Common Laws of England.* London: Printed for Charles Harper, and John Amery, 1674. [vi], 685, [35] pp. Numerous pagination errors, collates complete. First leaf blank, publisher advertisements to final page. Octavo (6-3/4" x 4-1/4").

Contemporary calf, blind rules and corner ornaments to boards, rebaked and discreetly recorned, raised bands, blind fillets, gilt date and retained lettering piece to spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and a few scuffs and scratches to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped, hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block, hinges mended, faint offsetting to endpapers. Light toning to interior, light foxing in a few places, light soiling and spark burns to a few leaves, clean tear to fore-edge of leaf I1 (pp. 129-130) affecting text on p. 129 without loss to legibility, occasional faint dampstaining to pp. 573-524 [i.e. 624]. \$850.

\* Only edition. Preface in English, main text and index in Latin. A thorough, alphabetically digested guide to pleading designed for any "Industrious Practicer in the Common Law" (Preface). The broad utility of this title is demonstrated by its place in Jefferson's library. OCLC locates 6 copies in North American law libraries (Columbia, Library of Congress, Los Angeles County, Northwestern, 2 at Harvard).

Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 1904. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R33466.

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### An Unrecorded Account of Gloucester's Poor Laws

#### 28. [Poor Laws].

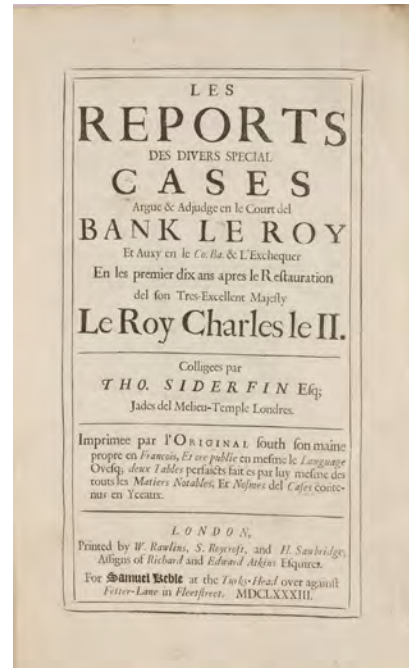
#### [Gloucester].

*Civitas, Glouc. Ordinances, Statutes and Rules, Made and Ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of this City of Gloucester, At a Council Holden in the Council Chamber the Three and Twentieth Day of February, In the Eleventh Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord Charles, By the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Anno Domini 1635, For the Good Government of the Severall Hospitals of St. Bartholomew, King James's Hospital, And the Hospital of St. Margaret, All in the Governace and Disposing of the Mayor and Burgeses of this City; And for the Guiding and Orde[r?] of the Poor People in the Said Hospitals; [?] Also for the Direction of the Governours [?] Appointed, In Their Severall Offices and [?] Under the Pains and Penalties Herein Limited[?] and According to the Manner and Form Hereafter Following.* [Gloucester?: s.n., 1635?]. 42 pp. Quarto (8-1/4" x 6-1/2").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in self wrappers, edges untrimmed, thread mostly perished, first and last four leaves detached. Light toning, slight vertical fold line, occasional light foxing and soiling, tears to fore-edge of title page with loss to text. Rare. \$450.

\* An unrecorded copy of the regulations governing three ancient Gloucester hospitals and the treatment of the poor in those facilities. The regulations establish eight governors of the hospitals, chosen yearly, and enumerate their duties and powers. Notably, they also establish eighty paid poor people as almoners whose conduct is strictly circumscribed; almoners must be present at prayers and will be expelled should they fail to follow an established code of conduct or become able to support themselves. No copies located on OCLC or Library Hub. Not in the *English Short-Title Catalogue*.

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**First Edition of "A Reporter of Much Authority"  
With Cases from the Commonwealth and Restoration Periods**

**29. Siderfin, Thomas [1657-1670].**

*Les Reports des Divers Special Cases Argue & Adjudge en le Court del Bank le Roy, Et Auxy en le Co. Ba. & L'Exchequer en les Premier Dix ans Apres le Restauration Del son Tres-Excellent Majesty Le Roy Charles le II. Colligees par Tho. Siderfin Esq; Jades del Melieu-Temple Londres. Imprimee par L'Original South son Maine Propre en Francois, Et Ore Publie en Mesme le Language Ovesq; Deux Tables Perfaicts Fait es par Luy Mesme des Touts les Matiers Notables, Et Nosmes del Cases Contenus en Yceaux.* London: Printed by W. Rawlins, S. Roycroft, and H. Sawbridge, 1683. [iv], 467, [83] pp. Table.

[And]

**Siderfin, Thomas.**

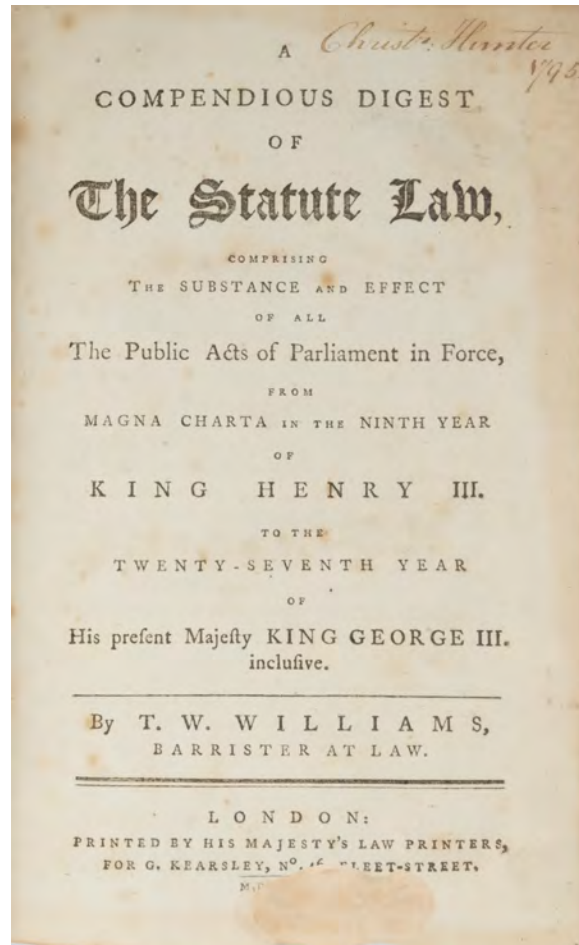
*Le Second Part {Mes le Primer en Temps} De les Reports du Thomas Siderfin Jades del Middle Temple Londres, Esq; Esteant Plusieurs Cases come ils Estoyent Argue & Adjudgees en le Court del Upper Bancke, En les ans 1657, 1658, & 1659. Ovesque deux tables Perfaicts des Matiers Notables & Nosmes des Cases Comprizes en Yceaux Imprimee par l'Original South son Main Propre.* London: Printed by W. Rawlins, S. Roycroft, And H. Sawbridge, 1684. [viii], 179, [11] pp. Title words "Mes le Primer en Temps" are printed in the upper right corner of title page.

Complete set. Folio (12" x 7-3/4"). Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands, lettering pieces and blind fillets to spines, gilt tooling to board edges, early hand-lettered titles to fore-edges of text block. Light rubbing and some minor nicks, scuffs and stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, minor chipping to head of Volume I and foot of Volume II, corners bumped and somewhat worn, partial cracks to text block between free endpapers and following leaves. Light toning to interiors, light foxing to a few leaves, light soiling to title page of Volume II, offsetting to margins of endleaves, early annotations to front free endpaper of Volume I and rear free endpaper of Volume II. \$650.

\* First editions. Reporting cases from 1657 to 1670, this reporter is unusual because it includes cases from both the Commonwealth and the Restoration eras. According to Wallace, this is a "reporter of much authority."

Wallace, *The Reporters* 295-297. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R5475, R216363.

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### The Last Digest of English Statute Law

#### 30. Williams, Thomas Walter [1763-1833].

*A Compendious Digest of the Statute Law, Comprising the Substance and Effect of All the Public Acts of Parliament in Force, From Magna Charta in the Ninth Year of King Henry III. To the Twenty-Seventh Year of His Present Majesty King George III. Inclusive.* London: Printed by His Majesty's Law Printers, 1787. viii, 669, [25] pp. Final leaf is a publisher advertisement. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5"). \$750.

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\* First edition. Williams was the last writer to produce a digest of Great Britain's statute law. (The contents are arranged alphabetically by topic.) A barrister of the Inner Temple, he didn't have success as a pleader. He was known instead for his writings. In addition to digests and a dictionary, he wrote manuals for justices of the peace, compiled abridgments and edited an edition of William Sheppard's *Precedent of Precedents*. A well-received work, the *Compendious Digest* had 3 later editions, the last in 1812. The first edition is scarce. OCLC locates 5 copies in North American law libraries (Boston College, Harvard, Library of Congress, UCLA, University of Virginia).

*English Short-Title Catalogue* T94598.

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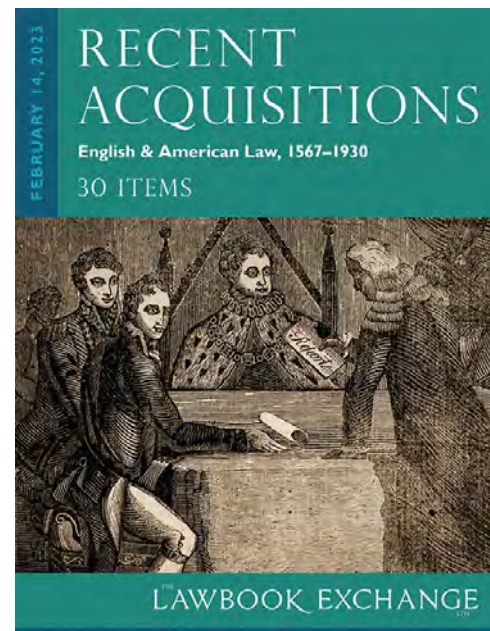
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