

16th-Century Law Books

30 TITLES

July 28, 2020



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Funeral Rites and Burials

1. Asinio, Giovanni Baptista [fl. 1562].

Commentarii in Titulum Digestorum De Religiosis & Sumptibus Funerum. Florence: Apud Laurentium Torrentinum, 1562. [viii], 338, [52] pp. Folio (12-3/4" x 8-1/4").

Contemporary calf with later varnishing, blind rules and small central arabesques to boards, raised bands and later lettering piece to spine, spine ends and corners mended. Some scuffing to boards, corners bumped, front joint partially cracked, front hinge just starting, rear hinge mended, later armorial bookplate to front pastedown. Light toning to text, a bit of soiling to title page. Early owner annotations to front pastedown, signatures and stamps to title page, interior otherwise clean. Ex-library. Bookplate to front pastedown. A nice copy of a rare title. \$1,250.

* Only edition. Asinio was a notable Florentine jurist who was patronized by Cosimo I de Medici. He is best-known for his treatises on practice and procedure in Roman and Florentine law. *De Executionibus* is a comprehensive treatise on the section of the *Digest*, Book XI, Title 7, which addresses funeral rites and burial. It is a scarce title. OCLC locates 5 copies, 3 in North America (at the Library of Congress, Newberry Library and University of Chicago). *Censimento Nazionale delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE3262. [Order This Item](#)



An Important Humanist Scholar

2. Baudouin, Francois [1520-1573].

Commentarius de Iurisprudencia Muciana. Accessit Rerum & Verborum Praecipue Memorabilium Index. Basel: Per Ioannem Oporinum, [1558]. [xvi] 306 [6] pp.

[Bound with]

Baudouin, Francois.

De Legibus XII Tabularum. Tertia sed Plane nova Editio. Basel: Per Ioannem Oporinum, [1557]. [viii] 252 [18] pp.

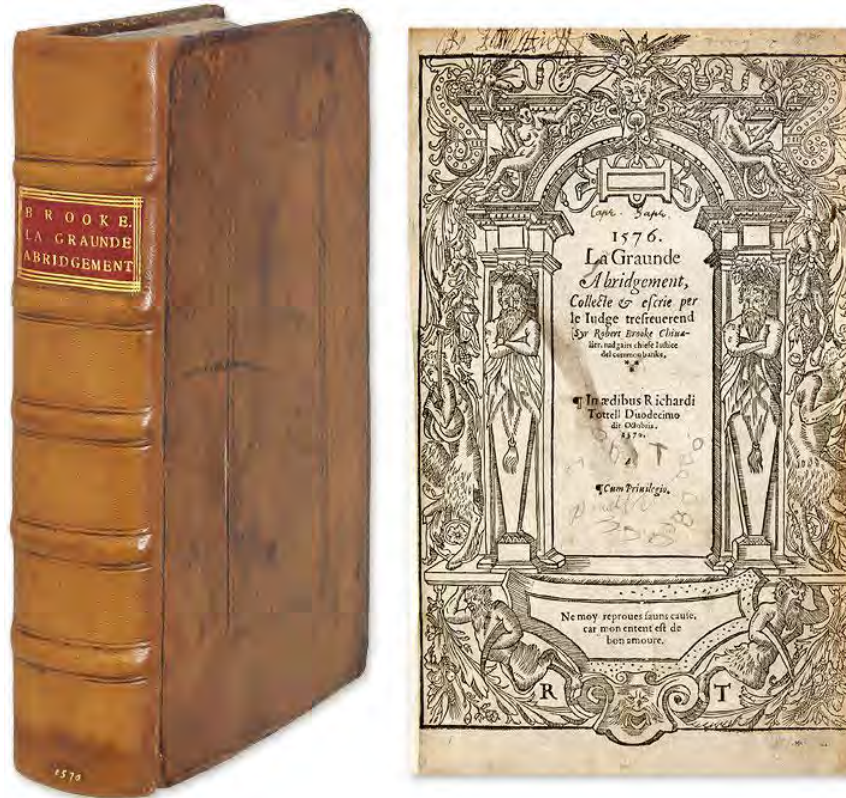
[And]

Baudouin, Francois, Commentary.

Ad Edicta Veterum Principum Rom. de Christianis. Basel: Per Ioannem Oporinum, [c. 1557]. 122, [10] pp. Lacking leaves HH5 and HH6, the final text leaf (pp. 121-2) and the first index leaf.

Octavo (7" x 4-1/2"). Contemporary calf, blind frames and central medallions to boards, raised bands, blind ornaments and later hand-lettered paper title label to spine. Some rubbing to boards, heavier rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, joints starting at ends, hinges cracked but secure, later armorial bookplate and tipped-in leaf of notes to front pastedown. Light toning to text, light foxing and dampstaining in places. Occasional notes and glosses in a contemporary hand, interior otherwise clean. \$2,500.

* Later editions. Baudouin was an eminent French humanist jurist and theologian. Interested in the early history of Roman law, he emphasized the importance of history in the development of the law. This volume collects two of his principal works, *De Legibus XII Tabularum*, a study of the history and significance of the Twelve Tables, and *Commentarius de Iurisprudencia Muciana*, a study of Roman law during the Republic. The final title addresses the legal status of the early Christian Church. Adams, *Catalogue of Books Printed on the Continent of Europe, 1501-1600* B87, B93, B84. [Order This Item](#)



"A Worthy and Painful Work"

3. Brooke, Sir Robert [?-1558].

La Graunde Abridgement, Collecte & Escrie per le Iudge Tresreverend Syr Robert Brooke Chivalier, Nadgairs Chiefe Iustice del Common Banke.

[And]

La Secounde Part du Graunde Abridgment....

London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottell, 1576. Two parts in one. [ii], 351; [i], 328 ff. Collates complete. Small folio (9-1/4" x 6").

Contemporary calf with recent rebacking, blind panels with large corner fleurons to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Moderate rubbing to board edges, a few minor scratches and scuffs, corners bumped and somewhat worn, hinges starting. Titles printed within woodcut architectural borders, woodcut decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, faint dampstaining to foot of text block, minor loss to fore-edges of title pages due to trimming. Tiny early owner signatures to title page of first part, interiors otherwise clean. An attractive copy. \$1,000.

* Second edition. Sir Robert Brooke was renowned for his great learning as a scholar and his probity as a judge. Holdsworth notes that Brooke's *Abridgement* "is based on Fitzherbert's *Abridgement*, but it contains much new material. In particular it abridges fully the Year Books of Henry VII's and Henry VIII's reigns." Brooke abridged nearly 21,000 cases under 404 alphabetical headings. He proceeded with great care and accuracy, and is understood 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." It was first issued in 1573. Coke cited in Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 151. Holdsworth, *History of English Law* II:545. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S106717. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R471, R472. [Order This Item](#)



Rare Treatise Dealing With Legal Aspects of Farming and Agriculture

4. Chopin, René [1537-1606].

De Privilegiis Rusticorum: Lib. III. O Fortunatos Nimum, Sua Si Bona Norint, Agricolas, Gnauosque Senes, Extrema per Illos Iustitia Excedens Terris Vestigia Fecit. Paris: Apud Nicolaum Chesneau, 1575 [colophon: 29 November 1574]. [xvi] 248, [24] pp. Quarto (9" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum, early calligraphic title to spine, ties lacking. Negligible light shelfwear, text block partially detached from binding. Woodcut printer device to title page, woodcut decorated initials. Some toning, light dampspotting and early annotations to a few leaves. \$2,000.

* First edition. Chopin (or Chopin) was a French jurist and an *avocat* of the Parlement of Paris. Like Jean Bacquet and Jean Bodin, Chopin drew on Roman law and feudal principles to advocate a centralized state under royal rule. *De Privilegiis Rusticorum* addresses legal privileges enjoyed by rural people in Roman and civil law. A well-written and remarkably comprehensive work, it went through seven subsequent editions in Latin. Its final edition, translated into French, was published in 1634. This was a rarely explored topic, and Chopin's treatise is the only early example we have encountered. According to the *Biographie Universelle*, "it deserves notice for the singularity of its subject, for its profound research, and the decisions it contains" (8:499). All editions are scarce today and rare in North American law libraries. OCLC locates three copies of the 1575 edition (at Columbia, George Washington University and Harvard). Camus, *Profession d'Avocat* 1477. [Order This Item](#)



One of the Great Italian Jurists of the Fifteenth Century

5. Cipolla, Bartolomeo [d. ca. 1477].

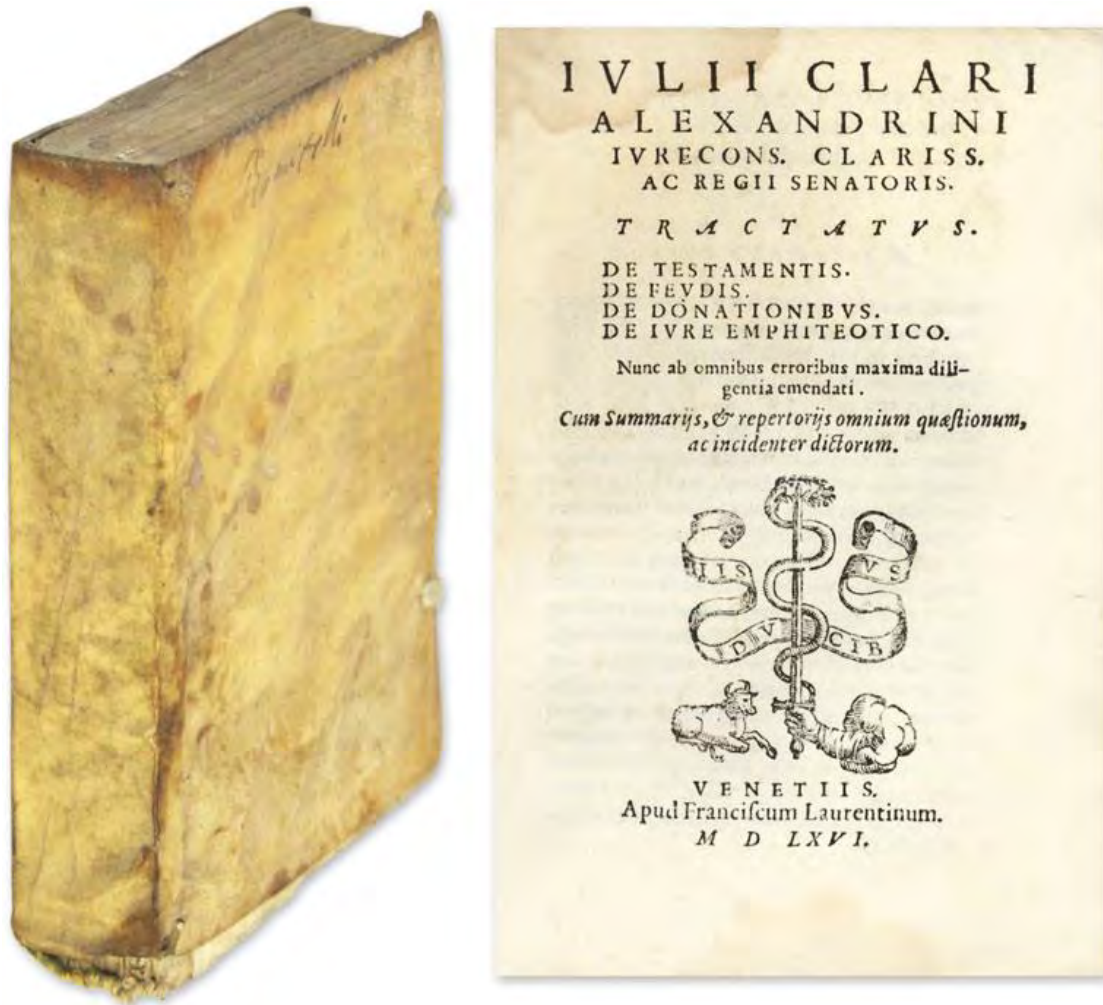
[Gradibus, Johannes de (15th/16th c.), Editor].

Incipit Sole[m]nes ac P[er]utiles Tractatus Memoriae ac Studio Dignissimi Egregij Viri: Iurisq[ue] Utriusq[ue] Peritissimi D. Bartholomei Cepolle, Videlicet. [Lyons: Antoine Du Ry, Impensis Jacques and Franciscus Giunta, 1525]. [xii], cccxvi [i.e. 312], [2] ff. Main text in parallel columns. Octavo 7" x 5" (18 x 13 cm).

Contemporary vellum from manuscript leaf, hand-lettered title to spine, front endleaves recycled from another book. Some soiling, moderate rubbing to extremities, joints starting, some worming to spine, corners worn, pastedowns loose, worming to rear hinge, a few cracks to text block, a few signatures loose. Title page, with woodcut vignette and architectural border, printed in red and black, small woodcut vignette at head of main text, woodcut decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, occasional faint dampstaining to margins, some edgewear and a few minor tears to title page and the following four leaves. Finger smudges, annotations to rear endleaves, underlining and brief annotations in few places, interior otherwise clean. \$1,750.

* Third edition. Cipolla was a professor of law at the University of Padua, Venetian diplomat and one of the greatest Italian Jurists of the fifteenth century. His works are notable for their humanistic scholarship and coordination of theoretical and practical concerns. *Tractatus Memoriae* is a collection of seven essays on servitudes, real property and related topics in Roman and canon law. It is a collection based on titles that circulated in manuscript and the early printed era. The first edition in its final, seven-essay form appeared in 1511. It was issued several times into the sixteenth century. All editions are scarce. OCLC locates no copies of the 1525 imprint in North America. This edition not in Adams.

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Popular Study of Topics in Roman Law

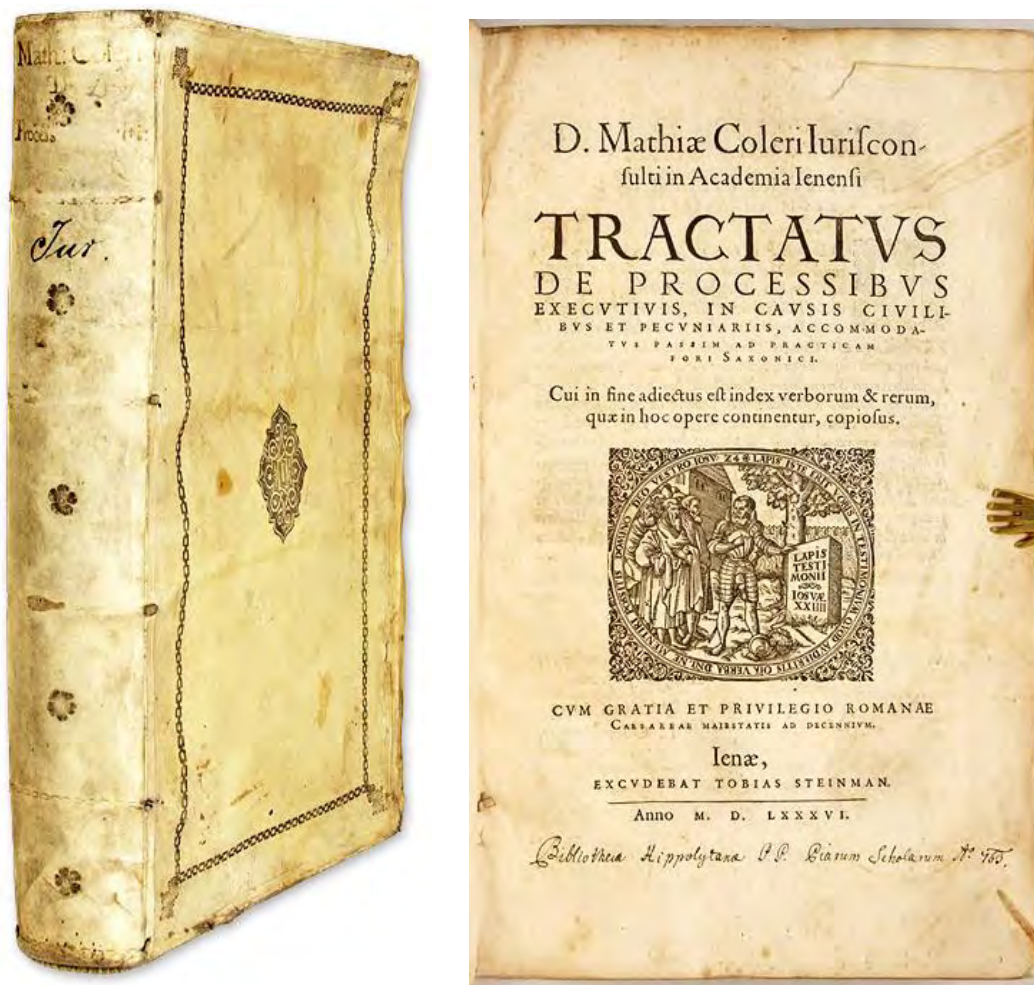
6. Claro, Giulio [1525-1575].

Tractatus de Testamentis, De Feudis, De Donationibus, De Iure Emphyteotico: Nunc ab Omnibus Erroribus Maxima Diligentia Emendati: Cum Summariis, & Repertoriis Omnium Quaestionum, Ac Incidenter Dictorum. Venice: Apud Franciscum Laurentinum, 1566. 8, [32], 243 ff. Octavo (6" x 4").

Contemporary limp vellum with lapped edges, faint early hand-lettered title to spine, later signature (Romatelli) to front cover, ties lacking. Light soiling, rubbing to extremities, insect damage to rear cover, front joint cracked, pastedowns loose. Large woodcut printer device to title page, woodcut decorated initials. Occasional early annotations and underlining. Toning, dampstaining in a few places, interior otherwise clean. \$500.

* Second edition. With indexes. First published in 1565, this popular work on wills, gifts, feudal writs, usury and other topics in Roman criminal and civil law went through numerous editions throughout Europe well into the eighteenth century. These four tracts were books 3-4 of the author's unfinished *Sententiae Receptae*. Claro was a Milanese jurist. OCLC locates one copy of this edition in North America (at the Library of Congress). Another copy located at Harvard Law School. This edition not in Adams. *Censimento Nazionale delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE 12641.

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A Durable Work by a Renowned Saxon Jurist

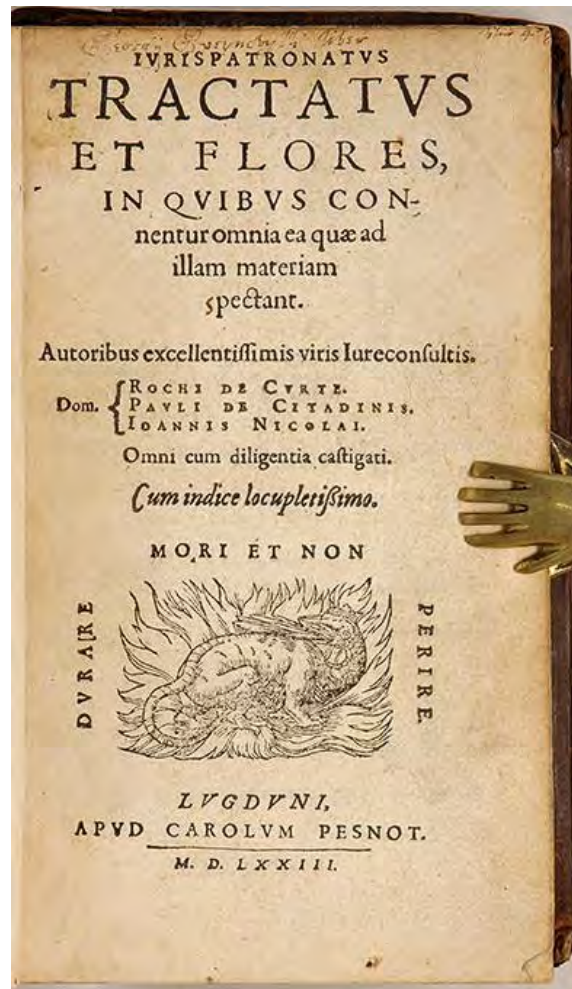
7. Coler, Matthias [1530-1587].

Tractatus de Processibus Executivis, In Causis Civilibus et Pecuniariis, Accommodatus Passim ad Practicam Fori Saxonici. Cui in Fine Adiectus est Index Verborum & Rerum, Quae in hoc Opere Continentur, Copiosus. Jena: Excudebat Tobias Steinman, 1586. [xvi], 812, [64] pp. Folio (13" x 8").

Contemporary limp vellum with lapped edges, blind rules to boards, somewhat later black-stamped ornaments to boards and spine, which has an early hand-lettered title. Light soiling and a few minor stains, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners and spine ends bumped and lightly worn, small later private-library bookplate to front pastedown, lower section of pastedown and front free endpaper lacking, minor worming to rear hinge. Moderate toning to text, a few leaves have early annotations and underlining, later annotations to front endleaves. A nice copy overall. \$1,950.

* First edition. Coler, a professor at the Universities of Jena and Leipzig and chancellor to the prince of Anhalt, was a renowned authority on civil law. *Tractatus de Processibus Executivis* addresses executions, exceptions and the limitation of actions under canon law and the civil law of Saxony. It went through five more editions, the last one in 1718. All editions of this title are scarce. OCLC locates 9 copies of the 1586 imprint, 1 in North America (Yale Law School). *Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie* 4:403. *Verzeichnissen der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* C4540.

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Three Treatises on Ecclesiastical Patronage

8. Curtius, Rochus [fl. 1470-1515].

Cittadini, Paolo [d. 1525].

Nilsson, Jens [1538-1600].

Iuris patronatus Tractatus et Flores: In Quibus Continentur Omnia ea Quæ ad Illam Materiam Spectant. Lyon: Apud Carolum Pesnot, 1573. [lxxxvi], 879 pp. Octavo (6-3/4" x 4").

Later calf, rebaked in period style, blind frames to boards, raised bands, lettering piece and blind ornaments to spine, hinges mended. Some rubbing to board and board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn, armorial bookplate (of Sir John William) to front pastedown. Large woodcut printer device, woodcut decorated initials. Moderate toning to text, occasional faint, often very faint, dampstaining, some leaves have neat underlining in contemporary hand. A handsome copy. \$1,500.

* Only edition (in this form), one of two issues from 1573 (the other, with identical format and collation, printed by Pierre Landry). This volume collects three notable canon-law treatises dealing with ecclesiastical patronage. All three were published previously, but our copy appears to be the only one to collect all three. OCLC locates 8 copies of both issues, 1 in North America (at the Library of Congress). Adams, *Catalogue of Books Printed on the Continent of Europe* C3116.

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Contains the First Illustration of an Auction to Appear in a Book

9. Damhouder, Josse (Joost) de [1507-1581].

Pupillorum Patrocinium, Legum et Praxeos Studiosis; Non Minus Utile Quam Necessarium, Iconibus Materiae Subiectae Convenientibus Illustratum, Iam Denuo Vigili Cura, & Non Poenitenda Accessione Locupletatum. Item De Magnificentia Politiae Amplissimae Civitatis Brugarum, Cum Eiusdem Topographia, & In Laudem Aplissimi Senatus Oratione. Subbstationum Compendiosa Exegetis, Iterum Recognita & Locupletata. Index Verborum Rerunque Locupletissimus. Antwerp: Apud Ioannem Bellerum, 1564. [xii], 180, [18] ff. Main text in parallel columns. 12 woodcut plates, 1 double-page. Quarto (7-1/2" x 6-1/4").

Contemporary limp vellum, early hand-lettered title to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate soiling, light rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and lightly worn. Moderate toning, light foxing and faint dampstaining to a few leaves, light edgewear faint early owner signature and a few minor tears to title page, another minor tear to f. 71., paper repairs to margins of title page, fol. 1 and fol. 71. An attractive copy of a scarce edition. \$4,500.

* Third edition. First published in 1544, this is a comprehensive treatise on the law of guardian and ward. Like Damhouder's works on civil and criminal law, *Pupillorum Patrocinium* has plates that illustrate points in the text. One depicts three young orphans with their guardian, tutor, godfather, conservator and executor before a magistrate, facing preface. Other plates depict situations in later stages of life, such as a guardian introducing a child to a teacher, the guardian and child at a shoemaker's shop and the guardian making a record of his charge's assets with an accountant. This edition incorporates two other works. *De Magnificentia Politiae Amplissimae Civitatis Brugarum*, first published in 1544, is a political and sociological study of Bruges. It is illustrated with a folding plan of the city. *Subbstationum Compendiosa Exegetis*, first published in 1546, is a brief treatise on public sales. It has an illustration of an auction scene. This is believed to be the first depiction of an auction to appear in a book. OCLC locates 10 copies in North America, 5 in law libraries (Columbia, George Washington University, Harvard, Library of Congress, Yale). Dekkers, *Bibliotheca Belgica Juridica* 44.

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"The Leading Dutch Jurist of His Time"

10. Everaerts, Nicolaas [1462-1532].

Pardoux, Duprat [1520?-1570?].

Legge, Livio.

Topica Iuris Sive Locis Argumentorum Legales. Summariis Singularis Praefixis Illustrati ac P. Pratei Adnotatiunculis Doctissimis ad Marginem Adscriptis Locupletati: Nunc verò Summa Diligentia Recogniti, non Paruoque Labore Emendati à R.P.M. Livio. Multis Etiam Eiusdem Industria, Superiorum Licentia Locis Expunctis, Quorum Lectio Pii & Catholici Lectoris Animum haud Parum Pffendere Poterat: Cum Duplici Indice Copiosissimo. Venice: Apud Haeredes Alexandri Gryphii, 1587. [lxiv], 885 [i.e. 887], [1] pp. Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum, with lapped edges, early hand-lettered title to spine, ties lacking. Light rubbing to extremities, light soiling and a few minor stains to boards, some darkening to spine, vellum just beginning to crack through pastedowns, hinges starting, a few partial cracks to text block, minor worming to pastedowns, a few small wormholes to text. Moderate toning to text, some sections have heavier toning or browning, light foxing in a few places. Early owner initials to front pastedown, occasional annotations in similar hand, some leaves brief later annotations in pencil. \$1,500.

* Later edition. First published in 1516, this was a leading treatise on the interpretation and construction of Roman law. It went through several editions into the mid-seventeenth century. Everaerts, an important legal humanist, was president of the Court of Holland and the Great Council of Mechlin. According to Walker, he was the "leading Dutch jurist of his time [and] one of the earliest authorities on Roman-Dutch law." Our 1587 edition has a summary by Legge and an introduction by the notable French jurist Pardoux. All editions are scarce. OCLC locates 4 copies of the 1587 edition in North America, 3 in law libraries (Library of Congress, Northwestern, Tulane). Walker, *Oxford Companion to Law* 441-442. This edition not in Dekkers. *Censimento Nazionale delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE 18414. [Order This Item](#)



A Scarce Sixteenth-Century Treatise on the Benefit of Inventory

11. Fanucci, Fanuccio de.

Tractatus de Inventario Haeredis ac Eius Beneficio. Cui Accedit, Eiusdem Authoris, Non Inelegans Responsum, Super Statuto Lucensi. Nunc Primum In Lucem Editus, & Ceteris Omnibus, Qui Hactenus Super Huiuscemodi Materia Conscripti Sint, Longe Auctior, & Locupletior. Cum Indicibus, Ac Summariis Copiosissimis. Venice: Apud Haeredes Vincentii Valgrisiij, 1574 (colophon dated 1573). [xxxii], 314 (i.e. 310), [4], [8] pp. Octavo (6" x 4").

Contemporary limp vellum, somewhat later hand-lettered paper title label, early hand-lettered title to foot of text block, ties lacking. Light soiling, some rubbing to extremities, a few small wormholes through covers, pastedowns, endleaves and final leaf of text with negligible damage to legibility (parts of two words), occasional minor worming to margins. Attractive woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, early owner signatures to foot of front free endpaper and title page, interior otherwise clean. \$950.

* Only edition. This treatise analyzes benefit of inventory, a concept in Roman (and civil) law concerning an heir's right to commission a legally binding inventory of his ancestor's estate for representatives of the estate's creditors. It also concerns the right to limit debts and legacies to the amount of three fourths of an estate, thus preserving one fourth for the heir. OCLC locates 3 copies in North American law libraries (Columbia, Harvard, Library of Congress). *Censimento Nazionale delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE18578. [Order This Item](#)



Well-Illustrated Digest of the Military Law and Practice of the Holy Roman Empire

12. Fronsberger, Leonhardt.

[Amman, Jost (1539-1591), Illustrations].

Von Kayserlichem Kriegßrechten, Malefitz und Schuldhändlen, Ordnung und Regiment: Samt Derselbigen unnd Andern hoch oder Niderigen Benelch, Bestallung, Stabt und Empter, zu Rossz und Fuß, An Geschütz und Munition, In Zug und Schlachtordnung, Zu Feld, Berg, Thal, Wasser und Land, Vor oder in Besatzungen, Gegen oder von Feinden Fürzunemen, Welcher Art Sitten Herkommen und Gebrauch, Under und bey Regierung deß Allerdurchleuchtigstenm Großmächtigsten, Unüberwindlichsten, Und Kriegßerfabrnen berümpftisten Römischen Keyzers Caroli deß Fünfften, Hochlöblichster unseligster Gedechniß, Geübt Ungebraucht, In Zehen Bücher Abgetheilt, Vergleichen nie is Gesehen Worden, Von Neuwen Beschrieben und antag Geben durch Leonhardt Fronsperger. Mit Schönen Neuwen Figuren und einem Ordenlichen Register. Jetzt von neuwem mit Sondernm fleiß Uebersehen, Und an vielen Örtern Gemebrt unnd Gebessert. Frankfurt: [Georg Raben, In Verlegung Sigmund Feyerabends und Simon Hüters], 1565. [iv], CCLI, XXI, [7] ff. 6 copperplate folding plates by Jost Amman. Woodcut text illustrations. Folio (12" x 7-3/4").

Contemporary paneled calf, rebacked in period style, raised bands to spine, clasps restored, hinges mended, preliminaries and following gathering re-hinged. Some scuffing to boards with wear to edges and corners, large early armorial bookplate of the Bavarian Ducal Library to front pastedown, front hinge starting. Title page with large woodcut vignette printed in red and black. Moderate toning to text, light foxing in places, light edgewear to a few leaves at beginning of text, upper corner of title page repaired, small later owner name neatly lettered below imprint date. An appealing copy with all of the often-lacking plates. \$9,500.

* Third edition with plates by Amman. Originally published in 1555, this comprehensive book was intended for officers and others involved in the military and naval affairs of the Holy Roman Empire. Most of the book is devoted to aspects of organization and the rules of engagement. As indicated by its title, it also provides extensive discussion of military law and the laws of war. One of the woodcuts is a trial scene; another is an execution. The plates, by the notable Swiss-German artist Amman, depict a military encampment and land and naval battle scenes. OCLC locates 11 copies of this edition, none in North America. *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* F3118.

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The Last Regnal Year Before the Spanish-Armada

13. [Great Britain].

[Statutes].

[Elizabeth I, Queen (1558-1603)].

Anno XXIX. Reginae Elizabethae. At This Present Session of Parliament by Prorogation Holden at Westminster, The XV. Day of Februarie, In the XXIX. Yeere of the Reigne of Our Most Gracious Sovereigne Lady, Elizabeth by the Grace of God of England Fraunce and Ireland Queene, Defender of the Fayth, &c. And There Continued to the Dissolution of the Same, To the High Pleasure of Almighty God, And the Weale Publique of this Realme, Were Enacted as Followeth. [London: Christopher Barker, Printer to the Queenes Most Excellent Maiestie, 1587]. [84] pp. Collates complete. Folio (10-1/2" x 7").

Nineteenth-century three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title to spine. Light wear to extremities, front hinge cracked. Title printed within woodcut architectural border (Beale Border No. 50), large woodcut decorated initials. Faint dampstaining to heads of a few leaves, internally clean. \$1,950.

* This volume records 10 acts for the 29th year of Elizabeth's reign. These include "An Acte for the Continuance and Perfecting of Divers Statutes" and "An Acte to Avoyde Fraudulent Assurances Made in Certaine Cases by Traitours." The ESTC records a variant printing of this title (S121564). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S4259. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* S301. [Order This Item](#)



King Henry VIII Makes Some of His First Moves Against the Catholic Church

14. [Great Britain].

[Statutes].

[Henry VIII, King].

Anno. XXI. Henrici VIII. Statuta ad Remp. Spectantia, Edita in Prima Sessione Parliamenti, Primo Inchoati in Civitate Londin. Tertio die Novembris, Anno Regni Innuictissimi Principis Henrici Octavi, Angliae & Franciae Regis, Fidei Defensoris, & Domini Hiberniae. XXI & Ex ea Civitate tam Adiurnati Q[uam] Prorogati ad Palatium Westmonast. & Ibidem Continuati per XLIII. Dies, Videlicet Usque ad XVII Diem Decembris, & Ab Eisdem Loco & Die Prorogati [sic] Usq[ue] ad. XXVI. diem Aprilis tunc Proxime Instantis. [London: In Aedibus Thomae Bertholeti (i.e. Bertheleti) Regii Impressoris, 1551?]. XXVII, [1] ff. Folio (11-1/4" x 7-3/4").

Later quarter morocco over marbled boards. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, armorial bookplate of Edwin Freshfield to front pastedown. Title printed within woodcut architectural border, woodcut decorated initials. Some toning to text, faint dampstaining to foot of text block. A handsome copy. \$1,500.

* This volume records 21 acts for the 21st regnal year of Henry VIII (April 22, 1529-April 21, 1531). This was the second regnal year of the Reformation Parliament, so called because it was the first Parliament to enact legislation against the Catholic Church. The 21st year included acts secularizing inheritance matters (Chapters 4 and 5) and eliminating the rights of clergy to hold multiple benefices (Chapter 13). OCLC locates 3 copies of this imprint in North America (Harvard Law School, Huntington Library, Yale Law School). Edwin Freshfield [1832-1918] was a solicitor in his great family law firm. Founded in London in 1743, it is now the multi-national Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S121435. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* S130. [Order This Item](#)



Sixteenth-Century Editions of Three Classic Legal Reference Works

15. Haloander, Gregor [1501-1531], Editor.

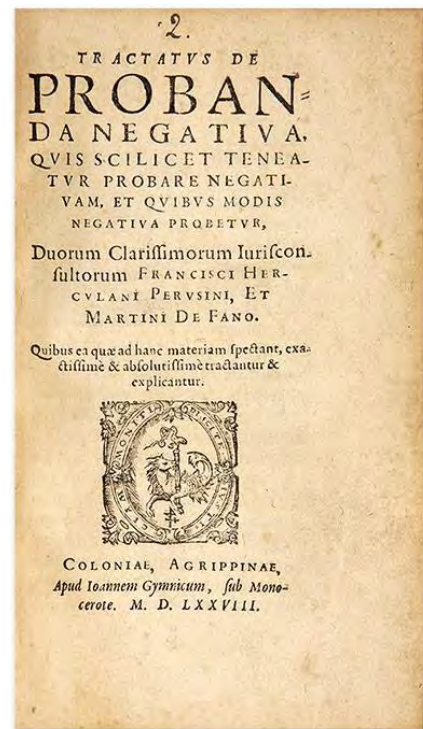
[Wernherus of Schussenried (15th. c.)].

[Azo, Portius (fl. 1150-1230)].

Modus Legendi Abbreviaturas in Utroque Iure tam Civili Quam Pontifico Occurrentes, Nunc Recens Diligentius quam Antebac Recognitus atque in Lucem Aeditus. Cui in Gratiam et Usus Iuris Candidatorum Recenti Studio Accessere Legum Flosculi, Nunc Demum Integritati Suae Restituti. Brocardica Iuris, Seu Verius Communes Iurium Sententia, Serie Alphabetica Digesta, & Repurgata. Cologne: Apud Petrum Horst, 1577. 163 ff. Three parts with continuous pagination. Octavo (6" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary limp vellum, later hand-lettered paper title label to spine, edges rouged. Moderate soiling, a few inkspots to front board, binding slightly cocked, light wear to corners, hinges starting. Moderate toning to text, light browning in places, light foxing to some leaves. Tiny early owner signature to head of title page, "Num. 15" in same hand to front pastedown, some leaves have early underlining, tick marks and brief annotations. Ex-library. Shelf label to foot of spine, small inkstamp to front free endpaper. An attractive copy. \$1,500.

* This book collects three important early legal reference works. First published in 1475, *Modus Legendi Abbreviaturas* is a dictionary of abbreviations compiled by the fifteenth-century jurist Wernherus of Schussenried. First published in 1497, *Flores Legum* is an anonymous collection of maxims arranged alphabetically. Attributed to Portius Azo, the *Brocardia Iuris* is a legal handbook. These three titles were often published together or bound together by owners. OCLC locates 6 copies of this imprint on North America, 2 in law libraries (Harvard, UT-Austin). *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* M5761. [Order This Item](#)



Scarce Treatises on Proximate Cause and Evidence in Roman Law

16. Medici, Sebastiano [d.1595].

Tractatus de Fortuitis Casibus. In Hac Editione a Mendis Quibus Scatebat Innumeris, Diligenter Repurgatus. Cologne: Apud Ioannem Gymnicum, Sub Monocero, 1578. [xlviii], 443, [4] pp.

[Bound with]

Ercolani, Francesco [1541-1569].

Da Fano, Martino (Martinus) [active 1229-1272].

Tractatus de Probanda Negativa, Quis Scilicet Teneatur Probare Negativam, Et Quibus Modis Negativa Probetur, Duorum Clarissimorum Jurisconsultorum Francisci Herculanus Perusini, Et Martini de Fano. Quibus ea Quae ab Hanc Materiam Spectant, Exactissime & Absolutissime Tractantur & Explicantur. Cologne: Apud Ioannem Gymnicum, Sub Monocero, 1578. 272 pp.

Octavo (6" x 4"). Contemporary quarter blind-tooled pigskin over colored vellum with blind rules, faint traces of later hand-lettered title and shelf number to spine. Light rubbing and soiling to boards, spine ends bumped, moderate wear to corners, partial cracks in text block between main text and adjacent endleaves. Moderate toning and occasional faint spotting to text, early underlining and annotations in a few places in each volume, small later owner stamp to title page, small recent stamp to front pastedown. \$2,500.

* *Fortuitis Casibus*: second edition; *Probanda Negativa*: third edition. This volume combines two treatises on Roman law. Medici's addresses examples of proximate cause, that is, cases that are legally sufficient to result in liability. It was first published in 1577 and went through several later editions, the last in 1596. Originally published in 1564 as *Quis Teneatur Probare Negativam, Et Quibus Modis Negativa Probetur* Ercolani's treatise concerns the law of evidence. It is based on a work by the Medieval jurist Martino (Martinus) da Fano. Its final edition was published 1664. Portions of this work were included in a treatise by Fulvio Pacciani, *De Probationibus Libri Duo* (1703). *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* M1876, M1265. [Order This Item](#)



Fascinating Sixteenth-Century Digest of Land and Hunting Laws

17. Meurer, Noe [1525-1583].

Spangenberg, Cyriacus [1528-1604].

Von Forstlicher Oberherrlichkeit und Gerechtigkeit, Was die Recht, Der Gebrauch, Und die Billigkeit Desselhalben Vermog. Item: Von dem Waren Oder Gerechten Rechten, Der Teutschen Gerechtigkeit, Aequitate Oder Billigkeit, Wie und Wenn die von Einem Jeden Gerechten und Nit zu Strengen Richter, Nach Gestalt und Gelegenheit Furfallender Ungleiches Fall und Sachen Zubalten, Und Darnach zu Urteilen Sey. Alles Beschriben durch den Hochgelehrten Noe Meurer. Auch vom Rechtmessigen Jagen und vom Missbrauch Desselbigen, Bestendiger Bericht durch M. Cyriacum Spangenberg. [Frankfurt am Main: Weigand Han and Georg Raben, 1561]. c, xxxvii, [1], lxxx, [4] ff. Three parts in one volume. Folio (11" x 7").

Recent paper-covered boards retaining earlier paper spine, endpapers renewed, edges rouged. Light soiling, front joint just starting at head, recent owner bookplate to front pastedown. Title page printed in red and black, large woodcut coat of arms to verso. Light browning to text, faint dampstaining to fore-edge of text block, two small library stamps to foot of title page. A nice copy of a handsomely printed volume. \$2,500.

* Second and final edition. Early game and land laws record the earliest attempts to preserve the environment. They also offer fascinating insights into social history due to their relevance to topics ranging from class structure to foodways. First published in 1560, Meurer and Spangenberg's compilation offers a thorough overview of land-use, fishing and hunting laws as they stood in the states of the Holy Roman Empire during the mid-sixteenth century. The first edition is considerably shorter than the second, containing 100 leaves. Both editions are scarce in North America. OCLC locates 2 copies of the first edition (at Columbia Law School and Yale University) and 1 copy of the second (at Harvard University). Not in Adams. *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* M5017.

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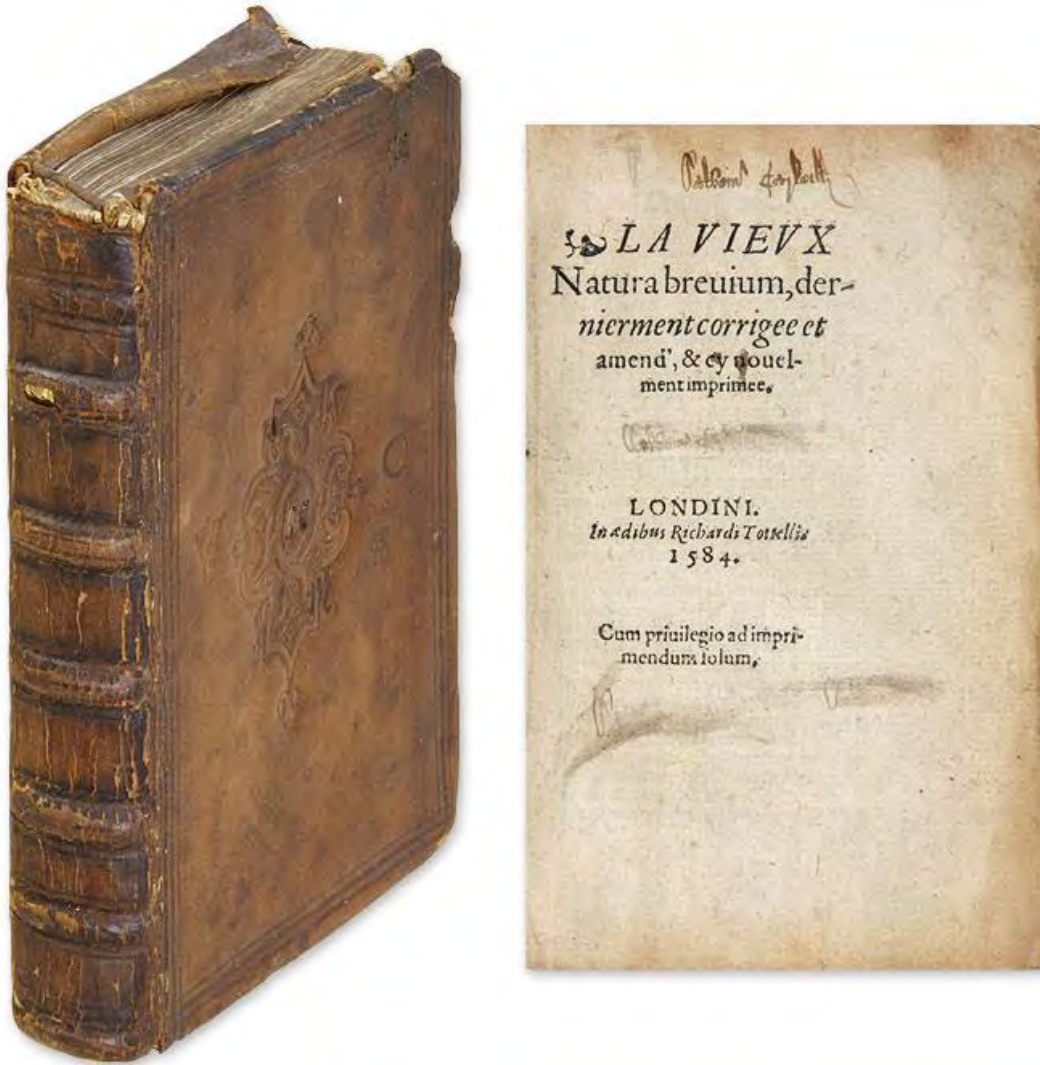
Canon Law and the Regulation of Clerical Life

18. Molanus, Johannes [1533-1585].

De Canonicis Libri Tres, I. De Canonicorum Vita, II. De Eorum Officijs, III. De Dominio Canonicorum et Servis Ecclesiarum. Item, Orationes Tres, De Agnis Dei, De Decimis Dandis, De Decimis Defendendis. Cum Trib. Indicibus. Cologne: In officina Birckman. Sumptib. Arnoldi Mylij, 1587. 6, [10], 437, [5] pp. Octavo (5-3/4" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary limp vellum, early hand-lettered titles to spine and foot of text block, ties lacking. Light soiling, spine ends and corners bumped, front endleaves lacking, rear pastedown renewed. Light toning to text, light foxing to title page, which is lightly soiled, and a few other leaves. Two small early owner stamps and signature to title page interior otherwise clean. \$950.

* Second edition. A legal handbook on the organization and administration of clerical institutions and the rights, responsibilities and liabilities of clerics. It has a chapter on library management and librarians. The appended essays discuss tithes and the proper form of an *Agnus Dei* in a mass. First published in 1582, this work went through four later editions, the last one in 1675. Adams, *Catalogue of Books Printed on the Continent of Europe* M1552. [Order This Item](#)



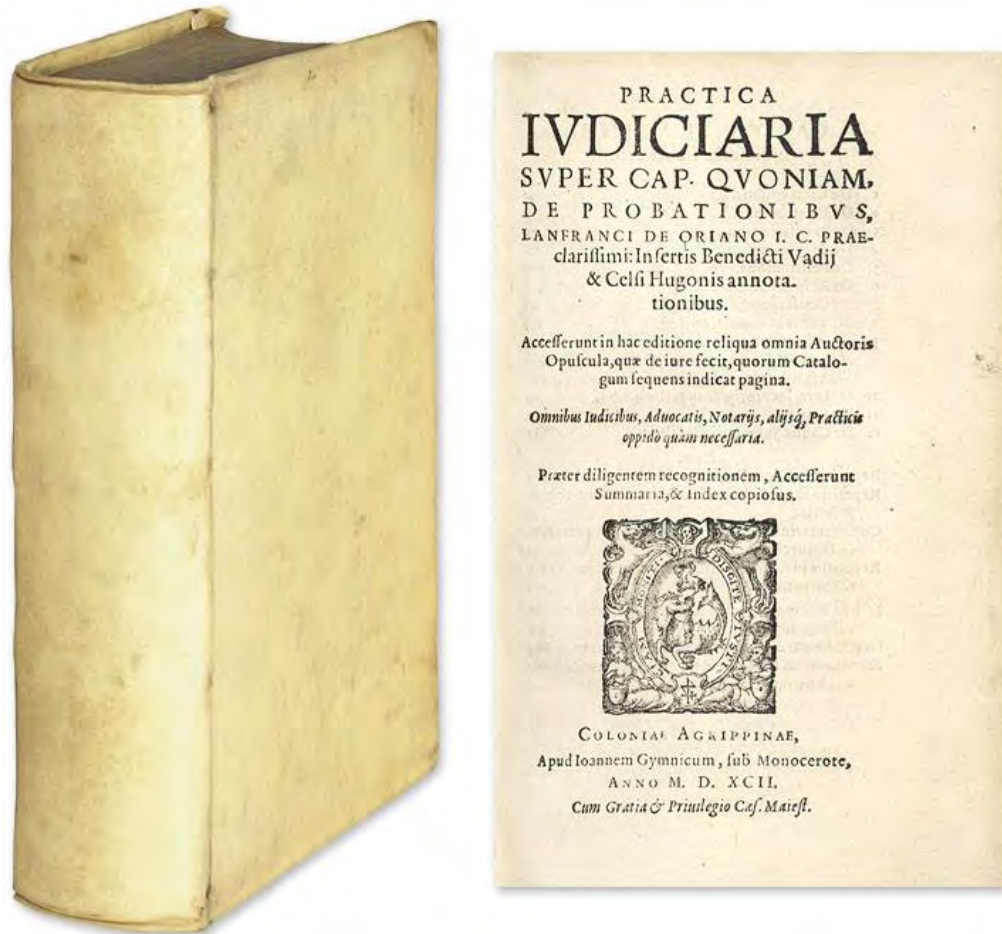
1584 Tottel Edition of the *Old Natura Brevium*

19. [Natura Brevium].

La Vieux Natura Brevium, Dernierment Corrige'e et Amendi, &c. Nouelment Imprimee. London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1584. 180, [4] ff. Complete. 12mo. (5-3/4" x 4").

Contemporary calf, blind-stamped insignia and monogram "WC," and later blind stamp "SC" to upper corner, raised bands. Moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, front hinge starting. Occasional light dampstaining. Despite these minor impediments, a well-preserved, highly desirable copy in its original state. \$1,250.

* Final edition. 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 this work was published in 1494 by Richard Pynson. It was one of the primary sources used in Fitzherbert's *Nouvelle Natura Brevium*, an equally long-lived work first published in 1534. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S113106. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T97. [Order This Item](#)



Notable Sixteenth-Century Treatise on Trial Practice

20. Oriano, Lanfranco da [d. 1488].

Vadi, Benedetto [16th. c.], Annotator.

Descousu, Celser-Hugues [b. 1480], Annotator.

Practica Iudiciaria Super Cap. Quoniam, De Probationibus, Lanfranci de Oriano I.C. Praeclarissimi: Insertis Benedicti Vadii & Celsi Hugonis Annotationibus. Accesserunt in hac Editione Reliqua Auctoris Opuscula, Quae de Iure Fecit, Quorum Catalogum Sequens Indicat Pagina. Omnibus Iudicibus, Advocatis, Notariis, Aliisque Practicae Oppido Quam Necessaria. Praeter Diligentem Recognitionem, Accesserunt Summaria, & Index Copiosus. Cologne: Apud Ioannem Gymnicum, 1592. [xxxvi], 829 [i.e. 831], [1] pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4").

Later vellum with lapped edges. Light rubbing and soiling, corners and spine ends bumped, vellum beginning to crack through rear pastedown. Woodcut decorated initials. Light toning to text, spark burns to a few leaves, internally clean. Ex-library. Bookplate to front pastedown. A well-preserved copy. \$950.

* Later edition. Based on the lecture notes of a law professor from the University of Padua, this treatise discusses trial practice, both civil and criminal, in Roman and canon law. This work was published posthumously in 1513. Well received, it went through numerous editions and issues in the sixteenth century and a final edition in 1673. All are scarce, however, in North America. For example, OCLC locates 1 copy of the 1592 imprint (at UC-Berkeley Law School). Adams, *Catalogue of Books Printed on the Continent of Europe, 1501-1600* O263. [Order This Item](#)



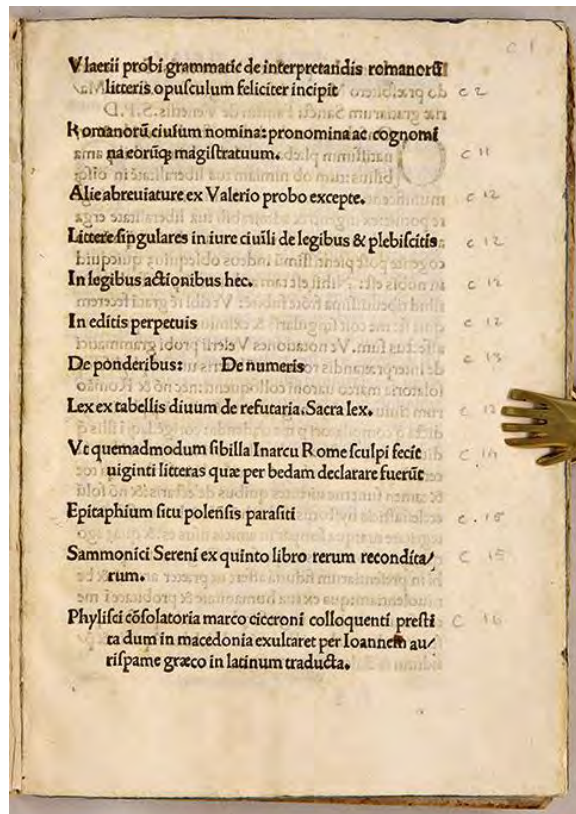
Notable Sixteenth-Century Treatise on Family Law

21. Pietro, d'Ancharano (Ancharano) [1330-1416].

Familiarium Iuris Quaestionum Libri Tres. Hac Postrema Editione Prioribus Duobus tum in Utroque Fore Versantibus, Tum in Scholis Docentibus Apprimè Necessarii. Venice: Ex Officina Damiani Zenari, 1580. [xxxviii], 217, [1] ff. Final leaf blank. Main text in parallel columns. Folio (11-1/2" x 8-1/4").

Contemporary paneled pigskin with elaborate blind tooling and beveled edges, raised bands to spine, early hand-lettered title to spine, clasps lacking. Light soiling to spine, some minor scratches and a few minor scuffs and stains to boards, rear board slightly bowed, spine ends bumped, minor tears to joints at head of spine, a few tiny worm holes to front joint at foot, large armorial bookplate (of the Bavarian Ducal Library dated 1618) to front pastedown. Joints starting, some worming to pastedowns, minor worming to margins of preliminaries, crack in text block between front free endpaper and title page, faint dampstaining along crack, light toning to text, slightly heavier in places. \$1,500.

* "New edition," enlarged with a "third book," the final edition of this work. Ancharano was a renowned Italian jurist and commentator on canon and Roman law. As indicated by its title, *Familiarium Iuris* is an extensive study of domestic relations in Roman and canon law. Its "Liber Primus" was published in 1563. A two-part edition followed in 1569. *Censimento Nazionale delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE1676. [Order This Item](#)



With a Selection of Legal Abbreviations

22. Probus, Marcus Velerius [c.20/30-105CE].

Philiscus (Pseudonym).

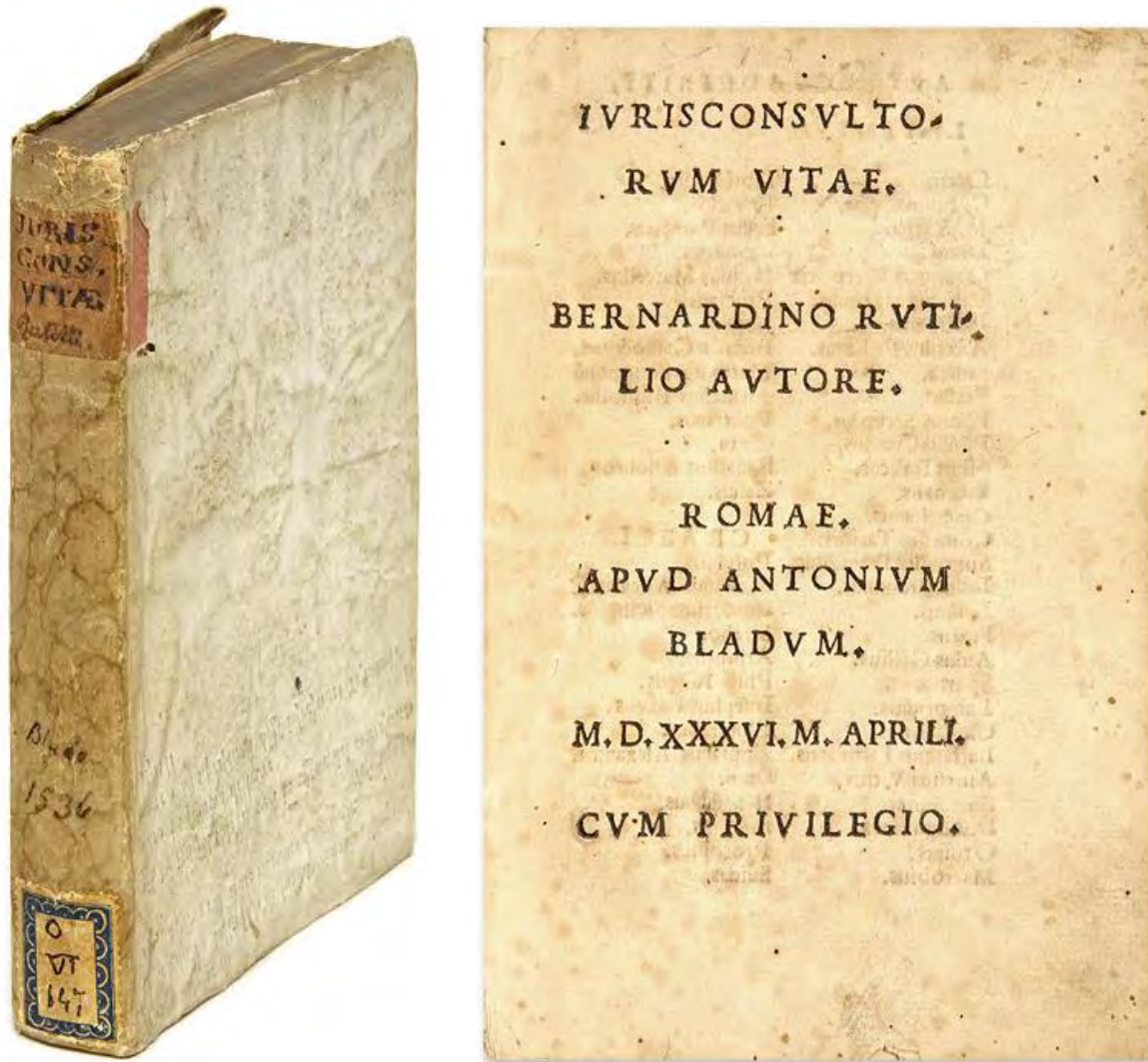
Bonardi, Giovanni [active 15th c.], Editor.

Aurispa, Giovanni [1376-1459], Translator (of Philiscus).

De Interpretandis Romanorum Litteris Opusculum. Phylisci; Cosolatoria Marco Cicroni Colloquenti Prestita dum in Macedonia Exultaret per Ioannem Aurispame Graeco in Latinum Traducta. [Rome: Giacomo Mazzocchi, April 25, 1509]. [20] ff. Quarto (8-1/4" x 6").

Recent quarter vellum over early thick paste boards, pastedowns, one of which is loose, from a later leaf dated 1593. Negligible light soiling and edgewear, a few faint early annotations (probably bleed-through from a sheet of paper) to front cover. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing to a few leaves, page numbers added in recent faint pencil. \$1,500.

* Also known as Probus Grammaticus, Marcus Valerius Probus was a Roman grammarian and critic. *De Interpretandis Romanarum* is a fundamental guide to abbreviations used in Roman texts and inscriptions. First printed in the fifteenth century, it was an invaluable guide to humanist scholars. Three of its sections contain abbreviations relating to legal matters under the heading "Littere Singulares in Iure Civili de Legibus & Plebiscitis": "In Legibus Actionibus Hec," "On Editis Perpetuis" and "Lex ex Tabellis Divum de Refutaria. Sacra Lex." The final section is a consoling letter on the subject of exile from Philiscus to Cicero, who was then in Exile in Macedonia. A rhetorical masterpiece, and thus an object for study, it was originally written in Greek. OCLC locates 5 copies of this imprint in North America (Harvard, UCLA, UNC-Chapel Hill, University of Pennsylvania, Washington University, St. Louis). Not in Adams. *Censimento Nazionale delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE30277. [Order This Item](#)



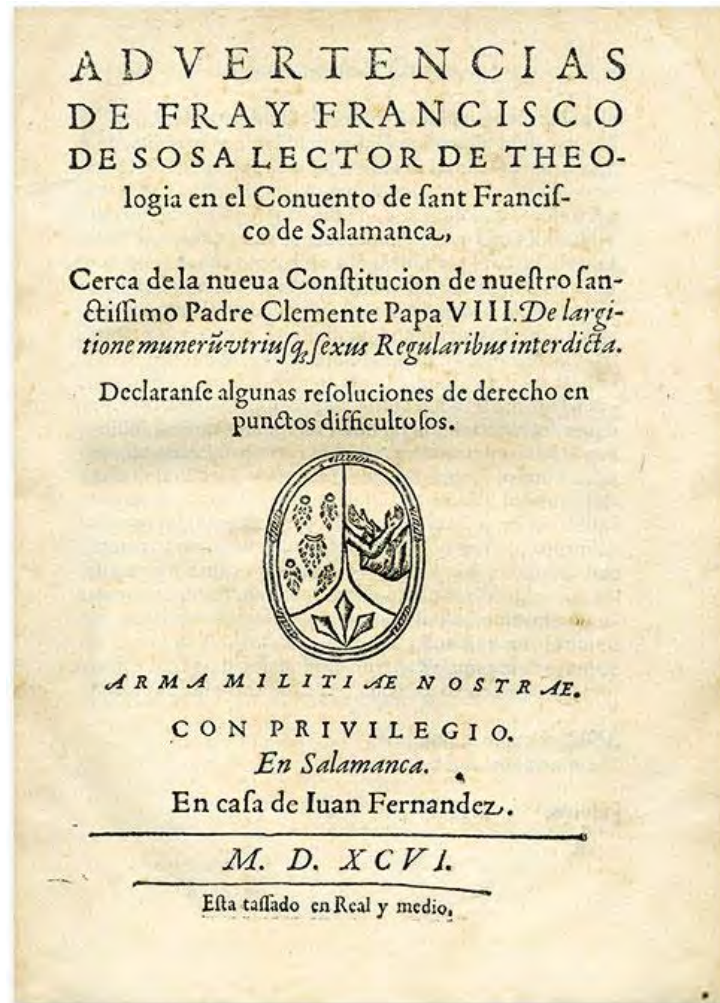
Humanistic Biographies of the Great Jurists of Ancient Rome

23. Rutilio, Bernardino [1504-1538].

Iuris Consultorum Vitae. Rome: Apud Antonium Bladum, 1536. [xvi], CCCLXVII, [1] pp. Octavo 6" x 4" (15 x 10 cm).

Contemporary limp boards, later hand-lettered title to spine. Light soiling, moderate rubbing to extremities, spine darkened, hinges cracked, upper section lacking from front free endpaper, which is pasted to front pastedown. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, brief early annotations throughout, minor worming to a few leaves, light soiling to title page. \$1,500.

* First edition. Rutilio was Italian jurist and humanist. He was also one of the first authors to compile biographies of lawyers. *Iurisconsultorum Vitae* describes the lives and achievements of 77 Roman jurists, from Papirius to Tribonian. Distinguished by its discerning criticism and careful use of sources, the work was well- received. It went through later editions in 1537, 1538, 1539, 1545, 1584 and 1718. All editions are scarce. OCLC locates 2 copies of the first edition in North America (University of Minnesota Law School, Yale). *Censimento Nazionale delle Edizioni Italiane del XVI Secolo* CNCE24161. [Order This Item](#)



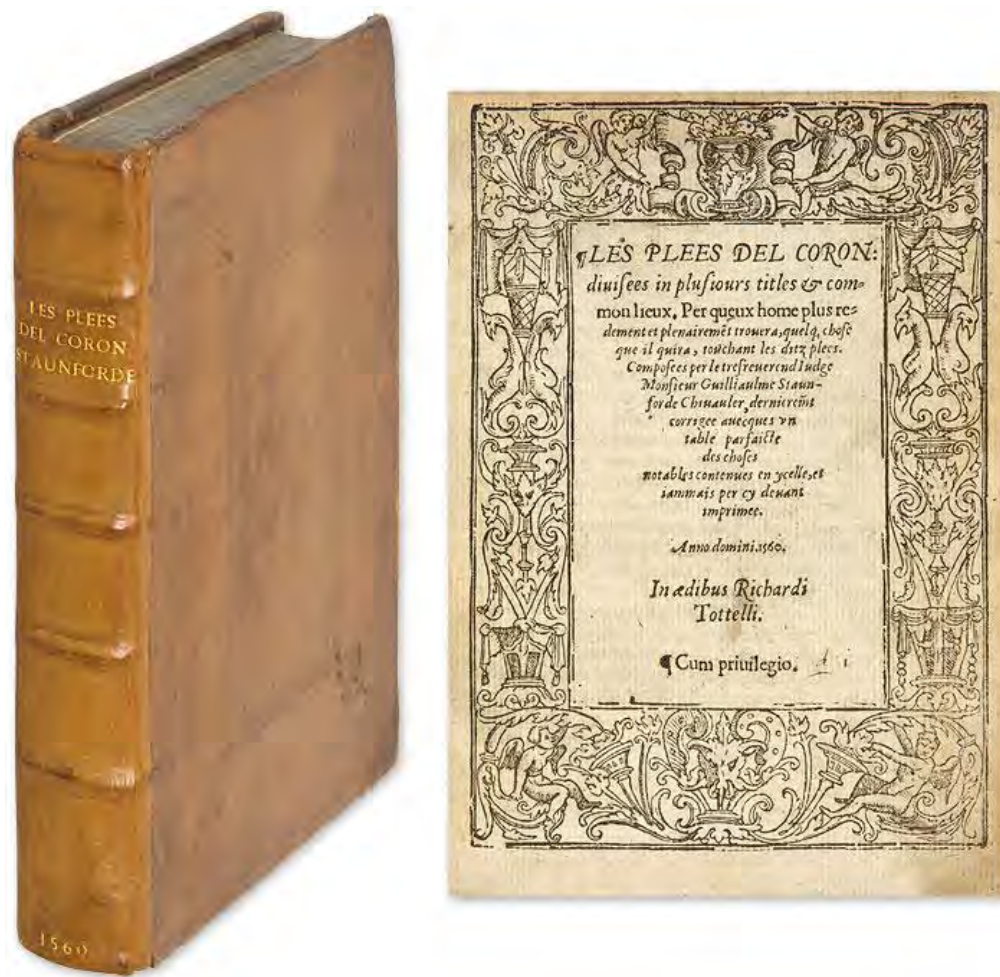
Rare Sixteenth-Century Spanish Treatise Concerning Monasteries

24. Sosa, Francisco de [fl. 1556].

Advertencias de Fray Francisco de Sosa, Lector de Theologia en el Convento de Sant Francisco de Salamanca: Cerca de la Nueva Constitucion de Nuestro Sanctissimo Padre Clemente Papa VIII. De Largitione Munerum Utriusque Sexus Regularibus Interdicta. Declaranse Algunas Resoluciones de Derecho en Puntos Difficultosos. Salamanca: En Casa Iuan Fernandez, 1596. [x], 131, [2] pp. Quarto (8" x 6").

Contemporary limp vellum, black rules to covers, calligraphic title to spine, early hand-lettered title to spine, ties mostly lacking. Some soiling and small stains, spine darkened with a few small chips near center, vellum just beginning to crack through pastedowns. Light to moderate toning to text, occasional faint dampspotting, internally, clean. \$1,100.

* First edition. This book details a series of legal reforms regarding monasteries and holy orders implemented by Pope Clement VI, formerly a canon lawyer (Ippolito Aldobrandini, 1536-1605, the son of notable jurist Sylvestro Aldobrandini). For the most part, these reforms led to an increase of Papal control and supervision. Two other editions were published in 1597 and 1696. OCLC locates no copies of this title in North America. No copies located at the Library of Congress, Harvard Law School or UC-Berkeley Law School. Palau, *Manual del Librero Hispano-Americano* 319804. [Order This Item](#)



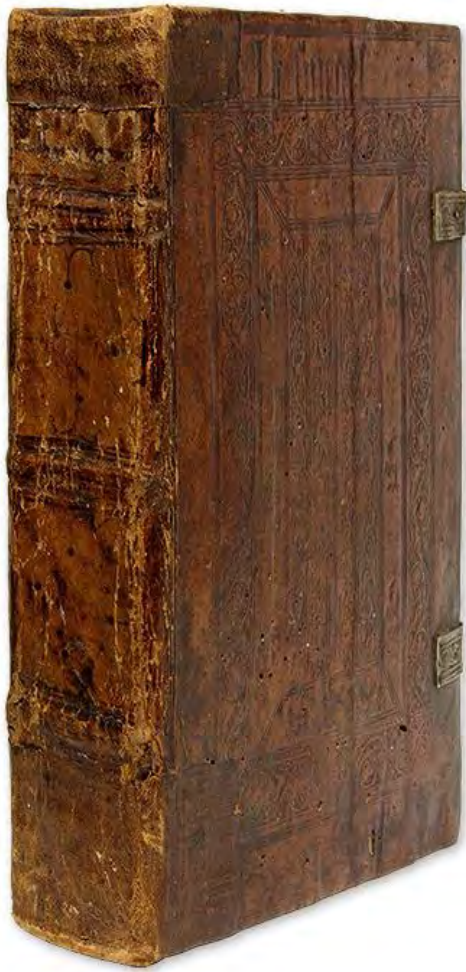
Appealing Early Edition of Staunford's *Plees*

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

Les Pleez del Coron: Divisees in Plusiours Titles & Common Lieux. Per Queux Home Plus Redement & Plenaiement Trovera, Quelq[ue] Chose que il Quira, Touchant les Ditz 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. \$1,750.

* Second edition. 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. 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](#)



Authoritative Edition of the *Neue Laienspiegel*, Illustrated with 35 Woodcuts

26. [Tengler, Ulrich (c.1447-1511)].

[Brant, Sebastian (1458-1521)].

[Locher, Jakob (1471-1528)].

[Tengler, Christoph, Editor].

[Schäufelein, Hans (c. 1480-1540), Illustrator].

Der Neü Layenspiegel: Von Rechtssigen Ordnungen in Burgerlichen und Peinlichen Regimenten, Mitt Addit[ion], Auch der Guldin Bulla, Königlich Reformation, Landfriden, Auch Bewärung Gemainer Recht und Anderm Antzaigen, Cum Privilegio ne Q[ui]s Audeat hoc Opus Intra Tempus Determinatum Imprimere Sub Pena in eo Promulganda. [Augsburg: Johann Otmar, Johann Rynmann, 1512]. [xviii], 258 [i.e. 242], [1] ff. Final leaf blank. 34 full-page woodcuts (6 by Schäufelein), 1 double-page woodcut. Folio (11" x 8").

Contemporary calf with elaborate blind-tooling, early repairs to spine ends, clasps lacking, catches present, endpapers renewed. Several worm holes to boards, moderate rubbing and a few minor scuffs to rear board and extremities, front hinge partially cracked, bookplate residue to front pastedown. Title page printed in red and black. Light to moderate toning, worm holes and worm tracks with some loss to text, legibility not affected, light soiling to a few leaves and title page, which has early owner signature. \$7,500.

* Third official Augsburg edition, the last by Tengler. As Stintzing notes, this was the standard version for nearly a century. First printed in 1509, the *Laienspiegel* (or *Layenspiegel*) responded to a popular need among laymen (i.e. *Laien*) and local political and legal officials for a compilation of civil, criminal and public law in the vernacular. (The addition of *Neu* in the third edition served to distinguish it from two unauthorized pirate imprints from 1510 and 1511.) Its text is enhanced with related woodcuts depicting court scenes, the duties of court officers, arrests, prisons, tortures and executions. Several images depict the work of angels, demons and witches. A chapter concerning Jews includes a woodcut of a legal proceeding with three Jewish parties (indicated by their legally required shoulder badges), one referring to a book in Hebrew. Tengler was a lawyer, town clerk and legal official in Höchstädt (Palatinate-Neuburg). Sebastian Brant, the humanist and legal scholar, reviewed Tengler's manuscript, added a preface and arranged for its publication. Locher, a scholar and poet, was one of Tengler's friends. He added an introduction and a dedication in verse. Christoph Tengler, the author's son, prepared the manuscript and arranged for its publication. One of the woodcuts depicts Ulrich Tengler, Brant and Locher at work under the gaze of God, Christ, Mary and a group of angels. Another shows Tengler presenting a copy of his work to the Holy Roman emperor. Stintzing, *Geschichte der Populären Literatur des Römisch-Kanonischen Rechts in Deutschland* 432. *Das Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* T342.



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An Important Early Work on Writs

27. Theloall, Simon.

Le Digest des Briefes Originals, 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. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S118369. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T499. [Order This Item](#)



A Scarce Critical Edition of the *Codex Theodosianus*

28. Theodosius II [401-450 CE], Emperor of the East.

Du Tillet, Jean [d. 1570], Editor.

E Libris Constitutionum Theodosii A. Libri Priores Octo: Longè Meliores Quàm Adbuc Circumferebantur: Sed ab Alarico Rege Gothorum ita Deminuti, Ut nix Decima Pars in his Hodie Appareat Eorū[m], Quae in Theodosiano Codice Continebantur. Posteriores octo integri, Nunc Primum post M. Annos in Lucem Revocati à Io. Tilio Engolism. Paris: Apud Carolam Guillard sub Sole Aureo, & Gulielmum Desboys sub Cruce Alba, 1550. [xii], 123, [12], 580 pp. Octavo (6-3/4" x 4-1/4").

Contemporary vellum, blind frames and large arabesques to boards, raised bands, early hand-lettered title to spine, blind tooling to spine ends. Light soiling to spine, corners bumped and lightly worn, front joints and front and rear hinges starting, early owner signatures and annotations to front endleaves, early manuscript index inserted into rear endleaves, which contain part of index, a few cracks to text block. Moderate toning, occasional light dampstaining, light soiling to title page, light soiling and some edgewear to other preliminaries. \$1,850.

* Only edition. Commissioned by the Emperor Theodosius II in 429 CE, the *Codex* is an official compilation of all laws enacted since the reign of Constantine. Completed in 438 CE, and ratified that year by the Senate, it was the standard legal text of the empire, one that superseded all earlier codes. It would later exert enormous influence on the legal systems of the Barbarians who conquered the Western Empire. The first part, Books 1-8, was lost after the fall of empire and it was reconstructed by later scholars from sections preserved in later sources, most notably the Visigothic Code (*Lex Romana Visigothorum*). The first part in Du Tillet's edition presents the pieces of Books 1-8 in the Visigothic Code. The second part, which has its own title page, contains the rest of the *Codex*, Books 9-16. A French humanist jurist and associate of Cujas, Du Tillet was also the Bishop of Briec, later Meaux. He edited Ulpian's *Regulae* and assisted Cujas with his edition of the *Codex Theodosianus*. OCLC locates 3 copies in North American libraries (Library of Congress, Smith College, UC-Berkeley Law School). Adams, *Catalogue of Books Printed on the Continent of Europe* T-544. [Order This Item](#)



First Edition of an Important Commentary on the *Institutes*

29. Vultejus, Hermann [1555-1634].

In Institutiones Iuris Civilis A Iustiniano Compositas Commentarius: Additi Sunt In Fine Indices Sex, Operi Ipsi Accommodatissimi. Marburg: Apud Paulum Egenolphum, 1598. [viii], 890, [54] pp. Quarto (8" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary paneled pigskin with elaborate blind tooling, raised bands and somewhat later hand-lettered title and tiny hand-lettered shelf label to spine, ties lacking. Some soiling and a few minor stains, spine darkened, minor edgewear, corners lightly bumped, front free endpaper detached. Toning to text, occasional light browning, foxing in a few places. Filled-in 3" x 1" hole in preliminary leaf (part of dedication) with some loss to text. Early owner annotation to front pastedown, neat underlining in a few places, interior otherwise clean. \$2,950.

* First edition. Commissioned by the Emperor Justinian in 530 CE, the body of writings known collectively as the *Corpus Iuris Civilis* preserved and restated all existing Roman law. It has four books: the *Code*, *Novels*, *Institutes* and *Digest*. Intended for students, the *Institutes* is a synopsis of the reformed legal system. It supplanted the earlier *Institutes* of Gaius. Vultejus was a notable legal scholar and professor at the University of Marburg, where he also taught Greek. In later years he served as a diplomat and was raised to the nobility by Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand II. *In Institutiones Iuris Civilis* is an extensive article-by-article commentary on the *Institutes*. It was a work of authority that went through five later editions, the last one in 1630. All are scarce, especially in North American law libraries; OCLC locates 1 copy of this edition (in the Library of Congress). *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* V2823.

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A Sixteenth-Century "Nutshell" of Roman, Feudal and Canon Law

30. Wesenbeck (Wesembeke), Matthaeus [1531-1586].

Oeconomia Iuris. Leipzig: Curante Ernesto Voegelino [Imprimebatur per Andream Schneider, Typis Vogelianis, 1571]. [ii], 383, [21] pp. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Contemporary paneled vellum, gilt-stamped early owner name (Cancell: Mari: Burg/ 1681) and faint tiny early signature to front board, raised bands, later calf lettering and small paper shelf label to spine, ties lacking. Light soiling, moderate rubbing to extremities, a few minor worm holes to rear board, corners bumped, front free endpaper lacking, front hinge cracked, a few cracks to text block. Moderate toning to text, light soiling and a small inkspot title page, early ink (library?) annotation to front pastedown. \$1,850.

* First edition. Wesenbeck, a leading Belgian humanist jurist who taught at the Universities of Jena and Wittenberg, was a distinguished and prolific scholar of Roman law with a pan-European reputation. A posthumous eight-volume collection of his consilia was published from 1611 to 1624. First published in 1571, *Oeconomia Iuris* is summary of the *Corpus Juris Civilis*, the *Libri Feudorum* and the *Corpus Juris Canonici* with notes and correspondences. Its final edition was published in 1625. *Verzeichniss der im Deutschen Sprachbereich Erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* W2131. [Order This Item](#)



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