

# MURDER

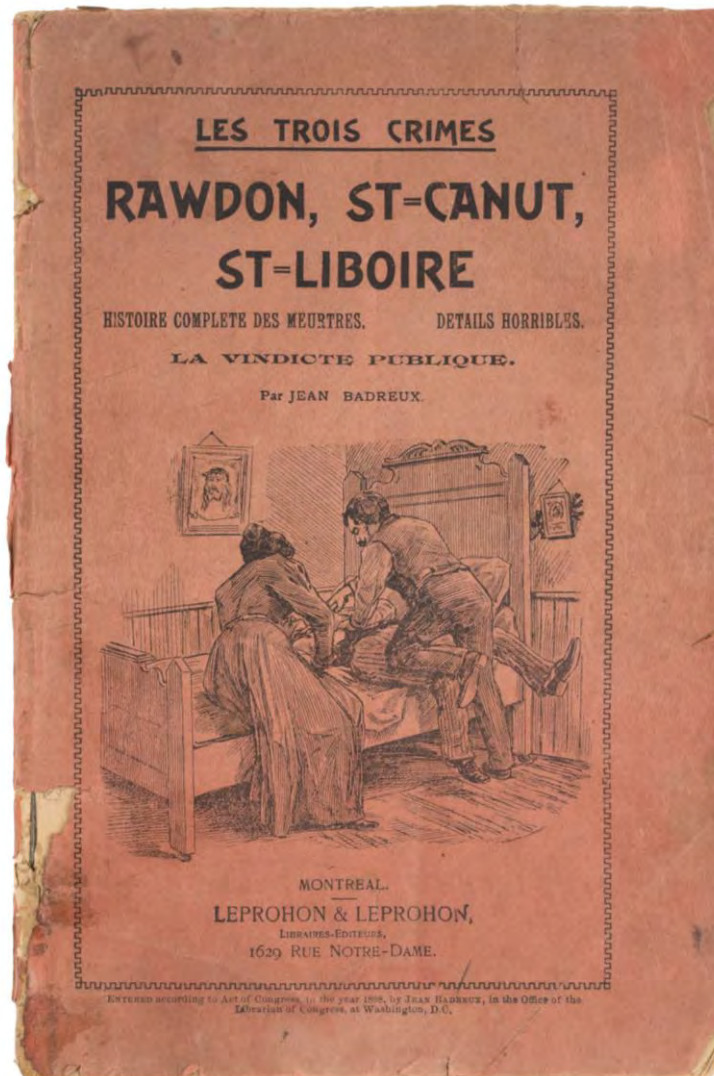
30 ITEMS

*April 13, 2021*



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### Rare Account of Three Montreal Murders

#### 1. Badreux, Jean.

*Les Trois Crimes: Rawdon, St-Canut, St-Liboire. Histoire Complète des Meurtres, Détails Horribles. La Vindicté Publique.* Montreal: Leprohon & Leprohon, 1898. 45, [3] pp. 2 text woodcuts. 3 pp. publisher catalogue, another advertisement (with woodcut) to verso of front wrapper. Octavo (8-3/4" x 6").

Stapled pamphlet in printed wrappers, rear wrapper lacking. Moderate soiling and some chipping and minor tears to wrapper, spine abraded, minor wear to top-edge and corners, light soiling to final page, light browning to interior, light foxing to a few leaves. \$950.

\* Only edition. This pamphlet contains accounts of three grisly murders that took place in Montreal. It was also issued in an English-language version titled *The Three Crimes: Rawdon, St. Liboire, St. Canut. Complete History of the Murders, Horrible Details, Public vindication.* The woodcuts, both half-page, illustrate two of the murders (Rawdon and St. Canut). Both versions of this pamphlet are rare. OCLC locates 2 copies of the French version at Harvard Law School and York University Law Library and 1 copy of the English version at the Library and Archives, Canada. We also located both versions at the University of Alberta. [Order This Item](#)



"Crimes of Love and Passion"

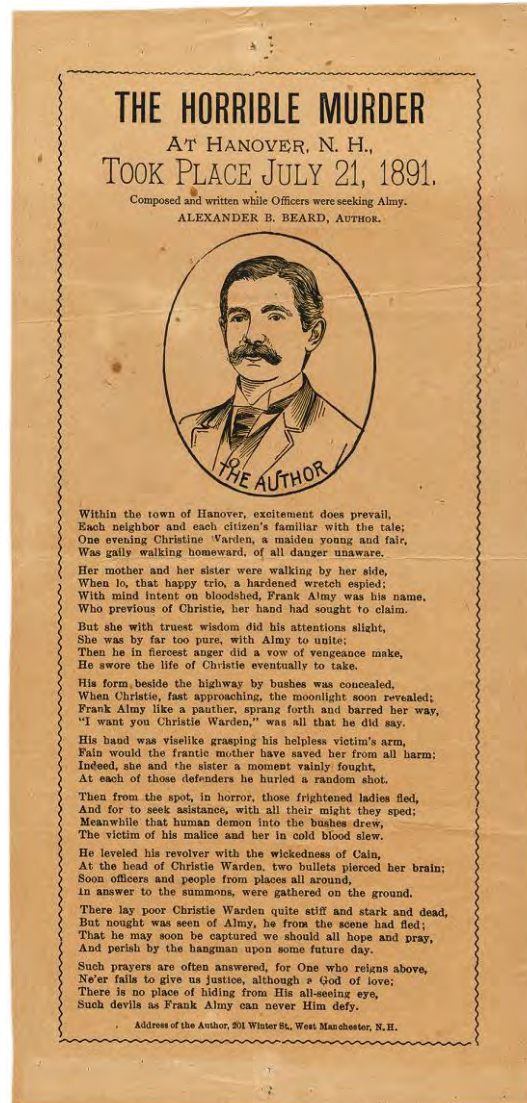
2. Brame, Geoffrey.

Rénin, Paul, Editor.

*Crimes of Love and Passion, No. 2: The Crimes of Belle Gunness, Murderess, Adulteress, And Baby Farmer. A Wife as Prey: The True Story of the Notorious Arnauld de Tily Who Impersonated His Soldier Friend, Deceiving Even His Beautiful Wife* [Cover Title]. [London]: Federation Press, Ltd., Gramol House, E.C. 4., c. 1928. 31 pp.

Stapled pamphlet in color printed wrappers. Light soiling, negligible rubbing to extremities, light browning to interior. A well-preserved copy of a rare title. \$950.

\* This is a title in the true-crime series *Crimes of Love and Passion*. Originally issued around 1928 (the issues are not dated) and re-issued in the 1950s, this series had four volumes. Issue No. 2 has two parts: "Arnauld de Tily, Impersonator-Deceiver-Thief. An Amazing True Story" by Geoffrey Brame and "Belle Gunness, 'The Female Bluebeard'" by Henry K. Vernon. OCLC locates 2 copies, both re-issues (Kent State University, University of Arizona). [Order This Item](#)



**"Such Devils as Frank Almy Can Never Him Defy"**

**3. [Broadside].**

**Beard, Alexander B.**

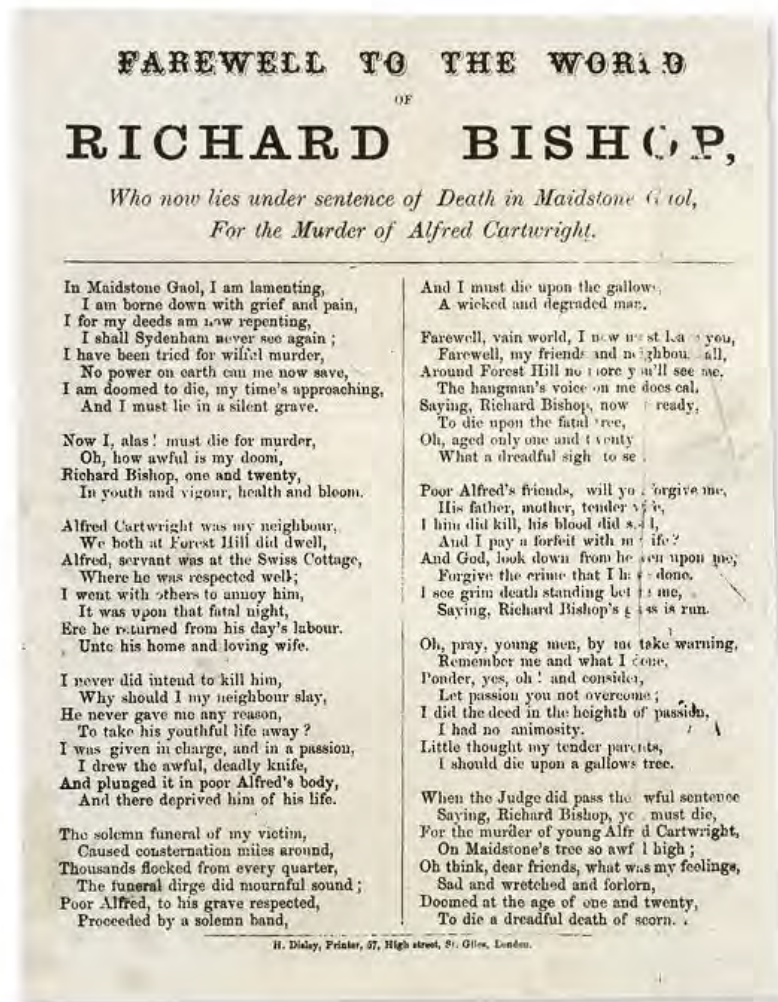
**[Almy, Frank C.].**

*The Horrible Murder at Hanover, N.H.: Took Place July 21, 1891. Composed and Written While the Officers Were Seeking Almy.* West Manchester, NH: [Published by the Author], 1891.

11" x 5-1/4" broadside, nine verses enclosed by typographical border below headline and small woodcut portrait of the author. Light soiling and edgewear, three fold lines, pin-holes at head and foot. A well-preserved copy of a rare item. \$650.

\* Only edition. A verse account of woman's murder committed in Hanover, New Hampshire by a rejected suitor, Frank Almy. After the murder, he hid for a month in a barn. When he was eventually captured, the captors discovered that he was George Abbott, a fugitive who had escaped the New Hampshire State Prison while serving a term for burglary. OCLC locates 2 copies (University of Michigan, Yale). This broadside not in McDade. [Order This Item](#)





#### Annoyed to Death

#### 4. [Broadside].

#### [Execution].

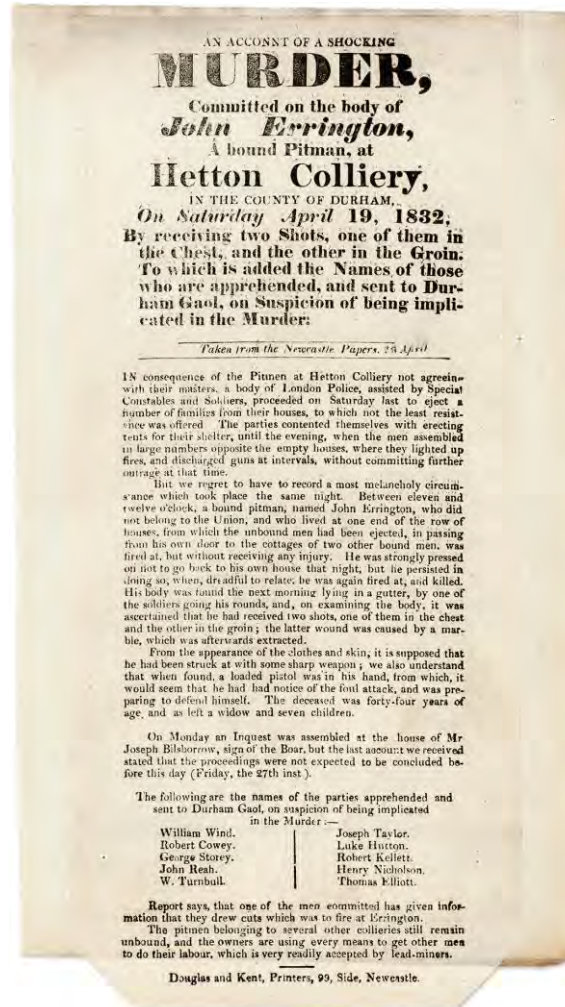
#### Bishop, Richard.

*Farewell to the World of Richard Bishop, Who Now Lies Under Sentence of Death in Maidstone Gaol, For the Murder of Alfred Cartwright.*

London: H. Disley, Printer, [1868]. 9-1/2" x 7-1/2" verse broadside. Main text in two columns separated by rules.

Some toning, creasing and a few minor stains, contemporary annotations to verso, otherwise fine. \$500.

\* A broadside ballad issued before the public hanging of Bishop for the murder of his neighbor, Cartwright. The murder was provoked by a shouting match between Bishop and another man on a nearby street that woke Cartwright. Irritated, he called the police. Bishop was arrested and an angry Cartwright followed him and the policemen, proclaiming angrily that he intended to press charges against his noisy neighbor. Angered by his taunting, Bishop broke free of the police and stabbed Cartwright to death. Bishop was sentenced at the Old Bailey but hanged outside Maidstone Prison, Kent, 27 days later. It was the last public execution to take place in Kent, less than a month before the last public execution in England, which occurred in London on May 26, 1868. Our copy is probably a printer's proof. It is printed on scrap paper watermarked 1844 and has an unrelated annotation dated 1848 to its verso. [Order This Item](#)



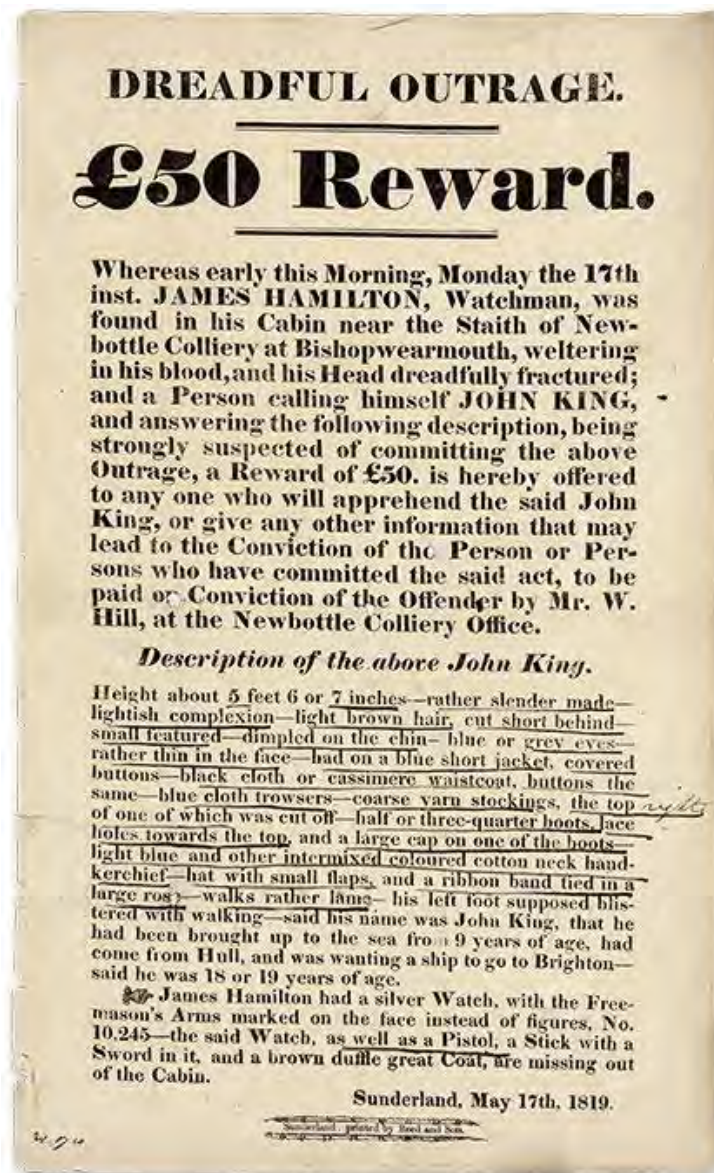
### A Murder Related to Labor Unrest in the Newcastle Mines

#### 5. [Broadside]. [Great Britain].

*An Account of the Shocking Murder, Committed on the Body of John Errington, A Bound Pitman, At Hetton Colliery, In the County of Durham, On Saturday April 19, 1832, By Receiving Two Shots, One of Them in the Chest, And the Other in the Groin. To Which is Added the Names of Those Who are Apprehended, And Sent to Durham Gaol, On Suspicion of Being Implicated in the Murder.* Newcastle Upon Tyne: Douglas and Kent, Printers, [1832].

13-3/4" x 6-1/4" broadside mounted on 13-1/4" x 8" sheet, bottom inch of broadside folded, lower corners cropped. Single-column text below headline, sections separated by rules. Negligible light toning. A well-preserved copy. \$1,500.

\* An account "taken from the Newcastle Papers" of 28th April, during the miner's strike of 1832, an early example of Industrial-Era unrest that resonated throughout Great Britain. At that time a number of strikers, evicted from their homes, gathered in the town, where they lit bonfires, discharged firearms and antagonized their opponents. Errington, a strikebreaker, was found dead in the street with two wounds from a marble-firing musket. Several strikers were charged with his murder and taken to Durham Gaol, which was far enough away from Newcastle to discourage any rescue attempts. In the end the evidence was insufficient and they were released. No copies located on OCLC, Library Hub or at the British Library. [Order This Item](#)



"Dreadful Outrage"

6. [Broadside].

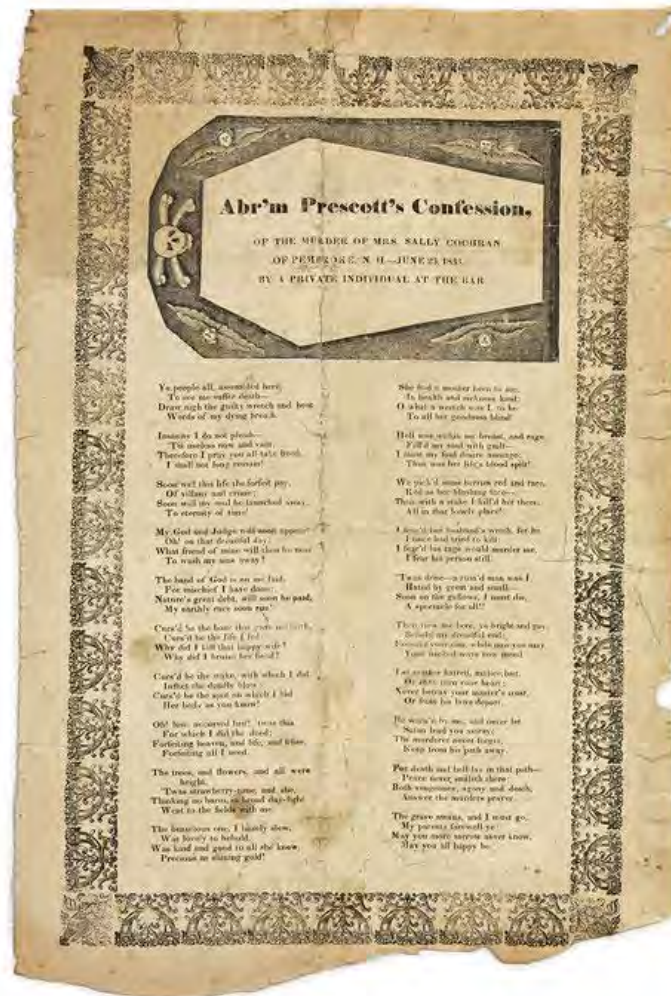
[King, John (d. 1819)].

*Dreadful Outrage. £50 Reward.* Sunderland, England: May 17, 1819.

13-1/4" x 8" broadside, pasted to plain sheet. Text in single column below headline. Moderate toning, faint horizontal and vertical fold lines, a few minor chips and tears and a few tiny holes to sheet, underlining and a few brief annotations in contemporary hand. \$500.

\* This wanted poster was issued after the murder of James Hamilton, a watchman at Bishopswearmouth, and the theft of his watch, pistol, swordstick and greatcoat. A detailed description is given of the prime suspect, a mariner named John King. Perhaps owing to the information in this broadside, King was eventually tracked down, tried and executed. COPAC and OCLC locate 1 copy (Durham University). [Order This Item](#)





"Oh! Lust, Accursed Lust! 'Twas This for Which I Did the Deed"

**7. [Broadside].**

**Private Individual at the Bar.**

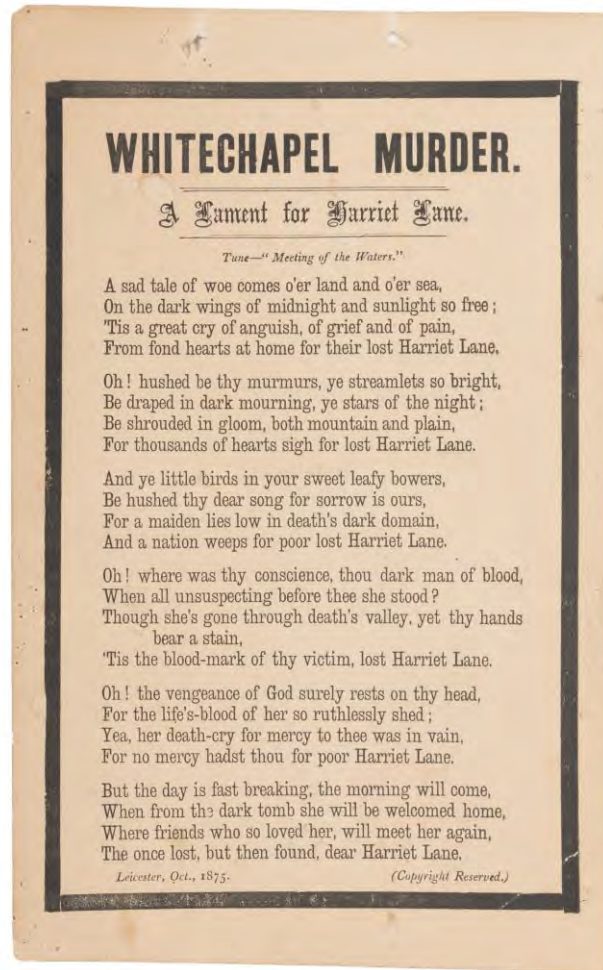
*Abr'm Prescott's Confession of the Murder of Mrs. Sally Cochran of Pembroke, N.H.--June 23, 1833.* [Concord, NH.]: S.n., 1836.

17" x 11-1/2" broadside. Two-columns of verse in twenty stanzas within woodcut ornamental border, text headed by large woodcut vignette of a coffin. Light browning and a few minor stains, faint horizontal and vertical fold line, chipping to edges, section lacking from bottom margin, just touching bottom right corner of border, a few tears along fold lines with no loss to text, later repairs to verso. \$2,500.

\* Abraham Prescott was found guilty of the murder of Sally Cochran in two separate trials held in Concord in September 1834 and September 1835. Despite a well-crafted insanity defense, he was sentenced to be hanged on December 23, 1835, in Hopkinton, New Hampshire. The execution was postponed to January 6, 1836. The verse account in this broadside presents the murder as a crime of passion: "Oh! lust, accursed lust! 'twas this for which I did the deed; Forfeiting heaven, and life, and bliss, Forfeiting all I need." See McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 769. OCLC locates 7 copies (American Antiquarian Society, Brown, Dartmouth, Harvard, Peabody Essex Museum, University of Michigan, Yale).

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**Unrecorded Verse Broadside Describing  
the Murder of a Young Woman in Whitechapel**

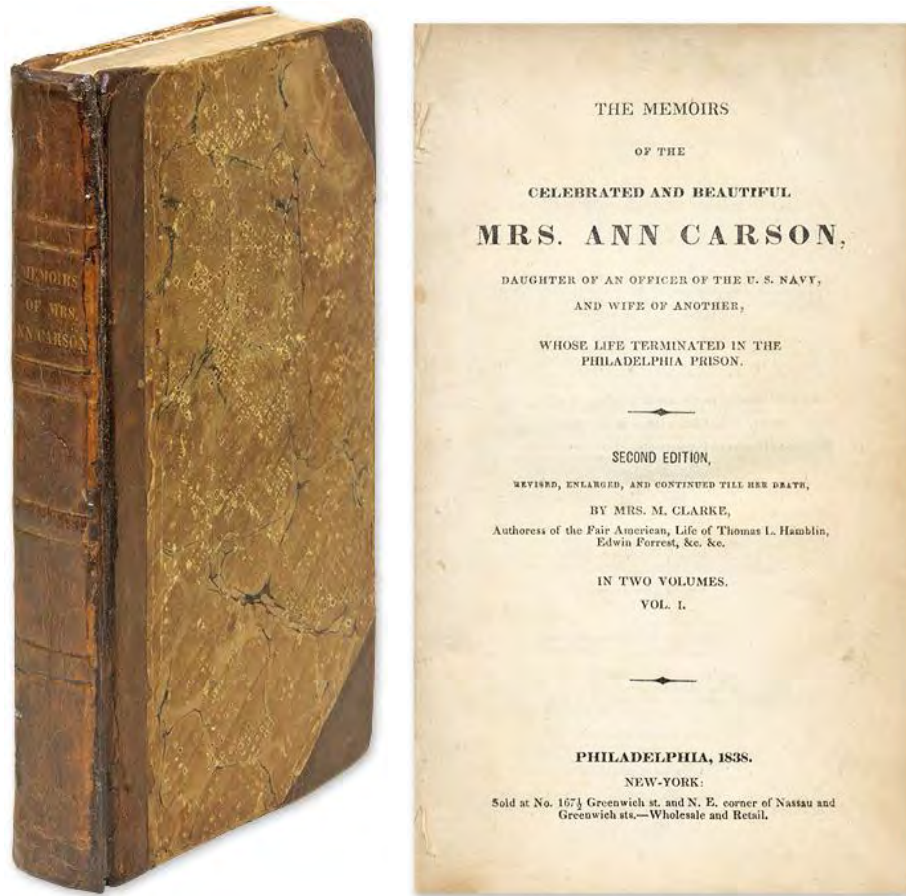
**8. [Broadside].**

*Whitechapel Murder. A Lament for Harriet Lane.* Leicester: S.n., 1875.

9-3/4" x 6" broadside printed on thick paper, main text printed in single column below headline, text enclosed by thick black border. Light browning and edgewear, a few tiny spots and stains, chip to upper left corner, crease to lower right corner (reinforced with archival tape on verso), two small holes at head of broadside above border. \$950.

\* A gruesome (and apparently unrecorded) seven-stanza verse account of the 1875 murder of Harriet Lane, a young milliner's apprentice and mistress of Henry Wainwright, a brushmaker. Lane had been Wainwright's mistress since 1871. He killed her in 1874, probably due to the strain of keeping her and his propensity for drink and recent financial difficulties. Afterwards, he buried her body beneath the floorboards of his home. Twelve months later, Wainwright, needing to

sell his property, exhumed the decomposing body, dismembered it and put the pieces in two packages. He then enlisted the help of an unwitting employee, Alfred Stokes, to dispose of the packages. Apparently out of curiosity, Stokes looked in one of the packages. Horrified, he notified the police. Wainwright was apprehended, convicted and hanged at Newgate on December 21, 1875. The murder attracted a great deal of attention, more than the later crimes of Jack the Ripper. No copies listed on OCLC or Library Hub. [Order This Item](#)



### A Fascinating and Enterprising Nineteenth-Century Female Criminal

#### 9. Carson, Ann Baker.

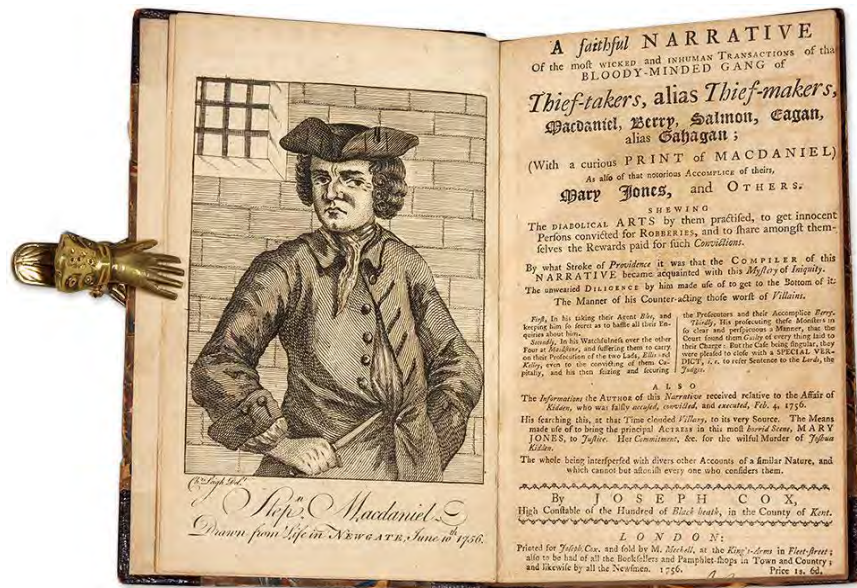
Clarke, Mrs. M.

*The Memoirs of the Celebrated and Beautiful Mrs. Ann Carson, Daughter of an Officer of the U.S. Navy, And Wife of Another, Whose Life Terminated in the Philadelphia Prison. Second Edition, Revised, Enlarged, And Continued Till Her Death, by Mrs. M. Clarke, Authoress of The Fair American, Life of Thomas L. Hamblin, Edwin Forrest, &c. &c.* Philadelphia, 1838. New York: Sold at No. 167 1/2 Greenwich St. and N.E. Corner of Nassau and Greenwich Sts.—Wholesale and Retail. 1838. Two volumes in one. xiii, [2], 16-231, [1]; [iii], 6-175, [1] pp. Last page in each volume blank. 12mo. (7-1/4" x 4-1/4").

Contemporary three-quarter calf over marbled boards, rebaked retaining existing spine, endpapers renewed, title page and following leaf re-hinged. Light rubbing to boards, small scuff to front board, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to corners. Moderate toning to text, light foxing in a few places. An appealing copy of a rare title. \$1,500.

\* Second and best edition. "The Carsons had been married nine years when John Carson left home in 1810. Not having heard from him for two years, his wife married [Richard] Smith. Carson returned and, in trying to dispossess Smith of his wife and home, was shot by Smith. The judge practically directed Smith's conviction and he was hanged. Mrs. Carson, who was a rugged individual in her own right, tried to kidnap the governor to save Smith. After his execution she joined a gang of counterfeiters and subsequently died in prison" (McDade). This account went through two editions, both in 1838. The second edition is better because it contains additional material, as indicated by the title. Both editions are rare. OCLC locates no copies of the first edition, 4 of the second (American Antiquarian Society, New-York Historical Society, University of Michigan, Yale University) McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 888. [Order This Item](#)





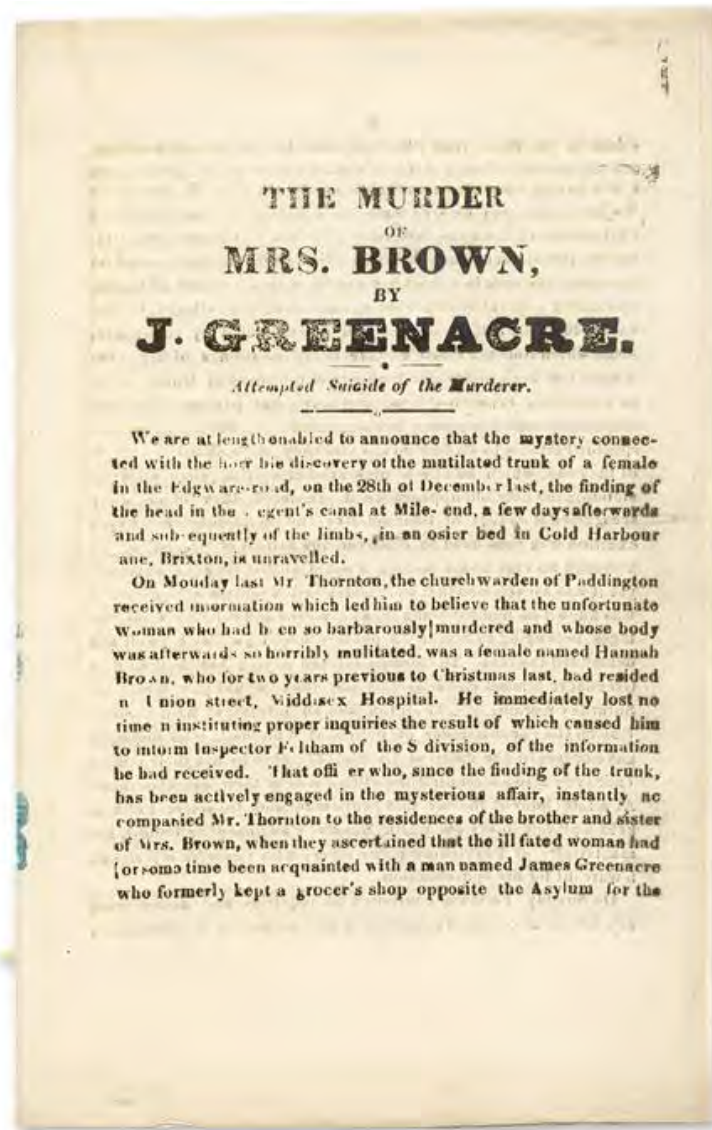
**"The Most Wicked and Inhuman Transactions of that Bloody-Minded Gang"**

**10. Cox, Joseph [d. 1760].**

*A Faithful Narrative of the Most Wicked and Inhuman Transactions of that Bloody-Minded Gang of Thief-Takers, Alias Thief-Makers, Macdaniel, Berry, Salmon, Eagan, Alias Gabagan; (with a Curious Print of Macdaniel) As also of that Notorious Accomplice of theirs, Mary Jones, And Others. Shewing the Diabolical Arts by them Practised, To get Innocent Persons Convicted for Robberies, And to Share Amongst Themselves the Rewards paid for such Convictions. By what Stroke of Providence it was that the Compiler of this Narrative became Acquainted with this Mystery of Iniquity. The Unwearied Diligence by Him Made Use of to Get to the Bottom of It: The Manner of his Counter-Acting Those Worst of Villains. First, In His Taking Their Agent Blee, And Keeping Him so Secret as to Baffle All Their Enquiries About Him. Secondly, In His Watchfulness Over the Other Four at Maidstone, And Suffering Them to Carry on Their Prosecution of the Two Lads, Ellis and Kelley, Even to the Convicting of them Capitally, And His then Seizing and Securing the Prosecutors and Their Accomplice Berry. Thirdly, His Prosecuting These Monsters in so Clear and Perspicuous a Manner, That the Court Found them Guilty of Every Thing Laid to Their Charge: But the Case Being Singular, They were Pleased to Close with a Special Verdict, I.E. to Refer Sentence to the Lords, The Judges. Also The Informations the Author of this Narrative Received Relative to the Affair of Kidden, Who was Falsly Accused, Convicted, And Executed, Feb. 4, 1756. His Searching this, At that Time Clouded Villany, To its Very Source. The Means Made Use of to Bring the Principal Actress in this Most Horrid Scene, Mary Jones, To Justice. Her Commitment, &c. for the Wilful Murder of Joshua Kidden. The Whole Being Interspersed with Divers Other Accounts of a Similar Nature, And which cannot but Astonish Every One who Considers Them.* London: Printed for Joseph Cox, And Sold by M. Mechell, 1756. iv, 110 pp. Copperplate frontispiece. Octavo (7-3/4 x 5").

Nineteenth-century three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title to spine. Moderate rubbing to boards and extremities, hinges cracked. Toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, title page trimmed closely with minor loss to text. An appealing copy of a scarce title. \$3,500.

\* First edition. Led by Stephen Macdaniel, a group of "thief-takers" (private individuals hired by victims to capture criminals) orchestrated a racket that framed and arrested innocent men in order to collect reward money from bounties. In one case, their activities resulted in the execution of the innocent Joshua Kidden. This scandal led to the implementation of a salaried public police force. Cox was the constable who solved the case. His account was reprinted in Dublin in 1756. A second edition was printed in London in 1759. All printings of this title are scarce. OCLC locates 14 copies of the first edition in North America, 4 in law libraries (Baylor, Harvard, Library of Congress, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T35231. [Order This Item](#)



### The Edgeware Road Murderer

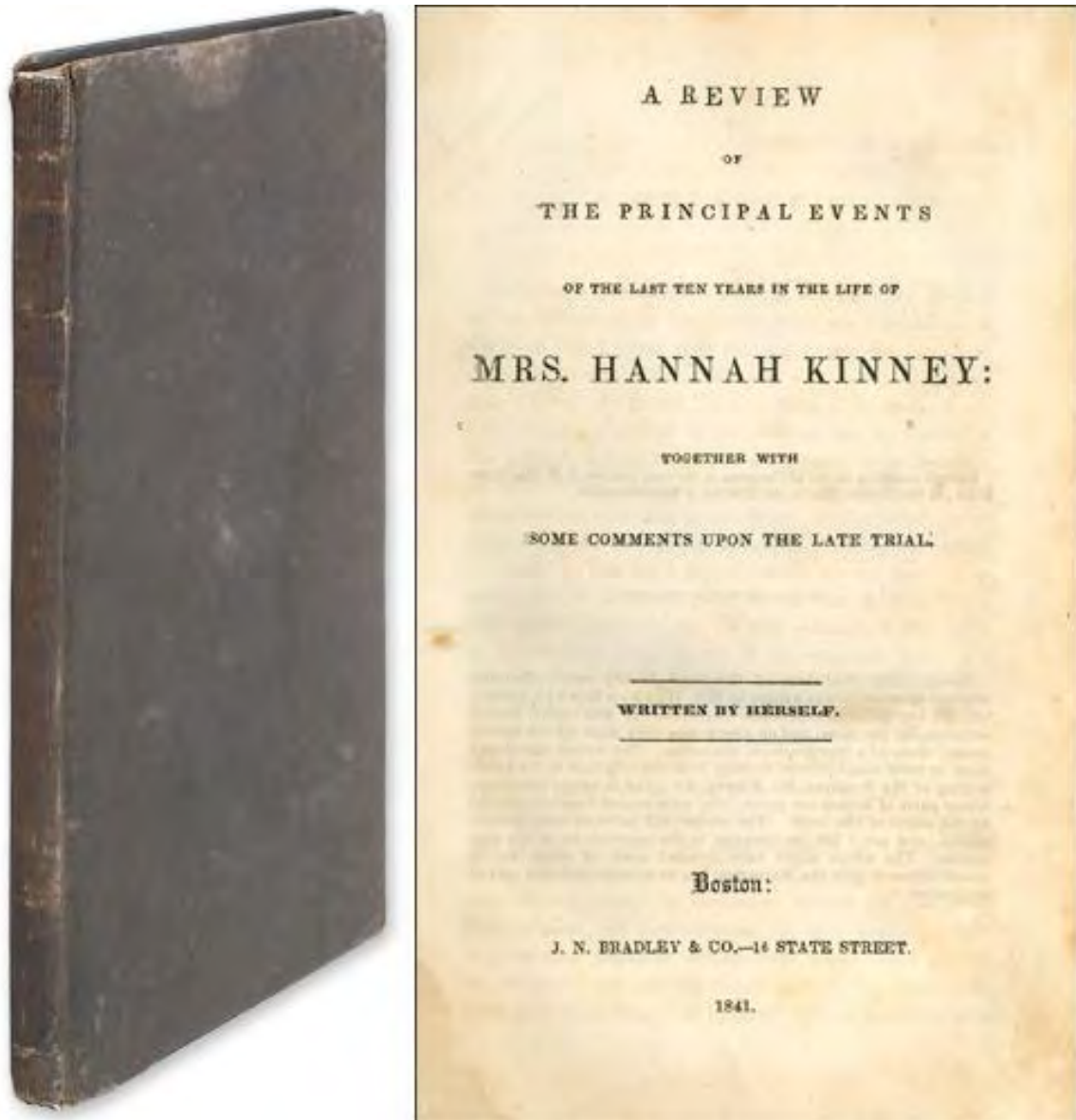
11. [Greenacre, James (1785-1837)].  
[Gale, Sarah (d.1837)].

*The Murder of Mrs. Brown, By J. Greenacre. Attempted Suicide of the Murderer.* [London]: Printed by C. Hepner, New Cut, Lambeth, [1837]. [4] pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Disbound pamphlet, light toning, faint dampstain along spine. \$450.

\* Known as the "Edgeware Road Murderer," Greenacre planned to marry Hannah Brown for her money. However, his mistress, Sarah Gale, convinced him to kill her, dismember her, and hide her body parts in various places. They would then take her money and escape to America. This plan fell apart after police found her head in Regent's Canal. The case of Greenacre and Gale generated a good deal of popular interest. Their execution was attended by an enormous crowd. Although its title suggests otherwise, this pamphlet discusses Gale, though she is never referred to by name. OCLC locates 1 copy (New York Public Library). [Order This Item](#)





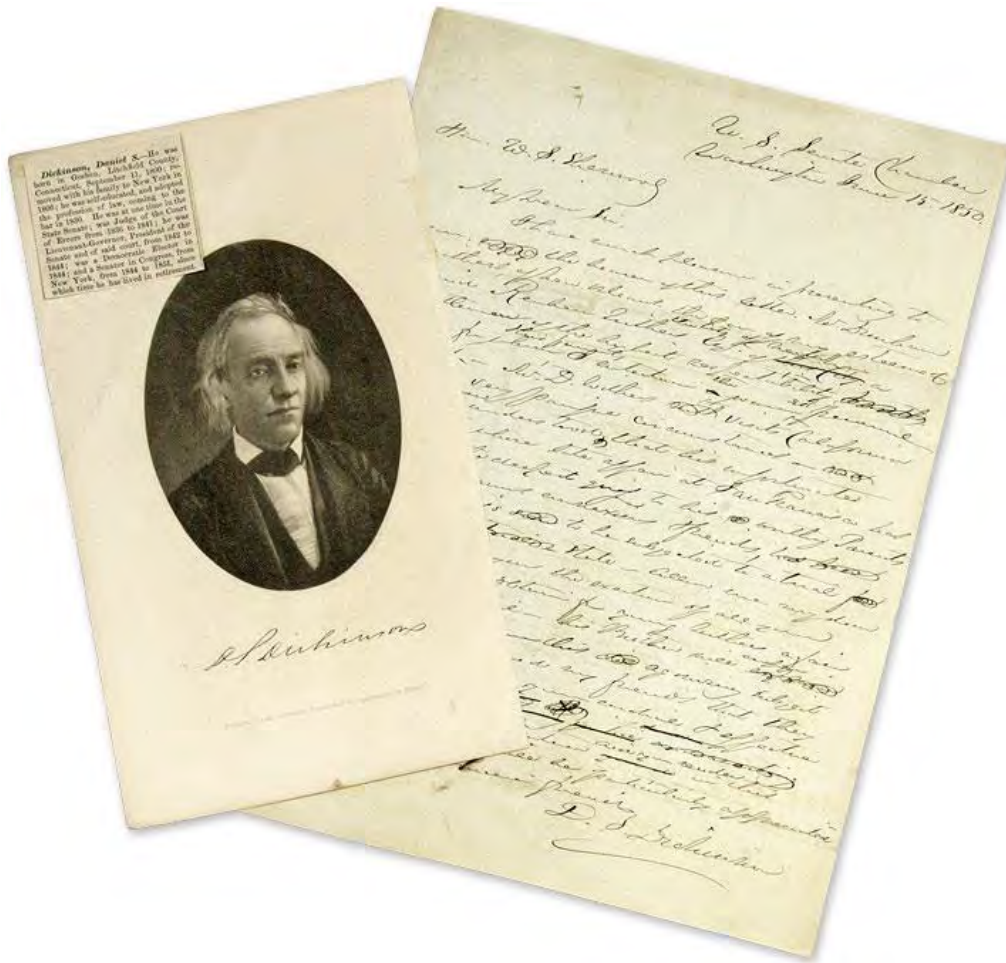
**Mrs. Kinney Defends Herself**

**12. Kinney, Hannah.**

*A Review of the Principal Events of the Last Ten Years in the Life of Hannah Kinney: Together with Some Comments Upon the Late Trial. Written by Herself.* Boston: J.N. Bradley & Co., 1841. 87 pp. Octavo (7" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary cloth, rubbing with some wear to extremities, front hinge starting, front free endpaper lacking. Faint dampstaining to foot of text block near gutter, occasional light foxing, internally clean. \$200.

\* Only edition. When Mr. Kinney died of arsenic poisoning, Mrs. Kinney's suspicious behavior brought her to trial. She was acquitted. According to McDade, there is a related work entitled *A Brief Notice of the Life of Mrs. Hannah Kinney for Twenty Years* by Ward Witham, her first husband, who reports that she never tried to poison him. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 561. [Order This Item](#)



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

#### 13. [Manuscript].

Dickinson, [D]aniel S. [1800-1866].

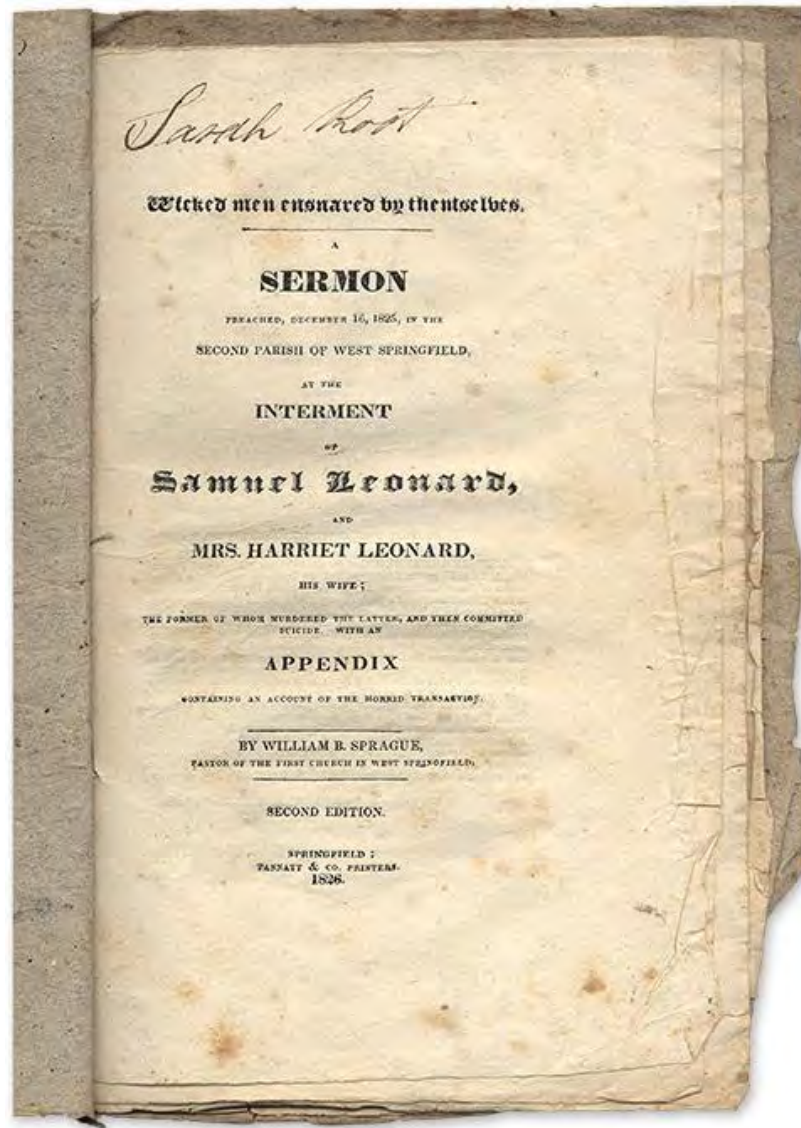
[Sherwood, Winfield S. (1817-1865)].

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

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

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





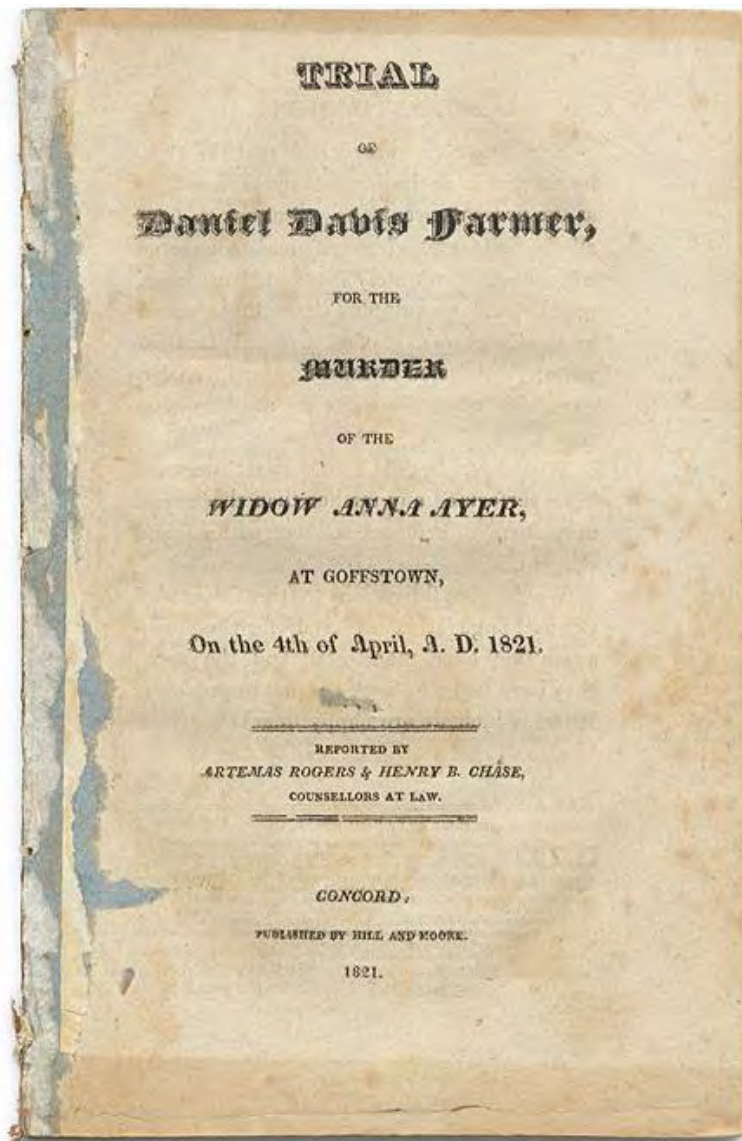
**Wicked Men Ensnared by Themselves, McDade 601.**

**14. Sprague, William Buell [1795-1876].**

*Wicked Men Ensnared by Themselves: A Sermon Preached, December 16, 1825 in the Second Parish of West Springfield, At the Interment of Samuel Leonard, And Mrs. Harriet Leonard, His Wife; The Former of Whom Murdered the Latter, And then Committed Suicide.* Springfield, MA: Tannatt & Co., Printers, 1826. [iii], 4-44 pp. Octavo (9-3/4" x 5-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in original plain thick-paper wrappers, untrimmed edges. Moderate toning, light foxing to a few leaves, early owner signature (Sarah Root) to head of title page. \$150.

\* Second edition. "After threatening several times to do so, Leonard killed his wife with an ax and then cut his own throat" (McDade). The sermon says Leonard's Universalist beliefs encouraged his crime because the doctrine of universal salvation tends "to nullify the threatenings of God" (29). An Appendix (pp. 37-44) provides a summary review of the case. This pamphlet had three editions, all published in 1826 with identical paginations and formats. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 601. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 4169. [Order This Item](#)



**He Beat Her to Death with a Shovel**

**15. [Trial].**

**Farmer, Daniel Davis [1793-1822], Defendant.**

**Rogers, Artemas, Reporter.**

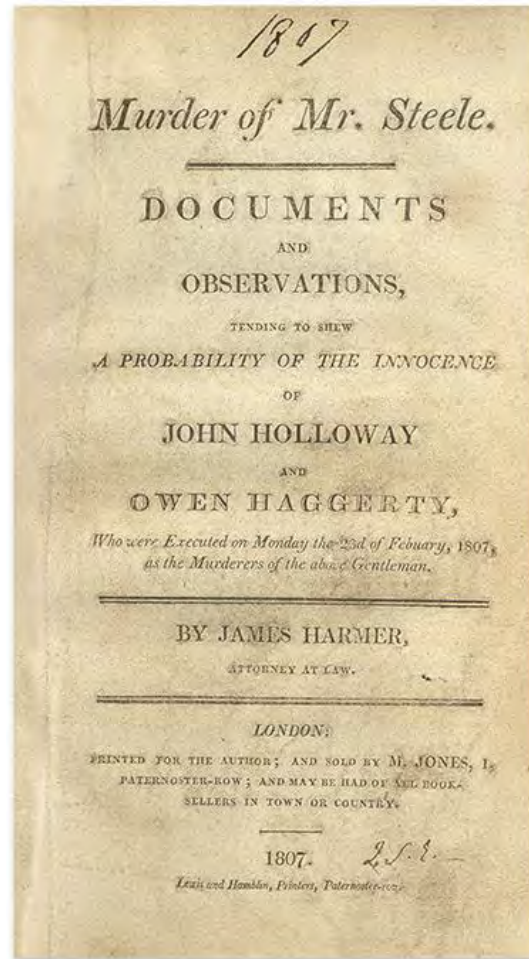
**Chase, Henry B., Reporter.**

*Trial of Daniel Davis Farmer, For the Murder of the Widow Anna Ayer, At Goffstown, On the 4th of April, A.D. 1821.* Concord [NH]: Published by Hill and Moore, 1821. 72 pp. Octavo (8" x 5-1/4").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet, fragments of wrapper along spine. Light rubbing to extremities, light browning to text, light foxing to a few leaves. \$350.

\* Only edition. "Mrs. Ayer had charged Farmer with fathering her child. He beat her to death with a cudgel [sic] and tried to burn her house" (McDade). The report states that the murder weapon was an iron shovel. Farmer was found guilty and executed. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 300. [Order This Item](#)





**The Model for Mr. Jaggers in Dickens's *Great Expectations***

**16. [Trial].**

**Harmer, James [1777-1853].**

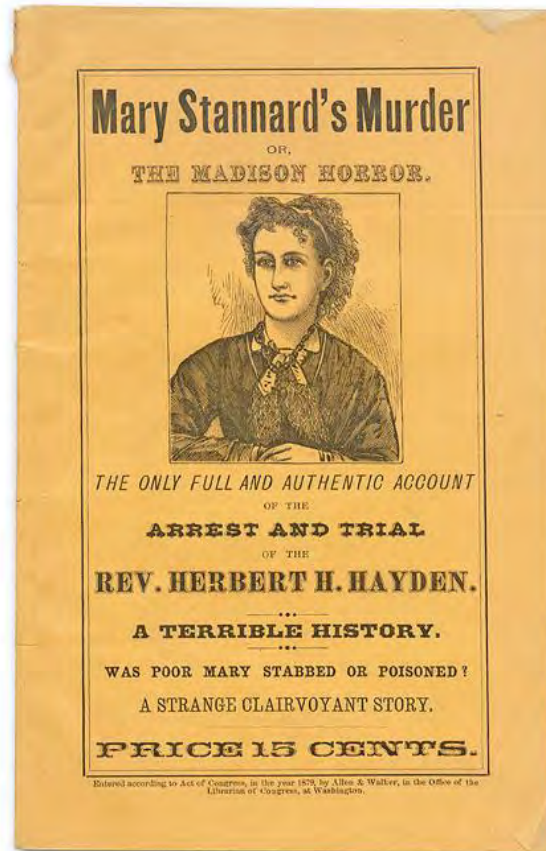
**[Holloway, John (d. 1807), Defendant].**

**[Haggerty, Owen (d. 1807), Defendant].**

*Murder of Mr. Steele: Documents and Observations Tending to Shew a Probability of the Innocence of John Holloway and Owen Haggerty, Who Were Executed on Monday the 23d of February, 1807, As the Murderers of the Above Gentleman.* London: Printed for the Author, 1807. [iv], 89, [1] pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into later marbled stiff wrappers. Moderate toning, early annotations and marks to margins of several leaves, moderate soiling and early owner initials and "1807" in tiny hand to title page. \$250.

\* Only edition. Dickens's model for Mr. Jaggers in *Great Expectations*, Harmer was a lawyer who practiced in the criminal courts. His daily experience led him to expose miscarriages of justice in order to promote reforms in criminal procedure. One such instance was the trial of Holloway and Haggerty, who were convicted through flimsy evidence and the testimony of a witness with questionable motives. It was a controversial trial, so the execution attracted an unusually large crowd of about 40,000 people. About 40 people were trampled to death as the crowd attempted to push closer to the scaffold. OCLC locates 3 copies in law libraries (Harvard University, Stanford University, University of Minnesota). *Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School* (1909) II:1104. [Order This Item](#)



**"The Most Mysterious of All the Cases  
Which have Baptized Connecticut in Blood"**

17. [Trial].

[Hayden, Herbert H. (b.1850), Defendant].

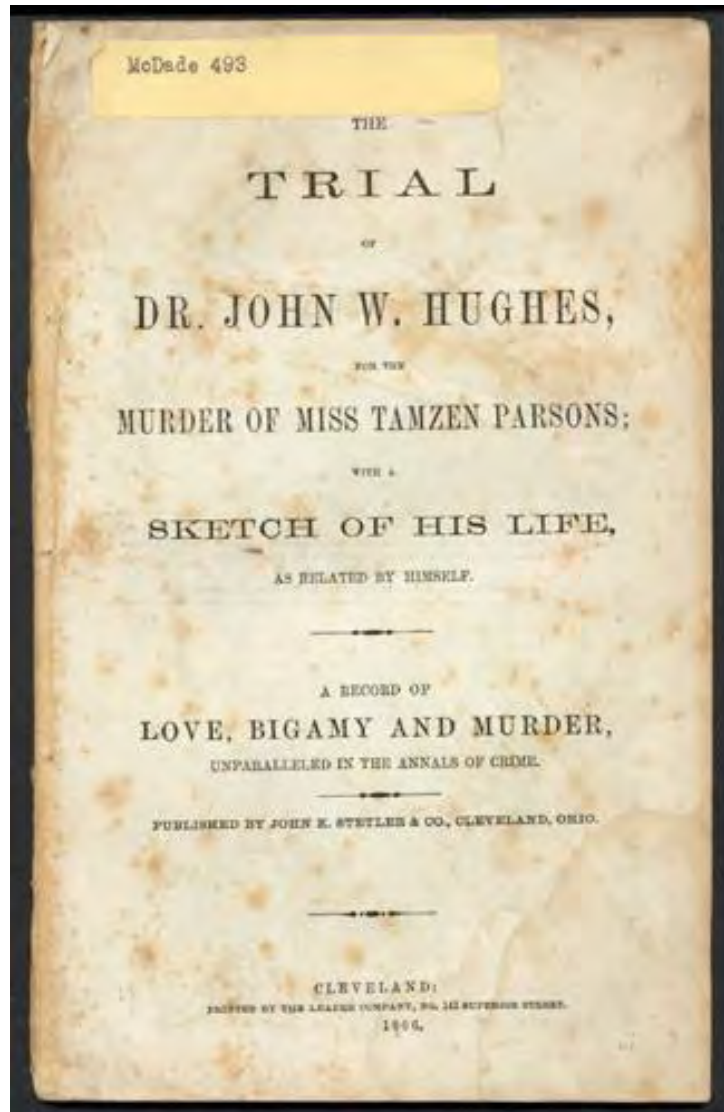
Stannard, Mary [1856-1878].

*Poor Mary Stannard! Full and Thrilling Story of the Circumstances Connected with Her Murder. History of the Monstrous Madison Crime. The Most Mysterious of All the Cases Which have Baptized Connecticut in Blood. The Only True and Reliable Account. The Clairvoyant's Wonderful Story.* New Haven: Stafford Print. Co., 1879. 47 pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers with a woodcut portrait of Stannard. Faint fold lines, some wear to spine ends, a few small chips to edges, small dampstain to upper corner of front wrapper, some browning to text. A well-preserved copy. \$850.

\* Only edition. "In 1879, the body of Mary Stannard, twenty-two, once the servant of Reverend Herbert H. Hayden, was found in one of Hayden's fields in Madison, Conn. Her throat was cut, her skull was fractured, and there was arsenic in her stomach. Stannard had spoken to several people about her recent pregnancy by Hayden, and explained that he was going to give her something to induce an abortion. She said also that she was planning to meet Hayden in the field to pick berries and discuss their future. Unable to account for himself during the time of the killing, Hayden was arrested after it was discovered that he had purchased an ounce of arsenic "to kill rats" the day of his former servant's death.... At the three-month trial, a clairvoyant testified to the defendant's innocence, the first such incident in an American courtroom. A hung jury resulted in Hayden's release" (Nash). OCLC locates 12 copies, 2 in law libraries (University of Missouri, Yale). Nash, *Encyclopedia of World Crime* 1493. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 449. [Order This Item](#)





**An "Unparalleled" Record of Love,  
Bigamy and Murder: A Variant noted in McDade 493**

**18. [Trial].**

**Hughes, Dr. John W., Defendant.**

*The Trial of Dr. John W. Hughes, For the Murder of Miss Tamzen Parsons; With a Sketch of His Life, As Related by Himself. A Record of Love, Bigamy and Murder, Unparalleled in the Annals of Crime.* Cleveland: Printed by the Leader Company, 1866. 58 pp. Octavo (9" x 5-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet with printed back wrapper. Some wear to edges, occasional foxing and faint dampstaining. Small typed label stating--incorrectly--"McDade 493" to head of title page, internally clean. \$500.

\* "Jealous and intoxicated, Hughes, on the streets of Bedford, Ohio, shot the seventeen year old girl he had seduced. At his execution, he spoke for fifteen minutes until the sheriff reminded him 'Time is going.' Then he dropped" (McDade). McDade notes the existence of this 58 page printing "which adds a farewell letter." See McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 493.

[Order This Item](#)



**An Axe-Murder in Camden, NJ: McDade 494**

**19. [Trial].**

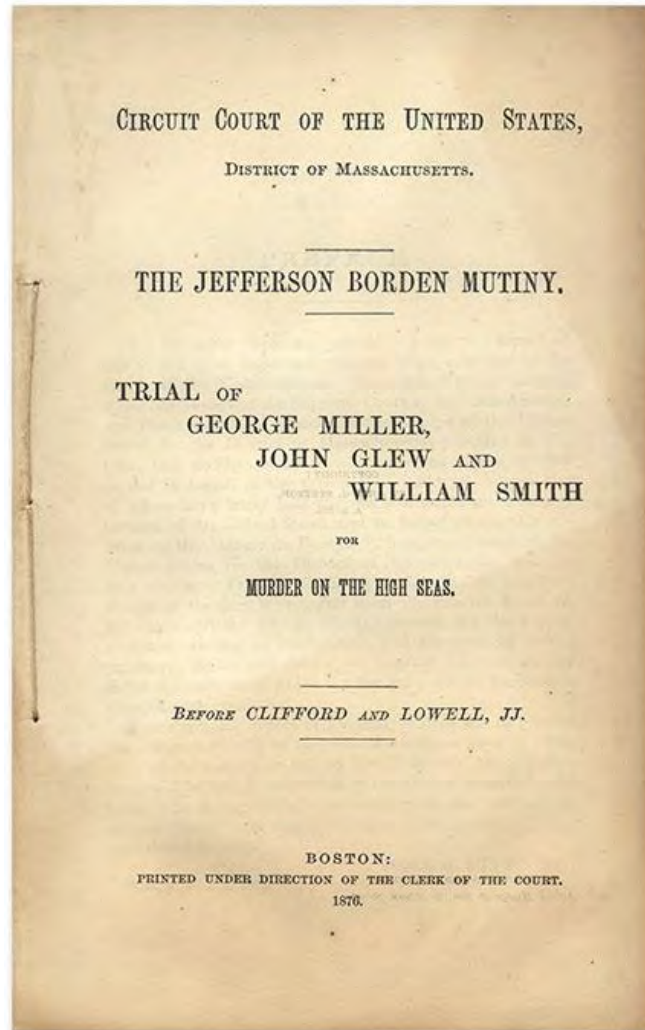
**Hunter, Benjamin F. [d. 1879], Defendant.**

*Hunter-Armstrong Tragedy. The Great Trial. Conviction of Benj. F. Hunter for the Murder of John M. Armstrong.* Philadelphia: Barclay & Company, 1878. [ii], 19-86 pp. Main text in parallel columns. 7 full-page woodcuts. Octavo (9-1/2" x 5-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in pictorial wrappers, cover title reads, in part: *The Life, Trial and Execution of Benjamin F. Hunter*. Light soiling, moderate edgewear and a few chips and tears to edges of wrappers, which are beginning to detach at foot of spine. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining to a few leaves. \$850.

\* First edition, one of five issues. "Hunter had lost \$7,000 when he invested in Armstrong's music-publishing company. Thinking to turn his loss into a profit, he insured Armstrong's life \$25,000. With a hired assistant, Tom Graham, he enticed Armstrong to Camden, New Jersey, and there bashed his head in with an axe which he had carefully marked with the initials of another man to throw suspicion on him. Though he remained unconscious, Armstrong survived, and Hunter, calling at his home, hastened his death by tearing the bandages from his head. Graham confessed and hunter was convicted and hanged, and he was actually hanged by hand" (McDade). Other issues of this pamphlet have different cover titles and paginations. All are scarce. OCLC locates 7 copies of our 86-page issue, 1 in a law library (University of Missouri). McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 494. [Order This Item](#)





**Mutiny and Murder on the High Seas, McDade 679**

20. [Trial].

Miller, George [d. 1876], Defendant.

Glew, John, Defendant.

Smith, William [d. 1876], Defendant.

*The Jefferson Borden Mutiny: Trial of George Miller, John Glen, And William Smith for Murder on the High Seas: Before Clifford & Lowell, JJ.* Boston: Printed Under the Direction of the Clerk of the Court, 1876. 141 pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet, printed wrappers, which are detached with moderate edgewear, fading and light soiling, spine perished, text block secure. Moderate toning to text, faint offsetting to title page, light foxing to a few leaves, heavier offsetting to verso of final leaf, a blank. \$350.

\* Only edition. "The *Jefferson Borden* was bound for London from New Orleans. Corydon Trask Patterson was the mate, and in the course of a mutiny, he was hit with an iron bar and thrown overboard. The mutiny was suppressed, and at this trial Glew was acquitted and Miller and Smith were condemned" (McDade). This official account includes the indictment, arraignment, pleas, assignment of counsel to prisoners, empaneling of the jury, evidence, charge to the jury, verdict, remarks of the Court on passing sentence and the sentences. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 679. [Order This Item](#)



**1916 Bombing Case that Became a Cause Among  
Liberals, Labor Activists and Defenders of Civil Liberties**

**21. [Trial].**

**Mooney, Thomas J. [1882-1942], Defendant.**

**Billings, William K. [1893-1972], Defendant.**

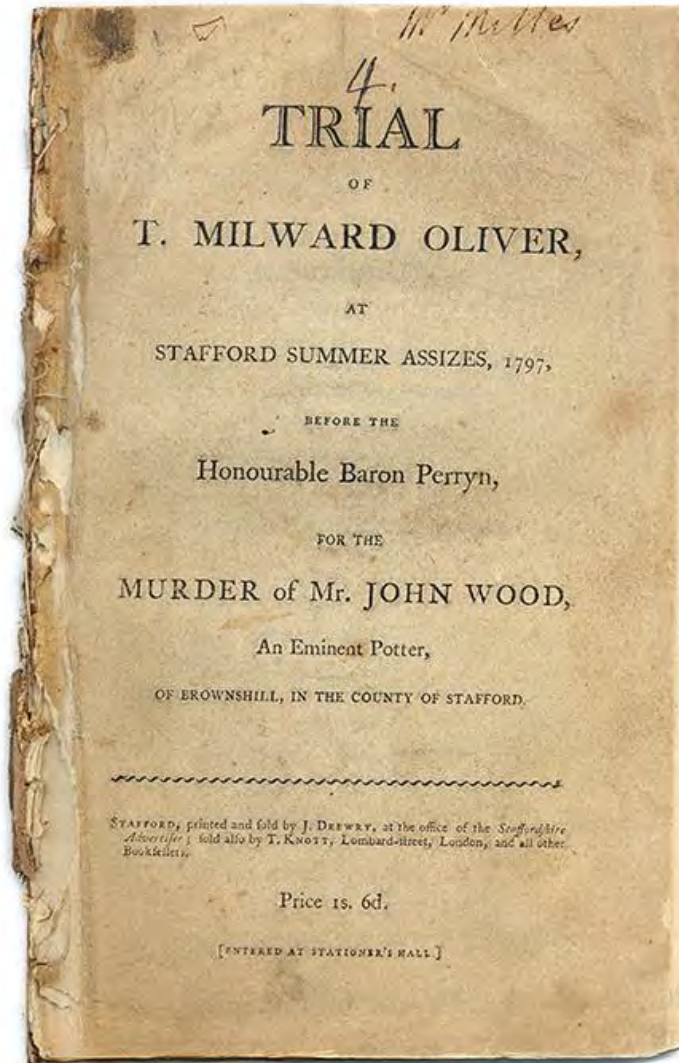
*Justice Raped in California: Story of So-Called Bomb Trials in San Francisco.* San Francisco: Published by the Tom Mooney Molders Defense Committee, [1917]. 47, [1] pp. 64 illustrations.

Stapled pamphlet in self-wrappers, light soiling, light wear to spine ends and corners, internally clean. A well-preserved copy. \$500.

\* Fifth edition, revised and enlarged. Mooney and Billings were labor leaders and political activists who were framed as murderers after an anarchist's bomb exploded during the San Francisco Preparedness Day parade in 1916. Mooney was sentenced to death; Billings to life imprisonment. Their case became a cause among liberals, labor activists and defenders of civil liberties, among them Felix Frankfurter and Clarence Darrow. After 22 years of petitioning and publicity, they were released in 1939. Mooney was pardoned that year, Billings in 1961. All editions of *Justice Raped* were issued in 1917. It was re-issued a final time in 1918 with the title *Shall Mooney Hang?: Justice Raped in California*. All editions and the re-issue are scarce. OCLC locates 1 copy in a law library, Yale, which has a fifth edition. Rocq, *California Local History* (2nd ed.) 12501.

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### Death at the Hands of a Rejected Suitor

#### 22. [Trial].

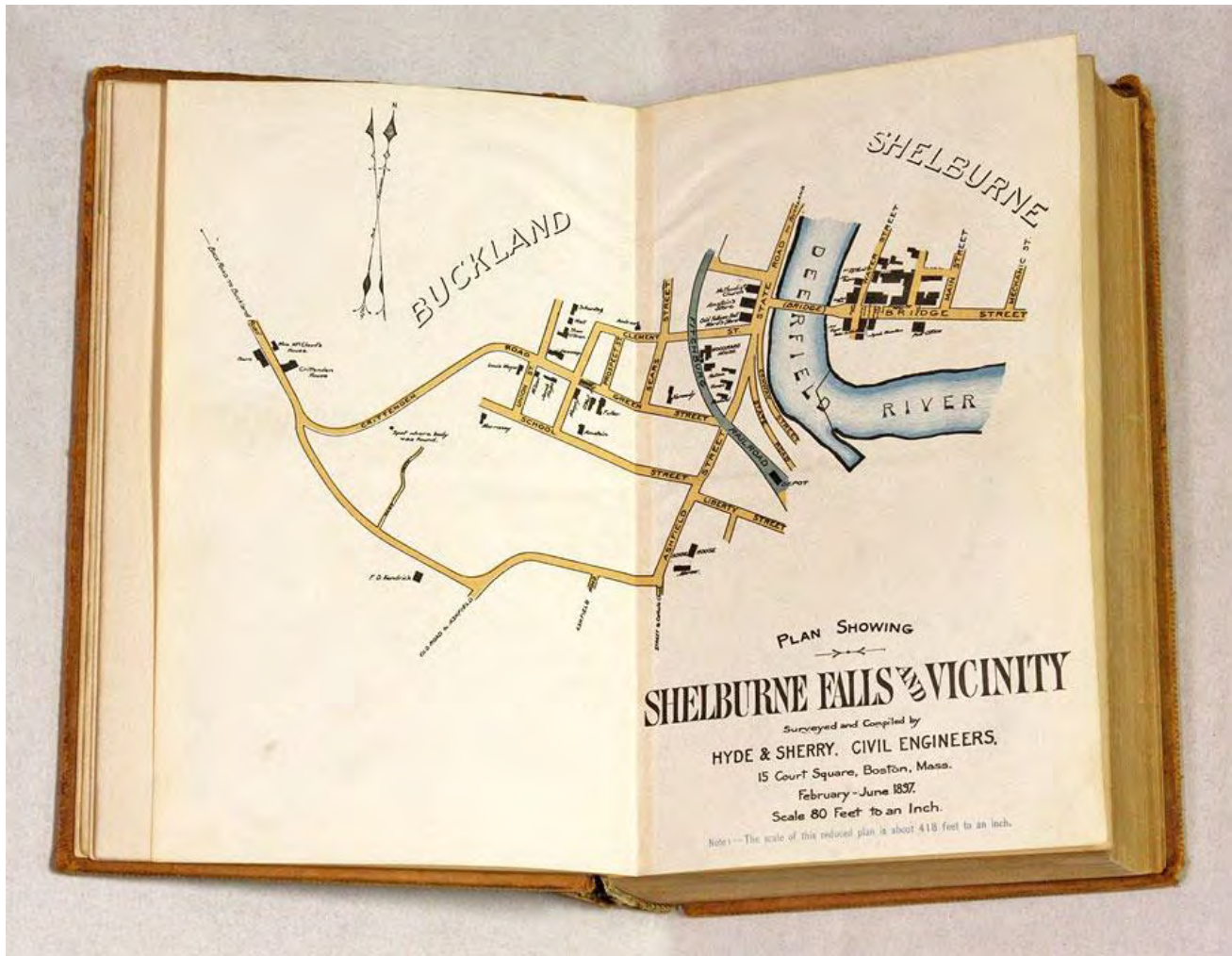
##### **Oliver, T. Milward [d. 1797], Defendant.**

*Trial of T. Milward Oliver, At Stafford Summer Assizes, 1797, Before the Honourable Baron Perryn, For the Murder of Mr. John Wood, An Eminent Potter, Of Browns Hill, In the County of Stafford.* Stafford: Printed and sold by J. Drewry, [1797]. 76 pp. Octavo (8" x 5").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Moderate soiling and some edgewear to exterior, "4." and "W. Miller" to head of title page. Moderate toning to text, early marks and a few brief annotations to text, chip to lower margin of leaf B2 (pp. 7-8) with no loss to text. \$500.

\* Only edition. This trial concerns the murder of John Wood, a member of a prominent family of Staffordshire potters, who was killed by a rejected suitor for his daughter's hand. Oliver was found guilty and hanged. OCLC locates 9 copies worldwide, 4 in North America, 2 in law libraries (Harvard, Social Law). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T81557.

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**Murder, Rape and  
Necrophilia on a Country Lane in Massachusetts**

**23. [Trial].**

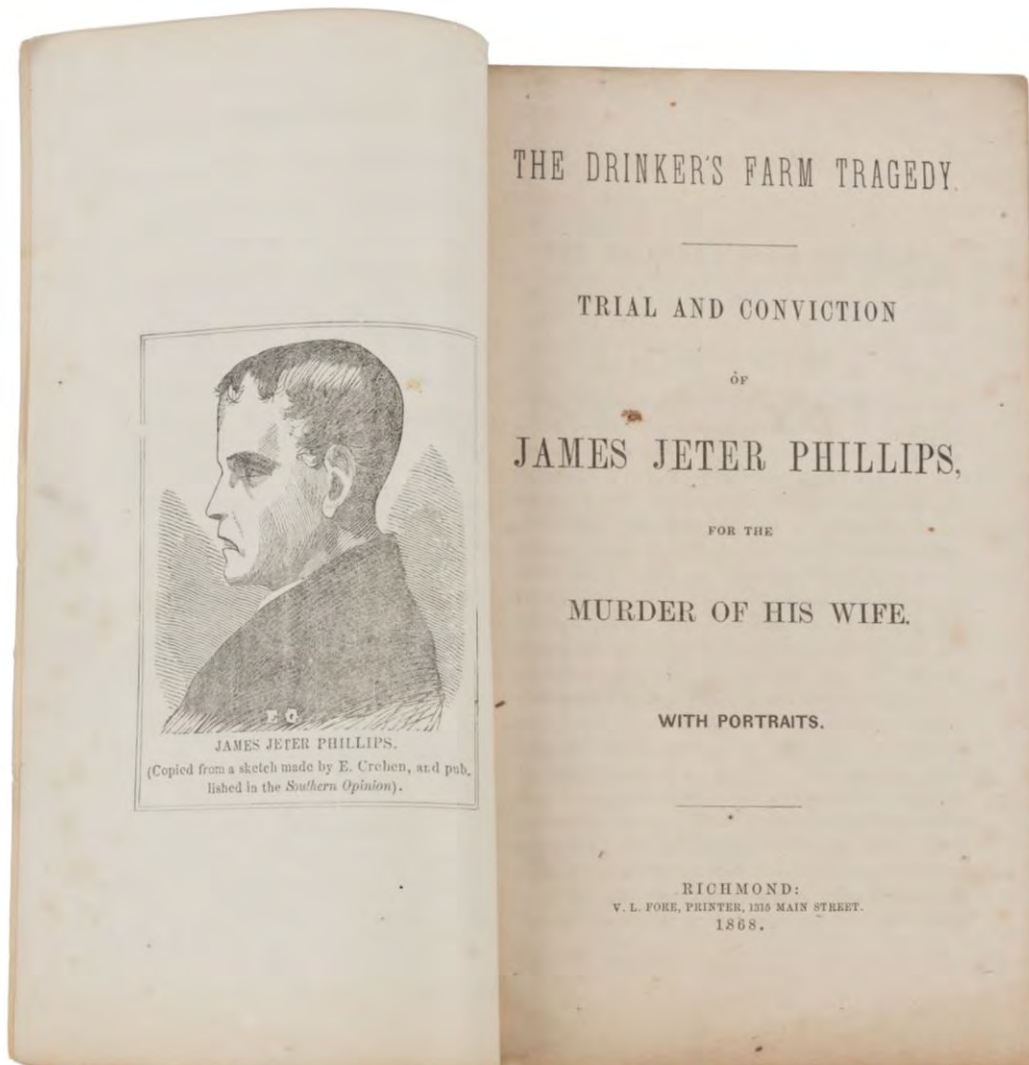
**O'Neil, John [1873?-1908], Defendant.**

*The Official Report of the Trial of John O'Neil for the Murder of Hattie Evelyn McCloud, In the Superior Court of Massachusetts. From Notes of the Official Stenographers. Published by the Attorney-General, Under Chapter 214 of Acts of 1886. Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1901. [iv], 730 pp. Color map. Octavo (9" x 5-3/4").*

Recent period-style calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets and original lettering pieces to spine, endpapers renewed. Light toning to text, negligible edgewear to preliminaries. \$950.

\* Only edition. O'Neil, an unemployed machinist with a drinking problem, strangled Mrs. McCloud, then raped her corpse, on a country lane near Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts, on January 8, 1897. Convicted later than year, O'Neil was executed on January 7, 1898. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 722. [Order This Item](#)





**A Scarce McDade Item**

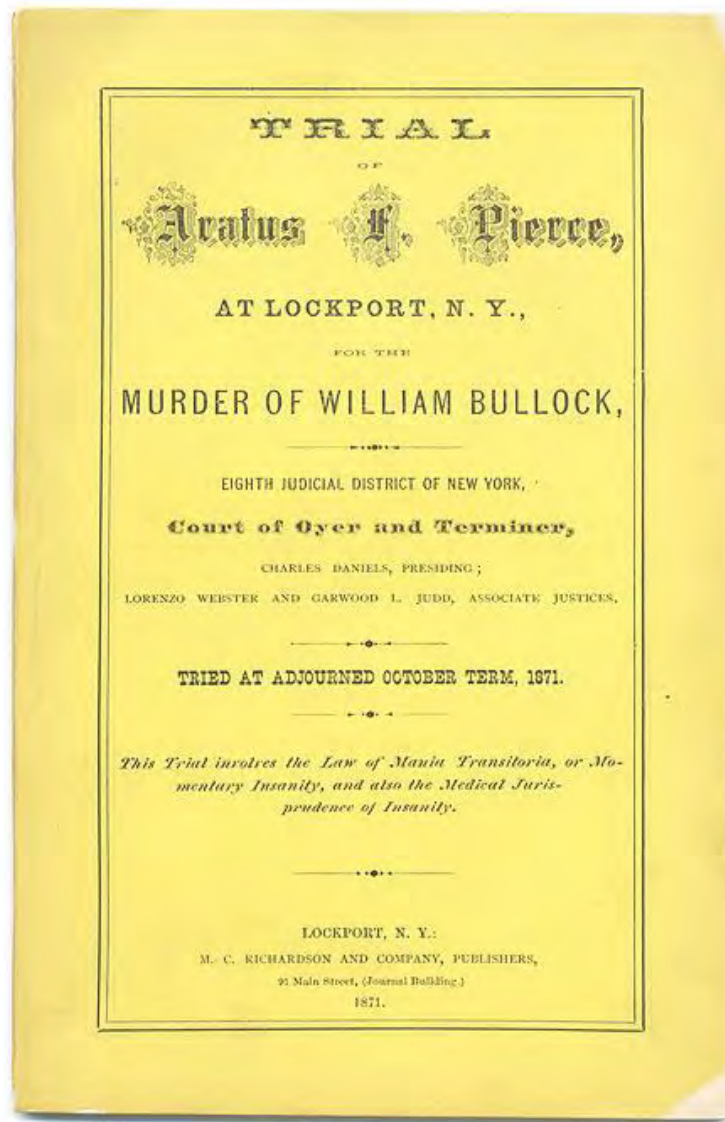
**24. [Trial].**

**Phillips, James Jeter, Defendant.**

*The Drinker's Farm Tragedy. Trial and Conviction of James Jeter Phillips, For the Murder of His Wife. With Portraits.* Richmond: Published by J. Wall Turner, V.L. Fore, Printer), 1868. 96 pp. 2 full-page woodcut portraits (of Phillips and his wife, Mrs. Mary Emma Phillips). Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Original printed wrappers, with advertisements for various Richmond businesses rear and inside front covers. Some soiling, spotting and rubbing with wear to spine ends. Light toning to interior, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing to a few leaves. \$750.

\* Only edition. "Phillips, a scion of a 'good' Virginia family, twenty-four years old, murdered his wife Emily, who was ten years older, on a Henrico County, Virginia, roadside near Drinker's farm. He shot her with a small pistol, and her body was unidentified for three months" (McDade). OCLC locates 4 copies in North American law libraries (Duke, Harvard, University of Virginia, Yale). McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 747. [Order This Item](#)



**A Successful "Mania Transitoria" Defense**

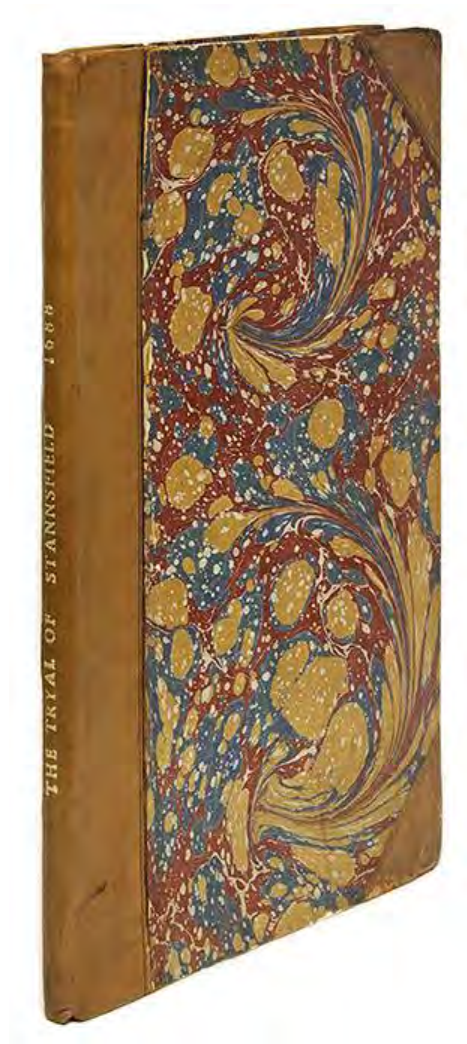
**25. [Trial].**

**Pierce, Aratus F., Defendant.**

*Trial of Aratus F. Pierce, At Lockport, N.Y., For the Murder of William Bullock, Eighth Judicial District, Court of Oyer and Terminer, Charles Daniels, Presiding; Lorenzo Webster and G.L. Judd, Associate Justices, Tried at Adjourned October Term, 1871.* Lockport, NY: M.C. Richardson and Co., 1871. 101 pp. Octavo (8-3/4" x 5-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers. Minor wear to spine ends, a few small chips to edges, light soiling to rear wrapper, light toning to interior. A well-preserved copy of a scarce title. \$1,250.

\* Only edition. Pierce killed a man who seduced his sister, then refused to marry her. The trial is notable because it involved a successful defense based on the law of "mania transitoria," or momentary insanity (McDade). OCLC locates 13 copies, 4 in law libraries (Harvard, Social Law, Supreme Court of New York, U.S. Supreme Court). McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 748. [Order This Item](#)



Scottish Murder Trial, This Imprint Not in the *ESTC*

26. [Trial].

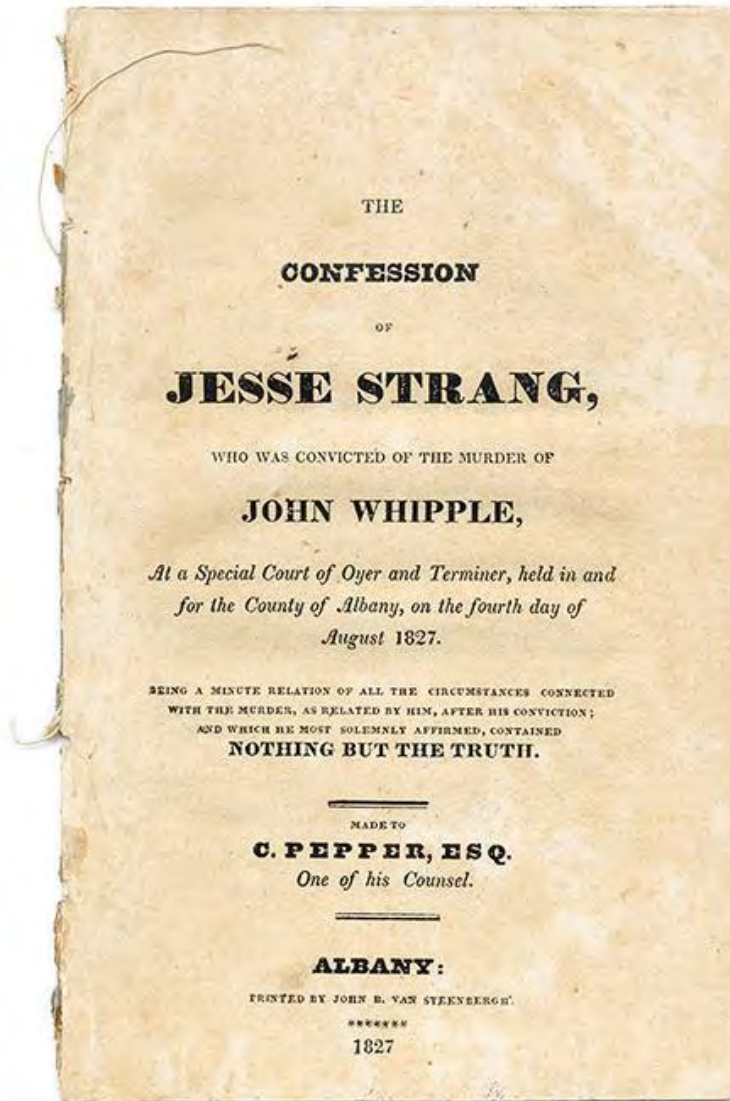
**Standfield, Philip [d. 1688], Defendant.**

*The Tryal of Philip Standsfield Son to Sir James Standsfield of New-Milns, For the Murder of His Father, And Other Crimes Libel'd Against Him. Published by Authority.* Edinburgh: Printed by the Heir of Andrew Anderson, Printer to the King's Most Sacred Majesty, Anno Dom., 1688. 44 pp. Folio (11" x 7").

Later three-quarter calf over marbled boards, rebacked, gilt title to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn. Light browning and occasional faint dampspotting to text, light soiling to title page, small fragment of label (?) near center. \$950.

\* First edition. One of three issues from 1688, ours not recorded in the *ESTC*. Sir James Standsfield, the founder and director of a woolen mill, was murdered by his son Philip after he was disinherited for leading a dissolute life. The *ESTC* lists a similar copy, with 32 pages and the same title, publisher and date (R217941). We located copies with a collation identical to ours at Harvard Law School and Indiana University. All issues are scarce; taken together, OCLC locates 14 copies, 3 in North American law libraries (Harvard, which has 2 copies, University of Minnesota). [Order This Item](#)





"Black, Unhallowed, Uncaused Crime": McDade 934

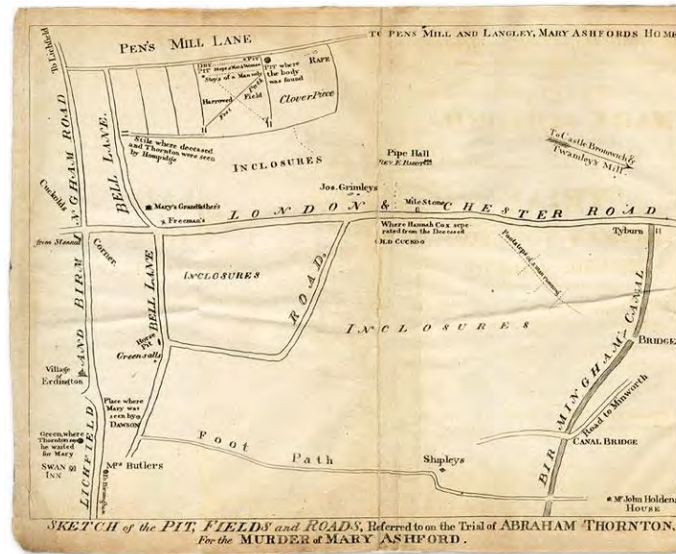
27. [Trial].

**Strang, Jesse, Defendant.**

*The Confession of Jesse Strang, Who Was Convicted of the Murder of John Whipple, At a Special Court of Oyer and Terminer, Held in and for the County of Albany, On the Fourth Day of August 1827. Being a Minute Relation of All the Circumstances Connected with the Murder, As Related by Him, After His Conviction; And Which he Most Solemnly Affirmed, Contained Nothing but the Truth. Made to C. Pepper, Esq. One of His Counsel. Albany: Printed by John B. van Steenbergh, 1827. 35 pp. Octavo (9-1/2" x 5-1/2").*

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Moderate toning, light foxing to a few leaves, light browning to title page. A nice copy, \$250.

\* Only edition. Jesse Strang (living under the alias Joseph Orton) was involved in an affair with Elsie Whipple. Strang shot Elsie's husband, John Whipple, after several unsuccessful attempts by the lovers to poison him. Strang was convicted and executed. Elsie was tried individually and acquitted. This pamphlet includes a poem, "To Mrs Whipple," accusing her of "black, unhallowed, uncaused crime." McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 934. [Order This Item](#)



"Diabolically Ravished, Murdered, And Thrown Into a Pit"

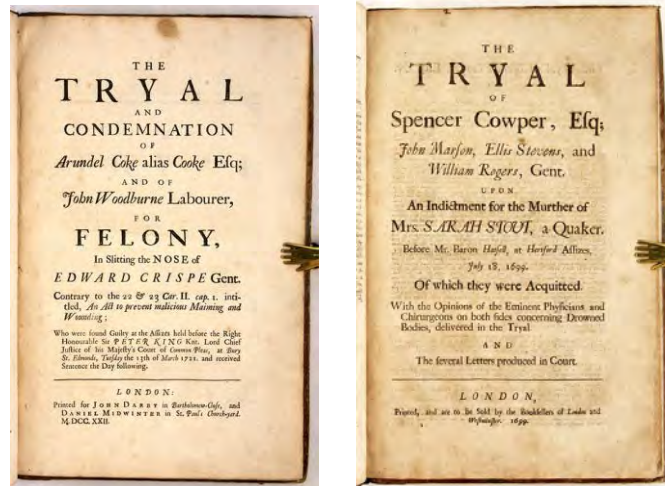
28. [Trial].

Thornton, Abraham [c.1793-1860], Defendant.

*Horrible Rape and Murder!! The Affecting Case of Mary Ashford, A Beautiful Young Virgin, Who was Diabolically Ravished, Murdered, And Thrown Into a Pit, As She Was Returning From a Dance; Including the Trial of Abraham Thornton, For the Wilful Murder of the Said Mary Ashford; With the Whole of the Evidence, Charge to the Jury, &c. Tried at Warwick Assizes, Before Mr. Justice Holroyd, On the 8th of August, 1817. Taken in Short Hand.* London: Published by John Fairburn, 1817. [iii], 60 columns (34 pp), 64, [1] pp. Several contemporary newspaper clippings concerning this case pasted to final leaf, rear wrapper and verso of title page. Woodcut folding map of crime scene. Octavo (8-3/4" x 5-1/2").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers, untrimmed edges. Some soiling and edgewear, spine and fold-lines of table reinforced, fore-edge mended, some toning to text. Early owner signatures and annotation to front wrapper and map (not the image side), interior otherwise clean. \$950.

\* "Third Edition." Abraham Thornton, a bricklayer, "was accused of rape and murder after attending a dance where he became intimate with a gardener's daughter named Mary Ashford. They left the dance together and her body was found the next morning in a deep pool of water near a local footpath. Thornton was tried at the Warwick assizes on 8 August 1817. Since the marks on Mary's body were not necessarily inconsistent with Thornton's claim that she had consented to sexual intercourse, and since the times on the morning in question when Thornton was seen walking home to Bromwich suggested he could not have been with her when she met her death, the jury found him not guilty. The case aroused much interest and reminded people of a similar murder of a local woman a year earlier. Many were convinced of Thornton's guilt and he was assailed in local and London newspapers. A group collected around the Birmingham solicitor William Bedford invoked the old legal process of 'appeal of murder,' by which a person acquitted of murder could be tried again for the same offense. This process was generally regarded as obsolete, though there had been several instances in the eighteenth century. More controversy arose when Thornton came before the court of King's Bench in November 1817 and demanded ordeal by battle, which was open to the subject of an appeal of murder but had not been claimed since Charles I's reign. After several hearings between November 1817 and April 1818 the court decided that the appellee did have this right. The appeal of murder was dropped. Appeals of murder were abolished in 1819 partly because of this case" (Turner). Unable to lead a normal life, Thornton moved to the United States settled in Baltimore, Maryland. OCLC locates 7 copies of this imprint, 2 in North America, 1 in a law library (Yale). Turner, Michael J., "Thornton, Abraham," *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (online edition). [Order This Item](#)



### Scarce English Trials Concerning a Botched Murder Attempt and the Murder of a Quaker Woman

#### 29. [Trials].

**Coke, Arundel [d. 1722], Defendant.**

**Woodburne, John, [d. 1722], Defendant.**

*The Tryal and Condemnation of Arundel Coke Alias Cooke Esq; And of John Woodburne Labourer, For Felony, in Slitting the Nose of Edward Crispe Gent....* London: Printed for John Darby in Bartholomew-Close, And Daniel Midwinter in St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1722. 16, \*17-\*18, 17-37, [1] pp. With an initial imprimatur leaf; text is continuous (and complete).

**[Bound with]**

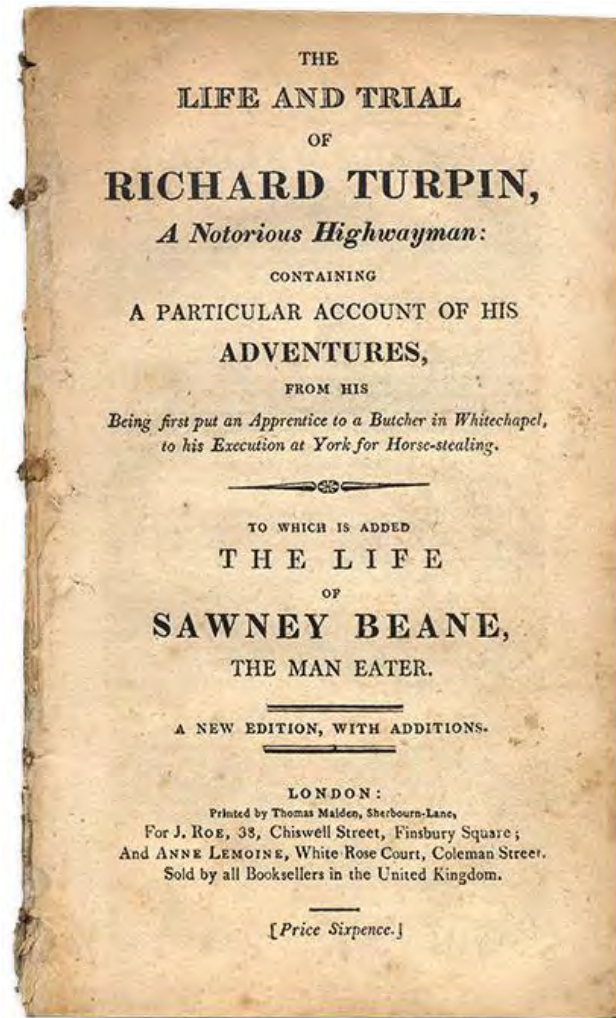
**Cowper, Spencer [1669-1728], Principal Defendant.**

*The Tryal of Spencer Cowper, Esq; John Marson, Ellis Stevens, And William Rogers, Gent. Upon an Indictment for the Murther of Mrs. Sarah Stout, A Quaker....* London: Printed and Are to be Sold by the Booksellers of London and Westminster, 1699. 38 pp.

Folio (12-1/2" x 8"). Contemporary marbled boards with recent period-style re-backing, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers retained, hinges repaired. Moderate rubbing and scuffing to boards, corners bumped and somewhat worn, early armorial bookplate to front pastedown, tiny wormhole through bottom margin of text block. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, some leaves have light foxing or stains. Early owner annotation to front free endpaper, interior otherwise clean. Two scarce trials in a handsome binding. \$1,750.

\* Coke: first edition; Cowper: only edition, one of three issues from 1699. Coke, a barrister, lost his money in the South Sea Bubble. He hired Woodburn to kill his brother-in-law, Edward Crisp, aiming to inherit his money. In his failed murder attempt Woodburn managed to cut Edward Crisp's nose. This led to the first convictions under the Coventry Act, which outlawed assault with the intention to maim or mutilate. Both men were convicted and hanged. Spencer Cowper, a judge, was indicted for the murder of Sarah Stout. He was at her house late on the evening before she was found drowned in a river. Cowper's alleged motivations were a desire to end an illicit love affair and avoid payment of a debt. Cowper's lawyers argued that Stout's parents wanted to hide the fact that their daughter committed a suicide, a heinous act among Quakers. The defence also suggested a political motivation: a desire by local Tories to harm the career of a rising Whig. Cowper had been at the woman's house late on the evening before she was found drowned in the river, but there was little material evidence against him. Also, his lawyers benefited from expert medical testimony from three leading physicians, Samuel Garth, Hans Sloane and William Cowper. He was acquitted. The trial attracted a good deal of attention and generated several pamphlets, including post-verdict pamphlets that attempted unsuccessfully to reopen the case. The *Tryal of Spencer Cowper* is one of the standard accounts of the trial. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T136036, R219713. [Order This Item](#)





Sensational Accounts of  
"A Notorious Highwayman" and a "Man Eater"

30. [Turpin, Richard (1706-1739)].

[Beane, Alexander "Sawney" (16th-17th c.)].

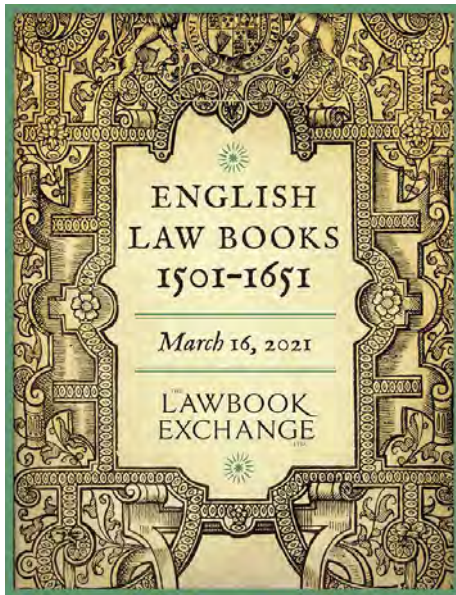
*The Life and Trial of Richard Turpin, A Notorious Highwayman: Containing a Particular Account of His Adventures, From His Being First Put an Apprentice to a Butcher in Whitechapel, To His Execution at York for Horse-Stealing. To Which is Added the Life of Sawney Beane, The Man Eater. A New Edition, With Additions.* London: Printed by Thomas Maiden, Sherbourn-Lane, For J. Roe, [1800?]. [iii], 6-38 pp. Octavo (7" x 4-1/4").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Light soiling and edgewear, moderate toning, light foxing to a few leaves. \$250.

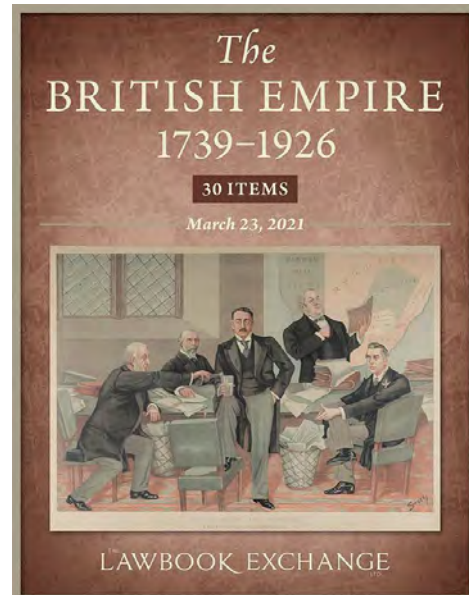
\* Turpin, a charismatic highwayman, was one of the "media sensations" of his day, especially after his execution for horse theft in 1739. He assumed legendary status after his death. Popular interest in his exploits continued into the nineteenth century, as we can see in this account published around 1800. Alexander "Sawney" Beane was another legendary (possibly mythical) criminal. He was the head of a large family of murderers and cannibals who lived in a cave in Scotland. No copies located on OCLC. 7 copies located on COPAC, all in the United Kingdom. *English Short-Title Catalogue* N63606.

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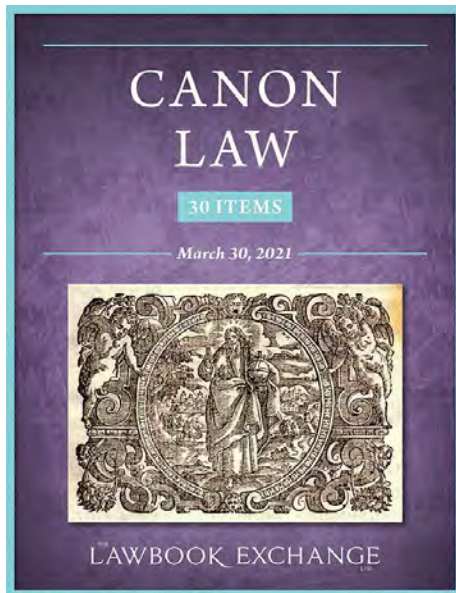
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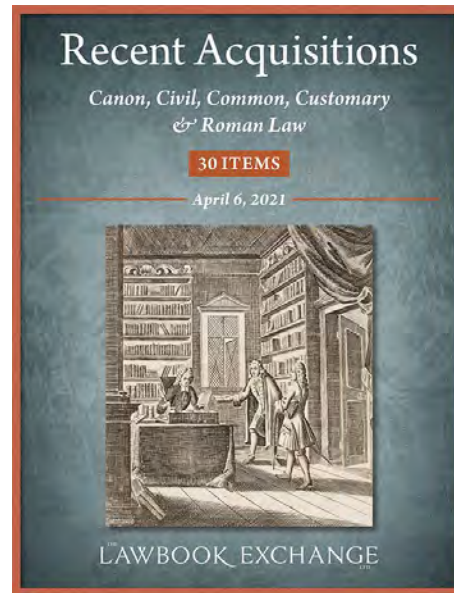
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