ENGLISH LAW BOOKS 1501-1651

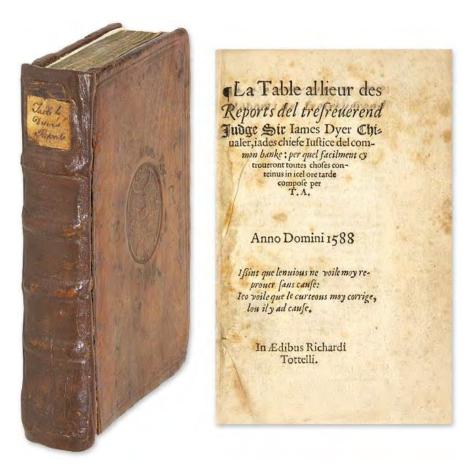
March 16, 2021

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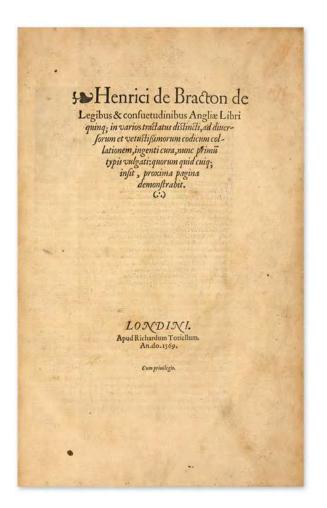
An Early Guide to Dyer's Reports

1. A[she], T[homas] [c.1556-1618]. [Dyer, Sir James (1510-1582)].

La Table al Lieur des Reports del Tresreverend Judge Sir Iames Dyer Chivaler, Iades Chiefe Iustice del Common Banke. Per Quel Facilment cy Troveront Toutes Choses Conteinus in Icel Ore Tarde Compose per T.A. London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1588. [viii], 167, [1] ff. Octavo (5" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary calf, rebacked retaining spine, blind rules central blind arabesques and initials "E R" to boards, raised bands and later hand-lettered title label to spine, endpapers renewed, bookplates retained. Moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, later armorial bookplate of William Hopkinson to front pastedown, presentation bookplate from Hopkinson to the County Magistrates, Lincoln, and another plate listing previous owners of the book to rear pastedown. Moderate toning to text, light foxing in a few places, internally clean. \$950.

* First edition. Ashe was highly regarded for his treatises and indexes of reporters. Issued two years after the first edition of Dyer's *Reports*, this 1588 table was Ashe's first publication. Later editions were published in 1602 and 1609. A bookplate on the rear pastedown traces part of this book's ownership history to 1636, when it belonged to George Viscount Chaworth of Armagh, Chief Justice of Common Pleas in Ireland. OCLC locates 8 copies of the first edition in North America, 5 in law libraries (Columbia, Georgetown, Harvard, Library of Congress, Yale) and 1 copy in Great Britain (British Library) and 1 copy in Ireland (Trinity College). The *ESTC* adds 2 more copies in North America (Folger Library, University of Minnesota) and 6 more copies in the British Isles (Cambridge, Cashel Cathedral, National Library of Wales, Bodleian Library, Oxford, Peterborough Cathedral). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S100017. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R482a. Order This Item



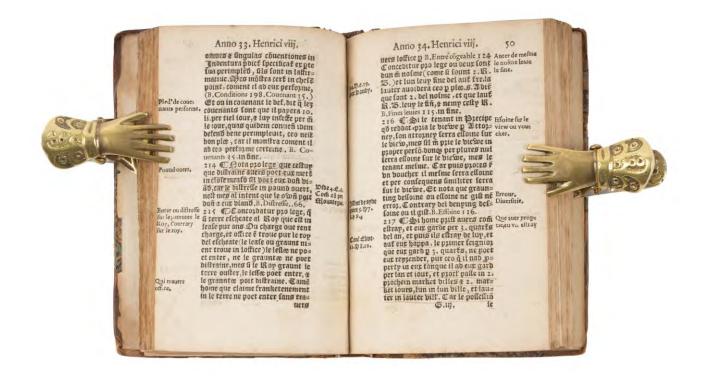
Printing and the Mind of Man 89: The "Crown and Flower of Medieval Jurisprudence"

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

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

Nineteenth-century diced calf, gilt rules to boards, gilt fillets, ornaments and title to spine, gilt rules to board edges, gilt inside rules, marbled endpapers, ribbon marker. Light rubbing to boards, faint dampstain to front board, moderate rubbing to extremities, front joint just starting at head, corners bumped and somewhat worn, armorial bookplate to front pastedown. Attractive large woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing and finger smudges to some leaves, some fading to text of ff. 1 and 2. A handsome copy of a landmark work. \$10,000.

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



A Selection from Brooke's Abridgement

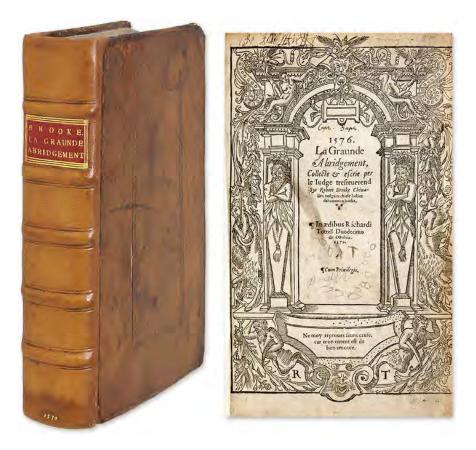
3. [Brooke, Sir Robert (d.1558)].

Ascuns Novell Cases de les Ans et Temps le Roy, H.8. Ed.6. Et la Roygne Mary, Escrie ex la Graund Abridgement, Compose per Sir Robert Brooke Chivaler &: La Disperse en les Titles. Mes Icy Collect Sub Ans. [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1578. [i], 116, [3] ff. Collates complete. Octavo (5" x 3-1/2").

Recent quarter calf over retained 19th-century marbled boards with calf corners, lettering piece retained, endpapers renewed. Moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to corners, rear hinge cracked, rear endleaves partially detached. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, fore-edge trimmed with minor loss to side-notes, minor tears to a few leaves, brief early annotations and underlining in a few places, later owner signatures to title page, which is lightly soiled, as is the verso of the final index leaf. \$1,500.

* First edition. Also known as *Brooke's New Cases, Petit Brook* or *Bellewe Temp. Henry VIII*, this book is a selection of cases from 1514-1558 taken from Brooke's great *Abridgement* (1568), a digest of more than 20,000 cases and notes from the Year Books, Fitzherbert's *Natura Brevium*, and other sources. Later editions were published in 1587, 1597, 1604, 1624, 1625, 1628 and 1651. All editions are scarce. No copies of the first edition have appeared at auction since 2014. OCLC locates 7 in North America, all in law libraries (Boston College, Columbia, Georgetown, Social Law, University of Maine, University of Washington, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116228. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R480. Order This Item

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"A Worthy and Painful Work"

4. Brooke, Sir Robert [?-1558].

La Graunde Abridgement, Collecte & Escrie per le Iudge Tresreverend Syr Robert Brooke Chivalier, Nadgairs Chiefe Iustice del Common Banke.

[And]

La Secounde Part du Graunde Abridgment....

London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottell, 1576. Two parts in one. [ii], 351; [i], 328 ff. Collates complete. Small folio (9-1/4" x 6").

Contemporary calf with recent rebacking, blind panels with large corner fleurons to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Moderate rubbing to board edges, a few minor scratches and scuffs, corners bumped and somewhat worn, hinges starting. Titles printed within woodcut architectural borders, woodcut decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining to foot of text block, minor loss to fore-edges of title pages due to trimming. Tiny early owner signatures to title page of first part, interiors otherwise clean. An attractive copy. \$1,000.

* Second edition. Sir Robert Brooke was renowned for his great learning as a scholar and his probity as a judge. Holdsworth notes that Brooke's *Abridgement* "is based on Fitzherbert's *Abridgement*, but it contains much new material. In particular it abridges fully the Year Books of Henry VII's and Henry VIII's reigns." Brooke abridged nearly 21,000 cases under 404 alphabetical headings. He proceeded with great care and accuracy, and is understood to have had access to the original records of the Year Books. Coke calls the *Abridgement* "a worthy and painful work and an excellent repertory or table for the Year Books of the Law." It was first issued in 1573. Coke cited in Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 151. Holdsworth, *History of English Law* II:545. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S106717. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R471, R472. Order This Item

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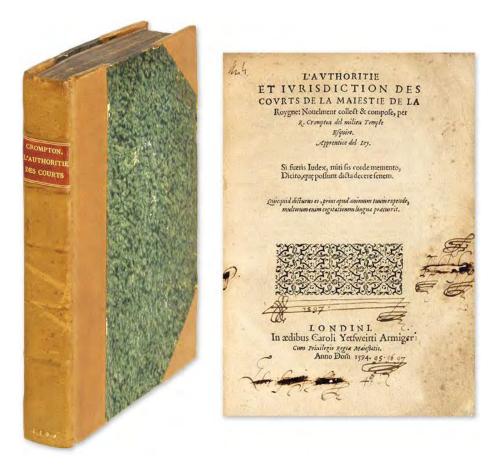
First Edition of Coke's Reports, Part Seven, Which Includes Calvin's Case

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

La Sept Part des Reports Sr. Edw. Coke Chivaler, Chiefe Iustice del Common Banke: Des divers Resolutions & Iudgements done sur Solemne Arguments & Avec Grand Deliberation & Conference des Tresreverend Iudges & Sages de la Ley, De Cases en ley Queux ne Fueront Unques Resolue ou Adiudges par Devant: Et les Raisons & Causes des Dits Resolutions & Iudgements. Publies en le Size an del Treshaut & Tresillustre Iaques Roy Dengl. Fr. & Irel. & de Escoce le 42. le Fountaine de Tout Pietie & Iustice, & la Vie de la Ley. London: Printed [by Adam Islip] for the Societie of Stationers, 1608. [v], 28, 34 ff., 35-36 pp., 37-45, [1] ff. Complete. Folio (11" x 7").

Contemporary calf, rebacked in period style, blind rules to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, hinges mended. Moderate rubbing and some shallow scuffing to boards, heavier rubbing to board edges with some wear to corners. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning, faint dampstaining to text block in a few places, occasional brief early annotations in early hand, light edgewear to endleaves, light soiling and two later owner annotations to title page. \$1,250.

* First edition. Prefaces in Latin and English. Coke's *Reports* are not reports in the conventional sense but highly detailed anthologies of precedents organized according to the cases they consider. In each instance Coke assembled a large body of cases, outlined their arguments, and explained the reasons for the judgment, using it as a basis for a statement of general principles. Taken together, the Reports form the most extensive and detailed treatment of common law pleading that had yet appeared. A work of immense authority, it was often cited as The Reports, there being no need to mention the author's name. Highlights of the seventh part are the preface, a response to criticism of his speech and charge at the Norwich assizes, and Calvin's Case, which helped to establish the rule of birthright citizenship. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S125723. Order This Item



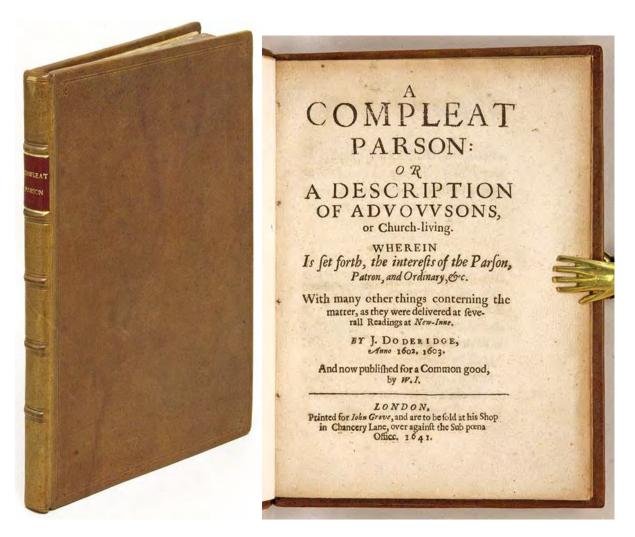
First Edition of Crompton's Survey of the Courts

6. [Crompton, Richard (d. 1599)].

L'Authoritie et Iurisdiction des Courts de la Maiestie de la Roygne: Nouelment Collect & Compose, Per R. Crompton del Milieu Temple Esquire, Apprentice del Ley. Si Seuris Index, Mitisis Corde Memento, Dicito, quae Possunt Dicta Decere Senem. London: In Aedibus Caroli Yetsweirti, 1594. [iv], 232 ff. Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Later three-quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Light rubbing to extremities, a few minor nicks to boards, hinges cracked. Woodcut head-pieces and decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, some leaves have faint dampspotting or edgewear. Small early owner initials and struck-through signatures to title page, one with burn-though, early annotations and underlining to a few leaves, interior otherwise clean. An appealing copy. \$1,000.

* First edition. Crompton was a bencher of the Middle Temple during the reign of Henry VIII and the author of several notable juristic works. *L'Authoritie et Iurisdiction* is considered to be his principal work. It is essentially a digest of the Year Books and other cases applicable to the subject. Turning to William Fulbecke's *A Direction or Preparative to the Study of the Lawe* (1600), we see that its value was recognized almost immediately: "Master Crompton has taken great paynes in this study, and his books are in every man's hands, which prooveth their generall allowance, his cases are very profitable, and apt for the title to which they are applyed, and so compendiously collected, that a man may by them in a few howers gaine great knowledge" (cited in Holdsworth). On a broader scale, Crompton offers legal justification for the creation of a rigidly hierarchical "natural" society governed by a powerful monarch. This attitude, articulated by Bodin among others, was shared by several conservatives in England and Europe during the Late Renaissance. Holdsworth, *History of English Law* IV: 212. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S109077. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T328. Order This Item



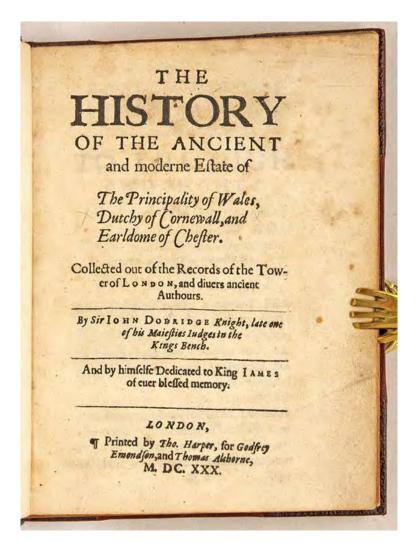
The Right to Nominate Candidates to Fill a Vacant Church Benefice

7. Doddridge (Dodderidge), Sir John [1555-1628].

A Compleat Parson: Or a Description of Advowsons, Or Church-Living. Wherein is Set Forth, The Interests of the Parson, Patron, And Ordinary, &: With Many Other Things Concerning the Matter, As They Were Delivered at Severall Readings at New-Inne, And Now Published for the Common Good, by W.I. London: Printed by John Grove, 1641. [viii], 72, 75-96 pp. Pagination irregular, text complete. Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind rules with corner fillets to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate browning to text, faint spotting to a few leaves. An appealing copy in a handsome binding. \$500.

* Second and final edition. Sir John Doddridge, a judge during the reign of Charles I, was a formidably learned jurist who was both a common lawyer and a civilian who held a D.C.L. from Cambridge. Held in high esteem by Holdsworth, he is best known for *English Lanyer: Describing a Method for the Managing of the Laws of this Land* (1631). He may also be the actual author of William Sheppard's *The Touch-Stone of Common Assurances* (1648), though this is still a matter of debate. *A Compleat Parson* is based on a series of lectures on ecclesiastical law delivered at New-Inn. It is a work on advowson, which is the right to appoint or nominate a person to a vacant church benefice. Both editions of this work are scarce. OCLC locates 3 copies of the second edition in North American law libraries (Lewis & Clark, New York University, University of Florida). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R17422. Order This Item



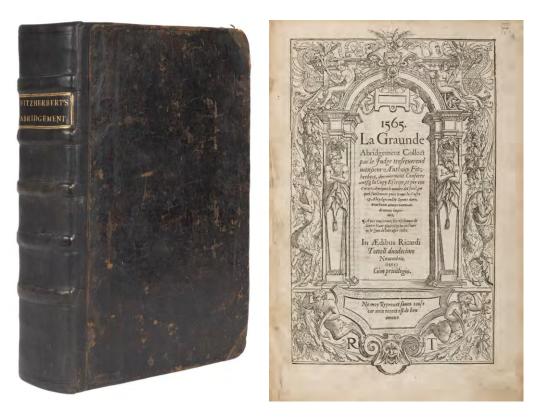
A Treatise Urging the Revival of Wales as a Principality

8. Doddridge, Sir John [1555-1628].

The History of the Ancient and Moderne Estate of the Principality of Wales, Dutchy of Cornewall, And Earldome of Chester. Collected Out of the Records of the Tower of London, And Divers Ancient Authours. By Sir Iohn Dodridge Knight, Late One of His Maiesties Iudges in the Kings Bench. And by Himselfe Dedicated to King Iames of Ever Blessed Memory. London: Printed by Tho. Harper, For Godfrey Emondson, And Thomas Alchorne, 1630. [xvi], 142, [2] pp. Final leaf blank. Quarto (7" x 5-1/2").

Recent three-quarter morocco over cloth, blind fillets along edges of morocco, gilt title and fillets to spine, endpapers renewed. Some rubbing to extremities with light wear to spine ends and corners, recent owner bookplate to front pastedown. Moderate toning to text, faint dampspotting in a few places, light soiling to title page, a few faint early doodles to p. 142. A nice copy. \$450.

* First edition. Sir John Doddridge, or Dodderidge, a judge of King's Bench, was a formidably learned jurist who was both a common lawyer and a civilian who held a D.C.L. from Cambridge. His work is held in high esteem by Holdsworth. The *History* was written during the early part of the reign of James I to urge the revival of Wales as a principality. After a period of decline, the principality was abolished by Parliament in 1641. (It was revived during the Restoration before being finally abolished in 1689.) A second edition was published in 1714. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S109765. Order This Item



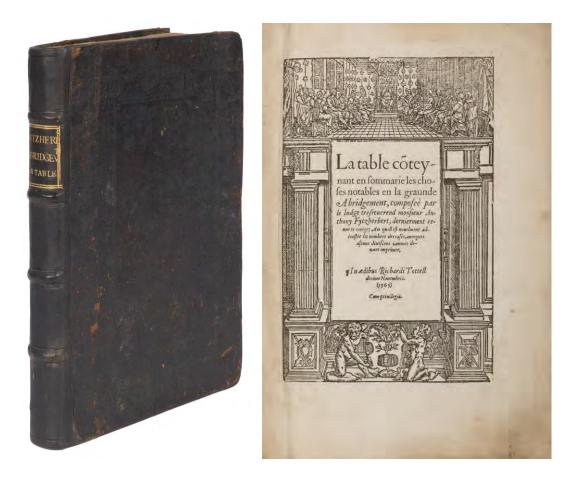
First Tottell Edition of the Book that "Made the Common Law"

9. Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony [1470-1538].

La Graunde Abridgement Collecte par le Iudge Tresreverend Monsieur Anthony Fitzherbert, Dernierment Conferre Ouesque la Copy Escript et per Ceo Correct: Aueques le Nombre del Sueil, Per Quel Facilement Poies Trover les Cases cy Abrydges en les Livers Dans, Novelment Annote: Iammais Devaunt Imprimee. London: In Aedibus Ricardi Tottell, 1565. Three parts in two books [i], 379; [i], 128; 207 ff. First and second parts have title pages, second part has title beginning: La Secounde Part du Graund Abridgment. Tipped-in cancel slip to verso of leaf M2 in third part. Folio (13-1/2" x 9-1/4").

Contemporary calf, rebacked in period style, blind rules to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed with carefully matched antique paper. Moderate rubbing and light gatoring to boards, heavier rubbing to board edges with wear to corners. Title pages printed within woodcut architectural borders. Moderate toning, faint dampstaining to foot of text block, light soiling to title page of first part, "W" in small later hand to upper right-hand corner. An impressive copy. \$4,000.

* First Tottell edition. Arguably one of the most imposing volumes in the history of English law, Fitzherbert abridged 13,485 cases under 263 titles in alphabetical order. First published in 1514 (or 1516), it was the first serious attempt to arrange the common law in a systematic manner and was a model for such writers as Brooke and Rolle. According to Boersma, Fitzherbert accomplished "nothing less than to abridge all notes of significant cases at common law." A standard work in Great Britain, it was equally important in the American colonies. Thomas Jefferson, for example, owned a copy from 1577. Graham and Heckel refer to this work as the "book that 'made' the common law." Beale's record for the second part differs from our copy, which matches that in the *ESTC*. The most notable difference is that the Beale copy does not include the first 128 leaves of the second part. Boersma, "Sir Anthony Fitzherbert: A Biographical Sketch and Short Bibliography," *Law Library Journal* 71 (1978) 395. Graham and Heckel, "The Book That 'Made' the Common Law," *Law Library Journal* 51 (1957) 101. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 1776. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R463, R464. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S122166. Order This Item



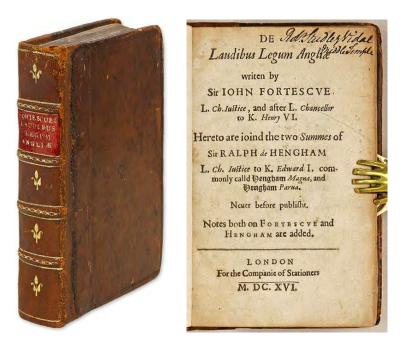
The First Index of the Common Law, Written to Accompany La Graunde Abridgement

10. [Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony [1470-1538]. [Rastell, John (d. 1536)].

La Table Co[n]teynant en Sommarie les Choses Notables en la Graunde Abridgement, Composeè par le Iudge Tresreverend Monsieur Anthony Fytzherbert, Dernierment Renue et Corige: Au Quell est Novelment Adioustee les Nombres des Cases, Avecques Ascuns Divisions Iammes Devant Imprimee. London: In Aedibus Ricardi Tottell, Decimi Novembris, 1565. ii, 210, [1] ff. Folio (11-1/4" x 8").

Contemporary paneled calf, rebacked in period style, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, hinges mended. Moderate rubbing and light gatoring to boards, heavier rubbing to board edges with wear to corners, alter armorial book plate (Hopetoun) to front pastedown. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning, occasional light soiling to margins, heavier soiling and some creases and edgewear to preliminaries and endleaves, occasional brief annotations in early chancery hand. \$1,250.

* Only edition. Arguably one of the most imposing volumes in the history of English law, Fitzherbert's *Abridgment*, which abridged 13,485 cases under 263 titles in alphabetical order, was the first serious attempt to arrange the common law in a systematic manner. First published in 1514 (or 1516), it was standard work for decades, Graham and Heckel refer to this work as the "book that 'made' the common law." The *Table* was compiled by Fitzherbert and improved by Rastell. Intended to accompany the first edition, it was completed by an unidentified third individual who adjusted the text so it could be used in conjunction with Richard Tottel's 1565 edition. Graham and Heckel, "The Book That 'Made' the Common Law," *Law Library Journal* 51 (1957) 101. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R465. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121335. Order This Item



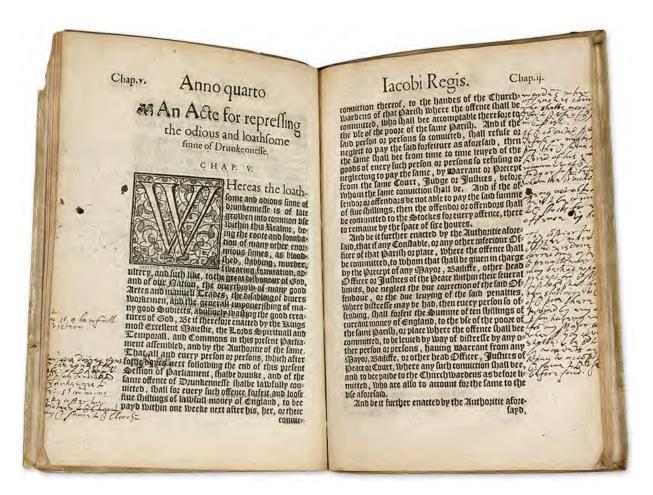
First Selden Edition of Fortescue's De Laudibus

Fortescue, Sir John [1394?-1476?] [Selden, John (1584-1654), Editor]. [Mulcaster, Robert, Translator and Editor].

De Laudibus Legum Angliae Writen by Sir Iohn Fortescue L. Ch. Iustice, and After L. Chancellor to K. Henry VI.... London: Printed [by Adam Islip] for the Companie of Stationers, 1616. [viii], 132, [3] ff.; 56, [12], 35, 34-159, [1] pp. Lacking first leaf, blank except for a small paragraph symbol on the recto, and the last leaf, a blank. Two parts, each with title page and individual pagination. First part in parallel columns; Latin with running English translation. Texts of *Summes* in Latin with notes in English. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary calf with later rebacking, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, gilt-decorated raised bands, gilt ornaments and gilt title to spine, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing, corners bumped and somewhat worn, armorial bookplate to front pastedown, front hinge partially cracked. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, faint stains and light edgewear to a few leaves. Early owner signature in tiny hand to head of title page, brief early annotations to a few leaves. \$950.

* First Selden edition. *De Laudibus Legum Angliae*, a history of English law, was written for the instruction of Edward, the young Prince of Wales. Cast in dialogue form, it demonstrates that the common law was the oldest and most reasonable legal system in Europe. It also compares the common and Roman systems and extols the superiority of a constitutionally limited monarchy. *De Laudibus* was written around 1470 and first printed in 1567. Selden's was the first critical edition of this work, perhaps the first critical edition of an early English legal work. Aside from their value to the elucidation of Fortescue's text, Selden's notes interrogate aspects of Fortescue's text and offer rich insights into jurisprudence and the nature of the English constitution. As noted by Christianson, his conclusions displayed by [Sir Edward] Coke." It was reissued in 1660, 1672 and 1737 with various additions. "Fortescue was a favorite among the old lawyers, and will be read with profit in modern times by those who are interested in the origin and progress of the Common Law.": Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 321. Christianson, *Discourse on History, Law, and Governance in the Public Career of John Selden* 63. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S102544. Order This Item



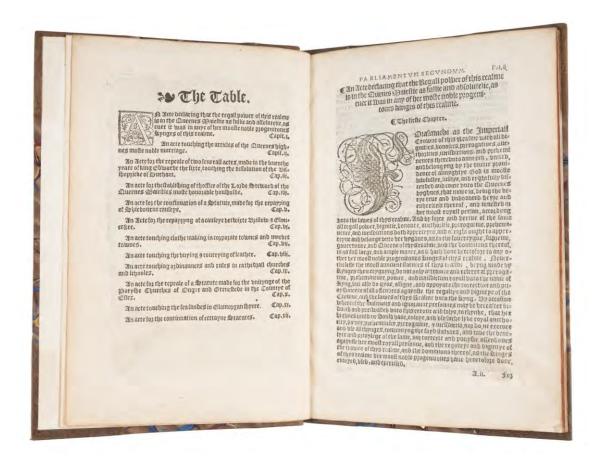
With Two Well-Annotated Acts Concerning Alcoholic Beverages

[Great Britain]. [Statutes]. [James I, King (1566-1625)].

An[n]o Regni Iacobi, Regis Angl. Scotiae, Franc. & Hybern. Viz. Angl. Franc. & Hybern. 4. Scotiae 40. At the Parliament Begun and Holden at Westminster by Prorogation, The 18. Day of November, In the Fourth Yeere of the Raigne of Our Most Gracious Soveraigne Lord Iames, By the Grace of God of England, France & Ireland King; Defender of the Faith, &c. And of Scotland the 40. And There Continued Untill the 4. day of Iuly 1607. And Then Proroged Until the 16. Day of November Next Following. To the High Pleasure of Almighty God, And to the Weale Publique of this Realme, Were Enacted as Followeth. [London: Robert Barker, Printer to the Kings Most Excellent Maiestie, 1607]. 92 pp. Folio (10-1/2" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum with fragments of ribbon ties, early hand-lettered title to spine. Light soiling, spine ends bumped, chips to head and foot of front board, free endpapers lacking. Title printed with woodcut architectural border, decorated initials, head-pieces and tail-pieces. Light toning to text, faint dampstaining in places. Extensive annotations in contemporary hand to eight pages, some slightly affected by trimming, interior otherwise clean. \$1,900.

* This volume records 8 acts for the 4th year of James's Reign. Two acts are heavily annotated: "An Act to Restraine the Utterance of Beere and Ale to Alehouse-Keepers and Tiplers not Licenced" and "An Acte for Repressing the Odious and Loathsome Sinne of Drunkennesse." *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121600. Order This Item



Important 16th Century Acts Concerning Queen Mary I

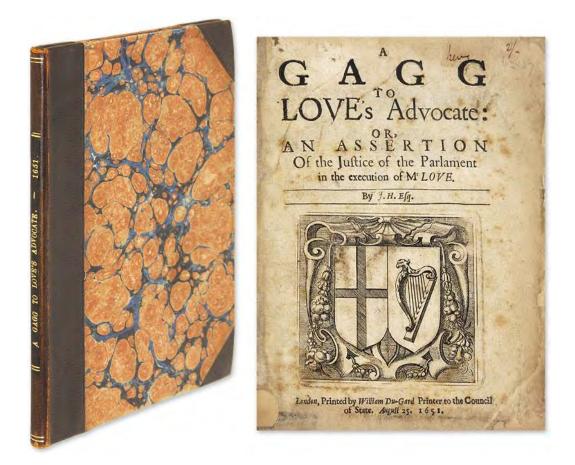
[Great Britain]. [Statutes]. [Mary I, Queen (1516-1558)].

Anno Mariae Primo Actes Made in the Parliamente Begonne and Holden at Westminster, The Seconde Daye of Apryll, In the Firste Yeare of the Reygne of Oure Moste Gratious Soveraygne Ladye, Marye by the Grace of God, Quene of Englande, Fraunce, And Irelande, Defender of the Fayth, and There Continued and Kepte to the Dissolution of the Same, Being the V. Daye of Maye then Nexte Ensuing as Foloweth. [London: In Aedibus Iohannis Cawodi Typographi Regiae Mariae, 1554]. 20 ff. Folio (11" x 7-1/2").

Recent three-quarter calf over marbled boards. Light rubbing to boards, slightly heavier rubbing to extremities, small bookseller description affixed to front pastedown, front hinge cracked, rear hinge starting at ends, some discoloration to endleaves. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning, faint dampstaining to fore-edges of leaves at end of text. \$1,850.

* First edition, one of four issues. This volume records 12 acts of the Second Parliament of the first regnal year of Mary I. Two of these concern the queen's status: "An Acte Touching the Articles of the Queenes Highnes Moste Noble Marriage" contains the text of the Mary's marriage contract with King Philip II of Spain and endorses the union. The "Acte Declaring that the Regall Power of the Realme is in the Queenes Maiestie as Fullie and Absolutelie, As Ever it Was in Anye of Her Mooste Noble Progenitours Kynges of this Realme" settled the controversy in Parliament over the legitimacy of her succession. (Lady Jane Grey, the rival claimant, was executed on Mary's orders on February 12, 1554.) Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* S245. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S1978. Order This Item

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Cromwell Refused to Grant a Pardon

14. H[all], J[ohn] [1627-1656].

[Hinde, John, Attributed].

A Gagg to Love's Advocate: Or, An Assertion of the Justice of the Parlament in the Execution of Mr Love. London: Printed by William Du-Gard, Printer to the Council of State, 1651. [iv], 22 pp. Quarto (7" x 5-1/2").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into later three-quarter calf over marbled boards. Light rubbing to extremities with negligible wear to spine ends and corners. Large copperplate arms of the Commonwealth to title page, woodcut headpieces and decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, dampstaining to head of text block, title page soiled and edgeworn, worming to lower margin of text block, edgewear to a few leaves at beginning and end of text, small chips to heads of final three leaves with minor loss to text. Two miniscule annotations in later hand to head of title page, small recent owner stamp to rear pastedown, interior otherwise clean. A solid copy of a scarce title. \$950.

* Only edition. Hall was a poet employed as a pamphleteer by Cromwell. He was, in other words, a propagandist for the Commonwealth. *A Gagg to Love's Advocate* defends the recent execution of Christopher Love [1618-1651], a controversial Welsh Protestant preacher and advocate of Presbyterianism. He was convicted of treason when the Commonwealth learned that he was communicating with the exiled Stuart court with the goal of restoring the Stuart monarchy. He went to his death as a martyr of the Presbyterians, who petitioned in vain to secure his pardon. Cromwell denied these petitions because we wished to suppress dissent among the Presbyterians. OCLC locates 6 copies in North America, none in law libraries. A few sources, most notably Wing's *Short-Title Catalogue*, suggest an attribution to John Hinde. The *ESTC* does not offer an attribution, though most scholarship indicates that Hall was the author. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R206702. Order This Item



An Interesting Perspective on Elizabethan England

15. Lambard(e), William [1536-1601].

Eirenarcha: Or of the Office of the Iustices of Peace, In Two Bookes: Gathered 1579. And Now Revised, And First Published, In the 24. Yeere of the Peaceable Reigne of Our Gratious Queene Elizabeth. London: Imprinted by Ra. Newbery, And H. Bynnean, 1582. [vii], 511, [15] pp. Octavo (6-1/4" x 4-1/2").

Recent period-style paneled calf, blind fleurons to inside panels, raised bands and blind ornaments to spine, early handlettered title to fore-edge of text block. Title printed within woodcut architectural border, woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials, woodcut arms of dedicatee, Sir Robert Bromley, facing dedication leaf, large woodcut device to verso of final leaf. Light toning to text, some edgewear to endleaves and title page. Brief early annotation to front endleaf, interior otherwise clean. An appealing copy. \$2,000.

* Second edition, one of two issues from 1582. Lambard, or Lambarde, a barrister and legal historian, was the keeper of records at the Rolls Chapel and the Tower of London. First published in 1581, *Eirenarcha* is esteemed for its comprehensive and systematic account of the organization of local government under the justices of the peace at the end of the sixteenth century. It was the standard authority for many years and often reprinted. Like many books of its kind, *Eirenarcha* offers fascinating insights into the society that produced it. This is evident in the detailed indictments for such offenses as murder via witchcraft, raping a child or maid (the age of distinction was ten), hearing a Catholic Mass, practicing usury and operating a bowling alley. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T388. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S108154. Order This Item



Two Classic Works on the English Law of Real Property

16. [Littleton, Sir Thomas (1402-1481)].

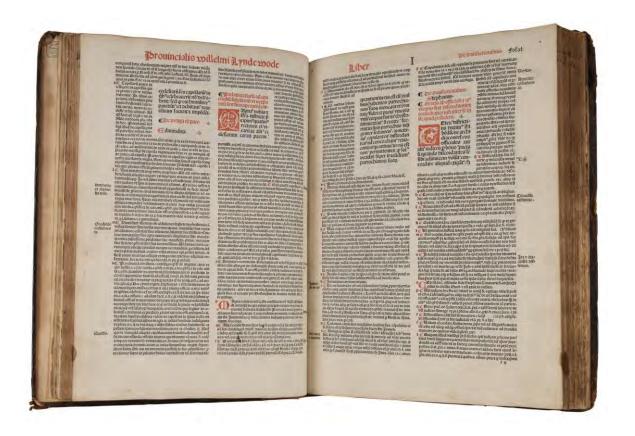
Les Tenures de Monsieur Littleton: Ouesque Certeine Cases Addes per Auters de Puisne Temps, Queux Cases vous Troveres Signes Ouesque Cest Signe * Al Commencement, & Al Fine de Chescun de Eux: Au Fine Que ne Poies eux Misprender pur les Cases de Mounsieur Littleton... London: Imprinted [by A. Islip?] for the Company of Stationers, 1608. [1], 170, [25] ff. [Bound with]

Perkins, John [d. 1545].

A Profitable Booke of Master Iohn Perkins, Fellow of the Inner Temple. Treating of the Laws of England. London: Printed [by Adam Islip?] for the Company of Stationers, 1609. [xxiv], 168 ff.

Octavo (4-1/2" x 2-1/2"). Contemporary calf, gilt rules to boards, gilt fillets to spines, fragments of thong ties. Moderate rubbing to spine and extremities with some wear to corners, light scuffing to boards, a few tiny wormholes to spine, pastedowns loose, a few partial cracks to text block, wormhole from preliminaries through first third of text with no loss to legibility, final two signatures of *A Profitable Booke* a bit loose and slightly edgeworn, edges trimmed closely occasionally touching side-notes (with no loss to legibility). Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, internally clean. 1,500.

* Later editions. This volume collects two classic English treatises on the law of real property. Written during the reign of Edward IV [1442-1483] and first published around 1481, Littleton's *Tenures* is probably the most revered treatise in the history of the common law. Much admired for its learning and style, it is concerned with tenures and other issues relating to real property. This venerable work, which Coke called "the ornament of the Common Law, and the most perfect and absolute work that ever was written in any humane science," is a considered a landmark because it renounced the principles of Roman law (and Latin) in favor of a set of guidelines and doctrines drawn from the Year Books, and when necessary, hypothetical cases. A popular work during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries that was held in high regard by Coke, Perkins' *Profitable Booke* was first published in 1528 and went through numerous editions in both English and Law-French. Devoted mostly to the land law as developed in the Year Books, it is divided into the following topics: grants, deeds, feoffments, exchanges, dower, curtesy, wills, devises, surrenders, reservations, and conditions. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* II:573, V:388. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S93514, S114287. <u>Order This Item</u>



A Principal English Treatise on Canon Law

17. [Lyndwood, William (c.1375-1446)]. [Badius, Josse (1462-1535), Editor].

Provinciale seu Constitutiones Anglie cum Summariis Atq[ue] Iustis Annotationibus: Honestis Characteribus: Summaq[ue] Accuratione Rursum Impresse. [Paris: Printed by Andreas Bocard at the University of Paris, May 28, 1501]. Collation: a8 b6, c-g8 h6 i-q8 r6 s-z8 [et]8 [con]6 A-B6 C8(-C8). cxcii, [19] ff. Complete. Main text surrounded by two-column linear gloss. Folio 13-1/2" x 9-1/2" (34 x 24 cm).

Contemporary paneled calf, corner fleurons and large arabesques to boards, recently rebacked, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers added, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge. A few shallow scuffs to boards, moderate rubbing to their extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn, hinges cracked, later bookseller ticket, owner bookplate (of Walter Wigglesworth, dated 1934) and two 1930s-era auction or bookseller descriptions affixed to front pastedown. Text printed in red and black gothic type, woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, faint dampstaining in places, minor edgewear to leaves at beginning and end of text, some with repairs, inkstains and spark burns to a few leaves. Contemporary annotations to endleaves and portions of text, some with minor loss due to trimming. A nice post-incunable copy of an important title. \$5,000.

* First post-1500 edition. Main text followed by nineteen-page, two-part index (Tabula). Compiled around 1433 and first published around 1483-1485, Provinciale is the main authority for early English canon law. Divided into five books, it is a digest of the synodal constitutions of the province of Canterbury, from the period of Archbishop Stephen Langton [c.1155-1228] to that of Archbishop Henry Chichele [1414-1443], with Lyndwood's gloss. It is considered the law of the Church of England by some authorities. This copy was printed in Paris for the English market. Beale, A Bibliography of Early English Law Books T403. English Short-Title Catalogue S103845. Order This Item



1576 Printing of Magna Carta and Later Statutes with Contemporary Binding and Annotations

18. [Magna Carta].

Magna Charta, Cum Statutis, Tum Antiquis, Tum Recentibus, Maximopere, Animo Tenendis nunc Demum ad Unum, Tipis Aedita, Per Richardum Tottell. [Imprinted at London: In Fleetestrete Within Temple Barre at the Signe of the Hand and Starre, By Richard Tottel, The 8. Day of March. 1576]. [vii], 247 ff. Blank endleaf preceding Fol. 1 lacking. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary paneled calf, raised bands to spine, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge, ties lacking. Light rubbing and a few minor gouges, cracks and nicks to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, spine ends worn, corners bumped and somewhat worn, pastedowns and free endpapers lacking, later armorial bookplate to verso of front board, fragments of an illuminated manuscript Bible used as printer's waste at hinges, attractive woodcut decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, faint staining to a few leaves, annotations and underlining in early hand to margins of approximately 25 pages, light soiling and minor edgewear to title page. Housed in a custom clamshell box, quarter morocco over cloth, gilt-edged raised bands and gilt title to spine. \$7,500.

* An early printing of the Magna Carta, which was first printed around 1508 by Richard Pynson. It also includes the Charta de Foresta of Henry III, the Statutes of Merton and Marlebridge, the Statutes of Edward I and other statutes through the fourteenth regnal year of Elizabeth I, which are digested by topic and cross-referenced to Rastell's *Collection of All the Statutes*. Among the most notorious statutes are those of Edward I concerning Jews, including the Edict of Expulsion (1290), which banished them from England. Other statutes relate to women, wills, forcible entry, "Fraudulent Deedes" and other topics. The text is mostly in Latin or Law-French, then in English after Fol. 119. The annotations range from a few words to a sentence or two. About half of these are interpretive in nature, the others are references to statutes and cases. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* S18. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S101094. Order This Item



An Early Guide to Plowden's Reports

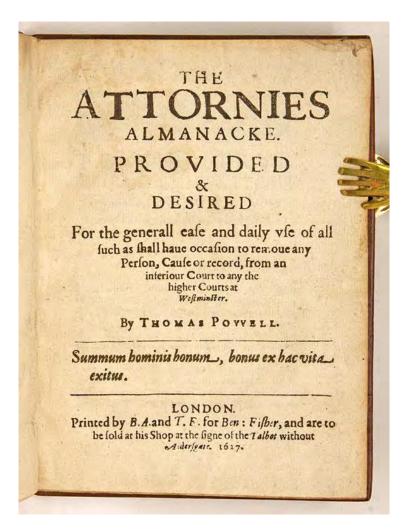
19. Plowden, Edmund [1518-1585].

A[she], T[homas] [fl. 1599-1618].

Abridgement des Touts les Cases Reportes Alarge per Mounsieur Plonden, Ouesque les Exceptions al Pleadings, & Leur Responses, Les Resolutions des Matters in Ley, & Touts Auters Principal Matters Surdants sur les Arguments de Mesmes. Composee & Digest per T.A. London: Printed [by Adam Islip] for the Company of Stationers, 1607. 91, [1] ff. Table. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Recent flexible vellum, calf lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Title printed within typographical border. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, faint dampstaining to lower margins of rear third of text block, light browning and some edgewear to preliminaries. Three (indecipherable) eighteenth-century signatures in miniscule hands to title page, brief early annotations and marks to margins of a few leaves. A nice copy. \$650.

* Second edition. Published around 1597, Ashe's was the first abridgment of Plowden. Well received, it had a second edition in 1607 and was reissued in an English translation in 1650. First published in 1571 and covering the period of 1550-1580, Plowden's *Reports* marks the transition away from the cumulative method of the Year Books to one based on exposition and commentary. In most respects it is a precursor of the modern reporter. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S114927. Order This Item



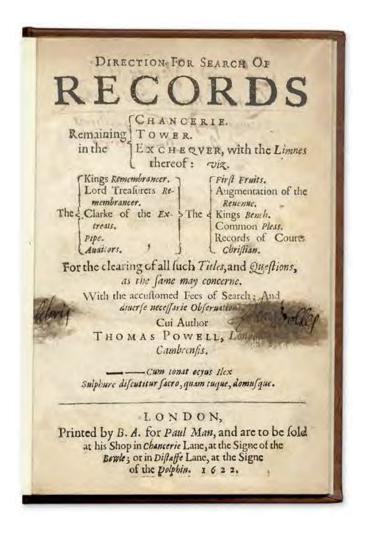
"For the Genereall Ease and Daily Use of All Such as Shall Have Occasion to Remove any Person, Cause or Record"

20. Powell, Thomas [1572?-1635?].

The Attornies Almanacke. Provided & Desired for the Generall Ease and Daily Use of All Such as Shall Have Occasion to Remove any Person, Cause or Record, From an Inferiour Court to Any the Higher Courts at Westminster. London: Printed by B[ernard] A[lsop] and T[homas] F[awcet] for Ben: Fisher, 1627. [viii], 72 pp. Quarto (7" x 5-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent calf, gilt title to spine, endleaves added. Light rubbing, corners and spine ends bumped. Moderate toning to text, slightly heavier in places, light soiling to front endleaf and p. 72. A handsome copy. \$850.

* Only edition. Powell was a notable poet, a man of letters and an industrious legal antiquarian. In this work, the *Attourney's Academy* and the *Direction for Search of Records* Powell offered guidance to lawyers concerning the location and use of records, mostly to settle title claims. All are mentioned favorably by Holdsworth, who notes that the study of early records was an important aspect of legal education. In a sense, these books helped students to locate material for study. They are also important sources for students of Shakespeare. (All are listed in Lee's *Catalogue of Shakespeareana*). OCLC locates 6 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, University of Washington, Yale). Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:381. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S115029. Order This Item



"For the Clearing of All Such Titles, And Questions"

21. Powell, Thomas [1572?-1635?].

Direction for Search of Records Remaining in the Chancerie. Tower. Exchequer, With the Limnes thereof: Viz. The Kings Remembrancer. Lord Treasurers Remembrancer. Clarke of the Extreats. Pipe. Auditors. The First Fruits. Augmentation of the Revenue. Kings Bench. Common Pleas. Records of Courts Christian. For the Clearing of All Such Titles, And Questions, As the Same May Concerne. With the Accustomed Fees of Search: And Diverse Necessarie Observations. London: Printed by B.A. for Paul Man, 1622. [xvi], 78, [2] pp. Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Recent imitation calf, gilt title to spine. Woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light soiling and blotted-out signature to title page, early annotation to verso. Ex-library. Bookplate to front pastedown. \$750.

* Only edition. Powell was a notable poet, a man of letters and an industrious legal antiquarian. In this work, the *Attourney's Academy* and the *Attornies' Almanack* Powell offered guidance to lawyers concerning the location and use of records, mostly to settle title claims. All are mentioned favorably by Holdsworth, who notes that the study of early records was an important aspect of legal education. In a sense, these books helped students to locate material for study. They are also important sources for students of Shakespeare. (All are listed in Lee's Catalogue of Shakespeareana). OCLC locates 4 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania). Holdsworth, *History of English Law* V:381. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S115034. Order This Item



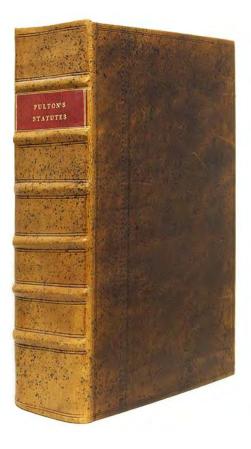
Significance of the Great Seal of England

22. Prynne, William [1600-1669].

The Opening of the Great Seale of England. Containing Certain Brief Historicall and Legall Observations, Touching the Originall, Antiquity, Progresse, Use, Necessity of the Great Seal of the Kings and Kingdoms of England, In Respect of Charters, Patents, Writs, Commissions, And Other Processe. Together with the Kings, Kingdoms, Parliaments Severall Interests in, And Power over the Same, And Over the Lord Chancellour, And the Lords and Keepers of It, Both in Regard of Its New-Making, Custody, Administration for the Better Execution of Publike Justice, The Republique Necessary Safety, And Utility. Occasioned by the Over-Rash Censures of Such who Inveigh Against the Parliament, For Ordering a New Great Seale to be Engraven, To Supply the Wilfull Absence, Defects, Abuses of the Old, Unduely Withdrawne and Detained from Them. Lodon [sic]: Printed for Michael Spark Senior, 1643. [viii], 48 pp. Quarto (8-1/2'' x 6-1/2'').

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent quarter calf over marbled boards. A few minor nicks, corners lightly bumped. Title printed within typographic border. Light toning to text, negligible minor worming to inner margin of title page and a few other leaves. \$500.

* Only edition. Prynne was a contentious and erudite Puritan attorney and legal antiquarian who wrote several books and pamphlets about legal history, religion and politics. He had an unrivalled ability to antagonize others. His personality and choice of targets eventually led to his disbarment, imprisonment, and mutilation (loss of ears) by the Star Chamber. After the Restoration Prynne was appointed Royal Archivist in the Tower of London. A product of his antiquarian interests, the Opening of the Great Seale is a discussion of the role and significance of the great seal affixed to state documents. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R234376. Order This Item



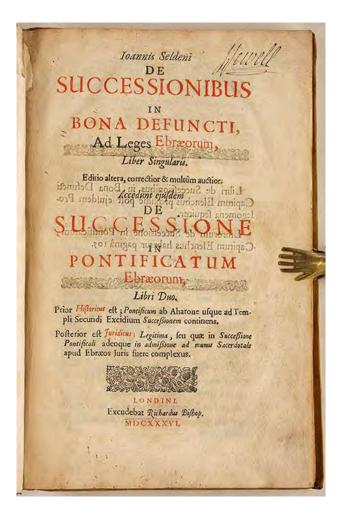
"An Advance Upon All Former Editions of the Statutes"

23. Pulton, Ferdinando [1536-1618].

A Collection Of Sundrie Statutes, Frequent in Use: With Notes in the Margent, and References to the Booke Cases and Books of Entries and Registers, Where They be Treated of. Together with an Abbridgement of the Residue Which be Expired, Repealed, Altered, and Worne Out of Use, or Doe Concerne Private Persons, Places, or Things, And Not the Whole Common-wealth. Whereunto be Added Certaine Materiall Statutes, Never Printed Before in English. Also a Necessary Table, Or Kalender, Is Annexed Hereunto, Expressing in Titles the Most Materiall Branches of Those Statutes in Use, and Practice. London: Printed by M. Flesher, I. Haviland, & R. Young, 1632. [vi], 1464, [4], [86] pp. Lacking final blank leaf. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Folio (13-1/2" x 9").

Recent period-style speckled calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets parallel to joints, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Subtle light fading to spine and upper edges of boards, Moderate toning to text, light foxing and faint dampstaining in places, some loss to lower corners of leaves Nn6-Pp5 (pp. 419-440) with no loss to text, some edgewear to preliminaries, soiling, faint dampstaining and a few tiny signatures to title page, two other signatures to foot of following leaf. An impressive volume. \$1,500.

* Third edition. Pulton was a commoner of Brasenose College, Oxford, a fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, and a member of Lincoln's Inn. As a Catholic Pulton was not allowed to practice, so he devoted his energies to editing the statutes. He published *An Abstract of All the Penal Statutes* in 1560 and *A Kalender, Or Table, Comprehending the Effect of All the Statutes* in 1606. *A Collection of Sundrie Statutes*, his *magnum opus*, was first published in 1618. Though it had its defects, "it is clear that Pulton's edition was an advance upon all former editions of the statutes. He set a new standard to the makers of these editions, to which subsequent editors made at least an attempt to conform. We shall see that this standard was a good deal higher that that either aimed at or attained by those who edited the Reports of this period.": Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* IV:310. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S122253. Order This Item



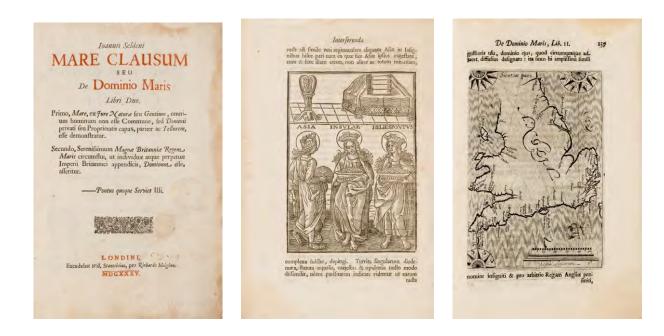
Selden on the Jewish Laws of Inheritance

24. Selden, John [1584-1654].

De Successionibus in Bona Defuncti, Ad Leges Ebraeorum, Liber Singularis. Editio Altera, Correctior & Multùm Auctior. Accedunt Ejusdem De Successione in Pontificatum Ebraeorum, Libri Duo. Prior Historicus Est; Pontificum ab Aharone Usque ad Templi Secundi Excidium Successionem Continens. Posterior est Iuridicus; Legitima, Seu quae in Successione Pontificali Adeoque in Admissione ad Munus Sacerdotale apud Ebraeos Juris Fuere Complexus. London: Excudebat Richardus Bishop, 1636. [vi], XXIV, [4], 266 pp. Folio (11" x 7").

Contemporary vellum, hand-lettered title to spine. Light soiling, rubbing and a few minor stains to boards, tiny chip to center of spine, minor wear to corners, vellum just beginning to crack through pastedowns, tiny early owner signature (Zacharias Cautig) and later library bookplates to front pastedown, 1-1/4" strip removed from head of front endleaf. Title page printed in red and black. Moderate toning to text, light browning and faint dampspotting in a few places, light soiling, a few minor inkspatters and later owner signature (J. Jewell) to title page. \$750.

* Second edition. Text in Latin, some passages in Hebrew. Selden was the first great English jurists to study Jewish law seriously. As noted by the *Dictionary of National Biography*, Selden's "familiarity with rabbinical literature was such as has been acquired by few non-Israelite scholars; and many details of oriental civilization and antiquities were certainly brought to the knowledge of Europeans for the first time in them." First published in 1631, *De Successionibus* is a notable exposition of the rabbinical laws of inheritance and succession and laws concerning rabbis. It went through several editions into the eighteenth century. *Dictionary of National Biography* XVII:1157. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117055. Order This Item



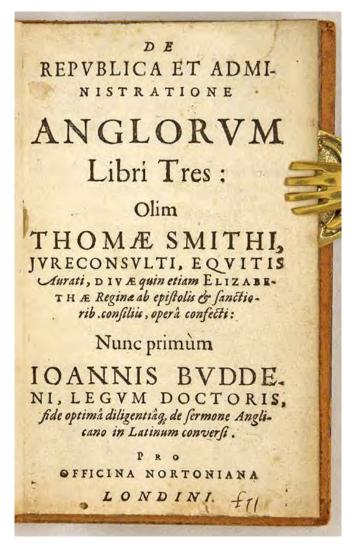
First Edition of the First Major English Text on International Law

25. Selden, John [1584-1654].

Mare Clausum Seu de Domino Maris Libri Duo. Primo, Mare, ex Jure Naturae Seu Gentium, Omnium Hominum non Esse Commune, Sed Dominii Privati seu Proprietatis Capax, Pariter ac Tellurem, Esse Demonstratur. Secundon, Serenissimum Magnae Britanniae Regem Maris Circumflui, ut Individuae Atque Perpetuae Imperii Britannici Appendicis, Dominum Esse, Asseritur. London: Excudebat Will. Stanesbeius, pro Richard Meighen, 1635. [xxvi], 304, [16] pp. Endleaf preceding title page, which is counted in collation, and front free endpaper lacking. Copperplate map, woodcut map, six woodcut text illustrations. Folio (11-1/2" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary sheep, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Moderate rubbing to boards, heavier rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, wear to head of spine, small section of backstrip partially detached, front hinge starting, rear hinge cracked. Title page printed in red and black. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light soiling to a few leaves, faint dampstaining to head of text block, light soiling, early paper repair, tiny signature (?) in early hand and faint later library stamp to title page, another faint library stamp to foot of p. [16], early owner stamp to margin of p.147. \$1,500.

* First edition. Selden's *Mare Clausum* is the most famous British reply to the argument of Hugo Grotius's *Mare Liberum*, which denied the validity of England's claim to the high seas south and east of England. Selden, argued that England's jurisdiction extends to all waters surrounding the isles. "Like all Selden's work, the *Mare Clausum* is replete with learning.... In the early seventeenth century great importance attached, and considerable interest still attaches to the question of how far the open sea or main ocean, beyond the immediate vicinity of the coasts, may be appropriated by one nation to the exclusion of others.... The purpose of the *Mare Clausum* is twofold. The first book argues that by the law of nature or nations the sea is not common to all men, but is as much as the land susceptible of private dominion and property. In the second book it is maintained that the lordship of the circumfluent and surrounding ocean belongs to the Crown of Great Britain, as an inseparable and perpetual appendage. Selden based his treatise on the positive practice of his day. He stated the law as he found it. Like all the works of Selden, the book is of tremendous erudition.... It is not like Grotius's work, based on large philosophical principles, but it exhibits a vast historical knowledge, and is fortified at every point with authority from record, statute, case-book and chronicle. It abounds in quotations, relevant and irrelevant, from authors, well known and less well known, in a variety of languages.": Fletcher, *John Selden 1584-1654* (Selden Society Lecture, 1969) 10-11. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117048. Order This Item



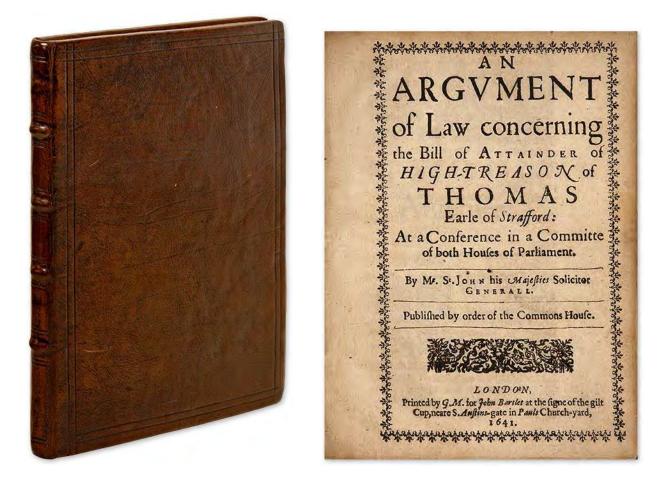
"The Most Important Description of the Constitution and Government Of England Written During the Tudor Age"

26. Smith, Sir Thomas [1513-1577]. Budden, John [1566-1620], Translator.

De Republica et Administratione Anglorum Libri Tres. London [i.e. Marburg]: [Paul Egenolff] Pro Officina Nortoniana, [c. 1610]. [vi], 3-165, [3] pp. Octavo (5-3/4" x 3-3/4").

Later sheep, rebacked retaining spine, endleaves renewed, marbled edges. Negligible light rubbing to boards, somewhat heavier rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends and corners, front hinge cracked. Some toning to text, occasional worming and faint dampstaining to lower margin. \$850.

* First edition (of this Latin translation). *De Republica Anglorum; the Manner of Government or Policie of the Realme of England* was written between 1562 and 1565 and first published in 1583. "It is the most important description of the constitution and government of England written in the Tudor age" (*DNB*). It went through eleven editions in English between 1584 to 1691. Four Latin editions appeared between 1610 and 1641. Abridged editions in Dutch and German were published in 1673 and 1688. Smith, an English scholar and diplomat, was Regius Professor of Civil Law at Cambridge University. *Dictionary of National Biography* XVIII:535. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117631. Order This Item



Parliament Defends Its Case Against the Earl of Strafford

27. St. John, Oliver [1598?-1673].

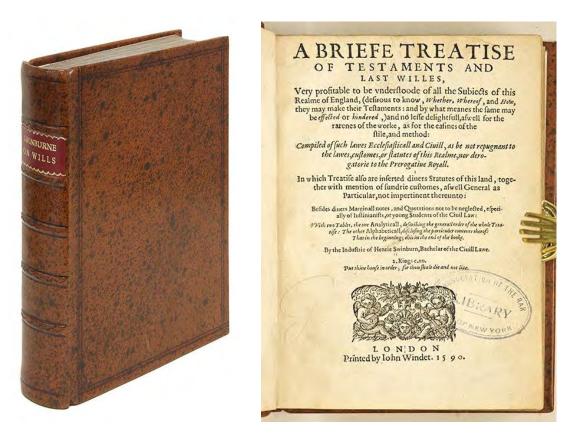
[Wentworth, Thomas, First Earl of Strafford (1593-1641)].

An Argument of Law Concerning the Bill of Attainder of High-Treason of Thomas Earle of Strafford: At a Conference in a Committe of Both Houses of Parliament. By Mr. St. John His Majesties Solicitor Generall. Published by Order of the Commons House. London: Printed by G.M. For John Bartlet at the Signe of the Gilt Cup, Neare S. Austins-Gate in Pauls Church-yard, 1641. [ii], 78 pp. Quarto (7" x 5").

Recent period-style calf (by Philip Dusel), blind rules to boards, raised bands to spine, gilt tooling to board edges, printer waste visible under front pastedown. Title printed woodcut typographical border, woodcut initials and headpieces. Light toning to text, a few tiny worm holes through center of text block with no loss to legibility. A handsome copy. \$1,250.

* First edition, one of four printings from 1641 (priority unknown). Wentworth was a leading supporter of King Charles I and a major figure in the period leading up to the English Civil War. Scapegoated by Parliament for his "treasonous" role in the Second Bishops' War, one of the preliminary stages of the Civil War, he was condemned to death on shaky legal grounds via a bill of attainder in 1641. Feeling it necessary to yield to Parliament, Charles signed the death warrant. *An Argument* is an enlarged transcription of Parliament's case. A lawyer and politician, St. John served in both the Short and Long Parliaments. Along with the Earl of Bedford, John Pym and John Hamden, he formed a reformist yet moderate coalition known as the "middle group." Since St. John occupied this middle ground in Parliament, Bedford eventually convinced Charles I to appoint him Solicitor General. It was in this capacity that he led the case against Strafford. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R17730. Order This Item

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First Edition of the First Standard Treatise on Wills

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

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

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

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



Important Early Work on Writs Thoroughly Annotated by an Early Owner

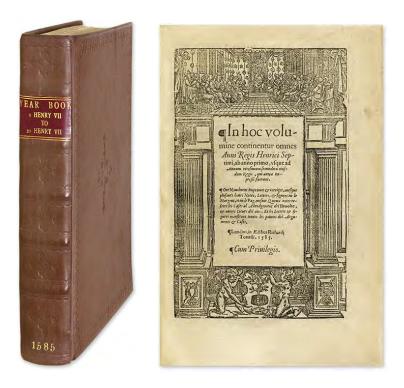
29. Theloall, Simon.

Le Digest des Briefes Originals, Et des Choses Concernants Eux. London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1579. [viii], 424 ff. Octavo (5-3/4" x 3-3/4").

Seventeenth-century calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands to spine, boards reattached. Moderate rubbing to boards, heavier rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, small section lacking from center of spine, a few partial cracks to text block, Signature G (ff. 49-56) trimmed a little shorter than other signatures. Massively annotated by a contemporary owner in law-French in a neat, small chancery hand, notes affected in places by trimming. Contemporary owner inscription to title page (Robbart), along with a few brief contemporary annotations, purchase date to verso of final leaf: "25 May 1580." Preserved in a custom cloth clamshell box with printed paper title label. \$7,500.

* First edition. Theloall's *Digest* was the accepted register of correctly drafted writs. It owes its origin to the suggestion of Staunford that it would be a good idea if lawyers would write treatises on the other titles of the abridgments similar to his study of the Title "Prerogative." Staunford illustrated his meaning by showing how the Title "Brief" might be treated. Theloall chose this title, and wrote a treatise on it for his own use. The manuscript, having been lent, eventually found its way to a printer. "It deserved to be printed, as it is the most orderly treatise on procedure, founded on the Year Books, that had yet appeared... Historically, it comes between the older commentaries upon writs and the modern books on procedure" (Holdsworth). A second edition was published in 1678. The work of a seasoned practitioner, the annotations in our copy are a collection of case references, cross references and glosses. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:381. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S118369. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T499. Order This Item

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1-16, 20, 21 Henry VII

30. [Year Book]. Henry VII King

Henry VII, King.

In Hoc Volumine Continentur Omnes Anni Regis Henrici Septimi, Ab Anno Primo, Usque ad Annum Vicesimum Secundum Eiusdem Regis, Qui Antea Impressi Fuerunt.... London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1585. Colophon dated 1583. xxxi, xix, xv, xviii, xli, ii-xvi, ii-xxi, ii-xxi, ii-xxix, ii-xxiii, xxii, xvii, xvii, xiii, xli ff. Collates complete. Folio (10-1/2" x 7-1/2").

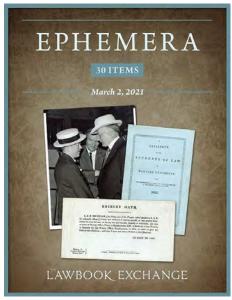
Recent period-style calf, blind fillets and large central ornaments to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed with marbled paper. Negligible light rubbing to extremities. Title printed within handsome woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials. Some toning to text, light foxing in a few places, minor worm holes to margins in a few places, light soiling to title page. Occasional annotations in tiny early chancery hand, some affected by trimming, interior otherwise clean. An attractive copy. \$2,000.

* Covers regnal years 1-16, 20 and 21 Henry VII. With an index of cases, side-notes and cross-references to Brooke, Fitzherbert and other authorities. It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the Year Books. As a series of notes on debates and points of pleadings in Norman England they are of crucial primary sources for our knowledge of medieval common law. They also provide a richly detailed portrait of contemporary English life, customs and manners. The origin of the Year Books is unknown. Maitland believed that the earliest volumes were notes taken by law students in court copied for the use of pleaders in later cases. Holdsworth maintains that they were records of cases made by lawyers for personal use. Though it is not known when the first manuscript volumes were compiled, it is clear that cases can be found to date from the 1270's and the series continues to 1535. Printed editions of the Year Books were first issued by William de Machlinia between 1481 and 1482. The present volume belongs to the so-called "Quarto Edition." Not a set in the conventional sense, these volumes were issued separately with various dates and impressions between 1522 and 1619. OCLC locates two copies of the present imprint in North American law libraries (Harvard, University of Pennsylvania). Holdsworth, *A History of English Law V*: 357-377. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121423. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R414. Order This Item



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