



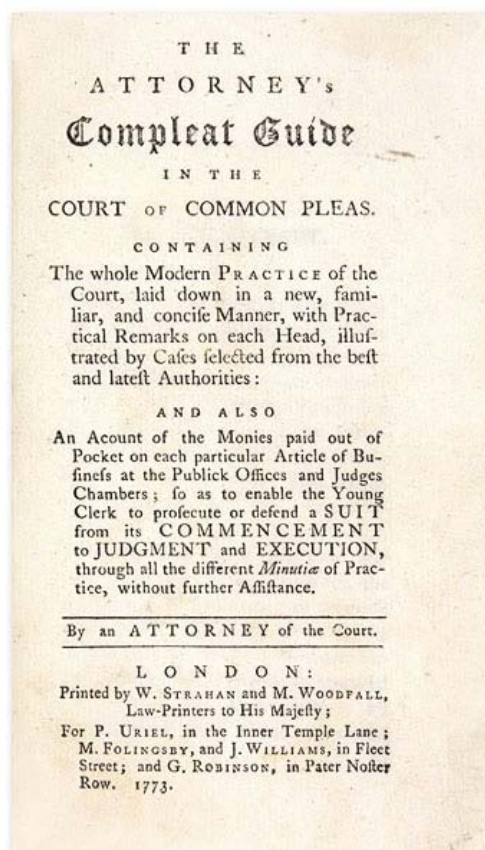
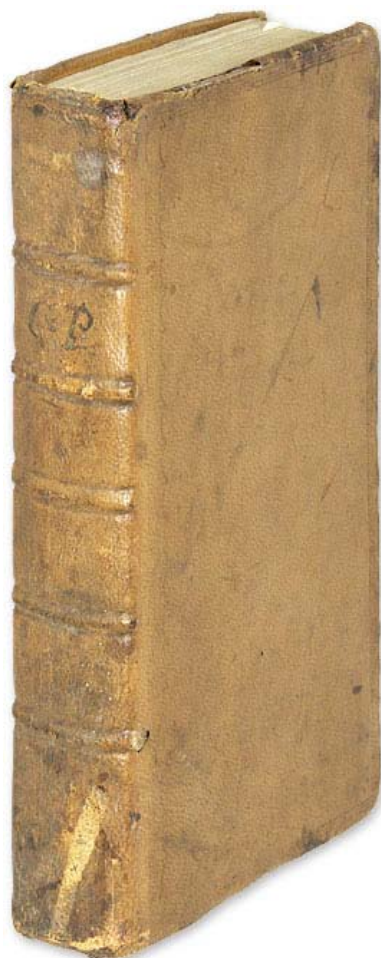
ENGLISH
LAW
Before 1776

30 ITEMS

July 25, 2017

THE LAWBOOK EXCHANGE LTD.





"So as Much to Enable the Young Clerk"

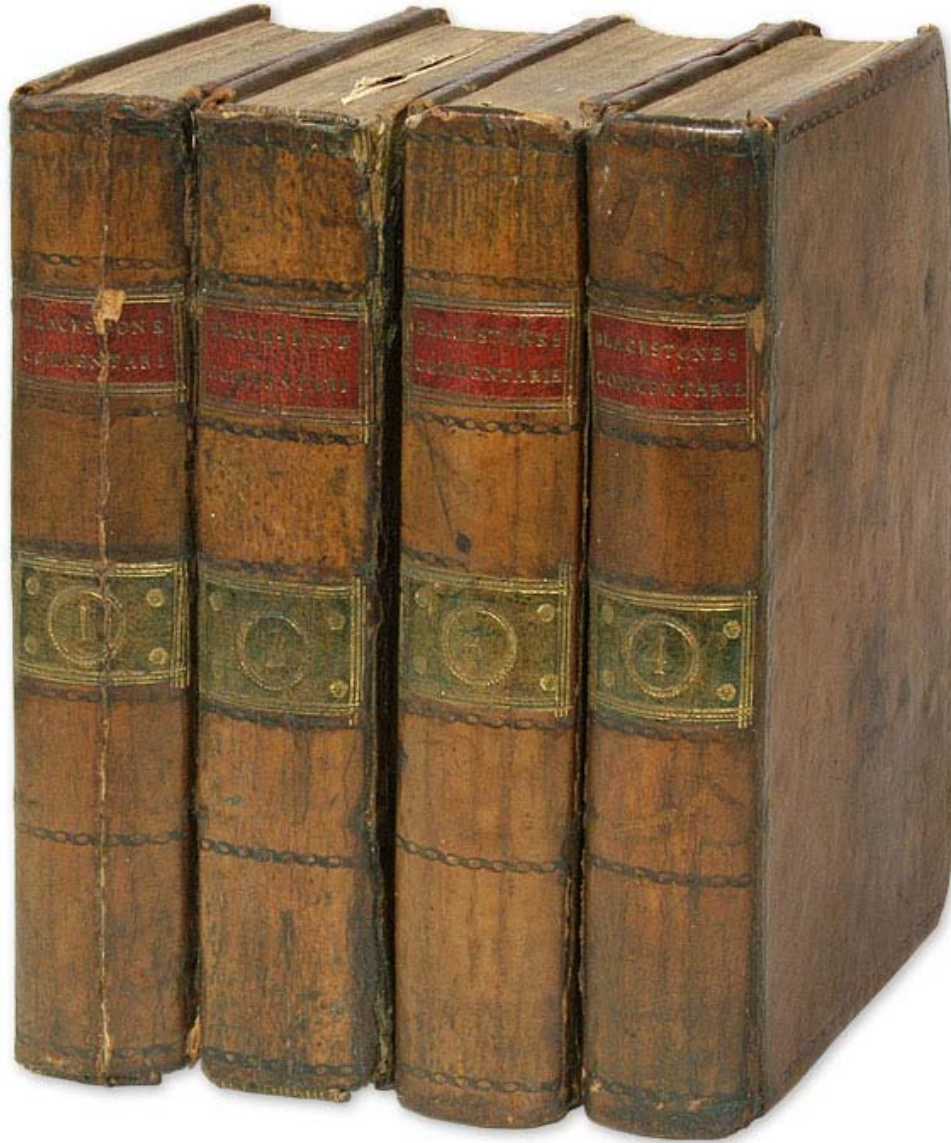
1. Attorney of the Court.

The Attorney's Compleat Guide in the Court of Common Pleas: Containing the Whole Modern Practice of the Court, Laid Down in a New, Familiar, and Concise Manner, With Practical Remarks on Each Head, Illustrated by Cases Selected from the Best and Latest Authorities: And also an Account of the Monies Paid Out of Pocket on Each Particular Article of Business at the Publick Offices and Judges Chambers; So as to Enable the Young Clerk to Prosecute or Defend a Suit from its Commencement to Judgment and Execution, Through All the Different Minutiae of Practice, Without Further Assistance. London: Printed by W. Strahan and M. Woodfall, 1773. vii, [1], 371, [1] pp. 12mo (6-1/2" x 4").

Contemporary sheep, blind fillets to boards, raised bands and early hand-lettered initials "G P" to spine. Moderate rubbing to extremities, a few minor nicks, scuffs and stains to boards, small scuff near foot of spine, corners bumped, pastedowns loose. Light toning to text, faint inkspots to a few leaves. Early owner stamp (J. Ridout) to front free endpaper, interior otherwise clean. A handsome copy. \$950.

* Only edition. "The following sheets were at first composed merely for private Use; The great Advantage the Author has reaped from them in an extensive Practice is his chief Inducement for offering them to the Public, as a sure Guide whereby the Young Clerk may readily acquire every necessary Information with respect to this Court" (iii). This is a scarce title. OCLC locates 6 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, LA County, Library of Congress, University of Minnesota, Osgoode Hall, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N15039.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=64324>



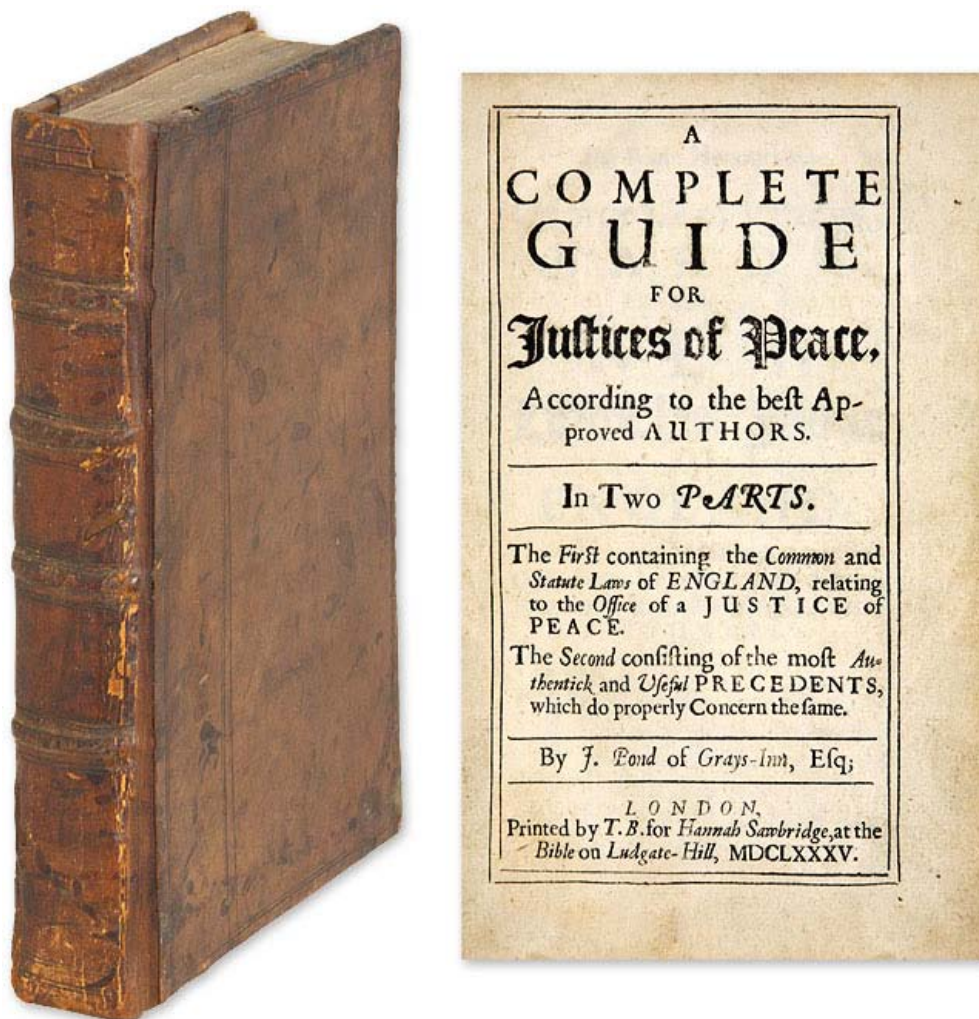
Early Duodecimo Edition of Blackstone's *Commentaries*

2. Blackstone, Sir William [1723-1780].

Commentaries on the Laws of England, In Four Books. Dublin: Printed for the Company of Booksellers, 1775. Four volumes. Copperplate frontispiece portrait, table of consanguinity, folding Table of Descents. 12mo. (6-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, lettering pieces and blind fillets to spines, blind tooling to board edges. Some minor nicks and spots to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, minor chipping to spine ends, joints starting, Volume I has split through center of backstrip, corners bumped and somewhat worn. Light toning, minor worming in a few places, minor tears to edges of a few leaves, some edgewear to table of descents. Small early signature to head of Volume I title page, interiors otherwise clean. A handsome set. \$1,350.

* "Sixth Edition." This pirated Dublin edition follows the text of the fourth Oxford edition, 1770. It is similar to another pirated Dublin edition published by John Colles, also in 1775. Not in Eller. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 14. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=66679>



"Adapted to Our Present Age"

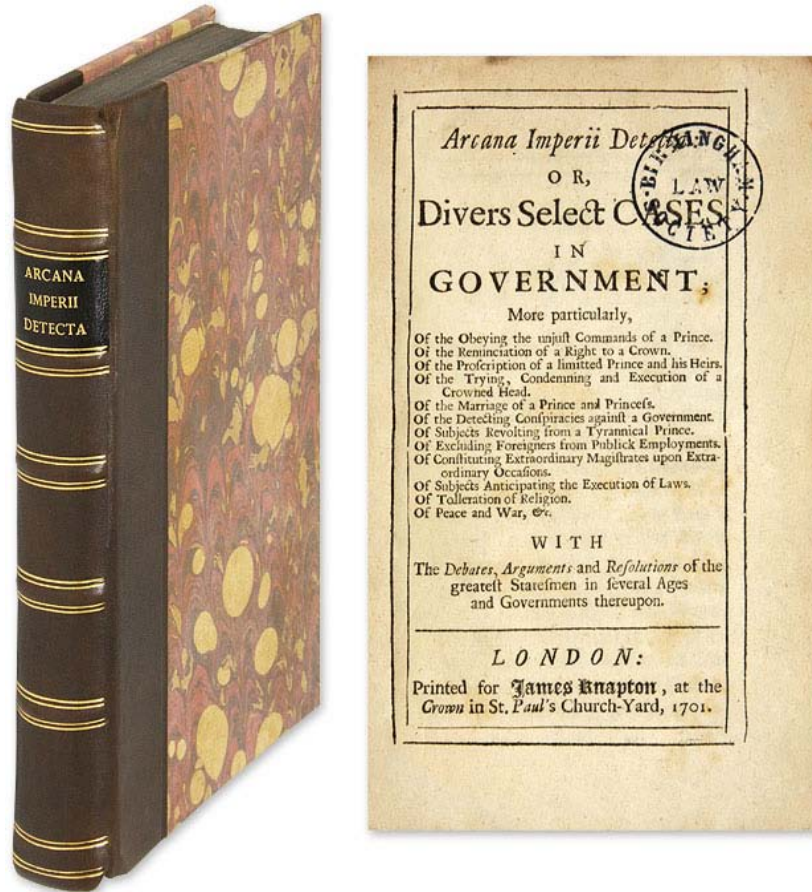
3. Bond, J[ohn].

A Complete Guide for Justices of Peace, According to the Best Approved Authors. In Two Parts. The First Containing the Common and Statute Laws of England, Relating to the Office of a Justice of Peace. The Second Consisting of the Most Authentick and Useful Precedents, Which do Properly Concern the Same. London: Printed by T.B. for Hannah Sawbridge, 1685. [14], 252, [4]; 150, [10] pp. Two parts. Each with title page and individual pagination. Octavo (7" x 4-1/4").

Contemporary calf, rebacked retaining existing backstrip, blind rules to boards, raised bands to spine. Light rubbing and a few scratches to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, hinges cracked, rear pastedown loose, some edgewear to endleaves. Moderate toning to text, minor worming to margins in a few places, spark burns and smudges to a few leaves. A few brief annotations to rear endleaves, interior otherwise clean. \$600.

* First edition. Bond thought his manual was necessary to restate the laws and procedures concerning justices, which he felt had been corrupted during the years of the Civil War and Commonwealth. The contents are digested alphabetically by topic. A useful work, it went through three more editions, the last in 1707. All editions are scarce. OCLC locates 5 copies of the first edition in North American law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R35355.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63924>



Interesting Essays on Government
and Parliament by a Notable Seventeenth-Century Dutch Scholar

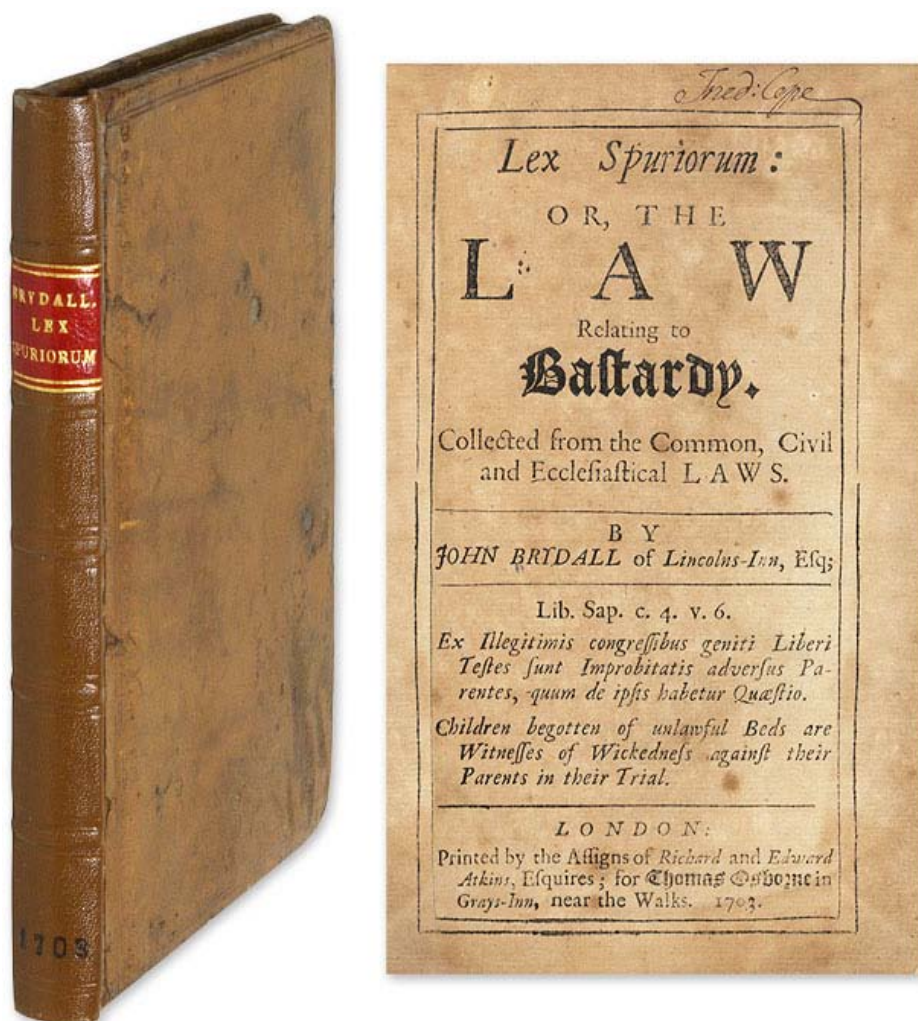
4. [Boxhorn, Marcus Zuerius (1612-1653)].

Arcana Imperii Detecta: Or, Divers Select Cases in Government; More Particularly, Of the Obeying the Unjust Commands of a Prince. Of the Renunciation of a Right to a Crown. Of the Proscription of a Limited Prince and his Heirs. Of the Trying, Condemning and Execution of a Crowned Head. Of the Marriage of a Prince and Princess. Of the Detecting Conspiracies Against a Government. Of Subjects Revolting from a Tyrannical Prince. Of Excluding Foreigners from Publick Employments. Of Constituting Extraordinary Magistrates upon Extraordinary Occasions. Of Subjects Anticipating the Execution of Laws. Of Tolleration of Religion. Of Peace and War, &c. With The Debates, Arguments and Resolutions of the Greatest Statesmen in Several Ages and Governments Thereupon. London: Printed for James Knapton, 1701. [xvi], 366, [2] pp. Includes two-page publisher list. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Moderate toning to text, light foxing in a few places, browning and edgewear to front endleaf, internally clean. Ex-library. Small inkstamps to title page and a few other leaves. A nice copy in a handsome binding. \$350.

* Only edition. Compiled posthumously, this book is a fine introduction to the political and legal scholarship of one of the most interesting thinkers of the seventeenth century. Boxhorn, a prominent linguist, historian and political theorist, was a professor at the University of Leiden. A remarkably prolific scholar, his work stands on the cusp of late-Renaissance humanism and the early-Enlightenment thought epitomized by such philosophers as Hobbes and Pufendorf. He admired England's Parliament and had a keen interest in the history and institutions of English law and government. OCLC locates 9 copies in North American law libraries. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T116021.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63854>



1703 Treatise on Laws Concerning Illegitimacy

5. Brydall, John [b. 1635?].

Lex Spuriorum: Or, The Law Relating to Bastardy. Collected from the Common, Civil and Ecclesiastical Laws. London: Printed by the Assigns of Richard and Edward Atkins, Esquires; For Thomas Osborne, 1703. [viii], 127, [9] pp. Octavo (6-3/4" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, rebacked, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Some rubbing to extremities, corners worn, a few minor scuffs to boards, crack in text block between title page and following leaf. Light browning and foxing to text. Small early owner signature to head of title page, interior otherwise clean. Ex-library. Bookplate to front pastedown. \$850.

* Only edition. Brydall was a fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, and a bencher of Lincoln's Inn. A remarkably prolific writer, he published 36 legal treatises, and left 30 others in manuscript at the time of his death. All of these are brief, synthetic works. Holdsworth says they are good summaries that are "clearly arranged and based on the leading authorities." *Lex Spuriorum*, a handbook of English laws concerning illegitimacy, is cited in Holdsworth's review of legal writings of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. OCLC locates 6 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, NY State Appellate Division, Ohio State, Southern Methodist University, University of Michigan, US Supreme Court). Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* VI:605, 607. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T116601.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63025>



A Predecessor of the Small Claims Court

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

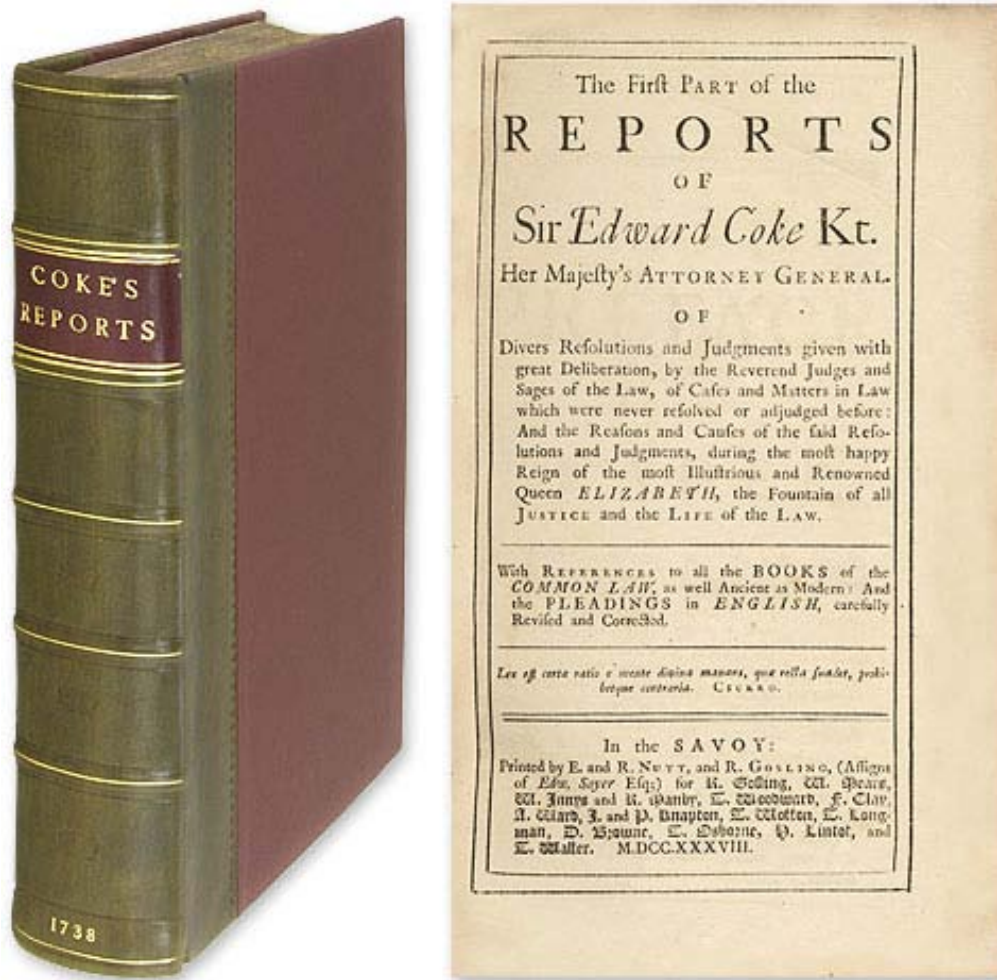
[*The Ancient State, Authoritie, And Proceedings of the Court of Requests. 2 Oct. 1596*]. Drop-head title: *In Nomine Domini Nostri Iesu Christi. 13. Februarij. 1592. Actes, Orders, And Decrees Made by the King and His Counsell, 9. H.7. [-Anno 27. Eliz.] Remaining Amongst the Records of the Court, Now 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).

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=64480>



Includes Shelly's Case

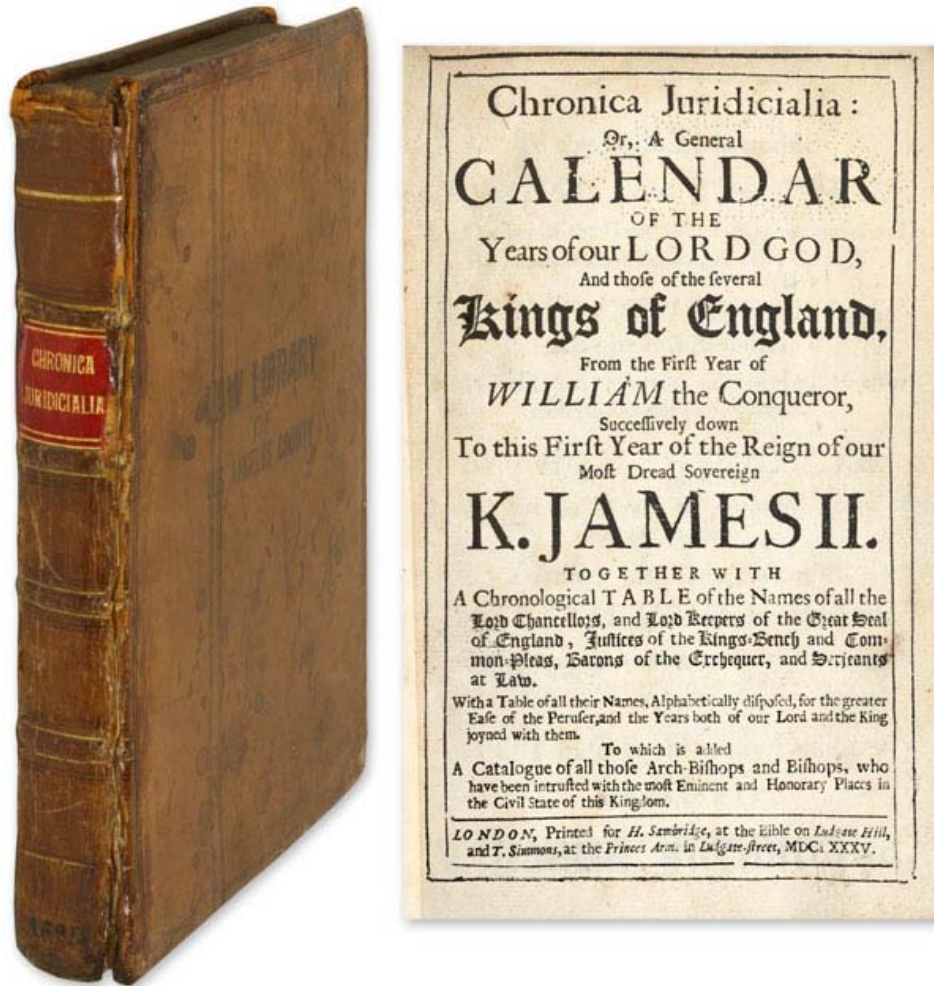
7. Coke, Sir Edward [1552-1634].

The First Part of the Reports of Sir Edward Coke Kt. Of Divers Resolutions and Judgments Given with Great Deliberation, By the Reverend Judges and Sages of the Law, Of Cases and Matters in Law Which were Never Resolved or Adjudged Before: And the Reasons and Causes of the Said Resolutions and Judgments, During the Most Happy Reign of the Most Illustrious and Renowned Queen Elizabeth, The Fountain of All Justice and the Life of the Law. [London]: Printed by E. and R. Nutt, and R. Gosling, for R. Gosling [et al.], 1738. 4, 177, [2]; xiv pp, [1], 94 ff. The first two parts, in one book, of a seven-part set. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter calf over cloth, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Toning, occasional light foxing, internally clean. Handsome. \$450.

* The first two parts of a seven-part set. This first includes the Rule in Shelly's Case (1581), which says that if, in a single grant, a freehold estate is given to a person and a remainder is given to the person's heirs, the remainder belongs to the named person and not the heirs, so that the person is held to have a fee simple absolute. "Coke's *Reports* [which contain cases from 1572 to 1616] retain a position among...legal publications that few of the elder reports possess. Although some of the decisions that they contain have become obsolete, although others have been greatly modified by the revolutions which jurisprudence has undergone...yet, many of them are leading cases that are now studied by those who ascend to the fountains of legal principles.": Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 209-211. *English Short-Title Catalogue* N12827.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=51063>



An Updated Edition of Dugdale's *Origines Juridicalia*

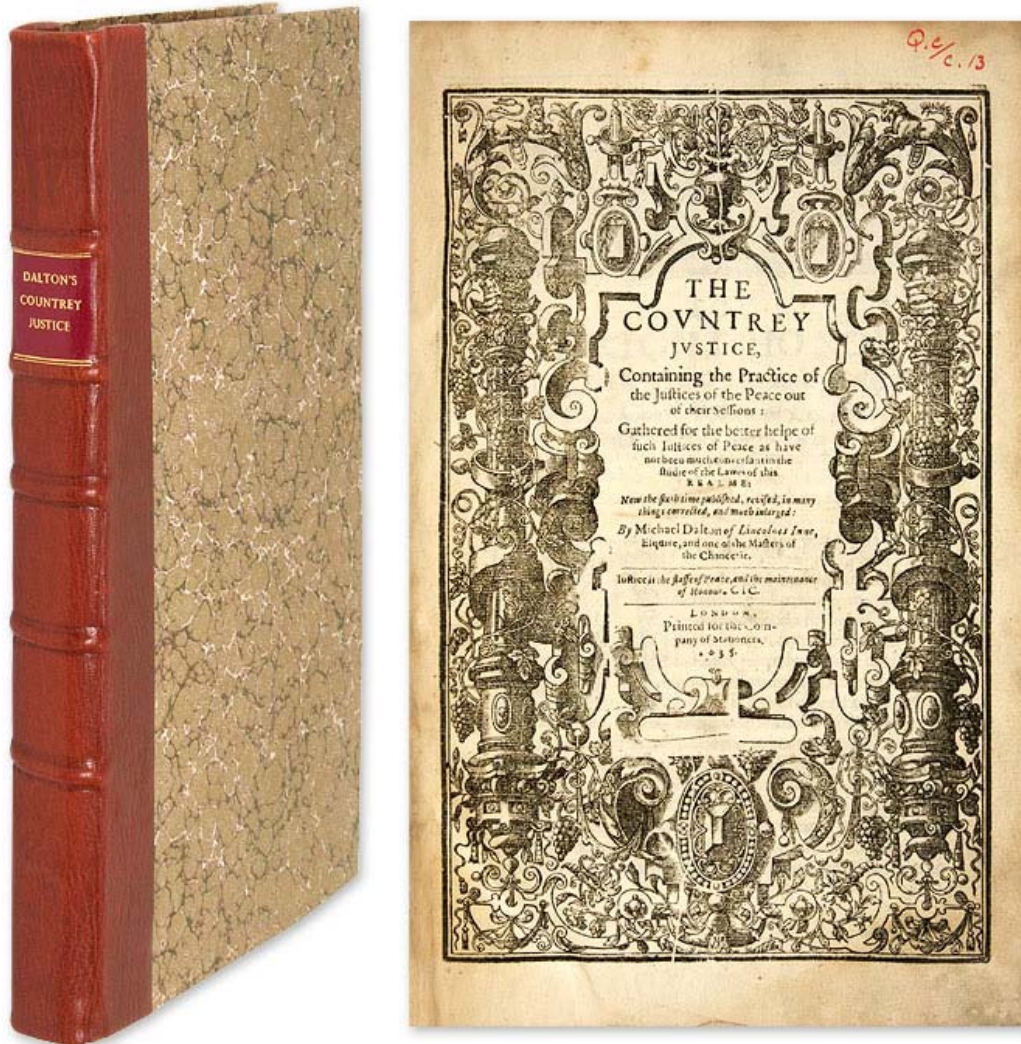
8. Cooke, Edward, Compiler.
[Dugdale, Sir William (1605-1686)].

Chronica Juridicalia: Or, A General Calendar of the Years of Our Lord God, and Those of the Several Kings of England, From the First Year of William the Conqueror, Successively Down to this First Year of the Reign of our Most Dread Sovereign K. James II.... London: Printed for H. Sawbridge, 1685. [xiv], [16], 209, [89] pp. Frontispiece lacking. Octavo (7-1/4" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary calf with early rebacking, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, blind rules to boards. Light rubbing to extremities, faint inkstains to boards, chip to head of spine, front board and free endpaper detached, corners bumped. Light toning to text, foxing to a few leaves, brief early annotations to a few leaves. Ex-library. Faint inkstamps to boards and endleaves, bookplate to front pastedown, perforated stamps to title page. \$250.

* First edition, one of two issues from 1685. This is an updated version of Dugdale's *Origines Juridicalia*. First published in 1666, it is a rich mine of information concerning the sources of English law and the history of the early English legal profession, and provides a wealth of interesting information about the procedures, customs, ceremonies and administration of the Inns of Court and Chancery. "[This] book was the chief authority for the history of the Inns; and it is by no means superseded even at the present day." (Holdsworth). Cooke's updated version was reissued in 1739 and c. 1740. Holdsworth, *The Historians of Anglo-American Law* 41. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R229396.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63109>



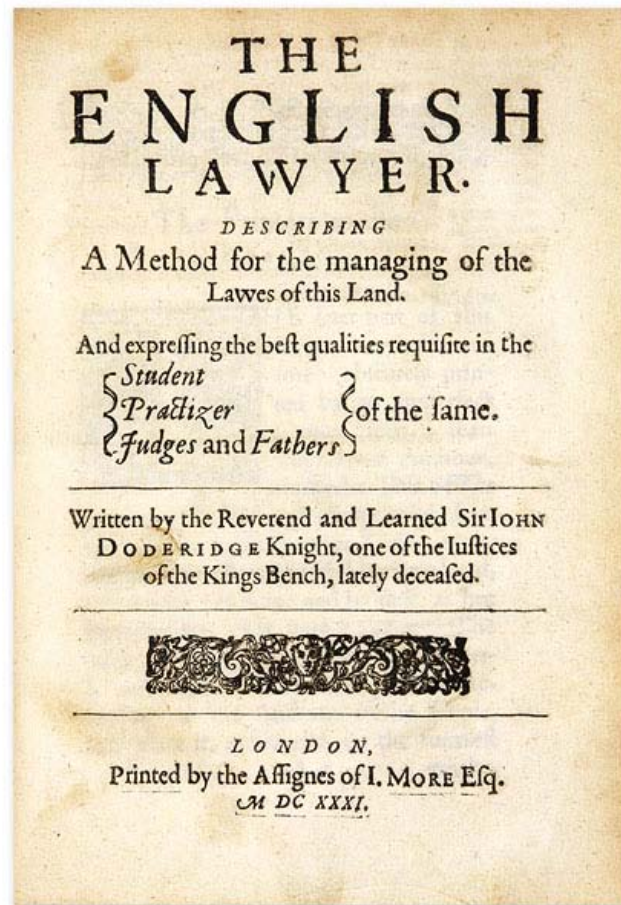
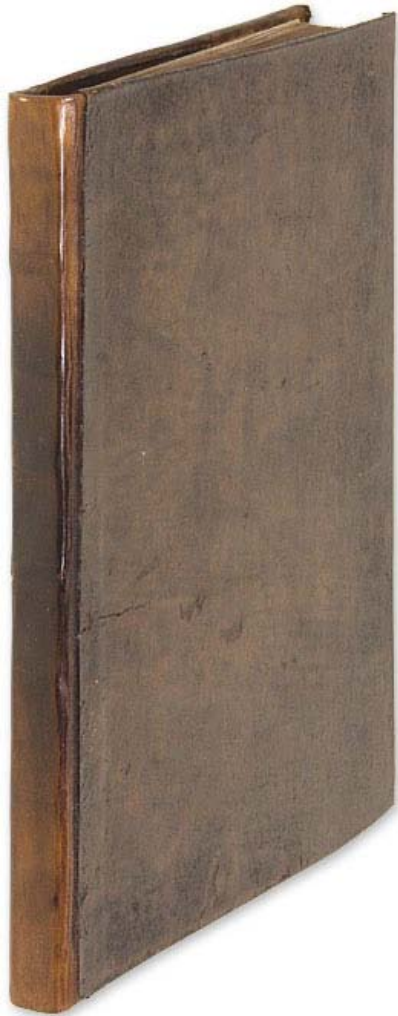
A Landmark Treatise on Justices of the Peace

9. Dalton, Michael.

The Country Justice, Containing the Practice of the Justices of the Peace Out of their Sessions: Gathered for the Better Helpe of Such Justices of Peace as Have Not Been Much Conversant in the Studie of the Lawes of This Realme: Now the Sixth Time Published, in Many Things Corrected, And Much Inlarged. London: Printed for the Company of Stationers, 1635. [xii], 136, 133-280, 277-410, [10] pp. First leaf blank. Paging irregular. Text complete. Folio (11" x 7").

Recent quarter morocco over marbled boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, edges rouged. Title within woodcut architectural border, woodcut head-pieces, tail-pieces and decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, somewhat darker in places, some edgewear to preliminaries and final leaf, a few chips to front endleaf. Early annotation in tiny early hands to head of title page, other contemporary annotations to front endleaf, interior otherwise clean. A nice copy. \$500.

* Sixth edition. This venerable justice of the peace manual went through some twenty editions between 1618 and 1746. This work is also significant because it firmly established the alphabetical topical structure adopted in later texts. Rooted in Crompton, Fitzherbert and Lambard, *The Country Justice* offers advice on such matters as buggery, customs, highways, prisons, riots, soldiers, murder, felonies, rogues and vagabonds, wool, and high treason. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S107282. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=64755>



Advice for Aspiring Lawyers in Seventeenth-Century England

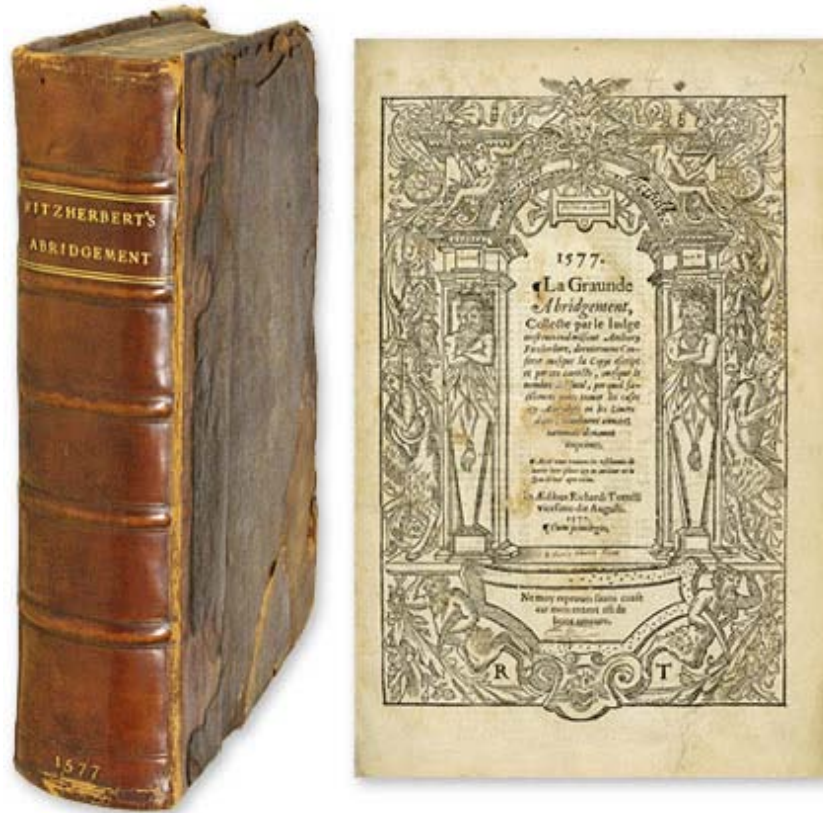
10. Doddridge, Sir John [1555-1628].

The English Lawyer. Describing a Method for the Managing of the Lawes of this Land. And Expressing the Best Qualities Requisite in the Student, Practizer, Judges and Fathers of the Same. London: Printed by the Assignes of I. More Esq, 1631. [viii], 271, [1] pp. Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Contemporary calf, rebacked, raised bands to spine. Light rubbing to extremities, a few shallow scuffs to boards. Woodcut head-pieces and decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining to corners of a few leaves. Neat underlining in several places, brief recent notes in faint pencil to a few places. A handsome copy. \$2,500.

* Only edition. Doddridge wrote this book to advise aspiring lawyers. Among other points, such as suggested readings and advice concerning personal demeanor, he urges the student to acquire a solid liberal-arts education that emphasizes subjects with practical application, such as logic and etymology. Regarding the specifics of legal education, he discusses the best methods of study and information on the sources and principles of English law. Holdsworth said it was the "most notable" book of its kind. As distinguished a jurist as Coke and Bacon, Doddridge was a counselor of the King's Bench, a Serjeant for Prince Henry, Solicitor-General, a Member of Parliament and the author of five important works, all published posthumously. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:397-398. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S109764.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63744>



Early Tottel Edition of Fitzherbert's *Abridgment*, Jefferson Owned a Copy

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

La Graunde Abridgement Collecte par le Iudge Tresreverend Monsieur Anthony Fitzherbert, Dernierment Conferre Ouesque la Copye Escrip't et per ceo Correcte, Ouesque le Nombre del Sueil, Per Quel Facilement Poies Trover les Cases cy Abyrdges en les Livres Dans, Novelment Annote: Iamais Devaunt Imprimees.

[And]

La Secoude Part du Graund Abridgment...

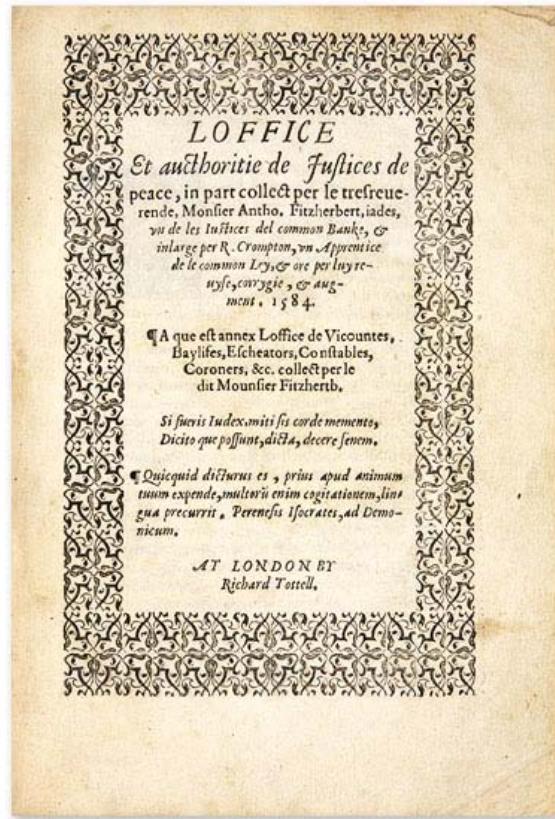
[And]

Tabula. Cy Ensuit la Table par Trover les Titles.

London: Richard Tottell, 1577. [ii], 342 [i.e. 341]; [ii], 265; [ii], 66 ff. First and second parts of abridgment have title pages. Collates complete. Small folio (9-1/4" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary calf, rebaked with raised bands and gilt title, endpapers renewed, early leaf of notes tipped-in to verso of front endleaf. Boards worn, joints cracked but secure, hinges starting, first signature detached, a few partial cracks to text block. Titles printed within woodcut architectural borders, woodcut decorated initials. Toning, light browning in a few places, some soiling to title page. Occasional early underlining and annotations, interior otherwise clean. \$1,750.

* Second Tottell edition. One of the most imposing volumes in the history of English law, it has abridgements of over 14,000 cases under 260 titles in alphabetical order. First printed around 1514, it was the first serious attempt to arrange the common law systematically and it was a model to such writers as Brooke and Rolle. According to Boersma, Fitzherbert accomplished "nothing less that to abridge all notes of significant cases at common law." Graham and Heckel refer to this work as the "book that 'made' the Common Law.": *Law Library Journal* 51 [1957]: 100-101. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R466, R467, R468. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S102204. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 1776. Cowley, *Bibliography of Abridgments* 71. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=57238>



Handsome 1584 Printing of Fitzherbert's Important JP Manual

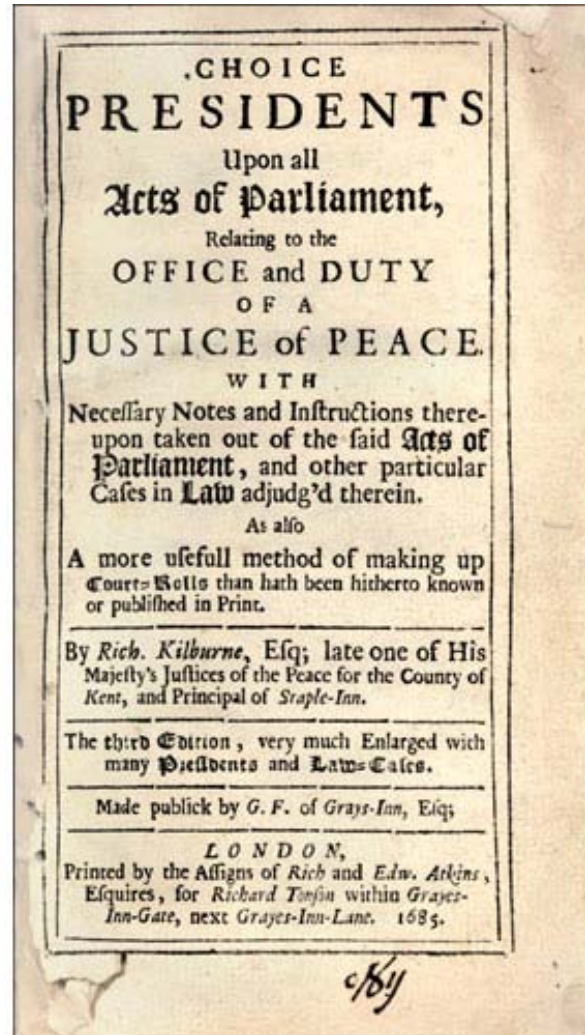
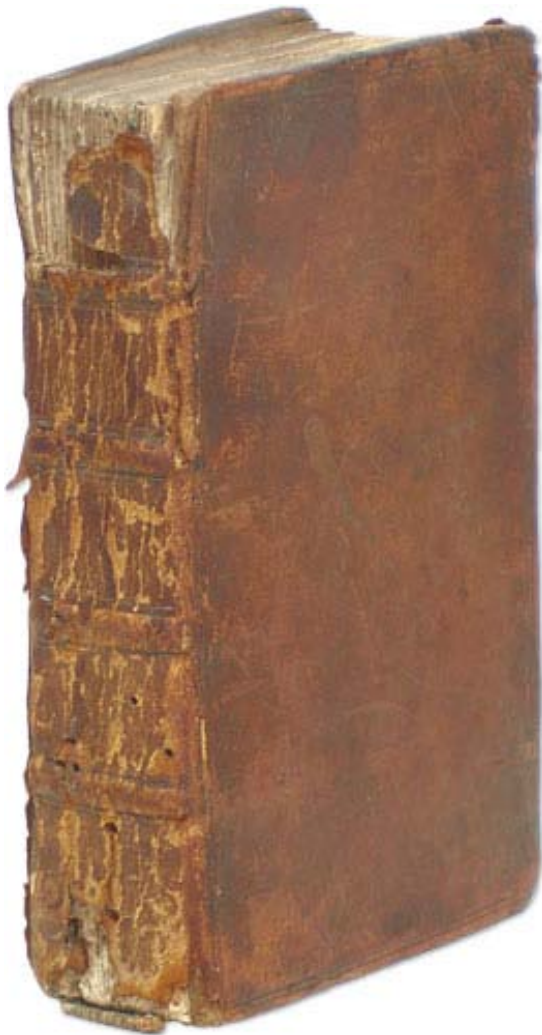
12. Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony.

Crompton, Richard (fl. 1573-1599), Editor.

Loffice et Auctoritie de Iustices de Peace, In Part Collect per le Tresreverende, Monsier Antho. Fitzherbert, iades, Un de les Iustices del Common Banke, & Inlarge per Richard Crompton, Un Apprentice de la Commen Ley, & Ore pur Luy Renyse, Corrygie, & Augment. 1584. A Que est Annex Loffice de Vicountes, Baylifes, Escheators, Constables, Coroners, &c. Collect per le Dit Mounsier Fitzherb. London: By Richard Tottell, [1584]. [xii], 227, [1] ff. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5").

Contemporary sheep, blind rules to boards, rebacked retaining spine with raised bands, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block. Light rubbing to extremities, somewhat heavier rubbing to spine, a few shallow scuffs to boards, corners bumped and lightly worn, pastedowns loose. Title printed within typographical border, woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, light soiling to title page, minor edgewear to preliminaries and rear endleaves. Lengthy annotation in court hand to rear endleaf, interior otherwise clean. A handsome copy. \$1,500.

* Later edition. First printed in 1538, Fitzherbert's manual was issued eight more times; its final edition was printed in 1617. The first edition by Crompton was published in 1583. A significant improvement, it is arranged more systematically and has a great deal of additional material. Despite Crompton's efforts, this work was eventually superseded by William Lambard's *Eirenarcha* (1581). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S102244. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T330. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63749>



A Popular and Respected English JP Manual

13. Kilburne, Rich[ard] [1605-1678].

G.F of Grays Inn, Editor.

Choice Presidents Upon All Acts of Parliament, Relating to the Office and Duty of Justice of the Peace. With Necessary Notes and Instructions Thereupon Taken Out of the Said Acts of Parliament, And Other Particular Cases in Law Adjudg'd Therein. As Also a More Usefull Method of Making Up Court-Rolls Than Hath Been Hitherto Known or Published in Print. Very Much Enlarged with Many Presidents and Law-Cases. London: Printed by the Assigns of Rich. and Edw. Atkins, 1685. [iv], 493, 29, [2] pp. Includes two-page publisher catalogue. 12mo. (6" x 4").

Contemporary sheep, blind rules to boards, raised bands to spine. Spine worn, some wear to board edges and corners, joints and hinges cracked, boards still quite secure, part of front pastedown and all of front free endpaper lacking. Some wear to fore-edges of title page and other leaves with no loss to text, some worming near gutter with negligible loss. Early signatures to endleaves. Light toning to a few leaves, interior otherwise fresh. A solid copy of a scarce title. \$200.

*Third edition. The first edition of this popular and respected JP manual was published in 1680, its eighth and final edition in 1715. Richard Kilburne, a member of Staple Inn, was an eminent solicitor in chancery, as well as a justice of the peace in Kent. The usefulness of his JP manual is attested to by the fact that by 1715 it made its eighth appearance in print. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R29453. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=45178>



The *Booke of Assises* Abridged, Beale R53

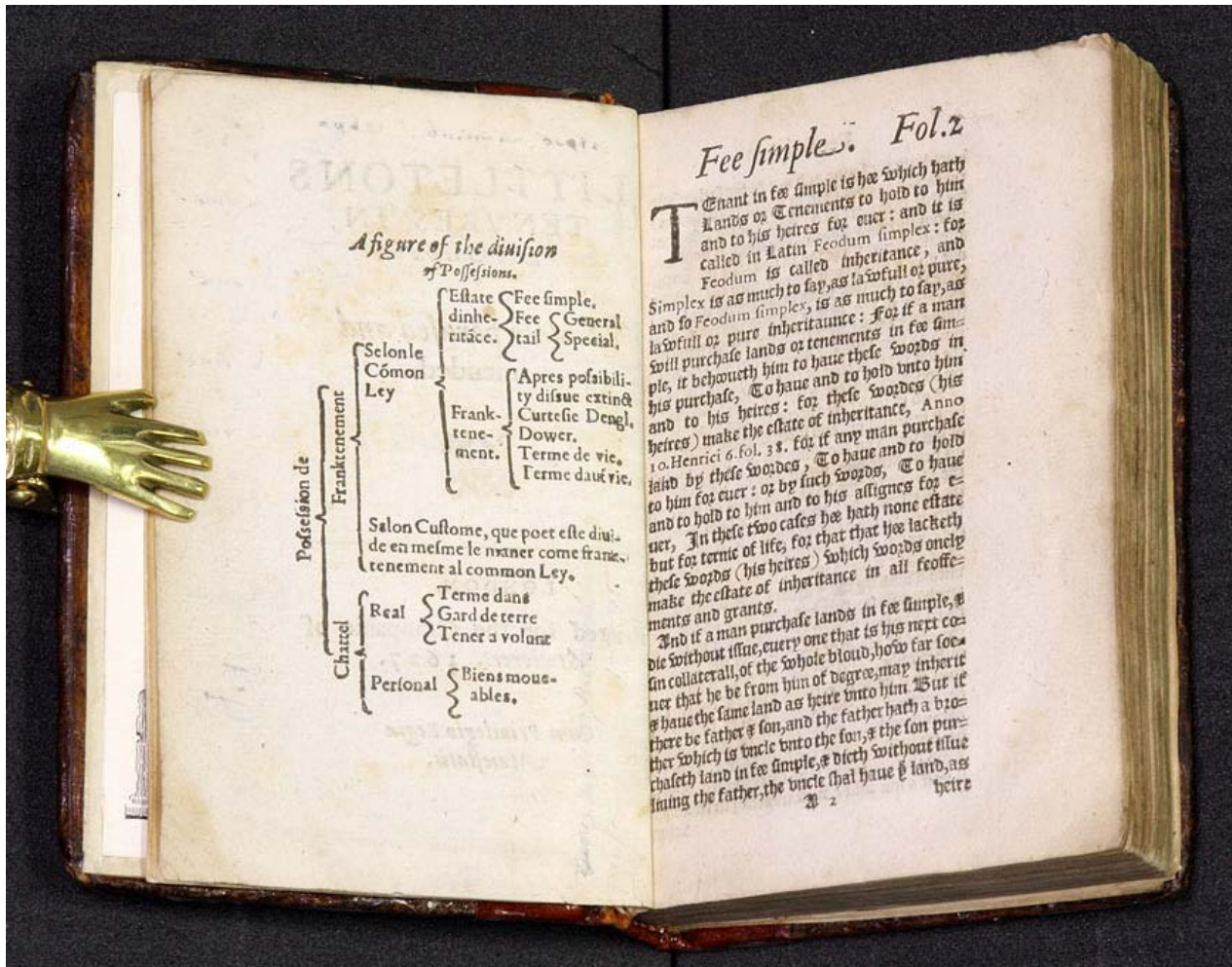
14. [Liber Assisarum].

[Callow, William, Sir (fl. 1555), Attributed].

The Abridgement of the Boke of Assises, Lately P[er]used Over & Corrected, & Nowe Newlye Imprinted by Rycharde Tottle, Ye Laste Daye of Septe[m]ber. An. Do. 1555. [London: Imprinted...in Fletestrete Within Temple Barre, At the Signe of the Hand & Starre, By Richard Tottel, (1555)]. [i], 165, [2] ff. Collates complete. Octavo (5-1/4" x 3-1/2").

Recent period-style calf, raised bands, blind ornaments, and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Title printed within woodcut architectural border. Toning to text, some soiling and edgewear to title page and following leaf, early check-marks in pen to a few leaves, interior otherwise clean. Ex-library. Small stamp to foot and verso of title page. A handsome copy. A rare imprint. \$3,500.

* Second edition. Text in Law-French. With a table. The *Liber Assisarum* is a selection of reports from the Year Books covering regnal years 1-50 of Edward III (1327-77). The contents are arranged alphabetically by topic. "The Book of Assizes (...) is of great authority in law; and so called because it principally contains proceedings upon Writs of Assize of Novel Disseisin, which in those days was *festinum et freems renaedium*. 'Tis often quoted and referred to by most of our ancient writers. (...) The questions are here discussed with more precision and clearness, and they contain more of those points of law that have survived to the present times. In regard to precision and clearness, all the reports of this reign excel those of the preceding; but the merit of these [reports] is of a peculiar kind, and has a very different appearance from what has in later times been considered as excellent in this way" (Rastell). OCLC locates 5 copies, the *English Short-Title Catalogue* locates 6 in the British Isles, 6 in North America and 1 in Australia. Rastell, John, Preface to London, 1679, *Livre des Assises et Pleas del' Corone* cited in Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 754. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S101227. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R53. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=58127>



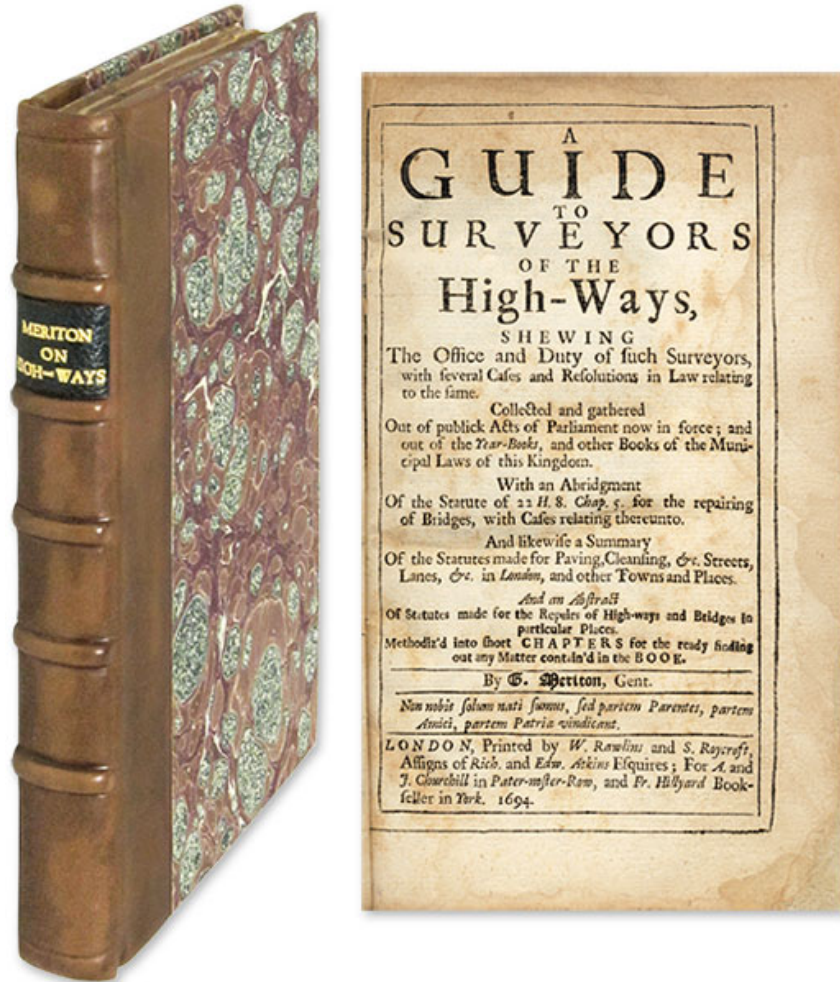
Littleton's Tenures in English

15. Littleton, Sir Thomas [1402-1481].

Littleton's Tenures in English, Lately Perused and Amended. London: Printed for the Companie of Stationers, 1627. 142, [2] ff. Complete. Octavo (5-1/4" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary sheep with later calf rebacking, binding varnished, blind rules to boards, raised bands and gilt title to spine, endpapers renewed, early repair to front board. Some rubbing to joints and spine ends, corners somewhat worn, shallow scuffing to boards, hinges starting. Light toning to text, faint dampstaining and foxing to a few leaves, tiny tear to foot of title page mended with archival tape. Early doodles to front endleaves and title page, interior otherwise clean. Ex-library. Bookplate to front pastedown. An appealing copy. \$500.

* 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 guidelines and doctrines drawn from the Year Books and, when necessary, hypothetical cases. OCLC locates two copies of this imprint in law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress). Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* II:573. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S108678. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63129>



**The First Significant
English Treatise on Highway Law**

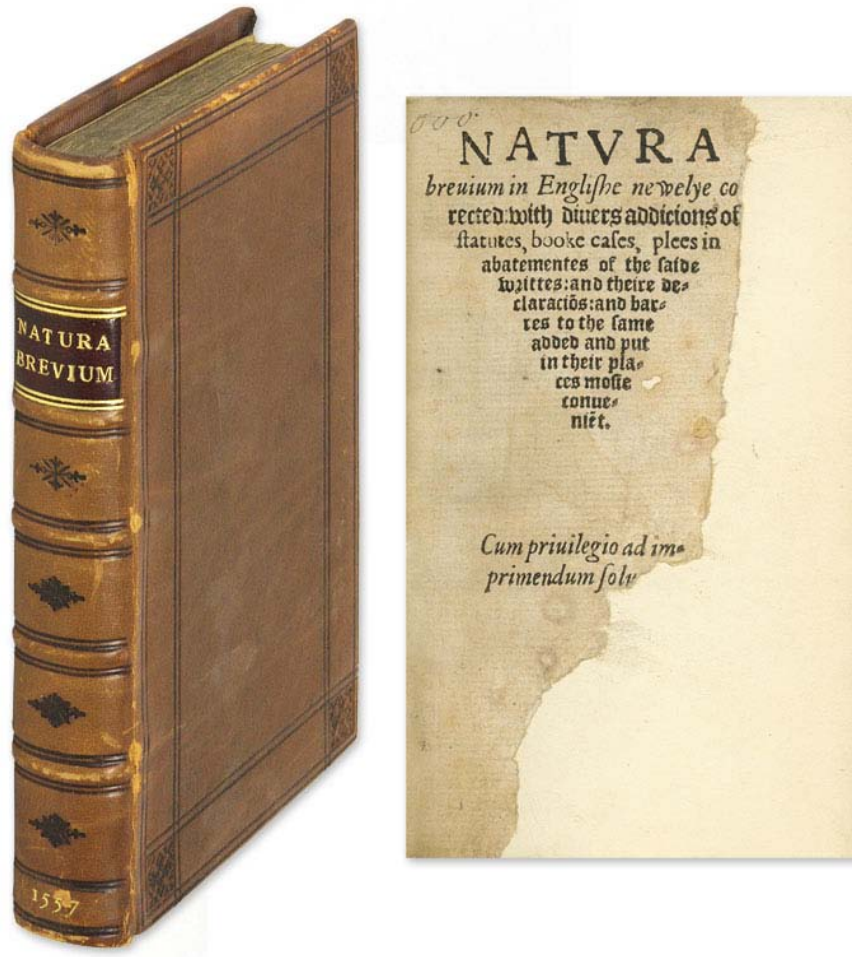
16. Meriton, G[eorge] [1634-1711].

A Guide to Surveyors of the High-Ways Shewing the Office and Duty of Such Surveyors, with Several Cases and Resolutions in Law Relating to the Same: Collected and Gathered Out of Publick Acts of Parliament Now in Force, And Out of the Year-Books, and Other Books of the Municipal Laws of this Kingdom: With an Abridgment of the Statute of 22 h. 8 Chap. 5 for the Repairing of Bridges, With Cases Relating Thereunto : and Likewise a Summary of the Statutes Made for Paving, Cleansing, &c., Streets, Lanes, &c., In London and Other Towns and Places, and an Abstract of Statutes Made for the Repairs of High-Ways and Bridges in Particular Places, Methodiz'd into Short Chapters for the Ready Finding out any Matter Contain'd in the Book. London: Printed by W. Rawlins and S. Roycroft for A. and J. Churchill, 1694. [xxiv], 167 pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning to text, occasional light foxing and dampstaining, internally clean. \$750.

* Only edition. According to Sweet & Maxwell, this is the earliest full-scale English work devoted to the topic. Meriton was a lawyer and a prodigious writer on a wide range of legal topics. Born in the North Riding of Yorkshire, he is also remembered for his dialect poem *The Praise of Yorkshire Ale* (1683). OCLC locates 2 copies in North America (at the Huntington Library and the University of Michigan). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R23533.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=60593>



A Scarce *Natura Brevium*, Beale T105a

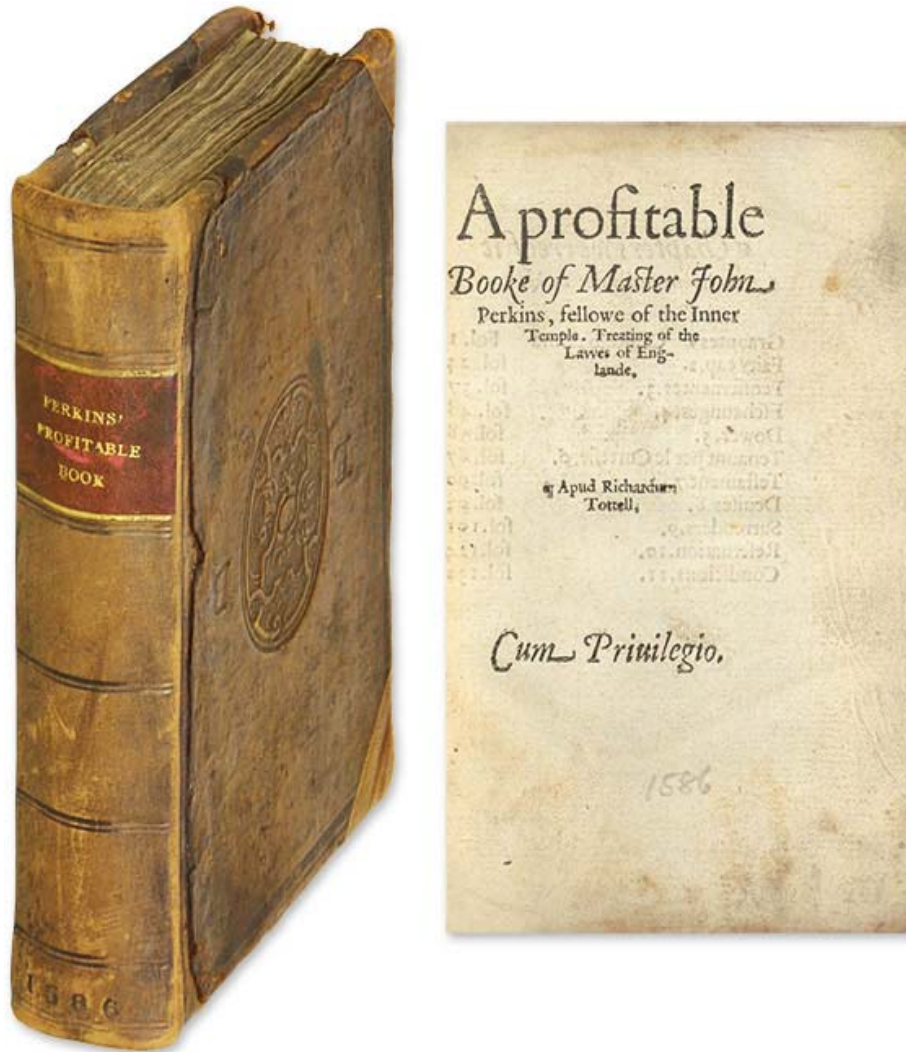
17. [*Natura Brevium*].

Natura Brevium in Englishe Newelye Corrected: With Diuers Addicions of Statutes, Booke Cases, Ples in Abatementes of the Saide Writtes: And Their Declaracio[n]: And Barres to the Same Added and Put in Their Places Mosse Conuenie[n]t. [London: In Flete Stret within Temple Barre, At the Sygne of the Hand and Starre, By Rychard Tottill, Ye xxvii Daie of Februarye, Anno Domini, 1557]. 180, [3] ff. Collates complete. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Nineteenth-century calf, blind rules and corner fleurons to boards, raised bands lettering piece and blind ornaments to spine, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge, marbled endpapers. Light rubbing to extremities, title page, which is missing most of its fore-edge and lower corner with minor loss to text, re-hinged and mounted. Toning, (very) faint dampstaining to lower half of text block, internally clean. \$1,750.

* With table. Text mostly in English, translated from Law French; some text in 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 ESTC lists three variants of this title, with five copies found worldwide of our variant here. OCLC locates 12 of all three, 5 in North American law libraries (Columbia, Harvard, Library of Congress, Minnesota State Law Library, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S105959. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T105a.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=58126>



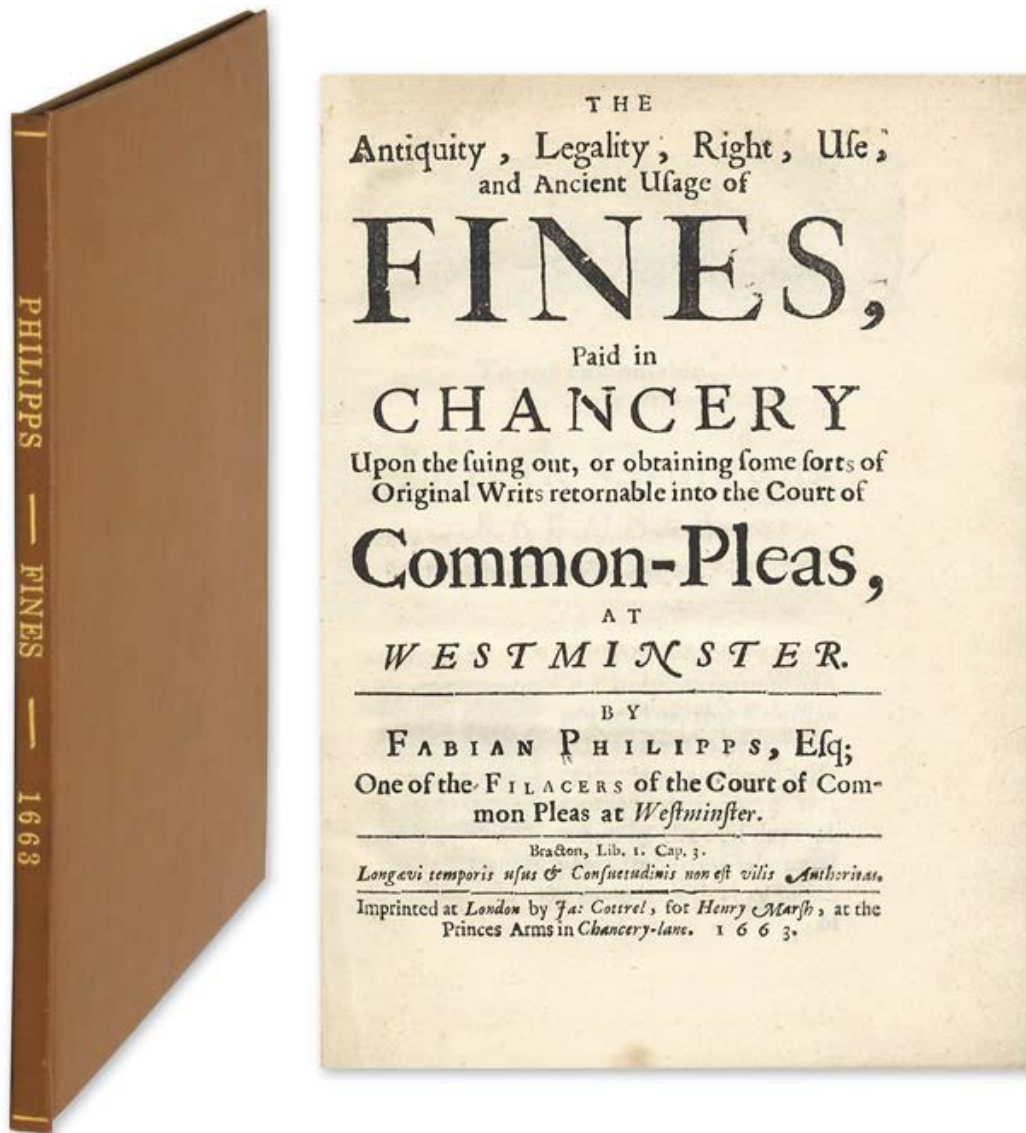
"A Profitable Booke"

18. Perkins, John [d. 1545].

A Profitable Booke of Master John Perkins, Fellowe of the Inner Temple. Treating of the Lawes of Englande. [London: In Fletestreete...Within Temple Barre...By Richarde Tottell, 1586]. [xx], 168 ff. Collates complete. Octavo (5-1/2" x 4").

Contemporary calf, blind rules and large central arabesques flanked by owner initials (E B) to boards, rebaced, lettering piece and blind rules to spine, corners repaired, endpapers renewed. Some rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn, crack in text block between title page and following leaf. Some toning, minor edgewear to preliminaries, chip to fore-edge of fol. [xvii] faint dampstaining to fore-edge and lower margins of most of text. Brief early annotations to a few leaves, a few minor inkstains, interior otherwise clean. \$1,250.

* Later 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. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S108588. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T424. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=57810>



Fines in Chancery

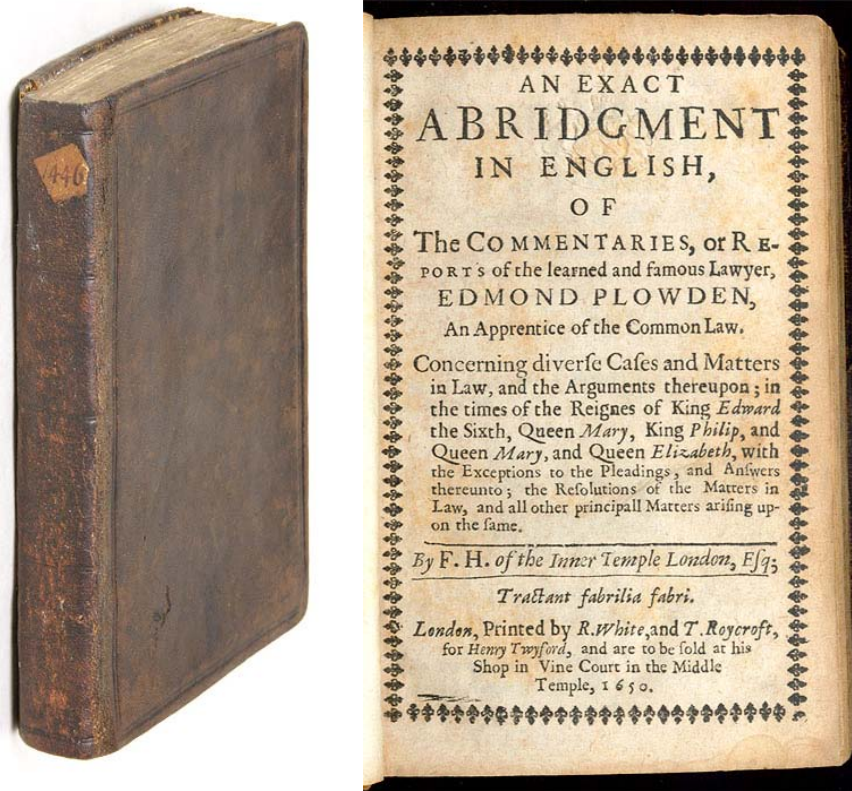
19. Philipps, Fabian [1601-1690].

The Antiquity, Legality, Right, Use, And Ancient Usage of Fines, Paid in Chancery Upon the Suing Out, Or Obtaining Some Sorts of Original Writs Returnable Into the Court of Common-Pleas, At Westminster. London: Ja. Cottrel, For Henry Marsh, 1663. [xx], 32 pp. Quarto (7-1/2" x 6").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent cloth, gilt title to spine. Light shelfwear, spine ends lightly bumped. Light toning to text, internally clean. Ex-library. Bookplate to front pastedown. \$650.

* Only edition. Philipps, a member of an old gentry family educated at inns of chancery, Oxford and Middle Temple, was a notable, and prolific, legal antiquarian. A committed Royalist, most of his scholarship aimed to promote the rights of the Crown though the use of old records. *The Antiquity* argues for the restoration of chancery fines, a practice ignored during the Civil War and Commonwealth. OCLC locates 6 copies in North America, 4 in law libraries (Columbia, Northwestern, University of Minnesota, University of Pennsylvania). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R31118.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63040>



The First Abridgment of Plowden in English

20. Plowden, Edmund [1518-1585].

H[icks], F[abian], Editor and Translator.

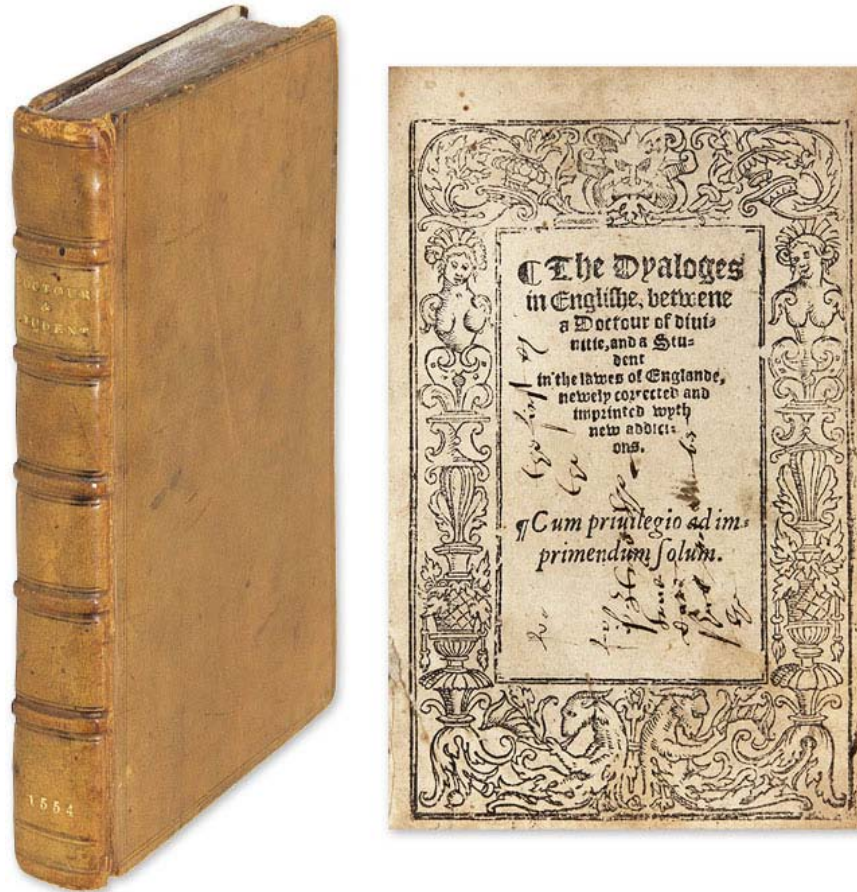
[Walter, Sir John [1566-1630], Digestor].

An Exact Abridgment in English, Of the Commentaries, Or Reports of the Learned and Famous Lanyer, Edmond Plowden, An Apprentice of the Common Law. Concerning Diverse Cases and Matters in Law, And the Arguments Thereupon; In the Times of the Reignes of King Edward the Sixth, Queen Mary, King Philip, And Queen Mary, And Queen Elizabeth, With the Exceptions to the Pleadings, And Answers Thereunto; The Resolutions of the Matters in Law, And All Other Principall Matters Arising Upon the Same. By F.H. of the Inner Temple London, Esq. London: Printed by R. White, And T. Roycroft, For Henry Twyford, And Are to be Sold at His Shop in Vine Court in the Middle Temple, 1650. [viii], 232, 62 pp. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary sheep, blind frames to boards, blind rules and small early private-library shelf label to spine, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge. Light rubbing, minor worming to front board, shallow slice to rear, front free endpaper and rear endleaves lacking, armorial bookplate of the Earls of Macclesfield to front pastedown, small embossed Macclesfield stamp to head of title page. Moderate toning to text, light foxing in a few places, brief corrections in early hand to a few leaves. A handsome copy. \$750.

* First edition, one of two issues from 1650. Thomas Ashe's *Abridgment des Touts les Cases Reportes a Large per Plowden* (c. 1597) was the first abridgment of Plowden. *An Exact Abridgment* was the first in English. A second edition was published in 1659. First published in 1571 and covering the period of 1550-1580, Plowden's *Reports* marks the transition away from the cumulative method of the Year Books to one based on exposition and commentary. In most respects it is a precursor of the modern law report. The Earls of Macclesfield owned one of the finest private libraries in Great Britain. Counting both issues, OCLC locates 11 copies of the first edition in North America, 6 in law libraries (Columbia, Georgetown, Harvard, NYU, University of Pennsylvania, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R208982.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=65220>



Early Printing of a Landmark Work in Legal Ethics and Equity

21. 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. \$1,000.

* 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). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116343. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T473.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=64467>



**First Printing of Selden's
Edition of *Fleta* and His *Ad Fletam Dissertatio***

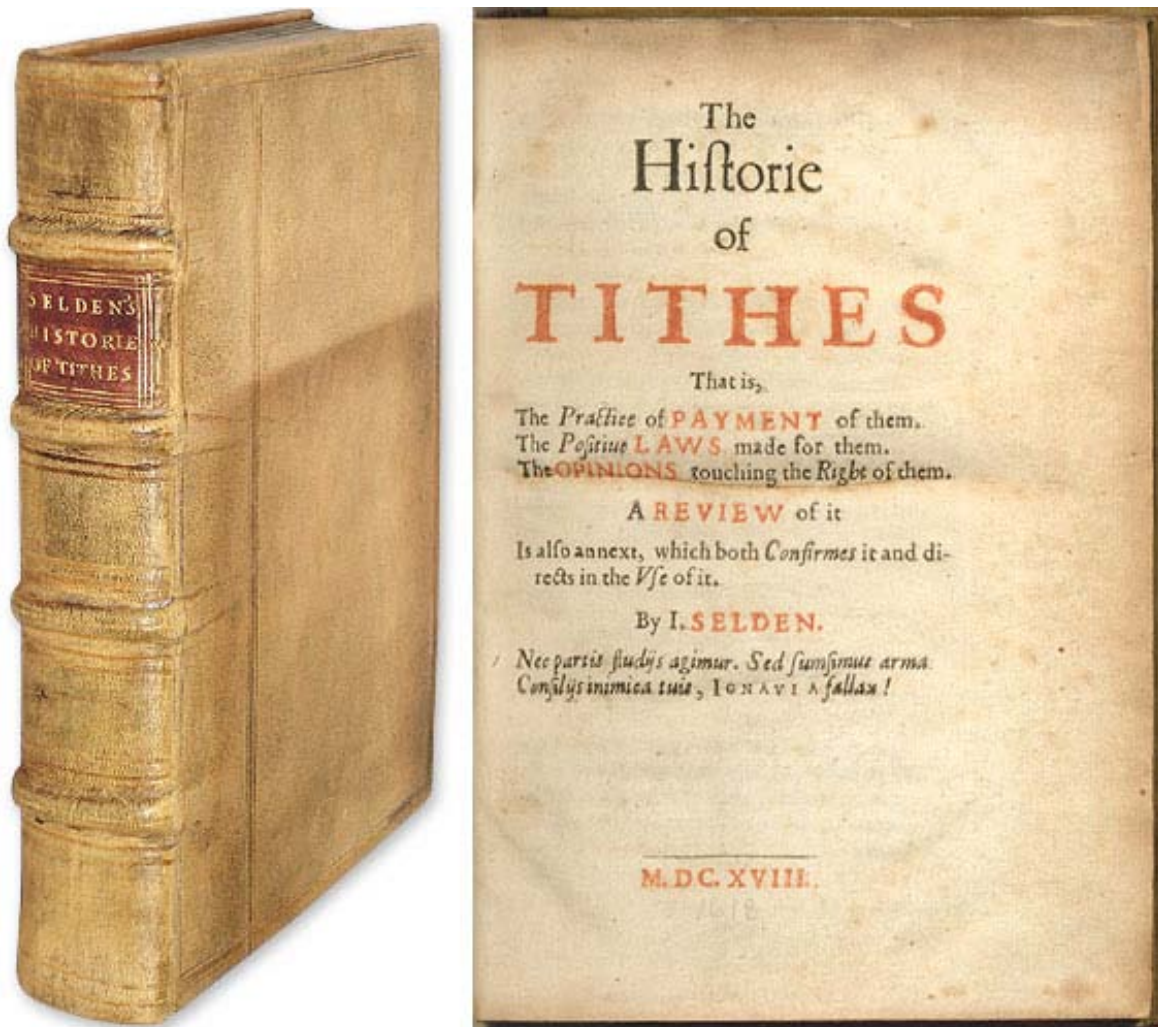
22. Selden, John [1584-1645], Editor.

Fleta, Seu Commentarius Juris Anglicani Sic Nuncupatus, Sub Edwardo Rege Primo Seu Circa Annos ab Hinc CCCXL. Ab Anonymo Conscriptus, Atque e Codice Veteri, Autore Ipso Aliquantulum Recentiori, Nunc Primum Typis Editus. Accedit Tractatulus Vetus de Agendi Excipiendique; Formulis Gallicanus, Fet-Assavoir Dictus. Subjungitur Etiam Joan. Seldeni ad Fletam Dissertatio Historica. London: Typis M.F. Prostant Apud Guil. Lee, & Dan. Pakeman, 1647. [8], 64, 63-452, [2], 453-553, [3] pp. Pagination irregular. Complete. Quarto (8-1/2" x 6-1/2").

Handsome period-style quarter calf over cloth, lettering piece, blind ornaments and gilt-ruled raised bands to spine. Negligible light rubbing to boards, some fading to spine. Title page printed in red and black. Moderate toning to text, occasional faint dampspotting, faint dampstaining to margins in a few places, internally clean. A very nice copy. \$750.

* First edition. The work by an anonymous author describes the practice of the courts, the forms of writs and an explanation of law terms as they existed during the reign of Edward I. Selden brought this ancient treatise to the public's attention and was instrumental in its publication. While Bracton earns the highest praise as the father of legal learning, Fleta earns a share of it for the illustrations he offered to some of the obscurities found in Bracton. Selden's appended dissertation (pp.453-553) contains many interesting observations about Bracton, Britton, Fleta, and Thornton "and shows what use was made of the Imperial law in England whilst the Romans governed here, at what time it was introduced into this nation, what use was formerly made of it, how long it continued, and when the use of it totally ceased in the King's Courts at Westminster": Bridgman, *A Short View of Legal Bibliography* 87. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 1647. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R15006.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=64803>



Well-Preserved First Edition of Selden's *Tithes*

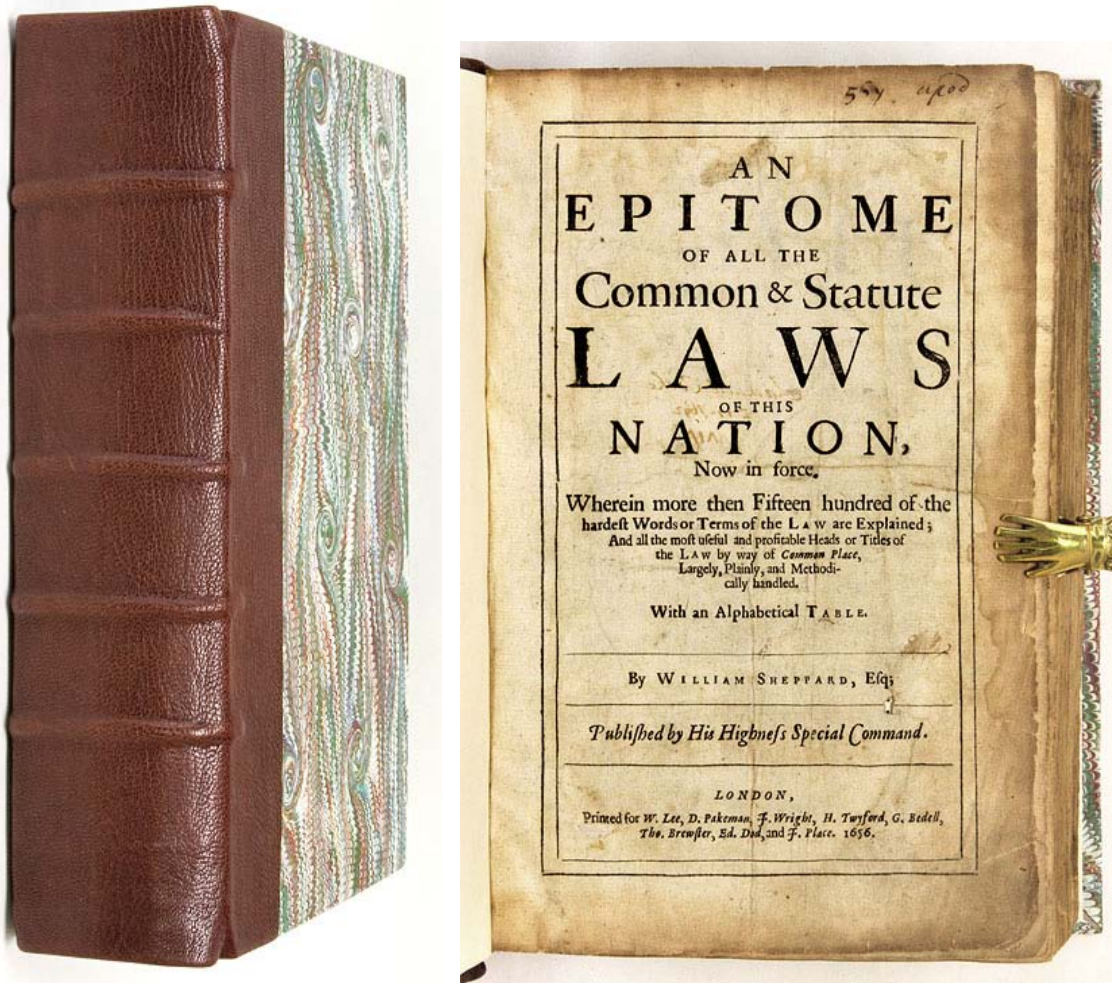
23. Selden, John.

The Historie of Tithes, That is, The Practise of Payment of Them. The Positive Laws Made for Them. The Opinions Touching the Right of Them. A Review of It is Also Annexed, Which Both Confirms It and Directs in the Use of It. [London: s.n.], 1618. [vi], xxii, [12], 491, [5] pp. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Recent period-style calf, blind frames to boards, raised bands and gilt title to spine, endpapers renewed. Light fading to portions of boards, corners lightly bumped. Title page printed in red and black. Toning, some discoloration and light wear to edges of title page and following few leaves, internally clean. A nice copy in a handsome binding. \$500.

* First edition, variant A. (One of the eight variants, with all points indicated by Sweet & Maxwell). *The History of Tithes*, which was one of Selden's earliest writings, angered James I and the clergy because it questioned the divine right to impose tithes. Although it was suppressed by the Court of High Commission, the resulting controversy transformed Selden into a figure of national importance. His treatment by the church and state also encouraged his opposition to political absolutism, an idea that informs his later writings. Based on remarks in the dedication and on p. 449, Sweet & Maxwell believe this is not a true first edition. (The presumed earlier edition appears to be a ghost, however.) Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:194-95. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S123423.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=52446>



A New Departure for the Abridgment

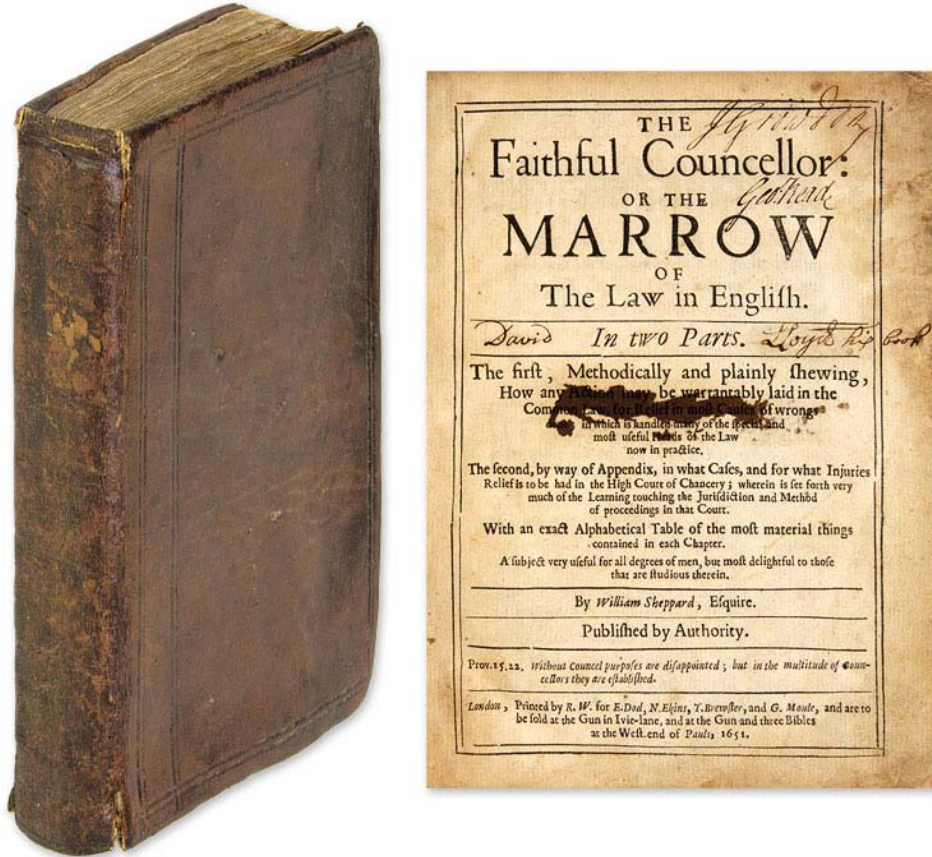
24. Sheppard, William [d. 1675].

An Epitome of All the Common & Statute Laws of This Nation Now in Force: Wherein More than Fifteen Hundred of the Hardest Words or Terms of the Law are Explained; And All of the Most Useful and Profitable Heads or Titles of the Law by Way of Common Place, Largely, Plainly, and Methodically Handled. With an Alphabetical Table. London: Printed for W. Lee, D. Pakeman [et al.], 1656. [xxiv], 1131, [1] pp. Folio (11-1/4" x 7-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter morocco over marbled boards, early hand-lettered title to fore-edge of text block, existing front pastedown retained, other endleaves renewed. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, occasional faint dampstaining, light soiling and some edgewear to title page. Owner signature, "Edw: Morgan/ Lincolns Inn" to front pastedown, brief annotations in same hand to title page and a few other places. \$1,950.

* First edition. Sheppard's *Epitome* marked a significant change in the nature of abridgments. Unlike other examples, which are collections of notes of cases and statutes arranged loosely under headings and sub-headings, Sheppard's is comprised of entries on all branches of the law. Dedicated to Oliver Cromwell, the *Epitome* is divided into 170 chapters and arranged alphabetically from "Acceptance" to "Words." It was inspired, at least in part, to the reforming spirit of the Commonwealth. Notable works that followed Sheppard's example, and went on to inspire the modern legal encyclopedia, are Bacon's *Abridgement* and Comyn's *Digest*. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R10939.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=65336>



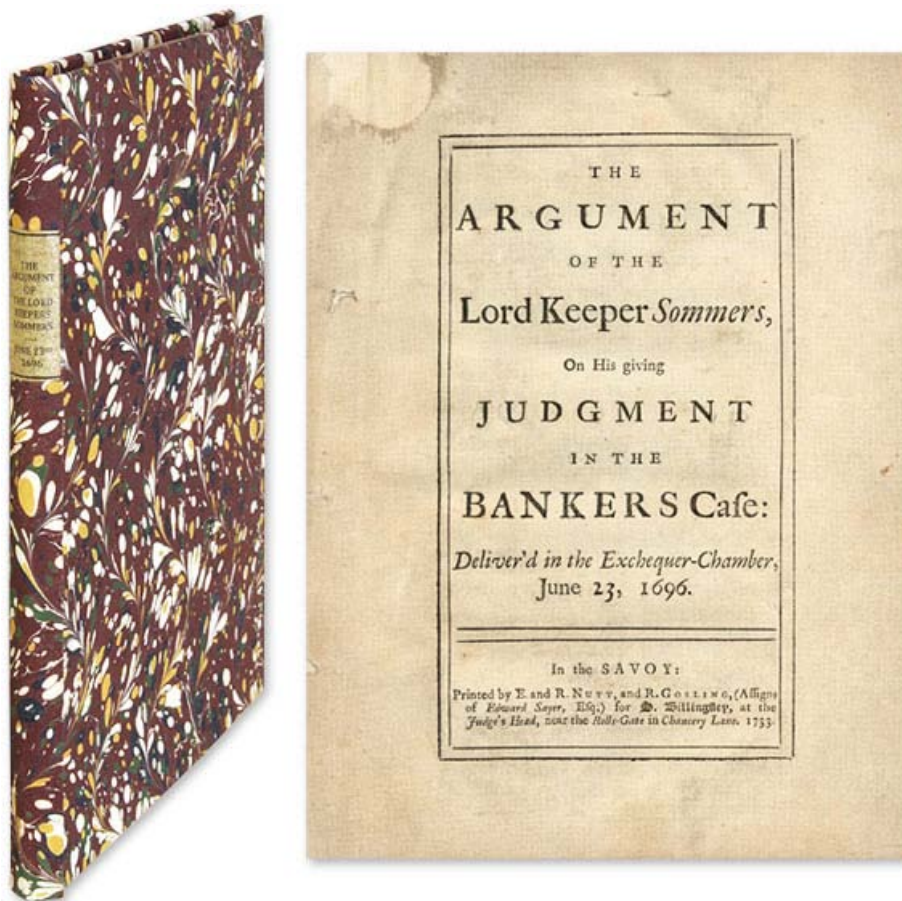
"The Marrow of the Law"

25. Sheppard, William.

The Faithful Councillor: Or the Marrow of the Law in English. In Two Parts. The First, Methodically and Plainly Shewing, How Any Action May be Warrantably Laid in the Common Law, For Relief in Most Causes of Wrongs Done; In Which is Handled Many of the Special and Most Useful Heads of the Law Now in Practice. The Second, By Way of Appendix, In What Cases, And for What Injuries Relief is to be Had in the High Court of Chancery; Wherein is Set Forth Very Much of the Learning Touching the Jurisdiction and Method of Proceedings in That Court. With an Exact Alphabetical Table of the Most Material Things Contained in Each Chapter. Published by Authority. London: Printed by R[obert]. W[hite] for E. Dod, N. Ekins, T. Brewster, and G. Moule, 1651. Part I Only. [vi], 164, 177-368, 553-703, [13] pp. Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/2").

Contemporary sheep, blind rules to boards and spine. Light rubbing to extremities, a few shallow scuffs to boards, joints just starting at ends, corners bumped and lightly worn, front pastedown loose, rear endleaves lacking. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining to foot of text block, faint dampspotting in a few places, edgewear to preliminaries, a few text leave and a few index leaves. Early owner signatures and a small inkstain to title page, interior otherwise clean. An appealing copy. \$1,500.

* First edition. Sheppard's comprehensive account of common and chancery law procedure is important for being written and published in English, rather than Latin or Law French, the language of the courts and the legal profession. Its purpose was political, in the broadest sense, as much as legal, to stabilize the new Commonwealth by making its legal system comprehensible to the common man and amenable to reform, thereby lending legitimacy to the state and to the legal profession. Digested alphabetically by topic, it is also one of the first legal encyclopedias in English. This book was reissued in 1653. A second part was published in 1654. Matthews, *William Sheppard, Cromwell's Law Reformer* 97-99. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R19496. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63736>



A Low Point in Somers's Career

26. Somers, John, Baron [1651-1716].

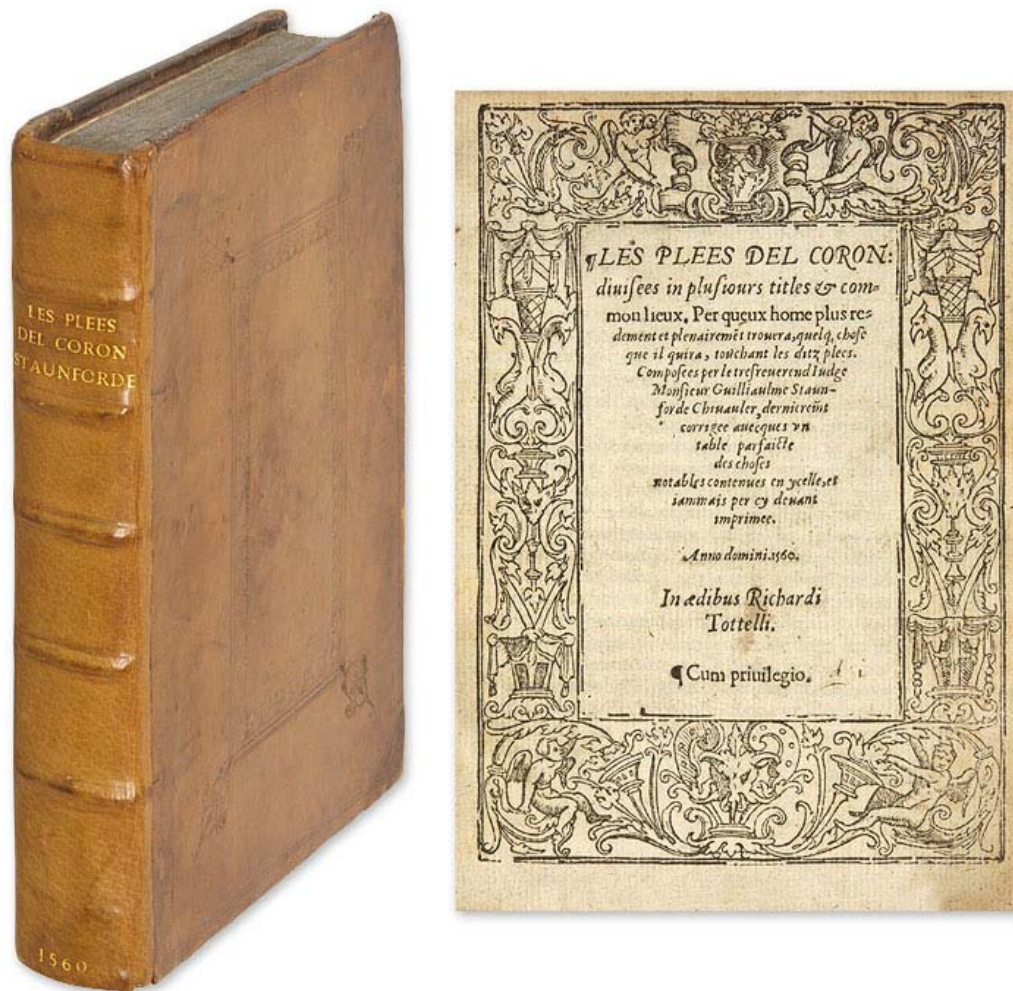
The Argument of the Lord Keeper Sommers, On His Giving Judgment in the Bankers Case: Deliver'd in the Exchequer-Chamber, June 23, 1696. [London]: Printed by E. and R. Nutt, and R. Gosling, 1733. [ii], 128 pp. Quarto (8" x 7").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent marbled boards, printed paper title label to spine. Soiling to title page and verso of final leaf, light foxing to a few leaves. Early shelf label to head of title page, annotations to two leaves, interior otherwise clean. \$600.

* Only edition and the only complete account. This case was an unfortunate moment in Somers's otherwise brilliant career. (He was an important Whig jurist, Lord Chancellor during the reigns of William & and Mary and Queen Anne and framer of the English Bill of Rights). "In the most important case which came before him in the exchequer chamber, that of the bankers who had recovered judgment in the court of exchequer for arrears of interest due to them as assignees of certain perpetual annuities charged by Charles II upon the hereditary excise as security for advances, he expended some hundreds of pounds and an immense amount of thought and research, with no better result than to defeat an intrinsically just claim, on the technical ground that it was not cognisable in the court of exchequer, but only by petition of right. No judgment so elaborate had ever been delivered in Westminster Hall as that by which, in November 1696, he reversed the decision of the court of exchequer." (DNB). This decision was reversed by the House of Lords three years later. Despite Somers's importance, few accounts of his legal work exist today; it is known mostly through summaries. OCLC locates 7 copies in North American law libraries. *Dictionary of National Biography* XVIII:632. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T79392.

Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson*, 2015

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=57196>



Appealing Early Edition of Staunford's *Pleez*

27. Staunford, Sir William [1509-1558].

Les Pleez del Coron: Diuisees in Plusieurs Titles & Common Lieux. Per Queux Home Plus Redement & Plenairement Trouera, Quelque Chose que il Quira, Touchant les Diez Pleez. [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1560. [xiv], 198 ff. Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Eighteenth century calf with later rebacking, panels with corner fleurons to boards, raised bands and gilt title to spine, corners repaired. Light rubbing to extremities, a few minor scratches to boards, corners bumped and lightly worn, hinges starting at ends, later armorial bookplate (a letter C beneath a coronet) to front pastedown. Title printed within woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials. Some toning to text. Underlining and brief annotations to some leaves in a fine early hand, interior otherwise clean. An appealing copy. \$2,000.

* Second edition. First published in 1557, Staunford's *Pleez* 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. *Pleez* was written after Staunford was appointed judge of the common pleas in 1554. Pollock and Maitland, *The History of English Law* II:448. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117819. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T48.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63823>



An Important Early Work on Writs

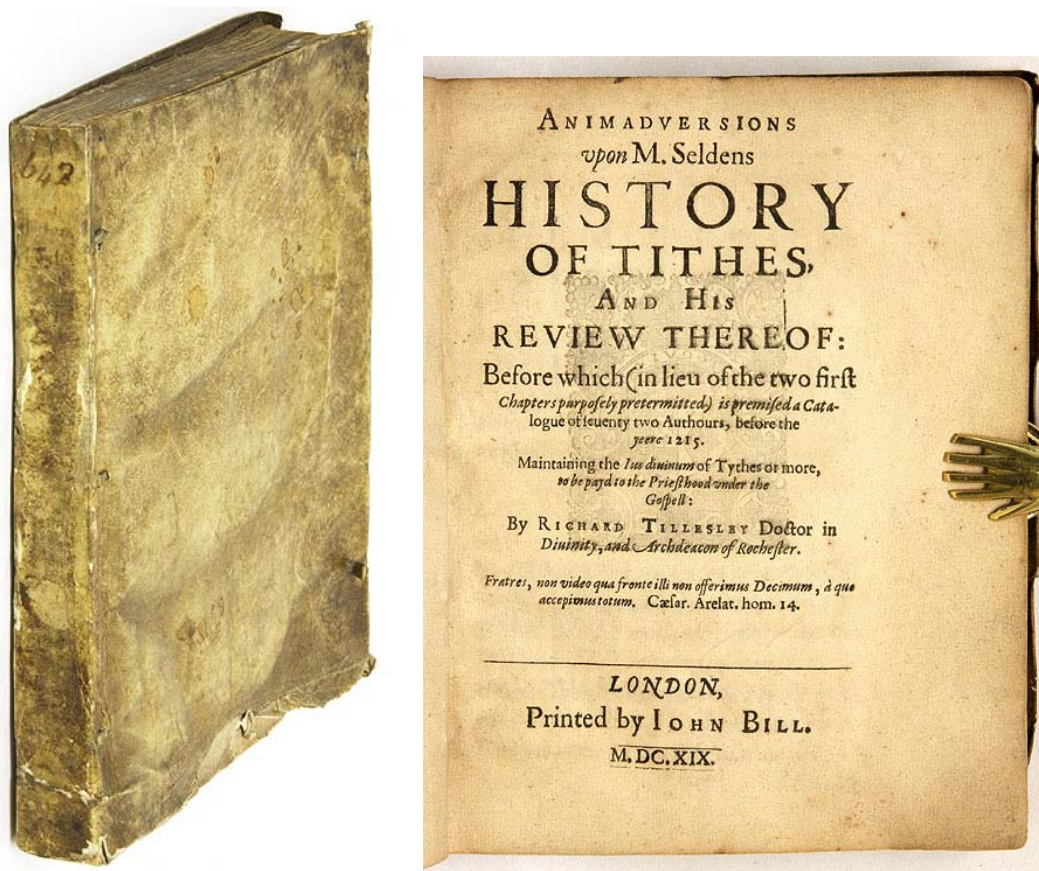
28. Theloall, Simon.

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

Recent period-style vellum with lapped edges. Spine ends bumped, crack in text block between title page and following leaf. Some toning to text, light soiling, faint dampstaining to a few leaves, early owner signature and annotations to title page, other annotations in similar hand to a few other leaves, including a manuscript to the rear endleaves. A handsome copy. \$2,000.

* 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 second edition was published in 1678. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:381. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S118369. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T499.

Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=63910>



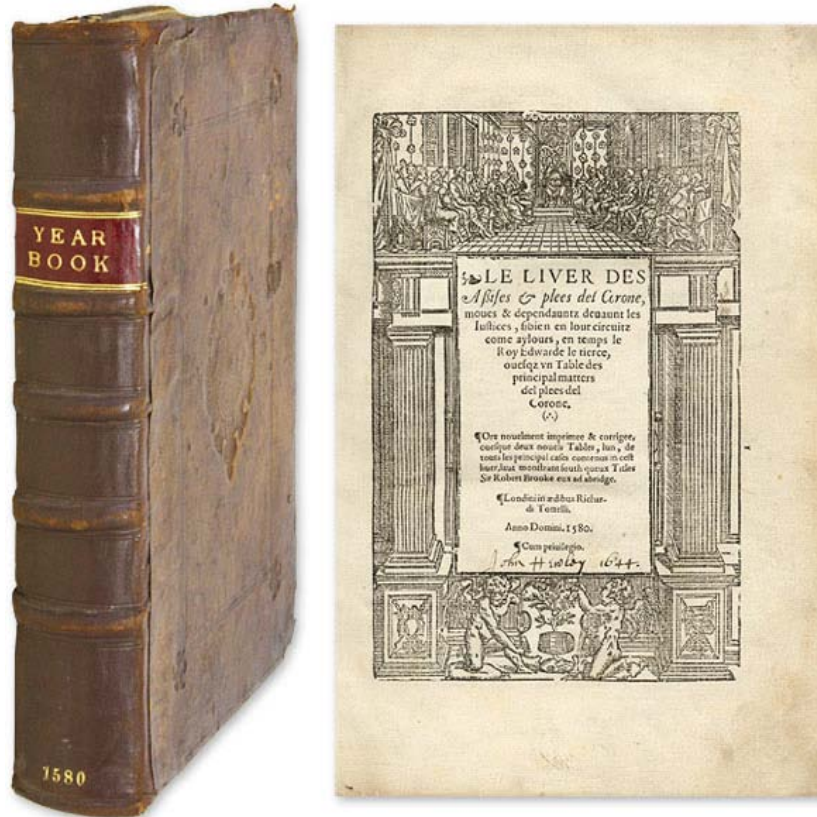
An Important Early Critical Response to Selden's *Historie of Tithes*

29. Tillesley, Richard [1582-1621].

Animadversions Upon M. Seldens History of Tithes, And his Review Thereof: Before Which (In Lieu of the Two First Chapters Purposely Pretermitted) is Premised a Catalogue of Seventy Two Authours, Before the Yeere 1215. Maintaining the Ius Divinum of Tythes or More, To be Payd to the Priesthood Under the Gospell. London: Printed by Iohn Bill, 1619. [xlv], 236 pp. Signature Q (pp. 121-128) misbound after Signature X (pp.161-168). First leaf blank except for a fleuron in a mortised ornament. Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-3/4")

Contemporary limp vellum with lapped edges and fragments of thong ties, very faint later hand-lettered title to spine. Moderate rubbing and soiling, spine darkened, some chipping along bottom edge of front cover, rear pastedown loose. Attractive woodcut head and tail-pieces, woodcut arms of England to verso of title page. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, some edgewear and chipping to front free endpaper, which has an owner signature dated 1815, tiny (library?) stamp to rear endleaf. A nice copy. \$950.

* First edition. This volume contains one of the most important responses written by clerics in the controversy immediately following the publication of John Selden's *Historie of Tithes* (1618). Tillesley, Archdeacon of Rochester, disputes Selden's work because it finds a great deal of support for tithing under positive law and almost none under divine law. In other words, Selden questioned the divine right to tithes while supporting the right under positive law. This is no minor controversy; Stubbe cited the publication of Selden's and the controversy surrounding it as one of the leading causes of the English Civil War. As one would expect, Tillesley's work was widely lauded by clergy, nobility and royalty. A second edition was published in 1621. Both editions are scarce. OCLC locates 7 copies of the first edition in North American law libraries (Harvard, Northwestern, SMU, University of Georgia, University of Pennsylvania, UC-Berkeley, UT-Austin). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117059. Order this item: <http://www.lawbookexchange.com/details.php?record=65294>



"Rich in Apparent Curiosities"

**30. [Year Book].
Edward III, King.
[Rastell, John, Editor].**

Le Liver des Assises & Ples del Corone, Moves & Dependauntz Devaunt les Iustices Sibien en Lour Circuitz Come Aylours, En Temps le Roy Edwarde le Tierce, Ouesque un Table des Principal Matters del Ples del Corone. London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1580. [xxxvi], cccxxvi, [10] ff. Collates complete. Folio (11" x 7-1/2").

Contemporary paneled calf with corner fleurons enclosing large blind-stamped central arabesques flanked with the initials L B, rebaked, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, faint early hand-lettered title to edges of text block, endpapers renewed. A few scuffs to boards, some rubbing to extremities with some wear to edges, corners bumped and rather worn, hinges partially cracked. Title page printed within attractive woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, faint dampstaining and worming to margins of some leaves, some soiling to title page. Owner signature (of John Hawley dated 1644) to foot of title page, brief annotations to a few leaves. An appealing copy. \$1,500.

* Later edition, one of two issued by Tottell in 1580. A selection of reports for 1-50 Edward III (1327-1377), the *Book of Assizes*, is one of the most important of the Year Books and of unique value to the study of English legal history. As Stanley Milsom has observed, it is the "only collection of reports from the country," that is the only collection of reports from the justices on assize (circuit) rather than in the central courts at Westminster. It is therefore "rich in apparent curiosities" because "it reports processes we do not otherwise see, on circuit, before juries." The first edition was printed in 1514 by John Rastell. OCLC locates 5 copies of the 1580 edition in North American law libraries (Boston College, Harvard, UC Berkeley, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania). Milsom, *Historical Foundation of the Common Law* (2nd. Ed., 1981) 299, 55. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121396. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R51.

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