



30

ENGLISH LAW BOOKS  
PRINTED *in the*  
AGE *of* SHAKESPEARE  
(1564-1616)

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A LIST *to* COMMEMORATE  
*the* 400TH ANNIVERSARY  
*of* HIS DEATH

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May 2016

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## 30 English Law Books Printed in the Age of Shakespeare (1564-1616): A List to Commemorate the 400th Anniversary of His Death



Item 1



Item 2

### "Supplies a Chasm in the Printed Year Books"

#### 1. Bellew(e), Richard, Compiler.

*Les Ans du Roy Richard le Second Collect' Ensemble' Hors de les Abridgments de Statham, Fitzherbert et Brooke.* London: Imprinted by Robert Robertson, Dwelling in Fewter Lane Neere Holborne, 1585. [viii], 326 [i.e. 342], [6] pp. Complete. Octavo (6" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind rules and large central arabesques to boards, raised bands to spine, later repair to foot of spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate rubbing to extremities, with some wear to head of spine, corners bumped and somewhat worn, joints just starting near head. Title printed within woodcut typographical border, large woodcut arms to verso of title page, woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, very light foxing in places, faint dampstaining to a few leaves, internally clean. \$2,500.

\* First edition (one of 3 imprints issued in 1585). As Wallace notes, this alphabetical abridgement of a Year Book of Richard II covering the Courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas from 1378 to 1400 "supplies a chasm in the Year Books." He says it is "very rare," and it is indeed rather scarce. OCLC locates 12 copies of this edition (all imprints). Wallace, *The Reporters* 111-112. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R478.

### A Selection from Brooke's Abridgement

#### 2. [Brooke, Sir Robert (d.1558)].

*Ascuns Nouvell Cases de les ans et Temps le Roy, H.8. Ed.6. Et la Roygne Mary, Escrite ex la Graund Abridgement, Compose per Sir Robert Brooke Chivaler &c. La Disperse en les Titles. Mes Icy Collect Sub Ans.* [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1578. [1], 116, [3] ff. Complete. Octavo (5-1/2" x 4-1/4").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, recently rebacked, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, hinges mended, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block. Light rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, a few minor nicks to boards. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, occasional faint dampstaining to margins, light soiling to title page. Early owner annotations to title page and a few leaves, interior otherwise clean. An attractive copy. \$1,000.

\* First edition. Also known as *Brooke's New Cases*, *Petit Brook* or *Bellewe Temp. Henry VIII*, this book is a selection of cases from 1514-1558 taken from Brooke's great *Abridgement* (1568), a digest of more than 20,000 cases and notes from the Year Books, Fitzherbert's *Natura Brevium*, and other sources. Later editions were published in 1587, 1597, 1604, 1624, 1625, 1628 and 1651. All of these are scarce. Concerning the first edition, OCLC locates 7 copies in North America, all in law libraries (Boston College, Columbia, Georgetown, Social Law, University of Maine, University of Washington, Yale). Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R480. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116228.



Preferred Edition of "An Excellent Repertory or Table for the Year Books"

### 3. Brooke, Sir Robert.

*La Graunde Abridgement, Collecte & Escrie per le Iudge Tresreverend Syr Robert Brooke Chivalier, Nadgairs Chiefe Iustice del Common Banke.* [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1586.

[And]

*La Secoude Part du Graunde Abridgement...* [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1586. [iv], 351; [i], 2-328 ff. Complete.

Two parts in one. Small folio (11" x 7-1/2"). Recent period-style calf, raised bands and gilt-stamped title to spine, blind rules and corner fleurons to boards, endpapers renewed. Titles printed within handsome woodcut architectural borders. Light toning to text, faint dampstaining in places, repairs to upper corners of first title page and following leaf. Early underlining and brief annotations to some leaves, early initials to head of first title page, internally clean. \$2,000.

\* Third edition. Sir Robert Brooke was renowned for his great learning and probity as a judge. His *Abridgement* is based on Fitzherbert's *Abridgement*, but it contains much new material. In all, Brooke abridged nearly 21,000 cases and digested them alphabetically under 404 headings. It abridges fully the *Year Books* of Henry VII and Henry VIII. Brooke proceeded with great care and accuracy, and is believed to have had access to the original records of the *Year Books*. Coke calls the *Abridgement* "a worthy and painful work and an excellent repertory or table for the Year Books of the Law." This edition is superior to earlier printings, in which abbreviations are frequently unintelligible. A fair number of important early American lawyers had copies of this title, and it remained a reference into the nineteenth century. Thomas Jefferson, to cite on example, had a copy of the present edition. OCLC locates 13 more in North American law libraries. OCLC locates 13 copies of this edition in North American law libraries. Coke cited in Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 151-52. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R473, R476. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson*, 1777.



A Predecessor of the Small Claims Court

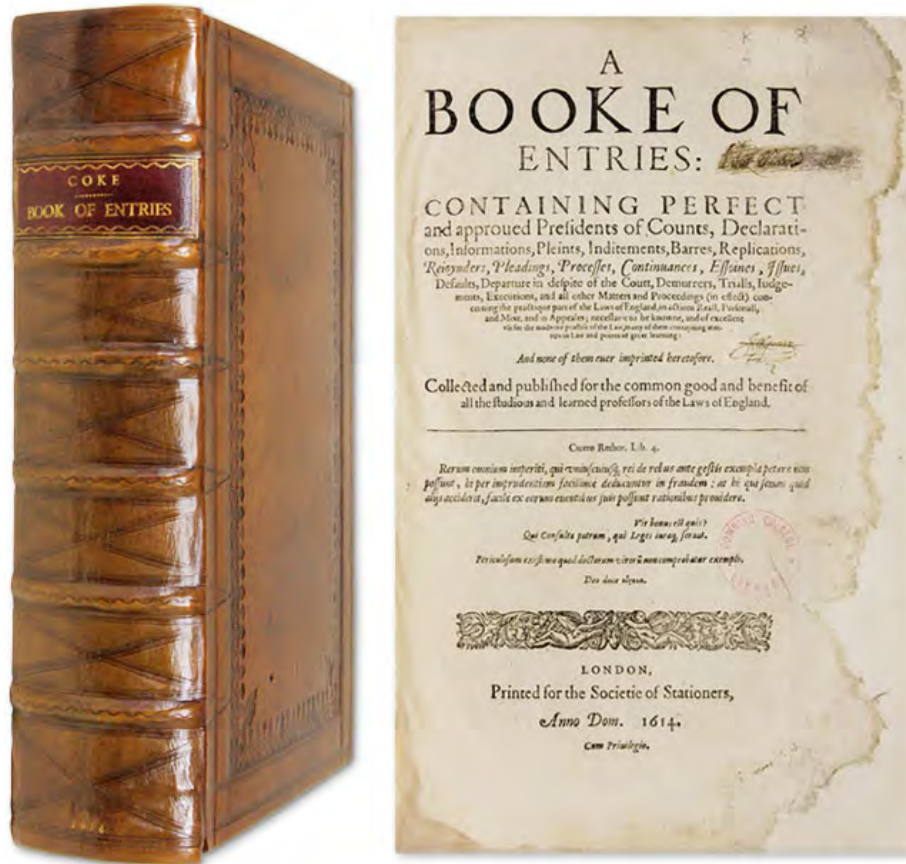
4. [Caesar, Julius, Sir (1558-1663)].

[*The Ancient State, Authoritie, And Proceedings of the Court of Requests.* 2 Oct. 1596]. Drop-head title: *In Nomine Domini Nostri Iesu Christi.* 13. Februarij. 1592. *Actes, Orders, And Decrees Made by the King and His Counsell, 9. H.7. [-Anno 27. Eliz.] Remaining Amongst the Records of the Court, Now Commonly Called the Court of Requests.* [London: Printed by the Deputies of C. Barker, 1597]. 162, [2] ff. Complete as issued. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum with later ribbon ties, early hand-lettered title to spine. Negligible light rubbing and soiling, later armorial bookplate of the Earls of Macclesfield to front pastedown, embossed Macclesfield stamp to a few leaves. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, a few leaves darkened, light foxing and dampspotting in a few places, internally clean. A handsome copy. \$2,000.

\* First edition, one of two issues. The court of requests was a minor equity court that flourished during the Tudor and Stuart periods. It was established in the reign of Henry VII as a low-fee appeal court intended to accompany the sovereign on progress around the country. Abolished during the Commonwealth, it is important as an ancestor of the small claims court. Also, its records offer a good deal of information about the function of law in non-elite circles. Caesar, later Sir Julius and master of the rolls, was extraordinary master (1591) and ordinary master (1596) of this court. Based on a notebook compiled around 1600, Caesar's study is the fundamental contemporary account of its work.

The first edition was issued twice. Our copy matches the collation in Pollard and Redgrave and Sweet & Maxwell (which conjectures 1592 as the imprint date). We located copies identical to ours at Exeter College, Oxford, the Middle Temple Library and the Folger Library. The second issue has a title page with the title stated above in square brackets, five leaves of preliminaries and an errata leaf. Both issues are rare. OCLC does not list our issue and only 4 copies of the other issue (Bavarian State Library, Cambridge University, Huntington, Yale). Our issue is not in Beale or the *English Short-Title Catalogue*. Our copy once belonged to the library of Shirbirn Castle, the library of the Earls of Macclesfield, one of the finest private libraries in Great Britain. Pollard and Redgrave, *Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland, & Ireland* 4341. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:356 (1).



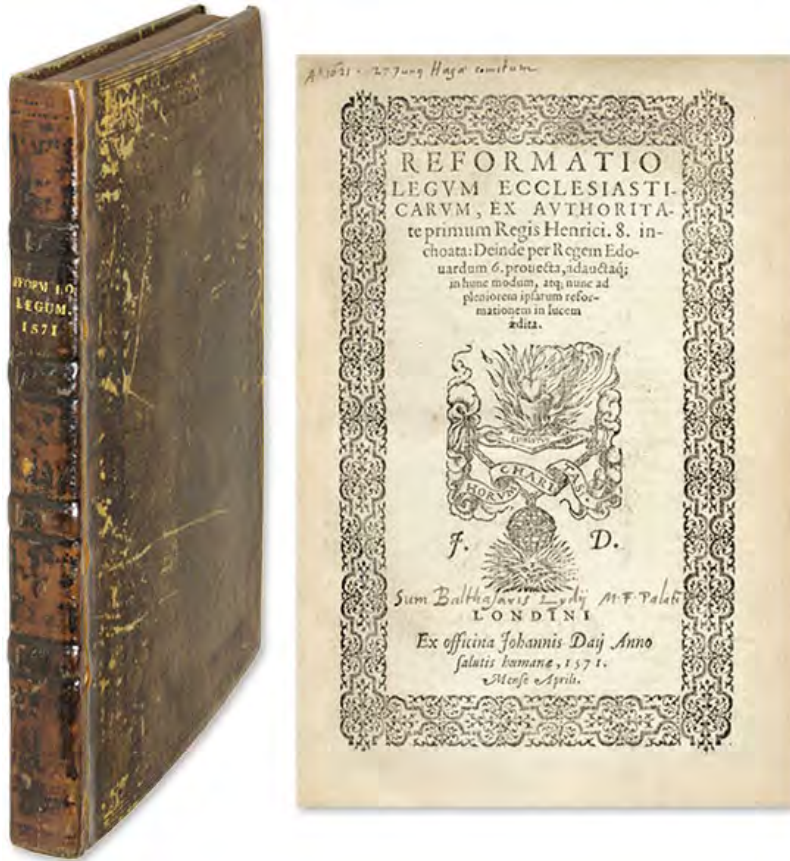
First Edition of Coke's *Booke of Entries*

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

*A Booke of Entries: Containing Perfect and Approved Presidents of Counts, Declarations, Informations, Pleints, Inditements, Barres, Replications, Rejoynders, Pleadings, Processes, Continuances, Essoines, Issues, Defaults, Departure in Despite of the Court, Demurrers, Trialls, Iudgements, Executions, And all Other Matters and Proceedings (In Effect) Concerning the Practique Part of the Laws of England, In Actions Reall, Personall, And Mixt, And in Appeales; Necessarye to be Knowne, And of Excellent Use for the Moderne Practise of the Law, Many of Them Contayning Matters in Law and Points of Great Learning: And None of Them Ever Imprinted Heretofore. Collected and Published for the Common Good and Benefit of All the Studious and Learned Professors of the Laws of England.* London: Printed for the Societie of Stationers, 1614. [x], 713, [11] ff. The first and last leaves are blank. Paging irregular. Main text in parallel columns. Prefaces in Latin and English, text in Latin, index in French. Folio (13" x 9").

Recent period-style full calf, blind rules and fillets to boards, raised bands, blind tooling and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge. Toning to text, repairs to fore-edges of preliminaries, dampstaining to fore-edges at beginning of text, diminishing gradually through fol. 80, worming to margins near rear of text, from about fol. 643 onwards, spark burns to a few leaves. Woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and printer ornaments. Two early struck-through signatures to title page, annotations in contemporary hand to rear endleaf, interior otherwise clean. Ex-library. Small inkstamp and hand-written location number to title page. A nice copy in a handsome binding. \$1,250.

\* First edition. This was the first comprehensive book of entries since Rastell's *Collection of Entries* (final edition, 1670). A second edition was published in 1671. Holdsworth notes that it embodied Coke's experiences at the bar and on the bench. Marvin adds: "This volume was published...before the completion of his reports. It is in some measure a supplement to them because it exhibits the entire record of many of the cases therein reported." Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 212. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:461. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121747.



First Edition of an Influential Code Prepared for the Church of England

6. [Cranmer, Thomas (1489-1556)].

[Foxy, John (1516-1587), Editor].

[Cheke, Sir John (1514-1557), Translator].

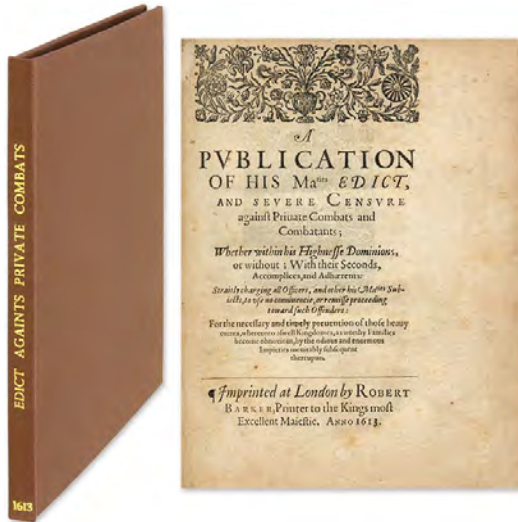
[Haddon, Walter (1516-1572), Translator].

[Commissioners on Revision of the Ecclesiastical Laws, 1550-1552].

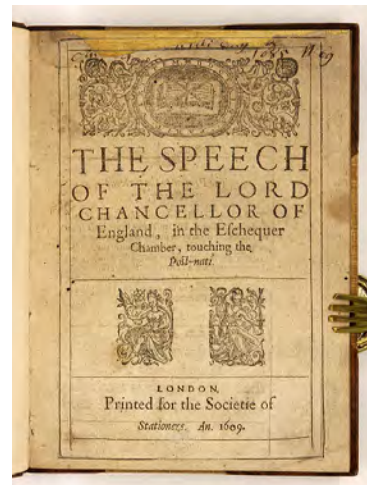
*Reformatio Legum Ecclesiasticarum, Ex Auctoritate Primum Regis Henrici. 8. Inchoata: Deinde per Regem Edouardum 6. Provecta, Adauctaq[ue] in Hunc Modum, Atq[ue] Nunc ad Pleniorum Ipsarum Reformationem in Lucem Aedita.* London: Ex Officina Iohannis Daij Anno Salutis Humanae, Mense Aprili, 1571. [x], 149, [3] ff. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Contemporary calf with later rebacking, endpapers renewed. Blind rules and fillets to spine, raised bands and gilt title to spine. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners lightly bumped, hinges cracked, front joint just starting. Title printed within woodcut typographical border, woodcut tail-pieces and pictorial initials. Light toning to text, early annotation in miniscule hand to head of title page. Ex-library. Bookplate to front pastedown. A handsome copy. \$3,500.

\* First edition. Also known as the Henrican Canons, the *Reformatio Legum Ecclesiasticarum* is a revision of Catholic canon law intended for the newly established Church of England. It was written between 1550 and 1552 by the Commissioners on Revision of the Ecclesiastical Laws, which was headed by Thomas Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury. One of the first acts of the English Reformation, it is an important source of information about the state of English canon law and church discipline in the mid-Tudor period and the challenges faced by the reformed church's leaders. It was edited by John Foxy after Cranmer's death and translated into Latin by Cheke and Haddon. Although it was never ratified by Parliament, it was highly esteemed by later lawyers and for many years an unofficial authority in ecclesiastical courts. According to the *ESTC*, this book may have been published in 1572, "since Walter Haddon, who died on 21 Jan. 1572, is referred to in the preface as 'clarissimae memoriae.'" OCLC locates 6 copies of this edition in North American law libraries (Columbia, Harvard, Library of Congress, UC-Berkeley, University of Michigan, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S109036. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T308.



Item 7



Item 8

### James I Prohibits Dueling

#### 7. [Dueling].

[Great Britain].

James I [1566-1625], King of England.

*A Publication of His Majesty's Edict, And Severe Censure Against Private Combats and Combatants; Whether Within his Highness's Dominions, Or Without; With their Seconds, Accomplices, And Adherents: Straitly Charging All Officers, And Other his Majesty's Subjects, To Use no Connivencie, Or Remisse Proceeding Toward Such Offenders: For the Necessary and Timely Prevention of Those Heavy Events, Whereunto Aswell Kingdomes, As Worthy Families Become Obnoxious, By the Odious and Enormous Impieties Inevitably Subsequent Thereupon.* London: Imprinted by Robert Barker, 1613 [i.e. 1614]. [iv], 119, [1] pp. (Original endleaves, counted in the ESTC collation, renewed.) Quarto (7" x 6-1/2").

Recent cloth, gilt title to spine. Large woodcut arms of Great Britain to verso of title page, large woodcut head-piece. Some toning to text, (very) faint dampstaining to foot of text block, some soiling to title page and verso of final leaf, internally clean. \$1,350

\* Only edition, one of two issues from the same year. A series of high-profile duels between leading courtiers in 1613 prompted James I to launch a campaign to suppress the practice. He prohibited dueling in a 1613 proclamation, classifying it a serious offense punishable in Star Chamber. He also reorganized the Court of Chivalry to serve as a substitute to the field of honor. (In a sense, these actions laid the foundation of the modern laws of libel and slander.) Several related rules and decrees followed. The proclamations and later edicts are collected in this book. Counting both issues, OCLC locates no copies in North American law libraries. We located a copy, however, at the law library of George Washington University. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S100678.

### Citizenship and Property Rights of Scots in England Under James I

#### 8. [Egerton, Sir Thomas (1540?-1617)].

*The Speech of the Lord Chancellor of England, In the Eschequer Chamber, Touching the Post-Nati.* London: Printed [by Adam Islip] for the Societie of Stationers, An. 1609. [xii], 118, [2] pp. First and final leaves (renewed) blanks. Quarto (7" x 5-1/4").

Recent three-quarter calf over textured cloth (by Morrell), gilt rules to boards along cloth panels, lettering piece and gilt ornaments to spine, all edges gilt, marbled endpapers. Light rubbing to extremities, owner bookplate (of C.J.S. Goodger) to front pastedown, repair to head of spine. Title and text printed within ruled borders, woodcut headpieces. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, some soiling to title page and verso of final leaf, borders of a few leaves affected by trimming with no loss to text. Early owner signature to head of title page, brief early annotations to a few leaves. A handsome copy. \$450.

\* Only edition, one of two issues from 1609. James VI, King of Scotland, became James I, King of England and Ireland, in 1603. Although Scotland and England remained sovereign states, they were ruled by James in personal union, which created a quasi-united kingdom. Egerton's speech concerning the property and citizenship rights of Scots in England and Scotland born after the accession of James I to the English throne. OCLC locates 12 copies in North American law libraries. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S100270.



### Highly Esteemed by Coke and Blackstone

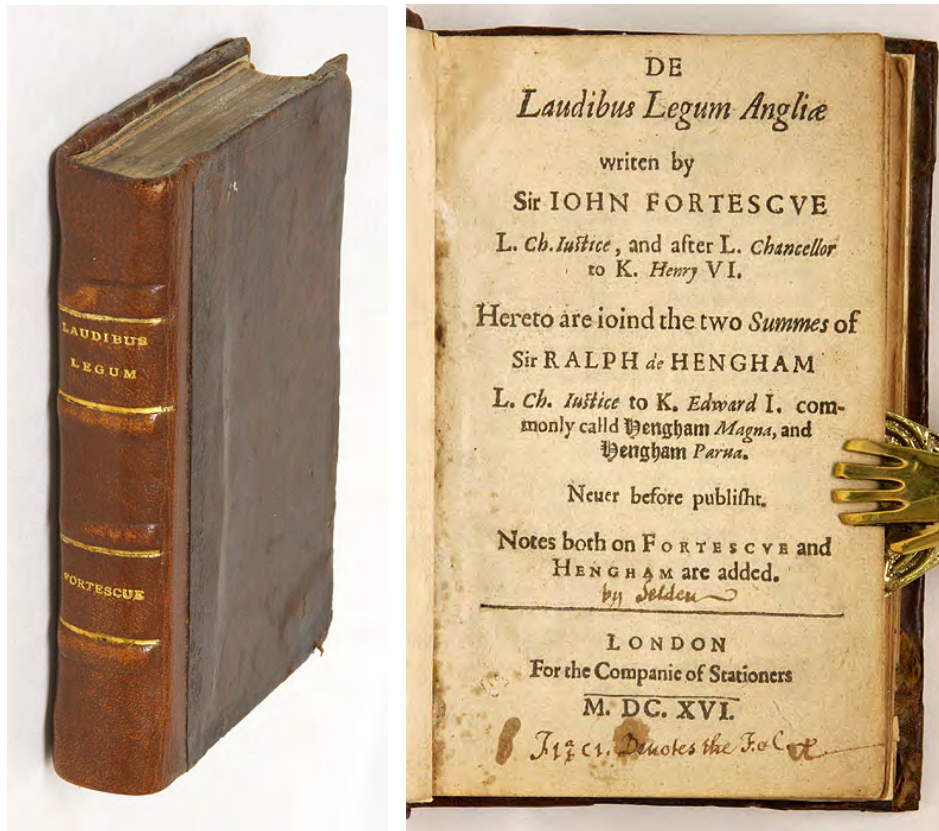
#### 9. [Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony (1470-1538)]. [Rastell, William (?1508-1565)].

*La Nouvelle Natura Breviu[m] du Iudge Tresreverende Monsieur Anthony Fitzherbert, Denierement Renue & Corrigee per L'aucteur, Avecques un Table Perfecte des Choses Notables Contenus en Ycell, Novelment Compose per Guiliaulme Rastell, & Iamais per Cydeuaunt Imprimee.* London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1567 [i.e. 1576, date on colophon]. [xxxii], 271 ff. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary paneled calf, blind fleurons and central arabesques to boards, raised bands and blind rules to spine, ties lacking. Some rubbing to extremities, minor nicks to boards, a few small worm holes, corners bumped and somewhat worn, spine ends bumped and lightly chipped, front joint just starting at head, front pastedown loose, a few cracks to text block. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning to text, occasional discoloration to outer margins in a few places, soiling to some leaves. Early owner signature to front free endpaper, brief annotations in early hand to head of title page and some text leaves, along with some underlining, rear endleaf filled with notes. A nice copy. \$2,500.

\* First published in 1534, the *Nouvelle Natura Brevium* is a manual of procedure written by a Judge of the Common Pleas during the reign of Henry VIII. Winfield notes that "Coke put it among the books which he considered most necessary and of greatest authority and excellency"; Blackstone considered it an authority as well. Compiled from the earlier *Natura Brevia* and the *Registrum Brevium*, it includes several original observations on the form and function of writs. Rastell's revisions include the addition of a table. A popular work, it went through numerous editions in Law French and English, the final appearing in 1794. It remains significant to this day for its descriptions of writs that were becoming obsolete in the early sixteenth century. Winfield, *Chief Sources of English Legal History* 303. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T348. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S4100.





First Selden Edition of Fortescue's *De Laudibus*

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

*De Laudibus Legum Angliae* Written by Sir Iohn Fortescue L. Ch. Iustice, and After L. Chancellor to K. Henry VI. Hereto are Ioid the Two Summes of Sir Ralph de Hengham L. Ch. Iustice to K. Edward I. Commonly Calld Hengham Magna, And Hengham Parua. Neuer Before Publisht. Notes Both on Fortescue and Hengham are Added. London: Printed [by Adam Islip] for the Companie of Stationers, 1616. [ix], 132, [3] ff.; 56, [12], 35, 34-159, [3] pp. Last leaf blank. Two parts, each with title page and individual pagination. First part in parallel columns; Latin with running English translation. Texts of *Summes* in Latin with notes in English. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary calf with later rebacking, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and gilt title to spine, corners mended, endpapers renewed, "F&H" in early hand to top-edge of text block. Some rubbing to extremities, a few minor nicks and scuffs to boards. Light toning to text, negligible faint dampstaining in places, side-notes on several leaves trimmed with minor loss to legibility. Brief early annotations to title page and a few leaves, interior otherwise clean. \$1,750.

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



**With Two Well-Annotated Acts Concerning Alcoholic Beverages**

**11. [Great Britain].**

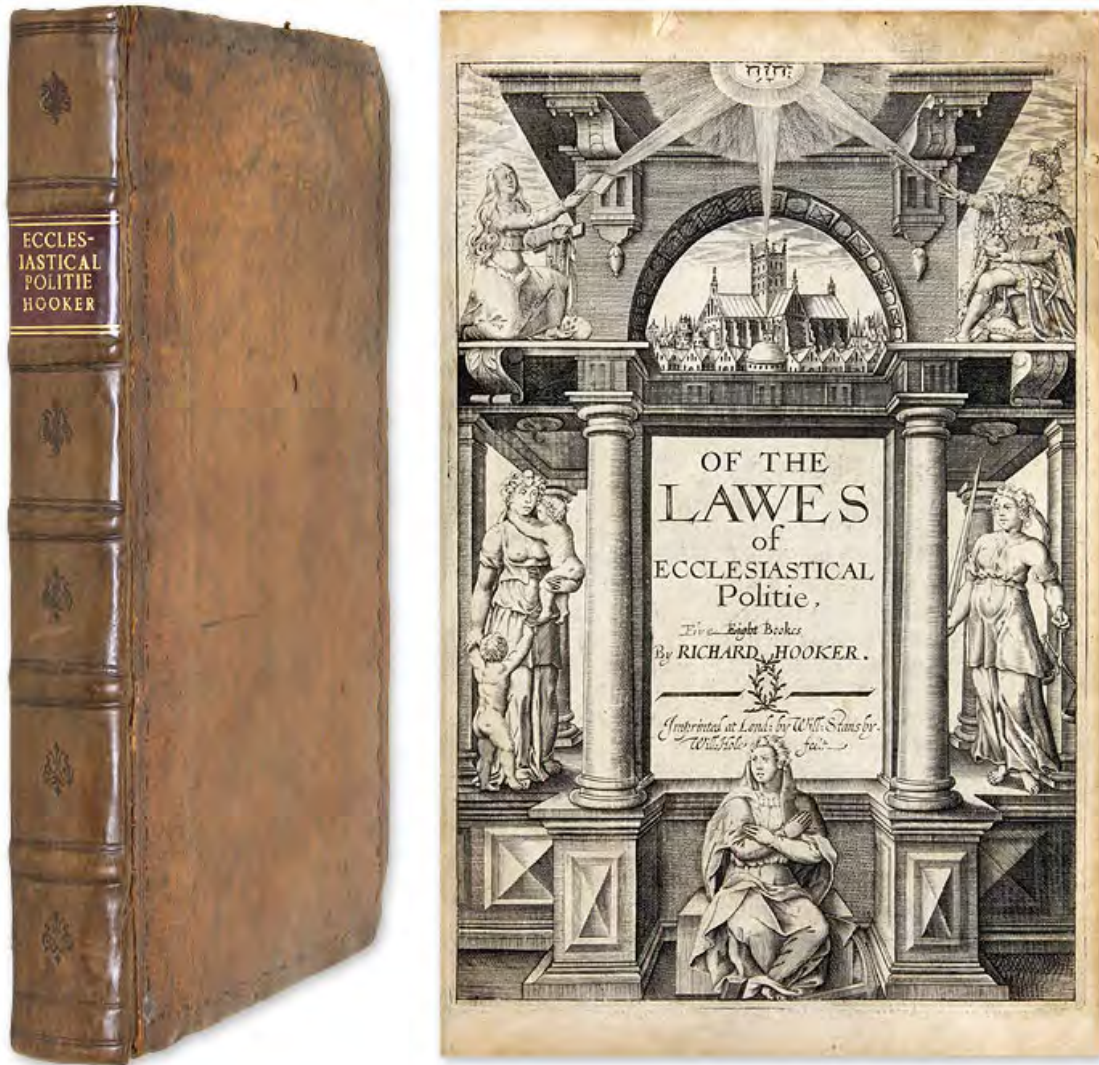
**[Statutes].**

**[James I, King (1566-1625)].**

*An[no] Regni Iacobi, Regis Angl. Scotiae, Franc. & Hybern. Viz. Angl. Franc. & Hybern. 4. Scotiae 40. At the Parliament Begun and Holden at Westminster by Prorogation, The 18. Day of November, In the Fourth Yeere of the Raigne of Our Most Gracious Sovereigne Lord Iames, By the Grace of God of England, France & Ireland King; Defender of the Faith, &c. And of Scotland the 40. And There Continued Untill the 4. day of July 1607. And Then Proroged Until the 16. Day of November Next Following. To the High Pleasure of Almighty God, And to the Weale Publique of this Realme, Were Enacted as Followeth.* [London: Robert Barker, Printer to the Kings Most Excellent Maiestie, 1607]. 92 pp. Folio (10-1/2" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum with fragments of ribbon ties, early hand-lettered title to spine. Light soiling, spine ends bumped, chips to head and foot of front board, free endpapers lacking. Title printed with woodcut architectural border, decorated initials, head-pieces and tail-pieces. Light toning to text, faint dampstaining in places. Extensive annotations in contemporary hand to eight pages, some slightly affected by trimming, interior otherwise clean. \$1,500.

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



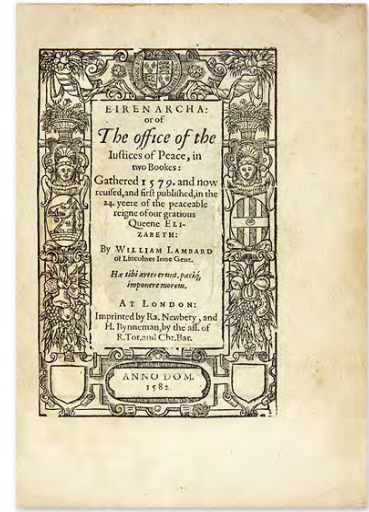
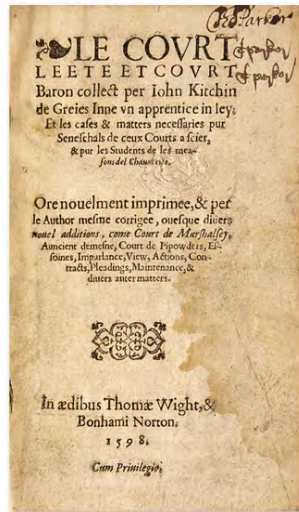
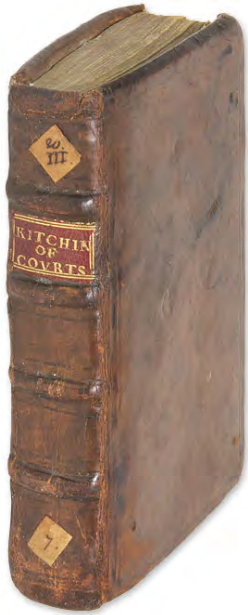
**An Important Early Study of the Church of England's Authority**

**12. Hooker, Richard [154?-1600].**

*Of the Lawes of Ecclesiastical Politie, Eight Books.* London: By Will: Stansby [for Matthew Lownes], [1611]. [52], 453, [2] pp. Final leaf, a blank, lacking. Two parts, each with title page. Folio (11" x 7").

Contemporary sheep with recent rebacking, blind fillets to boards, raised bands, lettering piece and blind ornaments to spine, hinges and upper corner of front free endpaper mended. Light rubbing and a few minor scuffs and creases to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn. First part has copperplate pictorial title page, title page of second part printed within woodcut architectural border, woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, later repair to margin of final leaf. light soiling and minor edgewear to title page of first part. Early annotations to title page, underlining to a few leaves, later owner signatures to endleaves. A handsome copy. \$500.

\*Third edition. First printed in 1594-1597, this influential work is concerned with the general principles involved in the Church of England's legal, political and social position. Like all editions through 1666, our edition contains *five* books (as noted by the annotator of our copy's title page). The first part contains Books I-IV; the other Part V. The other three books were published posthumously. However, many scholars doubt their authenticity. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S119096.



Item 13

Item 14

**Copy of Kitchin's *Court Leete, Et Court Baron* from Library of Thomas Parker, First Earl of Macclesfield**

**13. Kitchin, John [c.1520-c.1590].**

*Le Court Leete et Court Baron Collect per Iohn Kitchin de Greies Inne un Apprentice in Ley. Et les Cases & Matters Necessaries pur Seneschals de Ceux Courts a Scier, & Pur les Students de les Measons del Chaunceries.* [London]: In Aedibus Thomae Wight, & Bonhami Norton, 1598. [xii], 289, [3] pp. Octavo (6" x 4").

Contemporary calf, blind rules and small blind-stamped initials "GW" to boards, raised bands and later lettering piece and small hand-lettered shelf labels to spine. Light rubbing to extremities, a few minor scuffs to boards, corners bumped small tears to head of spine, pastedowns loose, later armorial bookplate of the Earl of Macclesfield to verso of front board, small embossed Macclesfield stamp to head of title page. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining and soiling to preliminaries, light foxing in a few places. Early owner signature of Thomas Parker to head of title page, markings and brief annotations in his hand to the margins of several leaves. A nice copy with an interesting association. \$1,250.

\* Later edition. First published in 1579 Kitchin's work is an important source of information on local courts and government. By outlining the differences between the previously undivided court, Kitchin, along with Coke, helped lay the foundations of modern legal theory. "In fact Kitchin was doing on a small scale what Coke was doing on a grand scale. Both were representatives of that school of literate Elizabethan lawyers...whose great and enduring work was the adaptation of medieval law and institutions to modern needs. Imagination necessarily played some part in this process of adaptation; and thus they are responsible not only for the enunciation of the rules of modern law, but also for legal and historical theories, the soundness of which was considered by many generations of lawyers and historians to be as incontestable as their statements of law." This copy belonged to Thomas Parker [1666-1732], 1st Earl of Macclesfield, chief baron of the Court of Exchequer and Lord Chancellor from 1718 to 1725. His markings are mostly pointing hands (manicules). Housed in Shirbirn Castle, the library of the Earls of Macclesfield was one of the finest private libraries in Great Britain. OCLC locates 5 copies of this imprint in North American law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, University of Michigan, University of Texas, Washington University). Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* IV:130. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T374. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S3959.

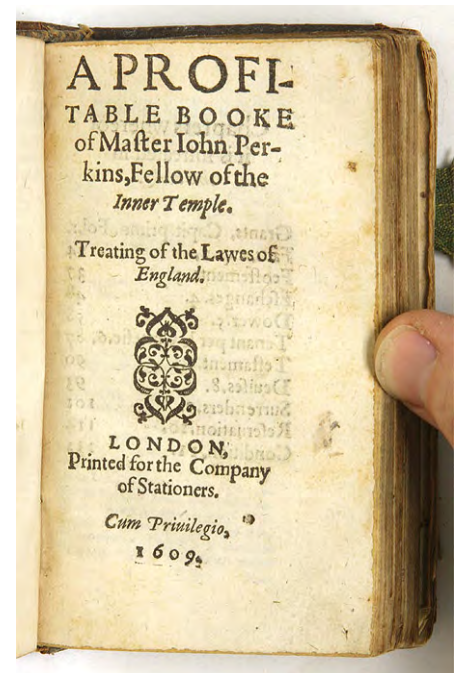
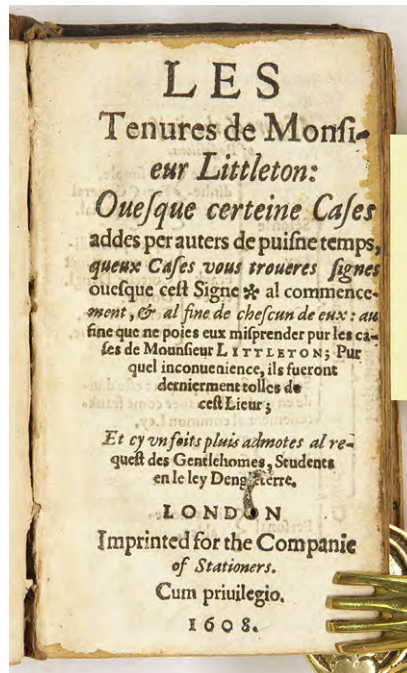
**An Interesting Perspective on Elizabethan England**

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

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

Recent period-style paneled calf, blind fleurons to inside panels, raised bands and blind ornaments to spine, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block. Title printed within woodcut architectural border, woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials, woodcut arms of dedicatee, Sir Robert Bromley, facing dedication leaf, large woodcut device to verso of final leaf. Light toning to text, some edgewear to endleaves and title page. Brief early annotation to front endleaf, interior otherwise clean. An appealing copy.  
\$3,500.

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



Two Classic Works on the Law of Real Property

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

*Les Tenures de Monsieur Littleton: Ouesque Certaine Cases Addees per Auters de Puisne Temps, Queux Cases vous Troveres Signes Ouesque Cest Signe \* Al Commencement, & Al Fine de Chescun de Eux.* London: Imprinted [by A. Islip?] for the Company of Stationers, 1608. [1], 170, [25] ff.

[Bound with]

**Perkins, John [d. 1545].**

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

Octavo (4-1/2" x 2-1/2"). Contemporary calf, gilt rules to boards, gilt fillets to spines, fragments of thong ties. Moderate rubbing to spine and extremities with some wear to corners, light scuffing to boards, a few tiny wormholes to spine, pastedowns loose, a few partial cracks to text block, wormhole from preliminaries through first third of text with no loss to legibility, final two signatures of *A Profitable Booke* a bit loose and slightly edgeworn, edges trimmed closely occasionally touching side-notes (with no loss to legibility). Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, internally clean. \$1,250.

\* Later editions. This volume collects two classic English treatises on the law of real property. Written during the reign of Edward IV [1442-1483] and first published around 1481, Littleton's *Tenures* is probably the most revered treatise in the history of the common law. Much admired for its learning and style, it is concerned with tenures and other issues relating to real property. This venerable work, which Coke called "the ornament of the Common Law, and the most perfect and absolute work that ever was written in any humane science," is considered a landmark because it renounced the principles of Roman law (and Latin) in favor of a set of guidelines and doctrines drawn from the Year Books, and when necessary, hypothetical cases.

A popular work during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries that was held in high regard by Coke, Perkins' *Profitable Booke* was first published in 1528 and went through numerous editions in both English and Law-French. Devoted mostly to the land law as developed in the Year Books, it is divided into the following topics: grants, deeds, feoffments, exchanges, dower, curtesy, wills, devises, surrenders, reservations, and conditions. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* II:573, V:388. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S93514, S114287.



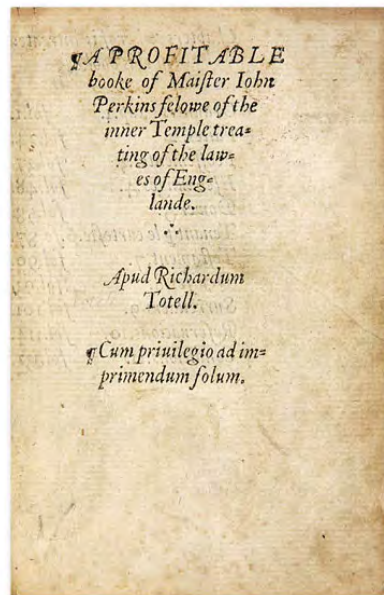
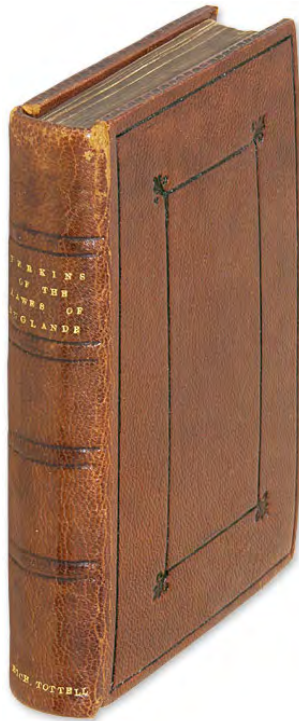
A Scarce *Natura Brevium*, Beale T94

16. [*Natura Brevium*].

*Natura Brevium in French*. [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottell, 1566 [i.e. 21 January 1567]. 180, [4] ff. Octavo (5" x 3-1/4").

Contemporary paneled calf, blind central ornaments and gilt corner fleurons to inside panels, carefully rebacked, raised bands and later gilt title to spine, ties lacking. Light rubbing to boards, somewhat heavier rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, later armorial bookplate (of Hopetoun) to front pastedown, a few cracks to text block. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining in places, occasional underlining and brief annotations to title page and elsewhere, more extensive annotations to front endleaves, all annotations in early hand. An appealing copy. \$2,500.

\* With table. Text in Law-French and Latin. A cornerstone of the common law, the *Natura Brevium* is a selection of writs, with commentary, based on the *Registrum Brevium* dating from the reign of Edward III. The first printed edition of the *Natura Brevium* was published in 1494 by Richard Pynson. After Sir Anthony Fitzherbert published his *New Natura Brevium* in 1534 it was referred to as the *Old Natura Brevium*. The actual date for this imprint is stated in the colophon: "Imprinted...1567 Ianuarii vicesimo primo." Most of the annotations are citations to the Year Books. The notes on the front endleaves form a brief index of selected topics. OCLC locates 4 copies. The ESTC locates five copies in the British Isles and five copies in North America. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S113105. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T94.



**Rare Imprint of  
A Profitable Booke that is Not Listed in Beale**

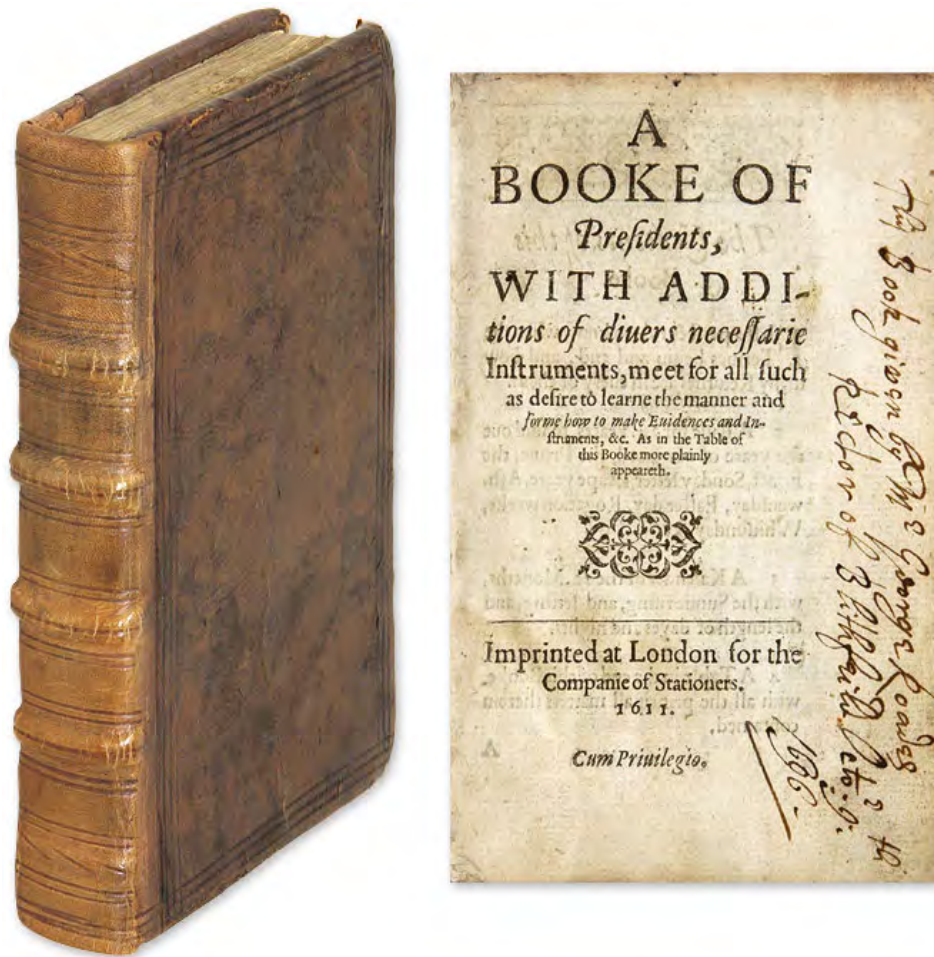
**17. Perkins, John [d. 1545].**

*A Profitable Booke of Maister Iohn Perkins, Felowe of the Inner Temple Treating of the Lawes of Englande.* [London]: Apud Richardum Totell, [c.1560-1565]. 19, 168 ff., [1] pp. Complete except for last blank (Leaf C4). Octavo (5-1/4" x 3-3/4").

Attractive late-nineteenth century maroon polished calf, blind frames to boards, raised bands and gilt titles to spine, endpapers renewed. Negligible light rubbing to spine ends and joints. Top edge gilt. The first leaf of the proem has a splendid decorated initial illuminated in gold against a blue background, main text has a woodcut decorated initial. Early underlining and brief annotations to a few leaves. Offsetting to margins of endleaves, negligible light wear and browning to a few leaves, interior otherwise fresh. A desirable copy of a rare imprint. \$3,500.

\* Early edition of a work first published in 1528. Main text in Law-French, preface in Latin. A popular work during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries that was held in high regard by Coke, Perkins' *Profitable Booke* went through numerous editions in both English and Law-French. Devoted mostly to the land law as developed in the Year Books, it is divided into the following topics: grants, deeds, feoffments, exchanges, dower, curtesy, wills, devises, surrenders, reservations, and conditions. According to Marvin's *Legal Bibliography* (1847), "the English translations are, more or less, inaccurate, and have accumulated errors...the French editions, therefore, are generally to be preferred" (563).

This copy does not have a publication date, but its colophon, pagination (stated above) and printing errors suggest either 1560 or 1565. The colophon reads: "Imprinted at Lon- / don in fletestrete with- / in temple barre, at the signe of / the hande and starre, by / Richarde Tottle"; leaf 154 is numbered 167. All of the imprints listed in Beale have printed dates. However, Pollard and Redgrave list two undated imprints with the provisional dates of 1560 and 1565. Records on OCLC with an identical colophon, pagination and printing errors of our copy state 1560, except for Harvard, which gives a provisional date of 1559. Our copy thus falls between the 1555 and 1567 Tottel editions. OCLC locates 7 copies. Holdsworth, *History of English Law* V:388. Pollard & Redgrave, *Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland and Ireland 1963/19634.5. English Short-Title Catalogue S4042.*



### The First Conveyancing Formbook

**18. [Phayer (Phayre), Thomas (c.1510-1560)].**

*A Booke of Presidents, With Additions of Divers Necessarye Instruments, Meet for All Such as Desire to Learne the Manner and Forme How to Make Evidences and Instruments, &c. As in the Table of This Booke More Plainely Appeareth.* London: Printed for the Companie of Stationers, 1611. [viii], 125, [7] ff. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary calf, rebaked in period style, blind rules to boards, raised bands and blind rules to spine. Light rubbing and a few minor scuffs to boards, corners bumped and lightly worn, pastedowns loose, portion of rear free endpaper lacking. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining and light soiling to a few leaves. Early annotations and signatures to front free endpaper, title page and Fol. 1, interior otherwise clean. An appealing copy. \$950.

\* Later edition. With an index, court calendars and an almanac (to determine future court dates). First published in 1543, this was the first collection of conveyancing forms. The most significant book on land law since Littleton's *Tenures*, it was also one of the earliest formbooks printed in England. A popular work, it went through several editions and reissues, the final appearing in 1626. OCLC locates five copies of this edition in the U.S. law libraries. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S113530.





Early Edition of Plowden's Reports - This Edition in Jefferson's Library

**19. Plowden, Edmund [1518-1585].**

*Les Commentaries, Ou Reportes de Edmund Plowden un Apprentice de le Comen Ley, De Divers Cases Esteants Matters en Ley, & de les Arguments sur Yceux, En les Temps des Raygnes le Roye Edwarde le Size, Le Roigne Mary, Le Roy & Roigne Phillip & Mary, & Le Roigne Elizabeth. Ouesque un Table Perfect des Choses Notables Contenus en Ycell, Novelment Compose per William Fletewode Recorder de Loundres, & Iammes cy Devaunt Imprime. Auxy vous Aves in cest Impression Plusors Bone Notes en le Mergent per Tout le Lyeur, En Queux les Cases sont Referre al Abridgement de Brooke, & Les Lyeurs del Termes, & As Auters Lyeurs del Comen Ley, Queux Notes Sont Imprimees en un Greinder Letter, q[ue] les notes Escries per Master Plowden le Reporter Mesme, A le Fine que Chescun Poet Sacher, Queux Notes le Reporter ad Escrye, & Queux sont Ades per Auter de Puisne Temps. [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, Octobris 20, 1578. [vi], 12, 401, [1] ff. Woodcut table (of consanguinity). Complete.*

[And]

*Cy Ensuont Certeyne Cases Reportes per Edmund Plowden un Apprentice de le Commen Ley, Puis le Primer Imprimeur de ses Commentaries, & Ore a le Seconde Imprimeur de les Dits Commentaries a Ceo Ades. Ouesque un Table en Fine de cest Lieur des Toutez les Principall Cases, Cibien en le Dist Premier Lieur des Commentaries, Come de les Cases icy de Novel Ades, Iammes Devaunt Imprime. [London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1579]. [i], 403-562, 562-565, [5], [6], [1], 15 ff. Complete.*

Two parts in one, each with title page. Small folio (10-3/4" x 6-3/4"). Recent period-style paneled calf, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Negligible light rubbing to extremities. Title pages printed within woodcut architectural borders, attractive woodcut decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining in places, corners of a few leaves chipped with (very) minor loss to text, edges of title page, which were trimmed close, somewhat edgeworn with some loss, edges of a few leaves repaired. Small early struck-through signature to title page, contemporary annotations to a few leaves, a few eighteenth-century annotations to title page, rear endleaf and a few other places, interior otherwise clean. A solid copy. \$2,000.

\* Second editions. First published in 1571 and covering the period of 1550-1580, Plowden's *Reports* marks the transition away from the cumulative method of Year Books to one based on exposition and commentary. They were the first set of law reports to be published in a reporter's lifetime and under his own name. In most respects they were a forerunner of the modern law report. Plowden, a Catholic, achieved a great professional reputation and was esteemed as one of the most learned lawyers of his time. He became an M.P. during Queen Mary's reign, but was gradually pushed out of public life after Queen Elizabeth's accession due to his religion. His reports retained their standing, however, and were often translated and reprinted. Coke held them in high regard. Wallace says "In every sort of professional excellence [they] rank among the best Reports of any age." Part II concludes with two sections with individual Beale listings, "Un Report Fait per un Uncerteine Authour" and "The Table for the Second Part of the Commentaries Devised by William Fleetwood" (R486, R488). Most of the annotations are brief glosses, but some are long and analytical. The ESTC calls for a folding table in *Les Commentaries*. This is an error. Wallace, *The Reporters* 143. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 2026. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R485, R486, R488. *English Short-Title-Catalogue* S115947, S115909.



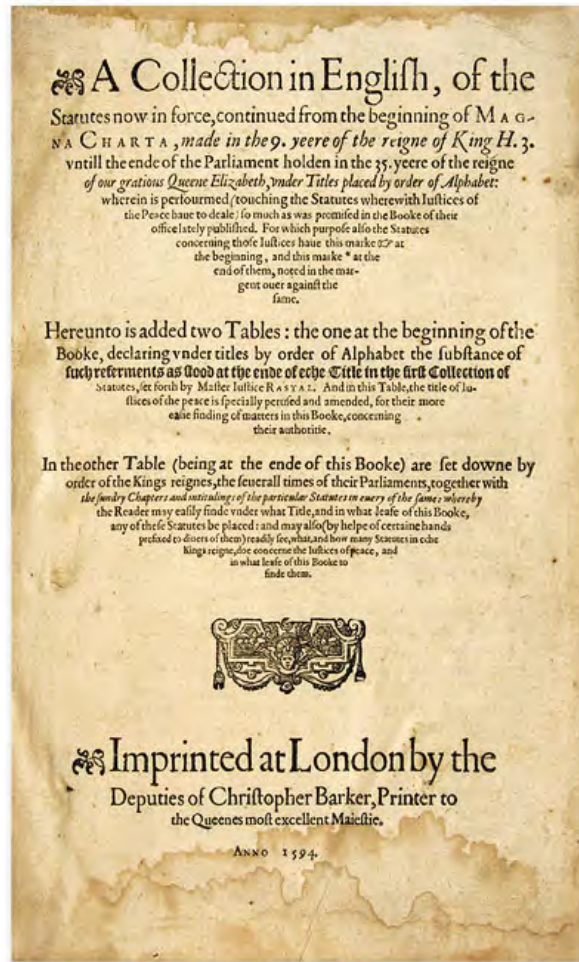
**Criminal Law in Shakespeare's England**

**20. Pulton, Ferdinando [1536-1618].**

*De Pace Regis et Regni, Viz. A Treatise Declaring Which be the Great and Generall Offences of the Realme, And the Chiefe Impediments of the Peace of the King and the Kingdome, As Treasons, Homicides, And Felonies, Menaces, Assaults, Batteries, Ryots, Routs, Unlawful Assemblies, Forcible Entries, Forgeries, Perjuries, Maintenance, Deceit, Extortion, Oppression: And How Many, And what Sorts of Them There be, And by Whom and What Means the Sayd Offences, And the Offendors Therein are to be Restrained, Repressed, or Punished. Which Being Reformed or Duly Checked, Florebit Pax Regis & Regni. Collected Out of the Reports of the Common Lawes of this Realme, And of the Statutes in Force, And out of the Painfull Workes of the Reverend Judges, Sir Anthonie Fitzherbert, Sir Robert Brooke, Sir William Stanford, Sir James Dyer, Sir Edward Coke, Knights, And Other Learned Writers of Our Lawes.* London: Printed for the Companie of Stationers, 1610. [vi], 243, [17] ff. Folio (11" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary calf, recently rebaced in period style, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing to boards with some wear to corners, early armorial bookplate (of Sir John Percivale, Baronet) to verso of title page. Woodcut head-pieces and decorated initials. Some toning to text, occasional faint dampstaining to margins, title page a bit soiled and creased with recent small repair to upper corner and early repair to inner margin. Early owner signatures to title page, interior otherwise clean. \$750.

\* Second edition. With comprehensive index, glosses and side-note references to the works of Fitzherbert, Brooke and others. Pulton is best known for his respected abridgements *An Abstract of all the Penal Statutes Which are General* (1560) and *A Kalendar or Table of All the Statutes* (1606). First published in 1609, *De Pace Regis et Regni* took his earlier works as the starting point for a comprehensive overview of criminal law. Holdsworth, who holds this work in high regard, observes that it was only the second title devoted to the subject. The first, Staunford's *Les Pleees del Coron*, was published posthumously in 1560. Holdsworth adds that a comparison between Pulton and (the less comprehensive) Staunford "enables us to appreciate the effect of the additions to and alterations of the criminal law made during this period, both by the legislature, and by the judges of the common law courts and of the court of Star Chamber" (392-393). This is especially evident in his discussion of topics like "Triall by Battaile," "The King's Pardon," "Maihem" and "Corruption of Bloud." In all, Pulton's treatise offers a fascinating perspective on criminal law as it was understood in Shakespeare's England. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:392-393. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116055.



1594 Edition of Rastell's *Statutes*

**21. Rastell, William [1508-1565], Compiler.**

*A Collection in English, Of the Statutes Now in Force, Continued from the Beginning of Magna Charta, Made in the 9. Yeere of the Reigne of King H.3. Untill the Ende of the Session of Parliament Holden in the 35. Yeere of the Reigne of Our Gracious Queene Elizabeth, Under Titles Placed by Order of Alphabet: Wherein is Performed (Touching the Statutes Wherewith Iustices of the Peace Have to Deale) so Much as was Promised in the Booke of Their Office Lately Published.... Hereunto is Added Two Tables: The One...Declaring Under Titles by Order of Alphabet the Substance of Such Referments as Stood at the Ende of Eche Title in the First Collection of Statutes, Set Forth by Master Iustice Rastal. And in this Table, The Title of Iustices of the Peace is Specially Perused and Amended, For Their More Easie Finding of Matters in this Booke, Concerning Their Authoritie. In the Other Table...are Set Downe by Order of the Kings Raignes, The Severall Times of Their Parliaments, Together with the Sundry Chapters and Intitulings of the Particular Statutes in Every of the Same: Whereby the Reader May Easilie Finde Under what Title, And in What Leafe of this Booke, Any of These Statutes be Placed: And May Also...Redilie See, What, And How Manie Statutes in Eche Kings Raigne, Do Concerne the Iustices of Peace, And in What Leafe of this Book to Finde Them.* London: Imprinted by the Deputies of Christopher Barker, 1594. [xxx], 552, [14] ff. Main text in parallel columns. Folio (11" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary paneled calf over wooden boards, elaborate blind tooling to boards, clasps lacking, buckles present, front board carefully re-attached, endleaves renewed. Moderate rubbing to extremities, some scuffs and scratches to boards. Woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials. Light toning, somewhat heavier in places, faint dampstaining and edgewear to outer margins of preliminaries and a few other few leaves, light soiling to title page. \$2,500.

\* Rastell first published his great collection of statutes from Magna Carta to the present in 1557. It was updated periodically, the final edition appearing in 1625. As the title indicates, it had finding aids to facilitate its use by justices of the peace. "It is partly of the nature of an edition of the Statutes at large, as the enacting parts of the public statutes in force are printed nearly word for word, and in their original language. But it is more of the nature of an abridgment... The book was frequently republished and brought up to date in successive editions and in 1579 the Latin and French statutes were translated": Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* IV: 311-312. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* S70. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121424.



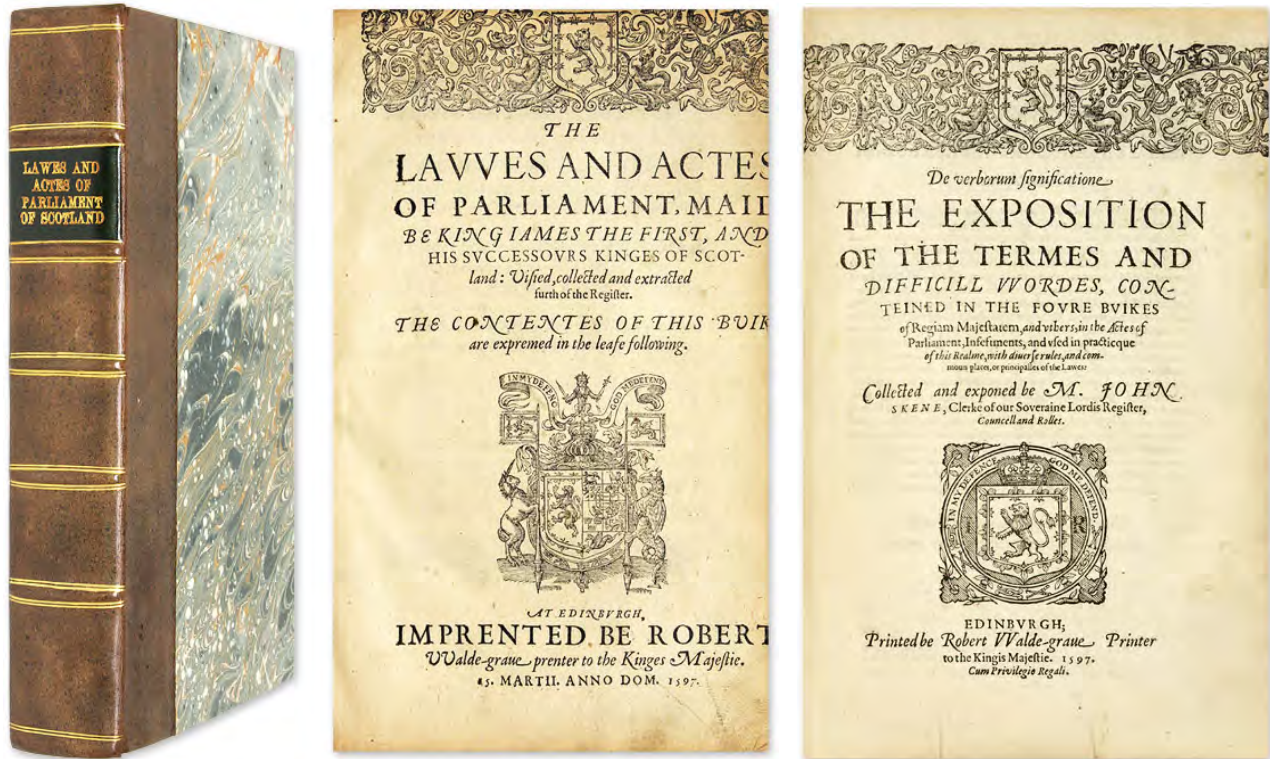
### Early Printing of a Landmark Work in Legal Ethics and Equity

#### 22. Saint German (Germain), Christopher [1460?-1540].

*The Dyaloges in Englishe, Betwene a Doctour of Divinitie, And a Student in the Lawes of Englande, Newly Corrected and Imprinted Wyth New Addicions.* [London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1554 (i.e. 1565?).] 48, 50-177, [4] ff. Final four leaves, which comprise the index, supplied in facsimile. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Later calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands and gilt title to spine. Some rubbing to extremities with minor wear to spine ends and corners, a few minor nicks to boards. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, faint dampstaining to a few leaves, title page, following leaf and final leaf partially detached. Early annotations to title page and a few leaves, later owner signature to front free endpaper, interior otherwise clean. An attractive copy. \$1,500.

\* Written originally in Latin in 1523, *Dialogus de Fundamentis Legum Angliae et de Conscientia*, better known by its colloquial English title, *Doctor and Student*, contains two dialogues between a doctor of divinity and a student of English law. It popularized canonist learning on 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. It was also a key work in the development of equity law. *Doctor and Student* went through numerous editions. An authority well into the eighteenth century, it influenced several writers, including Blackstone. A few sources believe the 1554 Tottell imprint was actually printed in 1565. Whatever the date, it is a scarce imprint. OCLC locates 13 copies in North America, 7 in law libraries (Boston College, Columbia, Harvard, Jenkins, LA County, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania). Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T473. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116343.



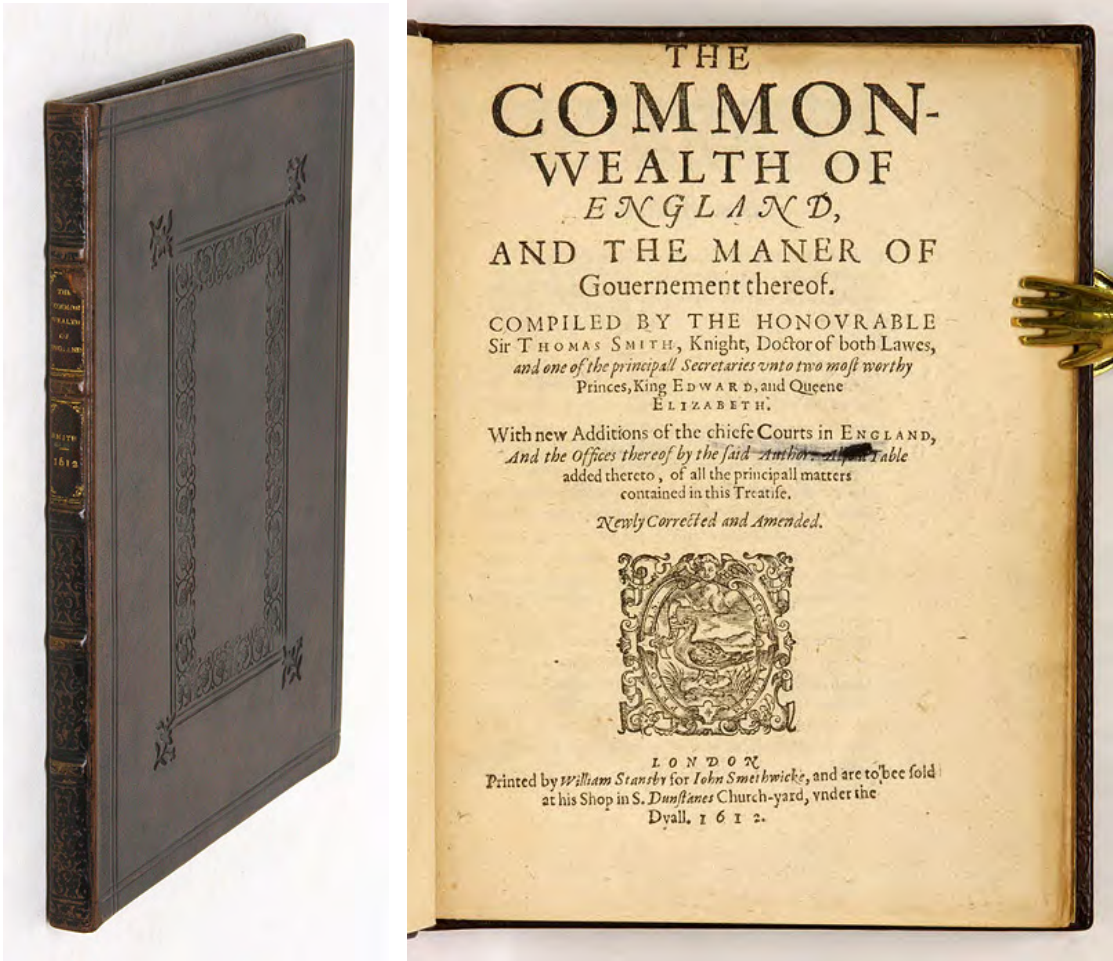
**Contains the First Mention of  
Golf and the First Dictionary of Scots Law**

**23. [Skene, John c.1543-1617), Compiler].**

*The Lawes and Actes of Parliament Maid be King James the First, And His Successours Kings of Scotland: Visied, Collected and Extracted Surth of the Register. The Contentes of This BuiK, Are Expremed in the Leafe Following.* Edinburgh: Imprented be Robert Waldegrave, 1597. [v], 162; 178; [30]; [70] ff. Folding table. Four parts. First and fourth parts have title pages, the fourth titled *De Verborum Significatione: The Exposition of the Termes and Difficill Wordes, Contained in the Foure Buikes of Regiam Majestatem*. Lacks additional engraved title page found in some copies. Folio (10" x 7").

Recent period-style quarter-calf over marbled boards. Toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, negligible foxing to a few leaves, a few leaves recornered. Woodcut initials and head and tail-pieces. Fore-edges trimmed with some loss to title page and head-piece of Fol. 1 of the second part. \$1,500.

\* Second edition. Expanded. This volume contains what is thought to be the earliest mention of golf in print, tracing its history to the manuscript Acts of 1457, when King James II decreed "that the fute-bal and golfe be utterly cryed downe, and not to be used. And as tuitching the futeball and the golfe, to be punished by the Baronnis un-law, and gif he takis not the un-law, that it be taken be the Kingis officiares." This volume also contains the 1491 reconfirmation by James IV: "Item, It is stature and ordained that in place of the Realme there be used fute-ball, golfe, or uther sik unprofitable sportes, for the commoun gud of the realme & defense thereof." In their bibliography, *The Game of Golf and The Printed Word 1566 1985, A Bibliography of Golf Literature in the English Language*, Donovan and Murdoch say "[t]he Acts is a prize that many golf collectors would like to win" (1). The last section, 70 ff., was the first appearance of Skene's *De Verborum Significatione*, the first published dictionary of Scots law. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116931.



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

**24. Smith, Sir Thomas [1513-1577].**

*The Common-Wealth of England, And the Maner of Governement Thereof. Compiled by the Honourable Sir Thomas Smith, Knight, Doctor of Both Lawes, And One of the Principall Secretaries Unto Two Most Worthy Princes, King Edward, And Queene Elizabeth. With New Additions of the Chiefe Courts in England, And the Offices Thereof by the Said Author. Also a Table Added Thereto, Of All the Principall Matters Contained in this Treatise.* London: Printed by William Stansby, 1612. [viii], 134 pp. Lacking first leaf, a blank. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Recent period-style paneled calf, gilt titles, raised bands and blind ornaments to spine, blind inside dentelles, all edges gilt. Light rubbing to extremities, a few minor nicks to boards. Woodcut device to title page, woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials. Light toning to text, minor edgewear and offsetting to preliminaries and final leaves of text. Ex-library. Faint embossed stamp to title page and following leaf, cancelled stamp to verso of title page with some bleed-through. A handsome copy. \$750.

\* Later edition. *De Republica Anglorum; the Manner of Government or Policie of the Realme of England* was written between 1562 and 1565 and first published in 1583. "It is the most important description of the constitution and government of England written in the Tudor age" (DNB). It went through eleven editions in English between 1584 to 1691. Four Latin editions appeared between 1610 and 1641. Abridged editions in Dutch and German were published in 1673 and 1688. Smith, an English scholar and diplomat, was Regius Professor of Civil Law at Cambridge University. *Dictionary of National Biography* XVIII:535. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117648.



**Copy of Staunford's *Plees* and *Kinges Prerogative*  
From the Library of an Important Nineteenth-Century New York Lawyer**

**25. Staunford, Sir William [1509-1558].**

*Les Plees del Coron, Divisees in Plusors Titles & Comen Lieux. Per Queux Home Plus Redement & Plenairement Trovera Quelque Chose quil Quira, Touchant les Dits Plees. Dernierment Corrigee Avecques un Table Parfaicte des Choses Notables Contenues en Ycelle, Nouvelment Revue et Corrige.* [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1574. [xiv], 198 ff. Table of contents interleaved.

**[Bound with]**

**Staunford, Sir William.**

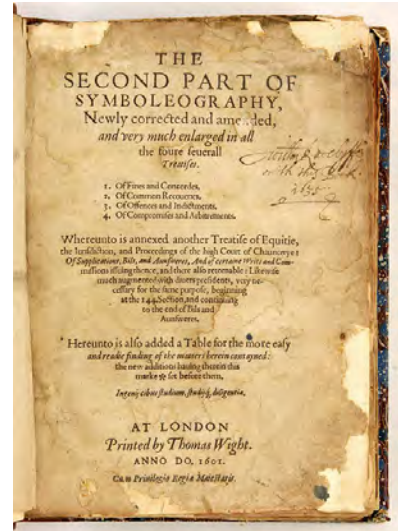
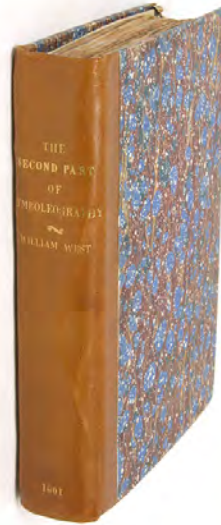
*An Exposition of the Kinges Prerogative Collected Out of the Great Abridgement of Iustice Fitzherbert And Other Olde Writers of the Lawes of England. Whereunto is Annexed the Proces to the Same Prerogative Appertaining.* London: Imprinted...in Fleetestreate Within Temple Barre...By Richard Tottel, 1577. [i], 85 ff.

Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/4"). Contemporary calf with early rebacking, lettering piece to spine, early owner initials "S S" to center of boards, corners and hinges mended, title page of *Plees* mounted and re-hinged. Moderate rubbing with some wear to extremities, some worming to front board, front hinge partially cracked, armorial bookplate of William Curtis Noyes and residue from another bookplate to front pastedown. Title page of *Plees* printed within large woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials to both works. Toning to text, occasional faint dampstaining to margins, some wear to edges of preliminaries, light soiling to title pages. Brief annotations in early chancery hand to preliminaries and interleaves of *Plees*, underlining in a few other places. A nice copy with an appealing association. \$1,250.

\* Later editions. First published in 1557, Staunford's *Plees* is considered a "principal book" by Pollock and Maitland, one that enables us "to trace our modern laws of crimes, from the later middle ages onwards." Based on Bracton and the Year Books, Staunford's treatise is divided into three parts. The first treats offences, the second treats jurisdiction, appeals, indictments, and defenses. The third addresses trials and convictions. *Plees* was written after Staunford was appointed judge of the common pleas in 1554. *Exposition of the Kinges Prerogative* was first published in 1567. It addresses discretionary rights enjoyed by the monarchy in foreign policy, domestic affairs, legal and governmental administration, religion and economic matters. Noyes [1805-1864] was a leading New York lawyer and a member of the commission formed to codify the state's laws, which resulted in the Field Codes. A man of extensive learning, he owned one of the finest law libraries in the United States. Pollock and Maitland, *The History of English Law* II:448. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T489, T492. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117813, S117817.



Item 26



Item 27

### An Important Early Work on Writs

#### 26. Theloall, Simon.

*Le Digest des Briefes Originales, Et des Choses Concernants Eux.* London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1579. [viii], 424 ff. With dedication and table. Collates complete. Octavo (6" x 4").

Seventeenth-century calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands and later lettering piece to spine, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block. A few shallow scuffs to boards, some rubbing to extremities, front board beginning to separate, rear joint starting, some chipping to spine ends, corners bumped, pastedowns lacking, partial crack to text block between ff. 192 and 193. Light soiling to title page, toning to text. Annotations in neat early chancery hand to several leaves, later owner signature of William Jones to title page. An appealing copy. \$1,500.

\* First edition. An important early work on writs, Theloall's *Digest* owes its origin to the suggestion of Staunford that it would be a good idea if lawyers would write treatises on the other titles of the abridgments similar to his study of the Title "Prerogative." Staunford illustrated his meaning by showing how the Title "Brief" might be treated. Theloall chose this title, and wrote a treatise on it for his own use. The manuscript, having been lent, eventually found its way to a printer. "It deserved to be printed, as it is the most orderly treatise on procedure, founded on the Year Books, that had yet appeared... Historically, it comes between the older commentaries upon writs and the modern books on procedure." Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:381. A second edition was published in 1678. The owner of this book may have been Sir William Jones [1746-1794], the important jurist, legal writer and Orientalist. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T499. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S118369.

### One of the Earliest English Texts on Conveyancing.

#### 27. West, William [1568-1594].

*The Second Part of Symboleography, Newly Corrected and Amended, And Very Much Enlarged in All the Foure Severall Treatises. 1. Of Fines and Concordes. 2. Of Common Recoveries. 3. Of Offences and Indictments. 4. Of Compromises and Arbitrements. Wereunto is Annexed Another Treatise of Equitie, The Iurisdiction, And Proceedings of the High Court of Chauncerye: Of Supplications, Bils, And Aunsweres, And of Certaine Writs and Commissions Issuing Thence, And There also Retornable: Likewise much Augmented with Divers Presidents, Very Necessary for the Same Purpose, Beginning at the 144. Section, And Continuing to the End of Bils and Aunsweres. Hereunto is Also Added a Table for the More Easy and Readie Finding of the Matters Herein Contayned: The New Additions Having Therein this Marke \* Set Before Them.* London: Printed by Thomas Wight, 1601. [ii], 304, [6] ff. Lacking final leaf, a blank. Quarto (8-1/2" x 6-1/2").

Recent quarter calf over marbled boards. Some rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn. Text block has moderate toning, dampstaining, edgewear, chips and tears with occasional loss to catchwords, tears to a few leaves repaired with cellotape. Later owner signature to front endleaf (dated 1834), early owner signature (dated 1635) to title page, annotations in early hand to a few leaves. \$250.



\* Later edition of the continuation of one of the earliest English texts that addresses conveyancing, which was first published in 1590 and 1593. (Each volume is a complete work.) It is "a general practical treatise on English law under its several divisions, and was held in great esteem at the time. The demand for it was so great that West immediately began to prepare a second edition, practically rewriting the whole book." Marvin adds: "West's *Symbologie* has always been esteemed a book of authority...and contains not only precedents in conveyancing, but of indictments, and of proceedings in chancery.": *Legal Bibliography* 726. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S119713.



5 Edward IV, the "Long Quinto"

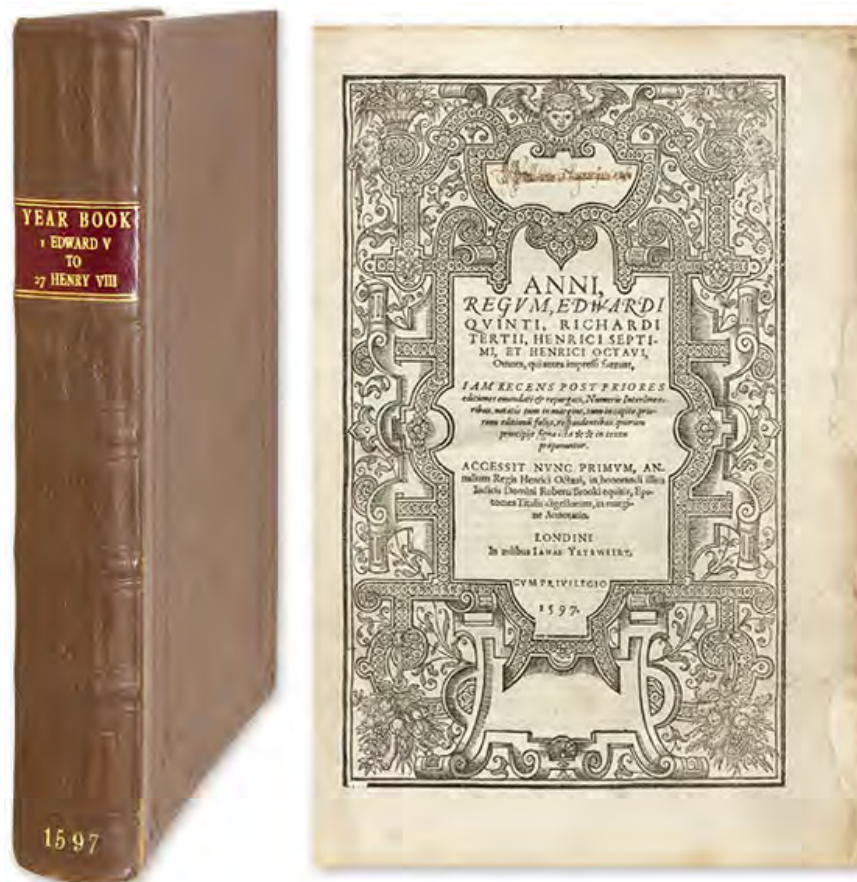
28. [Year Book].

Edward IV, King [1442-1483].

*En Cest Volume est Conteinus le Longe Report de Anno Quinto Edwardi Quarti. Ore Novelment Imprimee & Corigee, Ouesque References al Abridgement de les Cases in Brooke Ades in le Margent de Chescun Case.* London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, [1587]. [v], 108, 108-142, [1] ff. Complete. Folio (11-1/2" x 8").

Contemporary calf, blind rules and medium-sized arabesques to boards, raised bands and later lettering piece to spine. Some rubbing to extremities, chipping to spine ends, joints just starting at ends, corners bumped, pastedowns loose and edgeworn, as are other endleaves and title page, later annotations and private-library shelflabel (Kimbolton Castle, Cambridgeshire) to verso of front board (behind pastedown, where it is loose). Title printed within handsome woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials. Some soiling to title page, light browning to text. Underlining and brief annotations in fine contemporary chancery hand throughout. An appealing copy. \$1,350.

\* Covers the fifth regnal year of Edward IV (Easter, Trinity, and Michaelmas terms, 1465-1466). This is also known as the "long quinto," the longer of the two Year Books for this regnal year, and one highly regarded for the quality of its reporting. It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the Year Books. As a series of notes on debates and points of pleadings in Norman England they are of crucial primary sources for our knowledge of medieval common law. They also provide a richly detailed portrait of contemporary English life, customs and manners. The origin of the Year Books is unknown. Maitland believed that the earliest volumes were notes taken by law students in court copied for the use of pleaders in later cases. Holdsworth maintains that they were records of cases made by lawyers for personal use. Though it is not known when the first manuscript volumes were compiled, it is clear that cases can be found to date from the 1270's and the series continues to 1535. Marvin suggests that the Year Books are as old as the time of William the Conqueror. As Marvin has pointed out, these are the "venerable books" from which Littleton, Hobart, Hale and Coke drew "so much valuable ore, melting it into ingots and refining and sending it abroad as the correct coin of the Common Law." Printed editions of the Year Books were first issued by William de Machlinia between 1481 and 1482. The present volume is one of the so-called "quarto editions." These volumes were issued separately with various dates and impressions between 1522 and 1619. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:357- 377. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R371. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S101302.



Not in Beale

29. [Year Book].  
**Edward V, King [1470-c.1483].**  
**Richard III, King [1452-1485].**  
**Henry VII, King [1457-1509].**  
**Henry VIII, King [1491-1547].**

*Anni, Regum, Edwardi Quinti, Richardi Tertii, Henrici Septimi, Et Henrici Octavi, Omnes, Qui Antea Impressi Fuerunt, Iam Recens Post Priores Editiones Emendati & Repurgati, Numeris Interlinearibus, Notatis Tum in Margine, Tum in Capite, Priorum Editionu[m] Foliis, Respondentibus, Quorum Principijs Signa Ista \*\* In Textu Praeponuntur. Accessit nunc Primum, Annalium Regis Henrici Octavi, In Honorandi Illius Iudicis Domini Roberti Brooki Equitis, Epitomes Titulis Digestorum, in Margine Annotatio.* London: In Aedibus Ianae Yetsweirt, 1597. [390] ff. in various pagings. Collates complete. Folio (11-3/4" x 8").

Recent period-style calf, blind double fillets forming two panels with corner fleurons to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed with marbled paper, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block. Light rubbing to extremities, cracks in text block between text block and free endpapers. Title printed within handsome woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials. Some toning to text, light browning in a few places, struck through signature to head of title page, annotations in tiny early chancery hand to a few leaves. Ex-library. Perforated stamp to title page. A handsome copy. \$1,500.

\* Covers regnal years 1 Edward V (1483), 1-2 Richard III (1483-85), 1-16, 20-21 Henry VII (1485-1509), and 12-14, 18-19, 26-27 Henry VIII (1509-1547). With an index of cases, side-notes and cross-references to Brooke, Fitzherbert and other authorities. It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the Year Books. As a series of notes on debates and points of pleadings in Norman England they are of crucial primary sources for our knowledge of medieval common law. They also provide a richly detailed portrait of contemporary English life, customs and manners. The origin of the Year Books is unknown. Maitland believed that the earliest volumes were notes taken by law students in court copied for the use of pleaders in later cases. Holdsworth maintains that they were records of cases made by lawyers for personal use. Though it is not known when the first manuscript volumes were compiled, it is clear that cases can be found to date from the 1270's and the series continues to 1535. Printed editions of the Year Books were first issued by William de Machlinia between 1481 and 1482. The present volume belongs to the so-called "Quarto Edition." Not a set in the conventional sense, these volumes were issued separately with various dates and impressions between 1522 and 1619. OCLC locates four copies of the present imprint in North American law libraries (Columbia, Harvard and the Universities of Minnesota and Pennsylvania). Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V: 357-377. Not in Beale or its supplement (published 1943), but it is given the designation "382a" in an annotated copy and an unpublished "Supplement 2" held by the Harvard Law School Library (as noted in its online catalogue). Not in Beale. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121406.



1-16, 20, 21 Henry VII

30. [Year Book].  
Henry VII, King.

*In Hoc Volumine Continentur Omnes Anni Regis Henrici Septimi, Ab Anno Primo, Usque ad Annum Vicesimum Secundum Eiusdem Regis, Qui Antea Impressi Fuerunt. Ore Novelment Imprimee & Corrigees, Ouesque Plusours Bones Notes, Letters, & Figures en le Margent, Et en le Pag. Mesme. Queux Notes Referre les Cases al Abridgement del Brooke, [et] Auters Lieurs del Ans. Et les Letters & Figures Monstront Toutes les Pointes del Arguments & Cases.* London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1585. Colophon dated 1583. xxxi, xix, xv, xviii, xli, ii-xvi, ii-xvi, xiii, ii-xxvi, ii-xxx, ii-xxix, ii-xxix, ii-xxviii, xxxii, xvii, xvii, xiii, xli ff. Collates complete. Folio (10-1/2" x 7-1/2").

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

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



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