

Recent Acquisitions

ENGLISH, AMERICAN &
CONTINENTAL LAW, c.1474-1920

30 ITEMS

July 19, 2022





No Copies Located in North America

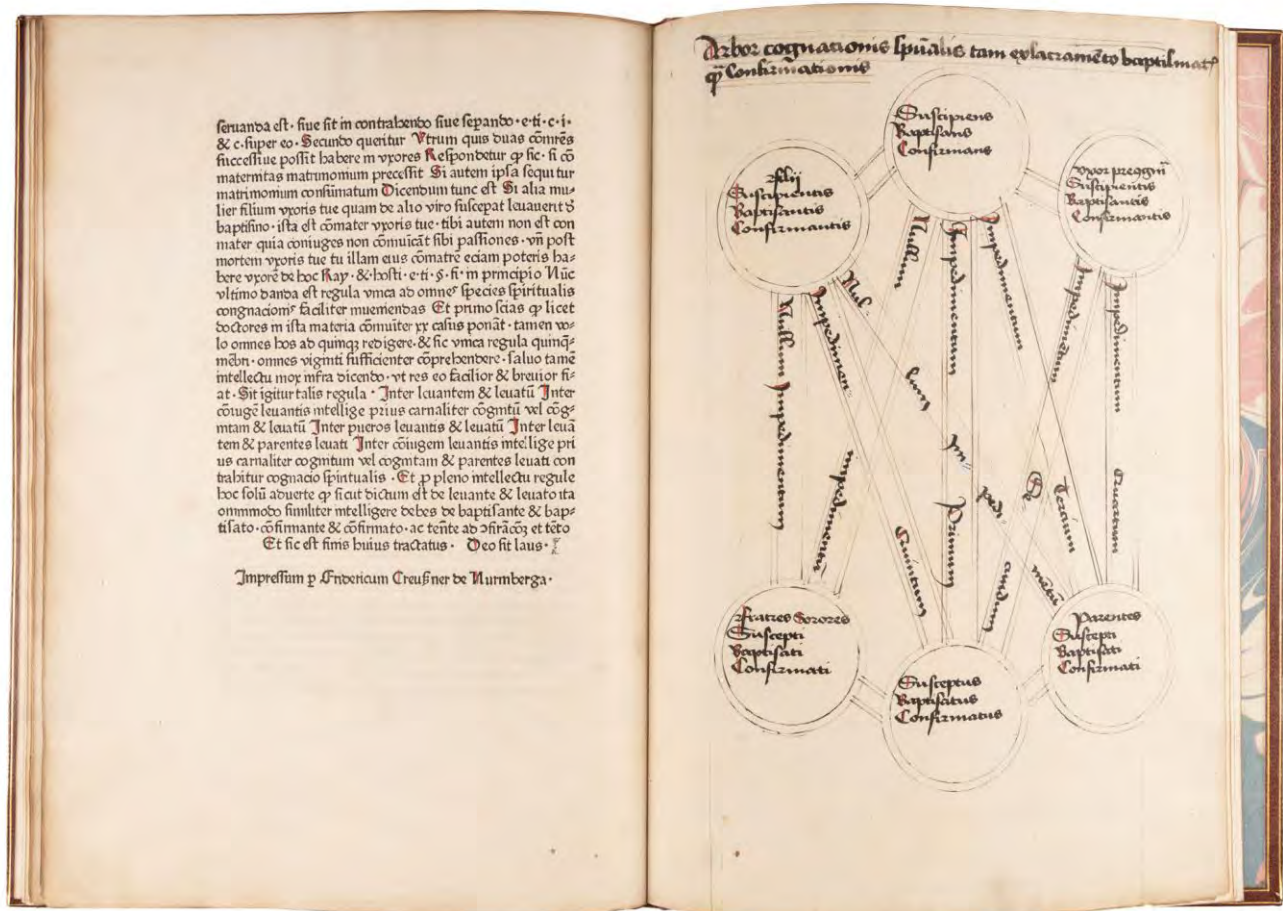
1. Andrea, Giovanni d' [1275-1348].

[*Super Arboribus Consanguinitatis, Affinitatis et Cognationis Spiritualis*]. [Nuremberg: Friedrich Creussner, c.1474-1477]. [10] ff. Collation: [a10]. 2 full-page woodcut tables of descents to leaves [a4]v and [a8]r, additional contemporary full-page manuscript table of spiritual relationships bound after text. Folio (11-1/2" x 8"; 29 x 20.5 cm).

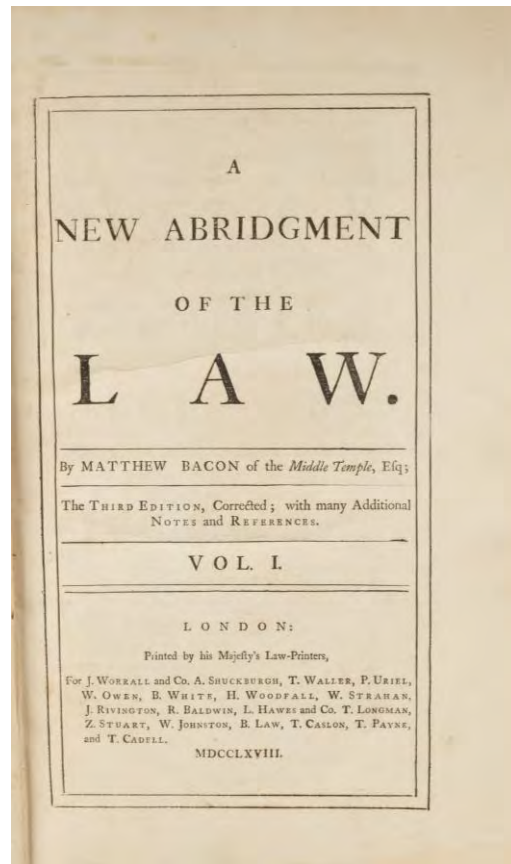
Later nineteenth-century paneled morocco signed binding by Riviere & Son, gilt frames and corner fleurons to boards, discreetly rebacked with existing spine with raised bands, gilt and blind fillets and gilt ornaments, title and date, gilt edges, gilt rules to inner board edges, marbled endpapers, endpapers added. Light rubbing and a few minor scratches to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners lightly bumped, hinges cracked, faint offsetting to edges of free endpapers, four later bookplates, of Guy Bechtel, the Huth family library, Arnold Hoffmann and George Abrams, to front free endpaper, recent French bookseller description tipped-in to front endleaf. Text printed in 33/34-line gothic type, rubricated throughout (including tables) in red ink, large initials in red and silver ink to [a1]r and red ink to [a5]r, smaller initials in red ink to [a9]r and [a1]v. Light toning to interior, very faint dampstain to upper corner of ff. [7] and [9] just touching text of f. [9], both tables trimmed close with minor loss to bottom edge, negligible loss at gutter of first table and fore-edge of second. An attractive, wide-margined copy of a fundamental treatise. \$16,000.

* D'Andrea was an Italian canonist and professor of canon law at the University of Bologna. An eminent figure who received the highest tributes from Arithemius, Baldus, Forster and Bellarmin, his principal writings circulated widely in manuscript and were among the earliest printed works on canon law. Often included in editions of the *Corpus Juris Canonici*, the *Super Arboribus* is a fundamental treatise on degrees of consanguinity and affinity, also known as blood relations, and spiritual relationships created by godparents and their families. It was a work of vital importance in cases regarding estates, incest and conflicts of interest. It went through numerous manuscript and printed editions into the modern era.

Our undated edition is one of seventeen issued by Creussner. The provisional date range given by the ISTC is based on the bull's head watermark present in the contemporary endleaves. The woodcuts in the Creussner editions are so much larger than the type-pages that many, if not most, copies are trimmed to some degree. Our copy also includes an attractive hand-drawn table of spiritual relationships ("*Arbor cognationis spiritalis tam ex sacramento baptismat[i]s confirmationis*"). It was owned by several important collectors of rare books, among them George Abrams [1919 or 1920-2001], the distinguished graphic artist and typeface designer, and, most recently, Guy Bechtel [b.1931], a notable scholar and antiquarian. The ISTC locates 11 complete copies of this edition worldwide, none in North America. *Incunabula Short-Title Catalogue* (ISTC) ia00605500.



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A Complete Set of *Bacon's Abridgement*

2. Bacon, Matthew [fl. 1730].

[Gilbert, Sir Jeffrey [1674-1726].

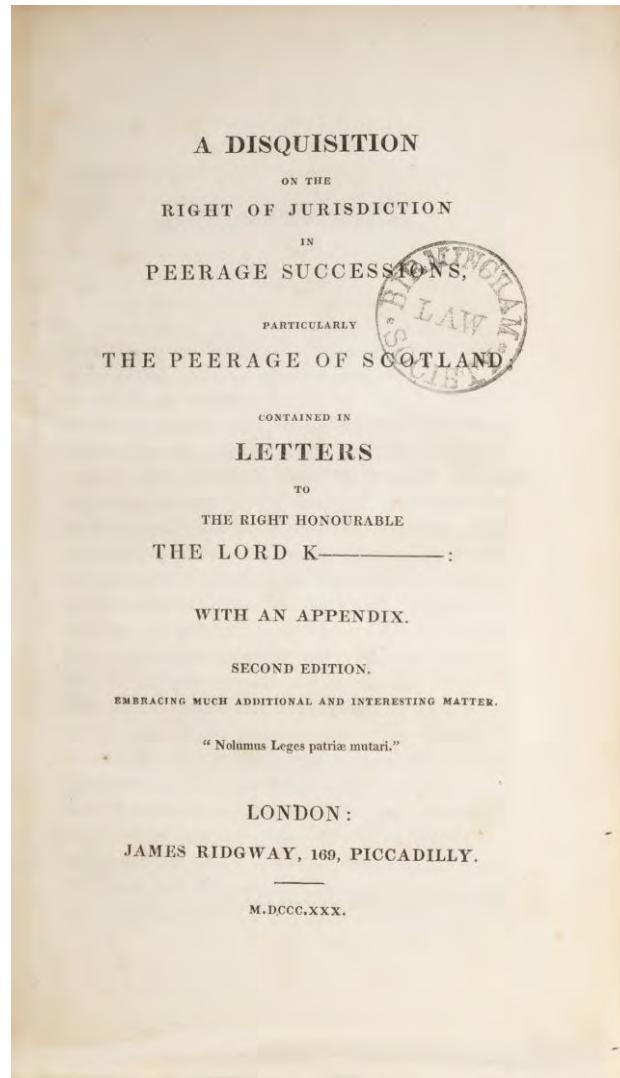
[Sayer, Joseph (f. 1750)].

[Ruffhead, Owen (1723-1769)].

A New Abridgment of the Law. Corrected; With Many Additional Notes and References. London: Printed by His Majesty's Law Printers, 1768-1770. Five volumes. Complete set. Folio (13-1/2" x 9).

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands, lettering pieces and small fragments of paper shelf labels to spines. Worn, boards detached, early owner bookplate of Dudley Atkins Tyng, later bookplate of John H. Phelps and recent library bookplate to front pastedowns. Moderate toning to interiors, light foxing in places, early and later markings to a few leaves in each volume. A good candidate for rebinding. \$1,500.

* Third edition. Bacon's *Abridgment* is a digest of cases and treatises written by Sir Jeffrey Gilbert. In frequent use by practitioners in Great Britain and the United States into the early nineteenth century, it went through several editions. Its comprehensiveness and, still more, the logical system of subdivisions employed within each title, was a significant improvement over previous compendia of its kind. This made it, according to Marvin's *Legal Bibliography*, "quite a law library in itself" (85). The *Abridgment* was compiled and edited by Bacon. However, he died after he completed the entry for "Sheriff" and the rest of the work was produced editors by Sayer and Ruffhead. Tyng [1760-1829], a Newburyport, Massachusetts, lawyer, was, for most of his professional life, the reporter of the Massachusetts Supreme Court. Phelps [1817-1893], a West Townshend, Vermont, lawyer, was a county judge and a Vermont state representative and senator. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T145688, N5624. [Order this Item](#)



Published in Support of a Fraudulent Peerage Claim

**3. [Banks, Thomas Christopher (1765-1854)].
[Lockhart, Ephraim].**

A Disquisition on the Right of Jurisdiction in Peerage Successions, Particularly the Peerage of Scotland; Contained in Letters to the Right Honourable the Lord K----: With An Appendix. London: James Ridgway, 1830. [ii], 118 pp. Octavo (8-3/4" x 5-1/2").

Recent textured cloth, gilt fillets and title to spine, endpapers renewed, edges untrimmed. Light toning to interior, occasional light foxing, light soiling in a few places, circular ink library stamp to title page and a few other pages without loss to legibility. \$350.

* Second edition. Banks was a British legal scholar known for assisting claimants to dormant peerages, many of whose claims were flimsy at best and fraudulent at worst. This work, written in support of Alexander Humphrys's claim to the earldom of Stirling, falls into the latter category. Banks was apparently committed enough to Humphrys's cause to allow Humphrys to create him a baronet in Nova Scotia, but stopped using the title when the documents on which Humphrys's claim had relied turned out to be forgeries. OCLC locates 4 copies of this title in North America, none in a law library.

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Barbosa's "Search Engine" for Roman and Canon Law

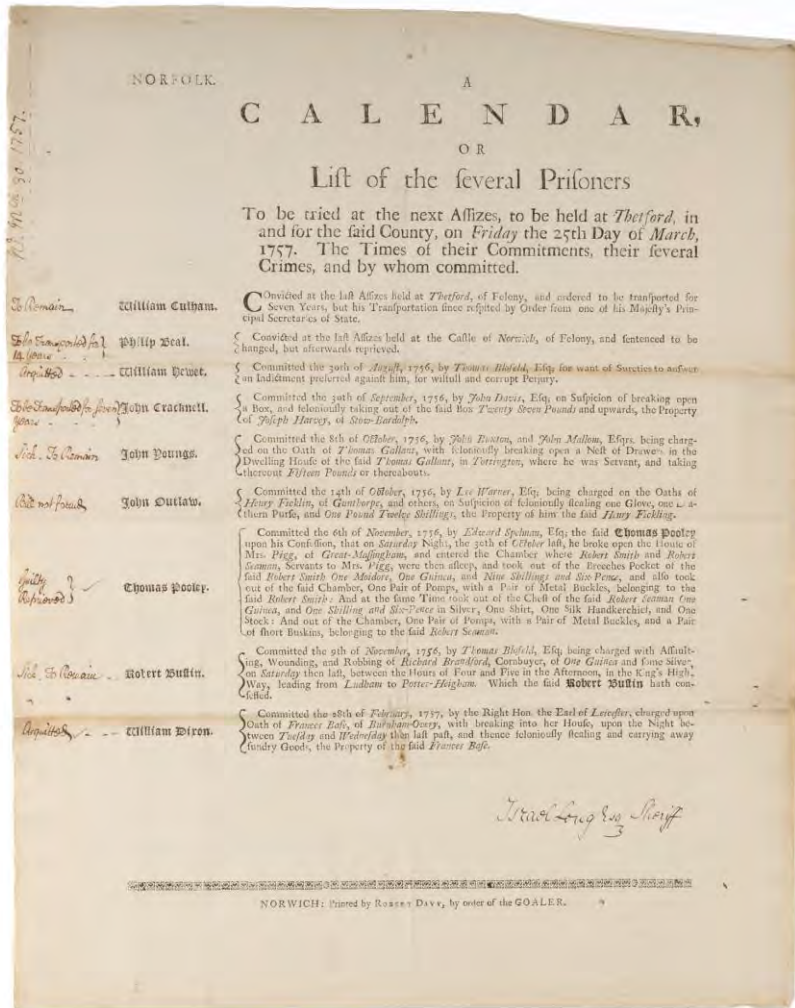
4. Barbosa, Agostino [1589-1649], Compiler.

Vaz Barbosa, Simao [1591-1681], Editor.

Repertorium Iuris Civilis et Canonici, In Quo Ordine Alphabetico Principaliore, & Practicae Utriusque Iuris Conclusiones Collectae Indicantur, & Magnâ Doctorum Copiâ Exornantur; Opus Posthumum Indicibus & Advocatis Utilissimum, Studio & Industriâ D. Simonis Vaz Barbosa U.I.D. Authoris Fratris Eiusdemque Ecclesiae Insignis Vimaransenis Canonici Digestum. Lyon: Sumptibus Ioannis-Antonii Huguetan, & Guillielmi Barbier, 1668. [vi], 408 (i.e. 406), [82] pp. Folio (14" x 8-3/4").

Contemporary paneled pigskin, raised bands and later paper hand-lettered title label and shelf label to spine, brass clasps, edges rouged. Light rubbing, soiling and minor worming to boards, faint stain to fore-edge of front board, spine ends lightly bumped, minor wear to corners, small later library markings to front pastedown and title page, which is printed in red and black and has a large copperplate vignette. Moderate toning to interior, minor worming and light foxing in places, illegible owner inscription in tiny hand to half-title. \$1,850.

* Second edition. First published in 1649, this is an index of topics, from "abbas" to "uxor," in the most authoritative works in the literature of Roman and canon law. It is, in effect, a "search engine" to a vast library of legal literature. It is also a record of the topics and books that were considered important by a leading scholar. Barbosa was a notable Portuguese canonist, later Bishop of Ugento, who spent his professional career in Rome and Madrid. A prolific author, his work is distinguished by a close reading of sources and a taste for controverted questions. Well-received, the *Repertorium* went through 8 editions, the last in 1713. All editions are scarce. OCLC locates 6 copies of the second edition in North America, 2 in law libraries (Harvard, UC-Berkeley). Not in Baudrier. [Order this Item](#)



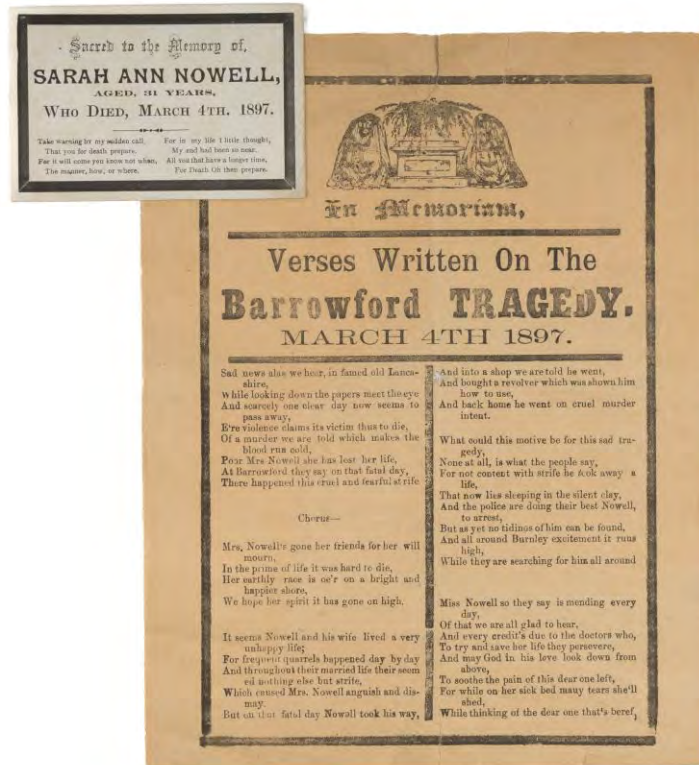
Prisoners Awaiting Trial in Norfolk, March 1757

5. [Broadside].
 [Criminals].
 [Great Britain].

A Calendar, Or List of the Several Prisoners to be Tried at the Next Assizes, To be Held at Thetford, In and for the Said County, On Friday the 25th of March, 1757. The Times of their Commitments, Their Several Crimes, And by Whom Committed. Norwich: Printed by Robert Davy, by order of the Goaler [sic], [1757].

16-1/2" x 13-1/4" broadside, text in two columns below headline. Light toning, soiling and edgewear, horizontal and vertical fold lines, slight creasing to top-edge. Signed in ink by sheriff Israel Long with early ms notes (possibly Long's) to names of convicts and docket "Thetford Assizes 1757 Calendar of the Prisoners" to verso. \$500.

* A list of 9 prisoners. Along with the charge, each entry includes the prisoner's age, trade, date of warrant, jurisdiction and the person "by whom committed." According to the ink notes, three remained held at Thetford, two were acquitted and one was reprieved. Philip Beal and John Cracknell were transported, most likely to American or Caribbean colonies, for fourteen and seven years, respectively. John Outlaw is marked "Bill not found." Not listed on OCLC or LibraryHub.
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"Not Content With Strife, He Took Away a Life"

6. [Broadside].

[Murder].

[Nowell, Sarah Ann].

In Memoriam, Verses Written on the Barrowford Tragedy, March 4th 1897. [Barrowford, Lancashire (?): S.n., 1897].

11-1/4" x 8-1/4" broadside, woodcut vignette of a tomb above large headline, main text printed in parallel columns, thick black rules enclosing text and image. Light browning, a few short clean tears and minor creases to edges.

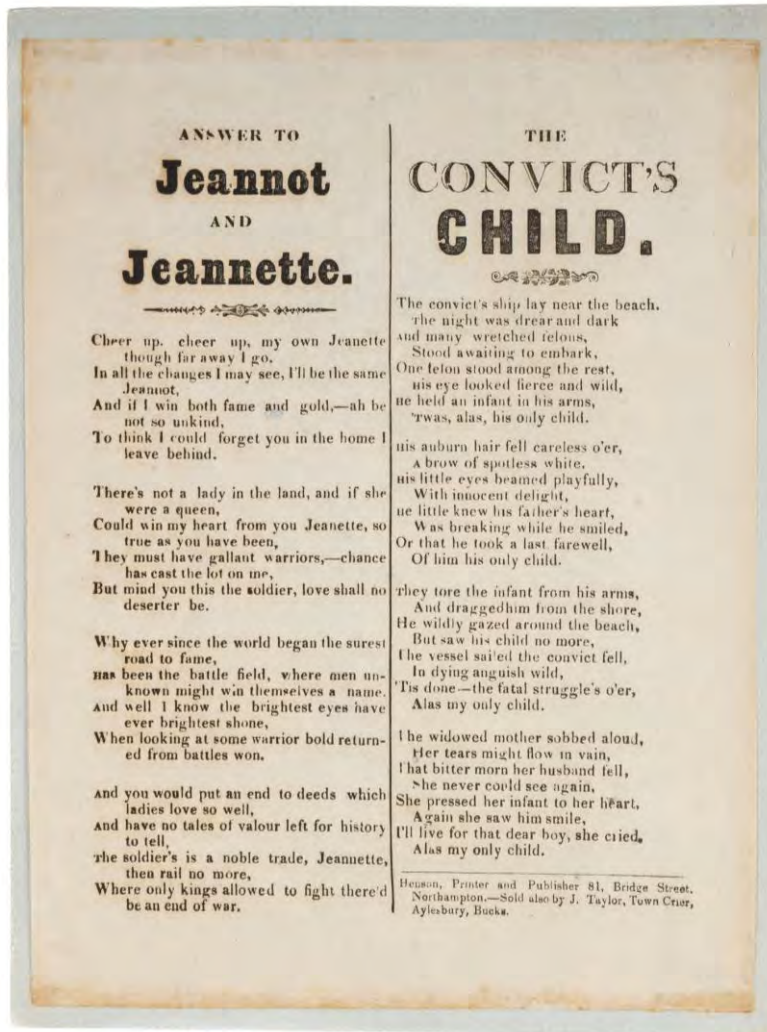
[With]

Sacred to the Memory of, Sarah Ann Nowell, Aged, 31 Years, Who Died, March 4th. 1897.

3" x 4-1/2" card, text in two columns below headline, thick black rules along margins. Light soiling, minor wear to corners.

Together two items. \$750.

* The main texts of the broadside and card are in verse. They relate to the murder of Sarah Ann Nowell by her husband. The broadside reports that the Nowells "lived a very unhappy life/ For frequent quarrels happened day by day/ And throughout their married life their [sic] seemed nothing else but strife/ Which caused Mrs. Nowell anguish and dismay." One day the husband purchased a gun. "Not content with strife, he took away a life." The card appears to be a souvenir from her funeral. It has eight lines of verse urging the reader to prepare for death. Both items appear to be unrecorded. No copies listed on OCLC or Library Hub. [Order this Item](#)



With a Ballad About Transportation

7. [Broadside].

[Soldiers].

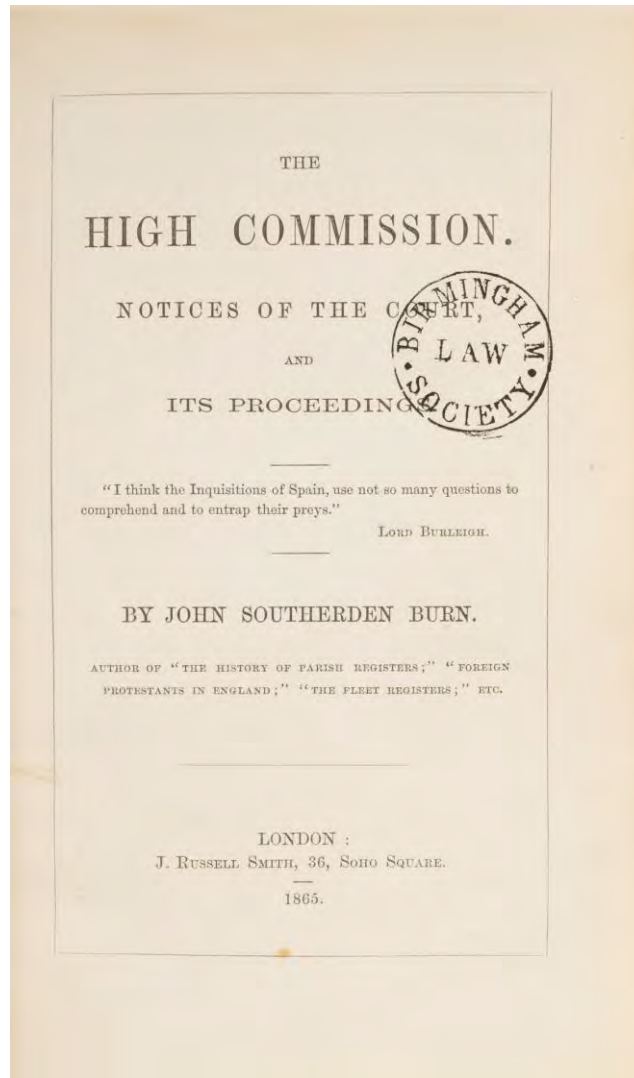
[Transportation].

[Great Britain].

Answer to Jeannot and Jeannette/The Convict's Child. Northampton, England: Henson, Printer and Publisher, [c.1848].

9-3/4" x 7-1/2" dual-text broadside in two columns mounted on 10-1/4" x 7-3/4" sheet, verse texts, each below headline, columns separated by rule. Light browning, somewhat heavier along top and bottom edges. \$350.

* This broadside has two ballads. *Answer to Jeannot and Jeannette* is one of several responses to *Jeannette and Jeannot*, a popular song from 1847 about a young French soldier's farewell to his girlfriend as he prepares to go off to war. *The Convict's Child* is a tear-jerking ballad about a convict being boarded for transportation to Australia. He is driven to suicide by the final sight of his infant child: "They tore the infant from his arms,/ And dragged him from the shore,/ He wildly gazed around the beach,/ But saw his child no more,/ The vessel sailed, the convict fell,/ In dying anguish wild,/ 'Tis done—the fatal struggle's o'er,/ Alas my only child." No copies listed on Library Hub. OCLC locates 1 copy at UCLA. We located another copy at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. *Roud Folk Song Index* 13856, V351. [Order this Item](#)



A History of the Court of High Commission

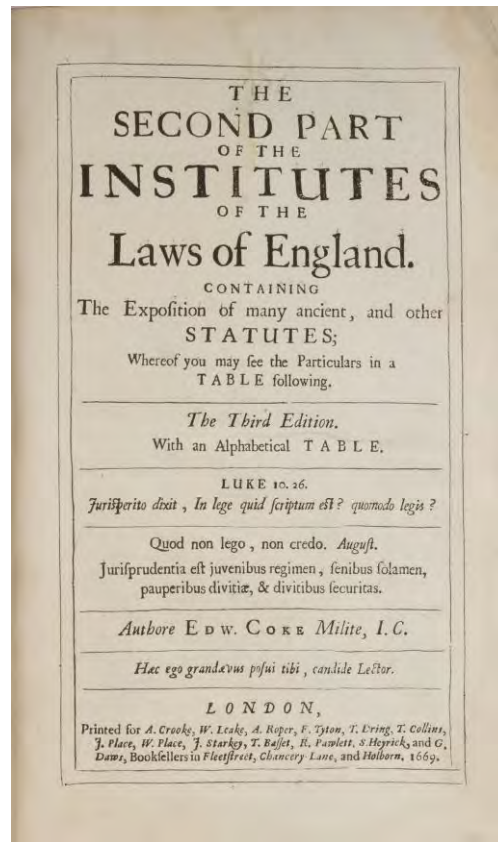
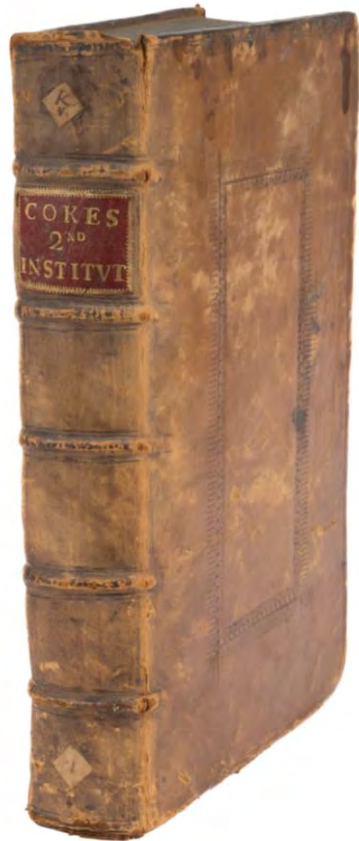
8. Burn, John Southerden [1798-1870].

The High Commission. Notices of the Court, And its Proceedings. London: J. Russell Smith, 1865. vi [i.e. viii], 92 pp. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Later three-quarter morocco over pebbled boards, gilt institutional name and seal to boards, gilt rules to morocco edges, raised bands, blind fillets and gilt title to spine, marbled endpapers. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, slight creasing to spine, front joint just starting at head, library bookplate, small circular sticker and early binder's ticket to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, negligible light foxing and soiling in a few places, a number of blank leaves added after text block by binder. \$250.

* Only edition. Created in 1559 to enforce the Acts of Uniformity and Supremacy, the Court of High Commission was the highest ecclesiastical court in England until its dissolution by the Long Parliament in 1641. This work consists of a collection of its notices and proceedings drawn from a variety of contemporary and later sources. Burn was an English solicitor and antiquary who wrote several histories of ecclesiastical and legal institutions. Not in Sweet & Maxwell.

[Order this Item](#)



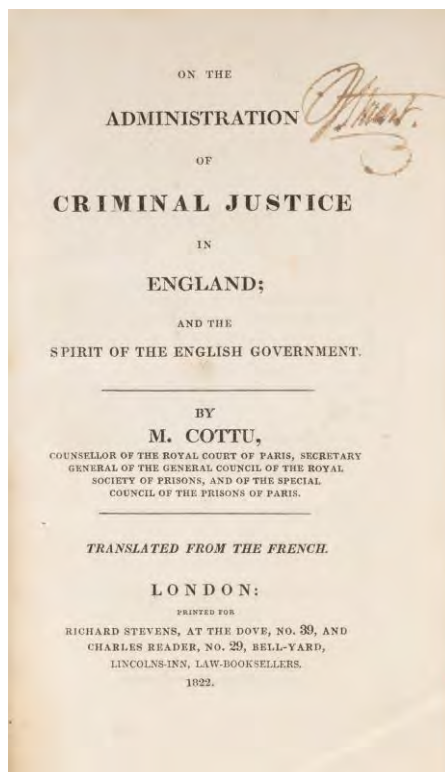
The Macclesfield Copy of Coke's Landmark Commentary on Magna Carta

9. Coke, Sir Edward [1552-1634].

The Second Part of the Institutes of the Lawes of England. Containing the Exposition of Many Ancient, And Other Statutes; Whereof You May See the Particulars in a Table Following. London: Printed for A. Crooke, W. Leake, A. Roper, [et al.], 1669. [x], 745, [41] pp. With the copperplate portrait frontispiece, bound with some copies, which is not noted in the *ESTC* record. Folio (11-3/4" x 7-1/4").

Contemporary paneled calf, raised bands, blind rules, lettering piece and two tiny early shelf labels to spine, gilt rules to board edges, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block. Moderate rubbing to boards and extremities, a few small chips to spine ends, corners bumped and somewhat worn, hinges cracked, armorial bookplate of the Earls of Macclesfield to front pastedown, small embossed Macclesfield stamps to preliminaries. Moderate toning, light browning and foxing in places, light soiling, minor stains and corner folds to preliminaries and final leaves of text. \$650.

* Third edition. *The Second Part of the Institutes*, an exposition of "many ancient and other statutes" including those of Magna Carta, was published by order of the House of Commons after the author's death. It is a landmark work because it offered a novel interpretation of Magna Carta. Reflecting contemporary struggles between the king and Parliament, Coke presented the charter as the ancient constitution of England, one that established the fundamental rights of Englishmen and placed royal power under the laws of the land. Perhaps the most famous section is Coke's commentary on the 29th chapter, in which he traced the origins of trial by jury and the right of habeas corpus. Housed in Shirburn Castle, near Watlington, Oxfordshire, the library of the Macclesfields was one of the finest private libraries in Great Britain. *English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* R30266. [Order this Item](#)



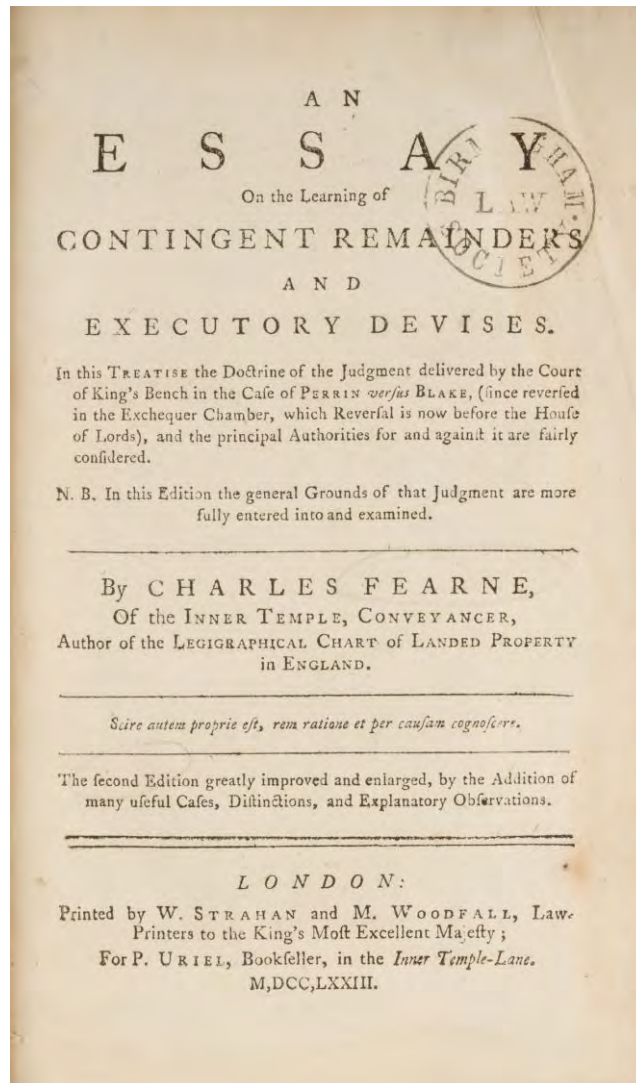
Cottu's Classic Work on the English Criminal Courts

10. Cottu, [Charles] [b.1777?].

On the Administration of Criminal Justice in England; And the Spirit of the English Government. London: Printed for R. Stevens and Charles Reader, 1822. xii, 312 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5").

Contemporary three-quarter calf over marbled boards, blind rules to calf edges, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine. Light rubbing, faint offsetting and a few small scuffs, scratches and stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, chipping to spine ends with large chip to head of spine, front board separating but secured by cords, rear joint starting at head, corners bumped and somewhat worn, faint offsetting to endleaves, armorial bookplate (of Sir James Stuart) to front pastedown and ownership signature to title page. Light toning to interior, light foxing and soiling in a few places, a few folded corners, slight crease to lower corner of first several leaves, small tear to lower gutter of leaf U8 (pp. 303-304) without loss to text. \$300.

* Only English edition, a translation of the only French edition which appeared in 1822. Cottu was a counselor of the Royal Court of Paris and Secretary-General to the Royal Society of Prisons. In 1820 he was sent by his government to observe the English criminal courts. He returned with a vivid description of a system that had changed little since the days of Coke and Pulton. As Langbein describes it, "the whole of the criminal trial was expected to transpire as a lawyer-free contest of amateurs. In cases of felony..., the prosecution was also not represented by counsel. The victim of the crime commonly served as the prosecutor. (In homicide cases, either the victim's kin prosecuted, or the local coroner stood in.)" Just as Blackstone summarized the common law on the cusp of its transformation by modern capitalism, Cottu described a system of criminal procedure that was about to be transformed into the system we recognize today. A version of this work appeared in the periodical *The Pamphleteer* in 1820 under the title *On the Administration of the Criminal Code in England*. Sir James Stuart [1780-1853], the former owner of our copy, was a Canadian jurist who served as Chief Justice of Lower Canada (now Quebec) from 1849 until his death. Langbein, *The Origins of Adversary Criminal Trial* 11. (Cottu is noted as one of Langbein's primary sources.) [Order this Item](#)



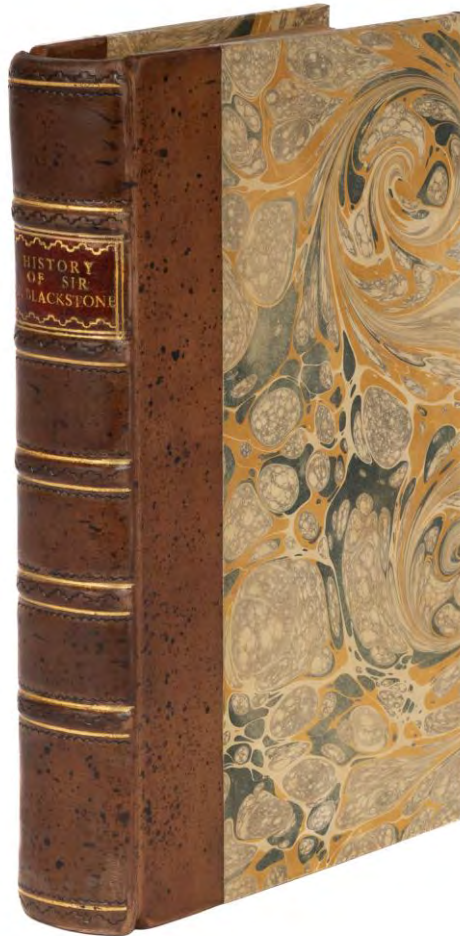
Kent Admired Its "Ability and Perspicuity"

11. Fearne, Charles [1742-1794].

An Essay on the Learning of Contingent Remainders and Executory Devises. In this Treatise the Doctrine of the Judgment Delivered by the Court of King's Bench in the Case of Perrin versus Blake, (Since Reversed in the Exchequer Chamber, Which Reversal is Now Before the House of Lords), And the Principal Authorities for and Against it Are Fairly Considered. N.B. In this Edition the General Grounds of that Judgment are More Fully Entered into and Examined. Greatly Improved and Enlarged, By the Addition of Many Useful Cases, Distinctions and Explanatory Observations. London: Printed by W. Strahan and M. Woodfall, 1773. xv, [1], 178, [2] pp. With a 2 pp. publisher catalogue. Octavo (8" x 5").

Later cloth, gilt title to spine, publication date and library name to foot of spine, endpapers renewed. Light shelfwear, library bookplate and tiny shelf label to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, library stamps to title page and a few other leaves. \$150.

* Second edition. "Fearne's Essay on *Contingent Reminders*...is a performance of a very superior character. It is eminently distinguished for the ability and perspicuity with which it unfolds and explains the principles of the most intricate parts of the law": Kent, *Commentaries on American Law* I:514. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T140190. [Order this Item](#)



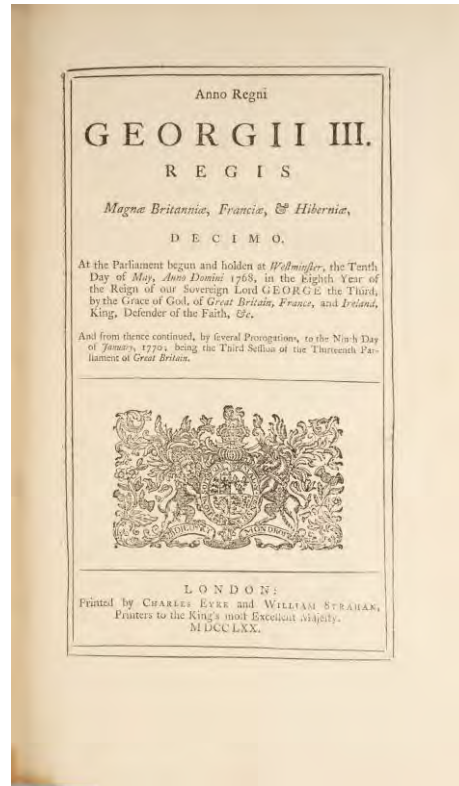
The First Independent Biography of Blackstone

12. Gentleman of Lincoln's-Inn. [Douglas, D., Attributed].

The Biographical History of Sir William Blackstone, and a Catalogue of All Sir William Blackstone's Works, Manuscript as Well as Printed, with a Nomenclature of Westminster Hall. The Whole Illustrated with Notes, Observations, and References. Also, A Preface and Index to Each Part. By a Gentleman of Lincoln's Inn. London: Printed for the Author, 1782. Three parts. [iv], xxix, [11], 125, [1] 24; [ii], iv, [4], 148; xxxvii, [1], 44, [30] pp. Lacking half-title before title page of second part. Octavo (8-1/4" x 4-3/4").

Recent period-style quarter sprinkled calf over marbled boards, raised bands, gilt and blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning to interior, faint dampspotting in places, offsetting and minor worming to margins of title page and following leaf. \$1,500.

* Based on Clitherow's biographical preface from the *Reports*, which was also included in several edition of the *Commentaries*, this is the first independent biography of Blackstone. The *English Short-Title Catalogue* notes this work is "[s]ometimes attributed to Sylvester Douglas, Baron Glenbervie and D. or Dr. Douglas; the attribution to Sylvester Douglas (b. 1743) is incorrect as p. xviii of the preface to the Nomenclature states "The compiler of this nomenclature attended the several courts of justice himself, in and from Trinity term, 1750." It also shows some copies have the indexes of all three parts bound at the rear of the text. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 603. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T55740. [Order this Item](#)



Public and Private Acts of Parliament, 1770

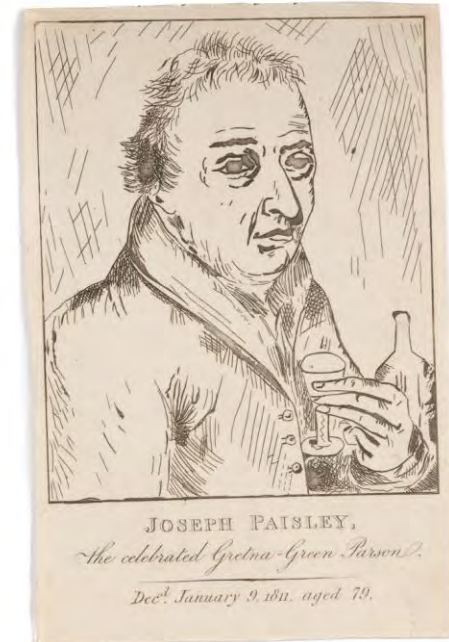
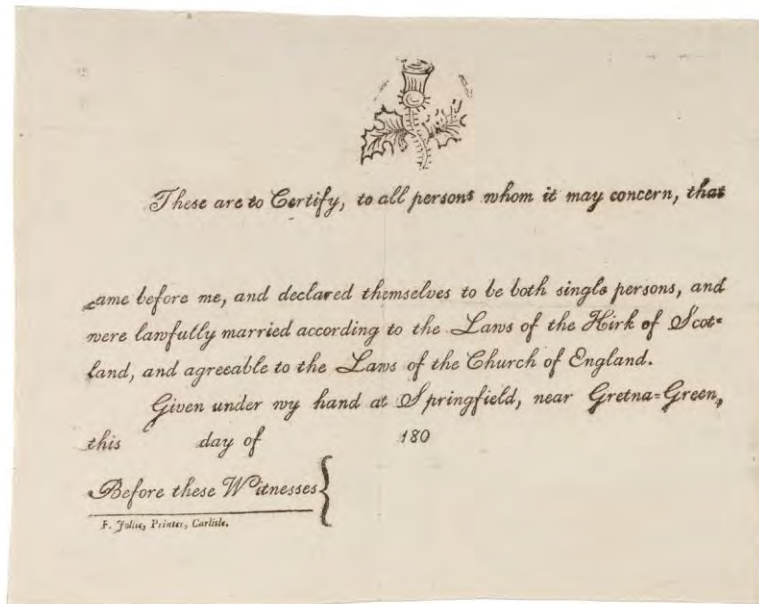
13. [Great Britain].

George III [1738-1820], King of Great Britain.

Anno Regni Georgii III. Regis Magnae Britanniae, Franciae, & Hiberniae, Decimo. At the Parliament Begun and Holden at Westminster the Tenth Day of May, Anno Domini 1768, In the Eighth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, By the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. And From Thence Continued, By Several Prorogations, To the Ninth Day of January, 1770. Being the Third Session of the Thirteenth Parliament of Great Britain. London: Printed by Charles Eyre and William Strahan, 1770. 204, 217-220, 209-[668], [677]-744, [753]-874, [20] pp. Pp. 205-208 (3F) lacking, pp. 217-220 (3I) repeated due to binder error. Text of Acts XXXIV and XLIV lacking along with general title page to Act X. Same general title page preceding each act, Acts LIII-XCIV not printed but listed in table. Folio (12-1/4" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary marbled boards, rebacked in period-style calf with raised bands, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, edges rouged. Light rubbing to boards, more moderate rubbing and light wear to board edges, corners bumped, hinges cracked. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing and soiling in a few places. \$1,000.

* A collection of 51 acts passed in the second session of the twelfth Parliament of Great Britain, with tables listing the titles of the public acts and summaries of 96 private acts. Some of the more interesting acts include several acts regulating trade in America and an act allowing New York to pass an act "for the creating and issuing upon Loan Paper Bills of Credit to a certain Amount; and to make the same a Legal Tender." The right to issue paper money had been heavily restricted by the Currency Acts of 1751 and 1764, but after New York's government argued that these acts hindered full compliance with the Quartering Act, Parliament relented and allowed New York to issue paper currency for public (but not private) debts. This concession was extended to the other colonies in 1773. Acts XXXIV (dealing with the attempts to develop a successful marine chronometer) and XLIV (regulating mercantile fraud and hackney coaches) are not present in our volume. *English Short-Title Catalogue* N57155. [Order this Item](#)



The Gretna Green Marriage

14. [Great Britain].

[*Blank Marriage Certificate*]. Carlisle: F. Jollie, Printer, [c.1803].

5-1/4" x 6-3/4" printed marriage certificate with small woodcut thistle at head. Light toning, horizontal and vertical fold lines, negligible small holes along vertical fold line without loss to text. An appealing, well-preserved item.

[With]

[*Paisley, Joseph (c.1728-1814?)*].

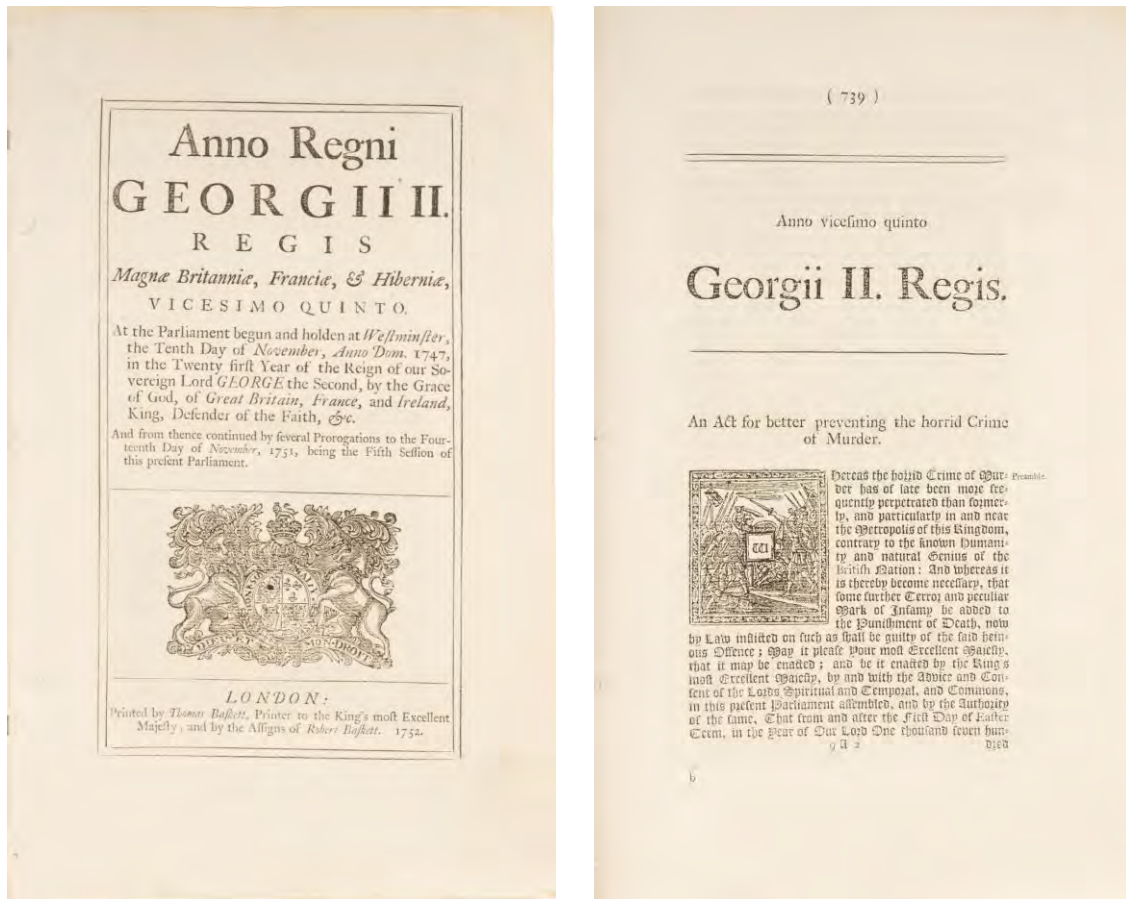
Joseph Paisley, The Celebrated Gretna-Green Parson. [London: Engraved for the Lady's Magazine, 1811].

5-3/4" x 3-3/4" woodcut portrait with caption, headline lost to trimming. Light toning, negligible light soiling.

Together two items. \$150.

* The Clandestine Marriages Act of 1753 allowed parents to prohibit the marriages of children under 21, but notably did not apply in Scotland. After the completion of a toll road that passed through the English-Scottish border, Gretna Green became the first easily reachable village from England and secured its place in history as the premiere destination for young English lovers thwarted by their parents and looking to marry. These couples were often married in blacksmiths' shops by so-called "anvil priests" before their parents could catch up to them. Paisley, perhaps the most famous of these, did a lucrative trade in clandestine marriages from 1753 until his death. Some sources, like the caption to our woodcut portrait of Paisley, give his death as 1811, while others report 1814. Two charming pieces of romantic ephemera.

[Order this Item](#)



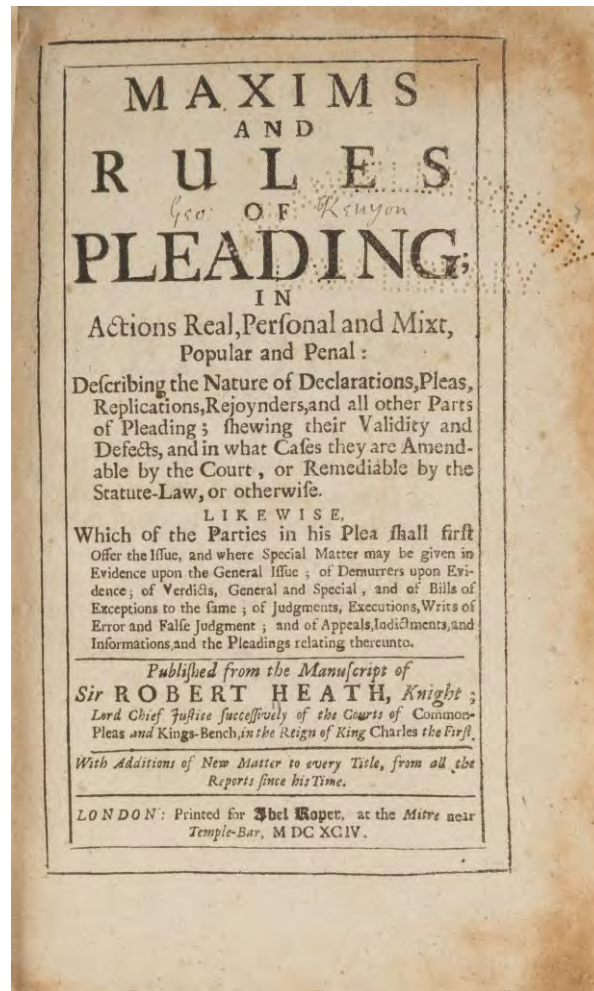
First Printing of the Act that Introduced Anatomization

15. [Great Britain]. [Murder Act of 1751].

An Act for Better Preventing the Horrid Crime of Murder [Drop-Head Title]. At head: Anno Vicesimo Quinto Georgii II. Regis. London: Printed by Thomas Baskett and by the Assigns of Robert Baskett, 1752. [ii], 739-742 pp. Folio (12-1/2" x 7-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet, disbound and recently restapled. Light toning, slight adhesive residue to top-edge of final page not affecting text. \$450.

* The first printing of the Murder Act of 1751, which mandated anatomization or hanging in chains for the bodies of executed murderers. Though post-execution dissection had a long history as an ad-hoc practice, the Murder Act was the first to formalize the practice and ushered in a new wave of anatomizations. Between 1752 and the Act's repeal in 1832, approximately 1,000 convicted murderers were hanged and anatomized. The practice of anatomization functioned both as a deterrent to future criminals, as the text of the Act makes clear, and as a way to meet the growing need of medical institutions like the recently-incorporated Company of Surgeons for corpses to study. The Murder Act gave the Company of Surgeons full regulatory power over anatomizations in London and Middlesex, codifying the role of medical professionals in the justice system. Acts such as these were compiled over the course of a session and bound afterwards. They were issued with general title pages, which were often discarded; the title page is present in the issue offered here. Ward, *A Global History of Execution and the Criminal Corpse* 9-14. *English Short-Title Catalogue* N52610. [Order this Item](#)



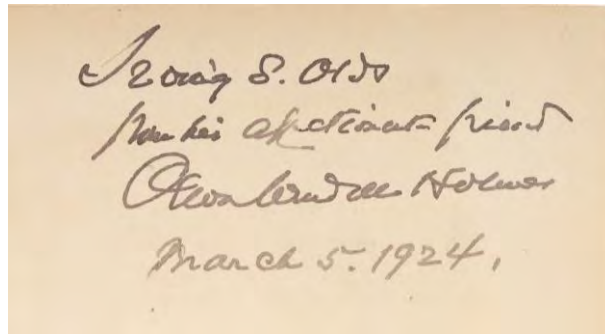
"A Work of Great Authority" for Special Pleadings

16. Heath, Sir Robert [1575-1649].

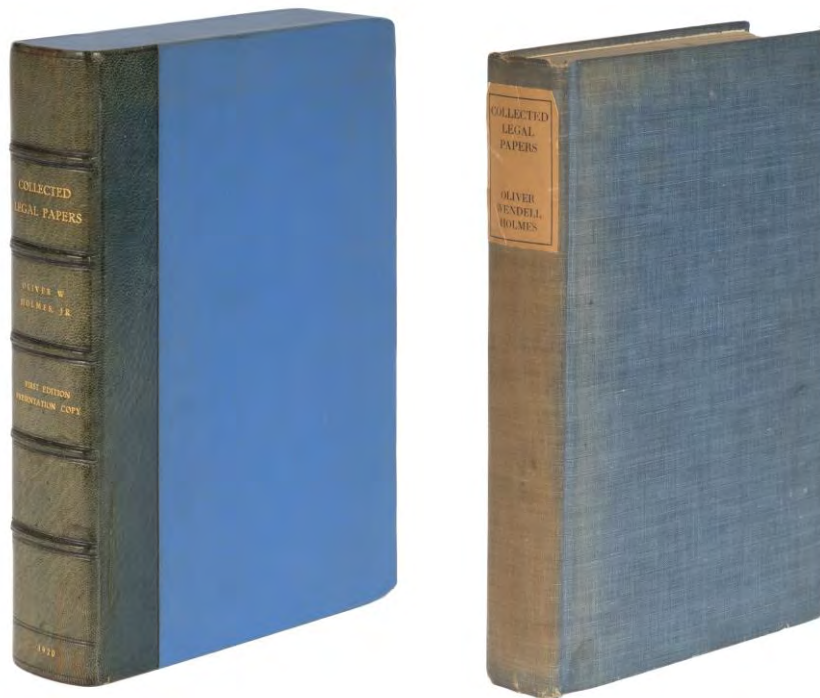
Maxims and Rules of Pleading, In Actions Real, Personal and Mixt, Popular and Penal: Describing the Nature of Declarations, Pleas, Replications, Rejoinders, And All Other Parts of Pleading; Shewing Their Validity and Defects, And in What Cases They Are Amendable by the Court, Or Remediabable by the Statute-Law, Or Otherwise... London: Printed for Abel Roper, 1694. [viii], 332, [28] pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets to joints, raised bands, blind fillets and later lettering piece to spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Light rubbing, a few small scuffs and faint stains and faint ink library stamps to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, front board detached, small nicks to spine, rear joint just starting at both ends, corners bumped, rear hinge cracked, armorial bookplate (of Sir George Kenyon) to front pastedown and library bookplate to front free endpaper, ink and punched library stamps to edges of text block, license leaf, title page and rear free endpaper. Light toning to interior, more moderate to some signatures, occasional light foxing, a few folded corners, tear to text block of leaf E6 (pp. 59-60) with loss to last three lines, brief early manuscript annotations (case citations) to p. 97. \$450.

* First edition. "[Heath] compiled this volume for his own use in practice. It is a work of great authority, and has been a guide to all special pleaders since its publication. Viner frequently cites it in his *Abridgment*": Marvin. A second edition in quarto appeared in 1771. Our copy was owned by George Kenyon [1666-1728], a British politician and prominent Tory. Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 379. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R21584. [Order this Item](#)



Irving S. Olds
from his affectionate friend
Oliver Wendell Holmes
March 5, 1924,



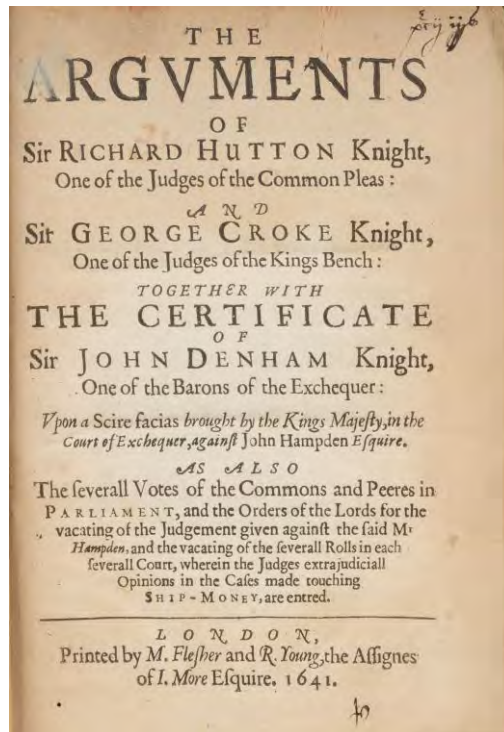
**Inscribed by Holmes to a Former Clerk Who Became
a Prominent Lawyer, Businessman and Philanthropist**

17. Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr. [1841-1935].

Collected Legal Papers. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Howe, 1920. vii, 316 pp.

Original cloth, printed paper title label to spine, deckle edges. Light fading to spine and joints, a few chips to edges of spine label, spine ends and corners bumped and lightly worn, hinges cracked. Moderate toning to interior, inscription "Irving S. Olds/ from his affectionate friend/ Oliver Wendell Holmes/ March 5, 1924" to front free endpaper. Book housed in later lightly edgeworn slipcase, quarter morocco over cloth, raised bands and gilt title to spine, which has a bit of fading, a few minor smudges to cloth. An appealing copy in an attractive slipcase. \$3,500.

* First edition. A valuable compilation, this volume contains Holmes's most famous speeches and papers from 1885 to 1918. Its publication in 1920 was an important event in the legal community, and it was reviewed with great enthusiasm in the major journals and law reviews. Irving S. Olds [1887-1963], a New York lawyer and philanthropist, was chairman of the board and chief executive officer of U.S. Steel from 1940 to 1952, and a partner at White & Case. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he was Holmes's law clerk from 1910 to 1911. [Order this Item](#)



Hutton and Croke Rule Against the King

18. Hutton, Sir Richard [1561?-1639].

Croke, Sir George [1560-1642].

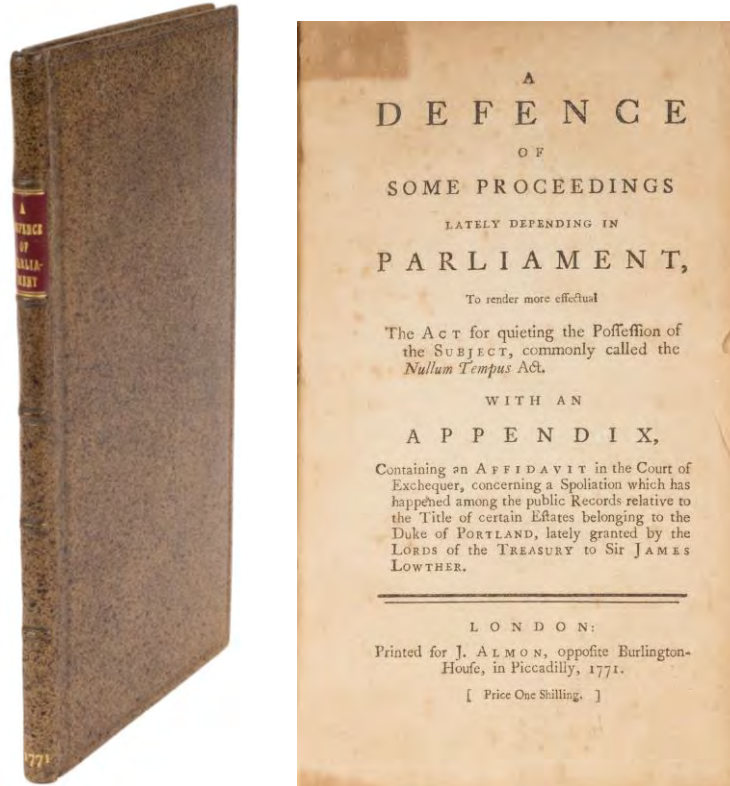
Denham, Sir John [1559-1639].

The Arguments of Sir Richard Hutton Knight, One of the Judges of the Common Pleas: And Sir George Croke Knight, One of the Judges of the Kings Bench: Together with the Certificate of Sir John Denham Knight, One of the Barons of the Exchequer: Upon a Scire Facias Brought by the Kings Majesty, In the Court of Exchequer, Against John Hampden Esquire: As Also the Severall Votes of the Commons and Peeres in Parliament, And the Orders of the Lords for the Vacating of the Judgement Given Against the Said Mr. Hampden, And the Vacating of the Severall Rolls in Each Severall Court, Wherein the Judges Extrajudiciall Opinions in the Cases Made Touching Ship-Money, Are Entred. London: Printed by M. Flesher and R. Young, 1641. 3 parts in 1, each with separate pagination and register. [ii]; 19, [1]; 112; 64 pp. Lacks initial blank called for by the *English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)*; binding sequence differs from the *ESTC* record; text complete. Quarto (7" x 5").

Recent buckram, blind-stamped institutional name to boards, gilt fillets and title to spine, edges rouged, endleaves renewed. Light rubbing to boards and extremities, residue from removed label to foot of spine and rear free endpaper. Moderate toning to interior, minor worming to lower gutter not affecting text, light soiling and very faint dampstaining in a few places, faint ink library stamp to verso of title page, crack in text block between 112 and 64 pp. sections, early notation to title page in ink and occasional marginal marks (manicules?) to first (19 pp.) section. \$350.

* Only edition. John Hampden [1595-1643] was an English politician who advocated against many of the taxes levied by Charles I, most notably ship money, a medieval-era tax assessed on coastal estates that could be levied by the Crown without Parliament's permission. Hampden was prosecuted in the Court of Exchequer in 1637 for failure to pay the ship money tax as part of a test case to confirm its legality. The court was split: seven of twelve judges found the tax legal, but five, including Hutton, Croke and Denham, ruled for Hampden, encouraging Charles's opponents. Unilateral taxation by the king was one of the major inciting forces behind the English Civil Wars. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R16237.

[Order this Item](#)



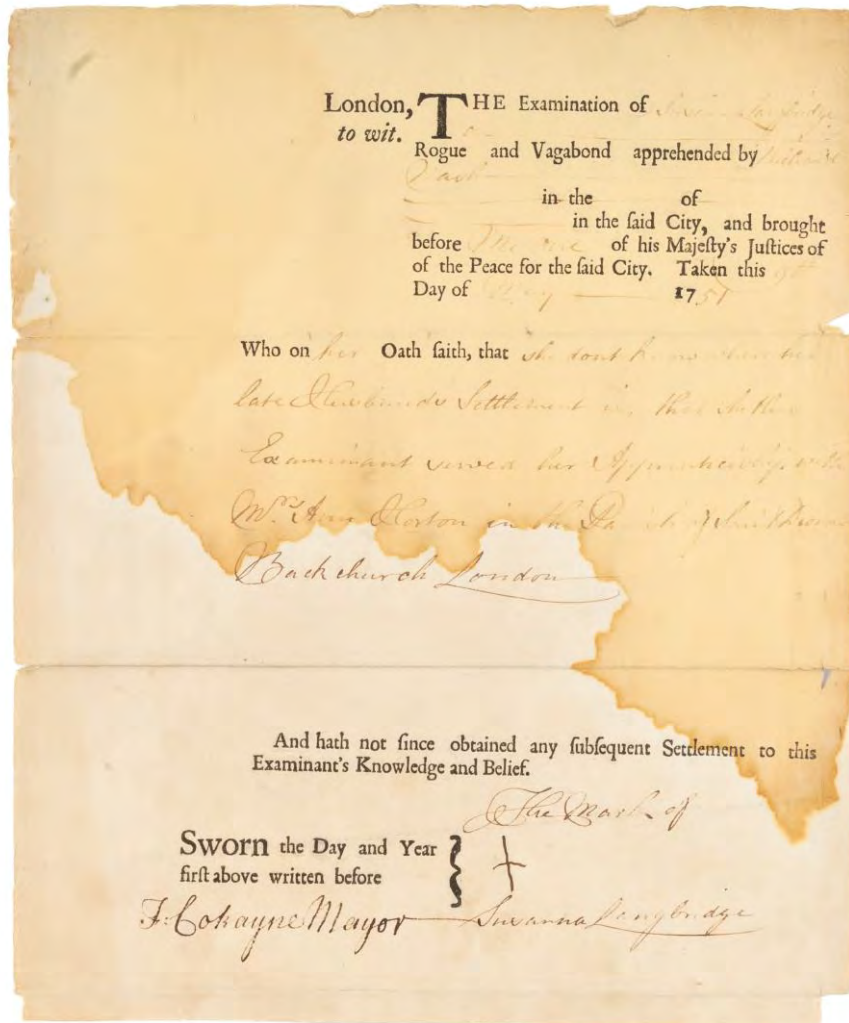
"No Time Runs Against the King"

19. [Land Law]. [Great Britain].

A Defence of Some Proceedings Lately Depending in Parliament, To Render More Effectual The Act for Quieting the Possession of the Subject, Commonly Called the Nullum Tempus Act. With an Appendix, Containing an Affidavit in the Court of Exchequer, Concerning a Spoliation Which has Happened Among the Public Records Relative to the Title of Certain Estates Belonging to the Duke of Portland, Lately Granted by the Lords of the Treasury to Sir James Lowther. London: Printed for J. Almon, 1771. [ii], 5-52, [2] pp. Final leaf has a 1 pp, publisher advertisement. Octavo (8-1/4" x 4-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent period-style calf by Baynton-Riviere of Bath, blind rules to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, gilt publication date to foot of spine, endpapers renewed, recent owner bookplate (of William Tarun Fehsenfeld) to front pastedown. Light browning to interior, light foxing in places, offsetting to upper inside corners of title page and following four leaves, light edgewear to a few leaves at beginning and end of text, early owner signature (of Joseph Chase) to head of p.5. A handsomely bound copy of a scarce title. \$1,250.

* Only edition. This pamphlet related to a property case William Cavendish-Bentinck, 3rd Duke of Portland, brought against James Lowther, 1st Earl of Lonsdale and the corporation of Carlisle that began in 1765. The land grant to Portland's ancestors rested on an act of James I that specified that ownership of lands held for sixty years could no longer be challenged except by the Crown. In 1767 Lonsdale successfully petitioned the Crown Treasury to revoke Portland's right to the land, claiming that it was not being used in accordance to the rules of the grant. In response, Portland's allies claimed no land would ever be safe if the legal issue at the heart of the case, *nullum tempus occurrit regi* ("no time runs against the king") was implemented. In the end Portland prevailed. This legal and legislative saga ended in 1702 in Portland's favor. OCLC locates 3 copies in North American law libraries (Library of Congress, University of Minnesota, York University), the *ESTC* adds 1 more (Harvard). *English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* T32244. [Order this Item](#)



"Susanna Langbridge, Rogue and Vagabond"

20. [Manuscript].

Langbridge, Susanna.

Nash, Richard.

[Statement Under Examination of *Susanna Langbridge*]. London, May 9, 1751.

10-1/4" x 8-1/2" part-printed document completed in manuscript with manuscript docket to verso. Moderate toning, light foxing and edgewear, two horizontal fold lines, large dampstain to top half of sheet, small tears and holes along fold lines without loss to text. Autograph signature of Francis Cokayne, Mayor and mark of Susanna Langbridge to bottom of document. \$250.

* According to the docket on the verso, Nash, a London justice of the peace, was ordered by the mayor "to receive Susanna Langbridge apprehended as a Vagabond ... appurtive to Mrs. Ann Horton." Susanna apparently swore "on her Oath faith, that she don't know where her late Husband's Settlement is" and presumably also had no knowledge of the matter concerning Mrs. Ann Horton. It seems likely that Susanna had previously refused to cooperate with the investigation, forcing Nash to formally arrest her. [Order this Item](#)

Dec. 28. 1905.

THE COPPICE
HENLEY ON THAMES

My dear Mr Brainerd

A little late - but I have been very much knocked up with work - I write (& wish you a happy New Year, and to say that I have sent you separately a set of New Year's card of mnemphotographs of this place, which you may remember.

I have thought you very much for two sets of books - (1) the

Lady Phillimore had a rib broken and what was worse a serious concussion - from which she has not completely - tho' very nearly - recovered. I was a bit puzzled about - but after (keep) my work.

I have had to go again to the Central Criminal Court - nice we met - for ~~the~~ an extraordinary trial of Hugh Watt ex M.P. on the charge of inciting to murder his wife. The man is as nearly mad - from excesses of various kinds - as possible - which probably accounted for his apparently insensate efforts.

Yours ever sincerely
Walter G. F. Phillimore

Phillimore Discusses an "Extraordinary Trial"

21. [Manuscript].

Phillimore, Sir Walter [1845-1929].

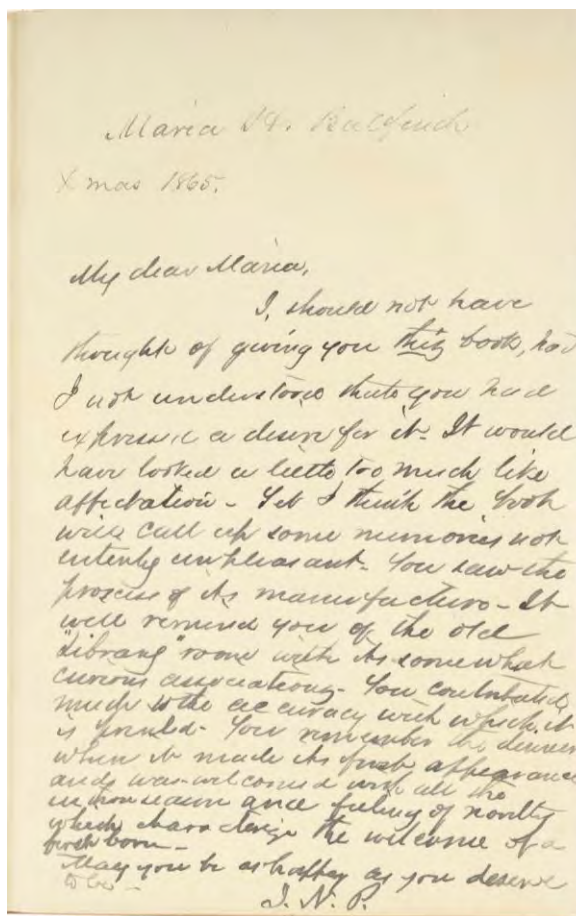
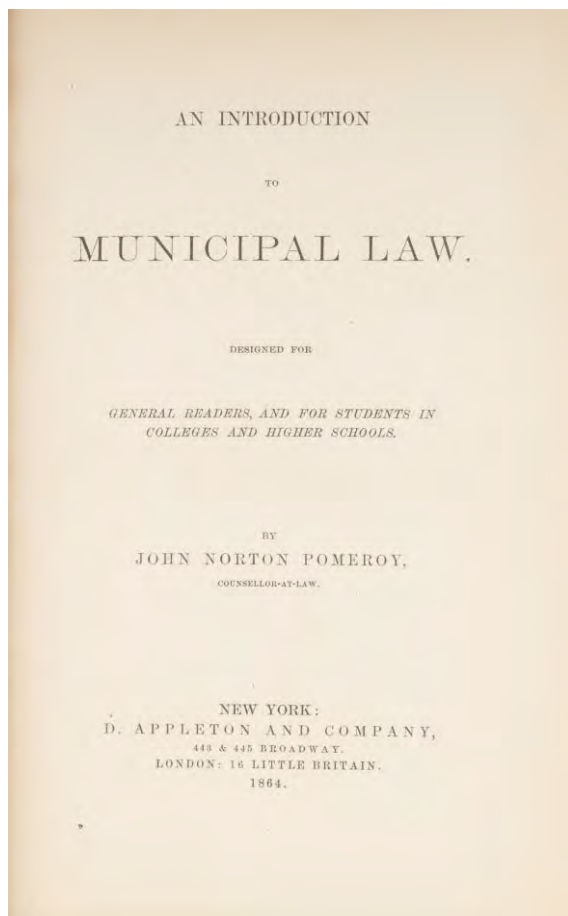
[Brainerd, Cephias (1831-1910)].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, To Cephias Brainerd, London, December 28, 1905].

4 pp. letter on 7" x 4-1/2" bifolium stationery ("The Coppice, Henley on Thames"). Light toning, single horizontal fold line. \$250.

* Phillimore was an eminent British jurist known for his work in ecclesiastical cases. This letter was likely written to Cephias Brainerd, an American lawyer who worked on the "Alabama Claims" cases. In it, he thanks Brainerd for sending him some books and archival material relating to "the public life of the U.S." and "Venezuela arbitration - Alaska boundary arbitration - and other political events." The letter concludes with a reference to the "extraordinary trial" of former MP Hugh Watt [1848-1921], over which Phillimore presided. Watt was accused "of inciting to murder his wife." Phillimore remarks: "The man is as nearly mad - from excesses of various kinds - as possible - which probably accounted for his apparently insensate efforts." Watt was found guilty but had his sentence reduced after a public outcry.

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With a Warm Inscription by the Author

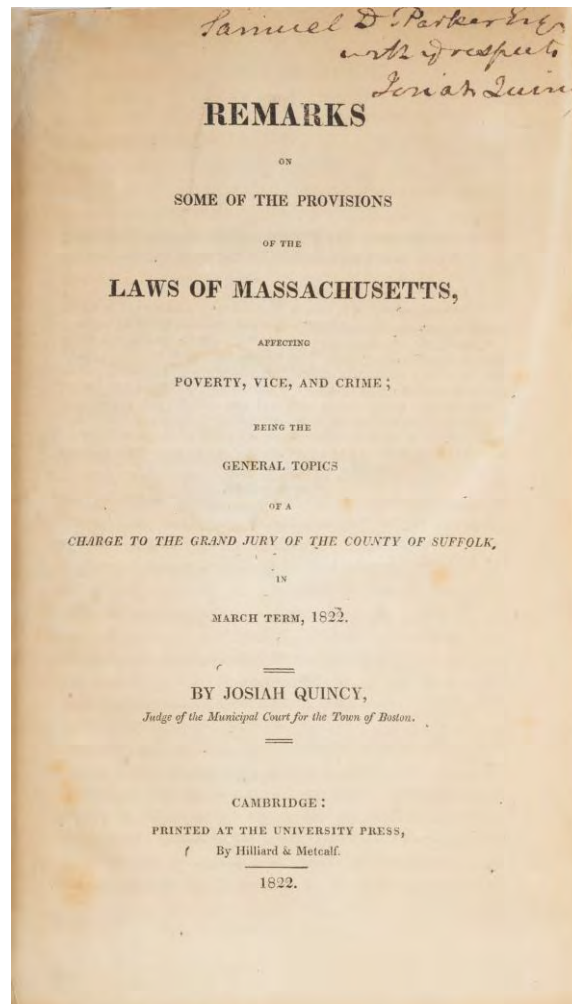
22. Pomeroy, John Norton [1828-1885].

An Introduction to Municipal Law: Designed for General Readers and for Students in Colleges and Higher Schools. New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1864. xxxviii, 544 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Original textured cloth, blind frames to boards, gilt title to spine. A few small scuffs to boards, light rubbing to extremities, spine lettering oxidized, spine ends worn, joints starting, corners bumped and worn, front hinge cracked (before title page), rear hinge starting at foot. Moderate toning to interior, first signature loosening and leaf [A4] (pp. v-vi) detached, a few slight cracks to text block, all other signatures secure, gift inscription to Maria H. Bulfinch, "Xmas 1865" to front free endpaper. \$650.

* First edition. This important treatise is not a study of municipal law in the modern sense, but a study of the positive law of the state and its history. A widely circulated book, it was highly regarded for its elegant prose style and thoughtful consideration of such topics as codification, legislation relating to married women and the war powers of the president under the Constitution. A second edition was published in 1883.

The warm inscription to our copy reads, in part: "My dear Maria, I should not have thought of giving you this book, had I not understood that you had expressed a desire for it. It would have looked a little too much like affectation. Yet I think the book will call up some memories not entirely unpleasant." It goes on to detail her involvement in the publication process. Likely a New York native and local friend of Pomeroy's, Bulfinch was the author of several children's books. *Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School* (1909) II:370. [Order this Item](#)



**Poverty, Vice, Crime and the
Law in Nineteenth-Century Massachusetts**

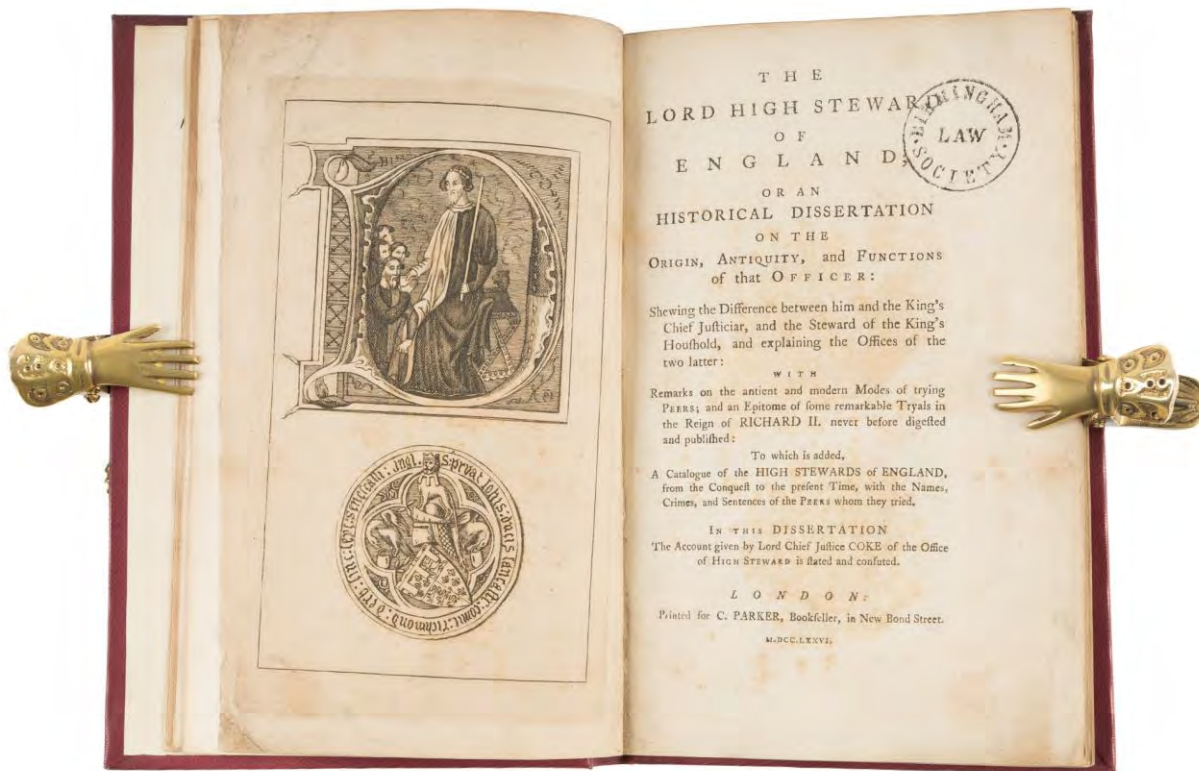
23. Quincy, Josiah, [1772-1864].

Remarks on Some of the Provisions of the Laws of Massachusetts, Affecting Poverty, Vice, and Crime: Being the General Topics of a Charge to the Grand Jury of the County of Suffolk, in March Term, 1822. Cambridge: Printed at the University Press, by Hilliard & Metcalf, 1822. 28 pp. Octavo (9-3/4" x 6").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent quarter calf over marbled boards. Light rubbing to extremities, moderate toning to pamphlet, light foxing to a few leaves, author presentation inscription to Samuel D. Parker to head of title page. \$150.

* Only edition. "Here, as judge of the Boston Municipal Court, Quincy speaks on the relationship of poverty to crime and urges reforms in the city's jail system" (Cohen). Josiah Quincy was a judge, member of the United States House of representatives, mayor of Boston and president of Harvard. Samuel D. Parker [1781-1873] was the district attorney of Suffolk County. OCLC locates 7 copies in law libraries (Boston College, Georgetown, Library of Congress, Harvard, Social Law, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota). Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 4378.

[Order this Item](#)



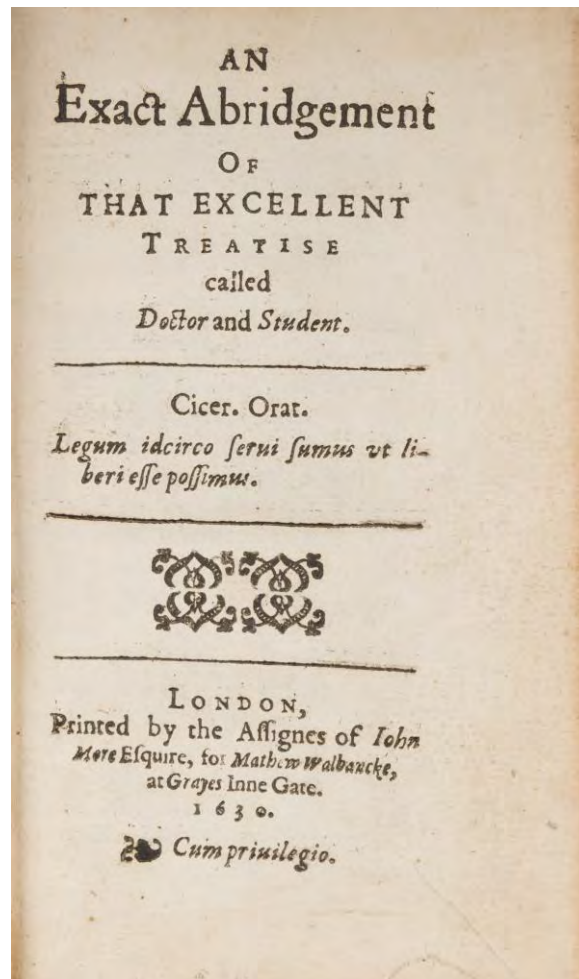
The First History of the Office of Lord High Steward

24. [Russell, Sambrook Nicholas].

The Lord High Steward of England; Or An Historical Dissertation on the Origin, Antiquity, And Functions of That Officer: Shewing the Difference Between Him and the King's Chief Justiciar, And the Steward of the King's Houshold, And Explaining the Offices of the Two Latter: with Remarks on the Antient and Modern Modes of Trying Peers; And an Epitome of Some Remarkable Tryals in the Reign of Richard II. Never Before Digested and Published: To Which is Added, A Catalogue of the High Stewards of England, From the Conquest to the Present Time, With the Names, Crimes, And Sentences of the Peers whom They Tried. In This Dissertation The Account Given by Lord Chief Justice Coke of the Office of High Steward is Stated and Confuted. London: Printed for C. Parker, Bookseller, 1776. [iv], 155, [1] pp. Copperplate frontispiece. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Later cloth, gilt title to spine, publication date and library name to foot of spine, endpapers renewed. Light shelfwear, library bookplate and tiny shelf label to front pastedown. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing in a few places, light soiling and edgewear to frontispiece, library stamps to title page and a few other leaves. \$350.

* Only edition. The Lord High Steward ranked above the Lord Chancellor and the Prime Minister. One of the office's most important powers was the sole legal power to preside over impeachment trials of peers. Since 1421 the office has generally remained vacant. (For trials of peers, the Lord Chancellor was deputized to act as Lord High Steward.) Today, it is now a ceremonial office that is filled for coronation ceremonies. Russell's was the first history of this important office. A fine example of eighteenth-century historical scholarship, a time when antiquarianism was beginning to be displaced by more rigorous research methods, it provided a great deal of unknown information. Also an interpretive work, it refutes Coke's history and definition of the office in his *Third Institutes*. OCLC locates 7 copies in North American law libraries (Duke, LA-County, Library of Congress, University of Cincinnati, University of Minnesota, University of Washington, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T145623. [Order this Item](#)



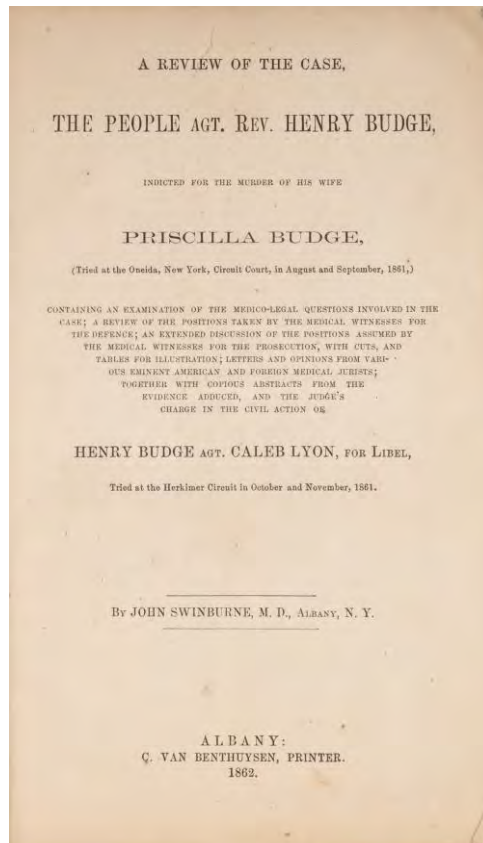
The Only Abridgment of *Doctor and Student*

25. Saint German, Christopher [1460?-1540].

An Exact Abridgement of That Excellent Treatise Called Doctor and Student. London: Printed by [John Haviland for] the Assignes of Iohn More Esquire, And are Sold by Mathew Walbancke, At Grayes Inne Gate, 1630. [192] pp. Octavo (5-1/4" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary sheep with later morocco rebacking, blind rules to boards, gilt title and rules to spine, existing endpapers retained. Light rubbing and a few nicks and tiny wormholes to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, front hinge cracked. Moderate toning to interior, faint dampspotting in a few places, early owner signature (Peter Nash) over struck-through signature to front free endpaper, brief early annotations to a few leaves. \$300.

* First edition. First published in 1523, *Doctor and Student* is cast in the form of two dialogues between a doctor of divinity and a law student. It discusses the nature and object of law, the religious and ethical standards of law, the foundations of the common law, equity and the jurisdiction of Parliament. It was an influential work into the eighteenth century. The *Exact Abridgment* was produced by an anonymous editor with the initials, seen at then end of the preface, "I.L." (One of the annotations in our copy identifies the author as "I. Lightfoot.") It is the only abridgment of this work. A second edition was published in 1658. Both editions are scarce. OCLC locates no copies in North American law libraries, the ESTC locates 3 (Columbia, Harvard, UCLA). *English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)* S116394. [Order this Item](#)



"Her Throat Had Been Cut": McDade 137

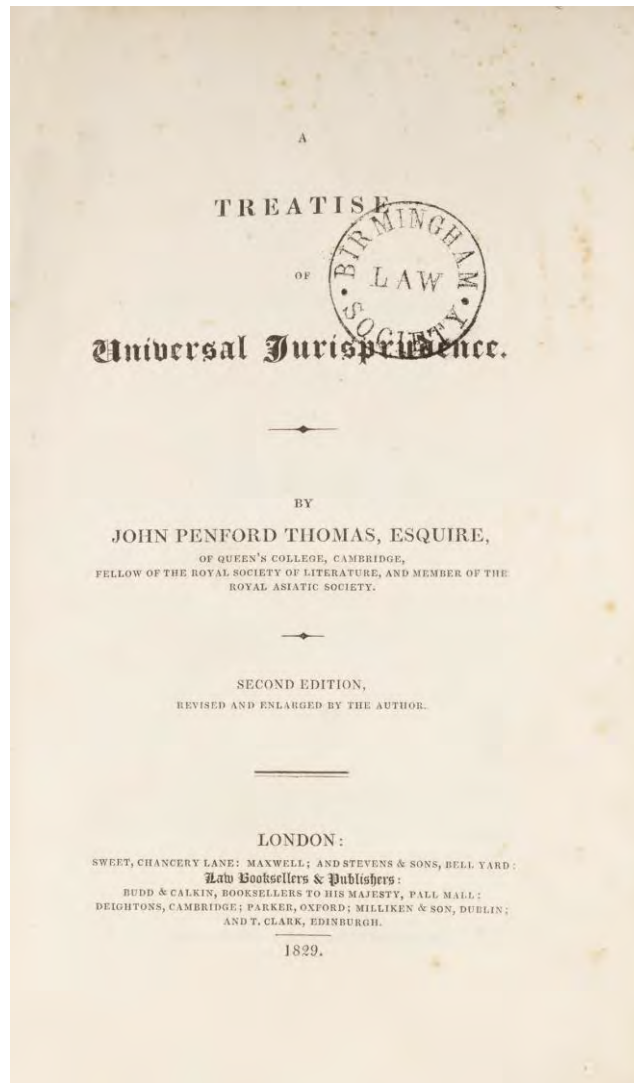
26. Swinburne, John [1820-1889].

Budge, Henry, Defendant

A Review of the Case, The People Agt. Rev. Henry Budge, Indicted for the Murder of His Wife Priscilla Budge (Tried at the Oneida, New York, Circuit Court in August and September, 1861.) Containing an Examination of the Medico-Legal Questions Involved in the Case; A Review of the Positions Taken by the Medical Witnesses for the Defence; An Extended Discussion of the Positions Assumed by the Medical Witnesses for the Prosecution, With Cuts, And Tables for Illustration; Letters and Opinions from Various Eminent American and Foreign Medical Jurists, Together with Copious Abstracts from the Evidence Adduced, And the Judge's Charge in the Civil Action of Henry Budge Agt. Caleb Lyon for Libel: Tried at the Herkimer Circuit in October and November 1861. Albany: C. Van Benthuyesen, Printer, 1862. 94 pp. 6 lithograph plates. Octavo (9" x 6").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers. Light soiling, moderate wear to edges and spine ends, rear wrapper and adjacent leaf beginning to detach at ends, large (illegible) owner signature to front wrapper, some wear and folds to corners of wrappers and a few leaves at beginning and end of text, light browning to interior, heavier browning to fore-edges of a few leaves at beginning of text, short tear to top edges of title page. \$750.

* Only edition. "Mrs. Budge's death was first ruled a suicide; then her husband was tried, but acquitted. Her throat had been cut. After acquittal, Budge sued Caleb Lyon for calling him a murderer. Lyon's defense was that the allegation was true. Budge got a judgement of \$100; he had sued for \$20,000. Dr. Swinburne was Lyon's defense witness, and his pamphlet summarizes that trial. There is an interesting series of illustrations demonstrating the kinds of wounds made from different positions" (McDade). OCLC locates 4 copies in law libraries (Columbia, Harvard, University of Missouri, Yale). McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 137. [Order this Item](#)



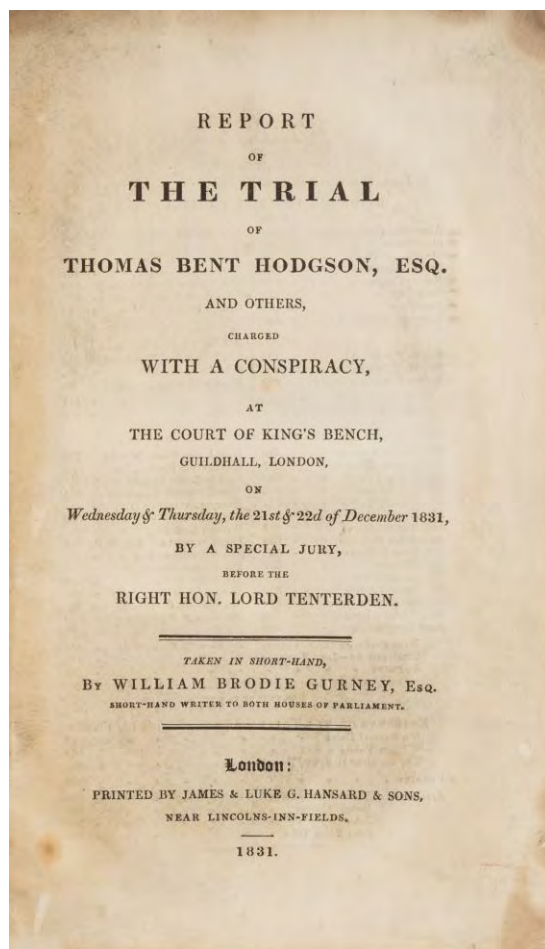
1829 Synthesis of "the Whole Science of Law"

27. Thomas, J[ohn] P[enford].

A Treatise of Universal Jurisprudence. London: Sweet, 1829. xxxviii, 447, [1] pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5").

Contemporary three-quarter morocco over pebbled cloth, gilt library name to front board, gilt library insignia to rear, raised bands, gilt title, insignia and library name to spine, marbled endpapers. Negligible light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, library bookplate and small shelf label and small binder ticket to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, light foxing in a few places, small library stamps to title page and a few other leaves. \$250.

* Second and final edition, revised and enlarged. Reflecting the spirit of legal codification epitomized by the work of Jeremy Bentham, this fascinating study, first published in 1828, is the fruit of the author's effort "to condense the whole science of law into a small volume, and in a popular form" (ix). Thomas's effort to synthesize continental law, common law, canon law, Roman law and their theological and philosophical roots is fascinating, as is his treatment of individual topics like slavery, imperialism and the rights of women. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 2:356. [Order this Item](#)



Conspiracy to Suppress a Will

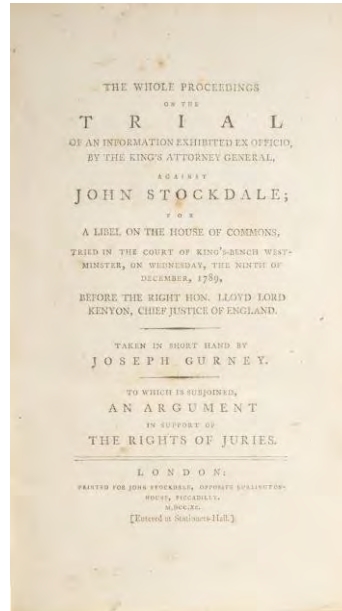
28. [Trial].

Hodgson, Thomas Bent, Primary Defendant.

Report of the Trial of Thomas Bent Hodgson, Esq. And Others Charged With a Conspiracy, At the Court of King's Bench, Guildhall, London, On Wednesday & Thursday, The 21st & 22d of December 1831, By a Special Jury, Before the Right Hon. Lord Tenterden. London: Printed by James & Luke G. Hansard & Sons, 1831. 507, [1] pp. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Later buckram, gilt title and date to spine, endpapers renewed, speckled edges. Boards bowing slightly, light rubbing to extremities, rear hinge cracked (before final leaf), small bookseller's ticket and later bookplate (of Geoffrey Briggs) to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, light soiling in a few places, somewhat heavier to title page, corners lightly worn in a few places not affecting text, crack in text block between pp. 14 and 15, first few leaves loosening at foot but secure, brief annotations, underlining and marks to margins in several places in an early hand. \$250.

* Only edition. Hodgson and his co-defendants William Young, Ann Young and Nancy Watson were accused of conspiring to suppress a will made by William Stephenson, a friend of Hodgson and former employer of Watson and the Youngs. Despite what the jury deemed "highly unprofessional" conduct by the prosecutor, Hodgson, Watson and William Young were convicted; Ann Young was acquitted. Our copy was owned by Sir Geoffrey Briggs [1914-1993], an English lawyer and judge who served as Chief Justice of Hong Kong and Brunei. The brief but substantive notes likely precede his ownership. OCLC locates 6 copies of this title in law libraries (Harvard, Stanford, University of Minnesota, University of Virginia, Library of Congress, Social Law). [Order this Item](#)



A Case That Influenced the Passage of the Libel Act of 1792

29. [Trial].

Stockdale, John [1749?-1814], Defendant.

Gurney, Joseph [1744-1815], Reporter.

[Erskine, Thomas [1750-1823].

The Whole Proceedings on the Trial of an Information Exhibited Ex Officio, by the King's Attorney General, Against John Stockdale; For a Libel on the House of Commons, Tried in the Court of King's-Bench West-Minster, On Wednesday, The Ninth of December, 1789, Before the Right Hon. Lloyd Lord Kenyon, Chief Justice of England. Taken in Short Hand by Joseph Gurney. To Which is Subjoined, An Argument in Support of the Rights of Juries. London: Printed for John Stockdale, Opposite Burlington House, Piccadilly, 1790. xi, [1], 228 pp.

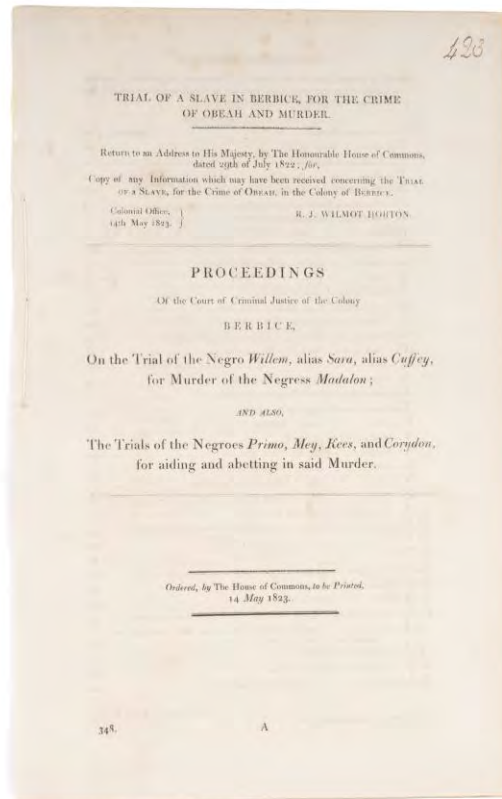
[Bound with]

A Briton

Four Letters on the Subject of Mr. Stockdale's Trial, For a Supposed Libel on the House of Commons. London: Printed for John Stockdale, opposite Burlington House, Piccadilly, MDCCXC [1790]. 52 pp. Lacking the final 8 leaves of advertisements.

Octavo (9" x 5-3/4"). Contemporary three-quarter calf over marbled boards, rebacked in period style, gilt title, fillets and ornaments to spine, speckled edges, hinges mended. Light rubbing to boards, heavier rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn, early bookseller ticket and armorial bookplate (of Charles Waburton) to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, light soiling to a few leaves. \$850.

* *The Whole Proceedings*: first edition. *Four Letters*: Only edition, one of two issues from 1790. Stockdale, a publisher and bookseller, was indicted for libel on the House of Commons after publishing an account of the impeachment of Warren Hastings by John Logan that accused the Commons of corrupt and unjust behavior. Stockdale was defended by Erskine, who argued that Stockdale should not be judged by isolated passages in Logan's book, but by the entire publication. Stockdale was acquitted and his case is believed to have influenced the passage of the Libel Act of 1792, which restored the verdict power of juries in libel cases. Taken in shorthand by Gurney, *The Whole Proceedings* is Stockdale's account of his trial. A Dublin reissue and a "New" London edition were also published in 1790. *Four Letters*, a work in favor of Stockdale and Erskine, claims to provide several Facts about the case and Hastings that had been overlooked. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T83638, T226382. [Order this Item](#)



Magic and Murder on a Colonial Plantation

30. [Trials].

[Slavery].

[British Guiana].

Willem [d.1822], Primary Defendant.

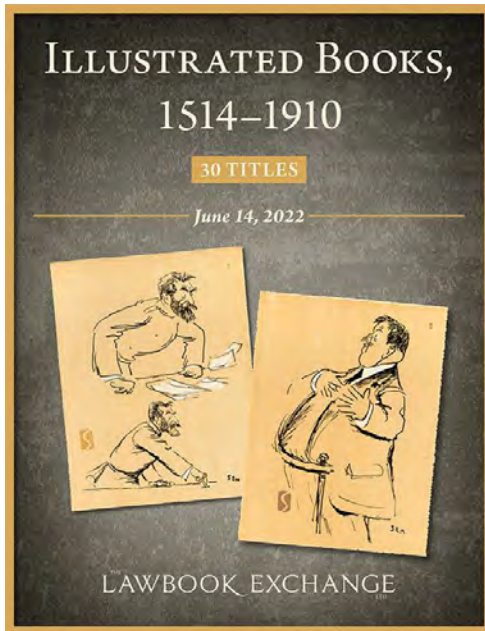
Court of Criminal Justice, Colony of Berbice.

Trial of a Slave in Berbice for the Crime of Obeah and Murder (...) *Proceedings of the Court of Criminal Justice of the Colony Berbice, On the Trial of the Negro Willem, Alias Sara, Alias Cuffey, For the Murder of the Negress Madalon: And also, The Trials of the Negroes Primo, Mey, Kees, And Corydon, For Aiding and Abetting in Said Murder.* [London]: Ordered by the House of Commons to be Printed, 1823. 45, [1] pp. Folio (12-1/2" x 8").

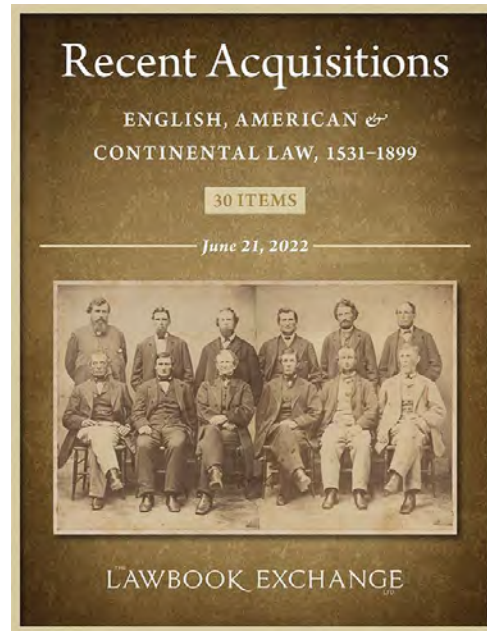
Stab-stitched pamphlet, neatly disbound and recently resewn, gilt and marbled edges. Light toning, light foxing in a few places, hand-written page numbers to top right corner of rectos. \$2,500.

* Only edition. The trial of a slave in the British colony of Berbice, part of present-day Guyana. Willem, enslaved on the Op Hoop van Beter plantation, was accused by another slave, Vigilant, of killing a woman named Madalon. This accusation triggered an investigation into the local practice of obeah, defined by Randy M. Browne as "an Afro-Caribbean complex of spiritual healing, harming, and divination." Madalon had herself been suspected of practicing obeah. Willem had been called in by other slaves to stop her, and four others were implicated in the performance of the ritual (a capital crime). Willem and his accomplices Primo and Mey were executed, and defendants Kees, Corydon and Allegro, other accomplices, were flogged and remanded to be "worked in chains" for a period of several years. OCLC locates 6 copies worldwide, 2 in law libraries (Harvard, Yale). See Browne, "The "Bad Business" of Obeah: Power, Authority, and the Politics of Slave Culture in the British Caribbean." *William and Mary Quarterly* 68, no. 3, July 2011: 451-480. [Order this Item](#)

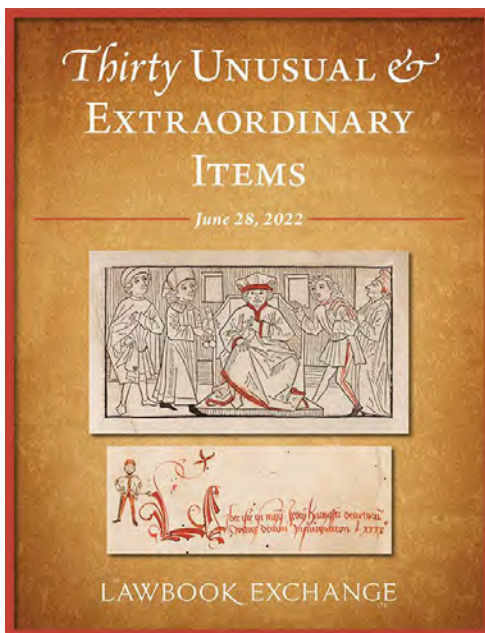
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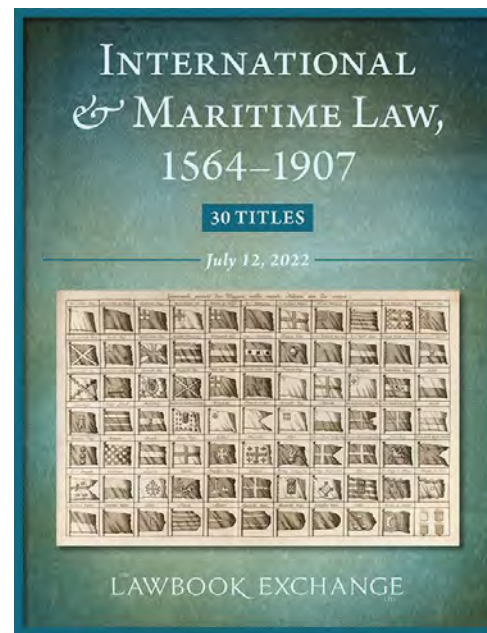
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