

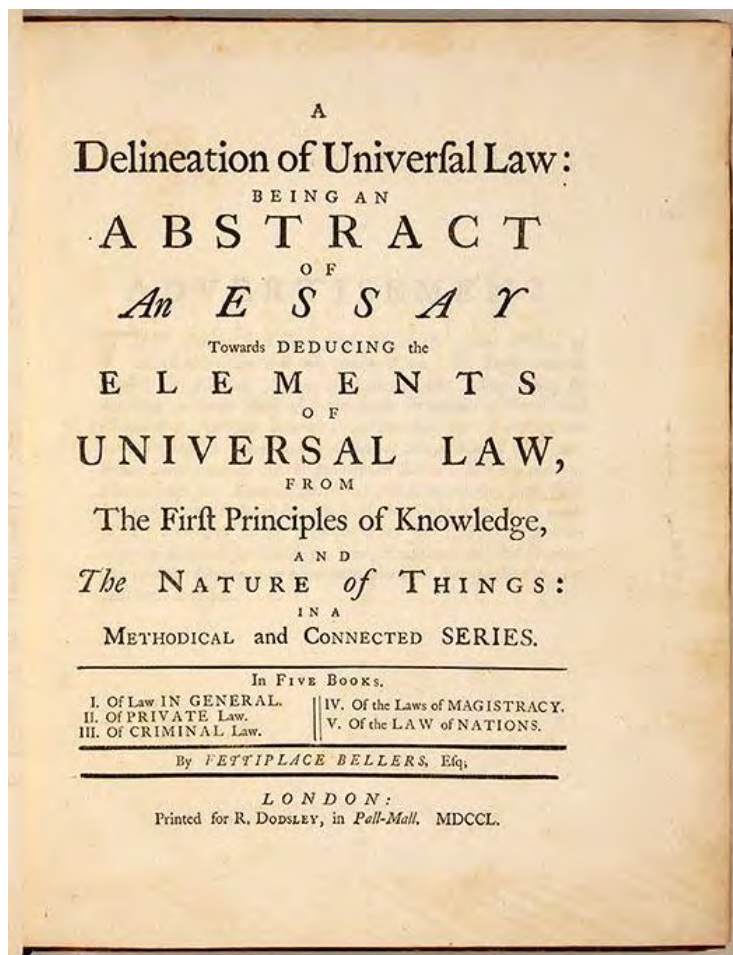
30 First Editions

American, Continental & English Law

January 28, 2020



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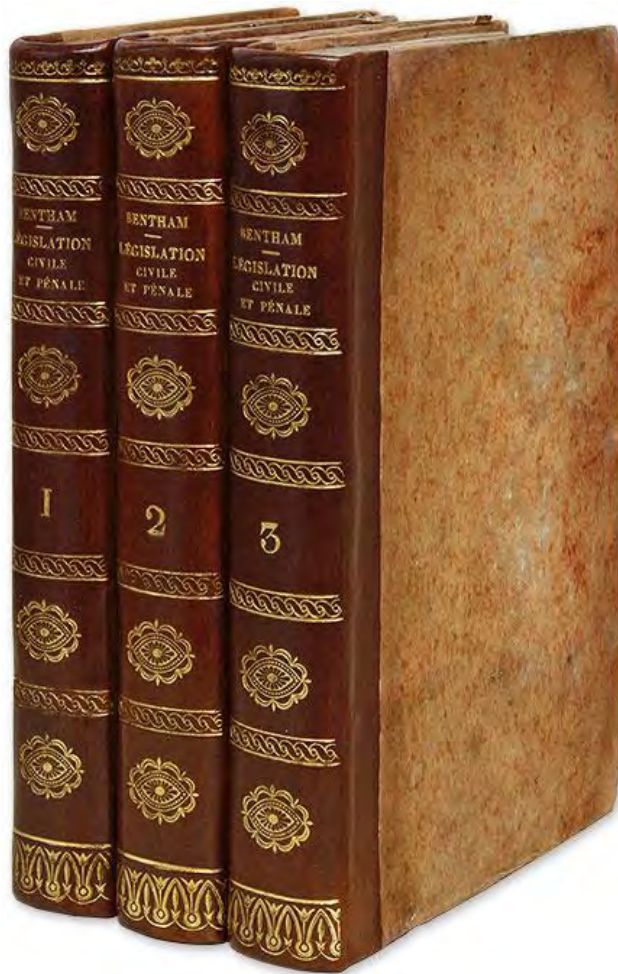
1. Bellers, Fettiplace [1687-c.1750].

A Delineation of Universal Law: Being an Abstract of an Essay Towards Deducing the Elements of Universal Law, from the First Principles of Knowledge, and the Nature of Things: in a Methodical and Connected Series. In Five books. I. Of Law in General. II. Of Private Law. III. Of Criminal Law. IV. Of the Laws of Magistracy. V. Of the Law of Nations. London: Printed for R. Dodsley, 1750. xiv, [2], 74, [2] pp. With a half-title and a final publisher advertisement leaf. Quarto (10" x 8").

Contemporary calf, gilt-edged raised bands to spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Light gatoring and scuffing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, front board just beginning to separate, but secure, rear joint cracked, early armorial bookplate to front pastedown. Moderate toning, light foxing in places. \$1,850.

* First edition, a revised version of a work issued in 1740 under the title *An Abstract of an Essay Towards Deducing the Elements of Universal Law*. Bellers was a playwright and philosophical writer. An interesting jurisprudential study, *A Delineation of Universal Law* divides its subject into five parts: law in general, private law, criminal law, the laws of magistracy and the law of nations. The publisher's Advertisement (preface) says this was a posthumously edited abstract of a larger work designed "to connect the separate Systems of Lawyers and Philosophers, by deducing an entire Body of Laws from Principles of Truth and Knowledge." A second edition was published in 1754. Both editions of this work are scarce, its 1740 predecessor is rare. OCLC locates 12 copies of the 1750 edition in North America, 4 in law libraries (Harvard, Southern Methodist University, University of Virginia, York University). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N6230.

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First Edition of Bentham's *Theory of Legislation*

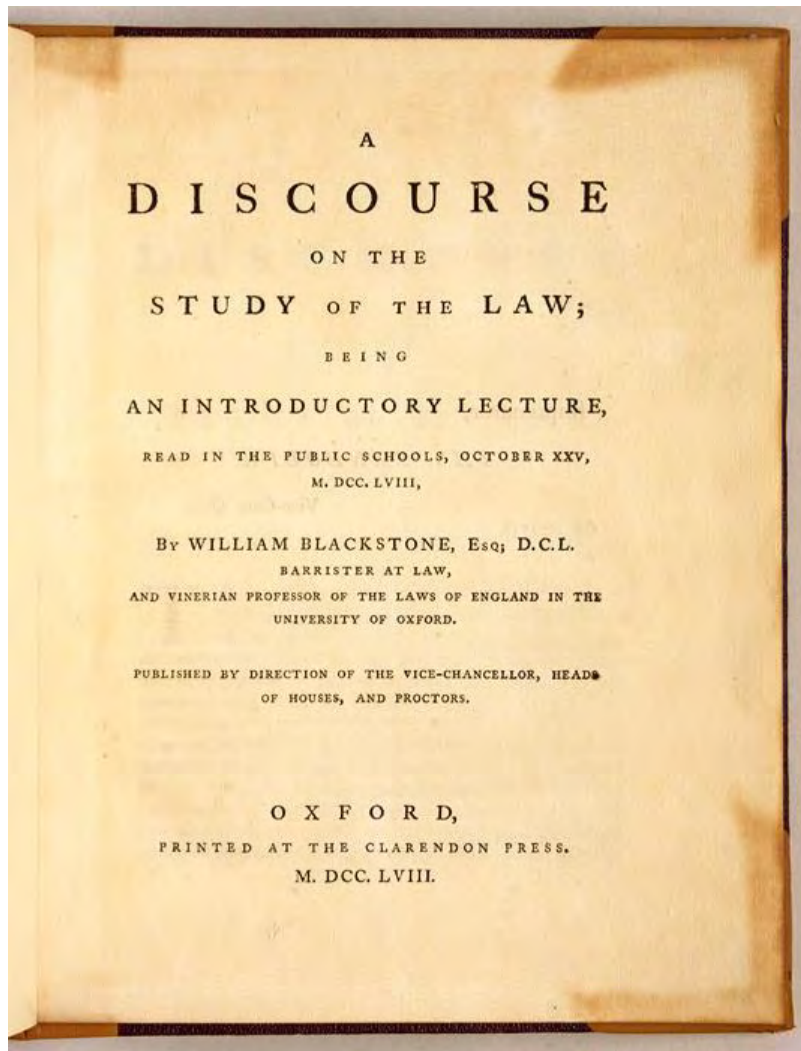
2. Bentham, Jeremy [1748-1832].

Dumont, Pierre Étienne Louis [1759-1829], Editor and Translator.

Traité de Législation Civile et Pénale, Précédés de Principes Généraux de Législation, Et d'une Vue d'un Corps Complet de Droit: Terminés par un Essai sur l'Influence des Terms et des Lieux Relativement aux Lois. Paris: Chez Bossange, Masson et Besson, 1802. 3 volumes. xlii, 370; xx, 434; viii, 452 pp. Each volume has half-title. Complete set. Octavo (7-3/4" x 5").

Contemporary quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title and ornaments to spine. Negligible light rubbing to boards and extremities, corners bumped and lightly worn, small chip to rear board of Volume II near upper corner, early owner bookplate to front free endpaper of Volume I, small institution inkstamps to half-titles of Volumes I and III and title page of Volume II. Moderate toning, light foxing in a few places in each volume. A handsome set. \$1,500.

* First edition. Not published in English until the Boston 1840 American edition, Bentham's seminal work on penal reform and legislation established his reputation. The first of Bentham's works edited by Dumont, it consists partly of papers by Bentham, some of which were originally written in French and partly of a digest by Dumont of Bentham's ideas, including a memoir in French on the Panopticon. Dumont, a Swiss writer and journalist, had met Bentham at the house of Lord Shelburne in 1788. There followed an enduring relationship in which Dumont translated and edited many of Bentham's works, acting at the same time as Bentham's informal literary agent. The first British edition was published in 1864. Harrison, *Bentham* xvii. Muirhead, *A Jeremy Bentham Collection* 17. [Order This Item](#)



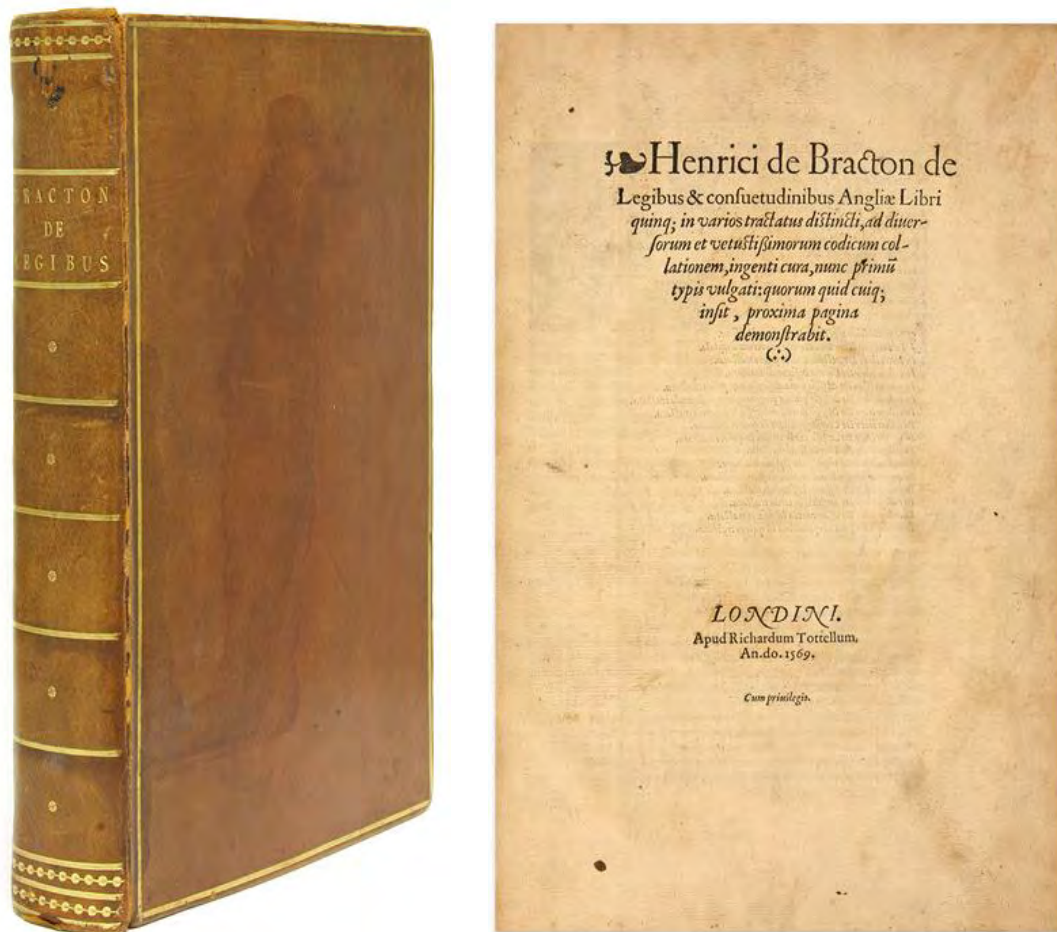
The Genesis of Blackstone's Commentaries

3. Blackstone, Sir William [1723-1780].

A Discourse on the Study of the Law; Being an Introductory Lecture, Read in the Public Schools, October XXV, M.DCC.LVIII. Published by Direction of the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Houses, And Proctors. Oxford: Printed at the Clarendon Press, 1758. 40 pp. Quarto (10" x 8").

Later three-quarter calf over pebbled cloth, "Blackstone" gilt-stamped to center of front board. Light rubbing to extremities with minor wear to spine ends and corners, small bookseller ticket to front pastedown, light toning to text, a bit of offsetting to corners of title page and verso of final leaf. \$5,000.

* First edition. This is the published version of Blackstone's inaugural lecture as Vinerian professor of English law. Presented to a large audience, it was "[h]astened into print less than a fortnight later as *A Discourse on the Study of the Law*, by late December a London correspondent claimed to hear Blackstone's lecture 'commended wherever I go.' What one reviewer terms 'this sensible, spirited, and manly exhortation to the study of the law' was reprinted in a further thousand copies next year; it also prefaced subsequent editions of the *Analysis of the Laws*, and eventually the first volume of the *Commentaries*": Prest, *William Blackstone* 151. Eller, *The William Blackstone Collection in the Yale Law Library* 233. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 542. [Order This Item](#)



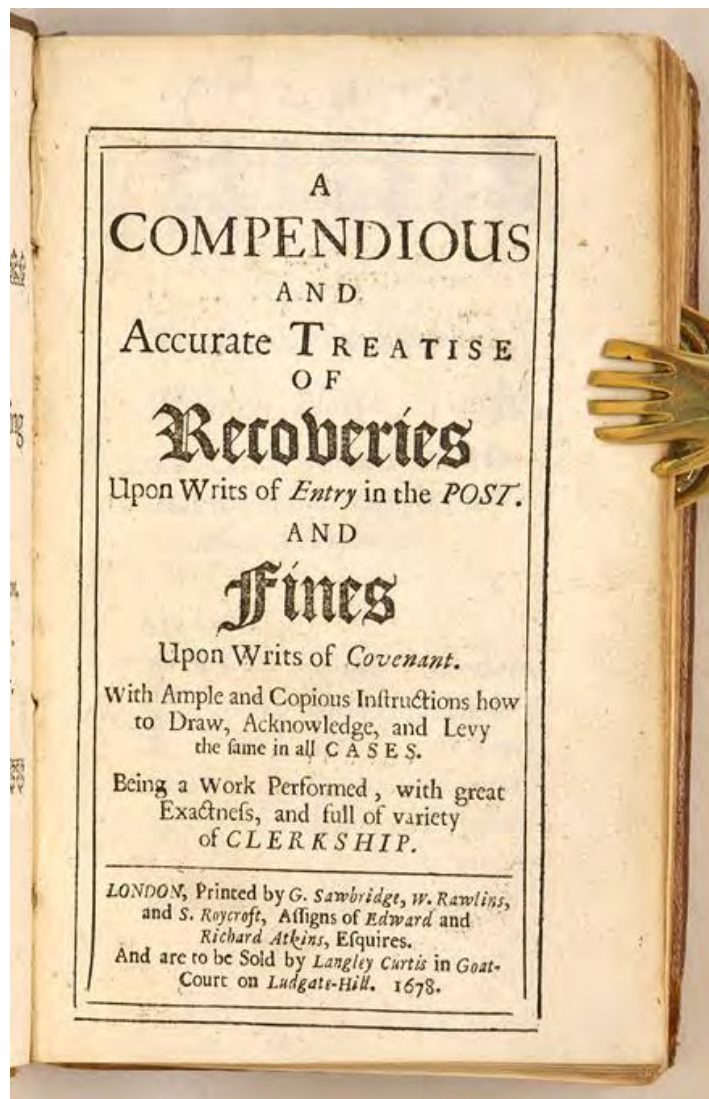
Printing and the Mind of Man 89:
The "Crown and Flower of Medieval Jurisprudence"

4. Bracton, Henry de, [d. 1268].

De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliae, Libri Quinq; In Varios Tractatus Distincti, ad Diversorum et Vetustissimorum Codicum Collationem, Ingenti Cura, Nunc Primu Typis Vulgati; Quorum Quid Cuiq; Insit, Proxima Pagina Demonstrabit. London: Apud Richardum Tottellum, 1569. [xvi], 444 [i.e. 442] ff. Folio (11-1/4" x 7-3/4").

Nineteenth-century diced calf, gilt rules to boards, gilt fillets, ornaments and title to spine, gilt rules to board edges, gilt inside rules, marbled endpapers, ribbon marker. Light rubbing to boards, faint dampstain to front board, moderate rubbing to extremities, front joint just starting at head, corners bumped and somewhat worn, armorial bookplate to front pastedown. Attractive large woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing and finger smudges to some leaves, some fading to text of Fols. 1 and 2. A handsome copy of a landmark work. \$12,500.

* First edition. Written between 1250 and 1256, *De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliae* [*The Laws and Customs of England*] is the first treatise on English law. A systematic work, it emphasizes the separation of procedural and substantive matters and also cites cases as sources of at least intellectual, if not formal, authority. The principles formulated in this work and its use of precedents determined the development of English law and established the method adopted by Littleton and Coke. In Maitland's words, it is "the crown and flower of English medieval jurisprudence" and "by far the greatest of our medieval law books.": Maitland, *Collected Papers* II:43. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T323. *Printing and the Mind of Man* 89. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S122159. [Order This Item](#)



A Notable Early English Text on Real Estate Law

5. [Brown, William].

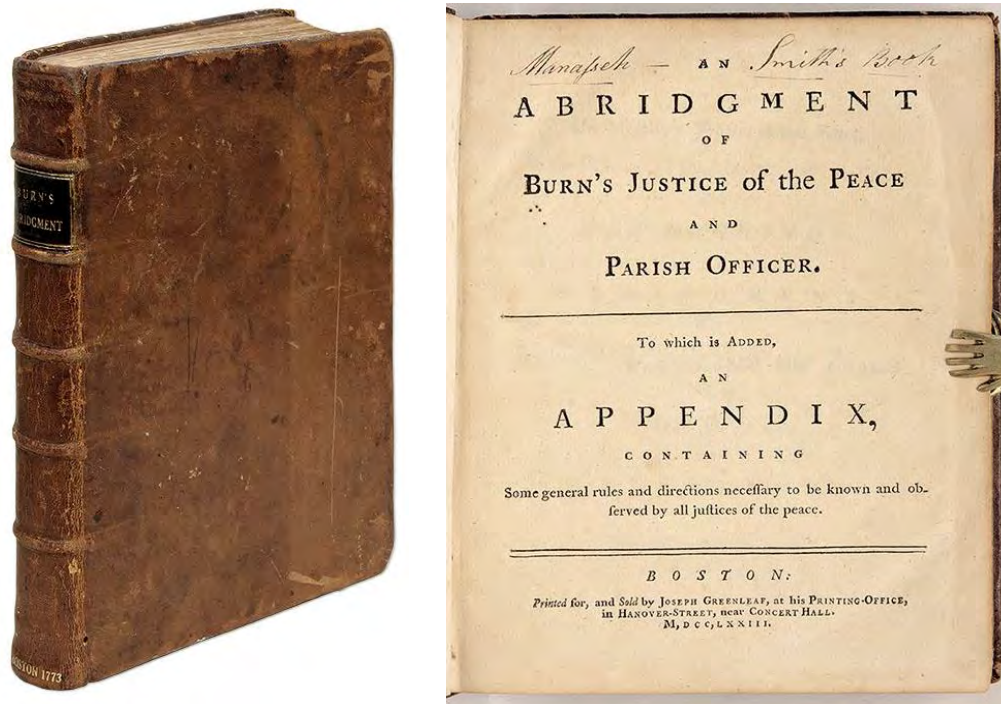
A Compendious and Accurate Treatise of Recoveries upon Writs of Entry in the Post. And Fines upon Writs of Covenant. With Ample and Copious Instructions, How to Draw, Acknowledge, And Levy the Same in All Cases. Being a Work Performed, With Great Exactness, And Full of Variety of Clerkship. London: printed by G. Sawbridge, W. Rawlins, and S. Roycroft, 1678. [xlv], 303, [1] pp. Octavo (6" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary sheep, blind frames to boards, small blind crest to center of front board, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, heavier rubbing to spine with wear to ends, rear joint partially cracked, corners worn, a few cracks to text block, light toning to text, finger smudges to a few leaves, light soiling to title page. \$650.

* First edition. The merit of this early text on real estate law was recognized immediately. It went through six editions by 1725. All are scarce. OCLC locates 9 copies of the first edition, 5 in North American law schools (Columbia, Harvard, Library of Congress, University of Minnesota, University of Michigan). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R26560.

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The Only American Abridgment Published Before the Revolution

6. Burn, Richard [1709-1785].

Greenleaf, Joseph [1720-1810], Editor.

[Manasseh Smith's copy].

An Abridgment of Burn's Justice of the Peace and Parish Officer. To Which is Added, An Appendix, Containing Some General Rules and Directions Necessary to be Known and Observed by All Justices of the Peace. Boston: Printed For, And Sold By, Joseph Greenleaf, 1773. [viii], 386, [2] pp. Includes two-page publisher advertisement. Quarto (8-1/2" x 7").

Contemporary sheep, raised bands and later lettering piece to spine, "Boston 1773" gilt-stamped to foot. Light rubbing and a few minor scuffs and stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn. Moderate toning, occasional faint dampspotting, paper flaw at foot of pp. 204-204 not affecting text, early owner signature and inscription of Manasseh Smith to front free endpaper and head of title page. A choice copy. \$1,500.

* First edition of the only abridgement of a legal treatise printed in America before the Revolution. Richard Burn was an attorney and antiquarian who edited the ninth, tenth, and eleventh editions of Blackstone's *Commentaries*. His *Justice of the Peace, and Parish Officer* (1755) was perhaps his most important work. Holdsworth considered it to be one of the best treatments of the subject, an opinion shared by Burn's contemporaries, both in England and in the colonies. The "best proof that his book...was accepted as the leading text-book on that topic is the number of editions through which it passed.... It deserved its success." Greenleaf explains the nature of his abridgement in the preface: "The London edition takes in the whole practice of England and Scotland, this renders it both bulky and dear. The circle of a justices business in those places is vastly extensive, and is founded chiefly on acts of the British parliament, which can never have any relation to this colony" [i]. Greenleaf also added an appendix of forms and general rules and directions for American courts. Manasseh Smith [1748-1823] was a 1775 Harvard graduate. He served as a chaplain during the Revolution and later practiced law in Wiscasset, Maine. He was the founder of a legal dynasty. All four of his sons and many of his grandsons became lawyers in mid-coast Maine. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* XII:332-333. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 8325. James, *A List of Legal Treatises Printed in the British Colonies and the American States Before 1801* 41.

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Rare Treatise Dealing With Legal Aspects of Farming and Agriculture

7. Chopin, Rene [1537-1606].

De Privilegiis Rusticorum: Lib. III. O Fortunatos Nimum, Sua Si Bona Norint, Agricolas, Gnauosque Senes, Extrema per Illos Iustitia Excedens Terris Vestigia Fecit. Paris: Apud Nicolaum Chesneau, 1575 [colophon: 29 November 1574]. [xvi] 248, [24] pp. Quarto (9" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum, early calligraphic title to spine, ties lacking. Negligible light shelfwear, text block partially detached from binding. Woodcut printer device to title page, woodcut decorated initials. Some toning, light dampspotting and early annotations to a few leaves. \$2,000.

* First edition. Chopin (or Chopin) was a French jurist and an *avocat* of the Parlement of Paris. Like Jean Bacquet and Jean Bodin, Chopin drew on Roman law and feudal principles to advocate a centralized state under royal rule. *De Privilegiis Rusticorum* addresses legal privileges enjoyed by rural people in Roman and civil law. A well-written and remarkably comprehensive work, it went through seven subsequent editions in Latin. Its final edition, translated into French, was published in 1634. This was a rarely explored topic, and Chopin's treatise is the only early example we have encountered. According to the *Biographie Universelle*, "it deserves notice for the singularity of its subject, for its profound research, and the decisions it contains" (8:499). All editions are scarce today and rare in North American law libraries. OCLC locates three copies of the 1575 edition (at Columbia, George Washington University and Harvard). Camus, *Profession d'Avocat* 1477. [Order This Item](#)



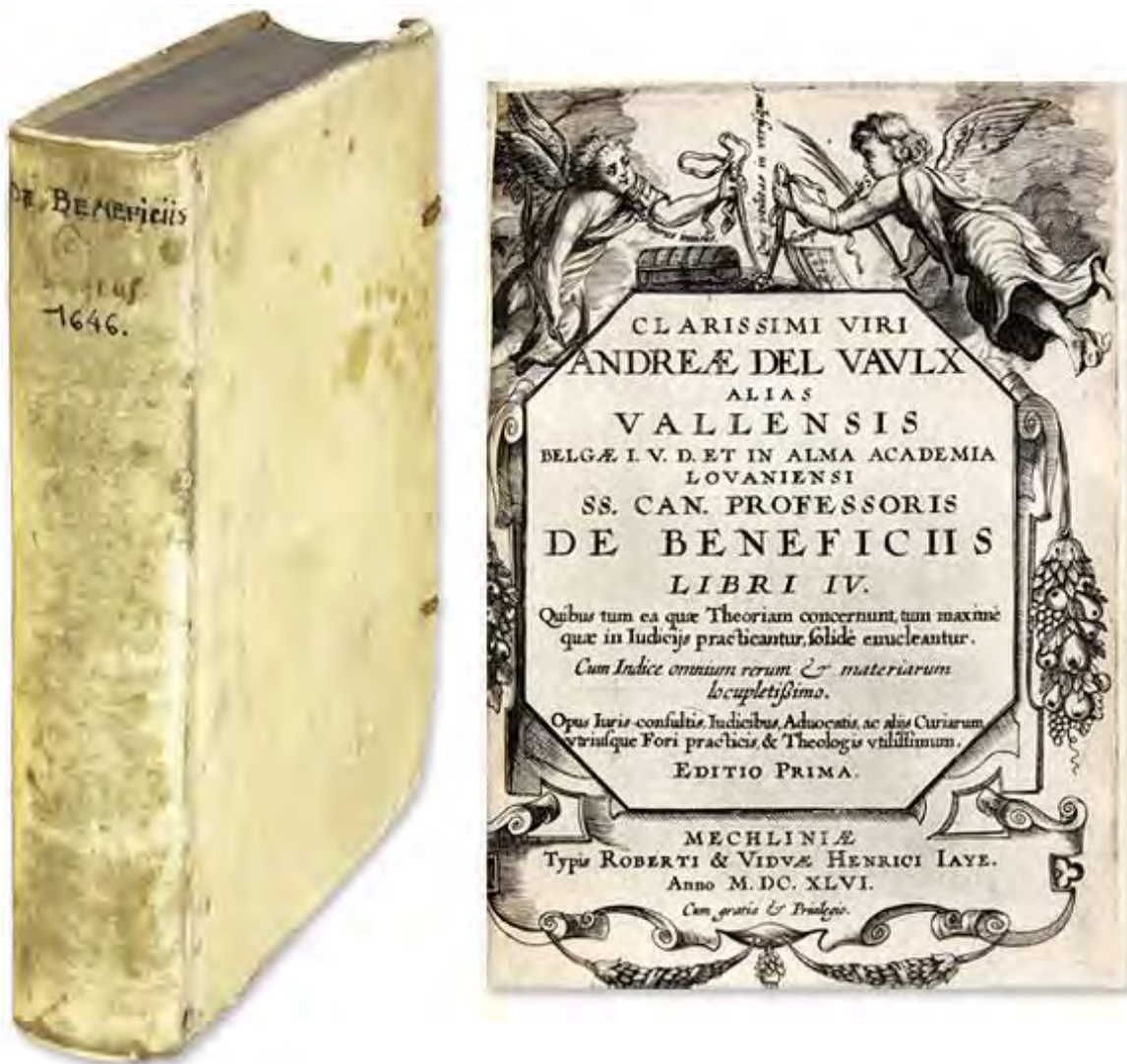
With Interesting Notes on England's Colonies

8. [Curson, Henry].

A Compendium of the Laws and Government Ecclesiastical, Civil and Military, of England, Scotland & Ireland, And Dominions, Plantations and Territories Thereunto Belonging, With the Maritime Power Thereof, and Jurisdiction of Courts Therein: Methodically Digested Under Their Proper Heads. London: Printed by the Assigns of Rich. And Edw. Atkins, Esquires, for J. Walthoe, 1699. [xvi], 642, [14] pp. Four parts, each with title page. Variant cancel title page with horizontal chain lines. Title preceded by publisher advertisement. Final leaf is a blank. 12mo. (6-1/2" x 4-3/4").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along spine, raised bands and recent lettering piece to spine, gilt fillets along board edges. A few minor scratches and a few inkspots to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, small chip to head of spine, front hinge cracked. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places. An attractive copy. \$1,500.

* First edition, one of two issues from 1699. This compendium of English law during the early years of the Restoration is perhaps most notable for its three appendices: "A Compendium of the Laws and Government of Scotland, With the Islands Thereunto Belonging", "A Compendium of the Laws and Government of Ireland, With the Islands Thereunto Belonging", "A Compendious Description of the English Plantations in Asia, Africa and America" and "Addenda, Or, A Supplement of Things Omitted in the Impression of the Book." A second edition was published in 1732. This is a scarce title. OCLC locates 7 copies of the first edition in North American law libraries (Columbia, Furman, Harvard, Library of Congress, University of Cincinnati, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania). Sabin, *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America* 15046. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R9670. [Order This Item](#)



**Handsome Copy of a Rare
Seventeenth-Century Treatise on Ecclesiastical Benefices**

9. Delvaux (Del Vaulx), Andre [1569-1636].

De Beneficiis Libri IV. Quibus Tum ea Quæ Theoriam Concernunt, Tum Maxime Quæ in Iudicijs Practicantur, Solide Enucleantur. Cum Indice Omnium Rerum & Materialium Locupletissimo. Opera Iuris-Consultis, Iudicibus, Advocatis, Ac Alijs Curiarum Utriusque Fori Practicis, & Theologis Utilissimum. Mechelen: Typis Roberti et Viduae Henrici Iaye, 1646. [xxxiv], 612, [84] pp. Copperplate pictorial title page, full-page coat-of-arms and author portrait. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-3/4").

Contemporary vellum with lapped edges, hand-lettered spine (with later retouching), edges rouged, recent thong ties. Some darkening to spine, light spotting to boards, some wear to board edges and corners, rear pastedown just starting to detach along edges. Light toning to text, internally clean. A handsome copy. \$1,500.

* First edition. Andre del Vaulx, also known as Vallensis, taught canon Law at the University of Louvain. *De Beneficiis* is a treatise on ecclesiastical benefices. A second edition was published in 1758. Both editions are rare. Concerning the first edition, OCLC locates 4 copies, 1 in North America (at UC-Berkeley Law School). Not in Ferreira-Ibarra.

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Scarce Sixteenth-Century Treatise on Investiture

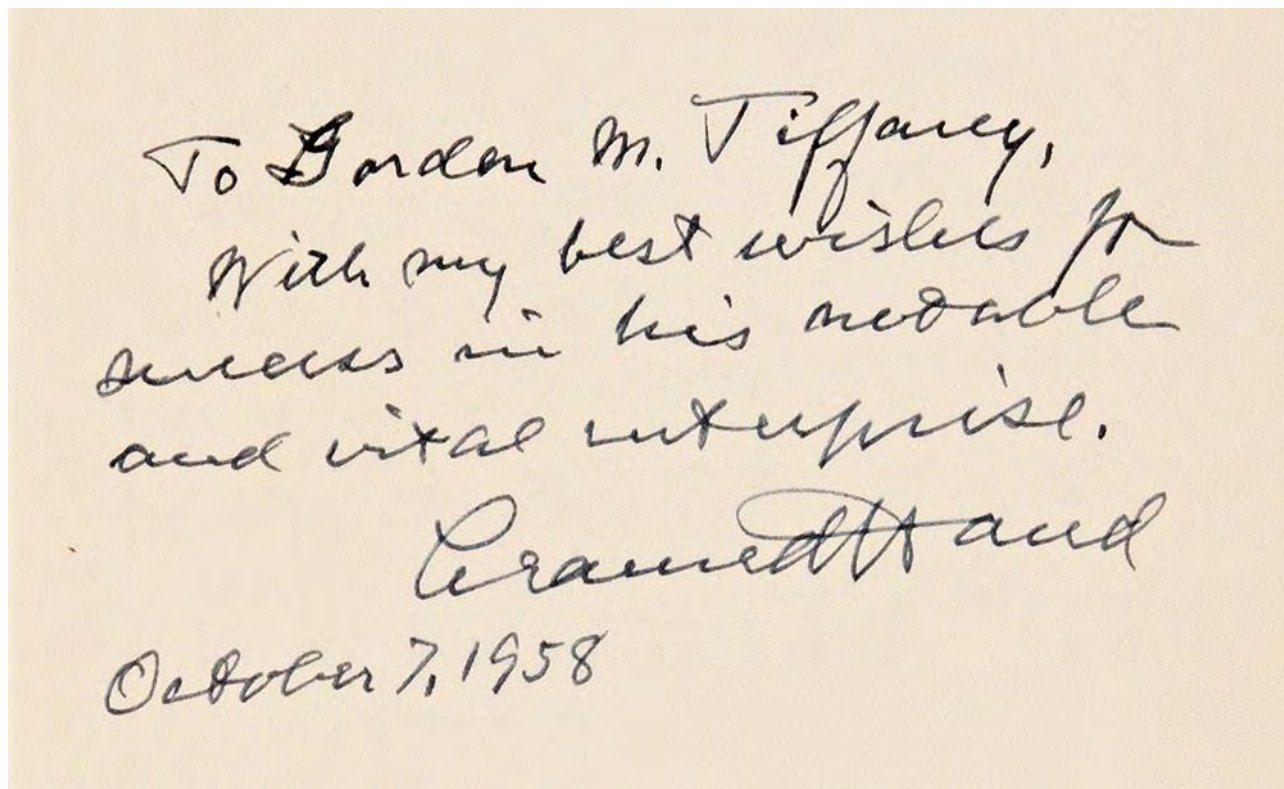
10. Gregorio, Pietro di [c. 1480-1533].

Mastrillo, Garzia (d.1620), Index.

De Concessione Feudi Tractatus: Cum Additionibus, Summariis, Argumentis, Ac Indice Don Garsiae Mastrilli Iureconsulti Eiusdem Authoris Pronepotis. Palermo: Apud Io. Antonium de Franciscis, 1598. [viii], 288 [i.e. 294], 30 pp. Main text in parallel columns. Folio (11" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary flexible vellum, red and green lettering pieces to spine. Corners and spine ends bumped, a few minor inkspots, some rubbing to edges of lettering pieces. Title page, with woodcut arms, printed in red and black, woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, a few leaves somewhat darker, faint dampstaining to margins, internally clean. A handsome copy. \$1,250.

* First edition. This is a study of the laws concerning the transfer of land from an overlord to a vassal (investiture) in Sicily, at that time governed under the Crown of Aragon, which included most of southern Italy. Gregorio, a lawyer from Messina, is not to be confused with the French jurist Pierre Gregoire [1540-1617]. A second edition was published in 1600, a reprint of the first edition in 2002. All three are scarce. In North America OCLC locates 1 copy of the first edition (at the Library of Congress), 1 copy of the second edition (at Harvard Law School) and two copies of the 2002 reprint (at Harvard Law School and UC-Berkeley). Not in the *British Museum Catalogue*. [Order This Item](#)



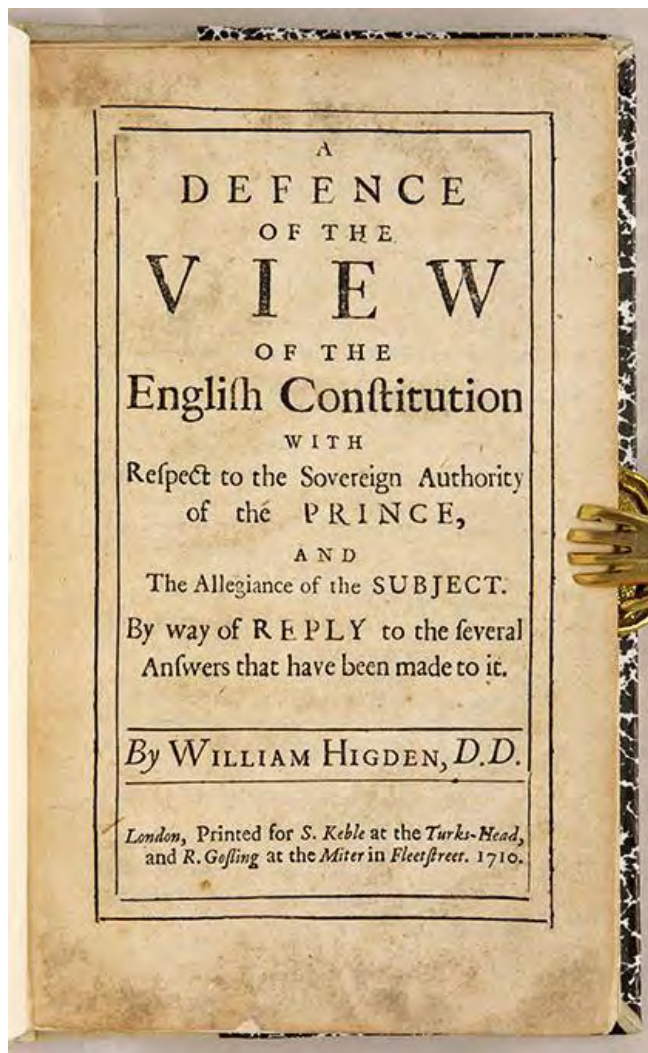
Inscribed by Learned Hand to the First
Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

11. Hand, Learned [1872-1961].

The Bill of Rights. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1958. v, 82 pp.

Cloth very good in moderately worn dust jacket, a few tears and scuffs to lower edge of front panel, lightly soiled rear panel. Author inscription to front free endpaper in bold hand, internally fresh. \$1,500.

* First edition. The inscription reads: "To Gordon M. Tiffany,/ With my best wishes for/ success on his valuable/ and vital enterprise/ Learned Hand/ October 7, 1958." *The Bill of Rights* is the published version of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Lectures delivered at Harvard University in 1958, this influential book discusses the propriety of judicial efforts to expand the scope of the first ten amendments. It has three chapters, "When a Court Should Intervene," "The Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments" and "The Guardians." One of the most significant American jurists of the twentieth century, Hand was a judge of the U.S. Southern District of New York from 1904-1924 and a judge of the Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, from 1924 to 1956. His judgments were renowned for their lucidity and elegance. Gordon M. Tiffany was the first director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, which was established in 1957. This is the "valuable and vital enterprise" that Hand is referring to in his inscription. [Order This Item](#)



**A Vigorous Argument Against
the Restoration of the Stuart Monarchy**

12. Higden, William [1662 or 1663-1715].

A Defence of the View of the English Constitution with Respect to the Sovereign Authority of the Prince, And the Allegiance of the Subject. By Way of Reply to the Several Answers that Have Been Made to It. London: Printed for S. Keble at the Turks-Head, and R. Gosling at the Miter in Fleetstreet, 1710. [xvi], 192 pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Later half-vellum over marbled boards, printed paper title label to spine, black-stamped "12" to center of spine, "1710" to foot, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing to a few leaves, light soiling to title page. \$350.

* First edition. This vigorous argument against the restoration of the Stuart succession was preceded by another publication on the same theme: *A View of the English Constitution, With Respect to the Sovereign Authority of the Prince, And the Allegiance of the Subject* (1710). George Harbin responded to these works with the pro-Stuart *Hereditary Right of the Crown of England Asserted; the History of the Succession Since the Conquest Clear'd; And the True English Constitution Vindicated from the Misrepresentations of Dr. Higden's View and Defence* (1713). George Ridpath replied to Harbin with a defense of Higden titled *Parliamentary Right Maintain'd or the Hanover Succession Justify'd* (1714). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T32288. [Order This Item](#)



A Dictionary of Swindlers

13. Hönn, Georg Paul.

Betrügs-Lexicon: Worinnen die Meisten Betrügereyen in Allen Ständen, Nebst denen Darwider guten Theils Dienenden Mitteln. Coburg: Verlegt Paul Günther Pfotenhauer, 1721. [xvi], 458, [6] pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary three-quarter vellum over marbled boards, early hand-lettered title to spine. Binding slightly cocked, rubbing to boards and extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, which are bumped, sections of marbled paper lacking, spine darkened, hinges cracked, front free endpaper lacking, rear free endpaper partially detached. Title page printed in red and black. Moderate toning, minor worming to foot of text block, light soiling to title page, "767" in early hand to front pastedown, marks in later pencil to margins of several leaves. \$1,500.

* First edition. Arranged alphabetically, this is a taxonomy of swindlers and other criminal types. Some entries are polemical. A few entries, most notably those for "monk" and "nun" bordered on blasphemy and were ordered to be removed from later editions. The book went through seven editions in all, the last in 1761. The first is the most desirable because it is uncensored. All are scarce. OCLC locates 3 copies of the first edition in North America (Columbia, University of Alberta, Yale). *Das Verzeichnis Deutscher Drucke des 18. Jahrhunderts* 10178082-008. [Order This Item](#)



A Collection of Legal "Letters" by an Important Canon Lawyer and Bishop

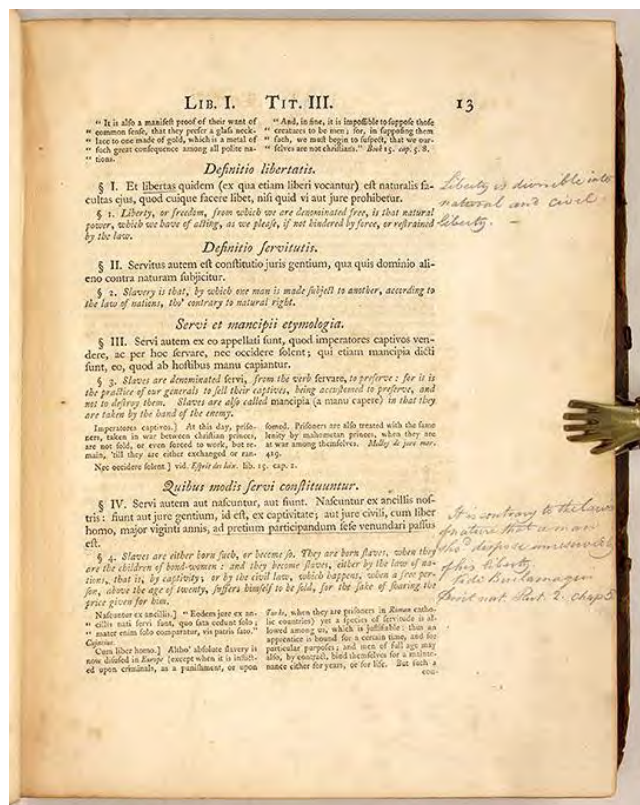
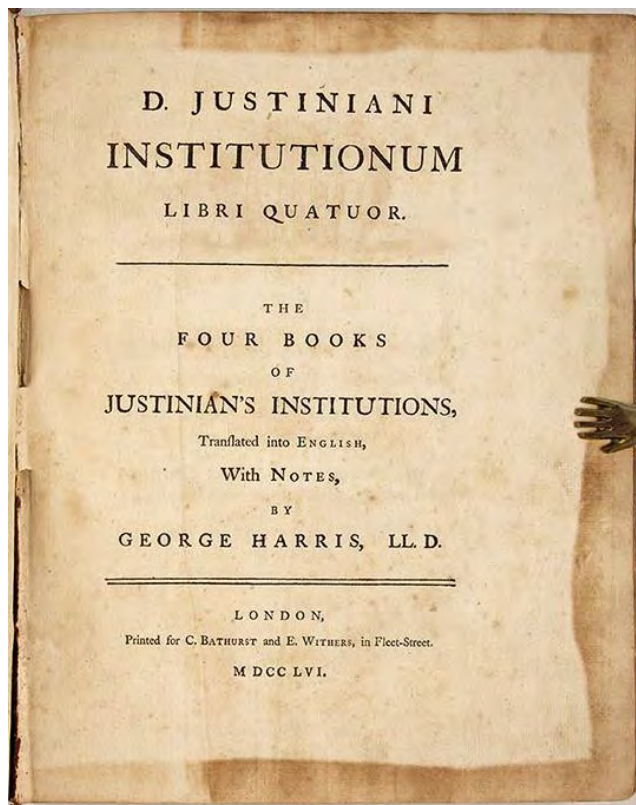
14. Ivo, Saint, Bishop of Chartres [c. 1040-1116].

Juretus, Franciscus, Editor.

Eiusdem Chronicon de Regibus Francorum. Paris: Apud Sebastianum Nivellium, 1584. [14], 260 [i.e. 256], [xiv] ff. Quarto (8-1/2" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary vellum with lapped edges, early hand-lettered title to spine. Some rubbing to extremities with minor wear, spine ends and corners bumped, hinges starting, vellum just beginning to crack through pastedowns. Attractive woodcut head-pieces and decorated initials. Light toning to text, heavier in a few places, faint dampstaining to lower corner of text block. Fore-edges of title page and following three leaves carefully mended with no loss to text. Early annotations to front free endpaper, small signature to head of title page, interior otherwise clean. \$1,500.

* First edition. Ivo, Bishop of Chartres, was an important canon lawyer who played a key role in the resolution of the investiture crisis. The most significant conflict between church and state in the medieval era, it concerned the authority of European monarchs to control the appointments, or investitures, of bishops, abbots and other church officials. This collection of 285 opinions, or "letters," discusses legal aspects of political, institutional and religious subjects. Several deal with the investiture crisis and its background. Other editions were published in 1585 and 1610, the latter designated "Editio Secunda." OCLC locates a handful of copies in North America, 1 in a law library, UC-Berkeley, which has a 1610 edition. Adams, *Catalogue of Books Printed on the Continent of Europe, 1501-1600* I257. [Order This Item](#)



With Interesting Comparisons Between Roman and English Law

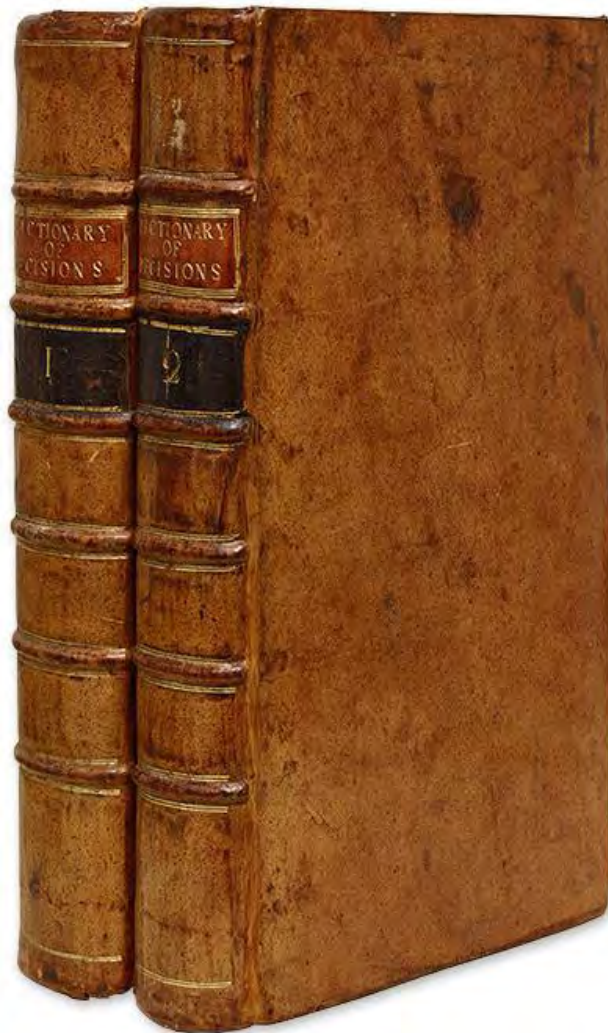
15. Justinian I, Emperor of the East [483-565 CE].

Harris, George [1722-1796], Editor and Translator.

D. Justiniani Institutionum Libri Quatuor: The Four Books of Justinian's Institutions, Translated Into English, With Notes. London: Printed for C. Bathurst and E. Withers, 1756. xv, [1], 73, [1]; 121, [1]; 100; 92; 11, [5] pp. Copperplate table of descents. Quarto (11-1/4" x 9").

Contemporary paneled calf with early rebacking, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Light rubbing and some shallow scuffing to boards, heavier rubbing to extremities and spine, wear to spine ends and corners, boards partially detached, owner bookplate of Charles Frost of Hull to front pastedown, title page partially detached but secure. Moderate toning and light foxing to text, early annotations, most likely by Frost, to several leaves, offsetting to margins of preliminaries and rear endleaves. \$950.

* First edition. This well-respected edition is notable for its elegant parallel translation. Harris, an advocate of Doctor's Commons, provides an interesting historical introduction and notes that compare the rules of Roman and English law. The final section is a translation of "Concerning the Succession of Descendents," Book 118 of the *Novels*. This work was owned by many sophisticated lawyers in Great Britain and America, such as Thomas Jefferson. Second and third editions were published in 1761 and 1811. Frost [1781?-1862], an English lawyer, was a notable legal writer and antiquary. He is known today for his research into the early history of Hull, England. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 2191 (second edition). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N8181. [Order This Item](#)



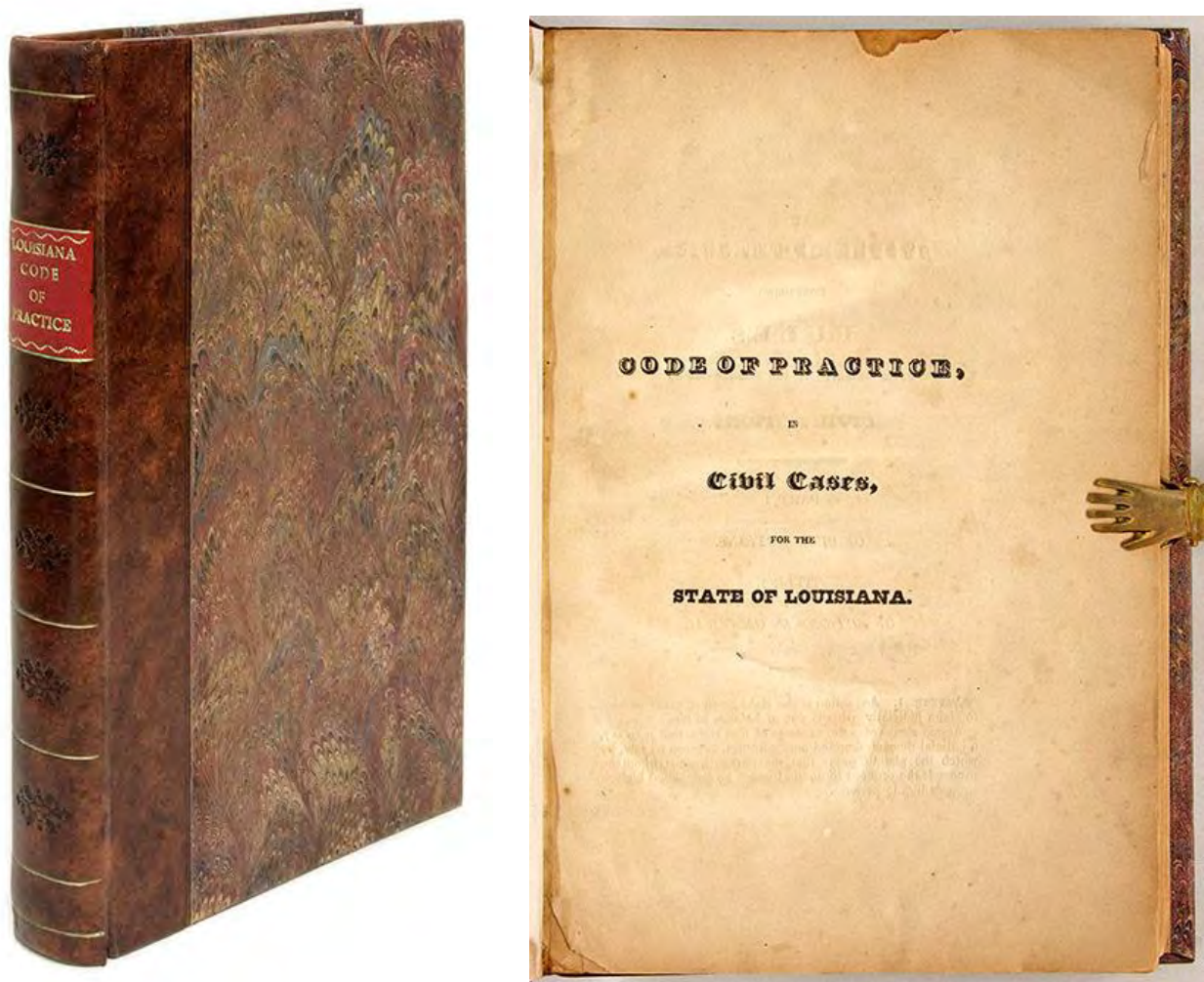
Kames's *Decisions* in "Form of a Dictionary"

16. [Kames, Henry Home, Lord (1696-1782)].

The Decisions of the Court of Session, From Its First Institution to the Present Time. Abridged, And Digested Under the Proper Heads, In Form of a Dictionary. Collected from a Great Number of Manuscripts, Never Before Published, As Well as from Printed Decisions. Edinburgh: Printed by Richard Watkins, 1741. Two volumes. [iv], vii, [i], [xxxvi], 601; [xxxii], 555, [32] pp. Folio (12" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary speckled calf, red and black lettering pieces and gilt-edged raised bands to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Negligible light rubbing and a few minor nicks and scuffs to boards, somewhat heavier rubbing to extremities, recent repair to front joint of Volume I, corners bumped and lightly worn, partial crack to text block of Volume I between front free endpaper and title page. Title pages printed in red and black. Early owner annotation to front pastedown of Volume I, text notably fresh. A handsome set. \$1,500.

* First edition, one of two issues from 1741. The leading Scottish jurist of his day and an important figure of the Scottish Enlightenment, Kames was an influence on David Hume, James Boswell and Adam Smith. A remarkable work of synthesis and organization, his *Decisions* went through later editions in 1778, 1791 and 1797. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T79943. [Order This Item](#)



Livingston's Louisiana Code of Civil Practice

17. [Louisiana].

[Livingston, Edward (1764-1836)].

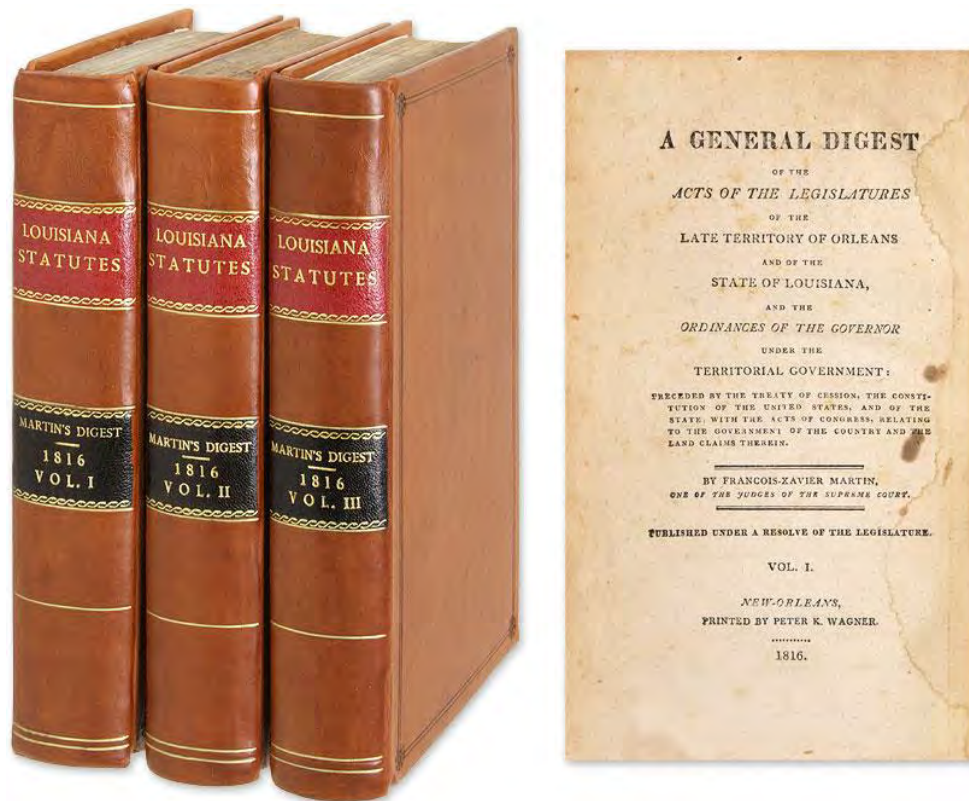
[Lislet-Moreau, Louis (1766-1832)].

[Derbigny, Pierre (1769-1829)].

Code of Practice, in Civil Cases, For the State of Louisiana. [New Orleans: s.n., c. 1824]. 410 pp. English and French on facing leaves. Quarto (10-3/4" x 7-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, lettering piece, gilt fillets and blind ornaments to spine, endpapers renewed. Light browning and faint dampspotting to text, small darker dampstains to upper margins of preliminaries and a few following leaves. A nice copy in a handsome binding. \$2,500.

* First edition. This important code was one of a series of codes produced for the Louisiana legislature. Principally the work of Livingston, work on the civil practice code began in 1823. Submitted to the legislature and first published in 1824, it went into effect the following year. Like the other codes it was a decisive influence in the codification movement. It was, for example, the main inspiration and source for the 1848 Field Code of Procedure, which incorporated many of its provisions. Not in Cohen. Babbitt, *Hand-List of Legislative Sessions and Session Laws* 148. Jumonville, *Bibliography of New Orleans Imprints* 458. [Order This Item](#)



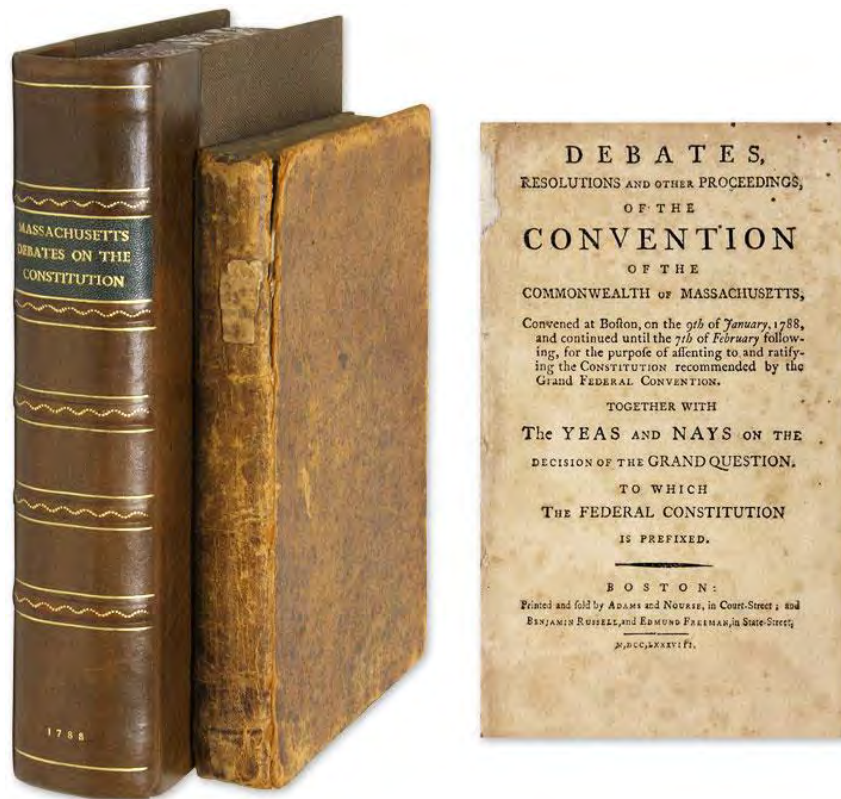
A Landmark in Louisiana's Legal History

18. Martin, Francois-Xavier [1762-1846].

A General Digest of the Acts of the Legislatures of the Late Territory of Orleans and of the State of Louisiana, And the Ordinances of the Governor Under the Territorial Government: Preceded by the Treaty of Cession, The Constitution of the United States, And of the State, With the Acts of Congress, Relating to the Government of the Country and the Land Claims Therein. Published Under a Resolve of the Legislature. New Orleans: Printed by Peter K. Wagner, 1816. Three volumes. 742; 696; 290, 295-513, [3], 107 pp. Volume III lacking pp. 291-294, which are supplied in facsimile. English and French translation on facing pages. Added title page in French reading: *Digeste General des Actes des Legislatures du Territoire d'Orleans et de l'Etat de la Louisiane...* Folding table in Volume I. Four pages of contemporary manuscript notes bound to rear of Volume II. Octavo (8" x 5").

Recent period-style calf, blind rules to boards, lettering pieces and gilt fillets to spine. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier near margins, light browning in places, light foxing to text. Faint dampstaining in places, worming to middle leaves of the bottom edge of Volume II with minor loss to margin (text not affected), a bit of edgewear to folding leaf, internally clean. Ex-library. Faint stamps to title pages, hand-lettered inventory numbers to versos. A handsome set. \$3,000.

* First edition. One of the great landmarks in Louisiana's history, this was the first post-territorial digest of the Louisiana legislature. It contains the treaty ceding the Territory of Louisiana to the United States and, on pp. 601-691 of Volume I, the infamous *Code Noir* of 1685, which ordered the expulsion of the Jews from French colonies, banned non-Catholic practices there and provided a system for the regulation of slavery. Martin was an important figure in the legal history of the south. A French-born lawyer, judge, author, translator, printer and historian, he began his career in North Carolina. He later moved to the Louisiana territory, where he played the leading role in the reorganization of its legal system. Appointed attorney-general when Louisiana became a state, he is considered the father of Louisiana jurisprudence. The manuscript pages at the end of Volume II are an index. Jumonville, *Bibliography of New Orleans Imprints* 281, 282, 283. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 5663. [Order This Item](#)



187 to 168 in Favor of Ratification

19. [Massachusetts].
[Federal Constitution].

Debates, Resolutions and Other Proceedings, Of the Convention of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Convened at Boston, On the 9th of January, 1788, And Continued Until the 7th of February Following, For the Purpose of Assenting to and Ratifying the Constitution Recommended by the Grand Federal Convention. Together with The Yeas and Nays on the Decision of the Grand Question. To Which The Federal Constitution is Prefixed. Boston: Printed and Sold by Adams and Nourse, and Benjamin Russell, and Edmund Freeman, 1788. 219 pp. Octavo (7" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary speckled sheep, blind fillets and fragment of later hand-lettered paper title label to spine. Moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to head of spine, front joint starting, hinges cracked, later owner bookplate to front pastedown, front free endpaper lacking. Moderate toning to interior, occasional light foxing, internally clean. Item housed in a period-style clamshell box, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine. A desirable copy. \$3,250.

* First edition. "The ratification process in Massachusetts was viewed with anxiety by supporters of the Constitution throughout the nation. Massachusetts was a key state, and it was thought that actions there might determine the ultimate fate of the Constitution. The struggle was hard, bitter, and characterized by wild rumor and allegations of corrupt behavior. The Federalist strategy was to ratify the Constitution first and then consider amendments to it. On February 6 the Constitution was endorsed by the narrow vote of 187 to 168. Massachusetts became the sixth state to ratify. Massachusetts was the first state to propose amendments along with ratification, setting a pattern for the states that followed. All except Maryland and Rhode Island were to ratify and simultaneously propose amendments" (Paekham). A second edition was published in 1808; another, edited by Bradford K. Peirce and Charles Hale, in 1856. Peckham, *Liberty's Legacy: Our Celebration of the Northwest Ordinance and the United States Constitution* USC-25. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 2859. Sabin, *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America* 45702. [Order This Item](#)



First Edition of the 1564 Nuremberg
City Law Filled with Contemporary Annotations

20. [Nuremberg].

Der Stat Nurmberg Verneute Reformation. [Nuremberg: Valentin Geissler], 1564. [xlv], 240, [1] ff. Woodcut title page and allegorical leaf. Folding table of consanguinity lacking. 35 added leaves of manuscript notes, the last dated 1620. Folio (12-1/4" x 8").

Contemporary paneled pigskin stained brown, rebacked in calf with raised bands and lettering piece, recent metal bosses to corners of boards, clasps lacking, hinges reinforced. Light rubbing to boards, restoration to edges of endleaves, title page and final two added leaves of notes. Title page has a handsome elaborate woodcut architectural border, main text preceded by handsome full-page woodcut allegorical leaf, large woodcut initials. Light toning to text, occasional faint dampstaining to foot of text block, faint dampspotting in places, minor tears to a few leaves. Extensive annotations in early hand in several places. \$6,500.

* First edition. Nuremberg was the center of the Renaissance in Germany and was its leading cultural and intellectual center until the end of the sixteenth century. These qualities are reflected in the contents and design of this volume. The *Reformation*, or civic legal code, of Nuremberg is known for its humanistic orientation, clear, straightforward language, elegant typography and fine woodcuts. It revised the code enacted in 1498. The highly skilled engraver, known today only by the monogram M.S., designed the title and following cut as allegories on the wealth and unity of Nuremberg. The title has a striking architectural border featuring Moses and the Holy Roman emperor and following leaf depicts God, the city of Nuremberg and figures representing the city flanked by figures representing peace, justice and generosity. Most of the annotations note amendments to the printed statutes, the 35 manuscript leaves update the statutes to 1620. OCLC locates 15 copies in North America, 4 of these in law libraries (Harvard, UC-Berkeley, University of Michigan, Yale). *Verzeichniss der im Deutschen Sprachraum Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* N2029. [Order This Item](#)



Masters of Legal Practice

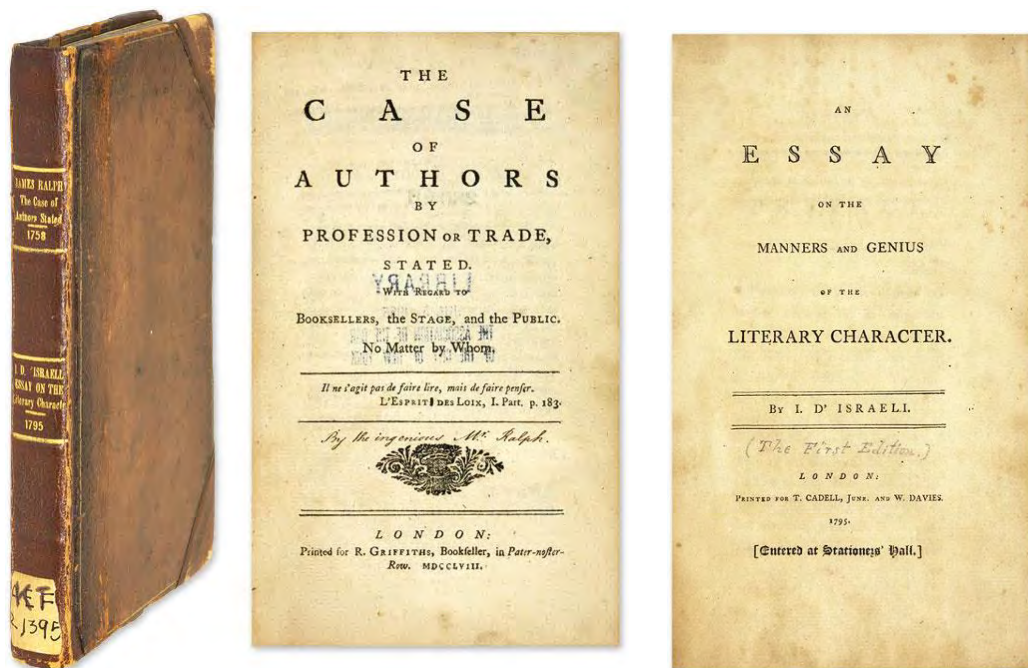
21. Panciroli, Guido [1523-1599].

Panciroli, Ottavio, Editor.

De Claris Legum Interpretibus Libri Quatuor. Venice: Apud Marcum Antonium Brogiollum, 1637. [xiv], 509, [56] pp. Quarto (8" x 6").

Contemporary limp vellum, early hand-lettered title to spine. Light soiling, a few minor inkstains, corners and spine ends lightly bumped, worming to pastedowns and free endpapers with some damage to joints, section lacking from front free endpaper, a few signatures loose. Woodcut head-pieces and decorated initials. Some toning to text, a bit heavier in places. Early annotations to front pastedown, owner initials to foot of title page, interior otherwise clean. \$1,250.

* First edition. An interesting work on legal practice based on biographical studies of notable lawyers from nations of the Holy Roman Empire. A respected work, it went through later editions in 1655 and 1721. Educated at the University of Padua, Panciroli taught there for most of his career. OCLC locates 1 copy in North America of this 1637 first edition at Harvard Law School. Camus, *Bibliothèque Choisie des Livres de Droit* 45. [Order This Item](#)



Indirect Influences on the Development of Copyright Law

22. [Ralph, James (d. 1762)].

The Case of Authors by Profession or Trade, Stated. With regard to Booksellers, The Stage, And the Public. No Matter by Whom. London: Printed for R. Griffiths, 1758. [iv], 68 [i.e. 76] pp.

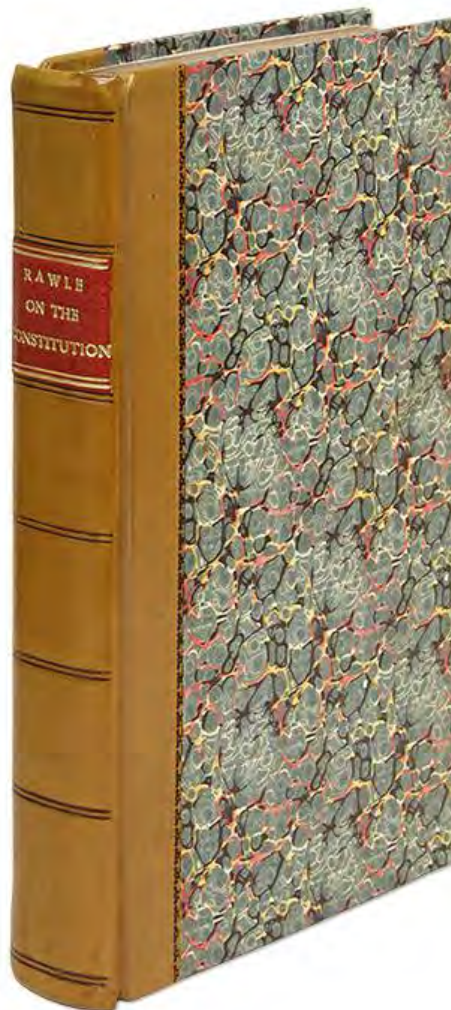
[Bound with]

D'Israeli, Isaac [1766-1848].

An Essay on the Manners and Genius of the Literary Character. London: Printed for T. Cadell, 1795. xxiii, [1], 226 pp.

Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4"). Contemporary calf, gilt rules to boards, rebacked and recornered, gilt titles to spine, marbled edges. Moderate rubbing to extremities, minor gatering to boards, hinges starting, later owner bookplate of George P. Philes to front pastedown, pocket, with nine leaves of bibliographical and critical notes by Philes, to rear pastedown. A few cracks to text block, moderate toning to text, light foxing in places, annotations and check marks in Philes's hand to some leaves, other owner signatures (J. Mitford and Chas. Wright, dated November 1853) to front endleaf, "By the ingenious Mr. Ralph" in early hand to title page of *The Case*. Ex-library. Shelf label to spine, small inkstamp to verso of title page of *The Case*. Two scarce titles with an interesting association. \$1,500.

* First editions. Born in New Jersey, Ralph was a versatile writer of literary works, histories and political criticism. He began his career in Philadelphia, where he associated with Benjamin Franklin. He traveled with Franklin to London in 1725 and remained there for the rest of his life. An author of some stature, he worked closely with Henry Fielding and was one of the writers satirized in Pope's *Dunciad*. *The Case of Authors* is one of his most important and enduring works. It argues that the decline of aristocratic patronage has placed the writer at the mercy of the marketplace, with negative financial, artistic and intellectual consequences. Although it sold poorly, it went on to influence literary criticism and the development of copyright law. It was reissued in 1762. Cited in works by Oliver Goldsmith and Thomas Babington Macaulay, it also influenced the *Essay on the Manners and Genius of the Literary Character*. It was a popular book that reached its fourth edition in 1828. Its author, the father of the Prime Minister, was a notable literary scholar and essayist. George P. Philes, a previous owner of this volume, was a notable bibliographer, literary critic and bibliophile. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T19997 (Ralph), T10985 (D'Israeli). [Order This Item](#)



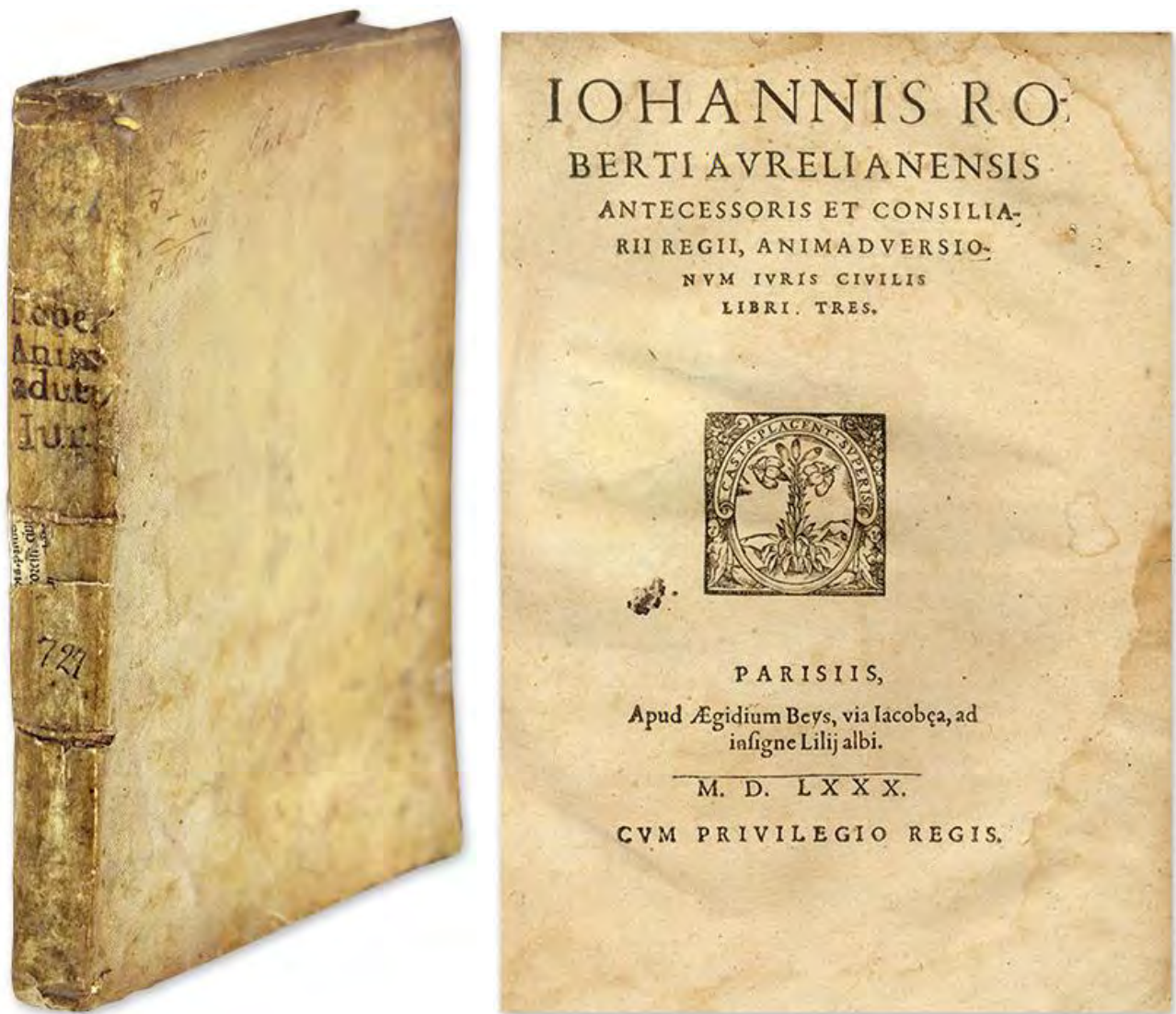
**First Edition of a Popular Treatise on the
U.S. Constitution that was Cited to Justify Secession**

23. Rawle, William [1759-1836].

A View of the Constitution of the United States of America. Philadelphia: Philip H. Nicklin, Law Bookseller, 1825. vii, [5]-347 pp. Octavo (8-3/4" x 5-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning, early owner signature (J.L. Aitken) and small faint later library inkstamp to head of title page, library marks to its verso, early owner annotation to p. 295. An appealing copy in a handsome binding. \$1,500.

* First edition. Rawle's treatise is one of the earliest works on the United States Constitution, and one of the most important. This text is significant also because it suggests that states have a right to secede from the Union. As Cohen observes, the popularity of this text, which was used at West Point and other schools throughout the country, "is generally considered to have influenced the leaders and supporters of the Confederacy, although in fact Rawle opposed secession: (Cohen). The annotation to our copy refers to secession. Reading "Vide Story on the Constitution p. 327," it is footnoted to the sentence reading: "The secession of a state from the Union depends of the will of the people of such state." Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 2893. [Order This Item](#)



Critical Philological Essays

24. Robert, Jean [fl. 1569-1590].

Animadversionum Iuris Civilis Libri Tres. Paris: Apud Aegidium Beys, 1580. [viii], 124 [i.e. 120] ff. Quarto (9" x 6-3/4").

Contemporary limp vellum, early hand-lettered titles to spine and foot of text block, ties lacking. Some rubbing to extremities, chipping to spine, corners bumped and creased, hinges starting, some wear to edges of endleaves. Woodcut printer device, head-piece and decorated initials. Negligible small worm holes to front free endpaper and title page, faint dampstaining to margins, light foxing. Early annotations to front cover and front free endpaper. A solid copy of an important title. \$2,500.

* First edition. This important collection of critical philological essays played an important role in contemporary French debates about the chronology of Roman law. Robert was a professor of law at the University of Orleans. OCLC locates 7 copies worldwide. 4 copies located in North America (at the Emory Theological Library, George Washington University Law School, the Library of Congress and UC Berkeley Law Library). Not in Adams or Camus. National Library of Scotland, *Short-Title Catalogue of Foreign Books Printed up to 1600* 308. [Order This Item](#)



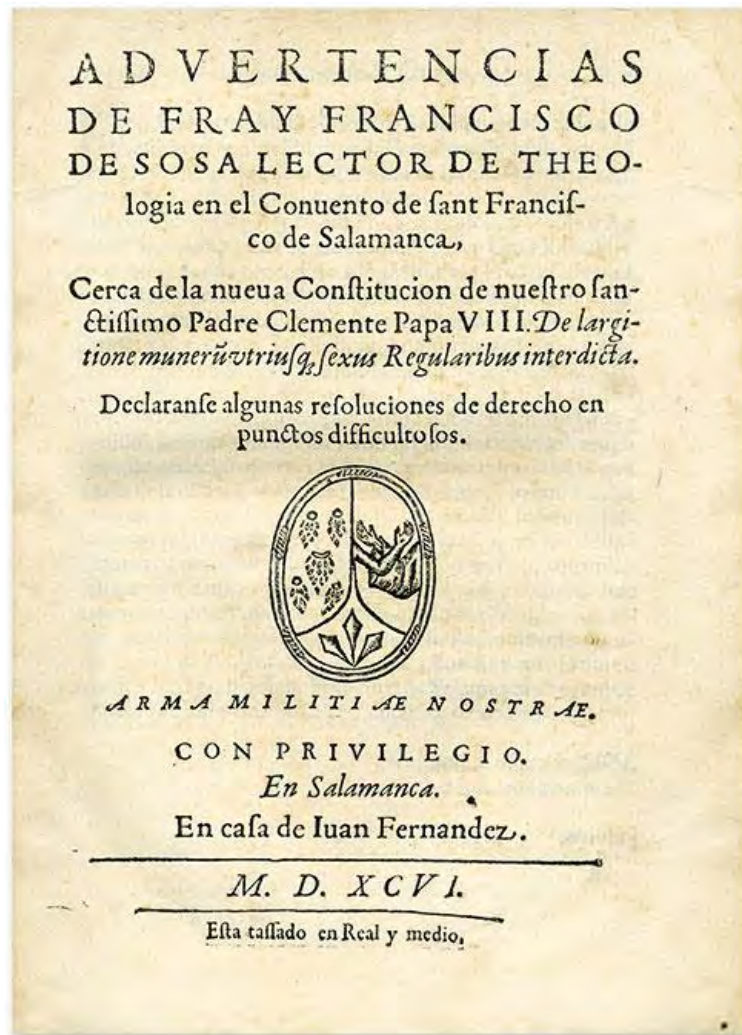
One of the Best Manuals of Its Kind

**25. [Sheriffs].
[Great Britain].**

The Compleat Sheriff: Wherein is Set Forth, His Office and Authority; With Directions, How and in What Manner to Execute the Same, According to the Common and Statute Laws of This Kingdom, Which are Now in Force and Use: And the Judgments and Resolutions of the Judges in Divers Late Cases, In the Several Courts of Westminster, Relating Thereunto. Likewise of Under-Sheriffs and Their Deputies; And Where the High-Sheriff Shall be Answerable for Their Defaults, And Where Not, &c. Together with the Learning of Bail Bonds; With an Explication of Stat. 23 H.6. Cap. 10. And Pleadings Thereon. Returns of Writs, Remedies Against Non Return and Faux Return, Habeas Corpus, Venires, Challenges and Enquiry of Damages. Prisoners and Prisons. Execution by Fieri Fac', Elegit, &c. Escapes, Actions and Pleadings Therein. Fresh Pursuit, And Other Pleas. Attachment, Americament: Actions, Declarations and Pleadings on the Sheriffs Non-Fesance or Male-Fesance. Customs of London, As to Prisons, Courts, Process, Sheriffs Fees, Extortion, Sheriffs Accompts, &c. To Which is Added, The Office and Duty of Coroners. London: Printed by the Assigns of R. and E. Atkyns, Esquires; For John Walthoe, 1696. [xxiv], 443, [21] pp. With preliminary advertisement leaf. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to board, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and later lettering piece to spine, early repair to head of spine. Light rubbing and a few faint stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, tiny chip to foot of spine, corners bumped and somewhat worn, hinges cracked. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining in places, Signature G (pp. 81-95) partially detached with some wear along fore-edge, horizontal tear through rear free endpaper. Early signatures to preliminaries (Gerrit van Schak, 1756), early annotations front pastedown and some leaves, additional annotations in same hand on small slips of paper pasted to edges of a few other leaves. An appealing copy. \$750.

* First edition. One of the most thorough books of its kind, the aptly-titled *Compleat Sheriff* is notably descriptive. It also includes citations of legal cases, bibliographical references, chapters on juries and habeas corpus and a detailed discussion of the law of escapes. A useful and long-lived work, it saw five later editions, the last in 1778. All are scarce. OCLC locates 8 copies of the first edition in North American law libraries (Columbia, Georgetown, Harvard, LA County, Library of Congress, Southern Methodist University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R1060. [Order This Item](#)



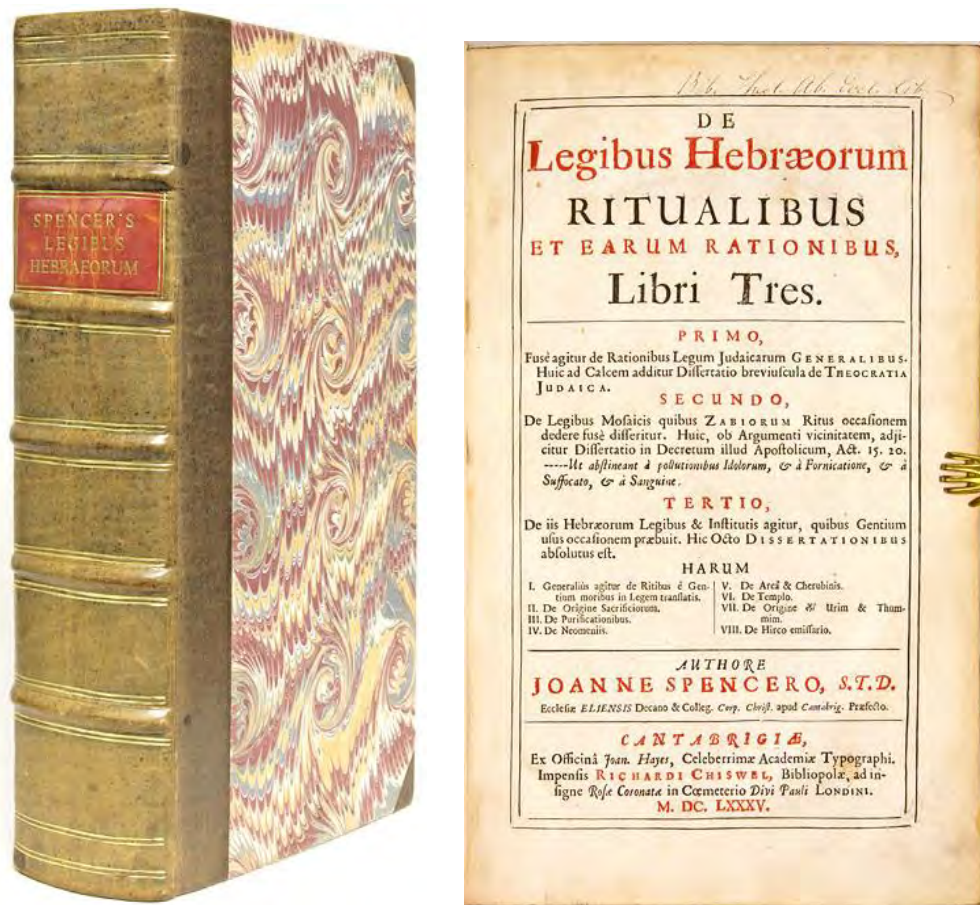
Rare Sixteenth-Century Spanish Treatise Concerning Monasteries

26. Sosa, Francisco de [fl. 1556].

Advertencias de Fray Francisco de Sosa, Lector de Theologia en el Convento de Sant Francisco de Salamanca: Cerca de la Nueva Constitucion de Nuestro Sanctissimo Padre Clemente Papa VIII. De Largitione Munerum Utriusque Sexus Regularibus Interdicta. Declaranse Algunas Resoluciones de Derecho en Puntos Difficultosos. Salamanca: En Casa Iuan Fernandez, 1596. [x], 131, [2] pp. Quarto (8" x 6").

Contemporary limp vellum, black rules to covers, calligraphic title to spine, early hand-lettered title to spine, ties mostly lacking. Some soiling and small stains, spine darkened with a few small chips near center, vellum just beginning to crack through pastedowns. Light to moderate toning to text, occasional faint dampspotting, internally, clean. \$1,100.

* First edition. This book details a series of legal reforms regarding monasteries and holy orders implemented by Pope Clement VI, formerly a canon lawyer (Ippolito Aldobrandini, 1536-1605, the son of notable jurist Sylvestro Aldobrandini). For the most part, these reforms led to an increase of Papal control and supervision. Two other editions were published in 1597 and 1696. OCLC locates no copies of this title in North America. No copies located at the Library of Congress, Harvard Law School or UC-Berkeley Law School. Palau, *Manual del Librero Hispano-Americano* 319804. [Order This Item](#)



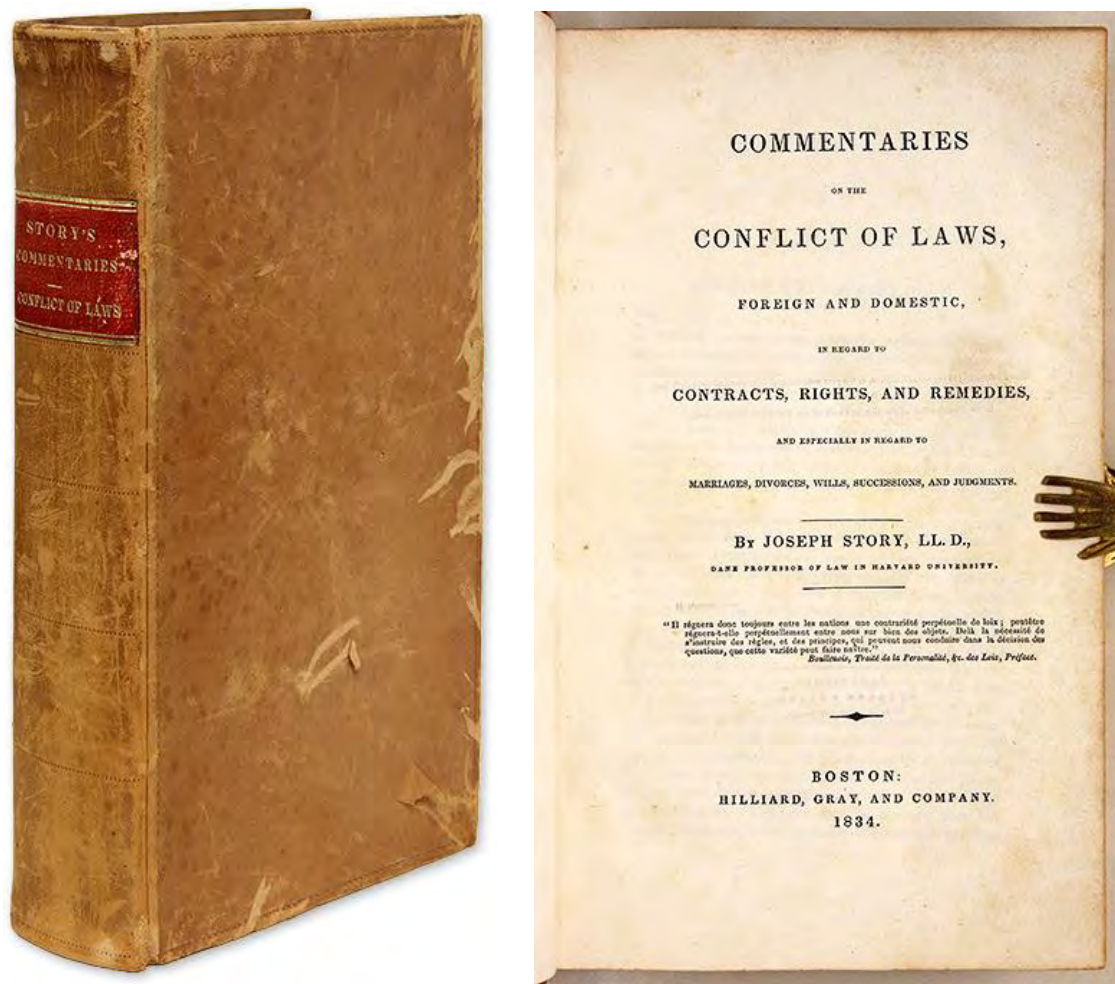
First Edition of Spencer's Pioneering Work of Comparative Religion and Law

27. Spencer, John [1630-1693].

De Legibus Hebraeorum Ritualibus Et Earum Rationibus, Libri Tres. Primo, Fuse Agitur de Rationibus Legum Judaicarum Generalibus. Huic Ad Calcem Additur Dissertatio Breviuscula de Theocratia Judaica. Secundo, De Legibus Mosaicis Quibus Zabiorum Ritus Occasionem Dedere Fuse Dissertitur. Huic, Ob Argumenti Vicinitatem, Adjicitur Dissertatio In Decretum Illud Apostolicum, Act. 15. 20. Ut Abstineant A Pollutionibus Idolorum, & A Fornicatione, & A Suffocato, & A Sanguine. Tertio, De Iis Hebraeorum Legibus & Institutis Agitur, quibus Gentium usus occasionem praeuit. Hic Octo Dissertationibus Absolutus Est. Harum I. Generalius Agitur De Ritibus E Gentium Moribus In Legem Translatis. II. De Origine Sacrificiorum. III. De purificationibus. IV. De Neomeniis. V. De Arcâ & Cherubinis. VI. De Templo. VII. De Origine [ton] Urin & Thummim. VIII. De Hirco Emissario. Cambridge: Ex Officinâ Joan. Hayes, 1685. [xvi], 1051, [1] pp. With a half-title. Three parts, second and third parts preceded by divisional title pages. Folio (12-1/2" x 8").

Recent period-style three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt edged raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Negligible light rubbing to extremities. Title page printed in red and black. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light spotting to a few leaves, brief later annotation to p. 402, later owner annotation to head of title page. \$1,750.

* First edition. Spencer was the master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. His pioneering study outlines the rituals and laws of the Jews and other Semitic peoples and proposes that Judaism was not the earliest of religions. A landmark work, it laid the "foundations of the science of comparative religion.": *Encyclopedia Judaica* XV:261. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R13440. [Order This Item](#)



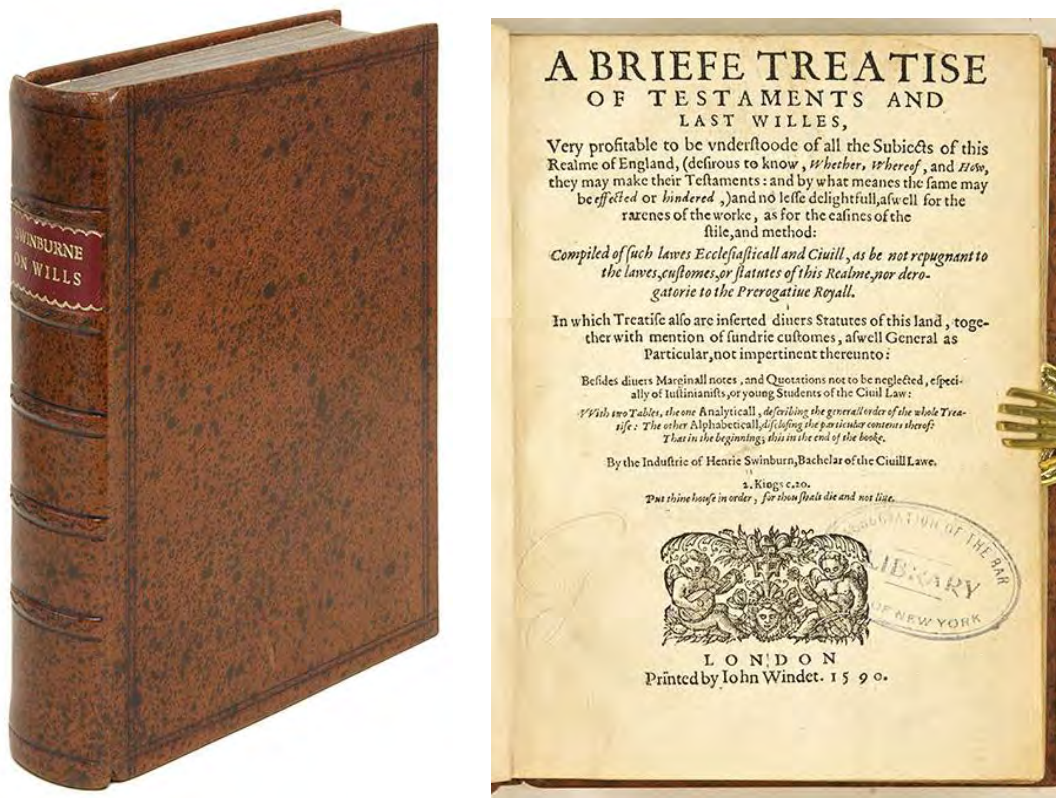
First Edition of "An Epoch in the Law"

28. Story, Joseph [1779-1845].

Commentaries on the Conflict of Laws, Foreign and Domestic, in Regard to Contracts, Rights, and Remedies, and Especially in Regard to Marriages, Divorces, Wills, Successions, and Judgments. Boston: Hilliard, Gray and Company, 1834. xxv, [1], 557 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Contemporary sheep, blind rules to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Light rubbing and a few shallow scuffs to boards, somewhat heavier rubbing to extremities, early owner signature of Edwin Conant to front pastedown below early annotation in pencil (Price \$3.50). Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, occasional light foxing. An appealing copy of a landmark work. \$2,500.

* First edition. Story's *Conflict of Laws*, the first systematic treatise on the subject, is one of his greatest and most influential works. Warren says: "It is not too much to say that its publication constituted an epoch in the law; for it became at once the standard and almost the sole authority...[it] received the honor of being practically the first American law book to be cited as authority in English courts." Expanding on this latter point Marvin quotes "a late English writer" who says that "No work on international jurisprudence merited, nor received, greater praise from the jurists of Europe. It impressed English lawyers with the highest respect for [Story's] extensive learning." Conant [1810-1891] was a prominent Worcester, Massachusetts, lawyer, businessman and philanthropist. Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 471. Warren, *A History of the American Bar* 545. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 2723. [Order This Item](#)



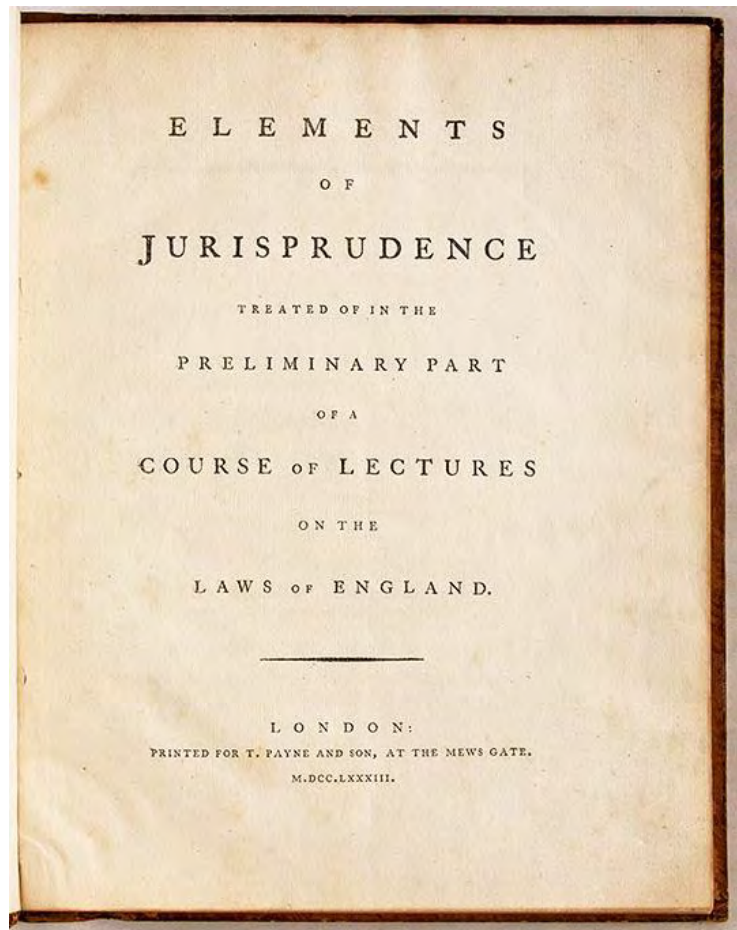
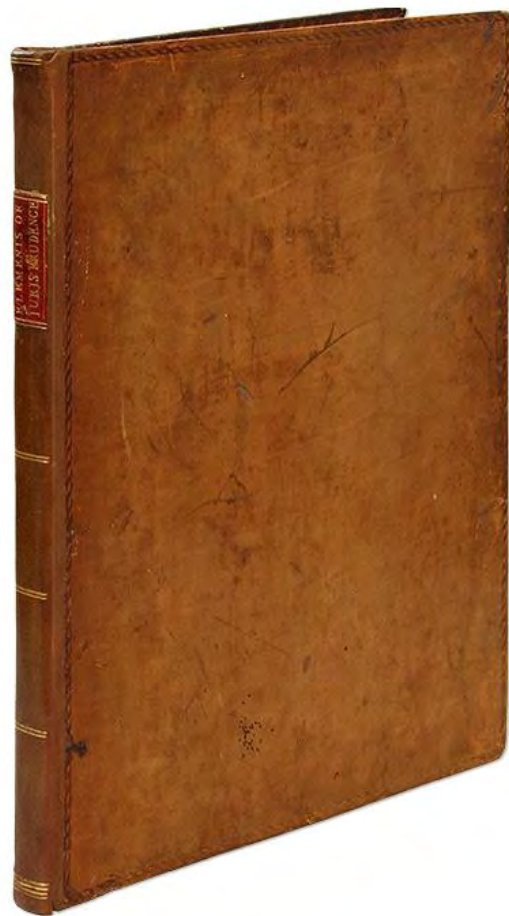
First Edition of the First Standard Treatise on Wills

29. Swinburne, Henry [1560?-1623].

A Briefe Treatise of Testaments and Last Willes, Very Profitable to be Understoode of All the Subjects of This Realme of England, (Desirous to Know, Whether, Whereof, And How, They May Make Their Testaments: And by What Meanes the Same May be Effecte or Hindered,) And no Lesse Delightfull, Aswell for the Rareness of the Worke, As for the Easines of the Stile, And Method: Compiled of such Lawes Ecclesiasticall and Civill, As be Not Repugnant to the Lawes, Customes, Or Statutes of this Realme, Nor Derogatorie to the Prerogative Royall. In which Treatise Also are Inserted Divers Statutes of this Land, Together with Mention of Sundrie Customes, As Well General as Particular, Not Impertinent Thereunto: Besides Divers Marginall Notes, And Quotations Not to be Neglected, Especially of Iustinianists, Or Young Students of the Civil Law: With Two Tables, The One Analytical, Describing the Generall Order of the Whole Treatise: The Other Alphabetically, Disclosing the Particular Contents Thereof: That in the Beginning; This in the End of the Booke. London: Printed by Iohn Windet, 1590 [colophon date 1591]. [xii], 293, [13] ff. As in many copies, our copy lacks the errata leaf and pasted one-word slip-cancel on Leaf K5r (Fol. 65) (changing "whether" to "where"). Quarto (7-1/2" x 6-1/2").

Recent period-style speckled calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Light toning to text, tiny inkspots to a few leaves, small burn hole to Leaf Kk3 (Fol. 247), mended with archival tape, with no loss to legibility, faint small library stamp to title page, brief annotations to verso. An appealing copy in a handsome binding. \$2,000.

* First edition. The testamentary jurisdiction of ecclesiastical law was a separate branch that produced its own literature. From the sixteenth until well into the seventeenth century Swinburne's was the standard treatise on this subject. Holdsworth, who cites it often and considers it "the most practically useful book of [its] period" notes that "it is a very useful summary of the law as to wills and executors as administered in the ecclesiastical courts." *A History of English Law* V:14. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S118058. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T498. [Order This Item](#)



"The Complement of Sir W. Blackstone's *Commentaries*"

30. Wooddeson, Richard [1745-1822].

Elements of Jurisprudence, Treated of in the Preliminary Part of a Course of Lectures on the Laws of England. London: Printed for T. Payne and Son, 1783. [iv], 118 pp. Quarto (10-1/2" x 8-1/2").

Contemporary calf, rebaked in period style, blind fillets to boards, blind fillets and retained contemporary lettering piece to spine. Some rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn, front board just beginning to separate but secure, rear joint starting. Two early armorial bookplates (of Henry C. Compton Esq. Manor House, Lyndhurst, and Scrope Berdmore, S.T.P. Coll. Mert. Custos, 1790) to front pastedown. Offsetting to endleaves, interior otherwise fresh. A nice copy. \$1,850.

* First edition. Wooddeson was elected a Vinerian Scholar in 1766, became a Vinerian Fellow in 1776 and was Vinerian Professor from 1777 to 1793. He was steeped in Blackstone's work, and he strove to supplement it. "Dr. Wooddeson's Lectures form, in a measure, the complement of Sir W. Blackstone's *Commentaries*, for he supplies some deficiencies in the production of his predecessor, and treats more in detail, some topics, but slightly noticed by him. Though of acknowledged merit, as to learning, method of arrangement, and accuracy of rules, they do not seem to have attained so great a reputation as their real worth entitles them to. In point of style, and beauty of narration, they follow the *Commentaries*, *haud non passibus auquis*" (Marvin). Holdsworth describes each chapter in detail and calls this work a very useful book on legal theory. This book had a second edition published in Dublin in 1792. Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 745. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* XII:428f. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T32600. [Order This Item](#)