

# Recent Acquisitions

ENGLISH & AMERICAN LAW,  
1540–1920

30 ITEMS

*April 20, 2021*



THE  
LAWBOOK EXCHANGE  
LTD.






**The "Fifth" Dublin Edition of Blackstone's *Commentaries***

**1. Blackstone, Sir William [1723-1780].**

*Commentaries on the Laws of England, in Four Books.* Dublin: Printed for John Exshaw, Henry Saunders, John Williams, and David Hay, 1773. Four volumes. Copperplate "Table of Consanguinity" and folding "Table of Descents." Octavo (8-1/4" x 5").

Contemporary calf, lettering pieces and gilt fillets to spines, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing, some light scuffing and a few nicks and minor stains to boards, corners bumped, joints of Volume 2, rear joint of Volume 4 and front hinge of Volume 1 starting. Moderate toning to text, light foxing in a few places in each volume, Leaf o4 in Volume 2 (pp. 199-202 partially detached and lightly edgeworn, armorial bookplates of Henry Bruen to front pastedown of each volume. An attractive copy. \$2,500.

\* This pirated Dublin edition, designated the "Fifth Edition," follows the text of the fourth Oxford edition, 1770. Bruen [1741-1795], an Irish politician, was a Member of Ireland's Parliament for Jamestown from 1783 to 1790 and Carlow County from 1790 to 1795. Eller, *The William Blackstone Collection at Yale University* 8. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 11. [Order This Item](#)



MARK E. FOSTER,  
Hardwick, County of Caledonia, Vermont.

**WANTED for EMBEZZLEMENT**

Foster is the Treasurer of both the Village and Town of Hardwick, and is short in his accounts to the extent of \$6000.00. He left Hardwick via Montpelier, Vt., on Sunday, April 19, 1908. Foster is about 40 years of age, of rather slight build, smooth shaven, weight about 135 pounds, height about 5 feet, 6 or 7 inches, has recently had the four central lower front teeth extracted and his two central upper teeth are capped with gold. If located, arrest and notify Guy W. Hill, State's Att'y, St. Johnsbury, Vt., or George F. Winch, Sheriff, McIndoe Falls, Vt., who holds warrant for said Foster's apprehension.

**Reward of \$250.00 will be paid for Foster's Return to Vermont.**

**A Vermont Embezzler**

**2. [Broadside].**

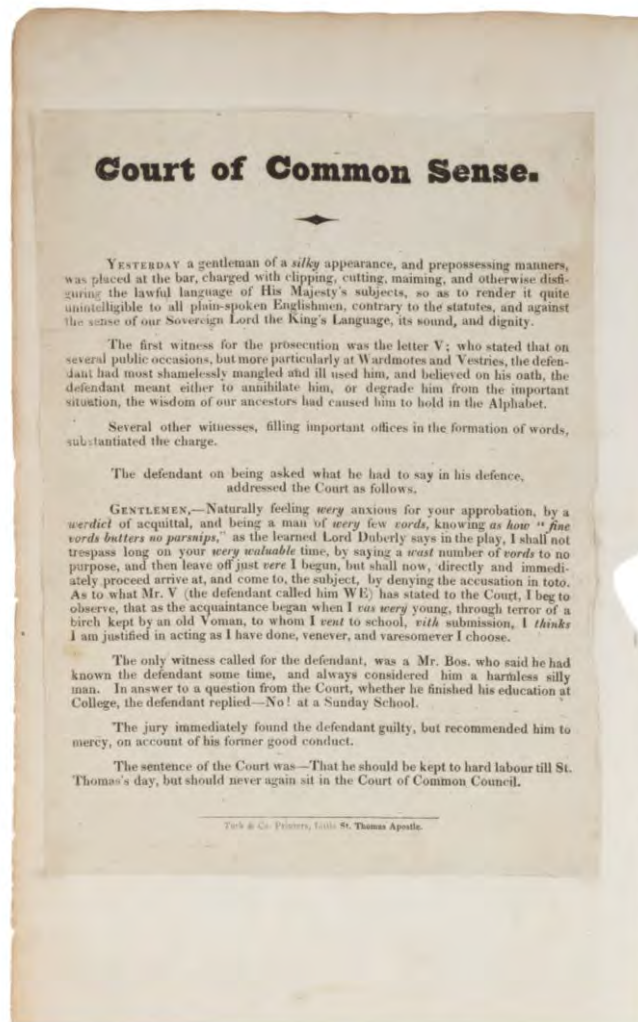
**[Criminals].**

**[Vermont].**

*Mark E. Foster, Hardwick, County of Caledonia, Vermont, Wanted for Embezzlement.* [Caledonia County, VT, 1908].

8-1/2" x 5-1/2" broadside, single-column text below photographic image of Foster and headline. Light toning, two horizontal fold lines, light soiling to margins. \$150.

\* Foster embezzled funds from Hardwick, Vermont, when he was serving as the town's treasurer. [Order This Item](#)



### Mr. Pickwick's Servant Stands Trial for His Abuse of the King's English

#### 3. [Broadside].

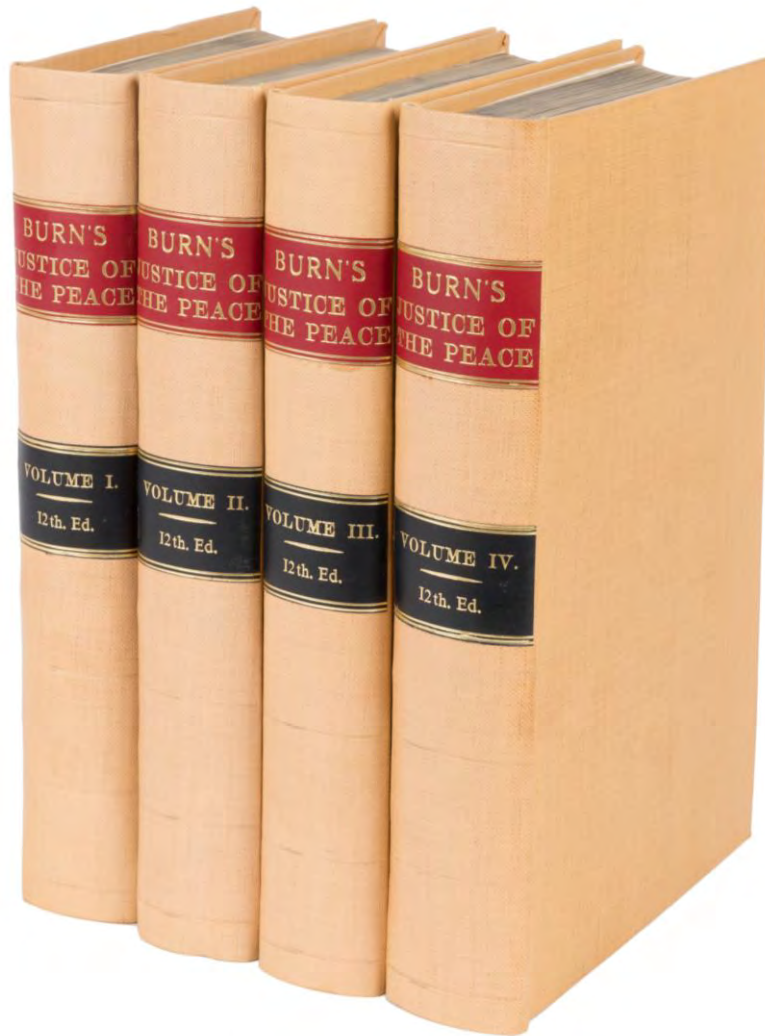
[Dickens, Charles (1812-1870)].

*Court of Common Sense*. [London]: Tuck & Co. Printers, Little St. Thomas Apostle, [c.1837].

9" x 6-1/2" broadside mounted on 12" x 7-1/2" leaf, main text in single column below headline. Moderate toning, light soiling, some edgewear staining and small chip to leaf. \$750.

\* Though he isn't named, this broadside is a tribute to one of Dickens's most beloved characters, Sam Weller, Mr. Pickwick's Cockney servant in the *Pickwick Papers* (1837). Weller was known for his fine clothes and Cockney habit of switching the letters V and W in his speech (i.e. "very" instead of "very"). The broadside describes Weller's trial for his offenses to "the lawful language of His Majesty's subjects," which rendered it "unintelligible to all plain-spoken Englishmen." The main witness for the prosecution was "the letter V." The only witness for the defense was "a Mr. Bos.," a misspelling of "Boz," the pseudonym used by Charles Dickens, "who said he had known the defendant some time, and always considered him a harmless silly man." Weller hoped in vain for "a verdict of acquittal," but was granted mercy by the court. No copies located on OCLC or LibraryHub. [Order This Item](#)





**A Handsome Edition of *Burn's Justice***

**4. Burn, Richard [1709-1785].**

*The Justice of the Peace, and Parish Officer.* London: Printed by W. Strahan and M. Woodfall, 1772. Four volumes. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Recent cloth, blind fillets and red and black calf lettering pieces to spines, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning, light foxing and soiling in a few places, early owner signatures to front endleaves of Volumes I, III and IV. A handsome set. \$500.

\* Twelfth edition. A remarkably durable work, Burn's *Justice* went through 30 editions from 1755 to 1869. It covers such topics as Accessory, Alehouses, Aliens, Assault and Battery, Bail (By Writ of habeas Corpus), Bankrupt, Banks for Savings (Rules and Regulations), Burglary, Clergy, Dogs, Evidence, Excise and Customs, Fish and Fisheries, Forfeiture, Forgery, Game, Homicide, Indictment, Jurors, Libel, Oaths, Insolvent Debtors, Polygamy, Poor Law, Promissory Notes, Rape, Riot, Robbery, Taxes, Vagrants and much more. Holdsworth notes that "a perusal of these headings tells us something of the development of the system of local government" during the time of the book's publication. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* X:162. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T140359. [Order This Item](#)



**Lavishly Extra-Illustrated Copy of Campbell's *Lives of the Lord Chancellors* in a Handsome Binding**

**5. Campbell, John, Lord [1779-1861].**

*The Lives of the Lord Chancellors and Keepers of the Great Seal of England, from the Earliest Times Till the Reign of King George IV.* London: John Murray, 1846-1869. Seven volumes and continuation volume. Complete set. Extra-illustrated with 49 engraved plates, 8 of them as frontispieces with added coloring. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Later three-quarter morocco over cloth signed by Bayntun, gilt rules to boards, raised bands and gilt titles to spines, top-edges gilt, marbled endpapers. Light rubbing to extremities, minor nicks, scuffs, bumps and stains to some volumes. Light toning to interiors, light foxing in a few places, faint early marks in pencil to some of the plates. A handsome, unique set. \$2,000.

\* Volumes 1,2,3: second edition; Volumes 4,5,7: first edition; Volume 6: third edition. Continuation volume, which has an index to the entire set: first edition. This classic study, which went through several editions, is an incomparable storehouse of legal history and anecdote. Our copy is enhanced with 17th, 18th and 19th-century portrait engravings, many of them copperplates or mezzotints. Most are full-size plates, but some are smaller images mounted on sheets. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 2:54. [Order This Item](#)





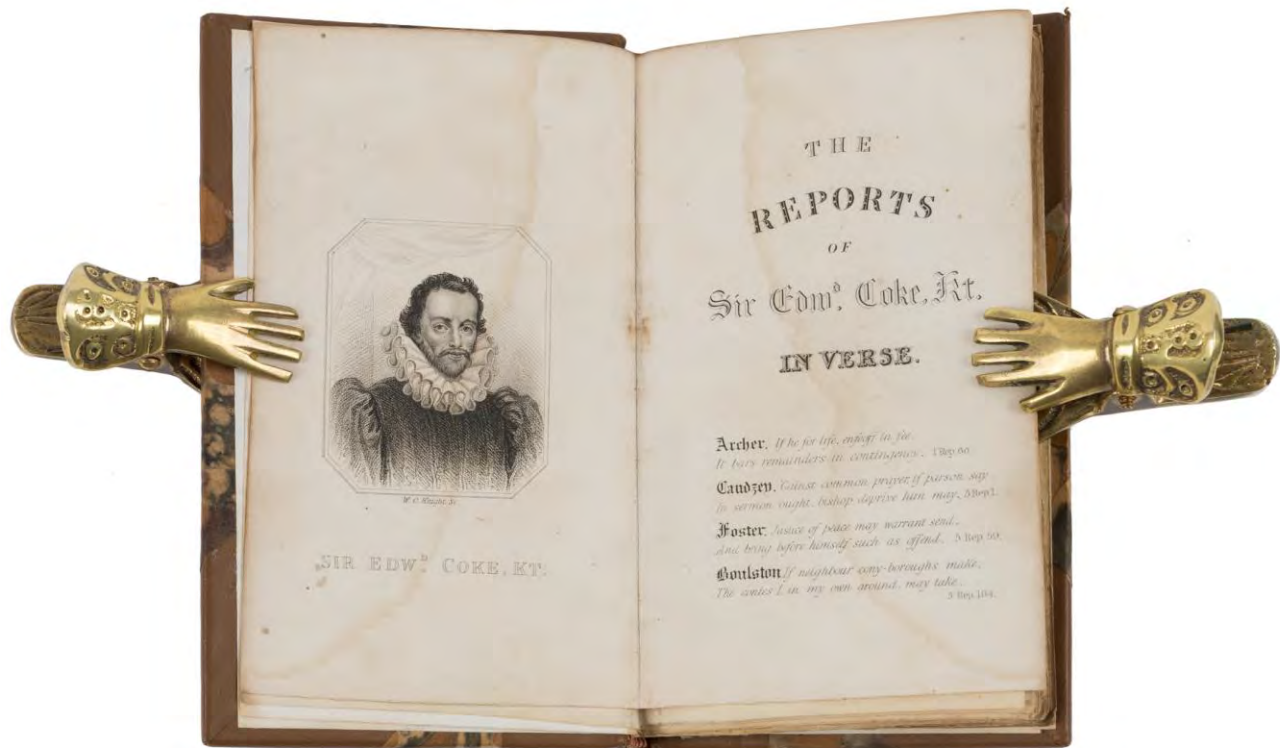
**"Not the Name of a Lawyer Onely, But of the Law It Selfe"**

**6. Coke, Sir Edward [1552-1634].**

*The First Part of the Institutes of the Lawes of England. Or, A Commentarie vpon Littleton, Not the Name of a Lawyer Onely, But of the Law It Selfe.* London: Printed for the Societie of Stationers, 1628. [viii], 395, [1] ff. Lacking folding woodcut table of consanguinity. leaf Ggg4 (fol. 212) supplied as a bound-in facsimile. Folio (10-3/4" x 7-1/2").

Recent calf, raised bands and gilt title to spine, endpapers renewed. A few minor nicks and scuffs to boards, corners bumped, a few partial cracks to text block. Title page printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning, faint dampstaining and soiling in a few places, edgewear to preliminaries, leaves K2 and K3 (fols. 38-39) and final four leaves of text, a few leaves with recent repairs, brief early annotations and markings in a few places. \$1,000.

\* First edition. Coke *Institutes*, which eventually comprised four volumes, are thought to be the first textbooks on the modern common law. Taken together, they form a virtual encyclopedia of the law as it stood in Coke's lifetime. Moreover, it "firmly established itself as the basis of the constitution of the realm" (Carter and Muir). The first *Institutes*, better known as *Coke on Littleton*, contains the text of Sir Thomas Littleton's *Tenures* with extensive commentary. It was a standard work for decades and was often used as a textbook. The annotations in our copy are brief summaries or elucidations. Carter and Muir, *Printing and the Mind of Man* 126. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S113366. [Order This Item](#)



### Coke's Reports in Verse

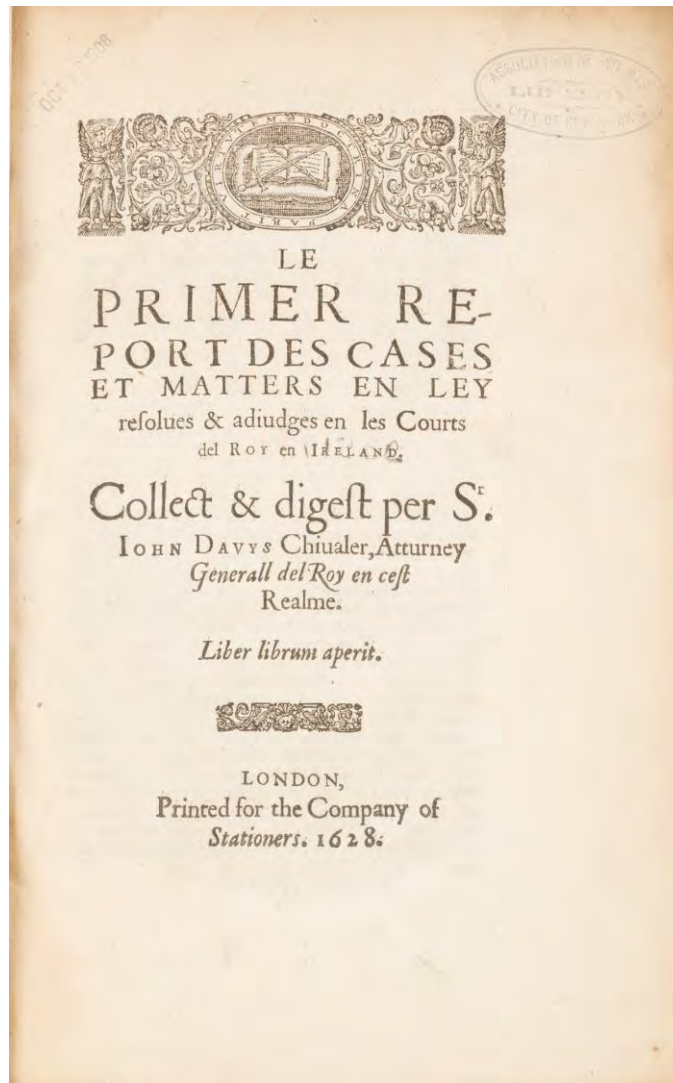
#### 7. Coke, Sir Edward [1552-1634]. [Worrall, John (d.1771), Editor].

*The Reports of Sir Edward Coke, Knt. In Verse; Wherein the Name of Each Case and the Principal Points are Contained in Two Lines. To Which are Added, References in the Margin to All the Editions of the Said Reports; And Two Tables--One of the Names of the Cases and the Other of the Principal Matters. With a Life of Sir Edward Coke.* London: Printed for R. Pheney, 1826. xxxiii, [96] pp. This copy has the stipple-engraved portrait frontispiece and added title page issued with some copies. 12mo. (5-1/2" x 3-1/4").

Recent period-style three-quarter calf over marbled boards, untrimmed edges, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning, light foxing to a few leaves, faint dampstaining to preliminaries. \$450.

\* Third and final edition. First published in 1742, this was edited from an anonymous manuscript by John Worrall. In the introduction to a later reprint of this book, J. Wesley Miller said this was "the most conspicuous early volume of English legal poetry.... [I]t cast the holdings of the first eleven Parts of Coke's *Reports*...into heroic couplets and thereby forged a link between law and poetry which would culminate in John Anstey's *The Pleader's Guide* (1796) and John Crisp's *The Conveyancer's Guide* (1821)". Buffalo: W.S. Hein & Co., 1999 iii-iv. The issue with the portrait frontispiece and added title page is overlooked in the standard bibliographies. See, for example, Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:297. [Order This Item](#)





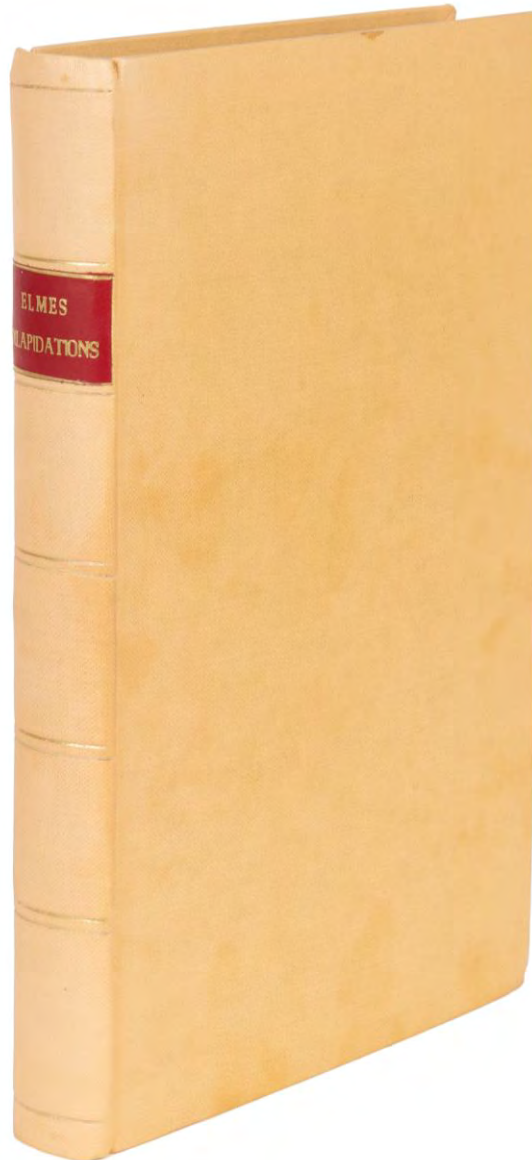
**Davies's Reports**

**8. Davies, Sir John [1569-1626].**

*Le Primer Report des Cases et Matters en Ley Resolues & Adiudges en les Courts del Roy en Ireland. Collect & Digest per Sr. Iohn Davys Chivaler, Attorney Generall del Roy en Cest Realme.* London: Printed [by Adam Islip] for the Company of Stationers, 1628. [16], 84, 84-99 ff. Complete. No other volumes issued. Folio (11" x 6-3/4").

Later library buckram, red and black lettering pieces to spine, endpapers renewed. "Davys" in early hand to fore-edge of text block. Light shelfwear and soiling, faint black star stamped to head of spine. Light browning to interior, faint dampstaining and light soiling to margins in a few places, small library stamps to title page, a few other library markings to verso. \$750.

\* Second edition (and the first published in England). Davies, or Davys, was a highly respected lawyer, judge, statesman and man of letters. First issued in Dublin in 1615, Davies's *Reports* covers cases from 1604 to 1612. Selected "principally for the use and benefit of our practisers here in Ireland," it soon became an oft-cited authority in England; It was praised by Willes, Lee and Lords Kenyon and Tindal. The first edition was published in Dublin in 1615. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:299 (42). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S123364. [Order This Item](#)



**The First English Treatise on Laws Concerning Architecture**

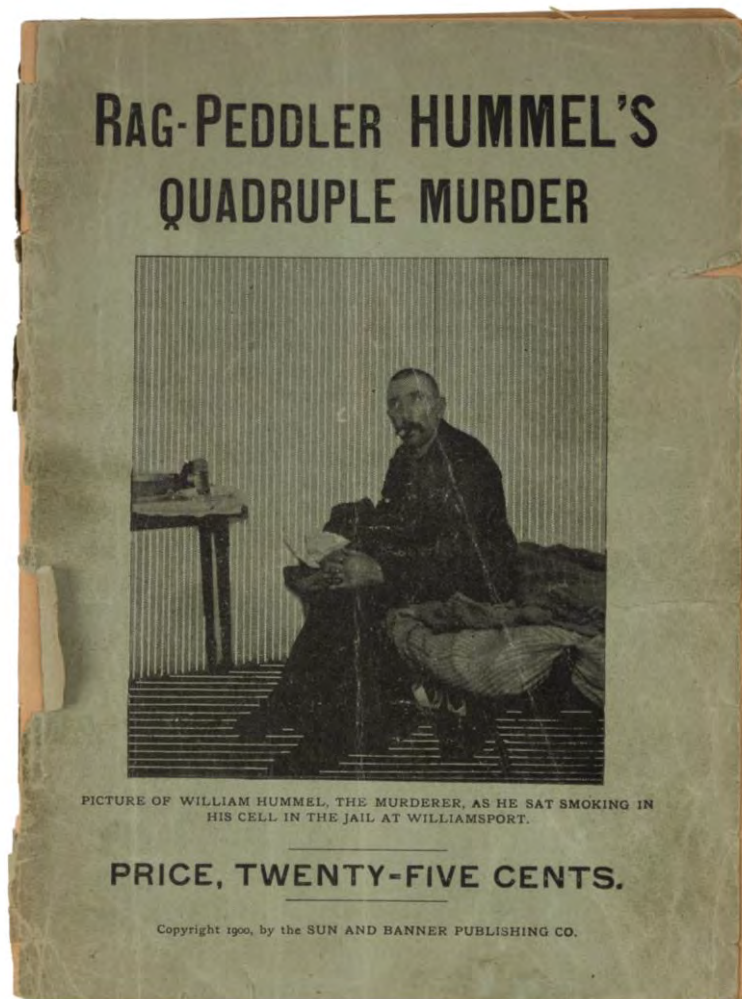
**9. Elmes, James [1782-1862].**

*A Practical Treatise on Ecclesiastical and Civil Dilapidations, Re-Instatements, Waste, &c. With an Appendix Containing Cases Decided, Precedents of Notices to Repair, Examples of Valuations, Surveys, Estimates, &c. Considerably Enlarged.* London: Samuel Brooke, 1829. xxiv, 288, cxxi, [28] pp. Forms. Octavo (9-1/2" x 6").

Recent cloth, lettering piece and gilt fillets to spine, endpapers renewed. Negligible light shelfwear and soiling, light toning to text, small early library stamps to title page and a few other leaves. \$100.

\* Third, last and best edition. This was the first English treatise on laws concerning architecture. Grounded in Coke and enriched with comparisons to Romans and French civil law, it addresses legal aspects of architecture, especially the construction and maintenance of churches. The first two editions were published in 1820 and 1823. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 2:110. [Order This Item](#)





### An Axe-Murder in Central Pennsylvania

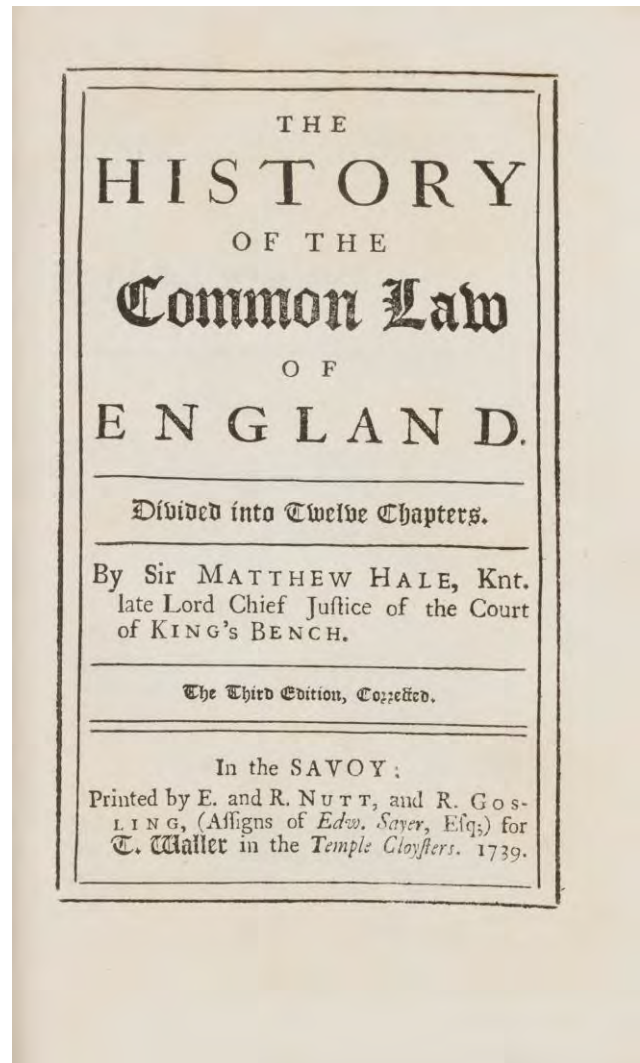
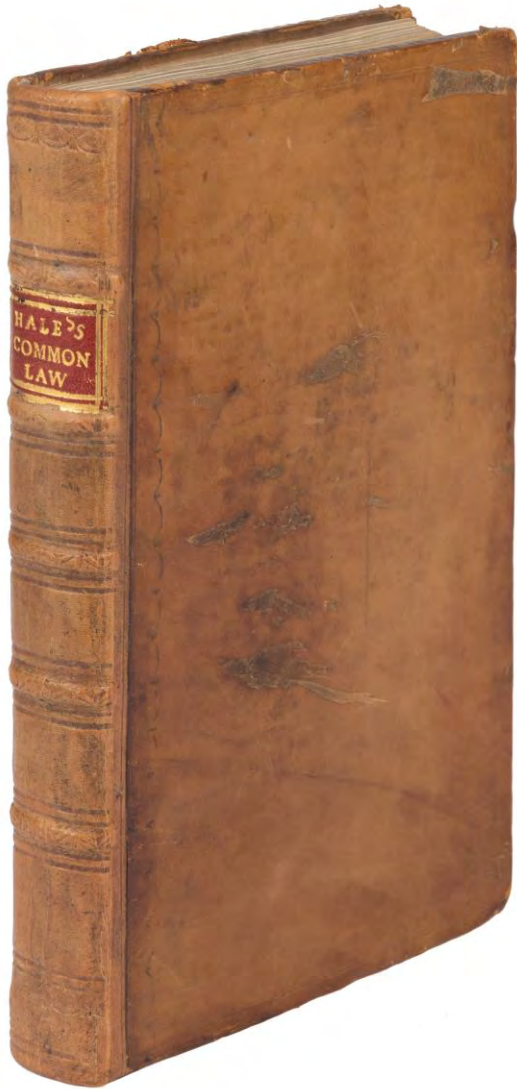
**10. Ghaff, George E., Editor.**

**Person, Elmer E., Editor.**

*A Narrative History of the Murder of Mrs. Frances Delaney-Hummel and Her Three Children, Including the Capture, Imprisonment, Trial, Court's Charge, And Conviction, And Embracing the Confession of William Hummel, The Murderer.* Williamsport, PA: The Sun and Banner Publishing Company, 1900. 63 pp.

Stapled pamphlet in pictorial wrappers, advertisement for the *Williamsport Sun and Banner* to rear wrapper. Light soiling and some edgewear and short tears to wrappers, which are partially detached but secure, spine abraded. Moderate browning to interior, clean tears and chips to a few leaves. \$950.

\* Only edition. Hummel married Frances Delaney, a widow with three young children, one of them an infant. A week after the marriage, he murdered his new family with an axe in their home in Williamsport, PA. Hummel's crime was discovered shortly afterwards and he was tried, convicted and hanged. This horrible event inspired a good deal of speculation about Hummel's motives, which were never determined. Some thought he was driven by jealousy. Others thought he was insane. Our account, produced by editors of the *Williamsport Sun and Banner*, offers a sober journalistic account of the case intended to be a definitive record. No copies located on OCLC. [Order This Item](#)



**Handsome Early Edition of Hale's *History of the Common Law***

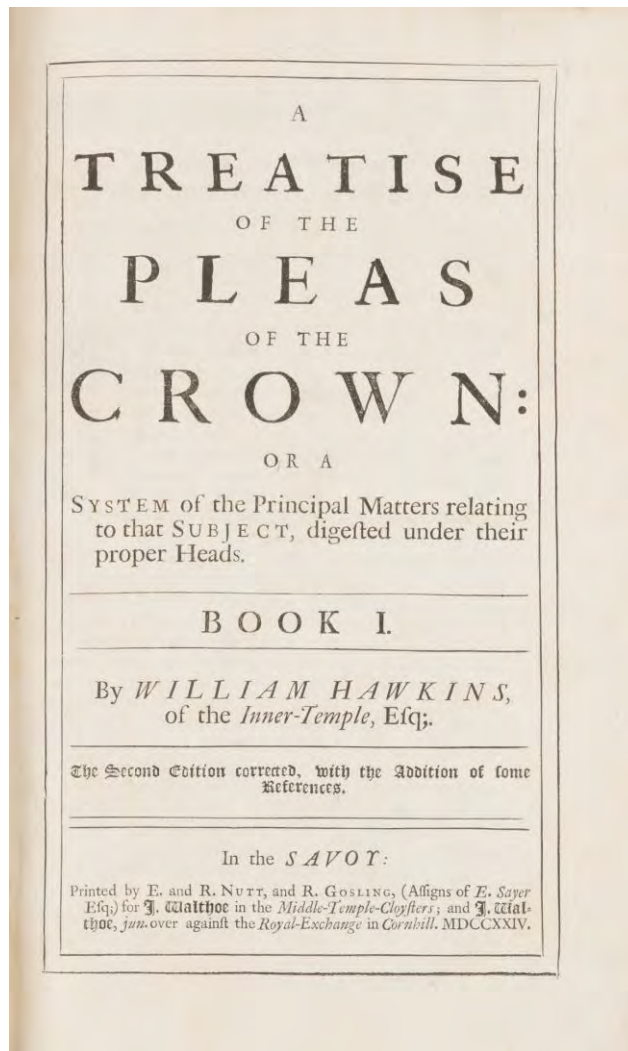
**11. Hale, Matthew [1609-1676].**

*The History of the Common Law of England. Divided into Twelve Chapters.* [London]: Printed by E. and R. Nutt, And R. Gosling, 1739. [viii], 261, [11] pp. Title page preceded by publisher advertisement leaf. Copperplate table of descents. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4").

Contemporary calf, rebaked in period style, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and negligible shallow scuffing to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn, early armorial bookplate of John Beresford to front pastedown. Light to moderate toning, light foxing or soiling to upper margins in a few places. A handsome copy. \$500.

\* Third edition. First published in 1713, Hale's *History* was the first book on the subject. Blackstone and Holdsworth holds this work in high regard. This edition was also issued with the third edition of Hale's *Analysis of the Law* (1739). Beresford [1738-1805] was a notable Anglo-Irish lawyer and statesman. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T110503. [Order This Item](#)





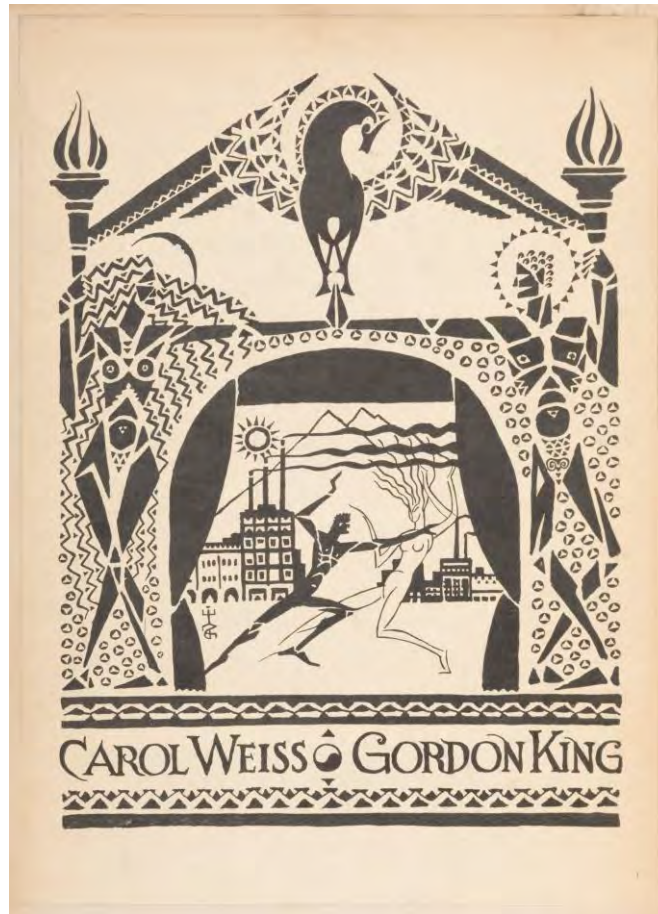
**A Classic Treatise on English Criminal Law**

**12. Hawkins, William [1673-1746].**

*A Treatise of the Pleas of the Crown; Or a System of the Principal Matters Relating to that Subject, Digested Under Proper Their Proper Heads. Corrected, With the Addition of Some References.* [London]: Printed by E. and R. Nutt, 1724. Two volumes in one book. [xiv], 266, [44]; [viii], 464, [72] pp. Folio (12-1/4" x 8-3/4").

Contemporary calf, rebacked in period style, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and a few shallow scuffs to boards, a few minor stains to spine, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn. Light toning to text, light browning in places, light foxing to a few leaves, crinkling to head of text block with light soiling to upper margins in a few places. A handsome copy. \$650.

\* Second edition. Considered one of the four major law books of the eighteenth century by Holdsworth, *Pleas* is the first comprehensive English treatise on criminal law. A seminal work in criminal procedure and jurisdiction, it is "deservedly of high authority and still cited. It was the starting-point of modern laborious treatises on the criminal law which are valuable as digests of the subject, but which have no advance on Hawkins plan or style" (Winfield). Holdsworth, *History of English Law* XII:415. Winfield, *Chief Sources of English Legal History* 326. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T126275. [Order This Item](#)



**Owned by a Notable Female Lawyer**

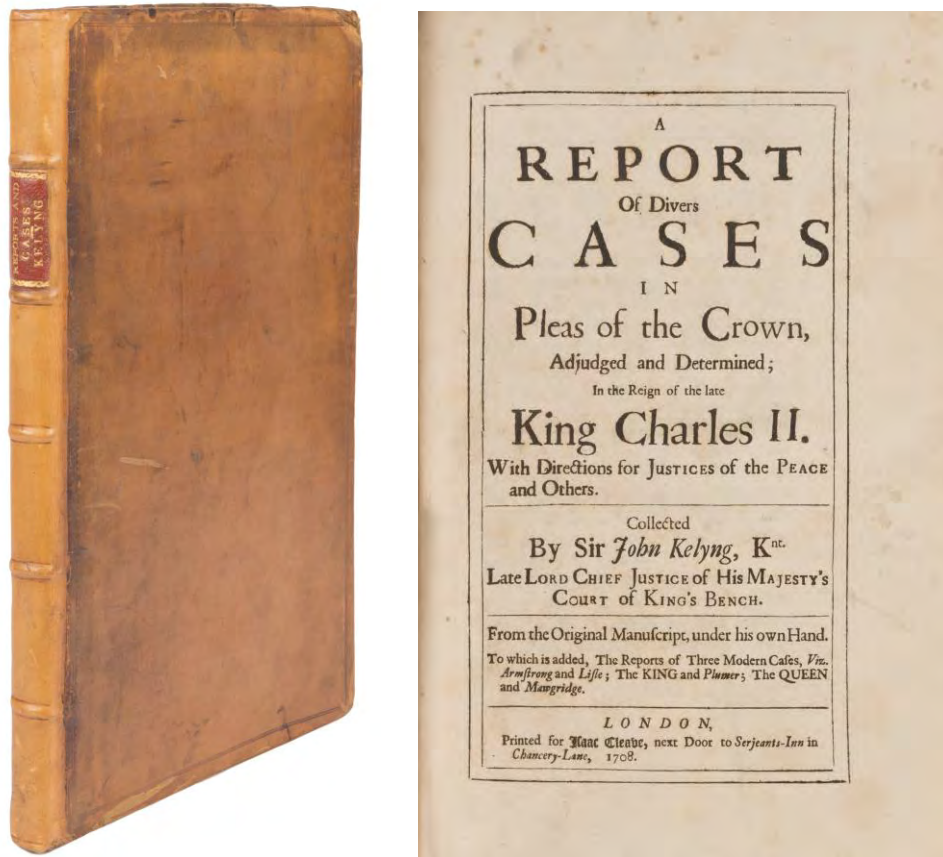
**13. Holmes, Oliver Wendell [1841-1935].**

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

Original cloth, printed paper title label to spine. Moderate rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends, spine label and corners, which are bumped, large bookplate of Carol Weiss King and Gordon King to front pastedown. Moderate toning, chips to bottom edges of a few leaves, annotations and markings, most likely by Carol Weiss King, in a few places. \$250.

\* Only edition, early printing. A valuable compilation, this volume contains Holmes' most famous speeches and papers from 1885 to 1918. Its publication in 1920 was an important event in the legal community, and it was reviewed with great enthusiasm in the major journals and law reviews. This book was not published with edition or issue statements. The publisher imprint on our copy shows that it is an early, possibly first, printing. (Harcourt, Brace and Howe became Harcourt, Brace and Company in 1921.) Carol Weiss King [1895-1952] was a distinguished left-leaning immigration lawyer. She was founding member of the National Lawyers Guild, a research assistant for the ACLU and a volunteer legal assistant for the ILGWU. Several of her clients were members of the U.S. Communist Party, such as Harry Bridges and William Schneiderman. Her most important legal victory was *Sung v. McGrath*, which prevented the deportation of her client. In this case, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the Immigration and Naturalization Service was subject to the same administrative and procedural rules as other federal departments. This ruling froze deportation hearings until the INS agreed to comply with the requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act. [Order This Item](#)





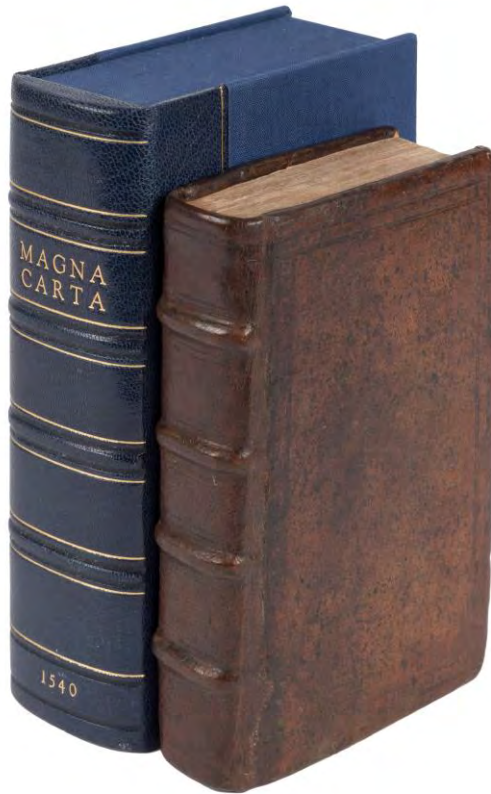
### The First Set of Reports Devoted to Criminal Law

#### 14. Kelyng, Sir John [d. 1671], Reporter.

*A Report of Divers Cases in Pleas of the Crown, Adjudged and Determined; In the Reign of the Late King Charles II. With Directions for Justices of the Peace and Others. Collected by Sir John Kelyng, Knt. Late Lord Chief Justice of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench. From the Original Manuscript, Under His Own Hand. To Which is Added the Reports of Three Modern Cases, Viz. Armstrong and Lisle; The King and Plumer; The Queen and Manwrigde.* London: Printed for Isaac Cleave, 1708. [vi], 138, [14] pp. Folio (11-1/4" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary calf, rebaked in period style, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and retained contemporary lettering piece to spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and a few shallow scuffs to boards, faint crease to upper corner of front board, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn, faint crack from crease and early armorial bookplate of Thomas de Grey to front pastedown, hinges cracked. Moderate toning, occasional light soiling to upper margins, faint dampspotting in a few places, light soiling and a few minor stains to title page. \$150.

\* Only edition. The first set of reports devoted entirely to criminal law, these reports were collected after Kelyng's death and published by Justice Holt in 1708. Kelyng, a lawyer who specialized in criminal cases, became a judge of the King's Bench in 1663 was made Chief Justice of that court in 1665. The cases cover the years 1662 to 1669. Wallace says he was considered "a learned, faithful and resolute judge." This work was reissued in 1739. A second reissue was published in Dublin in 1789. This book belonged to either Thomas de Grey [1680-1765] or his son, who shared his name [1717-1781]. Both men were substantial landowners and Members of Parliament. Wallace, *The Reporters* 328. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T121547. [Order This Item](#)



**Rare Early Printing of Magna Carta and the *Secunda Pars***

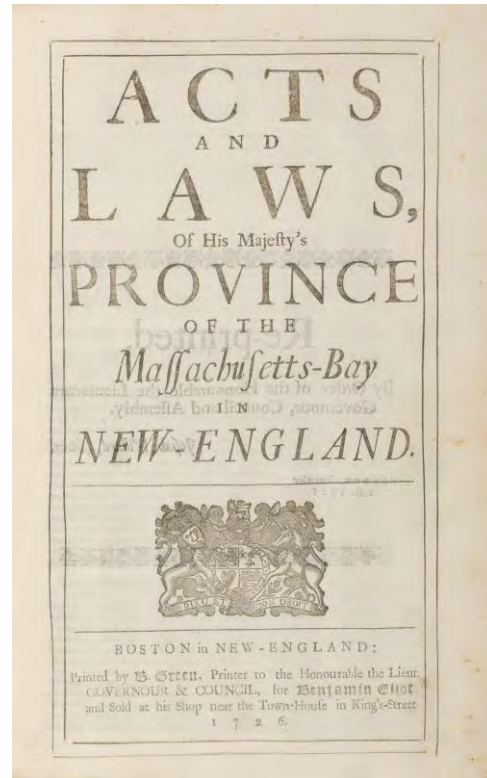
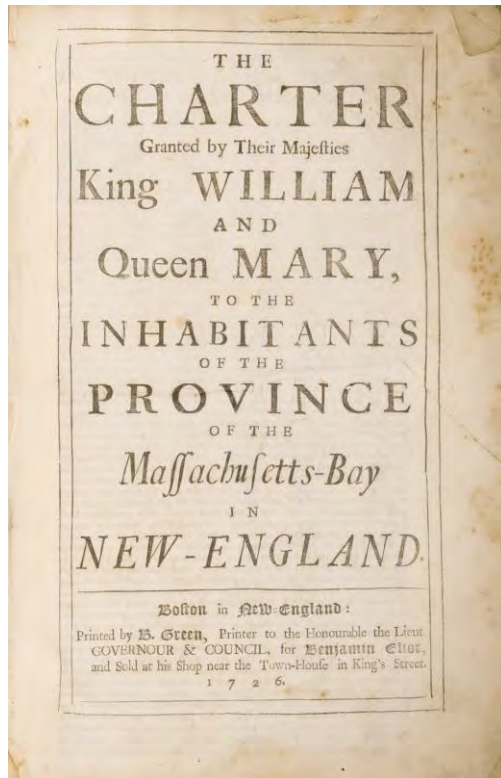
**15. [Magna Carta].**

*Magna Carta Cum Aliis Antiquis Statutis, Quorum Catalogum, In Fine Operis Reperies.* [London: Thomas Berthelet], 1540 (dated 1541 on colophon). [i], 2-148, [4]; [iv], 80 ff. Two parts, each with title page, table and individual pagination. Second part, dated 1540 (on title page and colophon), titled *Secunda Pars Veterum Statutorum*. Octavo 5-1/4" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary speckled calf, carefully rebacked in period style, blind rules to boards, raised bands and blind fillets to spine, endpapers renewed with carefully matched antique paper. A few minor nicks and scratches to boards, corners bumped, upper margin of title page replaced with no loss to text. Light toning to interior, occasional faint dampstaining to foot of text block, occasional annotations in early chancery hand to margins (some affected slightly by trimming), later owner signature (Francis Anderson) to title pages, two other brief annotations in chancery hand to title page of *Magna Carta*. A handsome copy housed in a quarter-morocco over cloth clamshell box, gilt title and raised bands to spine. \$8,500.

\* The text of Magna Carta is a close reprinting of the 1527 edition by Richard Pynson with additional material. (Pynson printed the first edition around 1508.) It also includes the Charta de Foresta and statutes passed before the reign of Edward III. Among the most notorious statutes are those of Edward I concerning Jews, which condemned them for irreverence and prevented them from practicing usury or acquiring land from Christians through pledges. Other "Antique Statutes" relate to women, wills, forcible entry, "Fraudulent Deedes" and other topics. Annotations are found throughout both parts. Most of them are case references or one of two-word glosses, but some are interpretive notes ranging from one to a few sentences. OCLC locates 3 copies of this imprint in North American libraries (Columbia, Harvard, Library of Congress). Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* S12, S22. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S102195. [Order This Item](#)





### Scarce 1726 Printing of Massachusetts Acts and Laws

#### 16. [Massachusetts].

*The Charter Granted by Their Majesties King William and Queen Mary, to the Inhabitants of the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England.* Boston: Printed by B. Green, 1726. [ii], 14 pp.

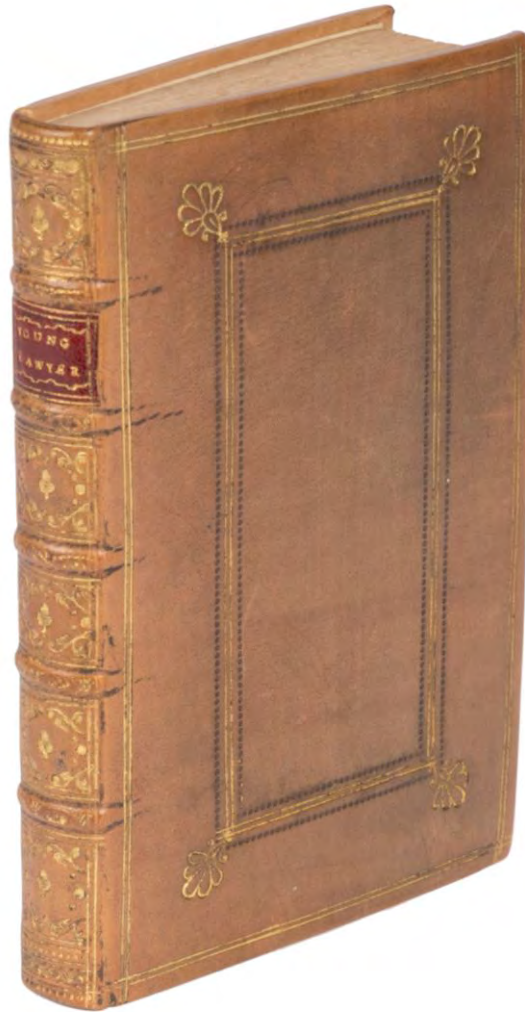
#### [Bound with]

*Acts and Laws of His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New England.* Boston: Printed by B. Green, 1726. [ii], 347, [1]; 349-354; 17 pp. As in many copies, the final 17-page table is misbound after p.354.

Small folio (11-1/2" x 7-3/4"). Contemporary paneled sheep, rebacked in period-style, large corner fleurons to central panel, raised bands to spine, lower corner of front board mended, endpapers renewed. Moderate rubbing and a few minor stains to boards, heavier rubbing to board edges extremities with wear to and corners. Moderate toning to text, occasional light foxing to margins, some edgewear to margins of leaves at beginning and end of text block. \$5,000.

\* Issued when the province included Maine and parts of Nova Scotia, this compilation contains a complete record of the acts and laws from 1692 to 1725. It provides unparalleled insights into the colony's attitude towards Indians, "Free Negroes," piracy, buggery, bestiality, incest, "Jesuits and Popish priests," the killing of bastard children by their mothers, "mispending money in taverns," "keeping the Lord's day," adultery, polygamy and many other social and political topics.

Especially important is the newly adopted modification to the Charter granted by William and Mary, King George's "Explanatory Charter" (pp. 13-14), which appeared for the first time in this book. It reduced the independence of the colony by shifting power to the crown-appointed provincial governor, who was given sole power to adjourn the House of Representatives and given the right to veto the House's choice of speaker. Though technically two books, the charter and laws are almost always bound together. Many copies contain subsequent compilations of acts (that continue the pagination past p. 347). Ours has a group of four acts passed between May 25 and November 23, 1726. Evans, *American Bibliography* 2762. Benedict, *Acts and Laws of the Thirteen Original Colonies and States* 122. *The Charlemagne Tower Collection of Colonial Laws* 215. [Order This Item](#)



**"When the Pill is Gilt, It is Easily Swallowed"**

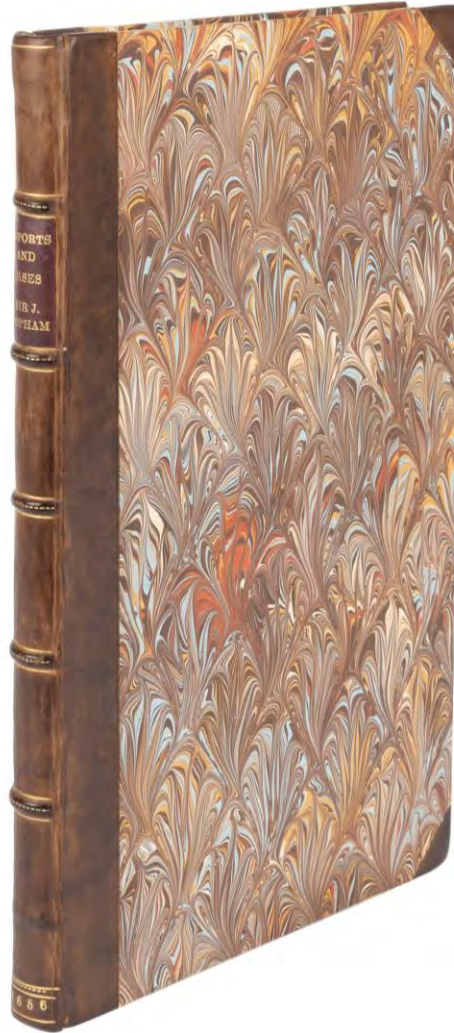
**17. [Philonomus].**

*The Young Lawyer's Recreation. Being a Choice Collection of Several Pleasant Cases, Passages, And Customs in the Law: For the Entertainment as Well as Profit of the Reader.* London: Printed for Samuel Briscoe, 1694. [xvi], 206, [2] pp. Main text followed by 2 pp. publisher catalogue. Octavo (5-3/4" x 3-1/2").

Recent period-style gilt-paneled calf, gilt spine with raised bands and lettering piece, endpapers renewed. A few minor nicks and scratches to boards, light fading to spine, corners lightly bumped. Light toning, faint, often very faint, dampstaining to gutter and upper half of text block, minor loss to headlines due to trimming in a few places, light foxing to title page and a few other leaves. A handsome copy of a scarce title. \$950.

\* Only edition. Intended for students, this is a collection of brief summaries of cases and legal principles, all with citations, designed to provide an overview of the English legal system. The main text is preceded by a table of topics and a brief (4 pp.) summary of the common law. In the preface, "Philonomus" says this book was intended to make the study of law as pleasant as possible, because "when the Pill is Gilt, it is easily swallowed." To this end, several examples are whimsical. OCLC locates 13 copies, 9 in North America, 7 in law libraries (Creighton, Furman, Harvard, Library of Congress, University of Pennsylvania, University of Texas, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R6327. [Order This Item](#)





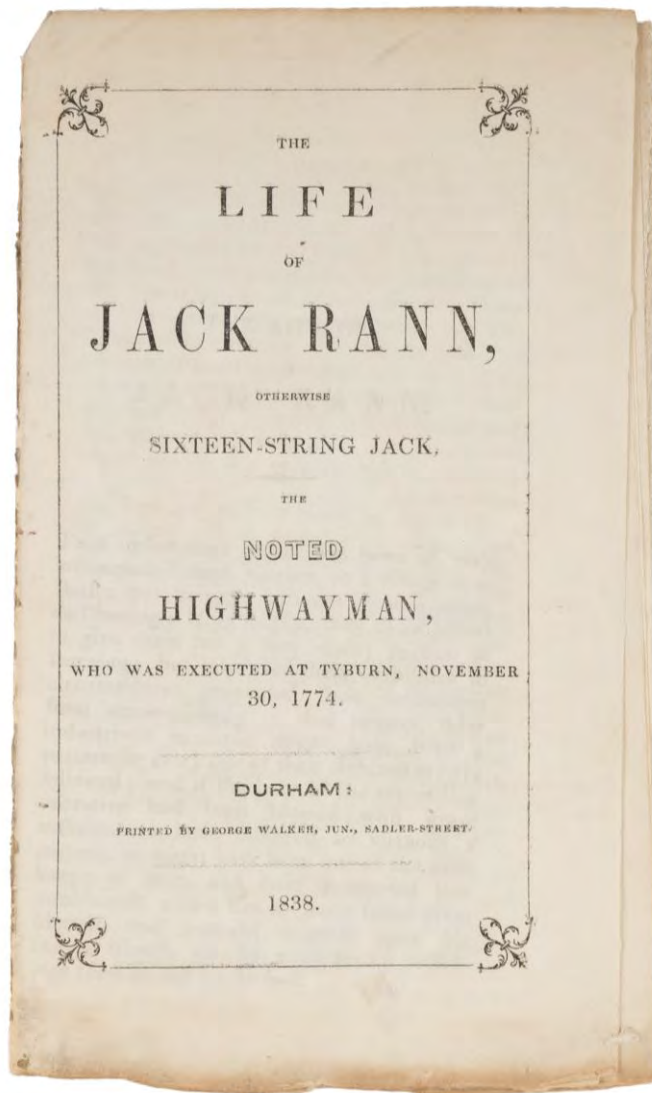
**"Matter Profound...With Convenient Brevity"**

**18. Popham, Sir John [1531-1607].**

*Reports and Cases, Collected by the Learned, Sir John Popham, Knight, Late Lord Chief-Justice of England. Written with His Own Hand in French, And Now Faithfully Translated into English. To Which are Added Some Remarkable Cases Reported by Other Learned Pens Since his Death. With an Alphabetical Table, Wherein May be Found the Principall Matters Contained in this Booke.* London: Printed by Tho: Roycroft for John Place, 1656. [viii], 212, [8] pp. One-page publisher advertisement at rear of text. Folio (11-1/4" x 7").

Recent period-style three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt-edged raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block. Moderate toning, occasional faint dampstaining to fore-edge of text block and gutter, light browning and moderate edgewear to preliminaries, light soiling, a vertical crease, miniscule owner signature and a few faint annotations in pencil to title page. \$300.

\* First edition, one of two issues from 1656. Popham reports cases in the Courts of King's Bench and Star Chamber from 1592 and 1627. It isn't an authoritative work, but Marvin states they "contain matter profound, yet with convenient brevity, and are of good authority and use.": *Legal Bibliography* 577. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R22432. [Order This Item](#)



**"Sixteen-String Jack"**

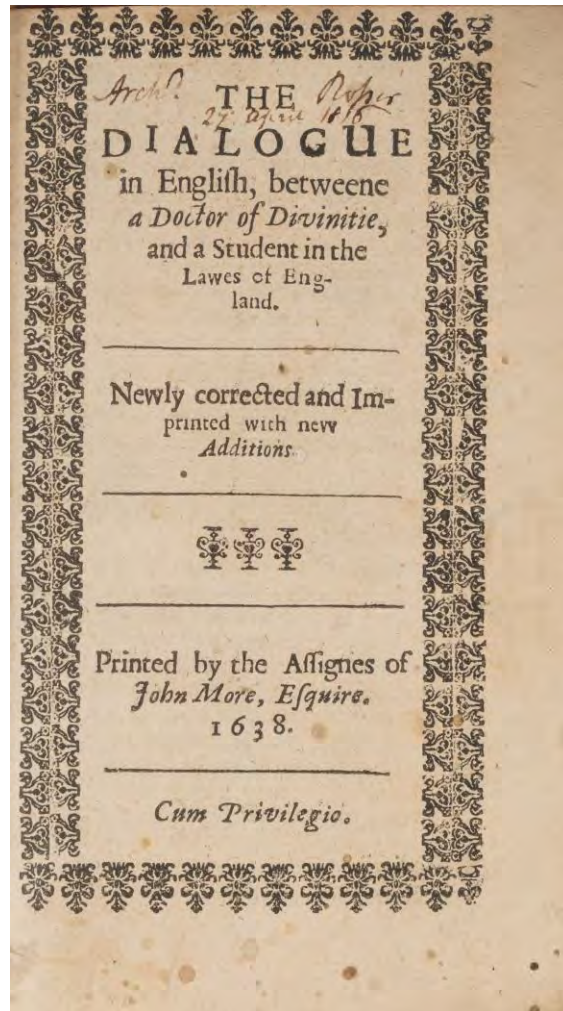
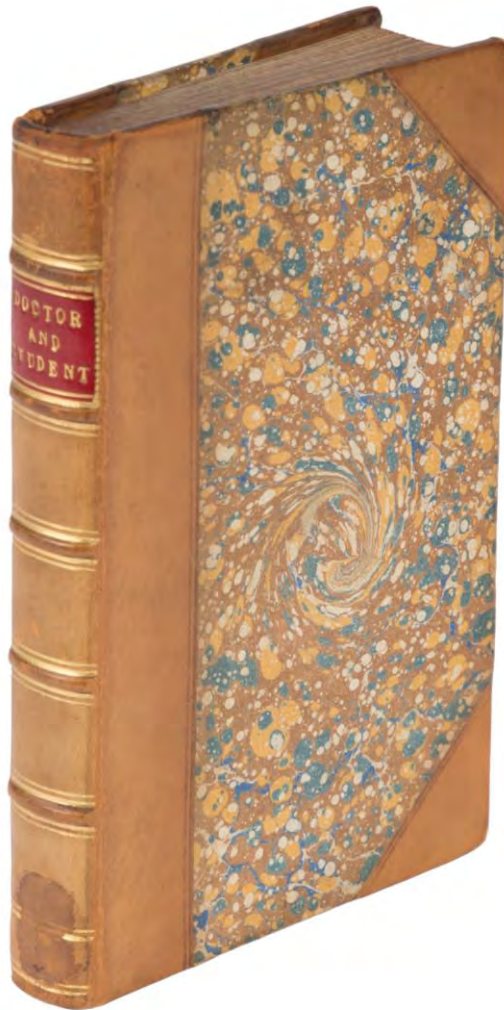
**19. [Rann, Jack (1750-1774)].**

*The Life of Jack Rann, Otherwise Sixteen-String Jack, The Noted Highwayman, Who Was Executed at Tyburn, November 30, 1774.* Durham: Printed by George Walker, Jun., Sadler Street, 1838. 24 pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet in self-wrappers, untrimmed edges. Light toning, light browning to top and bottom edges of title page. A well-preserved copy. \$450.

\* Only edition. A scarce Durham account of the life, crimes, trials and eventual execution of a legendary highwayman. Notably stylish, witty and charming, was one of the last of the "gentleman highwaymen." (He was known as "Sixteen String Jack" because he often wore silk knee breeches decorated with sixteen strings of various colors.) This account is followed by an unrelated, and rather horrific, comic piece titled "A Boy's Letter," which first appeared in *Hood's Comic Annual for 1832*. Library Hub locates 4 copies, all in Great Britain. OCLC locates 6 copies, 3 in Great Britain, 3 in North America (Kent State University, Northwestern University, University of Kentucky). [Order This Item](#)





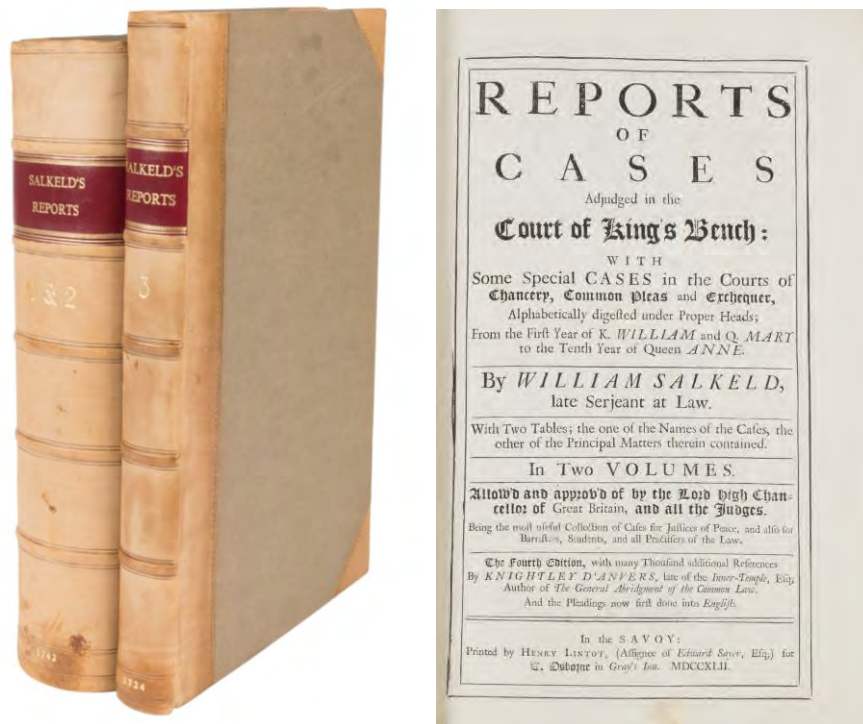
**A Classic English Work on Equity and the Philosophy of Law that Influenced Blackstone**

**20. [Saint German (Germain), Christopher].**

*The Dialogue in English, Betweene a Doctor of Divinitie, And a Student in the Lawes of England. Newly Corrected and Imprinted with New Additions.* [London]: Printed by the Assignes of John More, Esquire, 1638. 176, [4] ff. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Later three-quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, fragment of shelf location label (?) to foot, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing to extremities with negligible minor wear to corners, front hinge just starting at head, armorial bookplate (of William Carr) to front pastedown. Title printed within typographical border. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing (or spotting) to a few leaves, headlines of a few leaves affected by trimming, tiny signature in early hand to head of title page. \$400.

\* Later edition. With the second dialogue. Written originally in Latin in 1523 and cast in dialogic form, this was the first work to study the role of equity in common law and, by its nature, was the first jurisprudential work written in England. It also considers the relative merits of common, canon and civil law, the nature and object of law, the religious and moral standards of law, the foundations of the common law and issues regarding the jurisdiction of Parliament. *Doctor and Student* appeared in numerous editions. An authority well into the eighteenth century, it influenced several writers, including Blackstone. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116404. [Order This Item](#)



**"Their General Accuracy, I Believe, Has not Been Questioned"**

## 21. Salkeld, William [1671-1715].

*Reports of Cases Adjudged in the Court of King's Bench: With Some Special Cases in the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas and Exchequer, Alphabetically Digested Under Proper Heads; From the First Year of K. William and Q. Mary to the Tenth Year of Queen Anne. With Two Tables; One of the Names of the Cases, The Other of the Principal Matters Therein Contained. In Two Volumes. Allow'd and Approv'd of by the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, And All the Judges. Being the Most Useful Collection of Cases for Justices of the Peace, And also for Barristers, Students, And All Practisers of the Law. With Many Thousand Additional References by Knightley D'Anvers. And the Pleadings Now Done into English.* [London]: Printed by Henry Lintot, (assignee of Edward Sayer, Esq;) for T. Osborne, 1742. Two volumes in one book with continuous pagination. [xiv], 800, [108] pp. Folio (12" x 7-3/4").

[With]

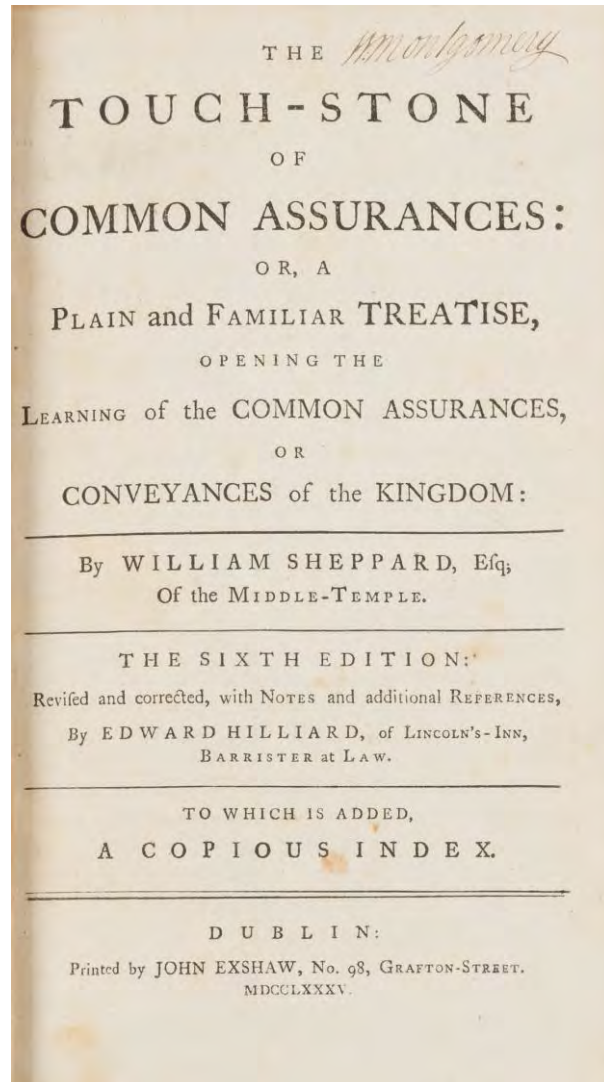
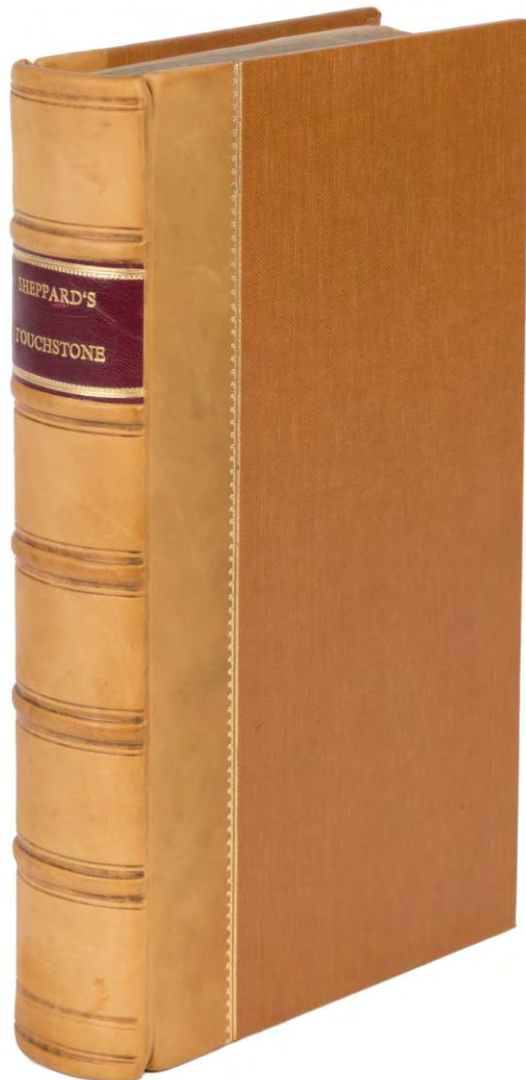
**Salkeld, William.**

*Reports of Cases Adjudged in the Court of King's Bench; Together with Several Special Cases Adjudged in the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas, And Exchequer; From the Revolution to the Tenth year of Q. Anne. With Two Tables; The One of the Names of the Cases, The Other of the Principal Matters Therein Contained. Printed from the Original Manuscript, Written by Himself. Vol. III.* [London]: Printed by E. and R. Nutt, and R. Gosling, (Assigns of Edward Sayer Esq;) for R. Gosling; And T. Ward, 1724. [viii], 400, [38] pp. Folio (13" x 7-3/4").

Recent period-style three-quarter calf over paper-covered boards, raised bands, lettering pieces and gilt titles to spines, endpapers renewed. A few minor stains to boards and spines, light toning to interiors, light crinkling to top-edges of text blocks with occasional light soiling. \$250.

\* Volumes I-II: fourth edition; Volume III: first edition. Covers the period from 1689-1712. "The first two volumes of Salkeld were published under the supervision of Lord Hardwicke, and their general accuracy, I believe, has not been questioned" (Wallace). The first edition was published in 1717 in two volumes. The third volume is bibliographically distinct. Its second and final edition was issued in 1743. (Editions combining all three volumes were published in 1773 and 1795.) Wallace, *The Reporters* 399-340. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T150070, T97034. [Order This Item](#)





**The First Work Devoted to the Theory of Conveyancing**

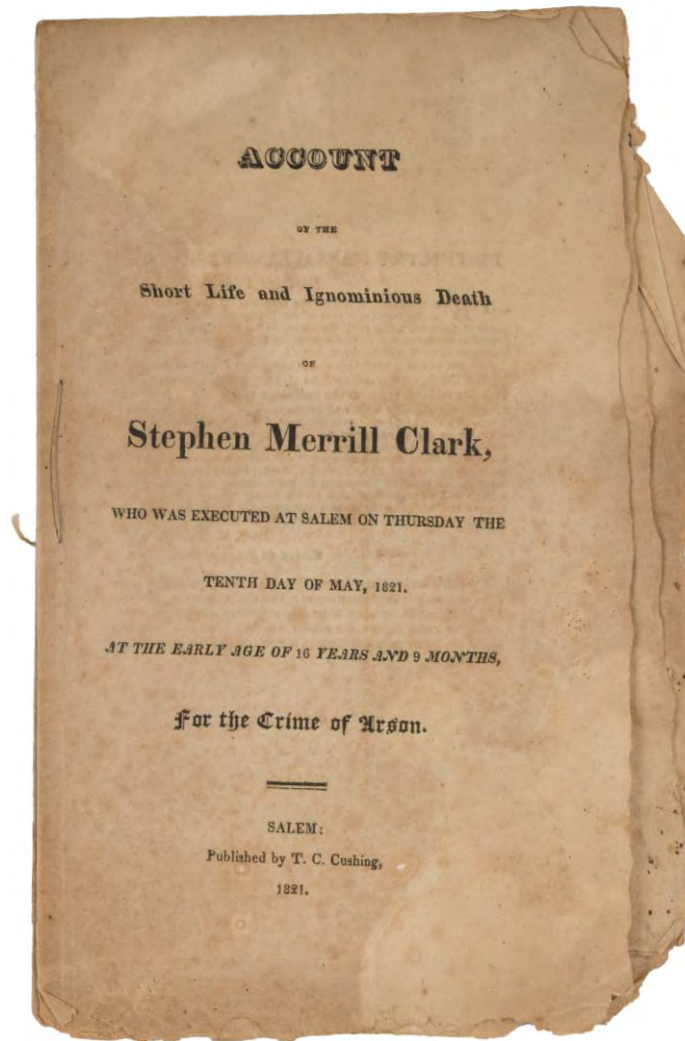
**22. Sheppard, William [fl. 1660].**

**Hilliard, Edward, Editor.**

*The Touch-Stone of Common Assurances: Or, A Plain and Familiar Treatise, Opening the Learning of the Common Assurances, Or Conveyances of the Kingdom. Revised & Corrected, With Notes and Additional References by Edward Hilliard. To Which is Added a Copious Index.* Dublin: Printed by John Exshaw, 1785. [xxiv], 504, [20] pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter calf over cloth, gilt rules to boards along joints, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing to a few leaves, including the title page, which has a later owner signature. \$300.

\* Sixth (stated) edition, a reissue of the fifth London edition. The *Touchstone* is the earliest work devoted to the theory of conveyancing. Each chapter opens with a definition of a type of conveyance followed by an outline of the rules, principles and legal maxims that govern it. First published in 1648, it was a standard work well into the twentieth century. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T90881. [Order This Item](#)



**Trial and Execution of a  
Teen-Age Arsonist in Salem, Massachusetts**

**23. [Trial].**

**Clark, Stephen Merrill [1804-1821], Defendant.**

*Account of the Short Life and Ignominious Death of Stephen Merrill Clark, Who was Executed at Salem on Thursday the Tenth Day of May, 1821 at the Early Age of 16 Years and 9 Months, For the Crime of Arson.* Salem: Published by T.C. Cushing, 1821. 16 pp. Octavo (9-1/4" x 5-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in self-wrappers, untrimmed edges. Light browning and faint dampstaining, small early bookseller description affixed to verso of title page. \$950.

\* Only edition. In 1820 Clark burned down a stable and an adjacent building. There was no loss of life, but he was tried for a capital crime, found guilty and sentenced to death. The jury recommended commutation to no avail. He was sixteen years of age when he committed the crime, seventeen when executed. His case helped to advance a successful movement to reduce the number of capital crimes. By 1852 murder was the only capital offense. OCLC locates 13 copies, 3 in law libraries (Harvard, Social Law, Yale). Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 12137. [Order This Item](#)





"With a Curious Representation of the Luncheon Scene"

24. [Trial].

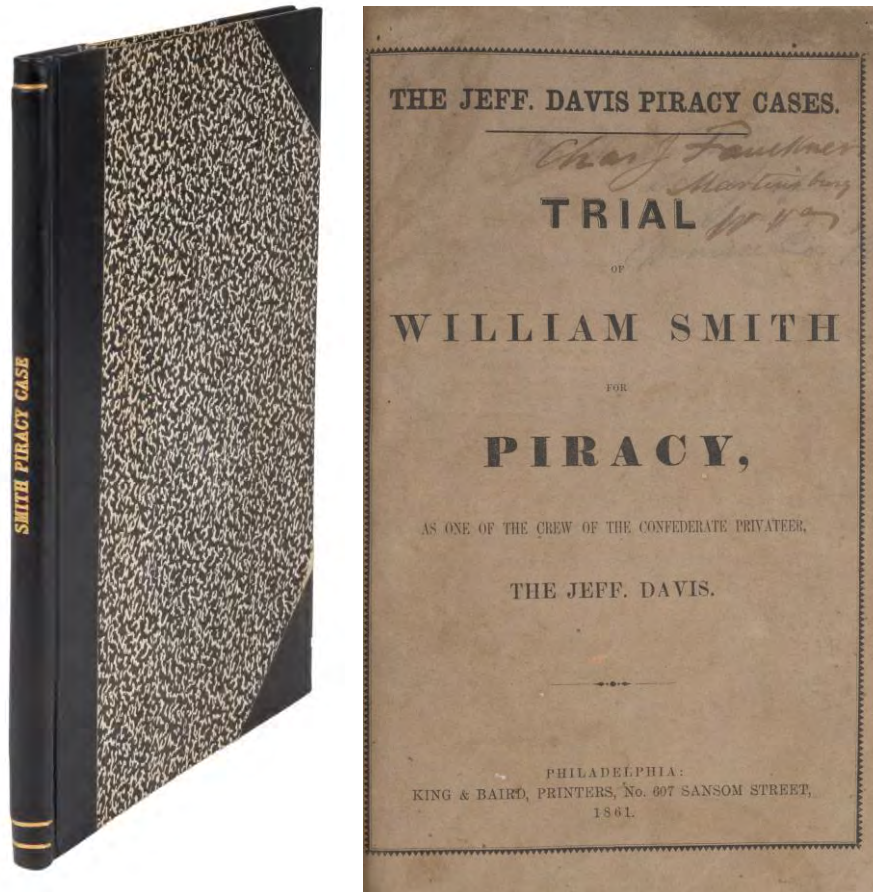
Hook, Archibald, Defendant.

*Trial for Adultery. The Whole of the Trial of Major Hook, For Criminal Conversation with his Own Niece, Mrs. Campbell, Wife of Captain Campbell, Who was Convicted In Three Thousand Pounds Damages; Before Lord Kenyon and a Special Jury, At Westminster, February 26, 1793. Embellished with a Curious Representation of the Luncheon Scene. Taken from the Short-Hand Notes of a Student of the Inner Temple.* London: Printed for the Proprietor; And Sold by J. Aitken, [1793]. [ii], 42 pp. Etched pictorial frontispiece. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent period-style three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title to spine, which has light fading. Light soiling to title page, interior otherwise fresh. A notably well-preserved copy in a handsome binding. \$1,500.

\* Only edition. A man who made a fortune during his career with the East India Company, Major Hook belonged to a class of English men known as nabobs. Widely resented, they had a reputation for conspicuous consumption, political corruption, arrogance and loose morals. Based on this report, Hook's actions were consistent with the stereotype. Worse yet, he committed incest as well as adultery, a point emphasized by the plaintiff's counsel in his opening and closing statements. Notably pornographic, the frontispiece shows a maid catching sight of the couple groping each other on a sofa. OCLC locates 4 copies, 2 in law libraries (Rhode Island State Law Library, University of Cincinnati). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N14007. [Order This Item](#)





**Privateer, Or Pirate?**

**25. [Trial].**

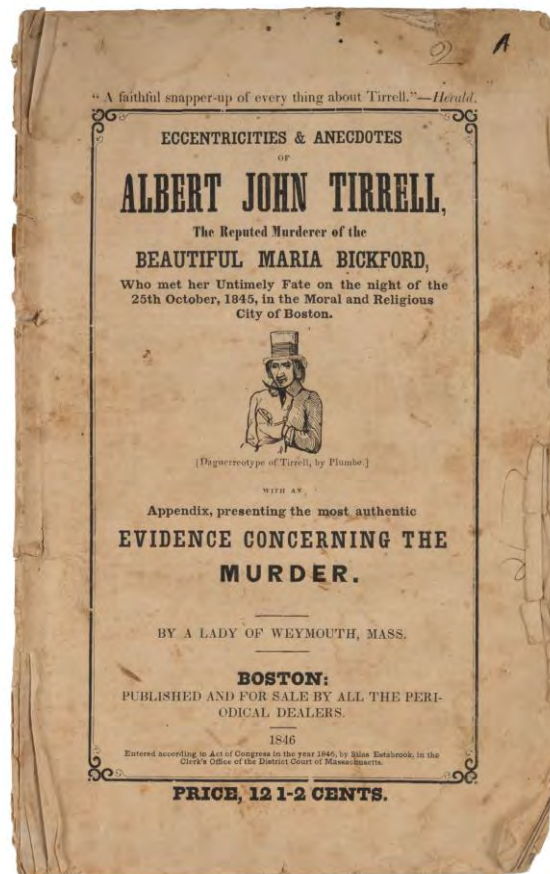
**Smith, William, Defendant.**

**Murphy, D.F., Reporter.**

*The Jeff. Davis Piracy Cases. Full Report of the Trial of William Smith for Piracy, As One of the Crew of the Confederate Privateer, The Jeff Davis. Before Judges Grier and Cadwalader, In the Circuit Court of the United States, For the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Held at Philadelphia, In October, 1861.* Philadelphia: King & Baird, Printers, 1861. [ii], 7-100 pp. Text in parallel columns. Octavo (9-1/4" x 5-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into later three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title to spine, endpapers added. Moderate toning to pamphlet, light rubbing to edges of text block with minor wear, light soiling to wrappers, owner signature of Charles James Faulkner to front wrapper and title page. An appealing copy of a scarce title. \$1,500.

\* Only edition. "In the Jeff Davis Piracy Cases the United States brought suit against members of the crew of that ship as pirates, not recognizing her as the privateer of an independent warring nation. William Smith was in charge of one of her prizes, the *Enchantress*, when she was retaken by the U.S. gunboat, the *Albatross*" (Sabin). The crew was found guilty, but the crew wasn't punished because the Confederacy threatened reprisals against captured Union personnel. Faulkner [1806-1884] was a planter, lawyer and politician from Morgan County, Virginia, after 1863 West Virginia, who served in both houses of the Virginia General Assembly and as a U.S. Congressman for Virginia and West Virginia. OCLC locates 11 copies, 4 in law libraries (Harvard, Notre Dame, Social Law, University of Pennsylvania). Sabin, *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America* 84728. [Order This Item](#)



A Rare Account of the Bickford Murder Trial: McDade 987

26. [Trial].

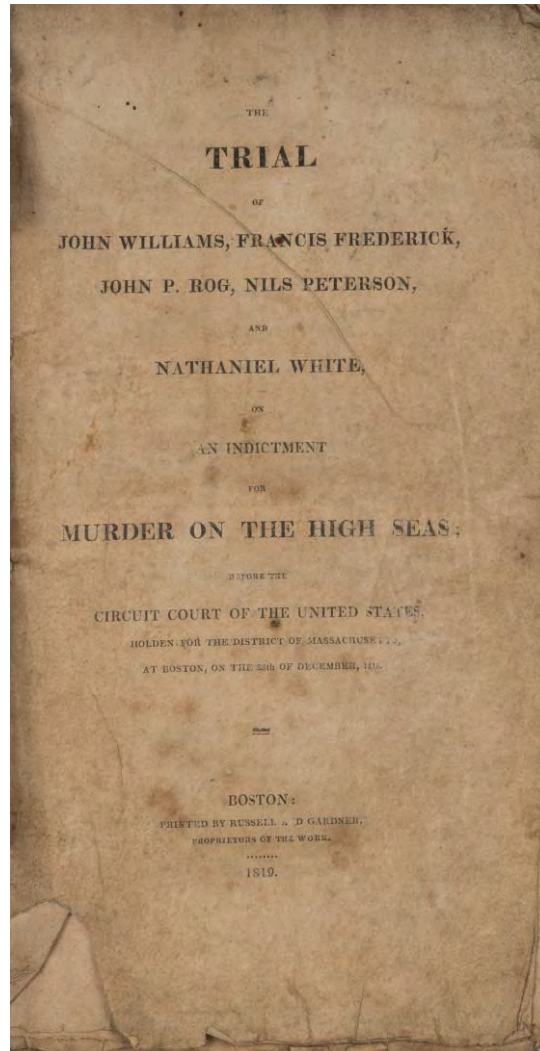
Tirrell, Albert J., Defendant.

[Estabrook, Silas, Primary Author].

*Eccentricities & Anecdotes of Albert John Tirrell, The Reputed Murderer of the Beautiful Maria Bickford, Who Met Her Untimely Fate on the Night of the 25th October, 1845, In the Moral and Religious City of Boston. With an Appendix, Presenting the Most Authentic Evidence Concerning the Murder. By a Lady of Weymouth, Mass.* Boston: Published and For Sale by All the Periodical Dealers, 1846. [5]-48 [i.e. 32] pp. Octavo (9-3/4" x 6").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in pictorial wrappers, publisher advertisement to verso of rear wrapper (of another account of the Bickford murder), untrimmed edges. Moderate edgewear and soiling, spine abraded, wrappers partially detached at ends. Light browning and foxing, faint dampstaining in places, "2" in early hand to head of front wrapper, small doodle along fore-edge near foot, "Maria Bickford" in faint early hand in pencil to head of p.5. \$1,250.

\* Only edition. "The murder of a harlot seems to lend a special interest to a case which is measurable by the many publications which ensue. (...) The Tirrell case is one of the triumphs of Rufus Choate, who convinced the jury that his client did not cut the throat of Mrs. Bickford, or, if he did, he did it in his sleep. The defense of somnambulism by Choate might well join that other classic of defense put forth by Delphin Michael Delmas, who as counsel for Harry K. Thaw pleaded 'dementia Americana'" (McDade). McDade says most of this account is "pure fiction, but there are some facts on the crime." OCLC locates no non-virtual copies of this imprint. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 987 (synopsis of case from entry 986). [Order This Item](#)



**An Interesting Murder and Piracy Trial, Joseph Story Presided**

**27. [Trial].**

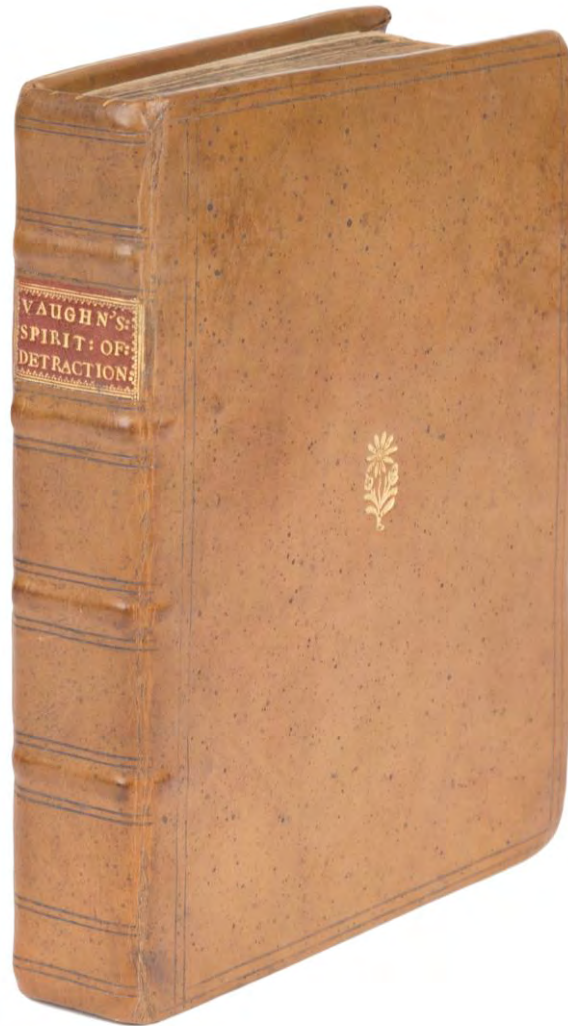
**Williams, John, Primary Defendant.**

*The Trial of John Williams, Francis Frederick, John P. Rog, Nils Peterson and Nathaniel White, On an Indictment for Murder on the High Seas: Before the Circuit Court of the United States, Holden for the District of Massachusetts, At Boston, On the 29th of December, 1818.* Boston: Printed by Russell and Gardner, 1819. 92 pp. Octavo (9-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in plain wrappers, untrimmed edges. Moderate edgewear, a few small tears and chips to wrappers, spine abraded, wrappers partially detached but secure, faint inscription in pencil to head of front wrapper. Moderate toning and light foxing to text, faint dampstaining to a few leaves, soiling to p.92 and title page, which has a chip to its lower inside corner. \$1,500.

\* Only edition. Tried before Joseph Story in his capacity as the Judge of the U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Massachusetts, this trial involved murders committed on the merchant schooner *Plattsburgh* bound from Baltimore to Smyrna. Led by Williams, the accused murdered the captain and took the ship to Norway. All the defendants except White were found guilty of murder and piracy and hanged. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 13248. McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 1103. [Order This Item](#)





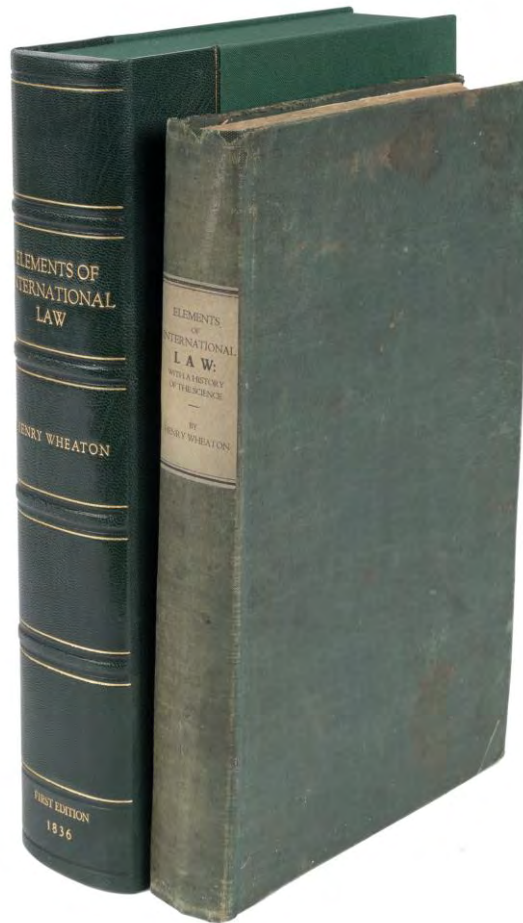
**"Fit to be Perused by the Libertines of This Age"**

**28. [Vaughan, Sir William (1577-1641)].**

*The Spirit of Detraction Coniured and Convicted in Seven Circles. A Worke Both Divine and Morall, Fit to be Perused by the Libertines of this Age, Who Endeauour by Their Detracting and Derogatorie Speeches, to Embezell Both the Glorie of God, And the Credit of Their Neighbours.* London: Printed by W.S. for George Norton, 1611. [xxxii], 248, 245-351, [21] pp. Title page and text enclosed in ruled borders. Quarto (7" x 5-1/2").

Handsome period-style calf, blind rules and small central gilt ornaments to boards, raised bands, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, gilt rules to board edges, endpapers renewed (using old paper). Light browning to text, light soiling and a few small early pen marks to title page, repairs to lower corners of front free endpaper and title page. An appealing copy in an notably attractive binding. \$3,500.

\* Only edition, one of two issues, both from 1611. This is a treatise on slander and libel. As indicated by its title, its argument has a strongly theological cast. Vaughan, who held an LL.D. from Oxford, is known today for his moralistic writings and efforts to establish an English colony in Newfoundland. Both issues are rare. OCLC locates 6 copies of our issue, none in North America. The ESTC locates 7 more, 4 of them in North America (Boston Public Library, Folger Shakespeare Library, Harvard, New York Public Library). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S2939. [Order This Item](#)



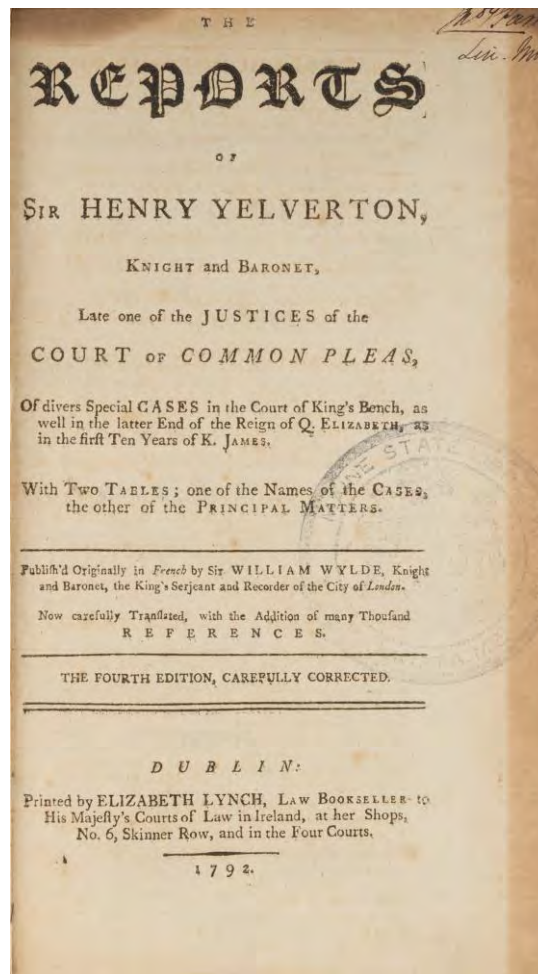
**First Edition of Wheaton's Landmark Treatise on International Law**

**29. Wheaton, Henry [1785-1848].**

*Elements of International Law: With a Sketch of the History of the Science.* Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard, 1836. [Verso of title:] Griggs & Co., Printers. xiv, [15]-375; [24] pp. Includes 24-page publisher catalogue. Octavo (9-1/4" x 5-3/4").

Original publisher's cloth, expertly restored, text block recased, period-style paper title label to spine, hinges, head of spine and lower corner of title page mended. Light soiling and a few minor stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine end and corners. Moderate toning and light foxing to text, brief early notes in pencil to a few passages. An appealing copy housed in a custom quarter morocco over cloth clamshell box, raised bands and gilt title to spine. \$3,000.

\* First edition. This landmark treatise was one of the first legal works by an American to enjoy an international audience. Acclaimed upon publication, it went through several editions in the United States and elsewhere, including a French edition in 1848 and a Chinese edition in 1864. (This latter edition is notable as the first translation of an international legal treatise into a non-European language.) It was a standard work for decades. As Sellers notes, this book established Wheaton as "the Blackstone of international law," who "shaped the law of nations for his contemporaries, and their successors, for at least half a century after his death" (Sellers). This copy is from the library of William Dillard, a learned judge from Amherst, Virginia. Sellers, *Republican Principles in International Law* 72. Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 728, citing the third edition. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 7200. [Order This Item](#)



**"Among the Best of the Older Books"**

**30. Yelverton, Sir Henry [1566-1629].**

**Wylde, Sir William (1611-1679), Editor.**

*The Reports of Sir Henry Yelverton, Knight and Baronet, Late One of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas, Of Divers Special Cases in the Court of King's Bench, As Well in the Latter End of the Reign of Q. Elizabeth, As in the First Ten Years of K. James. With Two Tables; One of the Names of the Cases, The Other of the Principal Matters. Publish'd Originally in French by Sir William Wylde, Knight and Baronet, The King's Serjeant and Recorder of the City of London. Now Carefully Translated, with the Addition of Many Thousand References.* Dublin: Printed by Elizabeth Lynch, Law Bookseller to His Majesty's Courts of Law in Ireland, 1792. [xvi], 228, [32] pp. Octavo (8" x 5-3/4").

Later law calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets and red and black lettering pieces to spine, endpapers renewed. A few minor nicks and scuffs to boards, some rubbing to extremities, chipping to head of spine, front joint just starting at foot, hinges cracked, library stamps to front pastedown and title page, which also has a small early owner signature. Moderate toning, light foxing and early annotations to a few leaves, light offsetting to margins of preliminaries and final leaves of text. \$100.

\* Fourth edition in English. These reports "have always been esteemed as among the best of the older books both for value of decision and essential accuracy of report." Wallace, *The Reporters* 211. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T97366.

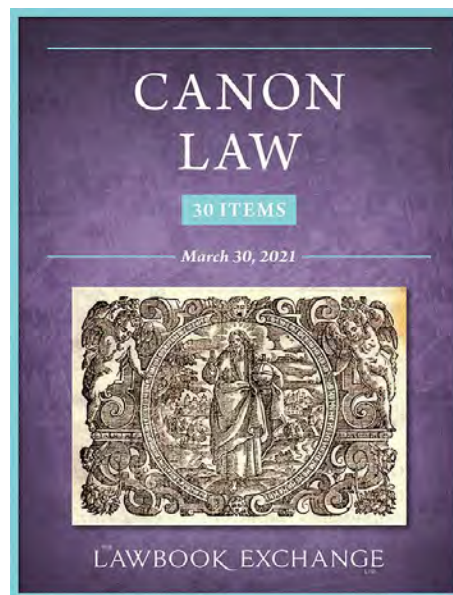
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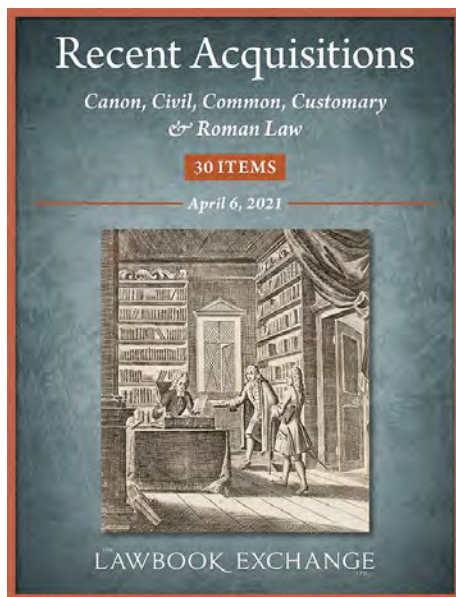
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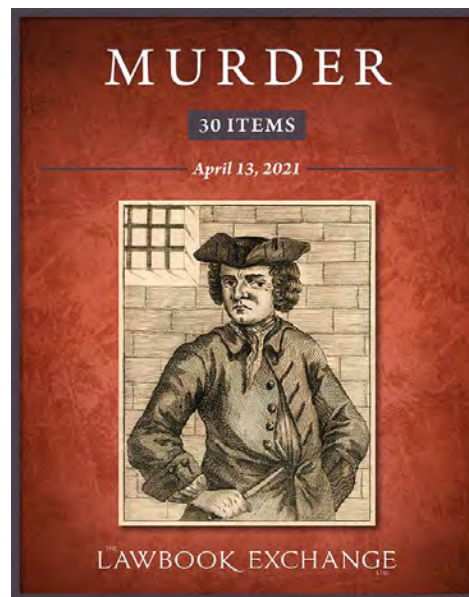
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