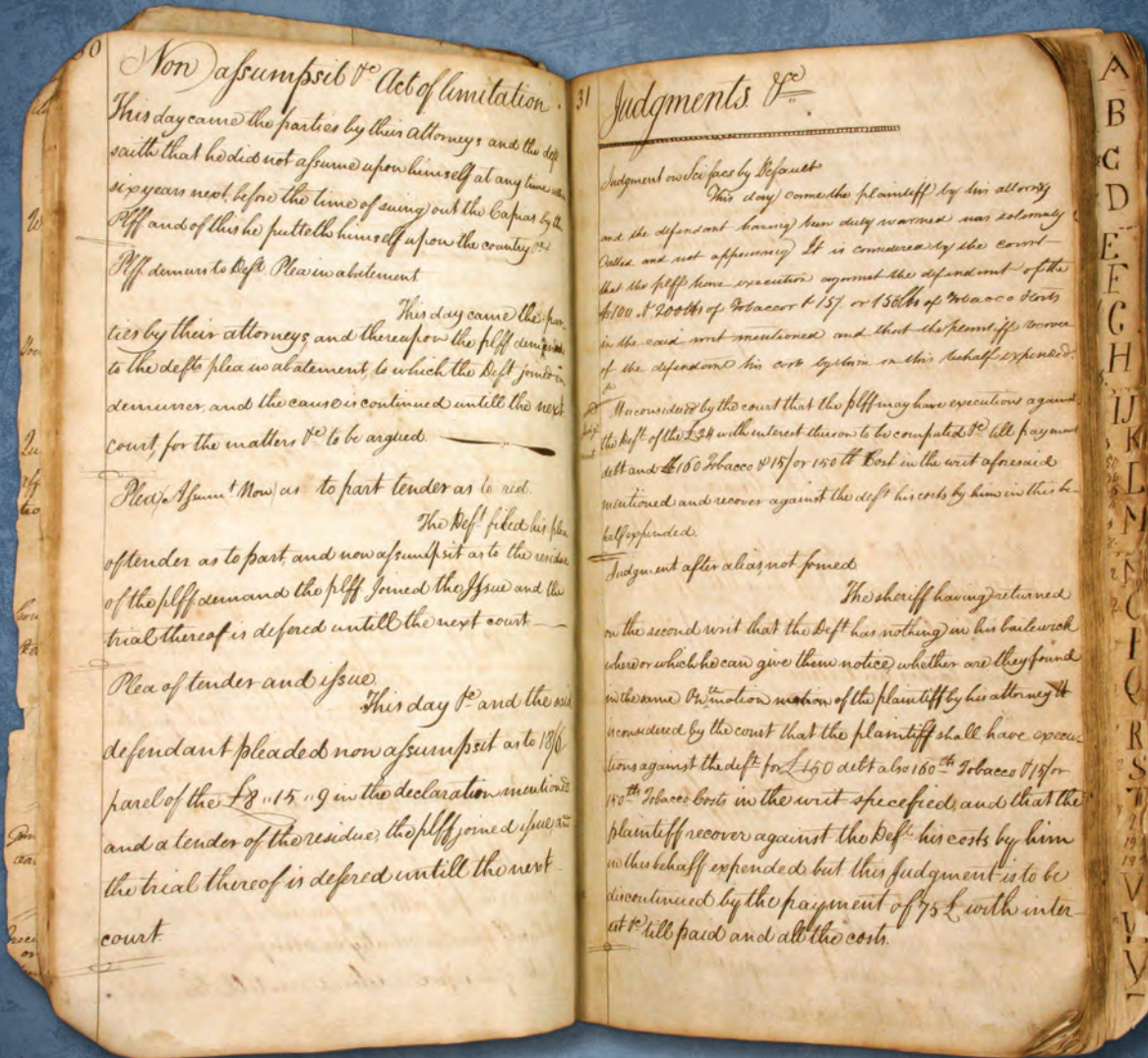
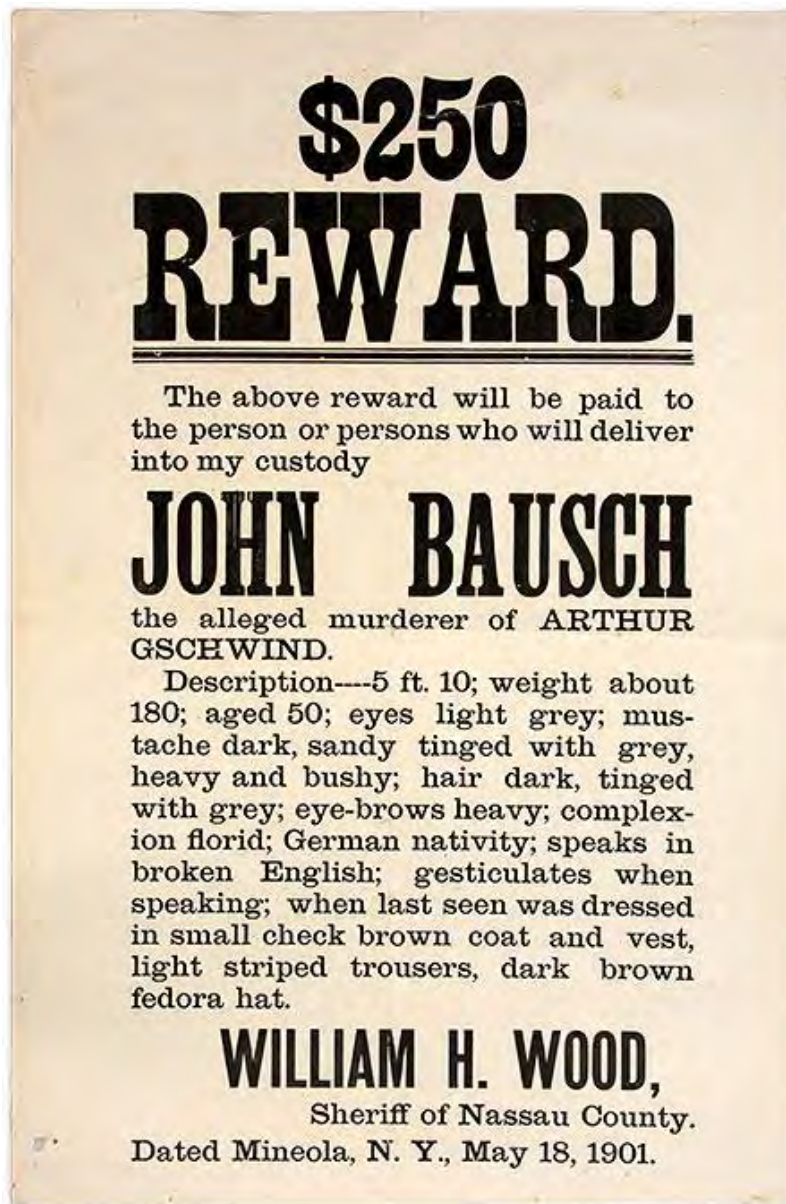


25 Recent Acquisitions

Canon, Civil, Common, Customary, Jewish,
Natural & Roman Law

March 31, 2020





Nassau County Reward Poster from 1901

1. [Broadside].

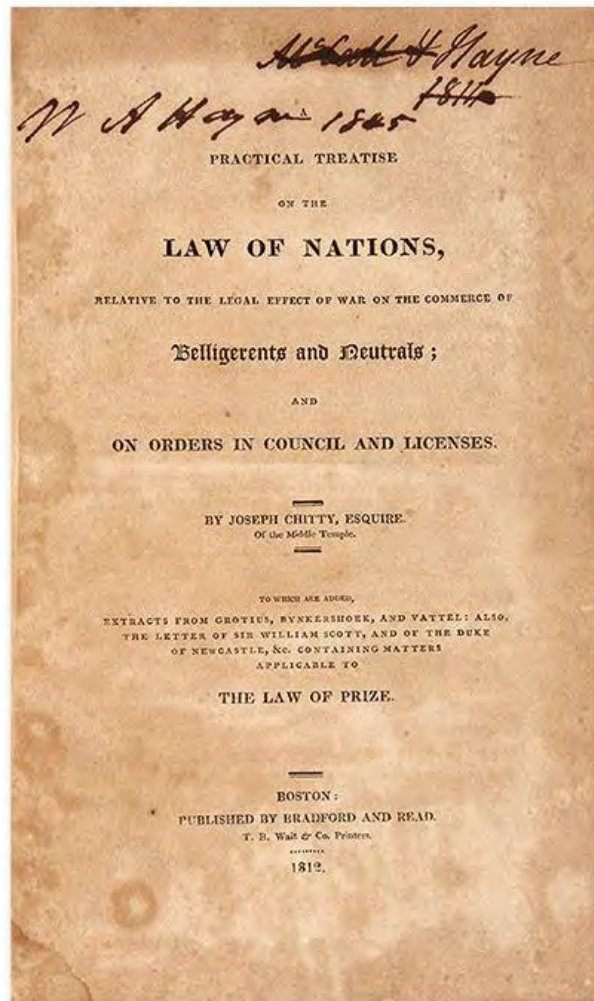
[Murder].

[Nassau County, New York].

\$250 Reward. The Above Reward Will be Paid to the Person or Persons Who Will Deliver Into My Custody John Bausch the Alleged Murderer of Arthur Gschwind. Mineola, NY: S.n., May 18, 1901.

19-3/4" x 12" broadside, main text in single column below headline. Moderate toning, a few tiny holes, negligible light spotting near corners, faint fold lines, a few clean tears carefully mended on recto with archival tape. \$500.

* Signed in type by William H. Wood, Sheriff of Nassau County, this wanted poster provides a detailed description of the alleged murderer, a German who speaks broken English and "gesticulates when speaking." [Order This Item](#)



Joseph Chitty on the Law of Nations

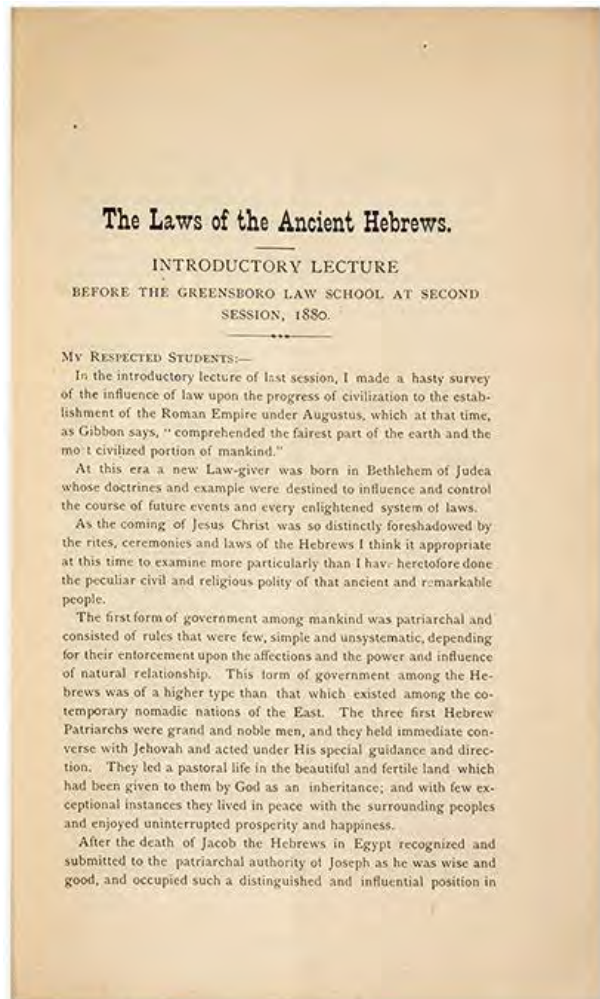
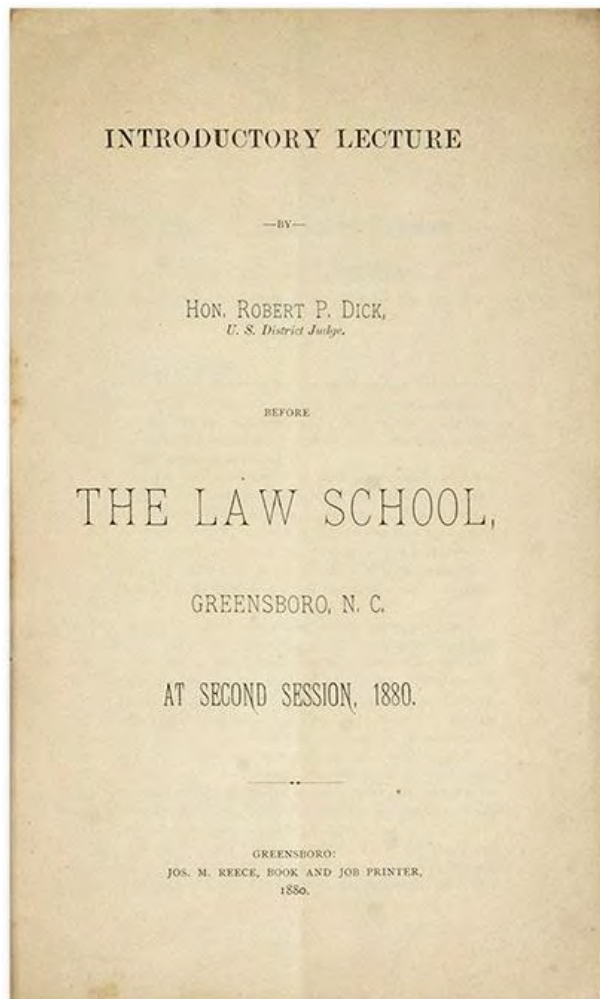
2. Chitty, Joseph [1776-1841].

A Practical Treatise on the Law of Nations, Relative to the Legal Effect of War on the Commerce of Belligerents and Neutrals; And Orders in Council and Licences. To Which Are Added, Extracts from Grotius, Bynkershoek, And Vattel: Also, The Letter of Sir William Scott, And of the Duke of Newcastle, &c. Containing Matters Applicable to the Law of Prize. Boston: Printed by Bradford and Read, 1812. xii, 340, [4] pp. Includes four-page publisher list. Octavo (8-1/2"x 5-1/4").

Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Moderate rubbing to boards and extremities with some wear along front joint, a few minor chips and tears to spine ends, corners bumped and somewhat worn, front hinges starting, early owner signatures (of W. Alston Hayne) to front pastedown and head of title page. Light browning and light foxing to text, minor chips and tears to edges of a few leaves with no loss to text. \$1,500.

* Only American edition, based on the London edition (1812). Chitty was one of the most wide-ranging and prolific legal writers of the nineteenth-century. This treatise and an edition of Beawes's *Lex Mercatoria* (1813) were his two contributions to international law. Marvin's *Legal Bibliography*, though critical of the *Practical Treatise*, finds merit in the digests of Sir William Scott's judgments in prize cases (190). Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 7167.

[Order This Item](#)



"The Laws of the Ancient Hebrews"

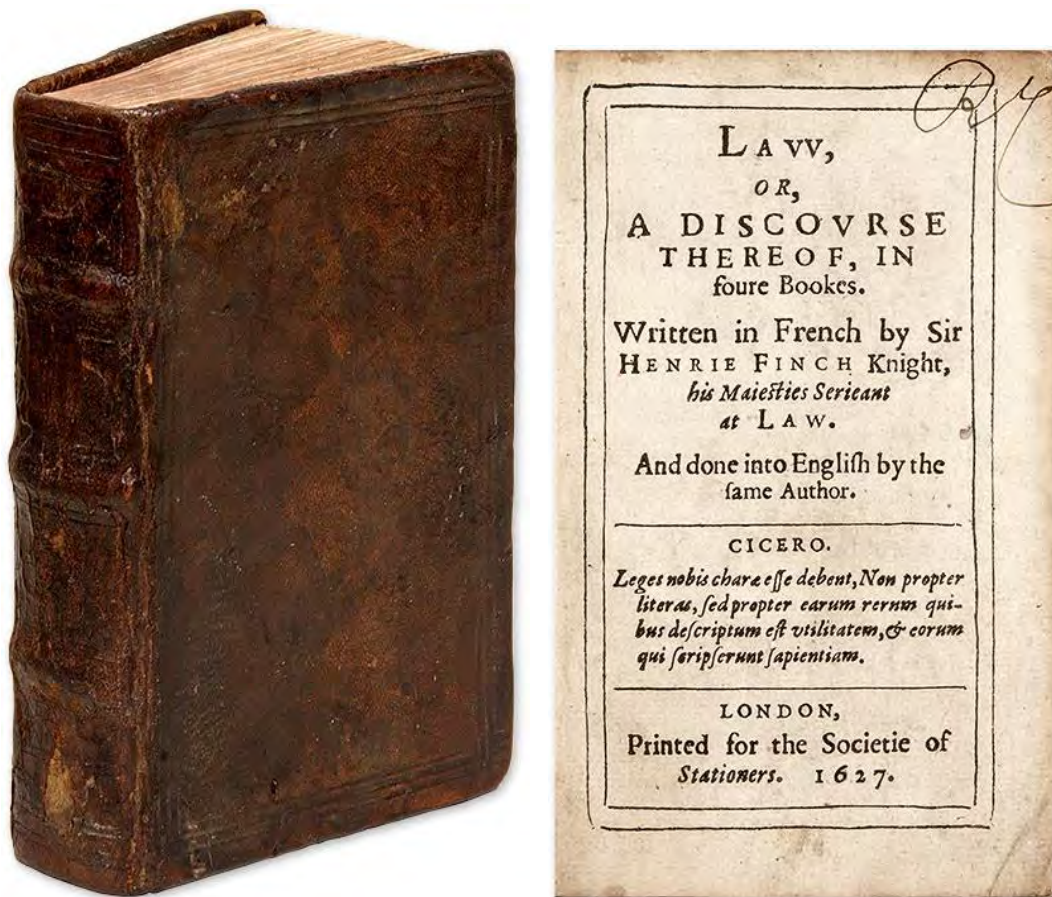
3. Dick, Robert Paine [1823-1898].

Introductory Lecture By Hon. Robert P. Dick, U.S. District Judge. Before The Law School, Greensboro, N.C. Before The Law School, Greensboro, N.C. At Second Session, 1880. Greensboro, NC: Jos. M. Reece, 1880. 20, [1] pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers. Light soiling, fading to sections of wrappers, vertical crease through center, some wear to spine ends and corners, light toning to text. \$450.

* Only edition. The introductory lecture is "The Laws of the Ancient Hebrews," a survey by the prominent North Carolina jurist, biblical scholar and co-proprietor of the Greensboro Law School. Dick stresses the lasting influence of Hebrew law, the principles of which "form the basis of the laws and free institutions of our Great Republic" (20). The pamphlet also includes information on the Greensboro Law School, including tuition and other fees, a summary of the course of study, and a list of 62 alumni. Dick established the school in partnership with John H. Dillard in 1873. Also known as the Dick and Dillard School, it educated nearly 300 students and was one of the most prestigious law schools in the state. It closed in 1893. OCLC locates 7 copies, 2 in law schools (Duke, University of North Carolina).

[Order This Item](#)



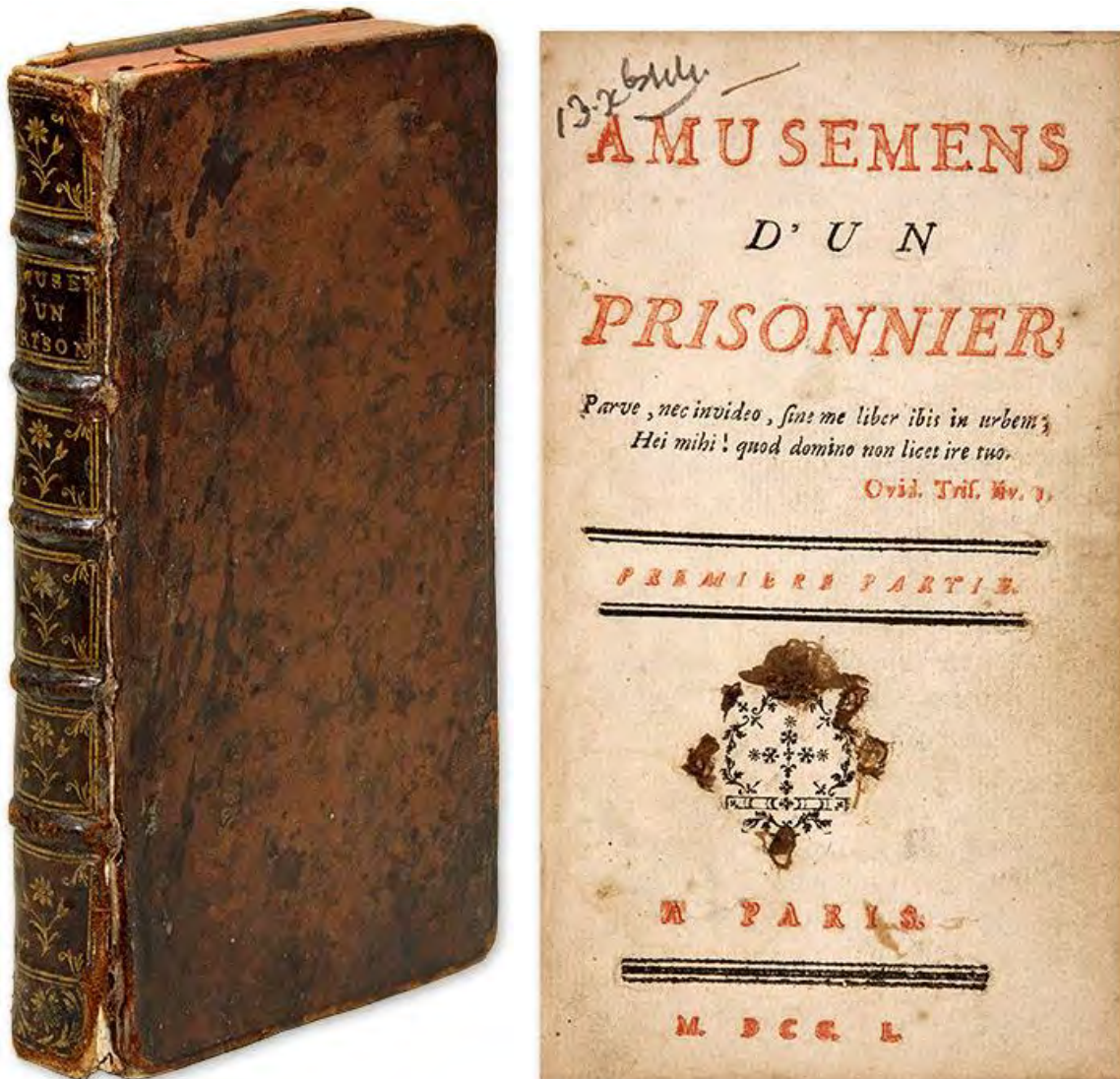
**First English-Language Edition
of a Distinguished Predecessor to Blackstone's *Commentaries***

4. Finch, Sir Henry [1558-1625].

Law, Or, A Discourse Thereof, In Foure Bookes. Written in French by Sir Henrie Finch Knight, His Maiesties Sericant at Law. And Done Into English by the Same Author. London: Printed for the Societie of Stationers, 1627. [viii], 496, 499-506, [16] pp. First leaf, a blank, renewed with contemporary paper. Pagination irregular. Text complete. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary sheep, restored by Phil Dusel, blind rules to boards, raised bands to spine, front endleaf renewed with old paper. A few nicks and scuffs to boards, some edgewear, light gatoring and tiny fragment of shelf label to spine, pastedowns loose. Light toning to text, occasional faint dampstaining to upper margins, tiny stab-holes to margins of a few leaves, light soiling and small early owner initials to front endleaf and title page. A nice copy in a notably handsome period binding. \$2,500.

* First edition in English. Originally published in Law-French in 1613 as *Nomotechnia: Un Description del Common Leyes D'Angleterre*, "Finch's Law, till the publication of Blackstone's *Commentaries*, was regarded as the best elementary book to be placed in the hands of the law students. It is one of the few attempts that have been made to reduce the common law into system...[Finch's] definitions were exact, his style concise and nervous, and his illustrations clear and authentic. Most of the valuable parts of Finch are incorporated in Blackstone's *Commentaries*." (Sweet & Maxwell). The first English-language edition was published in 1627. Holdsworth says the English version was the "pioneer book on the institutes of English law" and a model for several writers. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:238 (10). Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:399-400. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S122048. [Order This Item](#)



**A Prisoner Shares His
Memories of an Unconventional Romance**

5. [France].

Amusemens d'un Prisonnier. Paris (i.e. Liège): S.n., 1750. [ii], 135, [1]; [ii], 130 pp. Two parts, each with title page. 12mo. (6-1/4" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary mottled calf, raised bands, lettering piece and gilt ornaments to spine, marbled endpapers, edges rouged. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, front joint cracked. Title pages printed in red and black. Moderate toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, light soiling, brief early shelf mark (?) and tiny inkstain to title page of Part I. \$950.

* First edition. This fictional work concerns a story shared by a young prisoner about a lovely widow who was not interested in having a conventional marriage. Later editions were published in 1751 and 1755. All are scarce. OCLC locates 2 copies of the first edition in North American libraries (University of Pennsylvania, University of Toronto). Gay, *Bibliographie des Ouvrages Relatifs à l'Amour* I, col. 194. [Order This Item](#)



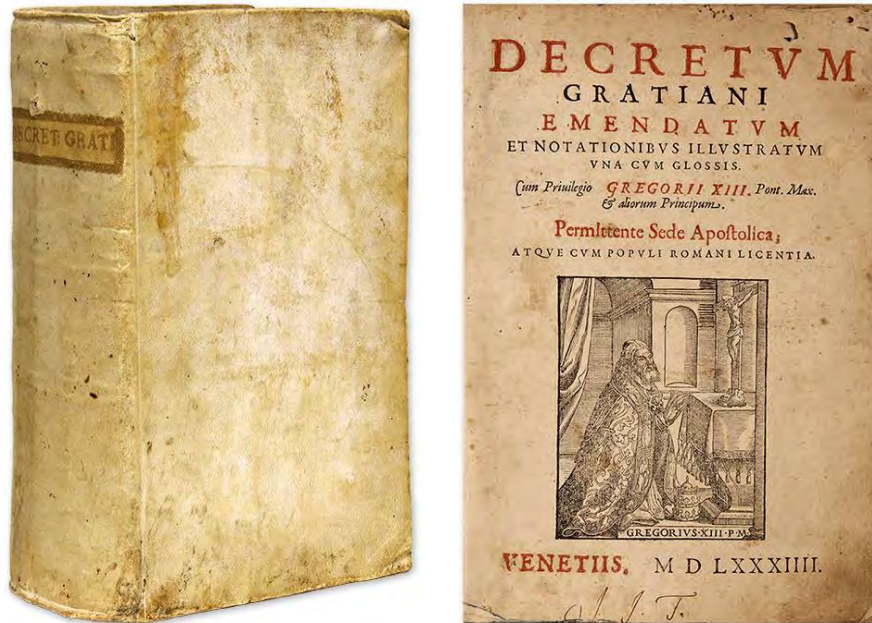
"The First True Scholar and Writer on Modern International Law"

6. Gentili, Alberico [1552-1608].

De Legationibus, Libri Tres. Omnibus Omnium Ordinum Studiosis, Praecipue Vero Iuris Civilis Lectu Utiles, Ac Maxime Necessarii. Hanover: Apud Guilielmum Antonium, 1594. [xvi], 231, [1] pp. Octavo (5-3/4" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary flexible vellum, blind rules to boards surrounding gilt-stamped corner fleurons, front enclosing gilt image of a man kneeling in worship before a crucified Christ below owner initials "G.H." and above date "1595," rear enclosing image of the Christ Child, early hand-lettered title to spine, ties lacking. Light soiling, some rubbing to extremities, corners and spine ends bumped, small chip to upper corner of front cover, which has faint early owner initials, gilding oxidized, early library bookplate to front pastedown, tiny recent bookplate above it, front hinge cracked, minor worming to pastedowns and front endleaves. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, a few wormholes with no loss to legibility, light soiling to title page. A very desirable copy in a striking period vellum binding. \$4,500.

* Second edition. Gentili, an Italian jurist, was tutor to Queen Elizabeth I, a member of the Spanish Embassy in London and the Regius professor of civil law at Oxford. Widely considered Grotius's most important predecessor, Gentili was the "first true scholar and writer on modern international law as the law of the community of states" (Walker). His reputation in this field rests on two books, *De Iure Belli Libri Tres* (1598), a study of armed conflict, and *De Legationibus* (1585), a study of diplomats and diplomacy. Early editions of *De Legationibus* are scarce. OCLC locates 10 copies of the second edition, 4 in North American law libraries (Columbia, Harvard, Library of Congress, Yale). Walker, *Oxford Companion to Law* 518. *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* G1260. [Order This Item](#)



Impressive Early Post-Tridentine Edition of Gratian

7. Gratian, the Canonist [c.1090-c.1160].

[Johannes Teutonicus (d.1253), Glossator].

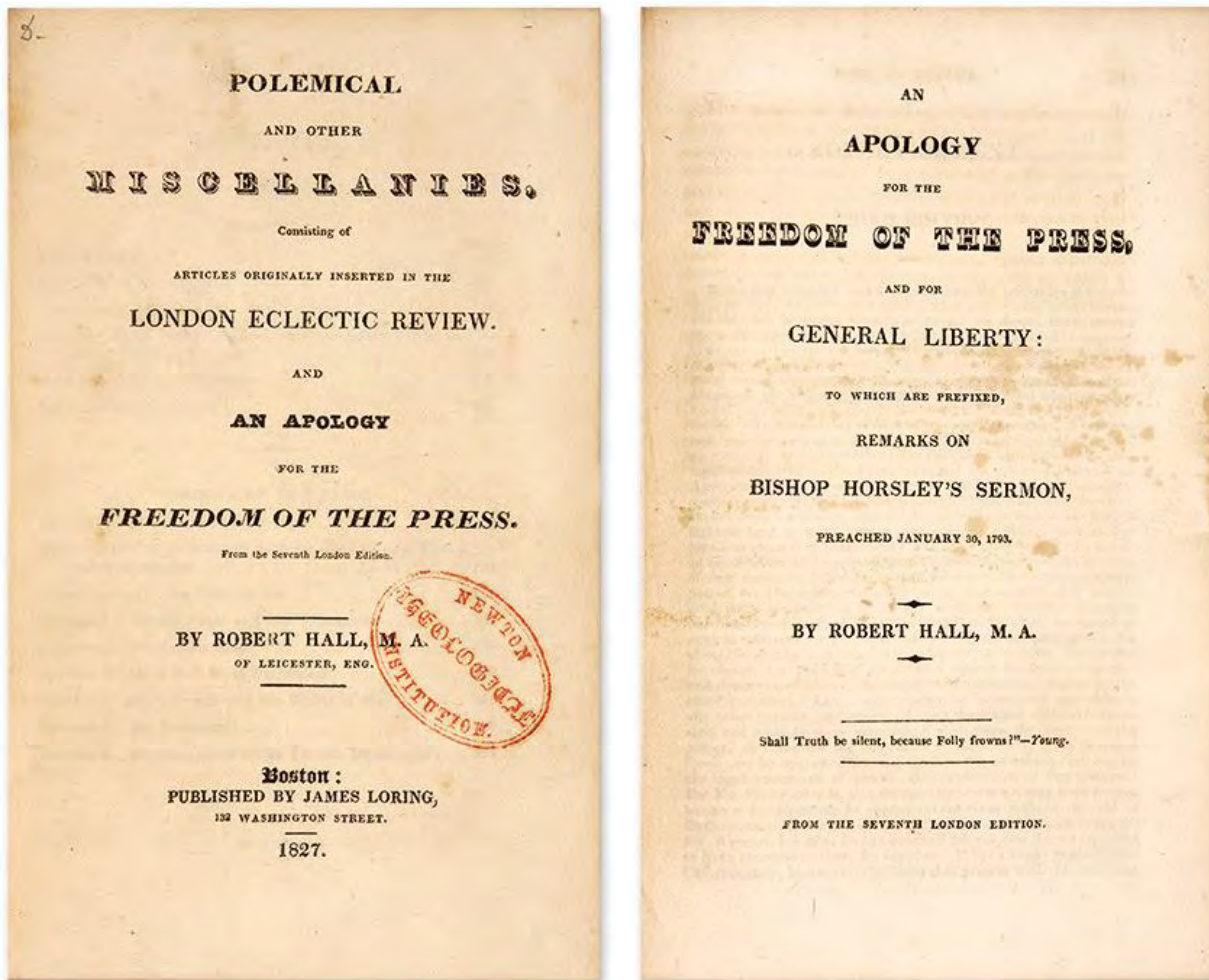
[Bartolomeo da Brescia (d.1258), Glossator].

[Bolognini, Lodovico (1446-1508), Editor].

Decretum Gratiani Emendatum et Notationibus Illustratum una cum Glossis. Cum Privilegio Gregorii XIII. Pont. Max. & Aliorum Principum. Permittente Sede Apostolica; Atque cum Populi Romani Licentia. Venice: [Apud Magnam Societatem una cum G. Ferrario H. Franzino], 1584. 79 pp., 2704 [i.e. 2694] cols., [115] pp. Single-column main text surrounded by glosses. Folio (10-1/4" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary vellum, later gilt title to spine, edges of text block colored green, ribbon marker. Light soiling and some spotting to binding, corners and spine ends bumped. Text printed throughout in red and black, large woodcut vignette of Pope Gregory XIII to title page. Moderate toning to text, occasional light browning and faint dampspotting, faint dampstaining to head of text block in a few places, early repairs to fore-edges of ff. b1-b7. An impressive volume. \$1,500.

* The *Concordia Discordantia Canonum*, or as it is better known, the *Decretum Gratiani*, is the cornerstone of modern canon law. The first work of its kind, it was compiled by Gratian, a Camaldolese monk, around 1140. Using the latest scholastic and juristic techniques from *Corpus Juris Civilis* in the study of the civil law, it became the basic text for the study of canon for many centuries. The *Decretum Gratiani* addresses various aspects of church jurisdiction, offenses and legal proceedings, as well as administrative issues like baptism, feast days, confirmation and the consecration of churches. In the following century an extensive gloss was added by Teutonicus. Known as the *Glossa Ordinaria*, it was later revised and enriched by another Bartolomeo of Brescia. The gloss and its revisions become a standard feature of subsequent manuscripts and printings. Though never an official edition of canon law, it was a standard work for nearly 800 years until it was superseded in 1918, along with the other books of the *Corpus Juris Canonici*, by the *Codex Iuris Canonici*. Our 1584 Venice edition incorporates the changes ordered in 1580-1582 by the council of revisers established by the Council of Trent (the *Correctores Romani*). It also includes Bolognini's edition of the *Margarita Decreti*, an index to the Decretals of Gregory IX. Our copy is from the library of the eminent historian and medievalist Brian Tierney [1922-2019], an expert on the relationship between church and state in medieval Europe. Ferreira-Ibarra, *The Canon Law Collection of the Library of Congress* 56. [Order This Item](#)



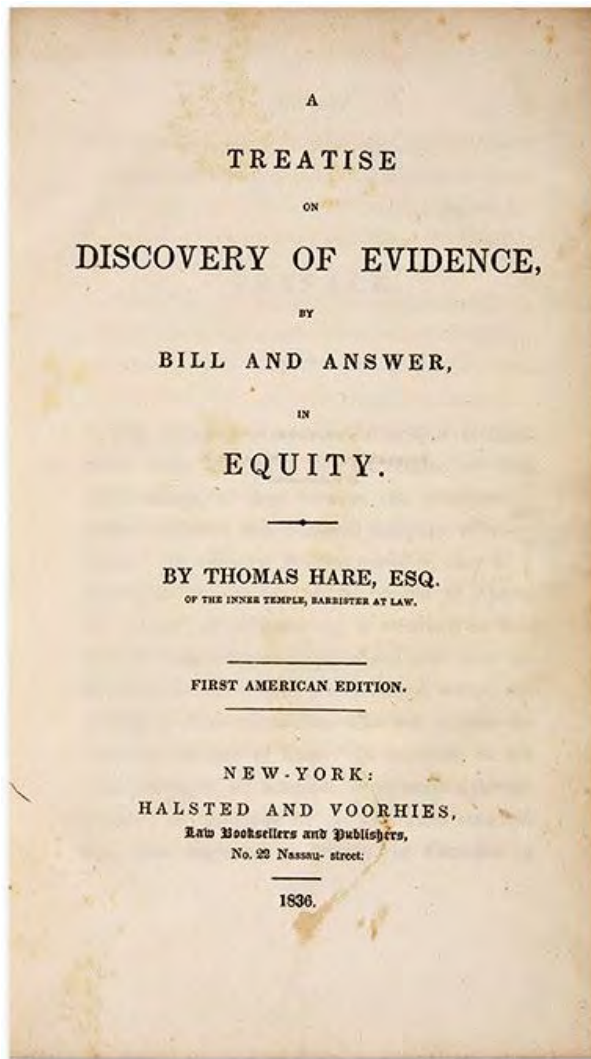
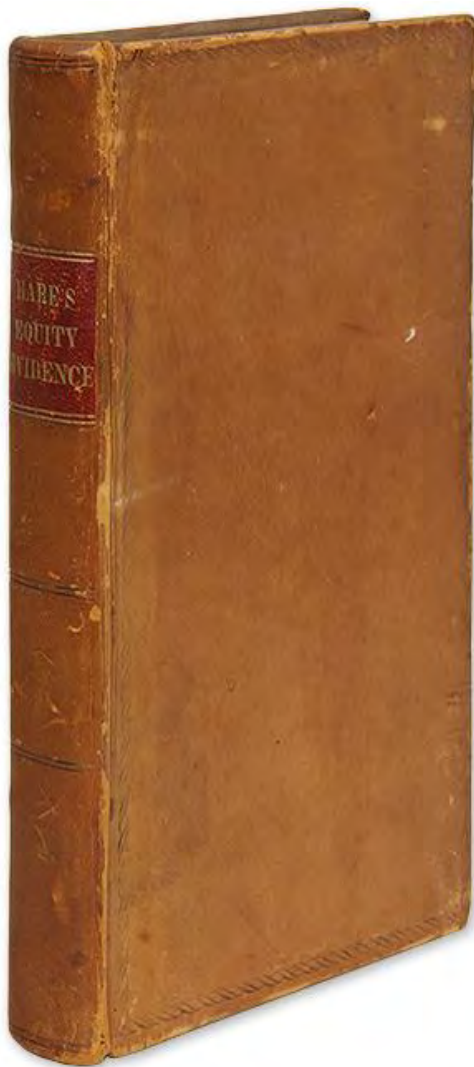
"A Landmark in the Idea of Press Freedom"

8. Hall, Robert [1764-1831].

Polemical and Other Miscellanies, Consisting of Articles Originally Inserted in the London Eclectic Review. And an Apology for the Freedom of the Press. Boston: Published by James Loring, 1827. [5], 6-264 pp. Octavo (7" x 4-1/4").

Contemporary calf, blind and gilt frames to boards, gilt title, ornaments and later library shelf label to spine, gilt tooling to board edges at corners, marbled text-block edges and endpapers. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, some fading to spine, library bookplate to front pastedown, presentation inscription from publisher in pencil to "Rev. D. Sharp." Light toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves. \$250.

* Hall was an English Baptist minister who was known for his eloquence and liberal beliefs. As indicated by its title, *Polemical and Other Miscellanies* is a collection of his writings. The most important essay in this work, and the longest (Pp. [175]-264), is *An Apology for the Freedom of the Press, And for General Liberty*, an oft-reprinted essay first published in 1793. As McCoy notes, this essay is "a landmark in the idea of press freedom. Hall protested vigorously against the sedition trials of Muir, Palmer, and others, and the blasphemy prosecutions of Hone and Carlile, declaring that all men should have absolute liberty to discuss 'every subject which can fall within the compass of the human mind.'" Our 1827 Boston edition is not in McCoy, which cites other editions. McCoy, *Freedom of the Press* H36 (source of quote). [Order This Item](#)



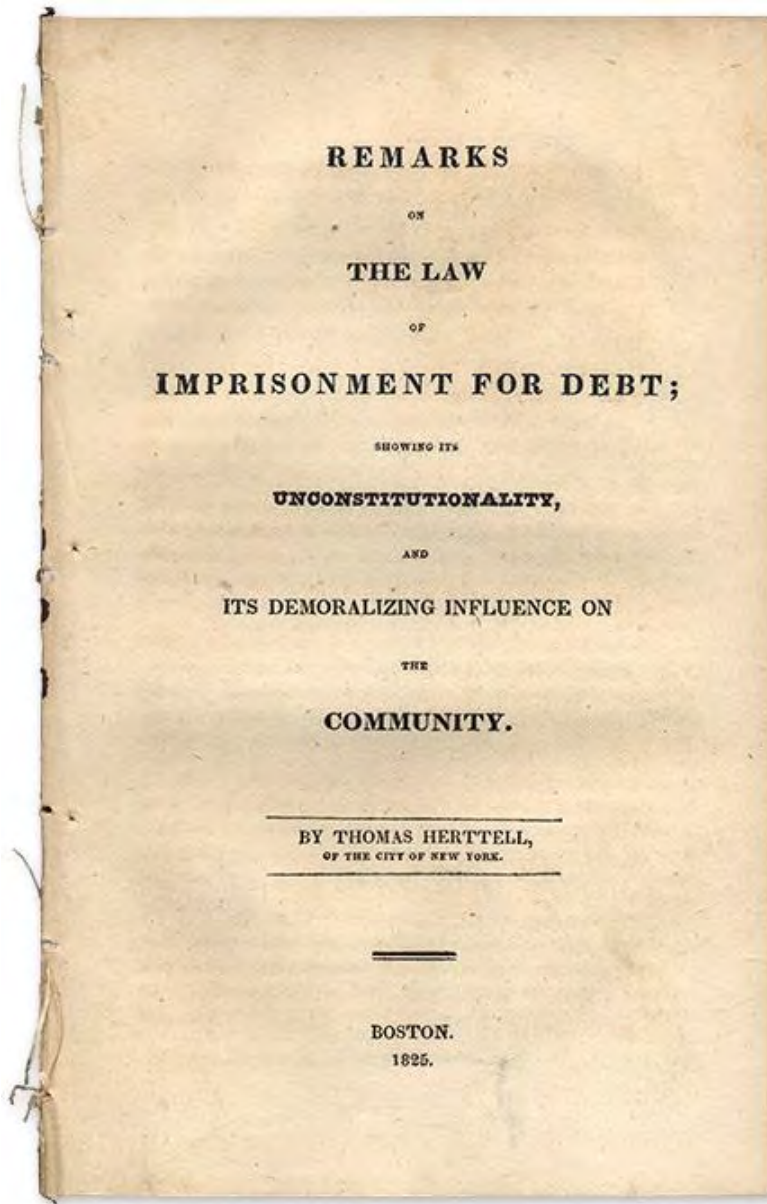
**"It Is Not Merely Practical,
But in Many Parts Highly Scientific"**

9. Hare, Thomas [1806-1891].

A Treatise on Discovery of Evidence by Bill and Answer in Equity. New York: Halsted and Voorhies, 1836. xxxiii, 316 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/4").

Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine. A few nicks and scuffs, light rubbing to extremities, negligible light toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, early owner initial (?) in ink to front pastedown. A well-preserved copy. \$500.

* First American edition, a reprint of the first London edition, published the same year. Marvin praises its completeness: "It professes to be a complete Treatise upon Discovery; it comprises almost all the authorities upon the subject, with accurate investigations into many practical points. It is a work to which the practitioner may refer with every prospect of finding a perfect explanation of any difficulties which he may have encountered. Indeed, it has still higher merits. It is not merely practical, but in many parts extremely scientific. Later American editions were published in 1849 and 1850. Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 368. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 5075. [Order This Item](#)



Imprisonment for Debt is a Form of Tyranny

10. Herttell, Thomas [1771-1849].

Remarks on the Law of Imprisonment for Debt; Showing Its Unconstitutionality, And Its Demoralizing Influence on the Community. Boston: S.n., 1825. [iii], 4-47 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/4").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Light soiling and edgewear, light toning. A well-preserved item. \$450.

* Second and final edition. Herttell, a reform-minded New York lawyer, argues that "civil government has not, nor can it acquire the right to pass a law authorizing imprisonment for debt" (5). He traces the first law permitting imprisonment for debt to England in 1267. That law, and its successors "emanated from the ignorance and tyranny of the darker ages, when the power of kings was nearly absolute" (5). This pamphlet was originally published in New York in 1823. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 2594. [Order This Item](#)



Edited by a "Reformed" Lawyer and Dedicated to Queen Elizabeth I

11. Justinian I [485-565CE], Emperor of the East.

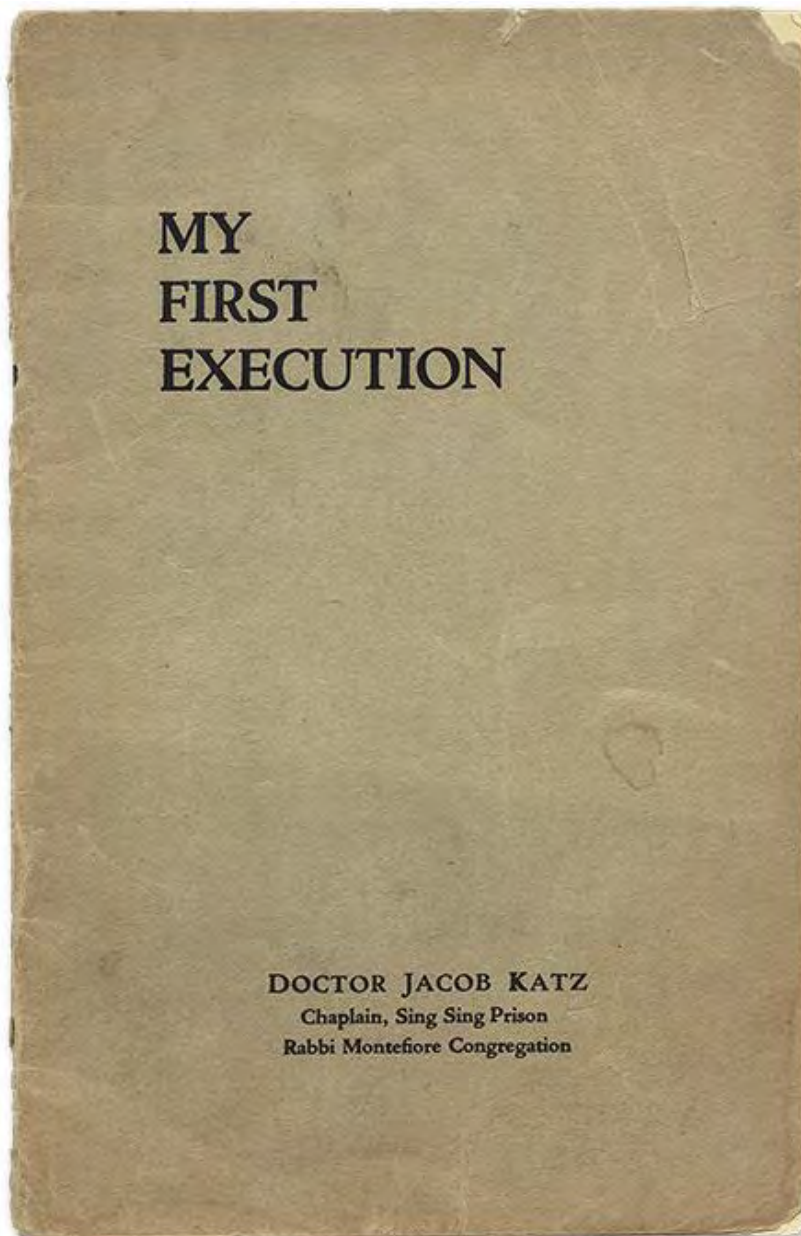
Haloander, Gregor [1501-1531], Editor.

Agylaeus, Henricus [1532 or 1533-1595], Editor.

Iustiniani Principis Nouellae Constitutiones, Latine Ex Gregorii Haloandri et Henrici Agylaei Interpretatione, Ad Grecum Scrimgeri Exemplar, Nunc Primum Edite. Quibus Suis Locis Interferiter, Quicquid Vetus Versio Amplius Habet, Atq[ue] Proximis Editionib. Ex Vetustis Libris Ac Iuliani Epitome Aspersum Est. In qua Editione Henrici Agylaei Opera Diligentem tum Variarum Lectionum Annotationem, Tum Haloandrice Versionis Castigationem Invenire est. Item, Eiusdem Iustiniani Edicta, Iustini, Tiberii, Leonis Philosophi Constitutiones; & Una Zenonis, Quae ad Titulum Codicis de Privatis Aedificiis Pertinet: Henrico Agylaeo Interprete. Postremo, Canones Sanctorum Apostolorum per Clementem in Unum Congesti, Gregorio Haloandro Interprete. Basel: Per Ioannem Hervagium, 1561. [xxxii], 598, [2] pp. Quarto (9-1/4" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum, early hand-lettered title to spine, ties lacking. Minor soiling, a few small stains, and few tiny worm holes, some wear to corners, a few minor tears to spine ends, front joint starting at ends, front pastedown worn and partially detached, text block somewhat loose, vellum beginning to crack though rear pastedown. Faint dampstaining to head of text block, moderate toning, foxing and light browning in places, mild edgewear to corners of preliminaries, recent early owner inscription to front free endpaper. \$2,500.

* First edition. This collection of legal texts begins with the first appearance of a revised edition, with original commentary, of Gregor Haloander's complete translation of the *Novels*, one of the four components of the *Corpus Juris Civilis*, by the Dutch jurist Agylaeus. This is followed by a group legal texts from other sources edited with commentary by Agylaeus, including: *De Indulgentia Tributatorum Reliquorum*, *Tiberii Imperatoris de Divinis Domibus Constitutio*, *Imperatoris Leonis Augusti Novellae Constitutiones*, *Imperatoris Leonis Augusti Novellae Constitutiones* and *Zenonis Imperatoris de Novis Operibus Constitutio*, *Eodem interprete*. He also includes Haloander's version of the Apostolic Canons of Pope Clement I. Agylaeus dedicated this work to Queen Elizabeth I. His choice of a Protestant monarch probably reflected his personal circumstances at that time. He had recently been charged with heresy at the court of Brabant because of comments he published about the Bible and the sacraments. Rather than appear before the court he fled to Germany. He may have intended to continue his flight into England. A year after he published the present work, he requested permission to return, which was granted after he paid a fine and made a confession to the inquisitor fidei. A few years later he moved to the Netherlands and became a supporter and leader of the "Reformed Religion" in the Netherlands. The work is scarce outside of Germany. OCLC locates 1 copy in a North American library (Folger Shakespeare). *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* C5267. [Order This Item](#)



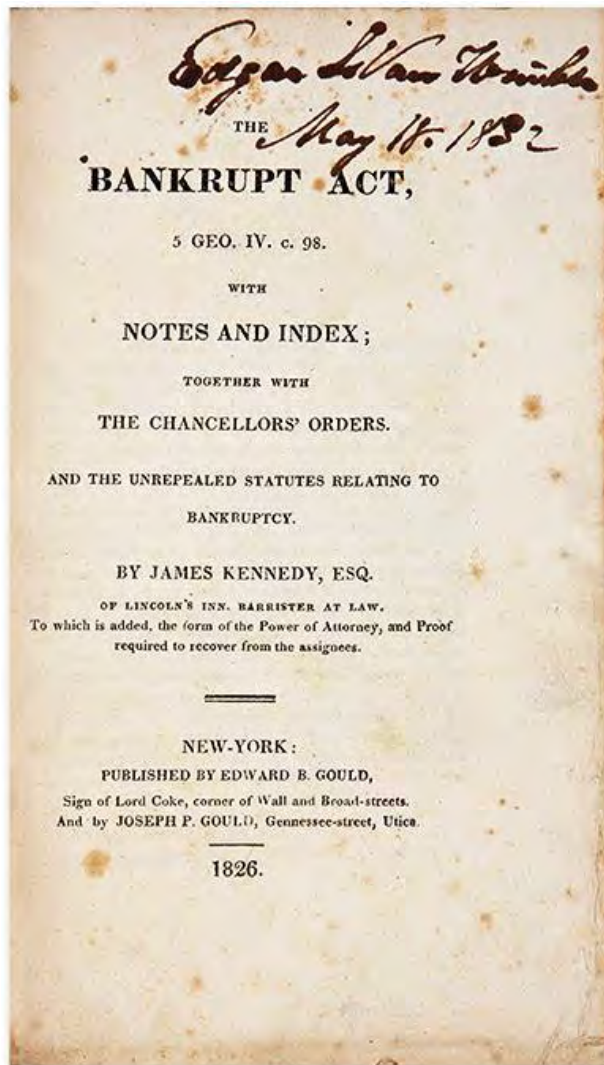
**A Rabbi Describes His Experience of
Witnessing an Execution at Sing Sing**

12. Katz, Jacob.

My First Execution. [New York]: S.n., c.1924.

Stapled 8" x 5" pamphlet in stiff wrappers. Light soiling, mild edgewear, a few small chips to corners, wrappers almost detached, clean tear to front wrapper, light browning to text. A rare pamphlet. \$350.

* Katz was the Jewish chaplain at Sing Sing Prison. In this pamphlet he describes the first time he attended an execution, which took place in Sing Sing in 1919. He discusses his interactions with the condemned prisoner and his feelings afterwards. OCLC locates 2 copies (American Jewish Historical Society, New York Public Library). [Order This Item](#)



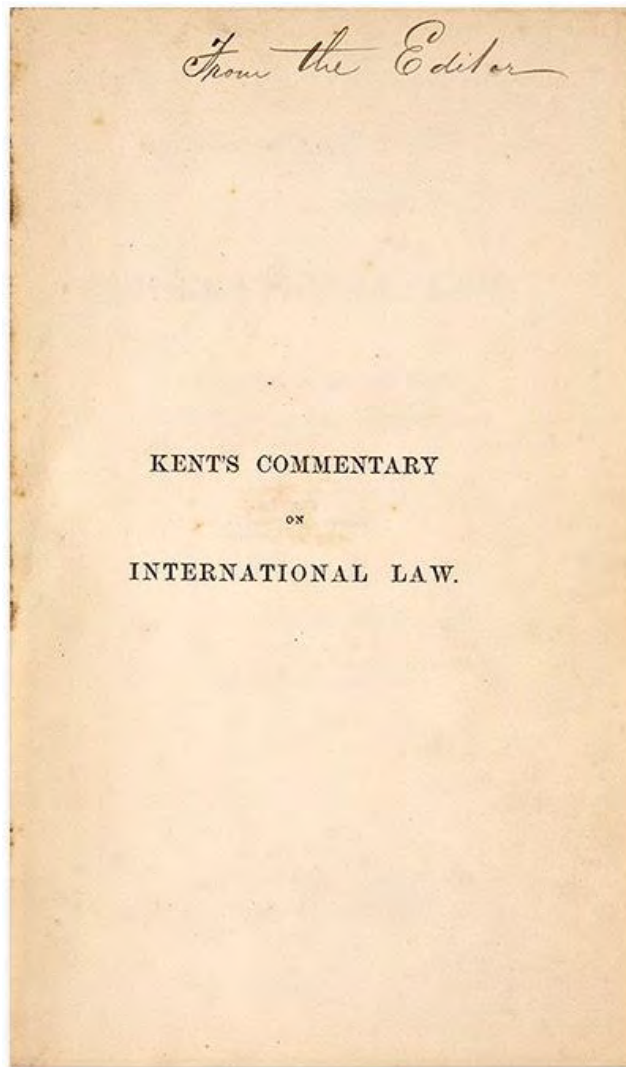
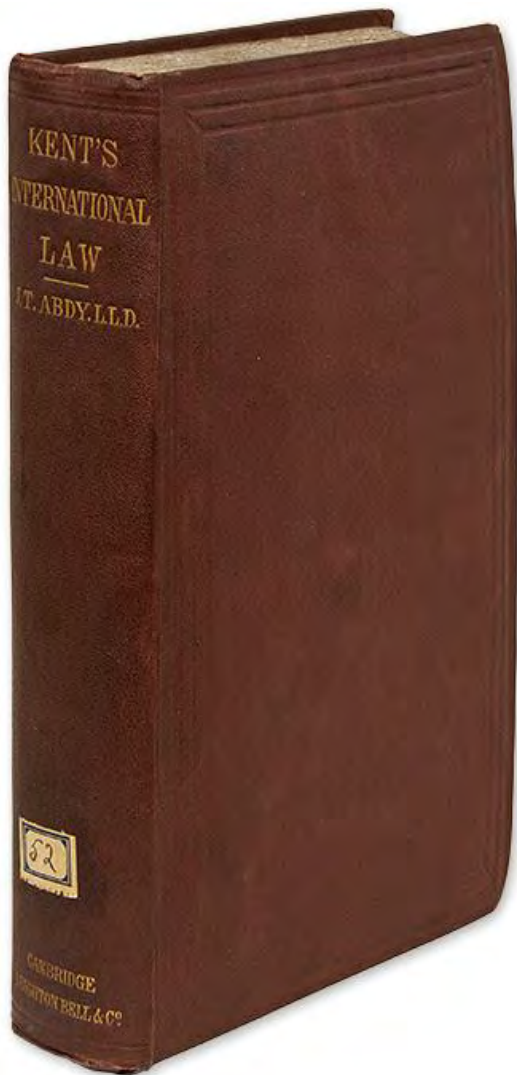
A Rare 1826 Study of English Bankruptcy Law

13. Kennedy, James.

The Bankrupt Act, 5 Geo. IV. C. 98. With Notes and Index; Together with the Chancellors' Orders. And the Unrepealed Statutes Relating to Bankruptcy. To Which is Added, The Form of the Power of Attorney, And Proof Required to Recover from the Assignees. New York: Published by Edward B. Gould, 1826. vii, 122 pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary quarter cloth over paper boards, title printed to front board, untrimmed edges. Moderate soiling, moderate rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends and corners. Light toning to text, light foxing in places, early owner signatures to front board and head of title page, brief annotations in pencil to a few leaves. \$750.

* Only edition. The 1824 Bankrupt Act liberalized bankruptcy law in response to the rapidly expanding role of banking and industry in Britain's economy. Kennedy's book has a curious publication history. Although it is the work of an English barrister on an aspect of English bankruptcy law, an English edition does not appear in Sweet & Maxwell or the *British Museum Catalogue*. Also, our present copy, printed in New York, is overlooked by Cohen. OCLC locates 5 copies (Columbia Law School, Maryland State Law Library, University of Missouri Law School, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Yale Law School). [Order This Item](#)



James Kent on International Law

14. Kent, James [1763-1847].

Abdy, J[ohn] T[homas] [1822-1899], Editor.

Kent's Commentary on International Law, Revised with Notes and Cases Brought Down to the Present Time. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell and Co.; London: Stevens and Sons, 1866. xx, 484, 12 pp. Main text followed by 12-page publisher catalogue. Octavo (7-1/2" x 5").

Original cloth, blind frames to boards, gilt title and small early private-library shelf label to spine. Light rubbing to extremities, spine ends and corners bumped, early armorial bookplate (of Joshua Williams) to front pastedown. Light toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, presentation inscription, "From the Editor," to head of half-title. \$650.

* First edition. Derived from Kent's *Commentaries on American Law* (1826-1830), these passages edited by Abdy comprise, in effect, the first American treatise on international law. A mature work of balanced judgment and precise and succinct presentation, it dismisses natural law in favor of a progressive positivism. A second edition was published in 1878. *Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School* (1909) I:1088. [Order This Item](#)



Manuscript Compiled on the Kentucky Frontier

15. [Manuscript].

Meade, Richard E[verard] [1787-1861].

Richard E. Meade's Commonplace Form Book. 1805. [Jessamine County, Kentucky, 1805, 1809]. [ii], 229, [2], [12] pp. Final 12 pages are a thumb-tabbed index. Folio (12-3/4" x 7-3/4").

Quarter sheep over paper-covered boards. Rubbing with considerable wear, boards, index leaves and rear endleaves detached. Light brownning to text block, wear to corners and edges in places, a few leaves with minor loss to text, various signatures and doodles to endleaves (mostly by Meade). Item housed in an archival box. \$8,500.

* First compiled 13 years after Kentucky's admission to the Union, this comprehensive and carefully indexed book of civil, criminal and chancery law forms, oaths and examples of procedure was compiled by Richard E. Meade, possibly a young law apprentice, as a kind of procedural handbook. Jessamine County was established in 1798, six years after Kentucky became a state. As one would expect expected in a frontier county, the form book contains a great deal of content relating to land surveying, deeds and public and private construction. Aspects of criminal procedure are demonstrated by examples drawn from court cases. Among other topics, they demonstrate how to record a "Verdict for def[endan]t set aside new trial granted," "Plea to Jurisdiction argued & overruled," or "Scire Facias on recognizance for keeping the peace." Many of the legal forms refer to Kentucky or other American cases or laws from as recently as 1803 or 1805, but many go back into the eighteenth century. A few cases refer to the United States District Court "at the statehouse in Frankfort [Kentucky]."

Richard Everard Meade was a classical scholar, lawyer, state legislator, militia officer and farmer. He was 18 years old when he compiled the first part of his manuscript in 1805. Meade possibly refers to himself within a couple of entries, noting the initials of a court clerk designated as "R. E. M." It is possible that he was acting as a clerk for a judge while studying with him as an apprentice. Later ownership inscriptions in the book include those of Dan'l B. Price, Lucinda Richardson, R. Wade, R. Blanton, E. M. Huntington and Robert Buntin. On the rear endpapers there is also this inscription: "From Capt. Robert Buntin To Samuel Coleman, Both of Sullivan County State of Indiana." It appears that Robert Buntin somehow acquired Meade's form book and used it as a legal reference himself. On the final two pages of the manuscript Buntin transcribes two documents in which he identifies himself as a "Clerk of the Circuit Court in and for the said County of Sullivan [Indiana]." Buntin served as clerk of Sullivan County in 1817 and as a representative to the Indiana legislature, 1817-1820. Coleman served under Buntin as vice clerk. Buntin's career path is thus quite similar to Meade's. The manuscript is thus associated with two frontier states and is emblematic of an orderly establishment of law and the transmission of legal principles in those places. Collins, *History of Kentucky* II:396. Wolfe, *A History of Sullivan County, Indiana* I:328ff. [Order This Item](#)



First Edition of a Standard Work on Pledges and Mortgages

16. Negusanti, Antonio [1465-1528].

Tractatus de Pignoribus et Hypothecis Domini Antonii Negusantii de Fano. [Bologna: Characteribus Cynthii Achillini excussa, 11 Augusti 1526]. [xii], 68, [2] ff. Text (except dedication) in parallel columns. Main text preceded by index (*Repertorium*). Folio (14-1/2" x 10").

Contemporary vellum, raised bands and faint early hand-lettered title to spine. Light rubbing, minor soiling and some minor stains to boards, which are slightly bowed, chip to head of spine, joints just starting at foot, corners bumped and somewhat worn, minor worming to pastedowns and endleaves, wear holes (paper flaw?) to rear free endpaper, crack in text block between front free endpaper and title page of *Repertorium*. Title pages printed within woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials. Light toning, light foxing in a few places, brief early annotations in a few places, some affected by trimming, faint oil stains to a few leaves, light soiling and minor edgewear to preliminaries. An impressive copy of the rare first edition. \$5,000.

* First edition. Negusanti's treatise on pledges and mortgages in Roman law was a standard work for several generations of lawyers throughout Europe. Several issues and editions followed, the last one in 1736. OCLC locates 2 copies, 1 in North America (at Harvard Law School). *Censimento Nazionale Delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE23606.

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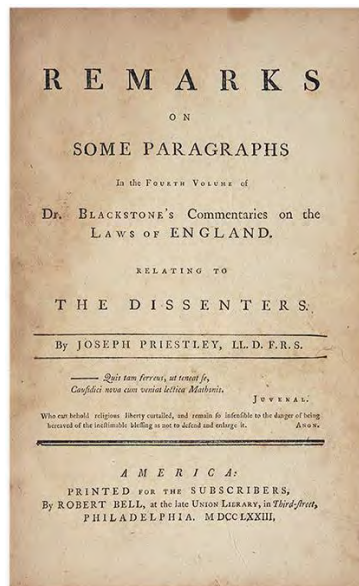
**The Case that Established the Concept of Partial
Insanity in English Law, A Copy Probably Annotated by the Editor**

**17. Nicholl, Sir John [1759-1838].
Haggard, John [1794-1856], Editor.**

A Report of the Judgment of Dew v. Clark and Clark, Delivered by the Honourable Sir John Nicholl, In the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Eastern Term, 1826. Edited, By Permission, From the Judge's Notes. London: Printed by A. Strahan, 1826. [ii], 99 pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2").

Paper-cover boards with recent calf rebacking, gilt title to spine, hinges mended. Light rubbing to board, heavier rubbing to board edges with wear to corners. Moderate toning to text, extensive annotations to preliminaries and rear endleaves and several corrections and brief annotations to text, most likely by Haggard. \$950.

* Only edition. *Dew v. Clark and Clark* established the concept of insane delusion, a testator's false conception of reality that may invalidate a will altogether, or one or more of its provisions. In this case a father believed falsely that his daughter was "the devil incarnate" and disinherited her. The court found that his thoughts about her, "did and could only proceed from, and be founded in, insanity," a "partial insanity" that only extended to his thoughts about his daughter, which caused the will to fail. The annotations in our copy, the latest dated March 5, 1830, indicate that Haggard (or another editor) was planning a revised edition of this work. OCLC locates 7 copies in North American law libraries (Boston University, Harvard, Library of Congress, Social Law Library, University of Minnesota, University of Pennsylvania, York University). *Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School* (1909) II:1061. [Order This Item](#)



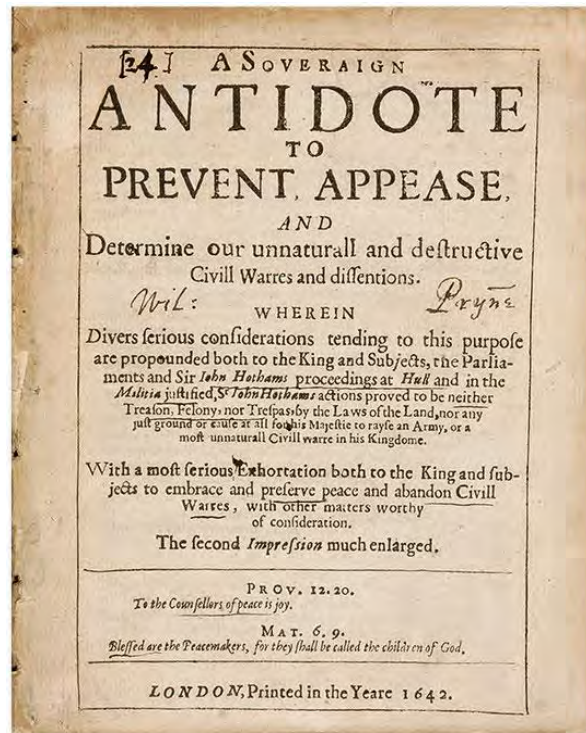
**Appendix Volume to Bell's American Blackstone
Containing a Group of Essays on Religious Liberty**

- 18. Priestley, Joseph [1733-1804].
Blackstone, Sir William [1723-1780].
Furneaux, Philip [1726-1783].
Foster, Sir Michael [1689-1763].
Murray, William, Earl of Mansfield (1705-1793)].**

An Interesting Appendix to Sir William Blackstone's Commentaries on the Laws of England. Containing, I. Priestley's Remarks on Some Paragraphs in the Fourth Volume of Blackstone's Commentaries, Relating to the Dissenters. II. Blackstone's Reply to Priestley's Remarks. III. Priestley's Answer to Blackstone's Reply. IV. The Case of the Late Election of the County or Middlesex Considered on the Principles of the Constitution and the Authorities of Law. V. Furneaux's Letters to the Hon. Mr. Justice Blackstone Concerning his Exposition of the Act of Toleration, And Some Positions Relative to Religious Liberty, in his Celebrated Commentaries on the Laws of England. VI. Authentic Copies of the Argument of the Late Hon. Mr. Justice Foster in the Court of Judges Delegates, And of the Speech of the Right Hon. Lord Mansfield in the House of Lords, in the Cause Between the City of London and the Dissenters. [Philadelphia]: Printed for the Subscribers, by Robert Bell, at the Late Union-Library, In Third-Street, Philadelphia, 1773. [iv], iv, [5]-119, [1], xii, 155, [1] pp. Includes one-page publisher advertisement for Bell's 1773 printing of Ferguson's *Essay on the History of Civil Society* and a subscription for a second American edition of Blackstone's *Commentaries*. Each section preceded by divisional title page, first section also preceded by general title page. Octavo (9" x 5-3/4").

Recent quarter calf over cloth, raised bands and gilt lettering to spine, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing to extremities, lower corners bumped and lightly worn, front hinge starting, crack in text block between title page and following leaf. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, occasional faint dampstaining to head of text block, much of it confined to margins. \$950.

* The second printing by Robert Bell of this important and influential commentary on Blackstone, published the year after the first edition. Later re-issued under the title *The Palladium of Conscience*, this book contains a group of essays on religious liberty inspired by a passage from Section III of Book IV, Chapter 4, "Of Offences Against God and Religion," where he classified religious non-conformity as a crime. It was originally published in 1772 as a fifth volume to Bell's edition of Blackstone's *Commentaries* (1771-1772). Eller, *The William Blackstone Collection in the Yale Law Library* 256. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalogue of William Blackstone* 616. [Order This Item](#)



A Call for Peace at the Beginning of the Civil War

19. [Prynne, William (1600-1669)].

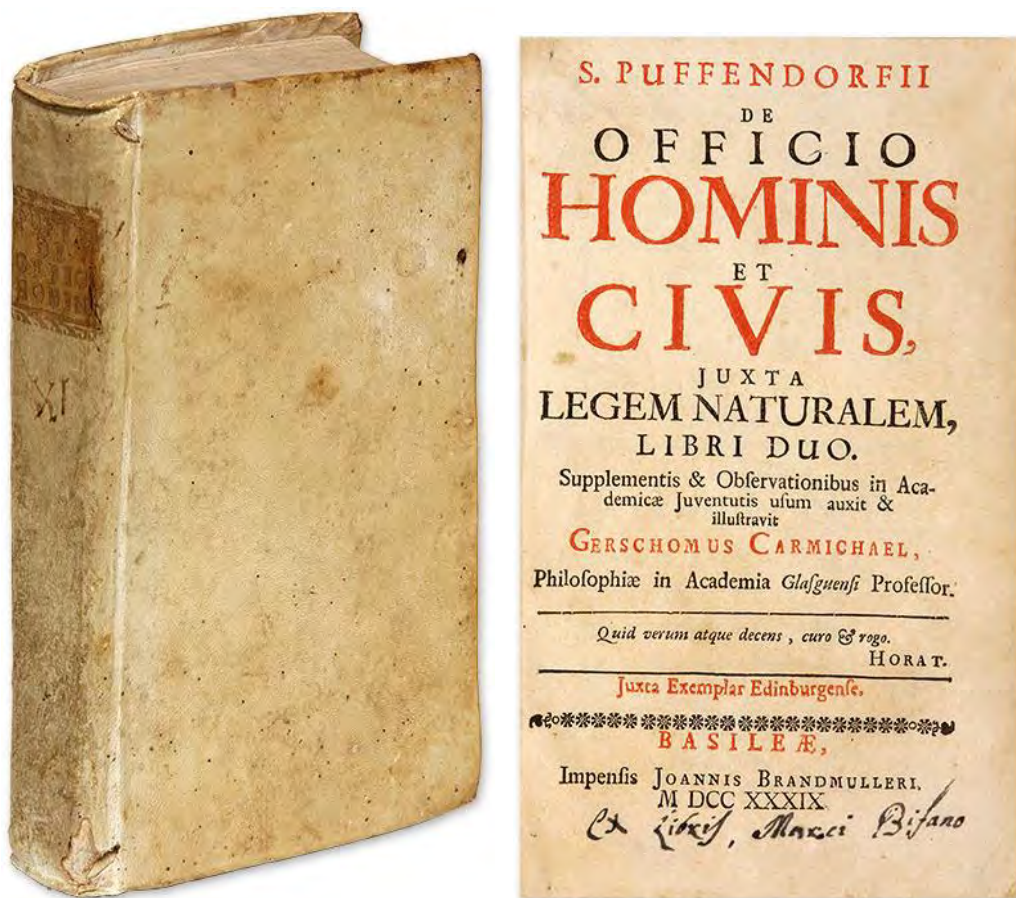
A Sovereign Antidote to Prevent, Appease, And Determine Our Unnaturall and Destructive Civill Warres and Dissentions. Wherein Divers Serious Considerations Tending to This Purpose are Propounded Both to the King and Subjects, The Parliaments, And Sir Iohn Hothams Proceedings at Hull and in the Militia Justified, Sir Iohn Hothams Actions Proved to be Neither Treason, Felony, Nor Trespas, By the Laws of the Land, Nor any Just Ground or Cause at All for His Majesty to Rayse an Army, Or a Most Unnaturall Civill Warre in His Kingdome. With a Most Serious Exhortation Both to the King and Subjects to Embrace and Preserve Peace and Abandon Civill Warres, With Other Matters Worthy of Consideration. The Second Impression much Enlarged. London: Printed in the Year 1642. [iv], 32 pp. Quarto (7" x 5-3/4").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Light soiling and rubbing to extremities, early annotations to title page, occasional underlining to text, minor tears to margins of a few leaves. Item housed in an attractive recent cloth slipcase with gilt spine title. \$850.

* First edition, second issue, with a cancel title and added leaf A2. Issued when England was on the brink of civil war, Prynne, attempting to strike a mediating tone, describes recent events between the Crown and Parliament as the "deplorable condition of our bleeding and almost expiring Kingdom, machinating its owne inevitable ruine." He calls for peace. He also describes the then-recent siege of Hull in 1642, the first major action of the war in which Charles I was denied entry into the city and his forces failed to seize its ammunition stores. An expanded second edition was printed in 1658.

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 Court of Star Chamber. Initially a Parliamentarian, Prynne changed course and supported the monarchy after the Restoration. At that time he was appointed Royal Archivist in the Tower of London by King Charles II. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R230565

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An Important Synopsis of
Pufendorf's *De Jure Naturae et Gentium*

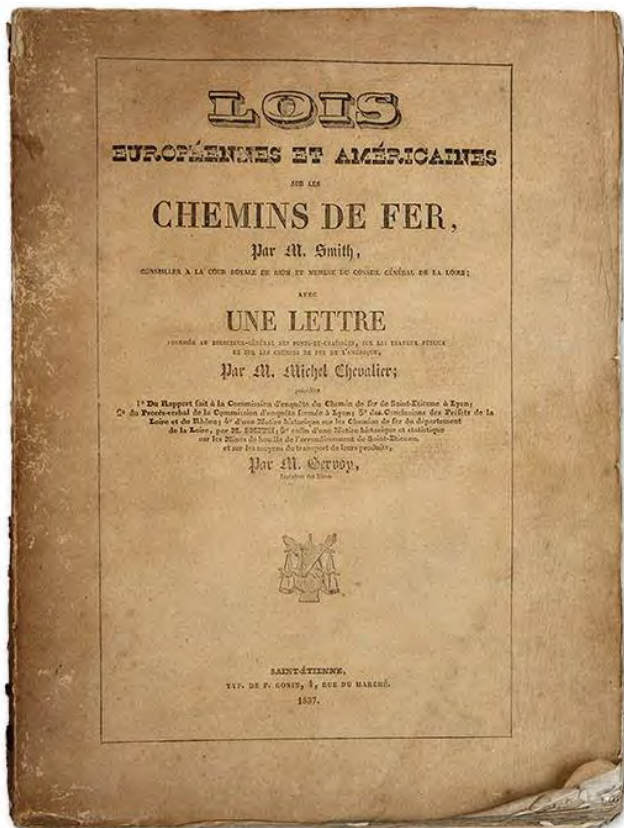
20. Pufendorf, Samuel, Freiherr von [1632-1694].

Carmichael, Gerschom [1672-1729], Editor.

De Officio Hominis et Civis, Juxta Legem Naturalem, Libri Duo. Supplementis & Observationibus in Academicæ Juventutis usum Auxit & Illustravit Gerschomus Carmichael. Basel: Impensis Joannis Brandmulleri, 1739. xxii, [16], 503, [3] pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4").

Contemporary vellum, title panel to spine. Light soiling, moderate rubbing to extremities, vellum just beginning to crack through pastedowns. Early owner inscription to front pastedown, another to foot of title page, which is printed in red and black, moderate toning and light foxing to text. \$250.

* Later edition. *De Officio* is a synopsis of Pufendorf's *De Jure Naturae et Gentium*, a landmark work that proposed a thorough system of private, public, and international law based on natural law. Beginning with a consideration of fundamental legal ideas and their various divisions, Pufendorf proceeds to a discussion of the validity of customs, the doctrines of necessity and innate human reason. It is significant in part because it develops principles introduced by Grotius and Hobbes. Unlike Hobbes, Pufendorf argued that peace, not war, was the state of nature, and he proposed that the scope of international law was not restricted to Christendom. Carmichael was a Scottish philosopher. Highly regarded for its notes, his edition was first published in 1707. This copy belonged to the eminent historian Brian Tierney [1922-2019], an expert on the relationship between church and state in medieval Europe. This edition not in the *British Museum Catalogue*. [Order This Item](#)



Scarce 1837 Compilation of European and American Railroad Laws

21. Smith, [Valentin].

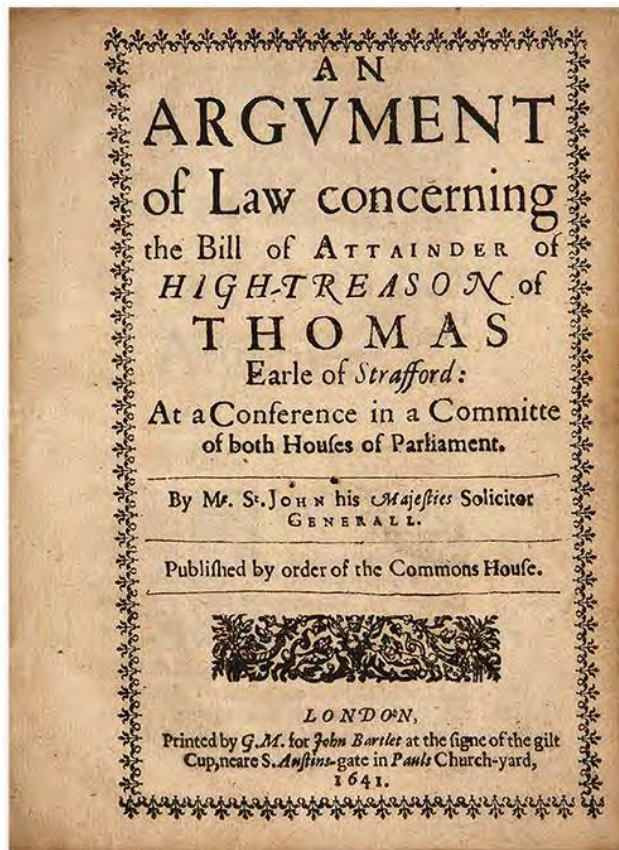
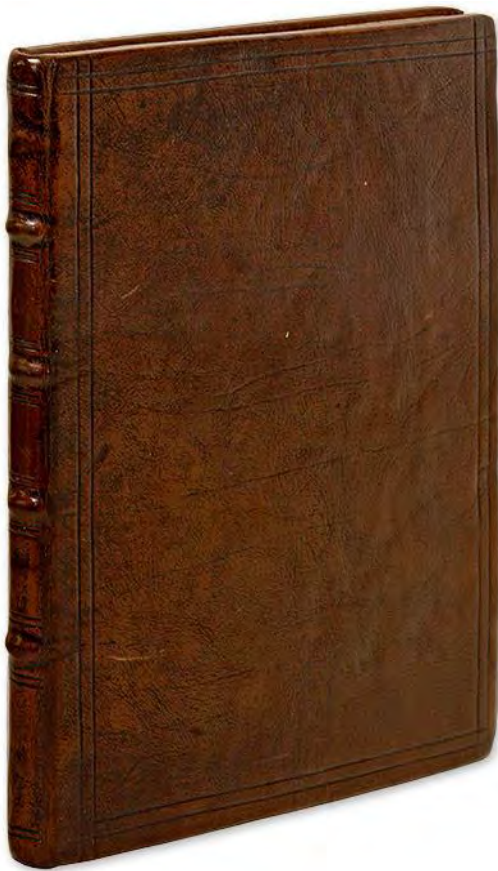
Chevalier, Michel.

Gervoy, M.

Lois Européennes et Américaines sur les Chemins de Fer, Par M. Smith, Conseiller a la Cour Royale de Riom et Membre du Conseil Général de la Loire; Avec une Lettre Adressée a Directeur-General des Ponts-et-Chaussées, Sur les Travaux Publics et sur les Chemins de Fer de l'Amérique. Par M. Michel Chevalier; Précédées; 1. Du Rapport fait à la Commission d'Enquete du Chemin de Fer de Saint-Étienne à Lyon; 2. du Procès-Verbal de la Commission d'Enquete Formée à Lyon; 3. Des Conclusions des Préfets de la Loire et du Rhône; 4. d'Une Notice Historique sur les Chemins de Fer du Département de la Loire; Par B. Smith; 5. Enfin d'une Notice Historique et Statistique sur les Mines de Houille de l'Arrondissement de Saint-Étienne et sur les Moyens du Transport de Leurs Produits, Par M. Gervoy, Ingénieur des Mines. Saint-Étienne: Typ. de F. Gonin, 1837. [viii], 331, [4] pp. Tables, folding table. Quarto (10-3/4" x 8-1/2").

Original publisher wrappers, woodcut image of train to rear wrapper, untrimmed edges. Moderate soiling and some rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends and corners, several splits to spine, text block beginning to come apart. Moderate toning to text, light foxing in a few places. \$1,500.

* Only edition. This book was compiled about a decade after the establishment of the first steam-powered railroads. Along with its discussion of railroad laws in Great Britain and Europe, it contains a summary of railroad legislation in the United States by M. Smith, and an 1835 letter by Michel Chevalier on legislation in the United States relating to public works, with an emphasis on railroads, addressed to M. Legrand, Directeur-Générale des Ponts-et-Chaussées. OCLC locates 10 copies, 4 in North America (Harvard Business School, NY Public Library, Public Library of Cincinnati, University of Michigan). Sabin, *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America* 84478. [Order This Item](#)



Parliament Defends Its Case Against the Earl of Strafford

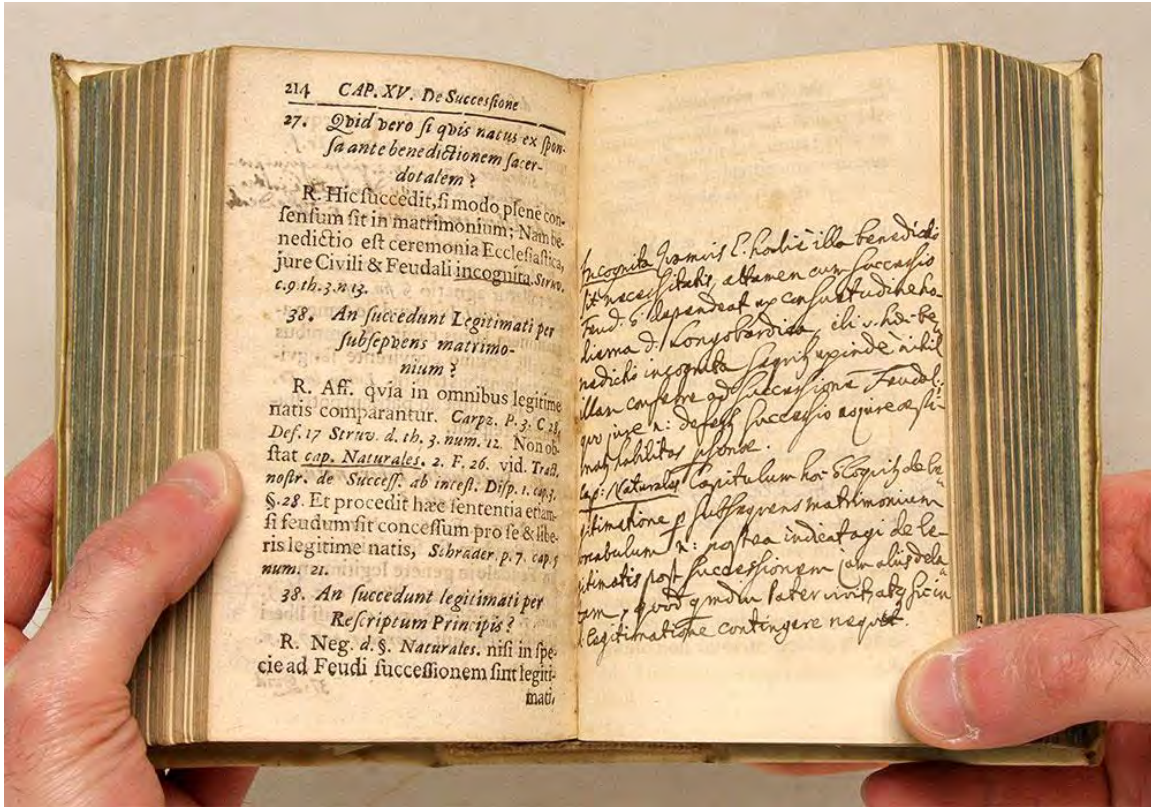
22. St. John, Oliver [1598?-1673].

[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 Committee of Both Houses of Parliament. By Mr. St. John His Majesties Solicitor General. 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](#)



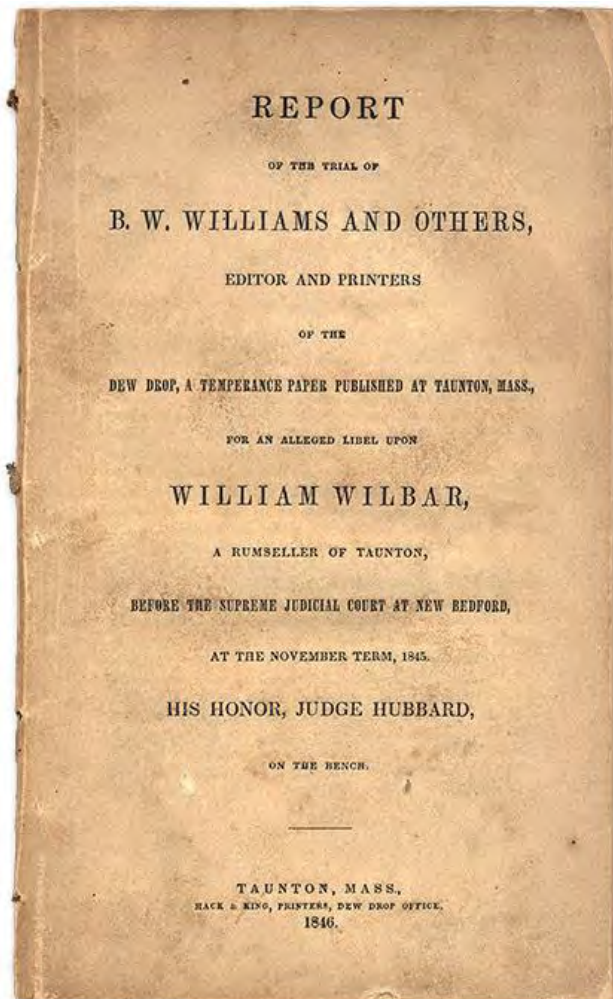
Copy of a Notable Study of German Feudal and Customary Law Interleaved and Annotated by an Austrian Noble and State Official

23. Stryk, Samuel [1640-1710].

Examen Juris Feudalis, Ex Novissimis Ejus Interpretibus in Gratiam Auditorum Collectum, Ac Methodo Institutionum Dispositum. Editio V. Auctor & Corrector Accessit Index Rerum Praecipuarum, Et Appendix Solennium, Quibus Hodie Apud Imp. Principes Investuntur, Subjuncta Taxa Dignitatum in Imperio & Juramentis. Cum Privilegiis Special. Sereniss. Elect. Saxon. & Brandenb. [Frankfurt an der Oder]: Impensis Jeremiae Schrey, & Haered. Henr. Joh. Meyeri, 1692. [xxiv], 436, [44] pp. Interleaved. 12mo. (5" x 3").

Contemporary vellum, early hand-lettered title to spine. Light soiling and a few tiny stains, light rubbing to extremities, armorial bookplate of Count Christian Sigmund Wurmbrand-Stuppach dated 1711 to front pastedown, recent bookplate of Wilhelm Reichsgraf von Wurmbrand-Stuppach to front free endpaper. Title page printed in red and black facing added pictorial title page featuring Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I, as a figure of justice. Light toning, slightly heavier in places, considerable annotations, most likely by Christian Sigmund Wurmbrand-Stuppach, to most of the interleaves, occasional underlining and annotations, all in same hand and some quite lengthy, to text. \$1,500.

* Fifth edition. Stryk was an important German jurist who helped to develop German law from native sources rather than from received Roman law. First published in 1675, the *Examen Juris Feudalis*, a study of Germanic feudal and customary law, is one of his principal works. Count Christian Sigmund Wurmbrand-Stuppach [1673-1737] was a member of an old Austrian noble family. During the time he likely annotated this book, he was the treasurer of King Frederick Augustus of Poland and Saxony. The annotations, in Latin, are mostly analytical, some are glosses or elucidations of specific terms and concepts. All of the annotations reflect considerable engagement with the text. In all, they show how a state official responded to Stryk's treatise. *Das Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachraum Erschienenen Drucke des 17. Jahrhunderts* 32:677415Q. [Order This Item](#)



"A House of Human Slaughter"

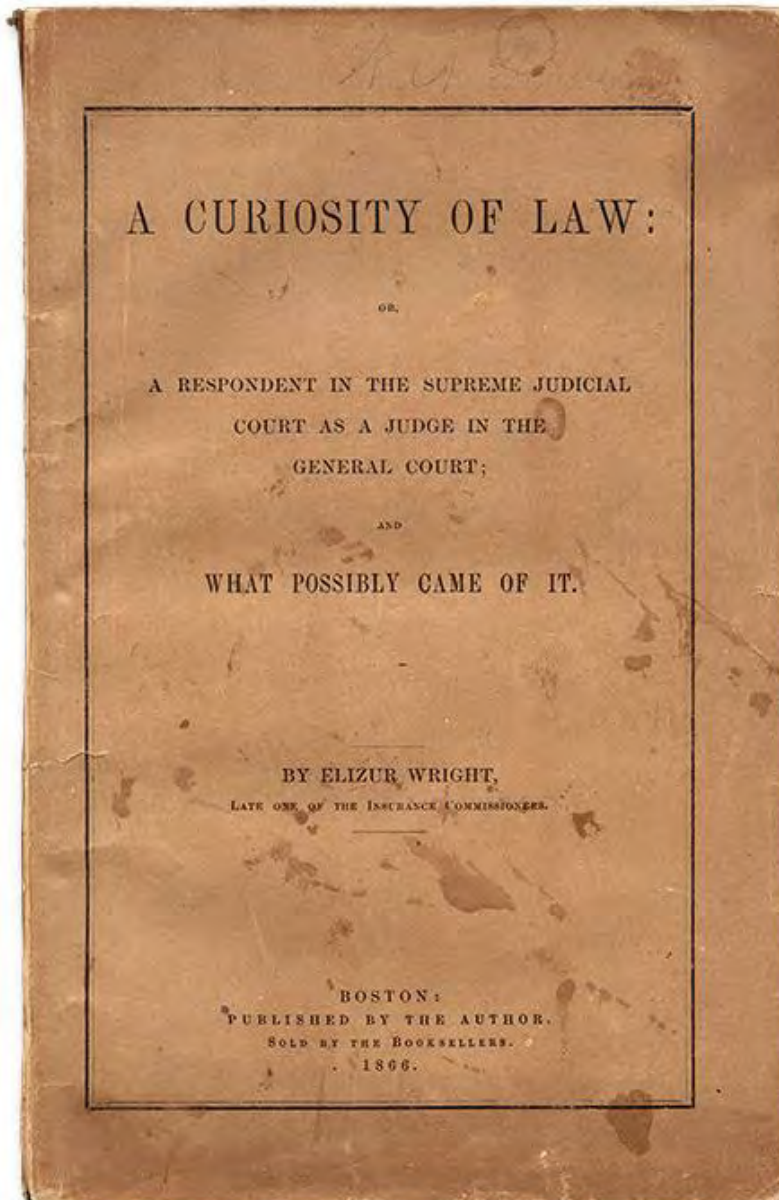
24. [Trial].

Williams, B[enjamin] W., Principal Defendant.

Report of the Trial of B.W. Williams and Others, Editors and Printers of the Dew Drop, A Temperance Paper Published at Taunton, Mass., For an Alleged Libel Upon William Wilbar, A Rumseller of Taunton, Before the Supreme Judicial Court at New Bedford, At the November Term, 1845, His Honor, Judge Hubbard, on the Bench. Taunton [Mass.]: Hack & King, Printers, Dew Drop Office, 1846. 60 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/4").

Disbound stab stitched pamphlet. Moderate toning, light soiling to exterior, some rubbing to extremities. Light browning to text, faint tick marks in light pencil to margins in a few places, light foxing to a few leaves. \$450.

* First edition. In January, 1845, the defendant published an article in his temperance paper *The Dew Drop* that referred to Mr. Wilbar as "the incarnate Devil" with a mouth that emitted "flames of fire" that "withered and scorched all the deluded wretches" who entered his shop, "a house of human slaughter." The defendants were acquitted after 45 minutes of deliberation. Although there are many reprint editions available, the original 1846 printing is scarce in the marketplace. OCLC locates 7 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, Social Law, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri, University of Pennsylvania, York University). Not in McCoy, *Freedom of the Press*. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 12078. [Order This Item](#)



The Father of Life Insurance

25. Wright, Elizur [1804-1885].

A Curiosity of Law: Or, A Respondent in the Supreme Judicial Court, As a Judge in the General Court; And What Possibly Came of It. Boston: Published by the Author, 1866. 96 pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers. A few minor stains, light wear to spine ends and corners, a few chips to edges of wrappers, moderate toning to text. \$150.

* First edition. Also a prominent mathematician and abolitionist, Wright is considered the "father" of life insurance as we know it today. *A Curiosity of Law* concerns a dispute over actuarial figures that occurred when he was a Massachusetts State insurance commissioner. It illustrates the resistance of conservative politicians and businessmen to the Commission's regulatory reforms. A second edition was published in 1866. [Order This Item](#)