

MANUSCRIPTS

30 ITEMS

February 23, 2021



THE
LAWBOOK EXCHANGE

LTD.



**Early Nineteenth-Century
Manuscript Account Book of Pennsylvania Lawyers**

1. [Barnard, James (1755-1806)].

[Barnard, Isaac D. (1791-1834)].

[Barnard, Thomas D. (1793-1873)].

[*Acct. of Money Recd. for the Estate of James Barnard, Esq. Decd. in the Office, Etc.*]

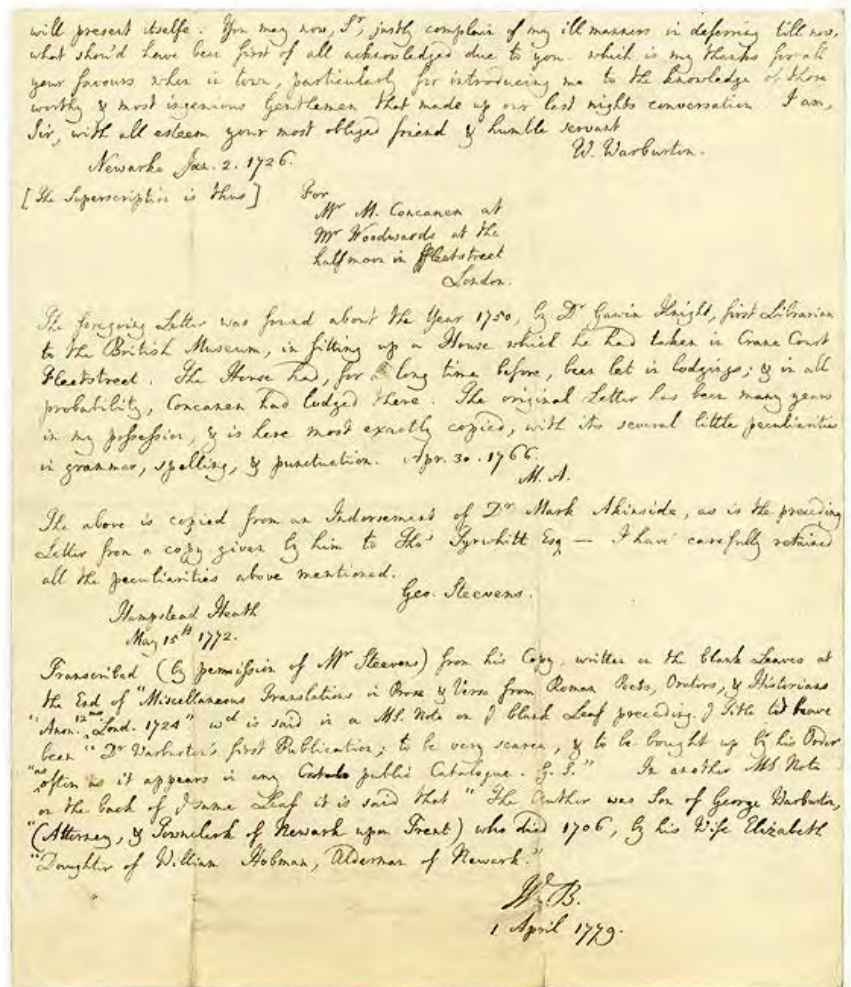
[And]

[*Acct. of Money Recd. by Isaac D. Barnard Belonging to His Late Father's Estate*]. Chester, PA, February, 26 1806-August 22, 1845. Content in fine hand filling 23 pp. followed by several blank leaves, final six excised. Oblong octavo (8" x 5-1/2").

Stiff marbled sewn wrappers. Moderate rubbing to exterior, some wear to spine and corners, light toning to interior. \$650.

* James Barnard of Chester, Pennsylvania, was married to Susannah Dutton. James served as sheriff, registrar, recorder, prothonotary and clerk of the courts in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The Barnards had eight children. The eldest son, James Day Barnard, a lawyer, died at 25, a few months after his father's death. Upon his father and brother's death, the eldest surviving male Barnard, Isaac, received, or perhaps he personally recorded, his brother's outstanding legal fees and his father's estate assets and accounts recorded in this manuscript notebook. Like his deceased elder brother, Isaac studied law and was admitted to the Pennsylvania bar in 1816, after notable service as a major in the War of 1812. He served terms in the Pennsylvania State Senate and U.S. Senate.

The accounts are notable as the first segment records all of the monies collected for various legal work performed by Isaac's older brother, James, from recording judgments, estate administration, vendue matters, for certificates for naturalization of citizenship, or for fees earned for specific cases (*Gibbons v. Riley*, *Miles v. Adams*, *McElroy v. Hibbard*, etc.). These accounts span 1806-1807 and suggest that the fees within must have been collected posthumously by Isaac for services performed before his brother's death. The notebook's second segment records moneys earned by the father in office, primarily for recording deeds. Again, the chronology suggests a similar scenario as the notebook's first segment. There are also several leaves of entries with much later dates recording monies received by Thomas Barnard. All accounts are clearly legible and amounts of fees charged for all legal services are provided. In all, this record provides a fine image, in microcosm, of legal costs on Pennsylvania during the early nineteenth century. [Order This Item](#)



Blackstone's Transcription of Notes by a Notable Critic on Literary Imitation in the Work of English Poets

2. [Manuscript].

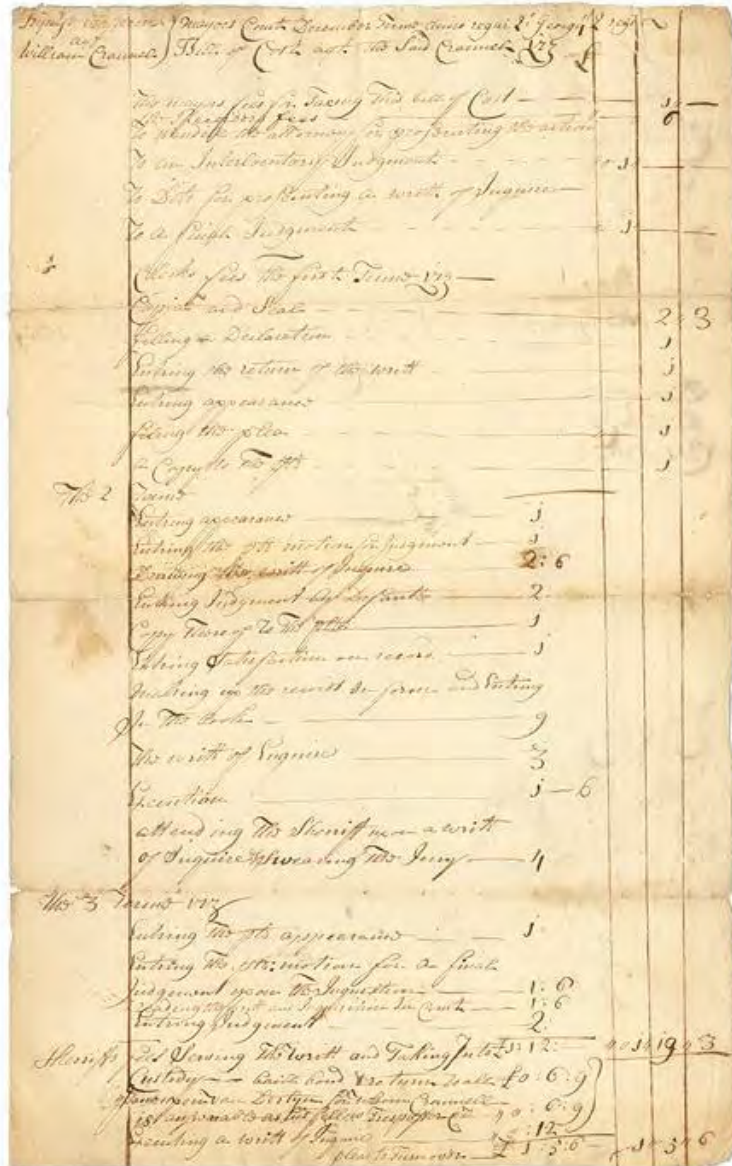
Blackstone, Sir William [1723-1780].

[Warburton, William (1698-1779)].

[Autograph Transcription, Signed (W.B.), 1 April 1779, London, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 26 April 1779].

9-1/2" x 7-1/2" bifolium, four pages of text, archival guard at inner edge. Light toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines. "Autograph of Judge Blackstone, given me by his great-nephew" to head of first page. \$4,000.

* This autograph transcription is a careful copy of a letter written by Warburton, the churchman, writer and literary critic best known for his editions of Pope and Shakespeare, in 1726. It discusses literary imitation in the works of English poets, especially Addison's Cato. The transcription is followed by an original paragraph by Blackstone. He notes that he copied the letter from a copy made by George Steevens [1736-1800], the eminent Shakespeare scholar. He makes a few philological points about Steevens's copy and comments on Steevens's annotations. [Order This Item](#)



1728 Receipt for Fees in the Albany Mayor's Court

3. Bleecker, Rutger [1675-1756].
[Crawells, William].

[Receipt for Court Fees, Signed]. Albany, NY, January 9, 1728. Single 13" x 8" leaf.

Moderate toning and a few light spots, horizontal fold lines, minor edgewear, careful later repairs to tears along fold lines, text in neat hand to recto and verso, docketed on verso. \$350.

* As part of his penalty in a suit lost in the Albany Mayor's Court, William Crawells was compelled to pay the court costs. These included fees for the preparation and filing of documents, fees for the clerk and other court officers and a tax fee owed the mayor of Albany. Rutger Bleecker was Albany's mayor from 1726 to 1728. The Bleeckers were a prominent family in the region. Three members served as Mayors of Albany. Along with Rutger, they were his father, Jan Jansen Bleecker [1641-1732], and his brother Johannes Bleecker, Jr. [1668-1738]. [Order This Item](#)



"Diabolical and Against the Order of Nature"

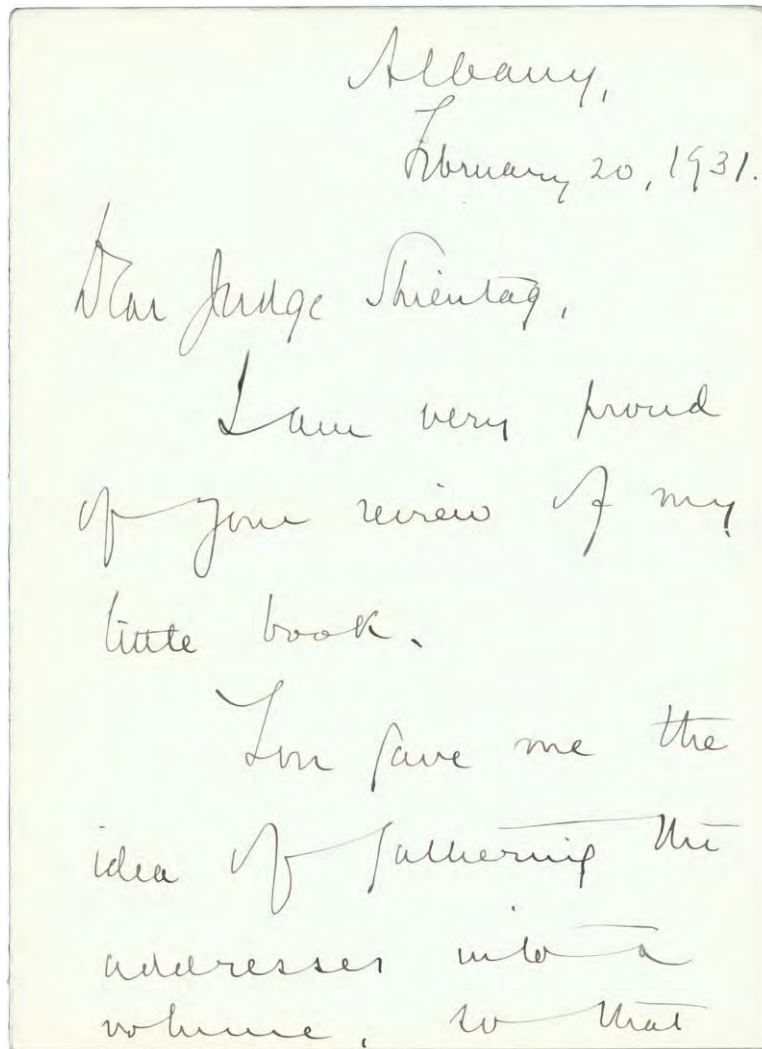
**4. [Buggery].
[Virginia].**

[Documents Relating to an Act of Buggery Between a Man and a Horse]. [Culpepper County, VA, 1846, 1848, 1849]. Bifolium bench warrant, 12-1/2" x 7-1/2", dated October, 28, 1846, docketed on verso of second leaf, two writs of capias, 8" x 6" dated September 14, 1848 and March 13, 1849, both docketed on versos. Three items in all.

Light browning, minor dampstaining and some edgewear, horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears. Content in neat hand. \$1,500.

* These documents relate to the indictment and attempted arrest of Joseph Hackley for the "feloniously, wickedly diabolical and against the order of nature, detestable and abominable crime of Buggery" with a "black mare." The bench warrant is signed by Judge Richard H. Field and countersigned "Wm M. Huffman." The verso is docketed 4 times by 3 different people. The docket notations show a committed judge and a clever felon. The first orders his arrest. The second notation reads: "I cannot execute this Warrant the party Joseph having left this County." The third and fourth notations show the warrant was reissued on June 5th and October 23rd, 1848. Annotations to the writs of capias, issued to the sheriff of Culpepper County on September 14, 1848 and March 13, 1849, show that Hackley was never located.

[Order This Item](#)



Albany,
February 20, 1931.

Dear Judge Shientag,

I am very proud
of your review of my
little book.

You gave me the
idea of fathering the
addresses into a
volume, so that

"I Am Very Proud of Your Review of My Little Book"

5. Cardozo, Benjamin N. [1870-1938].

[Shientag, Bernard L. (1887-1952)].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, To Bernard L. Shientag, February 20, 1931].

Single sheet folded to form a pair of 8" x 6" leaves, content to both sides of first leaf and recto of second. Light soiling and edgewear, horizontal fold line. \$950.

* Shientag was a distinguished New York Supreme Court Justice and legal author. The letter reads, in part: "I am very proud of your review of my little book [*Law and Literature and Other Essays* (1931)]. You gave me the idea of fathering the addresses into a volume, so that some of the responsibility for preserving them may perhaps be chargeable to you. It is pleasant to be assured that you have felt no cause for repentance. Your appreciation of my work is a joy and an encouragement."

Far from a "little book," Cardozo's *Law and Literature* is widely considered one of the most important American books on the law written in the twentieth century. Cardozo was a justice of the New York Supreme Court from 1914 to 1917, an associate judge of the New York Court of Appeals from 1917 to 1926, chief judge of that court from 1926 to 1932 and an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1932 until his death. He believed that the courts should not just interpret the law, but also adapt it to address changing social conditions. [Order This Item](#)



Anxiety About the Effects of Abolition in Jamaica

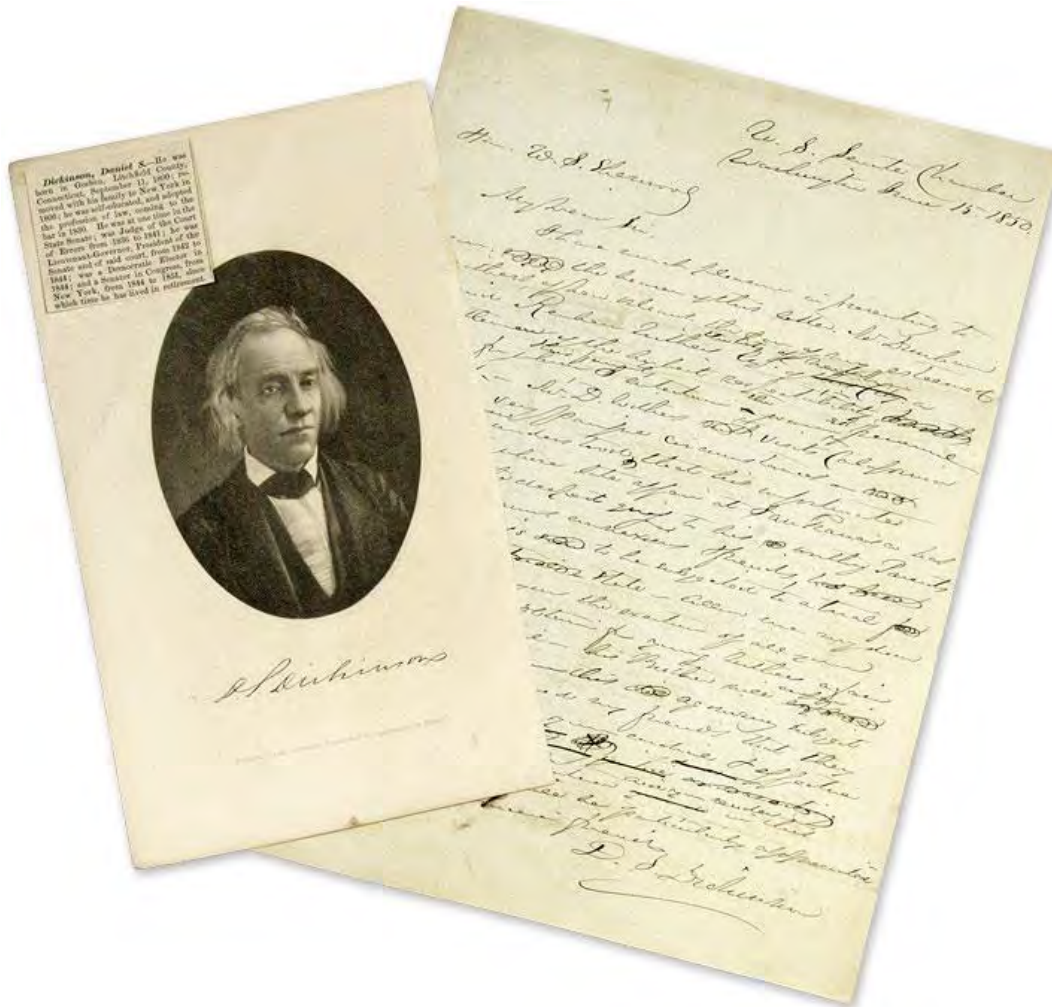
6. [Cuba].
[Jamaica].
[Brosa, Antonio].
[Duquesnay, Carlos].

[Three Letters Reporting on Slavery on the Letterhead of the Cuban Consulate in Jamaica]. Jamaica, 1839-1842.

Three letters, 8" x 12-3/4," manuscript in ink. Two letters, dated March 28, 1839 and July 20, 1839, are single leaves with blank versos. The third, dated August 3, 1842, is a bifolium with content on recto of the first leaf. This letter encloses a bifolium addendum dated August 23, 1842, 6" x 8-1/2," with content on recto of the first leaf.

Moderate toning and foxing, some edgewear, faint fold lines, minor burn through, a few minor tears and worm holes, very good overall. \$2,500.

* These letters were written at a time when the Cuban government had a constant fear of its slave and free-black population. The Haitian Revolution was a fairly recent event, the abolition movement was becoming more popular and there was constant talk about slave insurrections. What's more, Cuba was a nation in a region with a majority population of free, enslaved and recently emancipated people of African origin. Addressed to the Capitan General de la Isla de Cuba from the consulate in Jamaica, these letters record impressions about the effects of abolition, which occurred in stages between 1834 and 1838. They were dispatched by two consular officials, Antonio Brosa and Carlos Duquesnay. The first letter, from March 28, 1839, reports that his troop level has dwindled down to 1,300 men, including 100 "negroes." He is concerned about the effectiveness of this force and doubts the loyalty of his "negro" soldiers. The other letter by Brosa, dated July 20, 1839, requests a company of troops to address a "disorder" resulting from a group of "negroes" refusing to pay their rent. The Letter from Duquesnay, reports on a series of "disruptions" caused by "los emancipados." Taken together, these letters record the anxiety of Cuba's governing class over the shifting dynamics of slavery. [Order This Item](#)



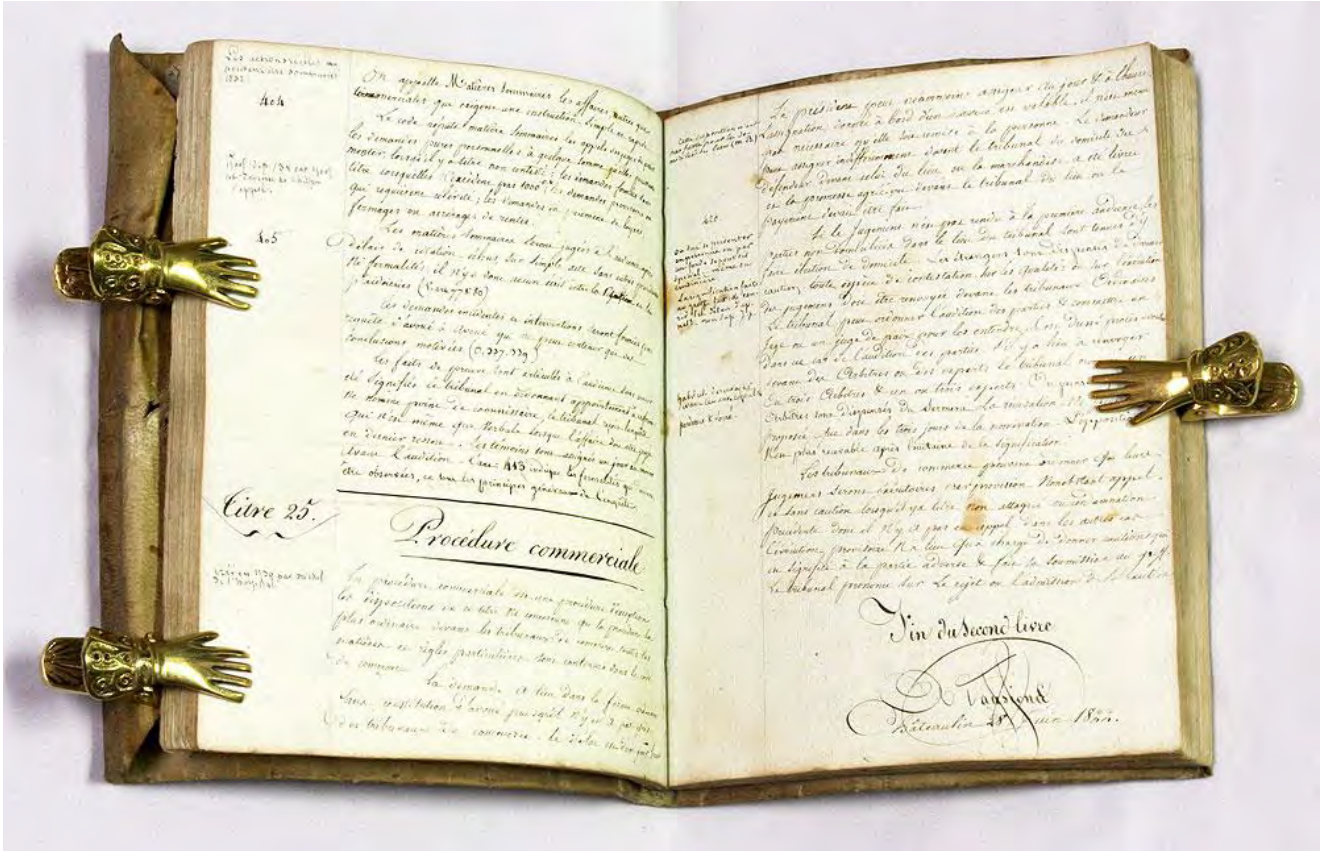
Letter Regarding a California Trial for the 1849 Murder of an African-American

**7. Dickinson, [D]aniel S. [1800-1866].
[Sherwood, Winfield S. (1817-1865)].**

[Draft of Autograph Letter, Signed, to Winfield Scott Sherwood, Washington, DC, U.S. Senate Chamber, 1850].

Single 10-3/4" x 8" leaf, docketed on verso, some toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines, a few later annotations in tiny hand. Letter accompanied by biographical sketch clipped from a contemporary source and a lithograph portrait plate removed from an unidentified book. \$500.

* A retained draft of a letter by Daniel S. Dickinson, a U.S. Senator from New York, concerning the trial of Reuben Withers Jr. for the murder in California of an African-American named "Bones." Addressed to former New York politician Winfield S. Sherwood, a signer of the California Constitution of 1849, candidate for governor, and later district judge, the letter introduces Reuben Withers's brother, New Orleans banker Dunham Withers, and asks Sherwood to make sure Reuben receives a fair trial. Reuben Withers Sr. was president of the Bank of New York; his son Dunham was a representative to the southern states for the New York banking firm of Howland & Aspinwall. David Dunham Withers of New Orleans was a noted thoroughbred horseman and president of the racing organization that became the Jockey Club. Senator Daniel S. Dickinson previously served as lieutenant governor of New York and later as its 27th attorney general. Dickinson was a potential candidate in 1864 for vice president to Abraham Lincoln. [Order This Item](#)



Handsome French Manuscript on Procedure from 1821

8. [France].
Procédure. Rennes, France, 1821. 100 pp. Quarto (8" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum with flap, tie lacking. Light soiling and a few minor stains and tiny holes, spine ends bumped, vellum beginning to crack through pastedowns, which have some worming. Light toning to text, some soiling to title page, burn-through from a few letters of title (due to acidic ink). Text in small elegant hand to rectos and versos of 41 leaves, most beginnings and ends of most sections have calligraphic decorations. Handsome. \$750.

* Carefully organized and written with fine penmanship, this is a fair copy of lecture notes on procedure. It is arranged in three books with chapters (titles) and furnished with side-notes. The final six leaves, in the same hand, are a collection of poems (on non-legal subjects). [Order This Item](#)

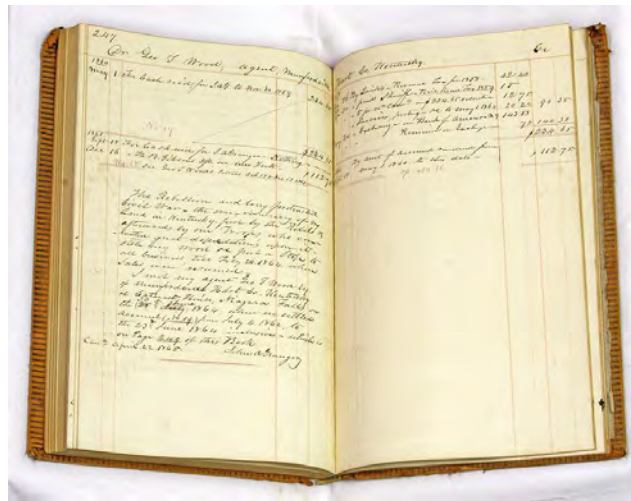


Frankfurter Quotes Holmes

9. Frankfurter, Felix [1882-1965].

[*Typed Letter, Signed, On Harvard Law School Letterhead, November 5, 1932*]. Single 8" x 5-1/2" sheet and 6" x 3-1/2" envelope. Some toning, two horizontal fold lines to letter, which has a full signature. Items housed in handsome recent cloth solander case with calf lettering piece. \$650.

* Friendly letter to Alice Strong, who was compiling an anthology of quotations. It appears she asked Frankfurter for a suggestion. He writes, "I should like to offer...Mr. Justice Holmes' words: 'The mode by which the inevitable comes to pass is effort.'" It appears that Strong never completed (or published) her anthology. This letter was part of the collection of James S. Copley, the newspaper chief and bibliophile. [Order This Item](#)



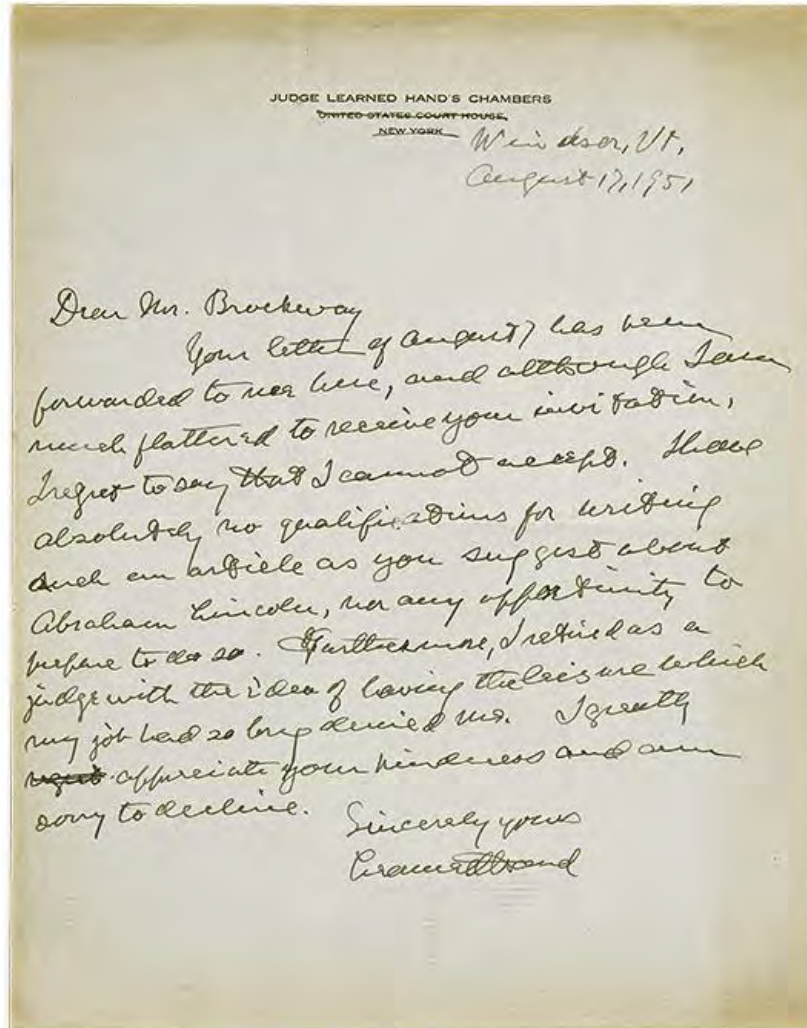
Ledger Detailing the Sale of Lands from "Granger's Great Tract" in Kentucky

10. [Granger (Grainger), John A. (1795-1870)].

List of Kentucky Land and Sales, January 22, 1845. [New York?, 1845-1868]. 280 pp. 3 manuscript slips laid in. Folio (12-1/4" x 7-3/4").

Reversed calf, black-stamped fillets and frames to boards, hand-lettered title to front board, raised bands and lettering piece (reading "Journal") to spine. Some staining to boards and spine, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to corners, some chipping to spine ends, rear hinge starting at ends. Light toning, content in neat hand to roughly 90 pp., mostly dating from 1845-1850, interspersed with additional blank pages and a few later unrelated entries with later dates through 1868. \$1,250.

* One of Kentucky's largest landowners, Gideon Grainger (or Granger), a New Yorker, held 64,000 acres in the region around Bardstown and Glasgow, an area nicknamed "Granger's Great Tract." Divided into three sections, this ledger records the sale of his lands by Gideon's heirs. It has a detailed accounting of the "List of Lands belonging to the Heirs of Gideon Granger, remaining unsold in Hardin, Hart & Larue Co's. Kentucky" totaling some 35,078 acres. An accompanying notation reads: "All the above Land in Kentucky belongs to John A. Granger and was Deeded to him on the 22nd January 1845 by Mindwell P. Granger & Francis Granger Executors & Trustees of the Estate of Gideon Granger, deceased, which Deed is duly recorded in Hardin, Hart & Larue Counties, Ky. and is in the hands of Geo. T. Wood Esq. my agent at Munfordville, Hart Co., Ky." John A. Granger. The second section of ledger is titled: "List of Squatters in John A. Granger's land all but two seen and visited by him in May 1844 & April 1845." Each squatter is listed by name and respective parcel with various notations such as "Old Road on the east Line - boundary disputed," "On the Nashville Turnpike," "Superior Land," "On the Litchfield Road," etc. A number of squatters purchased land, transactions likely prompted by Granger's site visits. The third section contains a "List of Land sold by George T. Wood, agent for Gen. John A. Granger," comprising numerous names and various notations. Fourth and final section is titled: "George T. Wood, agent at Munfordville Ky. in a/c with John A. Granger." This section contains extensive lists and some elaborate notations pertaining to the sale of land with names and prices, taxes, surveyor expenses, leases and deeds, etc. John A. Granger, the compiler of this ledger, was a New York militia leader and major general of the 22nd division of infantry. In the back of book he writes: "The Rebellion and long protracted Civil War - the over-running of my land in Kentucky - just by the Rebels & afterwards by our troops who committed great depredations upon it - stole my wood and put a stop to all business til Feby 26, 1864 when sales were resumed. I met my agent Geo. T. Wood Esq. of Munfordville at Cataract House, Niagara Falls on the 30th June 1864, when we settled account (No. 19) from July 4, 1862 to 23rd June 1864..." A fascinating document, it offers insights into patterns of land ownership and conveyance and the history of Kentucky's Bluegrass Region. [Order This Item](#)



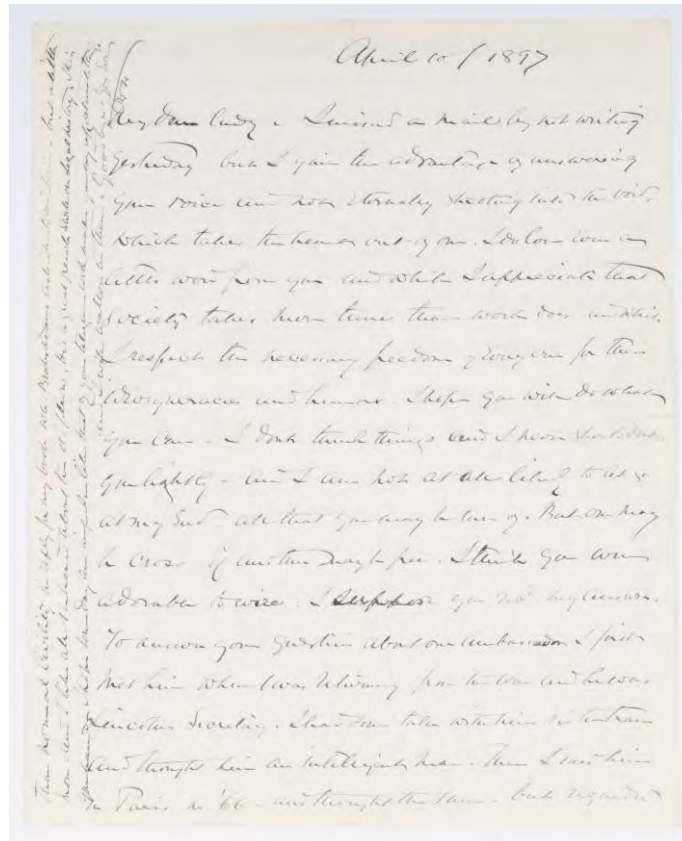
Learned Hand Declines an Offer to Write an Article About Abraham Lincoln

11. Hand, Learned [1872-1961].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, On Hand's U.S. Court House Letterhead, Address Struck-Through and Corrected, Windsor, VT, August 17, 1951].

11" x 8-1/2" sheet. Some toning, fold lines, two vertical and one horizontal, light offsetting (from corrugated screen?) to verso, with a bit of negligible show-through on recto. \$1,250.

* One of the most significant American jurists of the twentieth century, Hand was a judge of the U.S. Southern District of New York, later a judge of the Court of Appeals, Second Circuit. He was renowned for his judgments, which were also admired for their lucidity and elegance. This letter is addressed to a "Mr. Brockaway," apparently an editor, who solicited an article from Hand about Abraham Lincoln. Hand declined, saying he had "absolutely no qualifications" to write about Lincoln or time "to prepare to do it." He adds: "Furthermore, I retired as a judge with the idea of having the leisure which my job had so long denied me." At the time of this letter Hand was a retiree, but he would soon return to work. Assuming senior status, he continued to hear special cases for the next ten years. During that time he published two books: *The Spirit of Liberty* (1952) and *The Bill of Rights* (1958). [Order This Item](#)



**"Don't you Feel a Sort of Settled Intimacy as
the Result of Time and our Writing and Every Thing?"**

**12. Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr [1841-1935].
[Castletown, Lady Clare (1853-1927)].**

[Autograph Letter Signed "OWH" to Lady Clare Castletown, Boston (?), April 10, 1897].

10" x 8" bifolium, content filling rectos and versos of both leaves. Light toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines, minor tears to folds in two places. \$3,000.

* This letter dates from the early years of Holmes's lengthy correspondence with Lady Clare Castletown, an aristocratic woman with whom Holmes had an intense flirtation. Holmes, then an associate justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, offers interesting remarks about the statesman John Hay, the historian Henry Adams and the recently-published book *Farthest North* (1897) by the Norwegian Polar explorer Fridtjof Nansen. The letter reads, in part: "To answer your question about our Ambassador [Hay], I first met him when I was returning from the war and he was Lincoln's Secretary. I had some talk with him on the train and thought him an intelligent man. Then I saw him in Paris in '66 and thought the same, but regard him as having a rather a thin varnish on an imperfect Civilization. He has had much experience since then I know and no doubt has learnt much. (...) He is a friend of Henry Adams, a son of our Minister to England, which is a mark in his favor as the Adamses are a clever lot-that's that. (...) My most interesting experience in the way of general reading is Nansen's book (*Farthest North*). It is beautiful as a Greek statue. (...) [N]othing could be more enchanting than to see a man nearly killing himself for an End which derives its worth simply from his having affirmed it. You see the pure ideal in concrete-nonsensical and sublime. (How much we could tell each other if we met again. Don't you feel a sort of settled intimacy as the result of time and our writing and every thing? For oh oh oh, I wish."

[Order This Item](#)



A Notable Philadelphia Attorney Writes to James Madison and Others

13. Ingersoll, Charles Jared [1782-1862].

[Madison, James [1751-1836], And Other Recipients].

[*Letters from Ingersoll to James Madison and Others*]. Philadelphia or Washington, D.C. 1825-1848.

6 letters comprising 11 pages, sizes range from 7-1/4" x 3-1/2" to 10" x 8." Manuscript in ink. Light to moderate toning, fold lines, minor wear and soiling. \$950.

* The son of Jared Ingersoll [1749-1822], Continental Congressman and Signer of the U.S. Constitution, Charles Jared Ingersoll was a Philadelphia lawyer and Pennsylvania U.S. District Attorney and Congressman. This small but interesting collection of letters are representative of his equally distinguished legislative and judicial careers.

The addressees in our group of letters include former U.S. President James Madison, lawyer and later Mayor of Philadelphia John Morin Scott and John Young Mason, jurist and then U.S. Secretary of the Navy. The letter to Madison introduces a French nobleman visiting America who wishes "to examine its institutions." The letter to Scott concerns *The Postmaster General v. Eldred &c. of Ridgway*, a legal case he was hearing in the Court of the U.S. Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In 1844, while serving as U.S. Representative from Pennsylvania in the 28th Congress, Ingersoll wrote a letter to Richard E. Stillwell providing a detailed response to a request for a professional memoir. Ingersoll's letter of July 17, 1844 to E.L. Burd of Chestnut Street in Philadelphia accedes with the latter's request for an introduction to the newly appointed U.S. Minister to France, William Rufus King. Burd's reply the next day was written upon the same bifolium and returned to Ingersoll with Burd's "sincere thanks."

In 1847 Samuel Grice of Kensington in Philadelphia, trying of obtain a midshipman warrant in the navy for his nephew, Samuel J. Deacon, wrote Ingersoll for his help. When no immediate action was taken by the Secretary of the Navy, John Young Mason [1799-1859], Deacon himself appealed to Ingersoll via letter on April 17, 1847. In turn, Congressman Ingersoll (without endorsement or comment) forwarded the letter to the Secretary of the Navy that same day to support his case. Writing to an unnamed recipient, Ingersoll's letter of March 25, 1848 sends along an unauthorized Philadelphia imprint concerning his thoughts "on the Mission to Italy" during the Risorgimento of 1848. This letter was written when he was Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Foreign Affairs. [Order This Item](#)

State of New York: On the 5th Day of February
1806 before me came Rufus Backus,
Grace Sargent & Solomon Baker of the
County of Washington & severally acknow-
-ledged themselves to be indebted to David
Richardson in sixteen hundred Dollars to be
paid on their respective goods & chattels,
lands & Tenements if Default be made
in the following Condition -
The Condition of the above Recog-
-nizance is that if Rufus Backus
aforesaid shall prosecute a writ of habeas
from the Supreme Court & the Court for
the Trial of Impleasments & the Comstock
of Error on a judgment obtained against
him in the said Supreme Court in favor
of the said David Richardson & shall pay and
satisfy, if such judgment shall be affirmed
the debt or Damages & Costs to be adjudged
upon such judgment & all Costs & Damages
to be awarded for the Delay of Execution
then the above Recognizance to be void
otherwise to be & remain in full Force
Taken & acknowledged
before me Feb. 5 - 1806
James Kent

A Court Document in Kent's Hand, Signed by Kent

14. Kent, James [1763-1847].

[*Court Document in Kent's Hand, Signed by Kent*]. [New York]: February 5, 1806. 4 pp.

12-3/4" x 8-1/4" bifolium, docketed on verso of second leaf.

Horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears, light browning and minor edgewear. Content in small hand filling one page. \$950.

* A recognizance composed and signed by Kent when he was chief justice of the New York Supreme Court. It concerned a sum of \$1,600.00 owed to David Richardson by Rufus Backus. This debt was related to land owned in Washington County, NY. Kent, the great judge and legal scholar, is known for his path-breaking *Commentaries on American Law* (1826-1830) and precedent-setting career as chief justice of the New York Supreme Court (1804-1814) and chancellor of New York (1814-1823). [Order This Item](#)

Huntstown January 23 1762
To Lieut Obdiah Dickson proprietors Treasure of
Huntstown so called we the subscribers Being the Committee
of accounts of the sd proprietors Desire you wood pay to
Nathan Chapin of Huntstown so called the sum of two
pound thirtein shillings Lawfull money Being his
Bill for procuring Law Books for sd proprietors
and passed by us
Ebenezer Belding
Reuben Belding
the committee
of accounts

Concerns Payment for a Purchase of Law Books

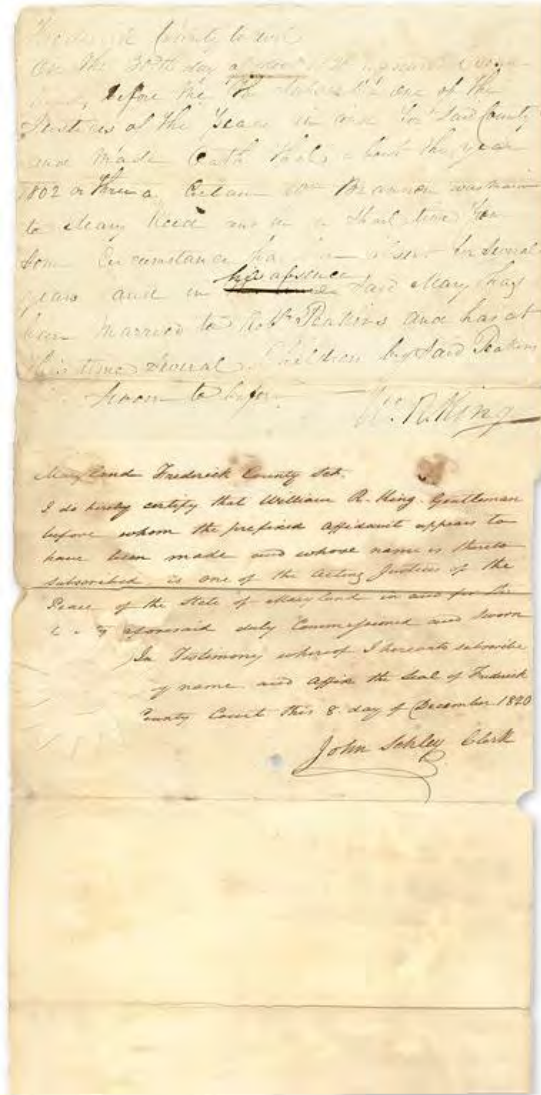
15. [Law Books].

[Massachusetts].

[Document Concerning Payment for the Purchase of Law Books, Huntstown (Ashfield), MA, January 23, 1762].

3-1/2" x 6-3/4" sheet, moderate toning, light toning and soiling, vertical and horizontal folds with cello tape reinforcements to verso. Content in neat hand, franked in different hand on verso. \$500.

* This document is signed by two early settlers, Ebenezer Belding and Reuben Belding. It reads, in part: "To Lieut. Obdiah Dickson proprietors' Treasure of Huntstown so called we the subscribers Being of the Committee of accounts of the sd proprietors Desire you wood [sic] pay to Nathan Chapin of Huntstown so called the sum of two pound thirtein shillings Lawfull money Being his Bill for procuring Law Books for sd proprietors and passed by us." The notes on the verso track the gradual repayment of the debt. [Order This Item](#)



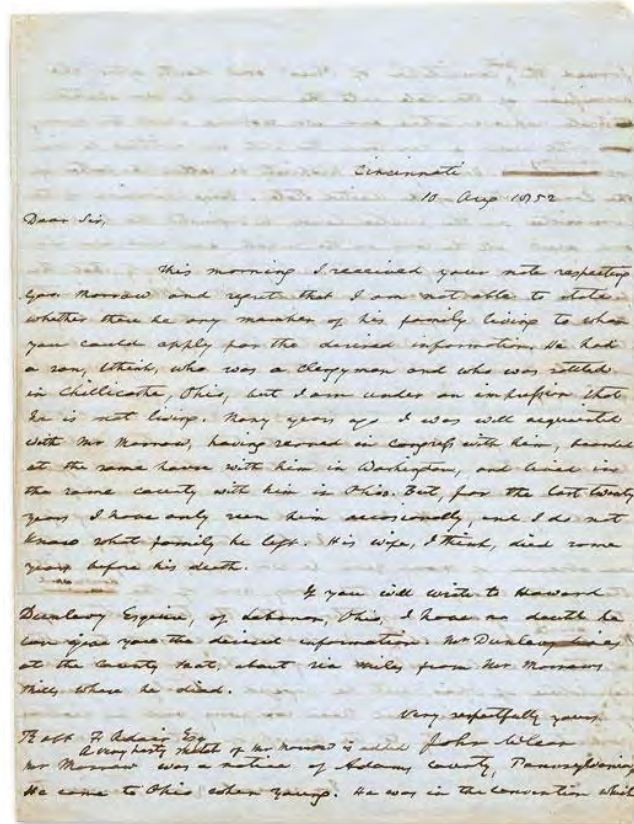
Manuscript Document Relating to a Bigamy Case in Maryland

16. [Maryland].

King, William R., And John Schley, Justices of the Peace.

Frederick County to Wit. On the 20th Day of November 1820 Appeared Evem [Evan or Eben] Reed, Before Me the Subscriber One of the Justices of the Peace in and for Said County and Made Oath That About the Year 1802 or Thre a Certain William Brannon was Married to Mary Reed. [Frederick County, Maryland.] December 8, 1820. Two 16-1/2" x 8" leaves sealed together with wax, embossed paper seal. Toning and some light stains, five horizontal fold lines, partial tear near center. \$250.

* A curious pair of conjoined documents relating to a bigamy case. One is signed by William R. King, justice of the peace, who attests that an Evem [Evan or Eben] Reed made an oath before him. Reed claimed that in 1802 a man named William Brannon was married to a Mary Reed "and in a short time from some circumstance has been absent for several years. And in his absence said Mary has been married to Robert Peakins and has at this time several Children by said Peakins." The second item is signed and sealed by John Schley, clerk of Frederick County Court, Maryland. It verifies William R. King is a justice of the peace. [Order This Item](#)



**Memories of Ohio Governor Jeremiah Morrow
by an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court**

17. McLean, John [1785-1861].

[Adair, Robert F.].

Morrow, Jeremiah (1771-1852)].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, To Robert F. Adair, Cincinnati, OH, August 10, 1852].

Single leaf folded to form bifolium and a single leaf, all 10-1/2" x 8-1/2," franked on verso of single leaf. Content in neat hand to rectos and versos of bifolium leaves. Light toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines, small losses at wax seal causing very small text loss, but no loss of legibility, minor edgewear and a few short tears to margins. This letter is accompanied by a contemporary 4-1/2" x 3-1/2" copperplate portrait of McLean (on a 9" x 6" leaf). \$950.

* A substantive 4-1/2 page letter by U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice John McLean about late Ohio congressman, senator, and governor, Jeremiah Morrow, who died five months earlier. McLean had served in Congress with Morrow. Appointed by President Andrew Jackson, McLean is best remembered today as the senior Supreme Court justice, and one of only two justices, who dissented in *Dred Scott v. Sanford*. During the 1850s, when Chief Justice Roger B. Taney was frequently ill, McLean who presided over the Court. In this letter, McLean replies to a query about Morrow from Robert F. Adair and here appends a four-page memoir of his late friend. Robert F. Adair of Maysville, Kentucky may possibly be silversmith Robert Farriss Adair (1833-1907). Justice McLean writes: "Many years ago I was well acquainted with Mr. Morrow, having served with him in Washington, and lived in the same county with him in Ohio." McLean directs Adair to write to "Howard Dunlevy Esquire" who lived only six miles from Governor Morrow. Almost like a postscript, McLean writes "[a] very hasty sketch of Morrow." Much more than a sketch, it almost four pages in length and includes biographical facts and, more interestingly, personal observations, anecdotes and judgments. [Order This Item](#)



Documents of a Contentious 1880 Divorce in Indiana

18. [Ober, Anthony].

[*Legal Rant Over a Contentious Divorce and a Personal Summons to Appear in Court*]. Yorkville, IN, 1880.

Two bifolio letters, 8" x 5," manuscript in ink, dated March 11 and May 11, 1880. Letter of May 11 docketed "Yorkville Ind." Light toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines. \$250.

* Two almost stream-of-consciousness letters concerning Ober's contentious divorce from his wife. Ober's handsome penmanship is a stark contrast to his poor spelling, lack of punctuation and obviously anxious mental state. (Ober's spelling and sentence construction also suggests that German may be his native language.) Ober's letter of March 11 is an unleashed flood of words: "Sir I have the honor To inform you about the Notification To Appear before the Court in Lawrenceburg [Dearborn County, Indiana] i got. Twice Notified now by Attorney Holman to appear the 10th of March and 24th April at 9 O'Clock. A.M. at Court Room in Lawrenceburg and i can't see my Wife or some of Parents nor of her Attorney's i see she tried to give me expenses to runn me Back and Forward my Wife and the familie Left me and Promised me her Little girl to cook my crop... She want to gve me the Divorce on Account to Collect the five hundred Dollars \$500 which i Loaned her father all the Charges are Lies except hard Words and der [there] i give you a Statement about does [those] words She Smashed the Buckey [buggy] and ruined the Horse She came Home in the Evening vitout [without] a Buckey nor Horse that on one Sunday and several other cases and i Notify that i never will Pay nothing about my wife so long She will Stay outside my House...i Married that woman not on Account her good Look or about her Money because it got none around the intire Familie want to get my Money I took her for to doe My work and to Live Still together [together]..."

Ober's second letter appears to assume the form of a personal, rather than court-issued, summons to appear in court. He seems to be reconciled to the divorce. The letter may be addressed to his attorneys, Holman and Schwartz, likely former (and future) Congressman William S. Holman and former mayor of Lawrenceburg and Bavarian immigrant, John Schwartz: "Sir i have the honor to inform you to be Notified to appear before the court in Lawrenceburg throuh you the 12the of May 1880 to anwser [answer] the question about those charges those Charges are wrong Cruel treatment i never raised my Hand toward my Wife and Neglect for Providing necessairy Care or Treatment...so Mister Holman and Schwartz i wish you will finish the Divorce case to receive the Divorce From my Wife i been praieing [praying] and Talken to her to come Back shee wouldned [wouldn't] doed [do it] She want always my Money and Put me Now in so deep expences and Shee Brought not one cent in the Marriage so is my will and wish to tak[e] the Divorce from her because we can Live any more Peaceful together [together]... It appears that Anthony Ober wants out, at any cost. [Order This Item](#)



Early Docket Book from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania

19. [Pennsylvania].

[Commissioners of Mifflin County].

[Docket Book, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, 1812-1839]. [300] pp. Oblong folio (15-1/2" x 6-1/2").

Three quarter sheep over marbled boards. Light rubbing to boards, heavier rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends and corners. Light toning, faint dampstaining, a few partial cracks to text block, text in small neat hand to rectos and versos of 66 pages, later annotations in pencil to endleaves and a few other places. \$500.

* Apparently a retrospective record, this ledger records court appearance records for Mifflin County, Pennsylvania from 1812 to 1839. This is an early docket book; the county was founded in 1789. The content is related exclusively to cases heard in this central Pennsylvania county, with hundreds of individual names and various institutions, such as the Turnpike Road Company, United States Bank, Juniata Bank and Lewistown Presbyterian Church. The entries include an "indictment for the murder of her child," an "indictment for larceny," and an "indictment for scaring defendants [who were] not guilty." [Order This Item](#)

For Gladys
Mr. M. J.
Feb 27. '65

My dear Sir,

Yours of 15th. came
to sight Saturday evening. It
was directed "Rocky Hill" and
remained to the P. O. here. I
left for Wash. Thursday 24th
& not Saturday eve.

In regard to Levi Benson, I
suppose him to be a brother
of Benson of the "Cromwell
Tape Murder case", who was
convicted of perjury & sentenced
to State Prison; as I always
thought unjustly; and pardoned
out by the Legislature of '62. One
of the Bensons spent some time
in Rocky Hill a year or more
ago, since which have known
nothing of his whereabouts, etc.

C. T. Pratt

Crime and Prostitution in Connecticut

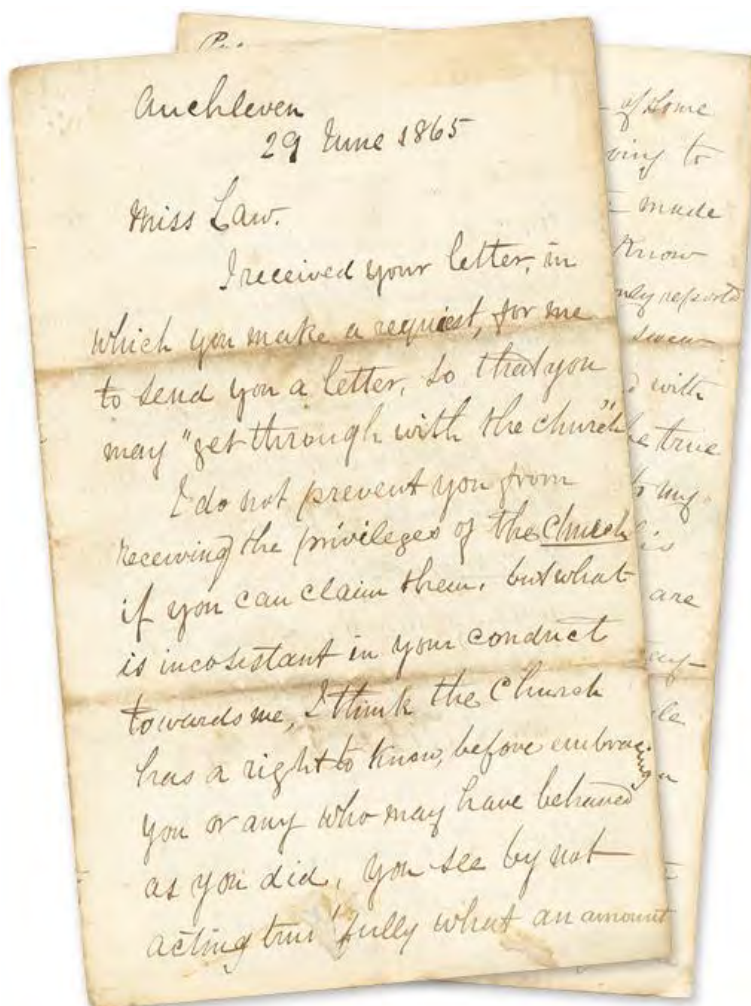
20. Pratt, Charles T.

[Jones, Samuel F.].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, South Glastonbury, Connecticut, February 27, 1865].

Single leaf folded to from 8" x 5" bifolium, no transmittal envelope. Horizontal fold line, first and last pages browned. Content in neat hand to rectos and versos of all pages. \$450.

* A curious Civil War-era letter reporting that a member of the noted Connecticut Goodrich family was operating an illegal saloon, gambling establishment and brothel in Pumpkintown, Connecticut, a village near Rocky Hill. The author of this letter, apparently one Charles T. Pratt, seems to be acting as a private investigator or informant for Saml. F. Jones Esq., who was probably an attorney. Pratt's letter begins with a description of various criminals associated with murder, perjury, and prisons. He then turns to the dishonorable conduct of Nathaniel B. Goodrich: "Nath'l long ago commenc'd keeping a rum hole in "Pumpkintown" as its call'd (west part of Rocky Hill" at which; it's been said; all sorts of games men play'd day & night, Sunday's included. "Twas indeed a bad place. Some three or four years ago he went to Hrfd [Hartford] & kept a saloon in the cellar of Sissery [?] block, when; he admitted to me; he kept whores: indeed he never attempted to disguise the thing. He has a little regard for "law & order" probably as any man ever had." It appears that Goodrich is facing a court trial. Pratt may be involved in gathering the facts of the case and locating or evaluating witnesses. Pratt continues: "His cousin will try hard to save him. I heard he had for witnesses, such chaps as George Wright, whose word no one acquainted with him would regard good for any thing. If testimony such as he will be apt to get will swear him clear, there is no danger of his final conviction. So far as I can learn "everybody" thinks Nat. guilty & that he used Kelly for a tool. All I have to say is, God grant that justice may be done all around." [Order This Item](#)



How Do You Know It's Mine?

21. Rae, L.M.

[Autograph Letter Signed, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, June 29, 1865].

Two bifolium 7-1/2" x 4-1/2" sheets, no transmittal envelope. Vertical and horizontal fold lines, some toning and minor soiling. Content in neat hand to rectos and versos of all leaves. \$450.

* A passionate letter to "Miss Law" alleging infidelity and a birth out of wedlock. Rae also discusses issues of child support and the involvement of church authorities. It seems Miss Law had gotten herself "in the family way" but the timing of the birth of the child and Rae's absence (he may have been a soldier) are not adding up. Reflecting back on the time just before law told Rae she was pregnant, he remembers how odd it was that she was forcing herself upon him and how "friendly" she was with one William Dick. He continues, hinting at even more lovers she might have had. Rae does not deny he has had sexual relations with Miss Law. He even suggests her father may have encouraged her duplicity and he is adamant that he was absent from her at the time of conception. It is unclear, but Law may have been seeking charity money from the church as an abandoned mother, or perhaps, she may be attempting to garnish Rae's salary with the church's help. In all, the letter records a sad and sordid tale. [Order This Item](#)



Diary of a Prominent Yonkers, New York, Lawyer, Judge and Politician

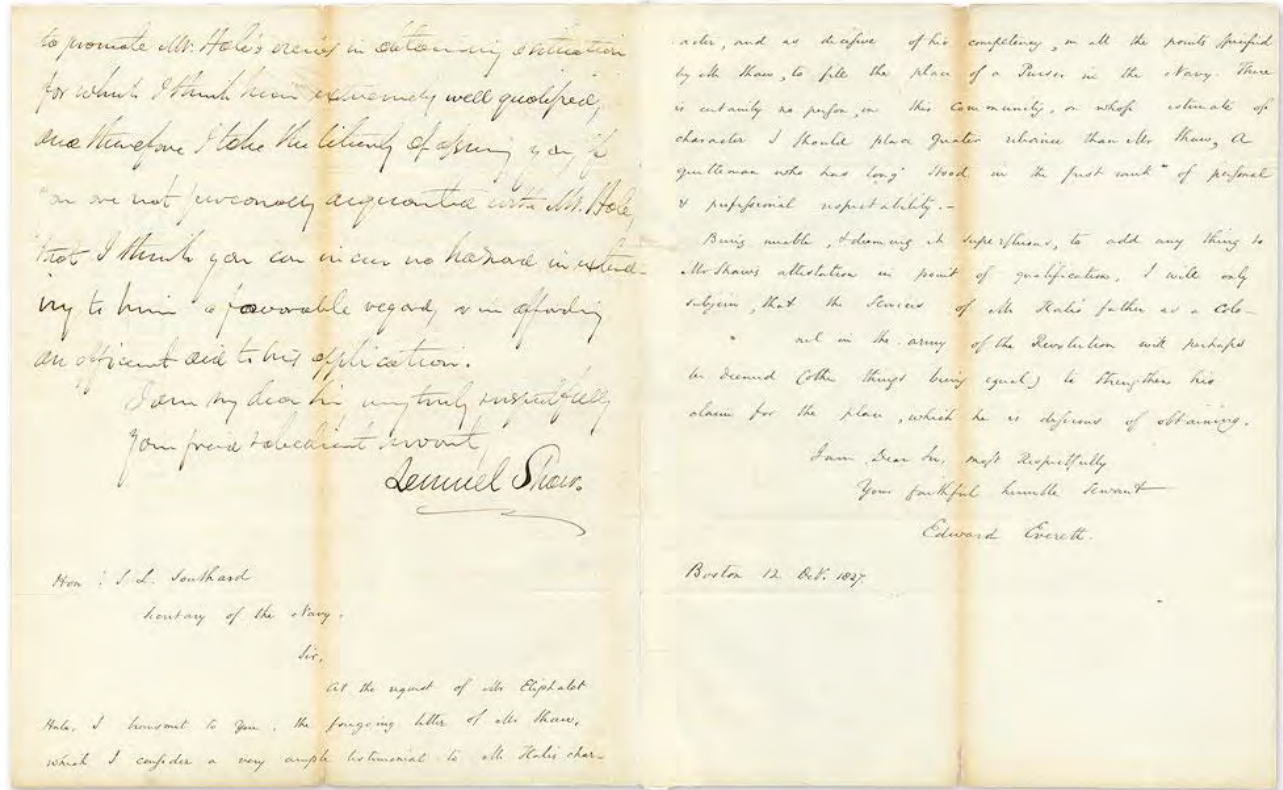
22. Scrugham, William Warburton [1820-1867].

[*Diary of William Warburton Scrugham*]. [Yonkers, NY, February 1, 1844--March 31, 1845]. 19, [120] pp. 12mo. (6-1/4" x 3-3/4").

Quarter sheep over marbled boards, printed paper title panel to front board (reading *Diary for 1844*. Published by Jansen & Bell, 158 Nassau-Street, New York). Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, spine abraded, a few cracks to text block. Light toning to text, some leaves have light foxing, a few have faint dampstains. "Scrugham 1844" to front free endpaper, rectos and versos of most leaves filled in small neat hand. \$1,500.

* Scrugham studied at Columbia College and read law in the office of Samuel E. Lyon, in White Plains, New York, around 1836. When he was accepted to the County Board at White Plains as the supervisor for Yonkers, he was the youngest member, but he was popular and eventually became chairman. He continued to represent Yonkers for several years. In 1848 he was elected District Attorney of the county and in 1849 appointed lieutenant colonel of the 17th Regiment of State Militia, and the following year he was promoted to colonel. He infused new life into the regiment and was soon put in command of the Brigade as a Brigadier General. In 1849 he was nominated for Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, and upon taking his seat on the court, resigned his commission. In politics he was always a Democrat, but sided with the "Free Soilers" in 1848. A businessman and civic leader, he was the founder, Director and Secretary of the Yonkers Gas Light Company, an original trustee of the Yonkers Savings Bank, a director of the First National Bank of Yonkers, a director of the Yonkers and New York Fire Insurance Company, a trustee of the Yonkers Cemetery Association, one of the vestrymen of St. John's Church and a Mason.

The majority of entries in his diary concern his work as an attorney. They cover the time period after he left the office of Samuel E. Lyon in White Plains and set up his own practice. Scrugham's entries concern cases, searching out property records, writing up leases, wills and codicils and meetings with clients. Scrugham mentions several meetings with Lyon. The diary also includes an almost separate manuscript account of two transatlantic crossings. He left for Liverpool, England, on August 6th, 1844, arriving there on the 2nd of September. He visited some local sites but headed to London, where he explored the city until the middle of October. He then traveled to France, visiting Paris. After Paris and stops at other cities, he sailed back to America on November 18th, after spending over three months in Europe. He returned to America in early January, 1845. He describes his sailing voyages in great detail (gale winds, masts breaking, waves washing over the decks, ship is blown off course, becalmed, etc.) as well as the various places he visited and the people he either met, or called upon. The entries for the last couple of months (January-March 1845) resume descriptions of his daily life and law practice. [Order This Item](#)



**Lemuel Shaw Asks Edward Everett
to Help a Friend Seeking a Naval Commission**

23. Shaw, Lemuel [1781-1861].

Everett, Edward [1795-1865].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, to Edward Everett with Everett's Appended, And Signed, Letter of Transmittal, Boston, October 4, 1827 and October 12, 1827]. Single leaf folded to form 9-3/4" x 7-3/4" bifolium with integral address leaf, franked in red on verso of second leaf.

Some toning, old lines with short tears at ends, some remnants of paper from old mounting on back with no loss of legibility. \$750.

* This item from future Chief Justice of Massachusetts Lemuel Shaw to then Congressman and future Gettysburg orator Edward Everett contains two letters. It contains Shaw's original letter, requesting help for a friend who was seeking a commission as a purser in the Navy, and Everett's appended letter on behalf of Shaw's friend to the Secretary of the Navy, Samuel L. Southward. In the 19th century, Edward Everett was celebrated as a preacher and public orator. He is most famous for delivering a two-hour oration in 1863 at the dedication of the Gettysburg military cemetery. Everett's speech was subsequently eclipsed by President Abraham Lincoln's immortal, two-minute Gettysburg Address. At the time this letter was written Shaw had already served in both houses of the Massachusetts Legislature and had drafted the first charter of the City of Boston. In 1830, he became the Chief Justice of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He served on that court for 30 years and participated in such notable cases as the "Parkman-Webster" murder case and in Commonwealth v. Hunt, an important labor law precedent establishing that labor unions were not criminal conspiracies.

[Order This Item](#)



Day Books of an English Solicitor from 1794, 1803 and 1811

**24. [Solicitors].
[Kent, England].**

Day Book Commencing April 1794. [Kent, England, April 2, 1794-January 13, 1802]. [96] pp.

[With]

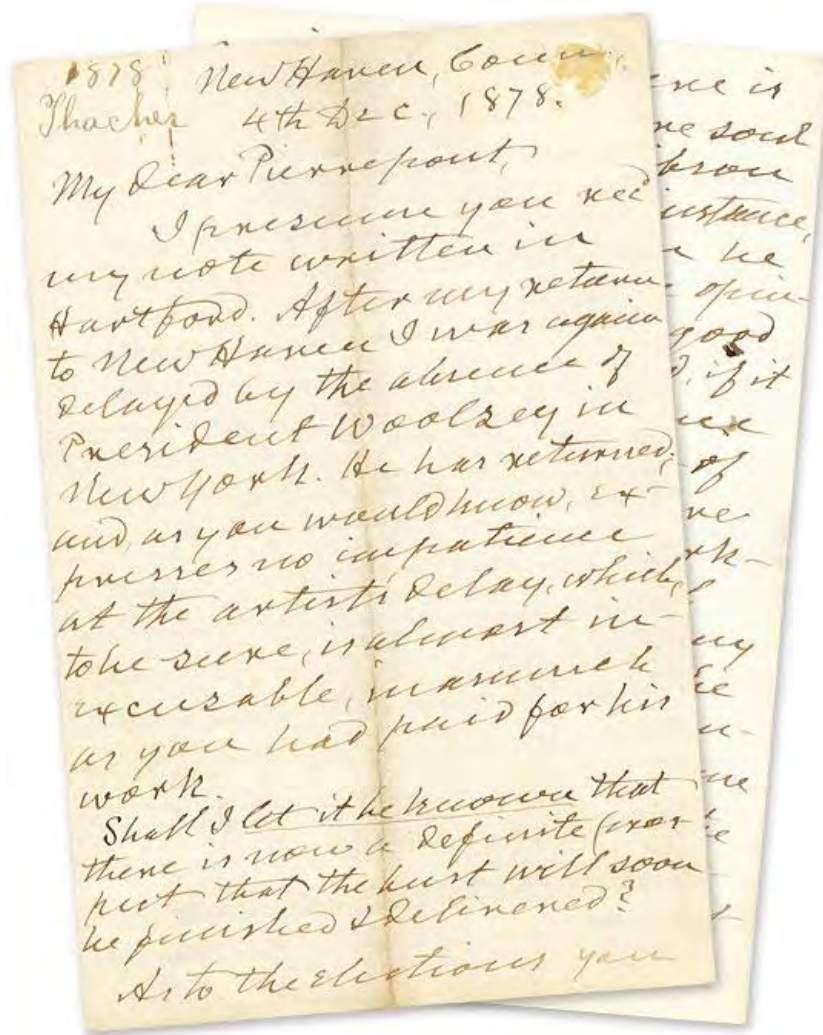
[Day Book]. [Kent, England, January 3, 1803-January 14, 1811]. [96] pp.

[And]

Day Book Commencing 2nd February 1811. [Kent, England, February 2, 1811-November 11, 1813]. [50] pp.

Quarto (9-1/2" x 8"). 1802 and 1813 books: Stab-stitched booklet in wrappers, manuscript titles to front wrapper; 1811 book: disbound stab-stitched booklet. Some soiling to exteriors, moderate rubbing to extremities with some edgewear and minor chips and tears, light browning to interiors, light soiling and minor stains to a few leaves, rectos and versos of all leaves filled with content in legible hand. \$1,250.

* We believe this manuscript is from Kent because it mentions a number of places there, such as Appledore and Bethersden. Written throughout in a single hand, these books record the daily business of solicitor with a busy practice over a 19-year period. Each entry lists clients, services rendered and fees. Several of these include brief memoranda. Taken together, these books are both a record of a practitioner's professional activities and a window into the social and economic networks of Kent in the years around the turn of the nineteenth century. [Order This Item](#)



**1878 Letter from a Yale Professor to a Notable New York Attorney
Concerning the End of Reconstruction and a Bust of Yale's President**

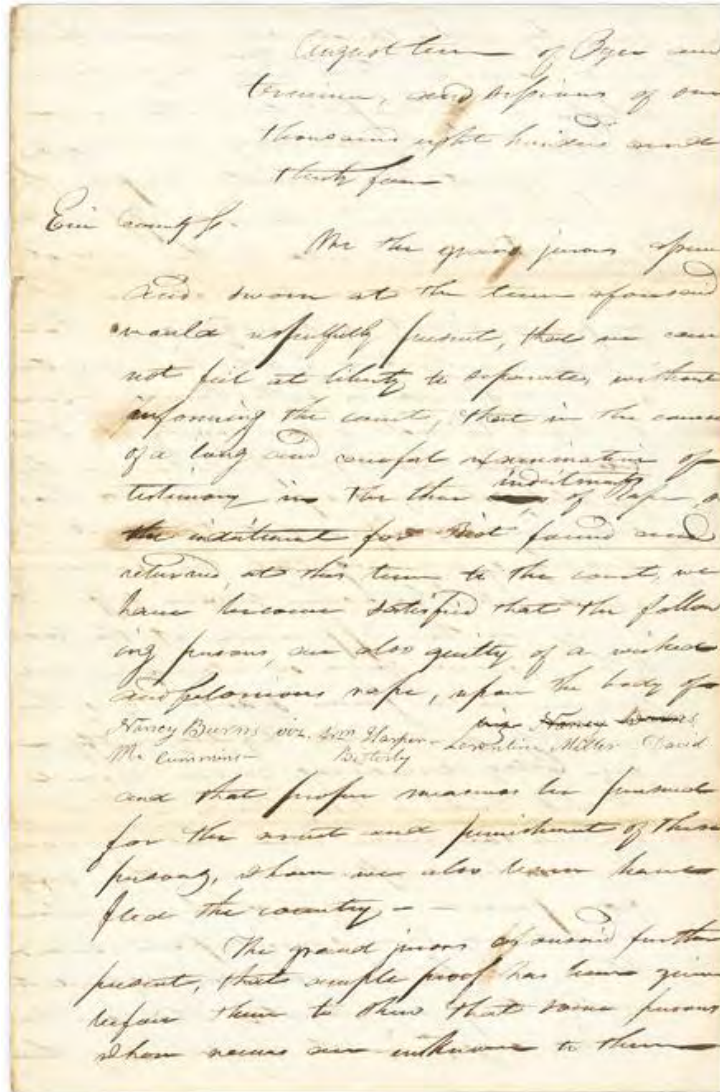
25. Thacher, Thomas A. [1815-1886].

[Edwards Pierrepont (1817-1892)].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, To Edwards Pierrepont, New Haven, CT, December 4, 1878].

Two 8" x 5" sheets, text to rectos and versos, no transmittal envelope. Moderate toning and a few minor stains, vertical fold lines. \$250.

* A candid 1878 letter by Yale classics professor Thomas A. Thacher discussing the upcoming Congressional mid-term elections, Louisiana politics, and the "villainy" of the "white people of the slave states." It is addressed to "My Dear Pierrepont," a Yale College and Yale Law graduate who was one of the most important lawyers and political figures of the later nineteenth century. Thacher gives his negative opinion of the post-Reconstruction South and discusses the former Confederate General Randall L. Gibson, who was then a Democratic Congressman from Louisiana. Thacher's letter also discusses the delay in delivering a bust of Yale College President Theodore Dwight Woolsey by sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens that was commissioned by Pierrepont. [Order This Item](#)



"Bribes, Threats and Alarms"

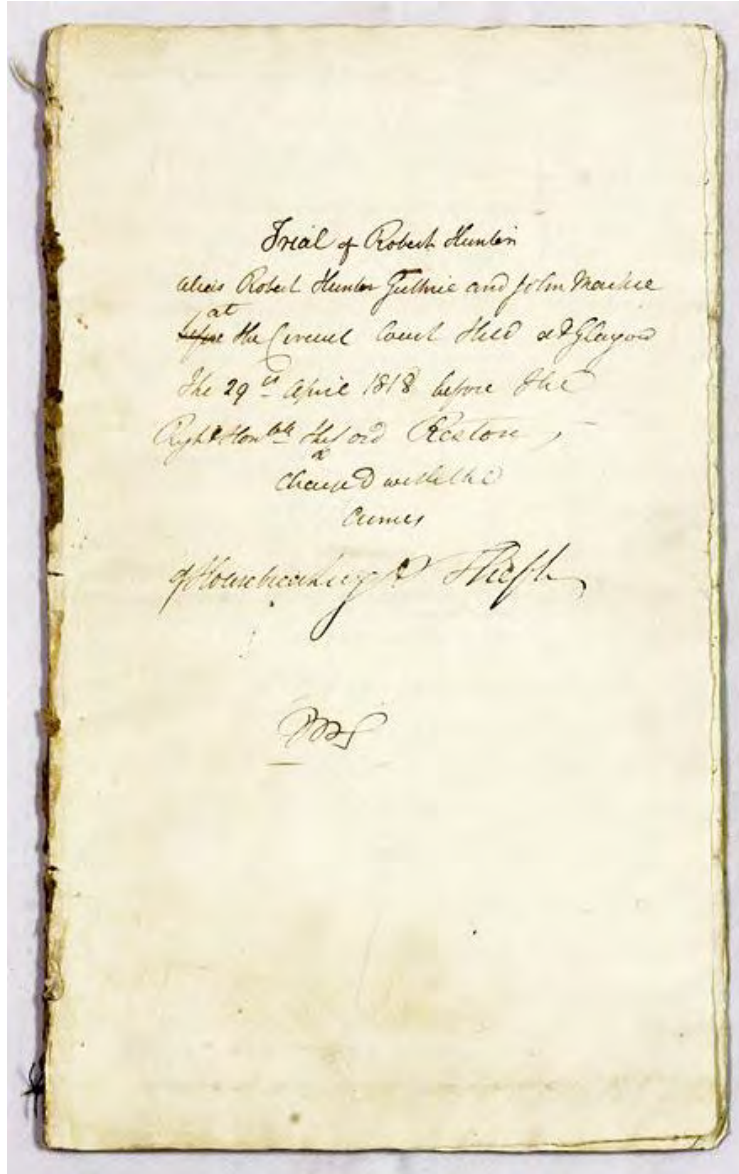
26. [Trial].

[Pennsylvania].

[Grand Jury Presentment Concerning Improprieties in a Rape Case]. [Erie County, PA, August 8, 1834]. 4 pp. 13" x 8" bifolium, docketed on verso of second leaf.

Horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears, light browning and minor edgewear. Content in small hand filling three pages. Item accompanied by typed transcription. \$1,250.

* This appears to be a document from an unrecorded rape case. It reads, in part: "We the grand jurors... have become satisfied that the following persons are also guilty of a wicked and felonious rape, upon the body of Nancy Burns viz., Wm. Harper, Lorentine Miller, David McCummins and that proper measures be pursued for the arrest and punishment of these persons, whom we also learn have fled the country. The grand jurors further present, that ample proof has been given before them to show that some persons whose name are unknown to them have by bribes, threats and alarms, spirited away one of two or three very important witnesses in this very important matter..." [Order This Item](#)



Who Stole My Cheese?

27. [Trial].

[Glasgow, Scotland].

Trial of Robert Hunter, Alias Robert Hunter Guthrie and John Mackie [Running Title]. [Glasgow: April 29, 1818]. 18 ff. Last leaf partially blank, docketed on verso. Folio (12-1/2" x 7.5").

Disbound, light soiling and edgewear, three horizontal fold lines, lower portion of final leaf lacking with no loss to text. Content in neat hand throughout. \$1,500.

* A curious collection of court documents involving a pair of men who were stealing and fencing stolen wheels of cheese from a warehouse. Sensing that the police were closing in on them, they fled, one is tempted to say "like mice," but were eventually apprehended. These documents appear to have been given to someone who organized them, added annotations, including the title on the first leaf, and had them bound into a volume. [Order This Item](#)



Antebellum Virginia Docket Book

28. [Virginia].

[Justice's Docket Book, Amherst County, Virginia, 1850-1859]. 2 books. [200]; [212] pp. Folio (13-1/2" x 8-1/4" and 12-3/4" x 8").

Quarter and three-quarter sheep over marbled boards, one book has lettering piece reading "Justice's Docket." Bindings lightly cocked, moderate rubbing to boards and board edges with light wear to corners, spine of one book abraded, its boards partially detached. Light toning, light foxing in places, staining to leaves at beginning and end of each book. Text in legible hands to approximately 80 pp., a few leaves, removed, torn or partially lacking with some loss to content, one book has additional annotations to pastedowns and adjacent endleaves. \$1,850.

* This ledger records appearances at a Virginia Justice's Court, most likely in Amherst, the county seat of Amherst County, Virginia. (This location indicated by the names of several parties from Amherst and nearby locations, among them Dr. William S. Dillard, a member of a prominent Amherst family. We acquired this item from one of Dillard's descendants.) The entries are organized in columns under the following headings: "Parties Names," "Date of Judgment," "Amount of Judgment," "Interest from Costs," "Exon. When Delivered," "To Whom Delivered," "When Returnable" and "Return." Most of the cases date from 1850 to 1859. There are also some notes recording sales transactions dated 1880 to 1889 at the rear of one book, along with a set of recipes for foxgrape wine dated 1881. [Order This Item](#)

16

Kanawha County S.S.

This day personally appeared before me Benjamin Arnold a Justice of the Peace in and for said County Lewis & Brannan and other being duly qualified for that purpose with and for which the following declaration

That some time in May 1841 he thinks about the 15th of said month he met with Lewis Marks a member of said Lewis & Brannan in Lewis County near the Jackson County line who inquired of me how far it was to Jackson County line and upon being told by me that they was near the line they asked they said they must go to Jackson County but I said it was three days in the day I requested them to stop and I wished to have some talk with them Lewis told the others to go on who appeared to have a bundle of some thing in their bosoms and he would talk with me but I wishing to see Lewis respected him to stop I approached to view him and conversing up with him I asked him what he had in his bosom he said nothing much and seeing something more in his bosom I laid hold and from the appearance I believe they were either young puppies or cubs but did not examine only the one of his hunting spirit they went on and the next morning I read of them killing some young wolves just over the line in Jackson County this is what now all know about it

And in as much as it is reported that there has been a certificate presented to the Court of Jackson County purporting to be given by me denying the allegations contained in the above certificate if any such certificate is in being it is fabricated and untrue

April the 8th 1841
J. B. Thomason

Fraudulent Collection of Wolf Bounties in Virginia

**29. [Virginia].
[Wolf Bounties].**

[Autograph Deposition Addressed to J.P. Thomasson and other justices of Jackson County, Signed by Justice of the Peace Benjamin Arnold, Kanawha County, Virginia, April 8, 1841]. 4 pp. 12-1/2" x 7-1/2" bifolium, docketed on verso of second leaf.

Horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears, tear through most of fold between the leaves, light browning and minor edgewear, a few small chips to edges. Content in neat small hand filling one page and a quarter of another. \$300.

* This deposition says the Marks family from Lewis County was carrying wolf puppies into Jackson county lines in order to kill them there in order to collect wolf-killing bounties awarded by the county. [Order This Item](#)

the population and in resources of every description is unparalleled in the Annals of
 the world, is a position which I believe will not be controverted, and if they continued
 to prosper for a very short period indeed, as they have commenced, and prospered hitherto
 no nothing can prevent them from eclipsing every other nation on earth. I fear however
 that we are deficient in one thing, if we are the most favored nation on earth, of which
 I think there can be no doubt, we ought also to be the most grateful nation on earth to
 the great dispenser of all events - in that point, I fear, we are immeasurably deficient; we
 are too apt to ascribe our prosperity to ourselves, and not to give the praise to God to
 whom it is really and justly due. - Nothing of any moment has yet transpired at
 either house of Congress, but an immense deal of business is cutting out for us, it is highly
 probable we shall not adjourn before the latter end of May, or beginning of June. I expect
 however to see you at the Cape Court, if I shall ever be obliged to return to this place
 afterwards; but I do not see how I can be at Eastern or Lancaster, to perform a journey
 of four hundred and twenty miles in stage travelling day and night in cold weather
 whether might suit my friend Judge Porter's constitution but would certainly not
 suit mine. - I am extremely sorry to hear that a prosecution has been commu-
 -enced against the gentleman you mention, because I do not believe it can be sustai-
 -ned, and it will in case it fails, of which I have no doubt, look so much like a prosecution
 that it will have an effect entirely contrary to that which is intended. - I saw
 Mr. Greenleaf this morning who informed me that he had just received a subpoena
 requiring his attendance at Harrisburg, as a witness on the part of the Judge,
 on the 20th inst. - of course I suppose your attendance will be required about
 the same time - in Binns' paper it is said that the present house of Represent-
 -atives do not consider themselves bound, in relation to the impeachments, by the
 proceedings of the last, but that they will re-examine the evidence and decide
 for themselves as to the course they will pursue - but from the circumstances of the
 witnesses being subpoenaed on the part of the Judge, I presume they must have
 determined to proceed - I commenced this letter with an intention of merely
 acknowledging the receipt of yours, you see to what a length I have gone without
 even saying any thing with respect to it - my pen is bad and I can't
 see to mend it, or I should probably have worried your patience still more. -
 With much respect
 Your obed^t. serv^t
 Geo. Wolf
 John Cooper Esq

Interesting Letter by a Distinguished
Nineteenth-Century Pennsylvania Lawyer-Politician

30. Wolf, George [1777-1840].

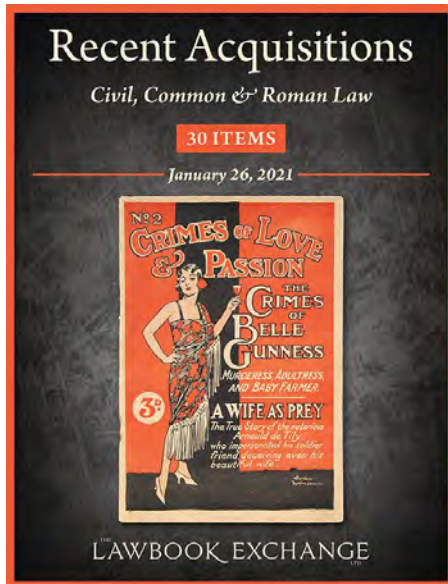
[Autograph Letter, Signed, Washington, DC, December 16, 1825].

Single 9-3/4" x 8" leaf. Four fold lines, two vertical and two horizontal, light browning. Content in small neat hand to recto and verso, fragments of paper (from an album) along left-hand margin. \$750.

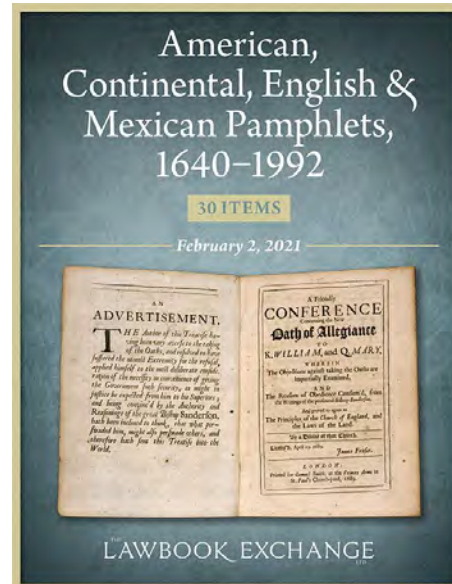
* A lawyer and Jeffersonian, later Jacksonian politician, Wolf was a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1814, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1824 to 1829 and the governor of Pennsylvania from 1829 to 1835. Appointed by President Jackson, served as the first comptroller of the Treasury, a post he held until 1838. He is best known as the governor who oversaw the establishment of Pennsylvania's public school system. Addressed to a John Cooper, an associate judge in Pennsylvania, this letter was written when Wolf was a U.S. Representative. Rich with "inside" information, it touches on several interesting topics: his work as a member of the "select committee on the subject of the monument to Geo. Washington," the annual message of President Adams, a mission to Panama, the prosperity of the United States and the impeachment of Robert Porter, a judge in Northampton, Pennsylvania. Letters by Wolf in the market are rare. We could locate only two auction records, the last at Henkels in 1907 (Lot 354, 3 Letters).

[Order This Item](#)

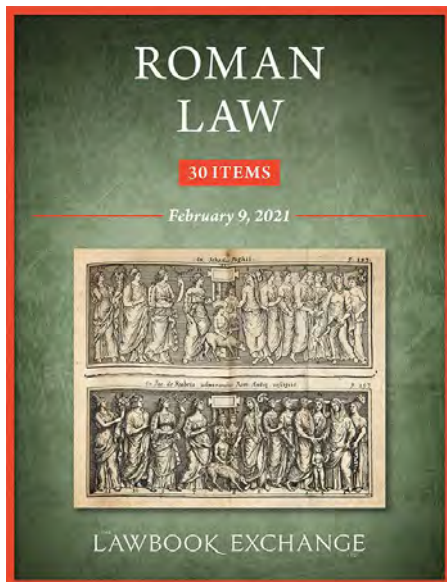
Recent Weekly E-Lists



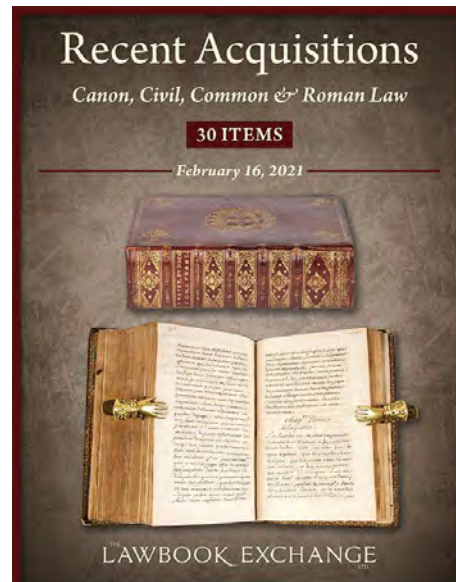
[January 26, 2021](#)



[February 2, 2021](#)



[February 9, 2021](#)



[February 16, 2021](#)

We are happy to hold items for institutional customers who wish to place orders today and have them invoiced or shipped at a later date