

BRITISH TRIALS, 1631–1832

30 ITEMS

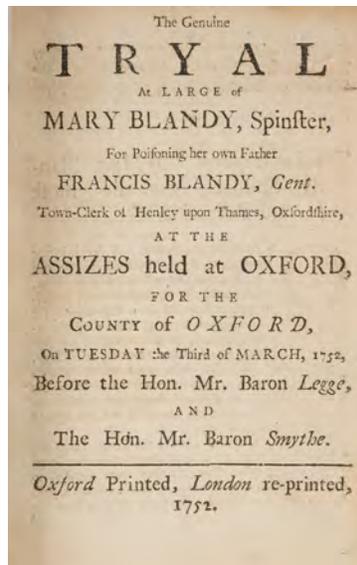
February 22, 2022



The SHAFTSBURY ELECTION or the HUMOURS of PUNCH.

Published by S. Jackson, as the Act directs, 15 July 1775.

THE
LAWBOOK EXCHANGE
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"Those Damned Scotch Pebbles"

1. Blandy, Mary [1720-1751], Defendant.

The Genuine Tryal at Large of Mary Blandy, Spinster, For Poisoning Her Own Father Francis Blandy, Gent. Town-Clerk of Henley upon Thames, Oxfordshire, At the Assizes Held at Oxford, For the County of Oxford, On Tuesday the Third of March, 1752, Before the Hon. Mr. Baron Legge, And the Hon. Mr. Baron Smythe. Oxford Printed, London re-printed: [T. Bailey], 1752. 31, [1] pp. Quarto (6-1/2" x 4-1/4").

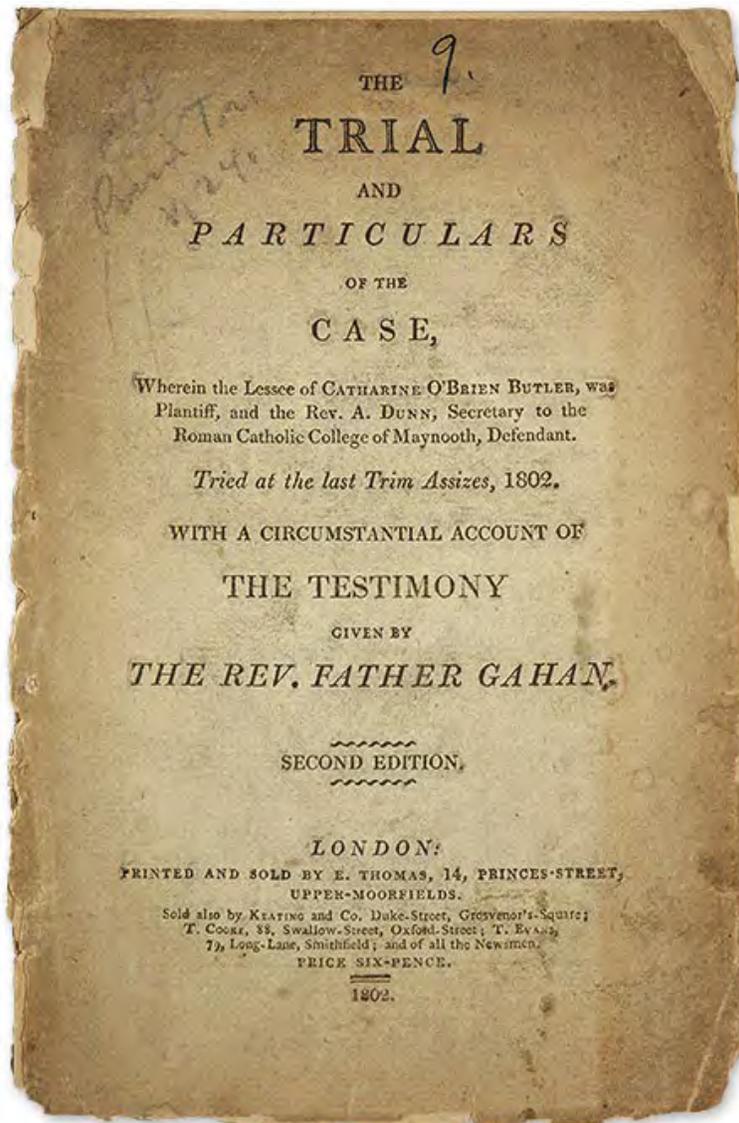
Stab-stitched pamphlet, disbound and recently resewn in plain wrappers, edges rouged. Light soiling to wrappers. Light toning to interior, light soiling to a few pages, bottom-edge of leaf D1 (pp. 25-26) mended without loss to text. \$750.

* Only edition. The well-educated daughter of a prosperous lawyer, Blandy was not a typical female criminal of the era. Her unfortunate story begins when her father, Francis, advertised an unusually large dowry of £10,000. This attracted many suitors, including one who captivated Mary, the Honourable Captain William Henry Cranstoun, the son of a Scottish nobleman. Mr. Blandy became angry when he learned that Cranstoun was already married and realized that he was after the dowry. Sensing danger, Cranstoun persuaded Mary to give her father a powder he acquired. Cranstoun said it would make the father like him. It was actually arsenic. Mary was fooled by this ruse and administered the powders, which he sent to her in presents of Scotch pebbles. When her father was stricken and she learned what she had done, Mary foolishly burned Cranstoun's letters and disposed of the remaining powder. Cranstoun fled to France when it was clear that Mary was going to be arrested.

Mary defended herself ably, but her case was hopeless. She was sentenced to death by hanging. This was a sensational trial, and it generated a large pamphlet literature. It is also a historic trial because it was the first to consider medical evidence (derived from autopsy rather than traditional methods of observation). Blandy wrote a great deal in prison to promote her cause, including the pamphlet *Miss Mary Blandy's Own Account of the Affair Between Her and Mr. Cranstoun*. Her campaign failed to get her an appeal or a pardon.

Also issued individually, this title was issued by T. Bailey as Part 3 of a four-part composite volume: *The Genuine Histories, Of the Life and Transactions, Of John Swann and Eliz. Jeffries, For the Murder of Her Uncle, At Walthamstow in Essex. And Miss Mary Blandy, For the Most Horrid Parricide Committed Upon the Body of Her Own Father, [...]*. (The Jeffries case was another sensational 1752 trial.) Each part has a separate title page, pagination and register.

OCLC and Library Hub locate 1 complete copy at the University of Oxford. The British Library holds a copy of Part 1 (*The Whole Tryal of John Swann and Elizabeth Jeffries*) bound after Part 2's title page. Neither the composite volume nor the individual titles are in the ESTC. [Order This Item](#)



Will the Church Allow Her to Stay on Land Donated by Her Brother?

2. Butler, Cathrine O'Brien [1730-1807], Plaintiff.

The Trial and Particulars of the Case, Wherein the Lessee of Catharine O'Brien Butler, Was Plaintiff, And the Rev. A. Dunn, Secretary to the Roman Catholic Collage of Maynooth, Defendant. Tried at the Last Trim Assizes, 1802. With a Circumstantial Account of the Testimony Given by the Rev. Father Gaban. Second Edition. London: Printed and Sold by E. Thomas, 1802. 20 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Disbound pamphlet, all leaves detached, moderate edgewear, soiling to title page and verso of final leaf, "9." in small early hand to head of title page. \$350.

* Second and final edition, published the same year as the first. This case concerned the will of Catharine O'Brien Butler's brother, John Butler, 12th Baron Dunboyne, who had left his property to the St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. OCLC locates 3 copies, 2 in North America (Emory Pitts Theological Seminary, Newberry Library), which are both first editions. COPAC locates 1 copy (Ushaw College, Durham), which has a second edition. [Order This Item](#)



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

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

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

The Tryal and Condemnation of Arundel Coke Alias Cooke Esq; And of John Woodburne Labourer, For Felony, in Slitting the Nose of Edward Crispe Gent. Contrary to the 22 & 23 Car. II. Cap. I. Intitled, An Act to Prevent Malicious Maiming and Wounding; Who Were found Guilty at the Assizes Held Before the Right Honourable Sir Peter King Knt. Lord Chief Justice of his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas, At Bury St. Edmonds, Tuesday the 13th of March 1721. And Received Sentence the Day Following. London: Printed for John Darby in Bartholomew-Close, And Daniel Midwinter in St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1722. 16, *17-*18, 17-37, [1] pp. With an initial imprimatur leaf; text is continuous (and complete).

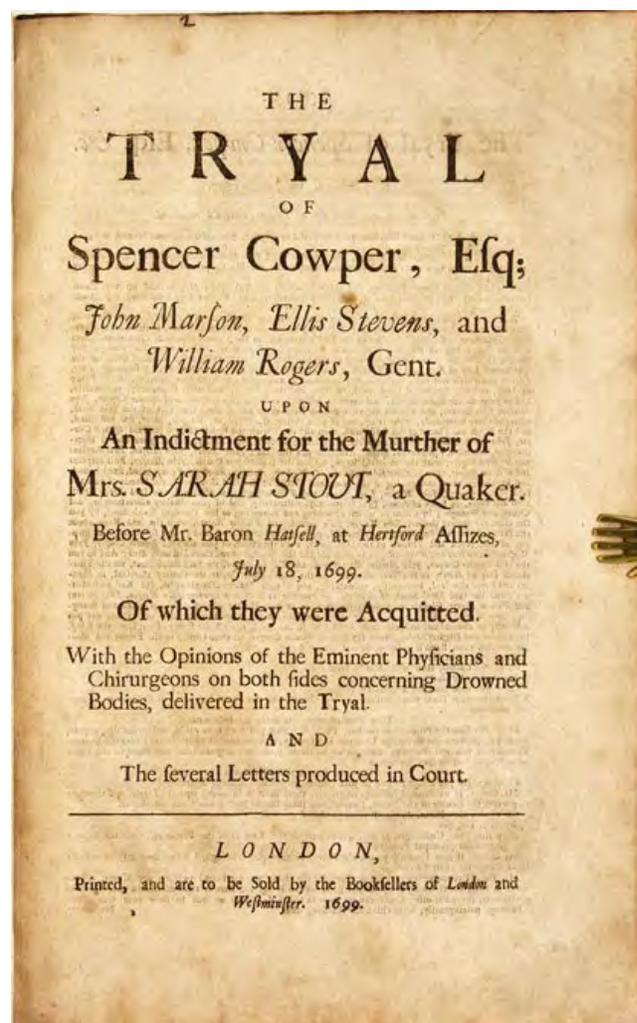
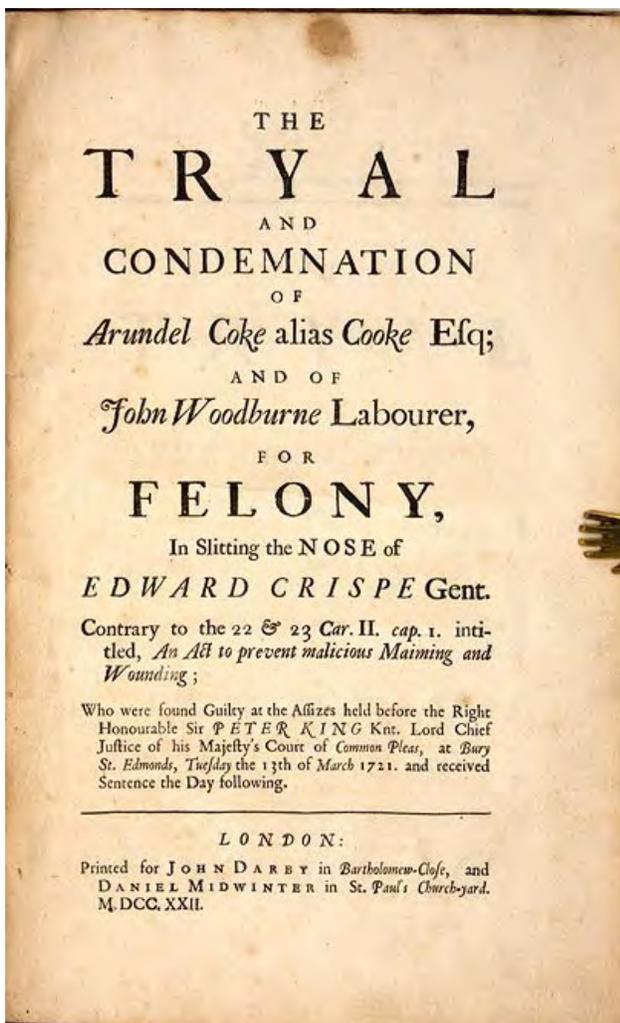
[Bound with]

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

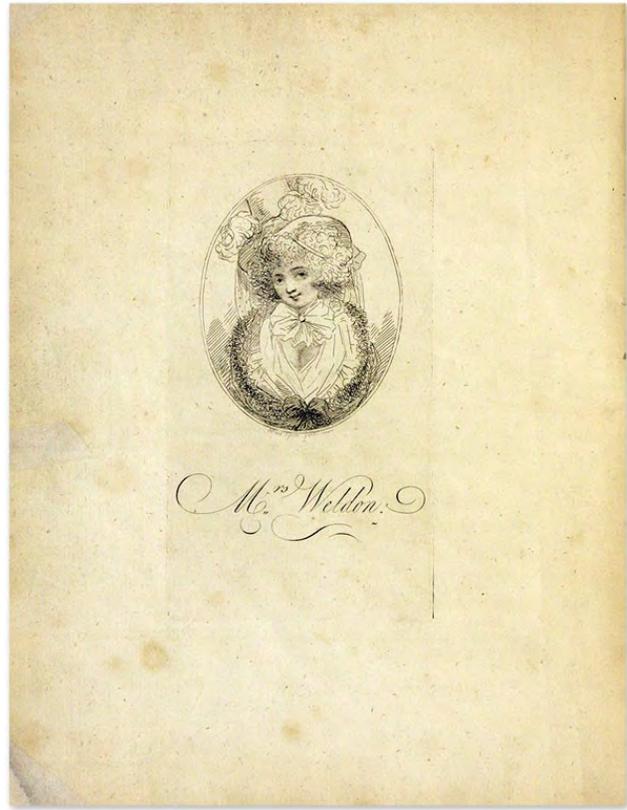
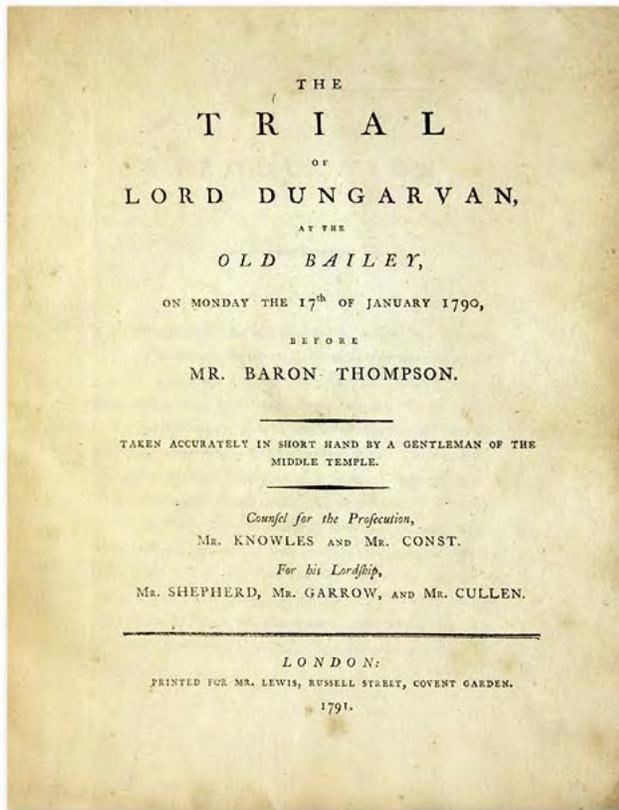
The Tryal of Spencer Cowper, Esq; John Marson, Ellis Stevens, And William Rogers, Gent. Upon an Indictment for the Murder of Mrs. Sarah Stout, A Quaker. Before Mr. Baron Hatsell, At Hertford Assizes, July 18, 1699. Of Which They Were Acquitted. With the Opinions of the Eminent Physicians and Chirurgeons on Both Sides Concerning Drowned Bodies, Delivered in the Tryal. And the Several Letters Produced in Court. London: Printed and Are to be Sold by the Booksellers of London and Westminster, 1699. 38 pp.

Folio (12-1/2" x 8"). Contemporary marbled boards with expert period-style quarter calf by Philip Dusel, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers retained, hinges repaired. Moderate rubbing and scuffing to boards, corners bumped and somewhat worn, early armorial bookplate to front pastedown, tiny wormhole through bottom margin of text block. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, some leaves have light foxing or stains. Early owner annotation to front free endpaper, interior otherwise clean. Two scarce trials in a handsome binding. \$1,250.

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



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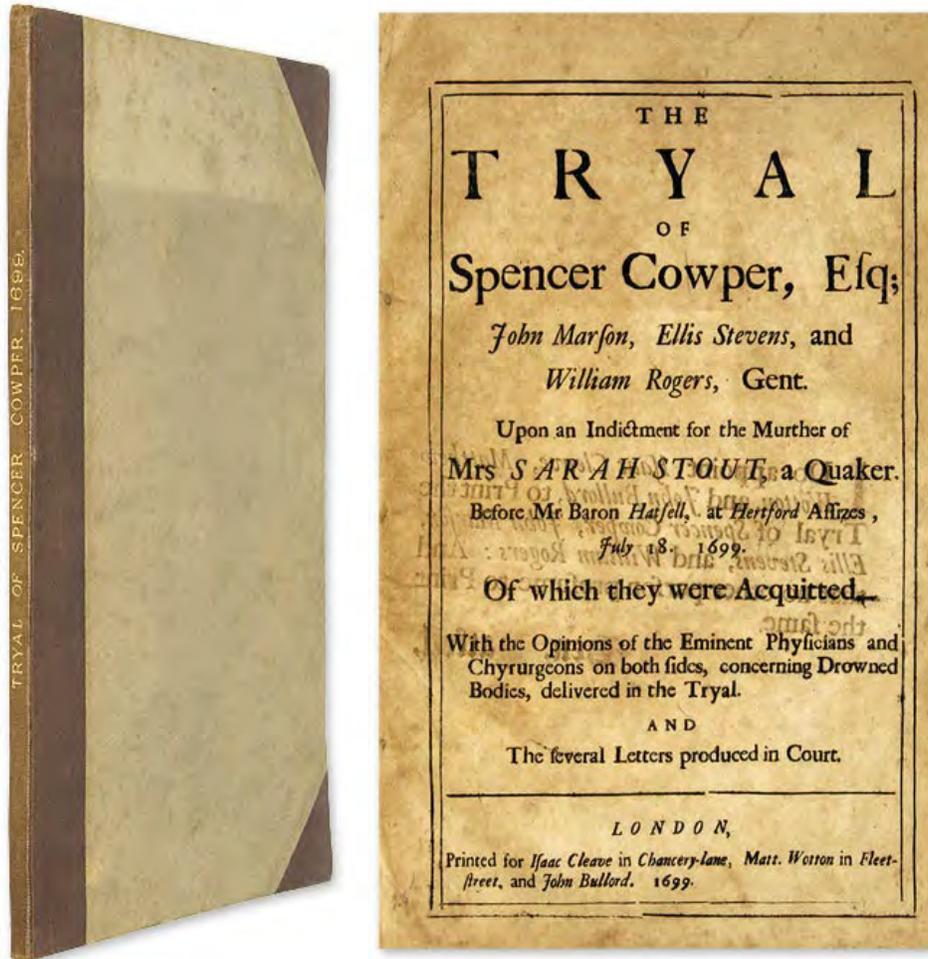
A Cautionary Tale for "Young Gentlemen"

4. Cork, Edmund Boyle, Earl of [1767-1856], Defendant.

The Trial of Lord Dungarvan, At the Old Bailey, On Monday the 17th of January 1790, Before Mr. Baron Thompson. Taken Accurately in Short Hand by a Gentleman of the Middle Temple. Counsel for the Prosecution, Mr. Knowles and Mr. Const. For his Lordship, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Garrow, and Mr. Cullen. London: Printed for Mr. Lewis, 1791. [6], ii, [3]-38, [2] pp. Includes two-page publisher catalogue. Copperplate portrait frontispiece. Quarto (10" x 8").

Recent three-quarter morocco over cloth, gilt rules to boards, gilt title to spine, untrimmed edges. Moderate rubbing to extremities, some toning to text, light soiling to half-title, which has an owner signature (of William Owen, Trinity College) dated 1794, repairs to corners and fore-edge of frontispiece. Ex-library. Stamps to boards and free endpapers, bookplate to front pastedown. A solid copy of a rare title. \$1,250.

* Only edition. The frontispiece depicts Elizabeth Weldon, the prostitute who initiated the suit. In an attempt to extort money, she threatened Boyle, also known as Viscount Dungarvan due to his Irish properties, with a bogus lawsuit. She said she would claim he took money from her clothing after he purchased her services. However, Cork called her bluff and eventually prevailed in court. Clearly a salacious case, it is presented here as a cautionary tale for "young gentlemen, whose levity may bring them into a familiar situation..." The reporter warns that it "may not always be in the power, even of a man of *fashion*, to refute the plausible tale of an artful woman, (although a prostitute.) It may not always happen that an innocent defendant shall have the same circumstances to protect his honour, as my Lord Dungarvan" (ii). OCLC locates 2 copies, both in law libraries (Columbia, Harvard). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N013878. [Order This Item](#)



"The Murder of Mrs. Sarah Stout, A Quaker"

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

The Tryal of Spencer Cowper, Esq; John Marson, Ellis Stevens, And William Rogers, Gent. Upon an Indictment for the Murder of Mrs. Sarah Stout, a Quaker. Before Mr. Baron Hatsell, At Hertford Assizes, July 18, 1699. Of Which They were Acquitted. With the Opinions of the Eminent Physicians and Chyrurgeons on Both Sides, Concerning Drowned Bodies, Delivered in the Tryal. And the Several Letters Produced in Court. London: Printed for Isaac Cleave in Chancery-Lane, Matt. Wotton in Fleet-street, and John Bullord, 1699. [ii], 22 [i.e.46] pp. Folio (11-1/2" x 7").

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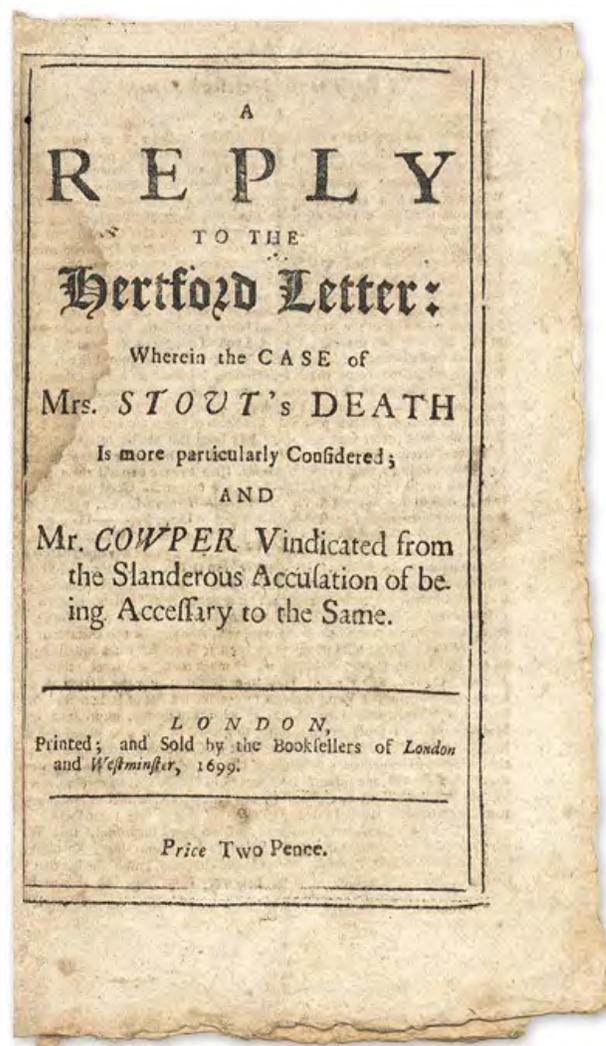
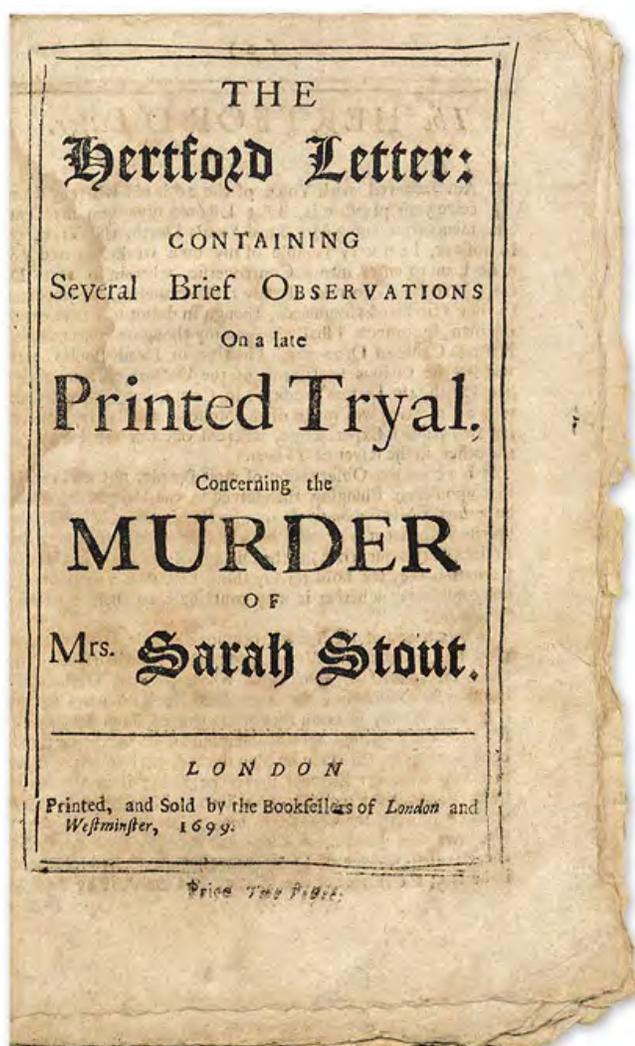
The Hertford Letter: Containing Several Brief Observations on a Late Printed Tryal, Concerning the Murder of Mrs. Sarah Stout. London: Printed and Sold by the Booksellers of London, and Westminster, 1699. 16 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5").

[And]

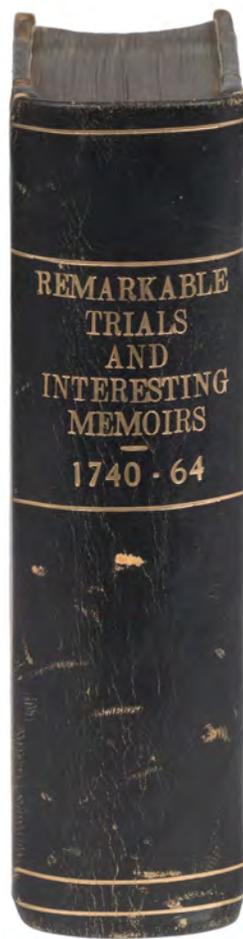
A Reply to the Hertford Letter: Wherein the Case of Mrs. Stout's Death is More Particularly Considered; And Mr. Cowper Vindicated from the Slandorous Accusation of Being Accessory to the Same. London: Printed; And Sold by the Booksellers of London, and Westminster, 1699. 8 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5").

Three titles in an 11-1/2" x 7-1/2" binding. Three-quarter cloth over paper-covered boards, gilt title to spine. Light soiling, dampspotting and offsetting to boards, some rubbing to extremities, early owner bookplate top front pastedown. Light browning and foxing to interior, otherwise internally clean. \$2,500.

* Only editions. Spencer Cowper, a judge, was indicted for the murder of Sarah Stout. He was at her house late on the evening before she was found drowned in a river. Cowper's alleged motivations were a desire to end an illicit love affair and avoid payment of a debt. Cowper's lawyers argued that Stout's parents wanted to hide the fact that their daughter committed a suicide, a heinous act among Quakers. The defence also suggested a political motivation: a desire by local Tories to harm the career of a rising Whig. Cowper had been at the woman's house late on the evening before she was found drowned in the river, but there was little material evidence against him. Also, his lawyers benefited from expert medical testimony from three leading physicians, Samuel Garth, Hans Sloane and William Cowper." He was acquitted. The trial attracted a good deal of attention and generated several pamphlets, including post-verdict pamphlets that attempted unsuccessfully to reopen the case. Our volume collects three examples. The *Trial of Spencer Cowper* is one of the standard accounts of the trial. *The Hertford Letter* and *A Reply to the Hertford Letter* reflect the post-trial debates about the verdict. The *Trial* and *The Hertford Letter* are scarce; *A Reply* is rare and apparently unrecorded. No copies are found on OCLC. The *ESTC* lists a pamphlet with the same title, but it has a different imprint and a much-different collation. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R226805 (*Trial*), R493540 (*Letter*).



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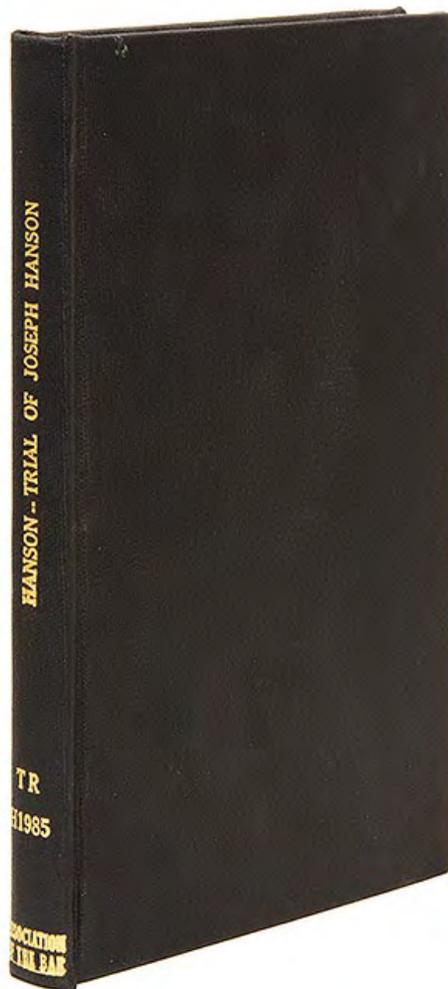
Notable British Criminals of 1740-1764

6. [Great Britain].

Remarkable Trials and Interesting Memoirs, Of the Most Noted Criminals who have been Convicted at the Assizes, The King's-Bench Bar, Guildhall, &c. For High-Treason, Murder, Conspiracy, Rape, Highway, Felony, Burglary, Imposition, And Other Atrocious Crimes, Villainies, And Misdemeanours. From the Year 1740, To 1764. With an Account of Their Most Memorable Exploits, Adventures, Confessions, And Dying-Behaviour. London: Printed for W. Nicoll, 1765. [ii], x, [4], 336; [xiii], 358 pp. 2 vols. in 1. 12mo. (6-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Recent three-quarter calf over pebbled cloth boards, gilt institutional name and seal to boards, rebacked in calf with gilt fillets and title to spine, edges speckled red, endpapers and endleaves renewed. Moderate rubbing and light soiling to boards, moderate wear to calf, slight creasing and a few nicks to spine, rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and worn, small ink library stamp to front free endpaper, title pages and several other pages without loss to legibility. Moderate toning to interior, occasional light foxing. \$500.

* Only edition. This compilation of famous British criminal cases from 1740 to 1764 includes murders, attempted insurrections, robbery (including one carried out on the Thames) and the trial of a midwife for negligence. Female criminals are well-represented, among them a mother-daughter duo executed for murder and the notable 1752 cases of Mary Blandy and Elizabeth Jeffries. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T114036. [Order This Item](#)



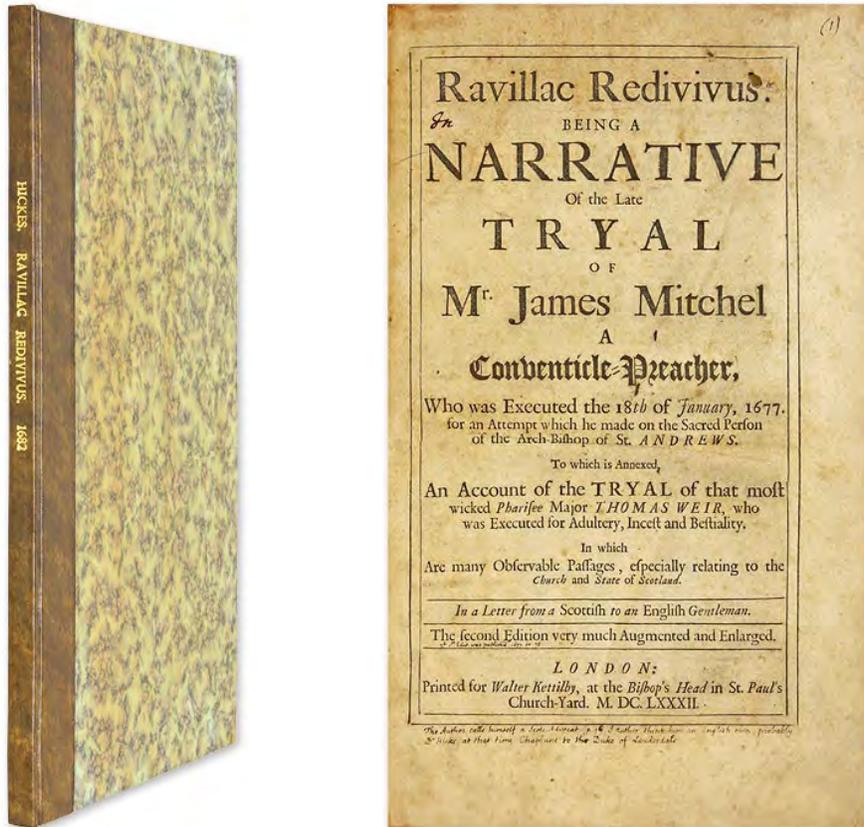
"The Weaver's Friend"

7. Hanson, Joseph [1781-1811], Defendant.

The Whole Proceedings on the Trial of an Indictment Against Joseph Hanson, Esq.: for a Conspiracy to Aid the Weavers of Manchester in Raising Their Wages: Before Mr. Justice Le Blanc, One of the Judges of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench, And a Special Jury, At the Lancaster Spring Assizes, 1809. London: Printed and Published by T. Gillet, C. Chapple and Sherwood, Neely and Jones, 1809. xiv, [11], 116 pp. Folding map. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-3/8").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent library cloth, gilt title to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning, light foxing in a few places, soiling, minor edgewear and faint library stamp to title page, a few library marks to verso, light soiling to verso of final leaf (p. 116). \$350.

* Only edition. Hanson was a social reformer who was imprisoned and fined for his efforts to institute a minimum wage and the right to bargain, among other reforms, for the weavers of Manchester. Considered a dangerous man by the authorities, he was charged with sedition. Known as "the weaver's Friend," 39,600 people contributed one penny each to his defence fund. OCLC locates 4 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, LA County, Library of Congress, Yale). *Catalogue of the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature* II:19907. [Order This Item](#)



Anti-Presbyterian Propaganda

8. [Hickes, George (1642-1715)].

Ravillac Redivivus. Being a Narrative of the Late Tryal of Mr. James Mitchel a Conventicle-Preacher, Who was Executed the 18th of January, 1677. For an Attempt Which he Made on the Sacred Person of the Arch-Bishop of St. Andrews. To Which is Annexed, An Account of the Tryal of that Most Wicked Pharisee Major Thomas Weir, Who Was Executed for Adultery, Incest and Bestiality. In Which are Many Observable Passages, Especially Relating to the Church and State of Scotland. In a Letter from a Scottish to an English Gentleman. London: Printed for Walter Kettilby, 1682. [iv], 46, [2], 47-54 pp. The unpaginated leaf after page 46 contains publisher advertisements. Folio (12-1/4" x 7-3/4").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title and date to spine, title page and final leaf re-hinged. Moderate toning light foxing in a few places, soiling to title page, early owner annotations to title page in neat small hand, a few marks and brief marks in recent hand in a few places. \$950.

* Second, expanded edition. Hickes was a bishop of the nonjuring Church of England in Scotland. A work on propaganda commissioned by his superior in Scotland, John Maitland, Duke of Lauderdale, *Ravillac Redivivus* is an account of the trial of the Scots-nationalist Presbyterian (Covenanter) James Mitchell [d.1678] for an attempt to assassinate James Sharpe, the archbishop of St Andrews. Hickes linked Mitchell's story to that of the notorious covenanter Major Thomas Weir [c. 1600-1670], a suspected sorcerer who was executed for bestiality and incest in 1670, in order to demonstrate that fanatical dissenters violated the boundaries of moral law and were capable of committing the most outrageous crimes in the name of religion. First published in 1678, the work was reprinted in Dublin in 1679, followed by our second edition. A note at the foot of the title page, which identifies the author, reads: "The author calls himself a Scots Addvocate: (p. 46). I rather think him an English Man, probably Dr. Hicks, at that time Chaplane to the Duke of Lauderdale." *English Short-Title Catalogue* R19059. [Order This Item](#)



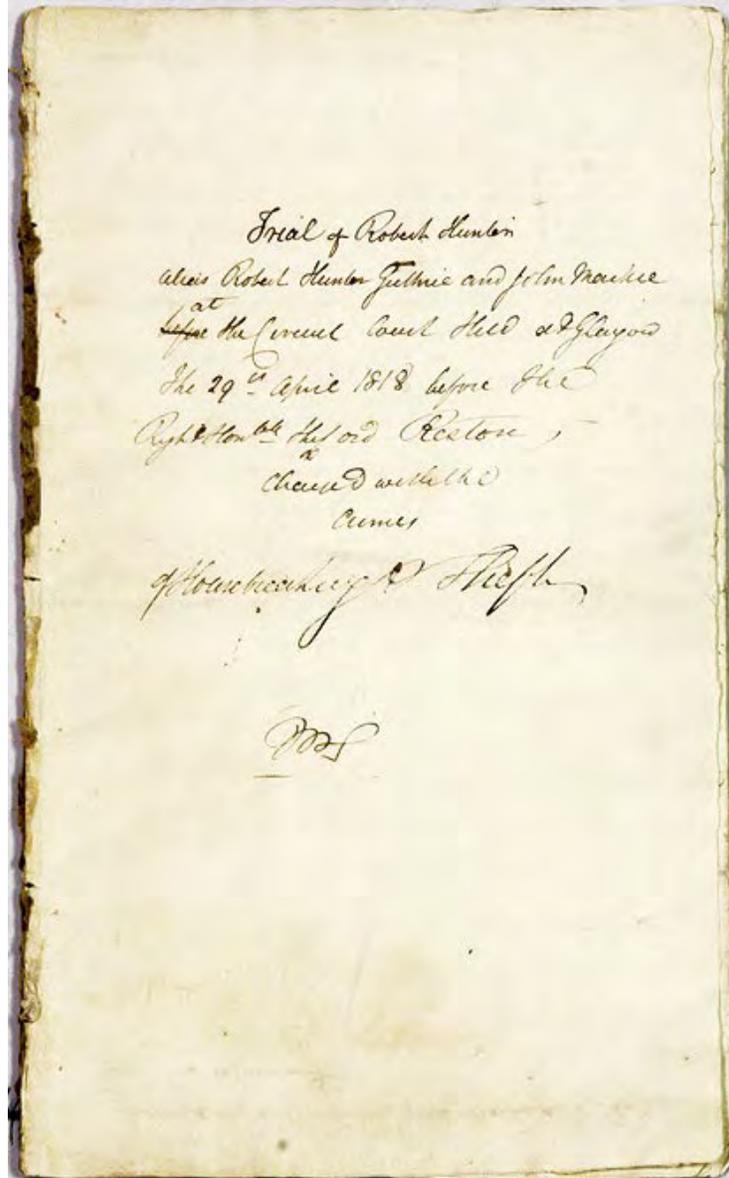
**Ravishment, Excommunication,
Spousal Abuse and Other Matters**

9. [Manuscript Archive].

[Legal Documents Relating to Six Trials]. Great Britain, 1631-1632. 6 items, 2 are single leaves, 4 bifolia, sizes range from 9-1/2" x 8-1/3/4" to 12" x 7-1/2."

Moderate toning and soiling, occasional browning, vertical folds, 5 items docketed, some tears, edgewear and wear holes with loss to text in a few places. \$3,000.

* Submitted to the ecclesiastical courts, these documents are, to use modern language, depositions: Thomas Knowsley *v.* William Welch and Jane Dawson for fornication and libel (1632), Samuel Royle *v.* Grace Royle for abusing him, "ill healing" him and leaving him with his mother-in-law (1632), excommunication of Thomas Edge for contempt of court (1631), John Smith *v.* Richard Hyde for (unspecified) slander (1631), John Bale *v.* Alice Eaton "for calling him a whoremonger" (1631) and Thomas Eaton for the ravishment of Elizabeth Eaton while her husband was attending church (1631). [Order This Item](#)



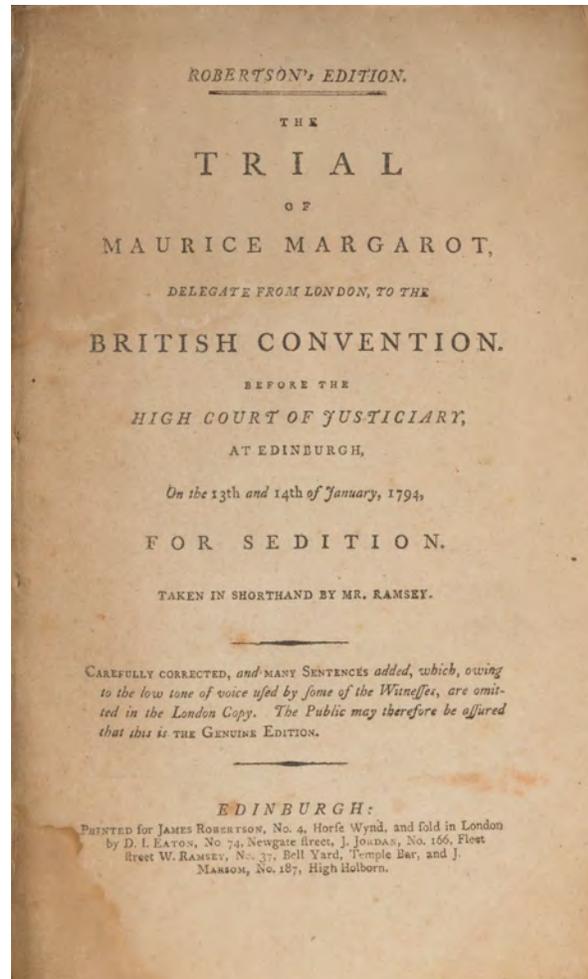
Who Stole My Cheese?

10. [Manuscript].
[Glasgow, Scotland].

Trial of Robert Hunter, Alias Robert Hunter Guthrie and John Mackie [Running Title]. [Glasgow: April 29, 1818]. 18 ff. Last leaf partially blank, docketed on verso. Folio (12-1/2" x 7.5").

Disbound, light soiling and edgewear, three horizontal fold lines, lower portion of final leaf lacking with no loss to text. Content in neat hand throughout. \$1,250.

* A curious collection of court documents involving a pair of men who were stealing and fencing stolen wheels of cheese from a warehouse. Sensing that the police were closing in on them, they fled, one is tempted to say, "like mice," but were eventually apprehended. These documents appear to have been given to someone who organized them, added annotations, including the title on the first leaf, and had them bound into a volume. [Order This Item](#)



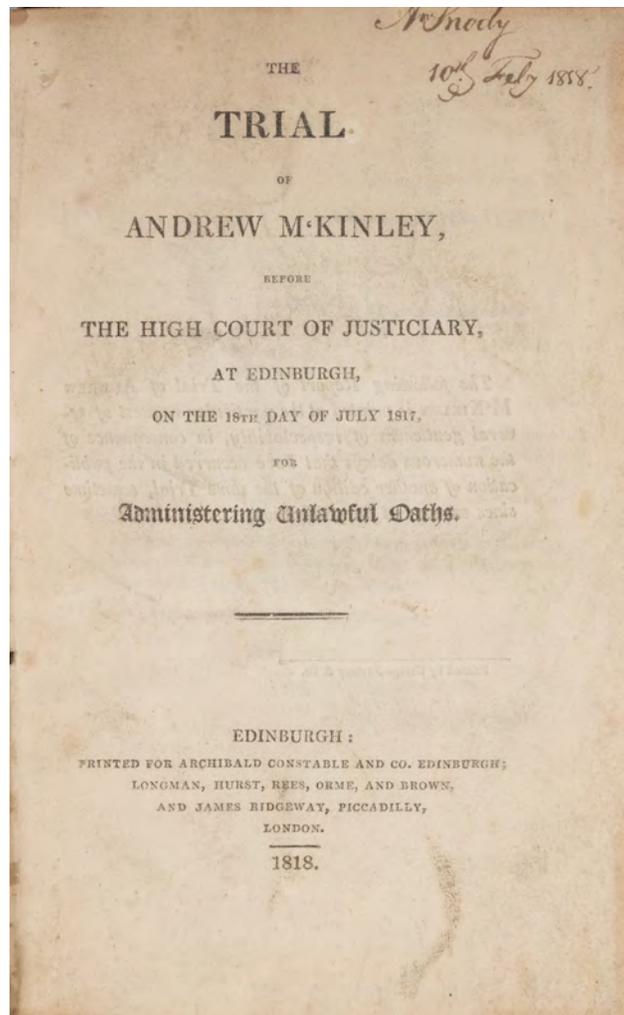
A Member of the "Scottish Martyrs to Liberty"

11. Margarot, Maurice, Defendant [1745-1815].

The Trial of Maurice Margarot, Delegate from London, To the British Convention. Before the High Court of Justiciary, At Edinburgh, On the 13th and 14th of January, 1794, For Seditious. Taken in Shorthand by Mr. Ramsey. Carefully Corrected, And Many Sentences Added, Which, Owing to the Low Tone of Voice Used by Some of the Witnesses, Are Omitted in the London Copy. The Public May Therefore be Assured That This is the Genuine Edition. At head of title page: *Robertson's Edition.* Edinburgh: Printed for James Robertson and sold in London by D.I. Eaton, J. Jordan and J. Marsom, [1794]. 195, [1] pp. Frontispiece lacking. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5").

Recent three-quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate fading to spine. Moderate toning to interior, faint dampstain to top half of text block and lower gutter, light foxing and soiling in a few places, small, faint ink library stamps to pp. 5 and 109, gutter of title page mended, small tear to top-edge of final leaf without loss to text. \$150.

* Only edition, one of two accounts of the trial from the same year. Margarot was one of the founding members of the London Corresponding Society, a radical group organized to demand parliamentary reform in the late eighteenth century. Due to the wave of anti-French hysteria initiated by the French Revolution, he and four other radicals (later known as the "Scottish Martyrs to Liberty") were convicted and transported to Australia in May 1794. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T122114. [Order This Item](#)



"For Administering Unlawful Oaths"

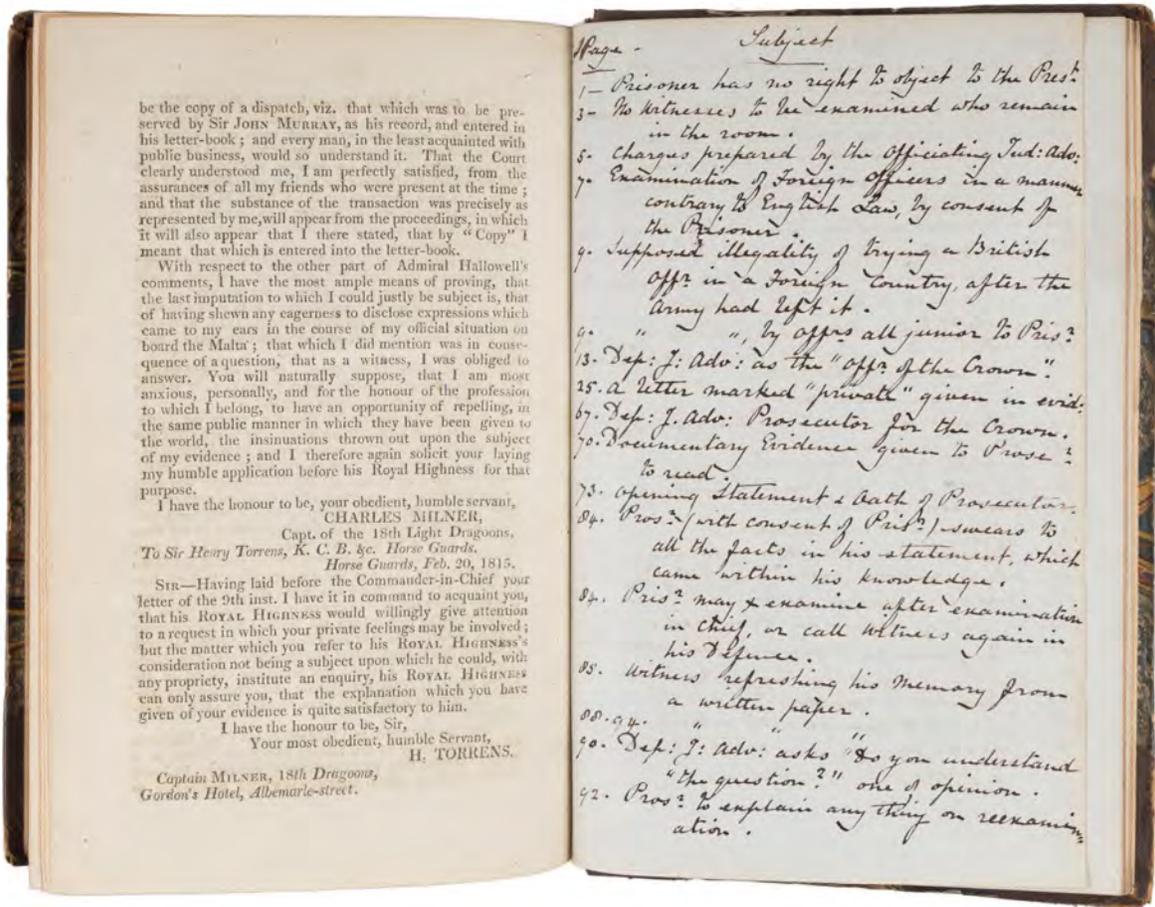
12. McKinley, Andrew [1799-1817], Defendant.

The Trial of Andrew McKinley, Before The High Court of Justiciary, At Edinburgh, On the 18th Day of July, 1817, For Administering Unlawful Oaths. Edinburgh: Printed for Manners and Miller, 1818. [iv], 70 pp. Octavo (7-3/4" x 5").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in near-contemporary three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title to spine. Moderate rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends and corners, front hinge cracked, rear board beginning to separate but secure, front hinge mended, later owner bookplate (of Norman and Janey Buchan) to front pastedown. Light browning to interior, light soiling to p.70 and title page, which has an illegible signature dated 1858 to the upper outside corner. \$650.

* Only edition. Intended to suppress radicalism, the Unlawful Oaths Act of 1812 (c.104. 52 Geo. 3) prescribed the death penalty for anyone guilty of "administering of any oath or engagement, purporting or intending to bind the person taking the same to commit any treason or murder, or any felony, punishable by law with death." McKinley was tried under this act, and ultimately acquitted, for his role in an unsuccessful 1817 labor uprising, one of many instigated by the economic depression that followed the Napoleonic Wars. These uprisings culminated in the Cato Street Conspiracy and Radical War, or Scottish Insurrection, a week of strikes and unrest in Scotland, England and Ireland. OCLC locates 6 copies, 1 in North America (University of Pennsylvania Law School). *Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School* (1909) II:1137.

[Order This Item](#)



A Controversial 1815 Court Martial of One of Wellington's Generals

13. Murray, John, Defendant.

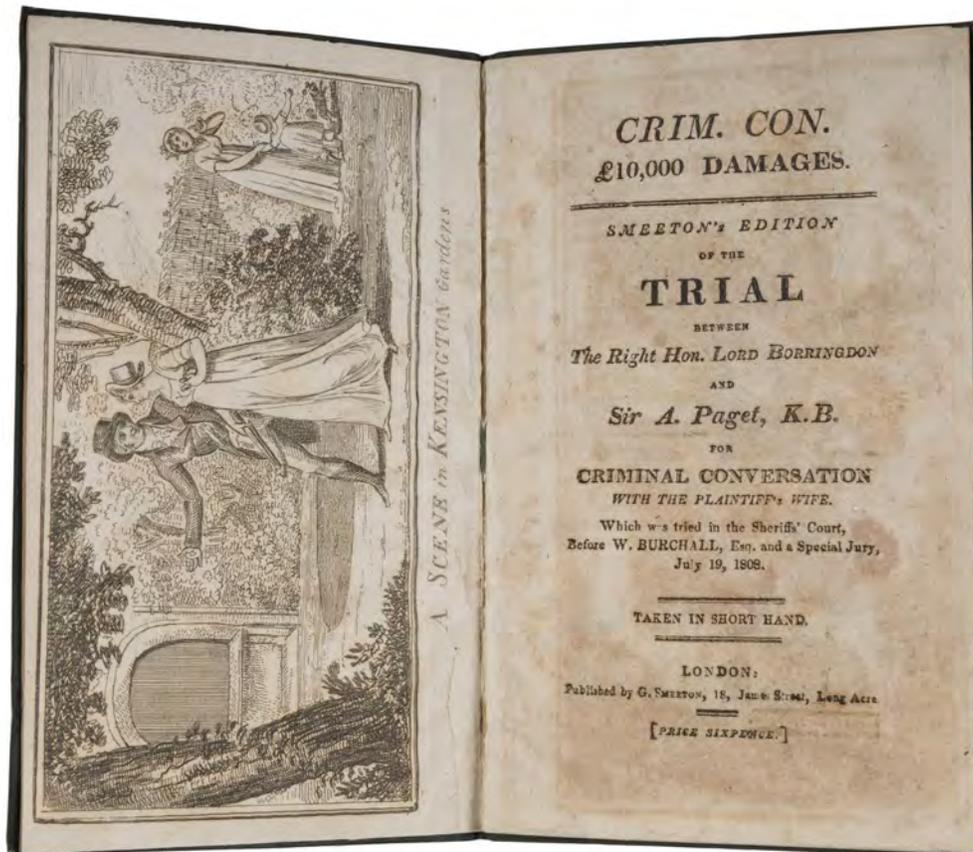
Gurney, W[illiam] B[rodie] [1777-1855], Reporter.

The Trial of Lieutenant General Sir John Murray, Bart. By a General Court Martial, Held at Winchester, On Monday the 16th of January, 1815, And Continued by Adjournment, Till Monday the 6th of February, 1815. Taken in Short Hand. London: Printed for T. Egerton, 1815. vii, 562, [2] pp., followed by 8 blank ff. added by binder. Woodcut folding map. Octavo (9-1/4" x 5-7/8").

Contemporary three-quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets to calf edges, gilt-edged raised bands, blind fillets and gilt-stamped title to spine, edges rouged. Moderate rubbing to boards and extremities, light wear to spine ends and corners, which are bumped, front joint just starting at head, hinges cracked, faint offsetting from plate to preliminaries. Light toning to interior, light foxing to first third of text block, ms. index in an early hand to first added blank. \$350.

* Only edition. Murray was court-martialed for his mishandling of an engagement with Napoleon's army in Tarragona during the Peninsular War (1807-1814). A highly debated trial, it resulted in Murray's acquittal of all charges except one: abandoning his cannon. That charge was later dismissed. Overall, it seems that Murray's performance was marred by incompetence and cowardice. Many believed so at the time, including Prince Regent George IV, who denied Murray's petition to become a member of the Order of the Bath.

OCLC locates 7 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, Yale, LA County, Library of Congress, University of Minnesota, US Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School). Yale *Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School* (1909) II:1149. [Order This Item](#)



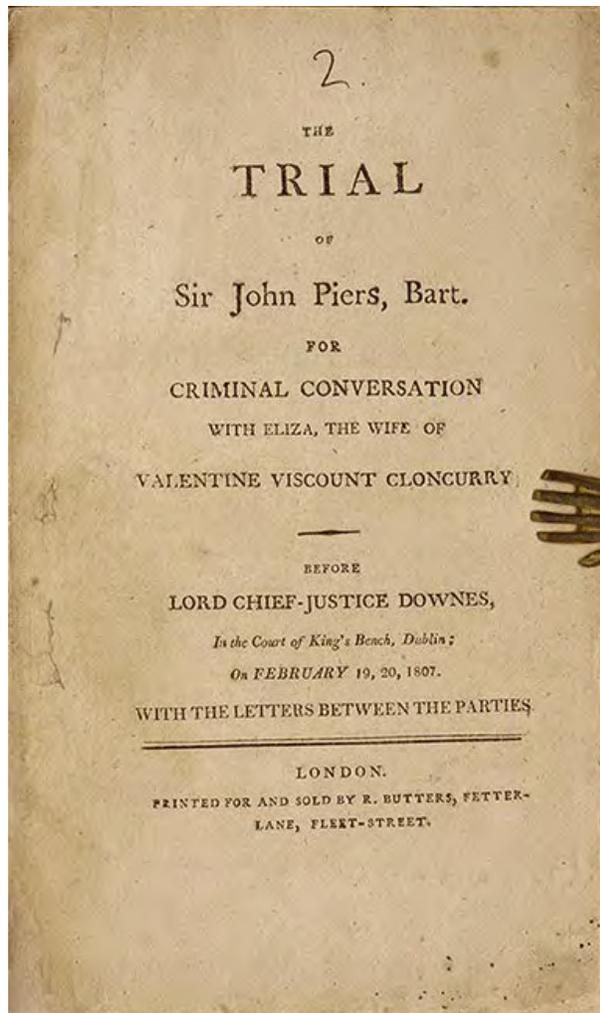
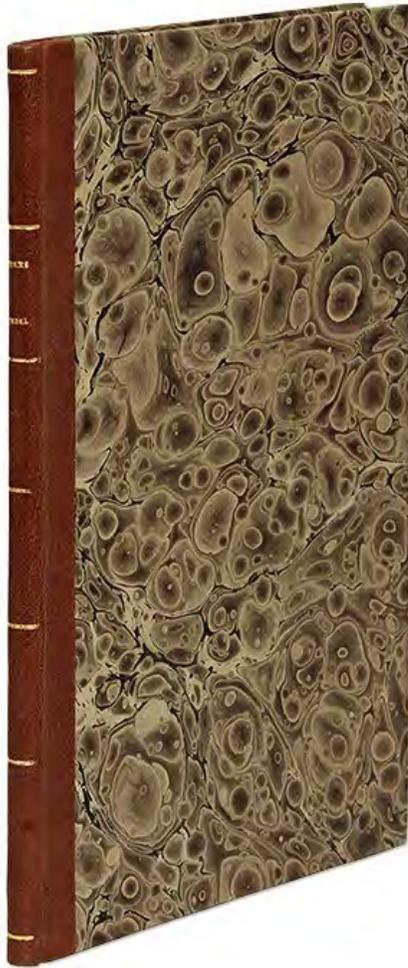
Rare Trial Account With a Frontispiece by Isaac and George Cruikshank

**14. Paget, Sir Arthur [1771-1840], Defendant.
Cruikshank, Isaac [1789-1856], Frontispiece.
Cruikshank, George [1792-1878], Frontispiece.**

Crim. Con. £10,000 Damages. Smeeton's Edition of the Trial Between the Right Hon. Lord Borringdon and Sir A. Paget, K.B. For Criminal Conversation with the Plaintiff's Wife. Which was Tried in the Sheriff's Court, Before W. Burchall, Esq. And a Special Jury, July 19, 1808. Taken in Short Hand. London: Published by G. Smeeton, 18, James Street, Long Acre, [1808]. 16 pp. Etched copperplate frontispiece by Isaac Cruikshank, assisted by George Cruikshank. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into contemporary (or near-contemporary) flexible cloth, gilt title to front cover, frontispiece and several leaves re-hinged. Light rubbing to extremities, bookplate of Fernand Gabriel and Anne Renier to front pastedown, early owner inscription ("Walter Scott His Book/ July 29, 1808") to verso of frontispiece. Crack in text block between frontispiece and title page, which is lightly soiled, moderate toning to interior, light foxing to first half of text block. \$950.

* A rare account of one of the great scandals of the day, which involved two well-known aristocrats who were active politicians. The criminal conversation occurred in 1808 when Paget eloped with Lady Augusta Fane, then the wife of John Parker [1772-1840], 2nd Baron Borringdon (or Borringdon). Paget married her the following year, two days after her divorce was granted. The Walter Scott who owned this copy was not the Scottish author. Fernand Gabriel and Anne Renier were important collectors of popular printed material. OCLC locates 1 copy of this title (Harvard). No copies listed on Library Hub. Cohn, *George Cruikshank: A Catalogue Raisonné* 85. [Order This Item](#)



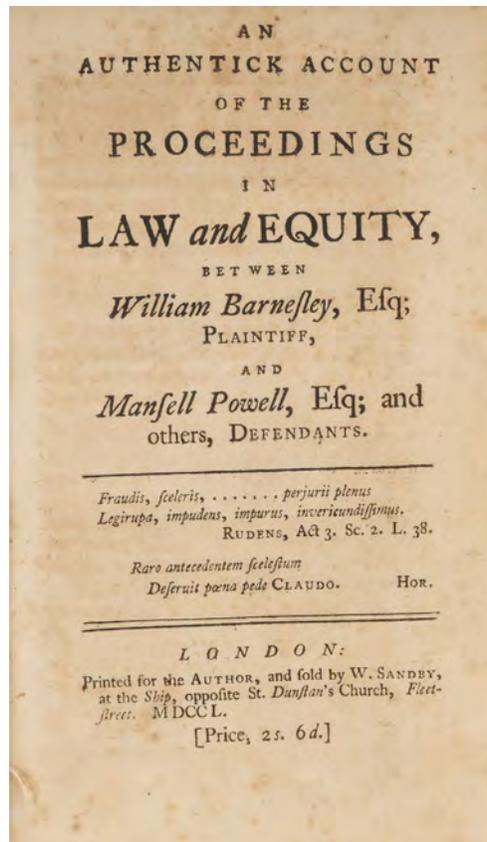
He Seduced Her to Win a Bet

15. Piers, Sir John [1772-1845], Defendant.

The Trial of Sir John Piers, Bart. For Criminal Conversation with Eliza, the Wife of Valentine Viscount Cloncurry Before Lord Chief-Justice Downes, In the Court of King's Bench, Dublin; On February 19, 20, 1807. With the Letters Between the Parties. London: Printed for and Sold by R. Butters, [1807]. 44 pp. Lacking portrait frontispiece. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into period-style quarter morocco over marbled boards, gilt titles and ornaments to spine, endpapers renewed. Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Moderate toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, edgewear and a few minor holes to title page, "2" in early hand to upper margin. \$600.

* Only edition. Piers, 6th Baronet of Tristernagh Abbey, was an Anglo-Irish baronet and a notable rake. His notoriety dates from his 1807 adultery trial involving Elizabeth Georgiana, Lady Cloncurry, the wife of an old school friend (and creditor), Lord Cloncurry. The trial established that Piers had seduced Lady Cloncurry as part of a bet. Lord Cloncurry was awarded the enormous sum of £20,000 in damages, the largest award granted in a criminal conversation case. The scandal attracted a great deal of attention and secured Piers a footnote in history. This case was the subject of John Betjeman's poem *Sir John Piers* and a 1978 BBC documentary *The Bold Bad Baronet*. COPAC locates 1 copy (National Library of Scotland). OCLC locates 5 copies, 3 in North America (Temple University, University of Missouri-Columbia, Yale Law School). Not in the *British Museum Catalogue*. [Order This Item](#)



A Case of Estate Fraud That May Have Inspired Dickens

16. Powell, Mansel [c.1696-1775], Defendant.

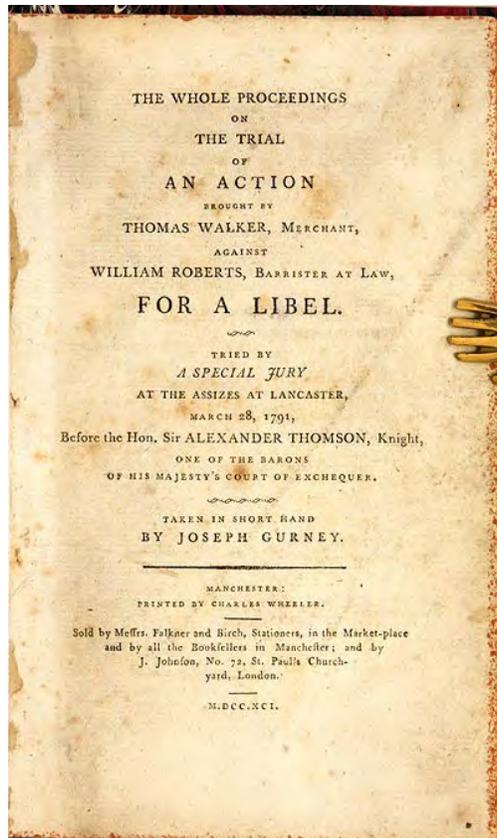
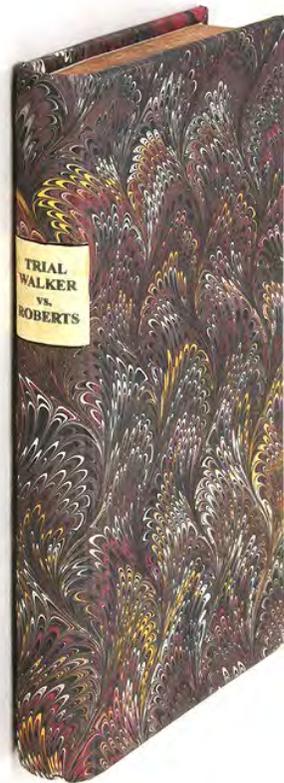
An Authentick Account of the Proceedings in Law and Equity, Between William Barnesley, Esq; Plaintiff, And Mansell Powell, Esq; And Others, Defendants. London: Printed for the Author, And Sold by W. Sandby, 1750. [ii], 227, [1] pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Recent quarter cloth over plain boards, gilt title ("Barnesley v Powell") to spine, endpapers and endleaves renewed. Faint dampstaining to boards with some bubbling to front board, negligible wear to corners. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing to first and final few leaves. \$450.

* Only edition. When William Barnesley died in 1737, a distant cousin conspired with his unscrupulous lawyer Powell to forge a will that would disinherit Barnesley's only son. Barnesley had threatened to disinherit the son before (though the two had reconciled) and the son was also reportedly intellectually disabled, making him a ready target. The forgery was successful, and Powell and his associate took control of Barnesley's Eardisley estate. The son regained the property after a lengthy chancery suit, vigorously pursued by his wife. Powell and his co-defendants were ordered to pay costs and refund all rents and other money they had received from the estate. This was a particular blow to Powell, who had used his share to kick off a parliamentary career.

The dispute with Powell was followed by another, lengthier chancery case with other relatives. (This also resulted in success for the son.) There is some speculation that the Barnesley cases were among the many that inspired the fictional "Jarndyce and Jarndyce" of Dickens's 1853 novel *Bleak House*.

No physical copies of this title located by OCLC. The *ESTC* locates copies at 9 libraries, 4 in North America (Columbia University Law Library, Connecticut Historical Society, Henry E. Huntington Library, UT-Austin). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T1523. [Order This Item](#)



"Mr. Thomas Walker Commenced his Virulence Against Me..."

17. Roberts, William, Defendant.

Gurney, Joseph, Reporter.

The Whole Proceedings on the Trial of an Action Brought by Thomas Walker, Merchant, Against William Roberts, Barrister at Law, For a Libel. Tried by a Special Jury at the Assizes at Lancaster, March 28, 1791, Before the Hon. Sir Alexander Thomson, Knight, One of the Barons of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer. Taken in Short Hand by Joseph Gurney. Manchester: Printed by Charles Wheeler, 1791 208 pp. Lacking half-title.

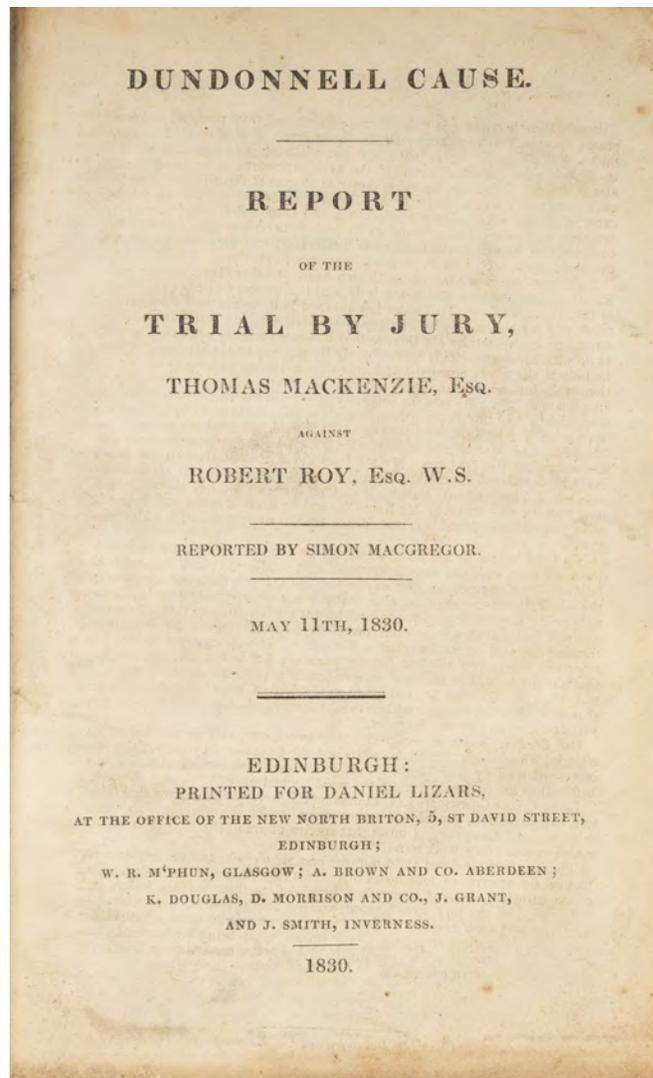
[Bound with]

[Roberts, William].

Supplementary Facts and Observations Occasioned by Mr. Walker's Publication of His Prosecution of Mr. Roberts; With Notes, &c. [Manchester?: S.n., 1791?]. 24 pp. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4").

Recent marbled boards, printed title label to spine, speckled edges. Moderate toning, light foxing and minor stains to a few leaves, light soiling to title pages, minor staining along gutter of the title page to *The Whole Proceedings*. A handsome volume. \$500.

* Only editions. Unhappy with his treatment by Walker during a lawsuit, Roberts circulated a flyer reading: "Mr. Thomas Walker commenced his virulence against me like a BULLY, has conducted it like a FOOL, has acted in it like a SCOUNDREL, has ended it like a COWARD, at last has turned BLACKGUARD and unworthy of association with, or notice of any Gentleman, who regards his own character." Walker won his case; Roberts paid damages of £100. *The Whole Proceedings* is scarce, OCLC locates 9 copies in North American law libraries; *Supplementary Facts* is rare, OCLC locates 4 copies worldwide, 2 in North America, Princeton University, Temple University). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T99785, N37623. [Order This Item](#)



A Notable Scottish Estate Case

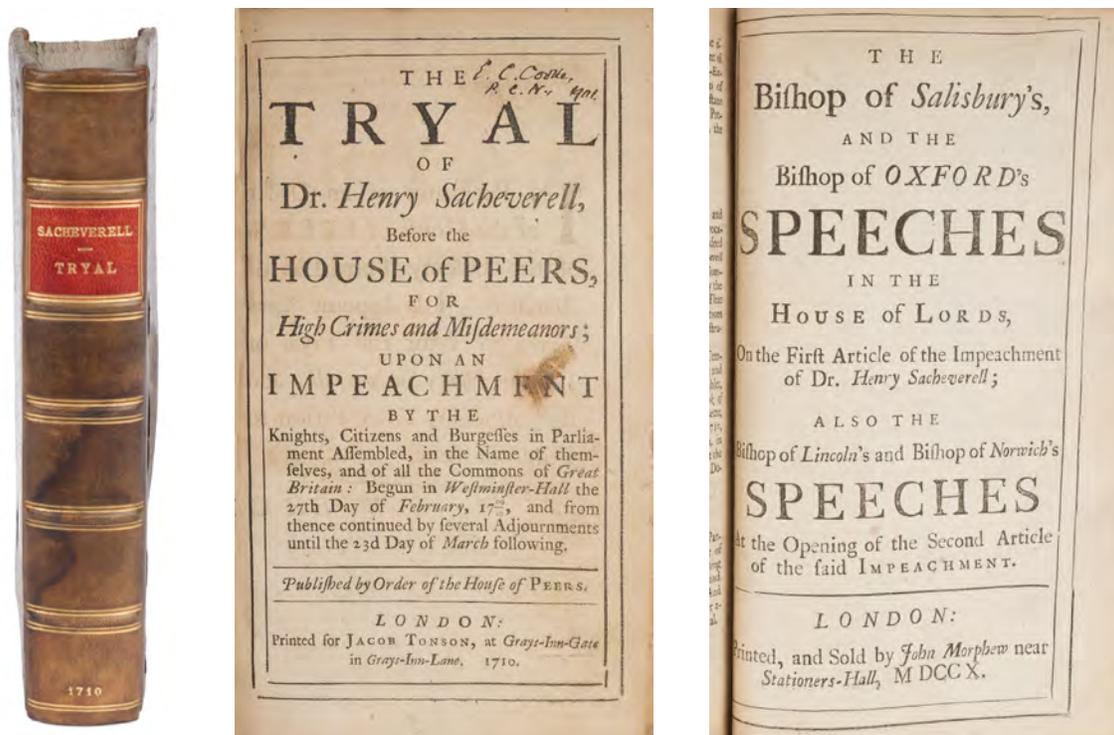
**18. Roy, Robert, Defendant.
MacGregor, Simon, Reporter.**

Dundonnell Cause. Report of the Trial by Jury, Thomas Mackenzie, Esq. Against Robert Roy, Esq. W.S. Reported by Simon MacGregor. May 11, 1830. Edinburgh: Printed for Daniel Lizars [by Ballantyne and Co.], 1830. 84 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent period-style three-quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Light rubbing to board edges. Light toning to interior, light foxing and soiling in a few places. \$250.

* Only edition. Roy, a Scottish lawyer, was accused of swindling an estate from his client Kenneth Mackenzie of Dundonnell by Mackenzie's son Thomas. The trial attracted several notable legal names, among them Henry Cockburn, who had secured an acquittal for Helen McDougal in the famous Burke and Hare murder trial the year before. His jury address and the exchanges between counsel are well-documented in our account. The jury was split and a second trial was held in January 1831, which resulted in Roy's conviction.

OCLC locates 10 copies of this title, 4 in North America (Library of Congress, University of Minnesota Law School, Harvard Law School, Los Angeles County Law Library). [Order This Item](#)



A Triumph for Tories and High-Churchmen

19. Sacheverell, Henry [1674-1724], Defendant.

The Tryal of Dr. Henry Sacheverell, Before the House of Peers, For High Crimes and Misdemeanors; Upon an Impeachment by the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses in Parliament Assembled, In the Name of Themselves, And of All the Commons of Great Britain: Begun in Westminster-Hall the 27th Day of February, 1709/10, And from Thence Continued by Several Adjournments Until the 23d Day of March Following. Published by Order of the House of Peers. London: Printed for Jacob Tonson, 1710. 456 pp.

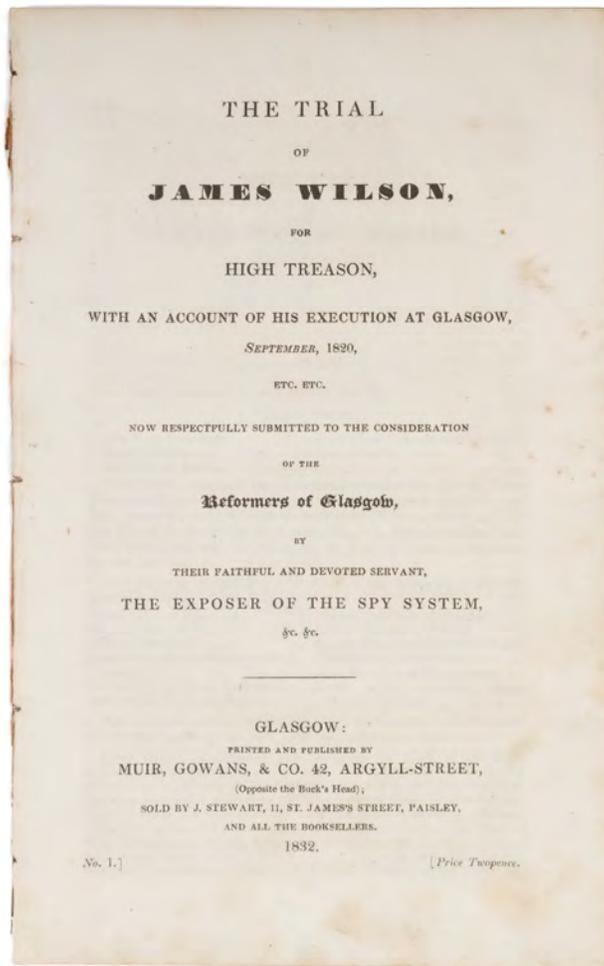
[Bound with]

The Bishop of Salisbury's, And the Bishop of Oxford's Speeches in the House of Lords, On the First Article of the Impeachment of Dr. Henry Sacheverell; Also the Bishop of Lincoln's and Bishop of Norwich's Speeches At the Opening of the Second Article of the Said Impeachment. London: Printed, And Sold by John Morphew, Near Stationers-Hall, 1710. 16; 16; [2], 35-52; 53-63, [1] pp. Four parts, each with title page, first three parts have individual pagination.

Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-1/2"). Contemporary paneled calf, rebacked in period style with gilt-edged raised bands and lettering piece to spine. Light rubbing with a few scuffs and nicks to boards, faint dampstain to front board, corners bumped and lightly worn. Light toning to interior, occasional light foxing, light soiling in a few places, faint dampstain to bottom edge of text block of the *Tryal*, ownership signatures of "E.C. Cooke, P.C.N. 1901." and "R.D. Howe - 1934" to front free endpaper and Howe's notes in pencil throughout. Cooke's signature also to imprimatur leaf and title page. \$125.

* First octavo editions (each one among several issues from 1710). The volume collects two fundamental documents relating to the ideological controversy between Whigs and Tories. Dr. Henry Sacheverell was impeached for preaching two sermons that advocated the Tory doctrines of non-resistance and passive obedience. His punishment was unique. He was not allowed to preach for three years, but he was allowed to perform other clerical functions and accept preferment during that time. His two sermons were ordered burned by the common hangman. Such a sentence was felt to be a triumph for him and the High-Church and Tory party, and the news of it was received with great enthusiasm throughout the kingdom. See *Dictionary of National Biography* XVIII:569-572. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T176104, T22852.

[Order This Item](#)



Executed after a Failed Insurrection

20. [Scotland].

[Mackenzie, Peter (1799-1875)].

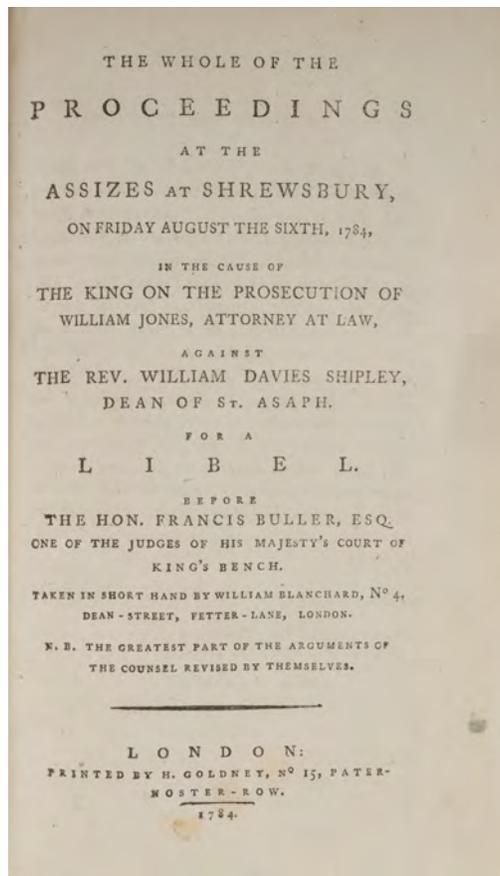
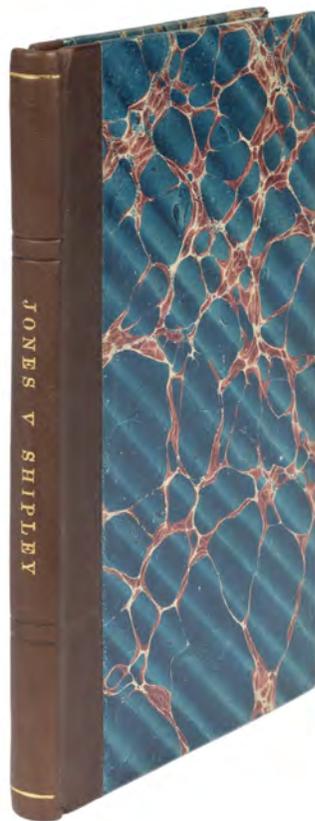
Wilson, James, Defendant [1760-1820].

The Trial of James Wilson, For High Treason, With an Account of His Execution at Glasgow, September, 1820, Etc. Etc. Now Respectfully Submitted to the Consideration of the Reformers of Glasgow, By Their Faithful and Devoted Servant, The Exposer of the Spy System, &c. &c. Glasgow: Printed and Published by Muir, Gowans, & Co., 1832. 48 pp. 3 parts in one with continuous pagination. Octavo (8" x 5").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Light toning, more moderate to pp. 17-32, light foxing and soiling in a few places. \$450.

* Only edition, issued first as three parts and then a composite edition. Wilson, a Scottish radical and would-be revolutionary, led a march on Glasgow after being fed information by British government spies who claimed that England was in the midst of an insurrection and that the French were assisting the rebels. This was not the case, and upon his return Wilson was arrested and executed in August of 1820. Mackenzie was a journalist who wrote about the British infiltration of radical networks.

OCLC locates 11 copies of this title, 4 in North America (Harvard, Princeton, New York Public Library, Queens University). *Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature* 27585. [Order This Item](#)



A Landmark Libel Case

21. Shipley, William Davies [1745-1826], Defendant.

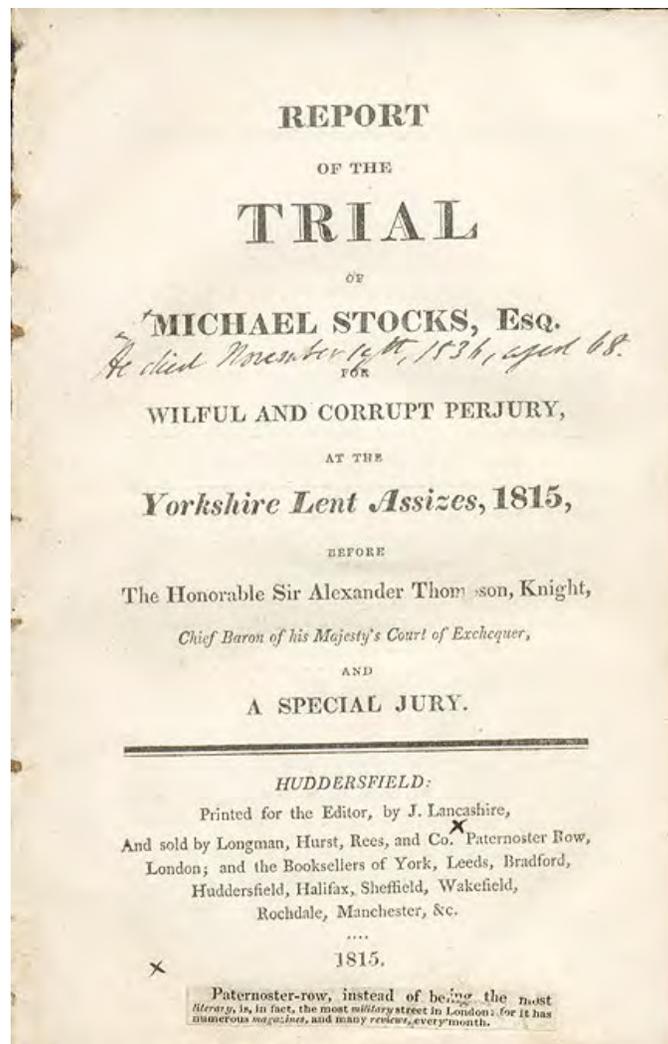
The Whole of the Proceedings at the Assizes at Shrewsbury, On Friday August the Sixth, 1784, In the Cause of the King on the Prosecution of William Jones, Attorney at Law, Against the Rev. William Davies Shipley, Dean of St. Asaph. For a Libel. Before the Hon. Francis Buller, Esq. One of the Judges of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench. Taken in Short Hand by William Blanchard [...] N.B. The Greatest Part of the Arguments of the Counsel Revised by Themselves. London: Printed by H. Goldney [and distributed gratis by the Society for Constitutional Information], 1784. [ii], 112 pp. Half-title lacking. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets to calf edges, gilt fillets and title to spine, endpapers and endleaves renewed. Light toning to interior, negligible light foxing to a few pages, light soiling to last page. \$1,250.

* Only edition, one of three issues from 1784. Shipley had promoted and reprinted a pamphlet by Sir William Jones (a relative by marriage) that advocated parliamentary reform. Though the pamphlet was relatively tame in its criticism, Shipley was prosecuted for seditious libel. The Society for Constitutional Information, an organization dedicated to the publishing and promotion of reform-minded material under the leadership of Horne Tooke, saw the prosecution as an ideal test case and engaged Thomas Erskine for the defense.

Unusually, the verdicts in seditious libel cases could only be decided by a judge and not a jury. Erskine's eloquent jury argument argued that this was unjust. Shipley was acquitted on appeal, but only on a technicality. Erskine used the case to argue for reform of seditious libel laws, which ultimately resulted in the Libel Act of 1792.

Our edition was printed and distributed by the Society. OCLC locates 2 copies, one in North America (General Theological Seminary); the ESTC adds 3 North American copies (Duke University, Harvard University, Harvard Law School). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T52458. [Order This Item](#)



A Hand in the Scuttle?

22. Stocks, Michael [d. 1836], Defendant.

Report of the Trial of Michael Stocks, Esq. For Wilful and Corrupt Perjury, At the Yorkshire Lent Assizes, 1815, Before the Honourable Sir Alexander Thompson, Knight, Chief Baron of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer, And a special jury. Huddersfield [England]: Printed for the Editor, By J. Lancashire, 1815. [iv], 109, [1] pp. Octavo (8" x 5").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title to spine. Moderate toning to text, newspaper article, "Last Moments of Jonathan Martin," pasted over errata list, the verso of p. 109, small newspaper clipping pasted to foot of title page. Early owner annotations to title page and following leaf, light soiling and minor edgewear to final two leaves, interior otherwise clean. \$500.

* Only edition, one of two issues, both from 1815. Stocks was accused of stealing and selling 10,000 tons of coal from mines in Northowram, in the West-Riding of Yorkshire, he owned in partnership with two other men. Stocks was not convicted. The trial details the contractual history of the partnership, discussing such contentious matters as the exact legal boundaries of neighboring mines and coal-pits and the nature of written and verbal agreements. Including both editions, OCLC locates 9 copies in North America, 5 in law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, Ohio State, University of Georgia, Yale). Not in the *British Museum Catalogue*. [Order This Item](#)



**Account of a Notorious Case of Election Bribery
Bound with Several Related Items**

23. Sykes, Francis [1730-1804], Defendant.

The Trial of the Cause on the Action Brought by Hans Wintrop Mortimer, Esq; Member for the Borough of Shaftesbury, Against Francis Sykes, Esq; For Bribery Committed at Shaftesbury, Previous to the General Election, In October, 1774. Tried by a Special Jury, On Saturday the 27th of July, 1776. At the Assize Held at Dorchester for the County of Dorset, Before The Honourable Sir James Eyre, One of the Barons of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer. [London?]: [S.n.], 1776. 19, [1] pp. Main text in parallel columns. Two later tipped-in leaves of notes, affixed to one of these leaves are a contemporary account of the trial and a section of a letter in Mortimer's hand, tipped-in contemporary 21" x 14" mezzotint by an unknown artist, *The Shaftesbury Election or the Humours of Punch* (1775), additional annotations about the mezzotint to front endleaves, one followed by two ownership inscriptions, affixed to one of these is a small clipping about the Mortimer family, broadside by Mortimer, *To the Worthy Electors of the Borough of Shaftesbury*, 1790 affixed to verso of title page. Quarto (9-3/4" x 7-1/2").

Nineteenth-century calf, rebaced in period style, gilt rules to boards, gilt fillets and retained nineteenth-century lettering piece to spine, hinges mended, marbled endleaves. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn. Moderate toning and light foxing to text, occasional early underlining and brief notes in pencil. Light soiling, minor edgewear and a few clean tears to mezzotint, one with early repair to verso. \$3,500.

* Only edition. The Shaftesbury Election of 1774 was perhaps the most notorious English example of a rigged election. "At the election of Sir Thomas Rumbold and Sir Francis Sykes, the two ministerial candidates for Shaftesbury in 1774, several thousand pounds were distributed to the voters.... The defeated candidate, Hans Mortimer, petitioned against the return on the ground of gross and notorious bribery by the members and their agents... The House of Commons resolved that Sykes, Rumbold and six members of the Corporation of Shaftesbury should be prosecuted for subornation of perjury; a bill was brought in for disfranchising Shaftesbury. These proceedings were eventually shelved, but while they were pending Mortimer brought actions... against Sykes for twenty-six acts of bribery, obtaining a verdict for twenty-two penalties amounting to £11,000' (*BMSatires*).

Our copy of *The Trial* belonged to two of Mortimer's descendants: J.W. Mortimer, who notes that he received this book and the mezzotint in 1821 from a Henry White, whose owner inscription is above, and Mark Mortimer, who wrote the tipped-in leaves of notes, one of which is dated 1856.

OCLC locates 8 copies *The Trial* in North America, 3 in law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, Yale). OCLC locates 3 copies of the mezzotint, 1 in North America (Yale). The tipped-in broadside appears to be unrecorded, no copies listed on OCLC or Library Hub. *British Museum Catalogue* (Compact Edition) 24:746. Stephens and George, *Catalogue of Political and Personal Satires in the Department of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum* (*BMSatires*) 5341. [Order This Item](#)



With a Duplicate Colored Frontispiece Annotated by George Cruikshank

24. Thistlewood, Arthur [1770-1820], Defendant.

Watson, James, Defendant.

Preston, Thomas, Defendant.

Hooper, John, Defendant.

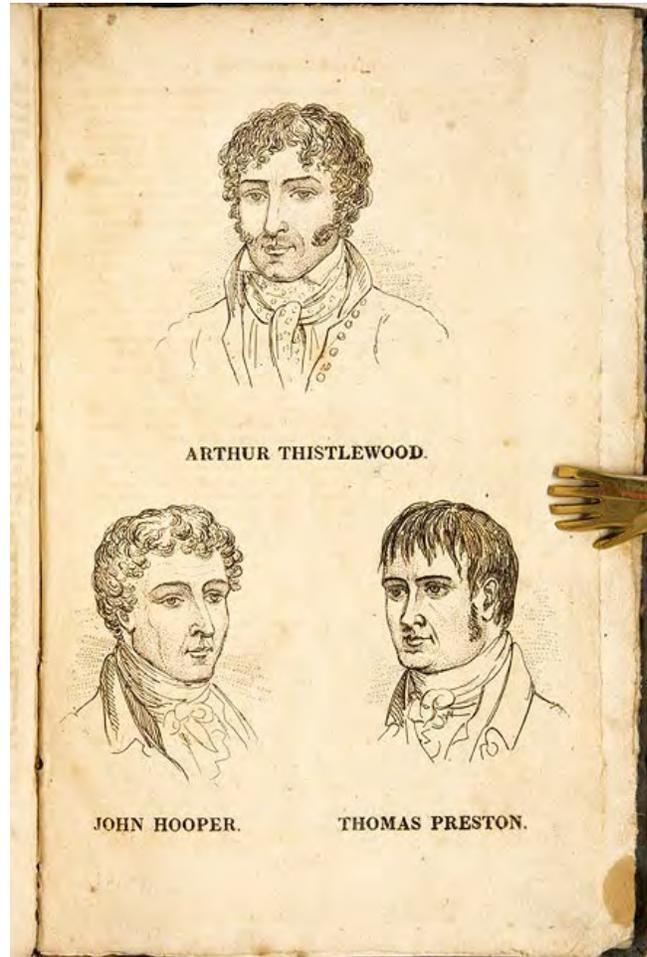
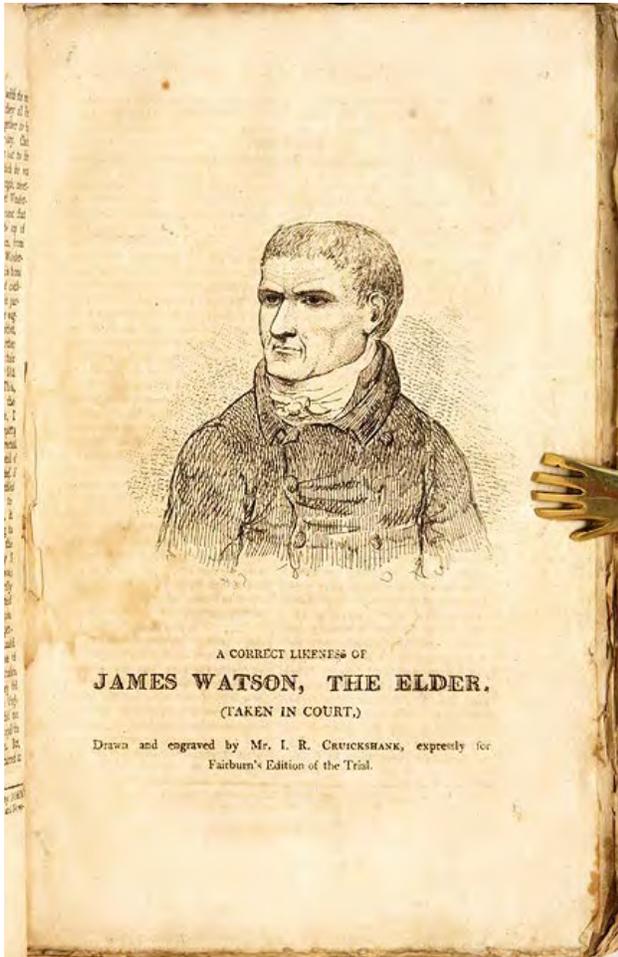
[Cruikshank, Isaac (1764-1811), Illustrator].

[Cruikshank, George (1792-1878), Annotation].

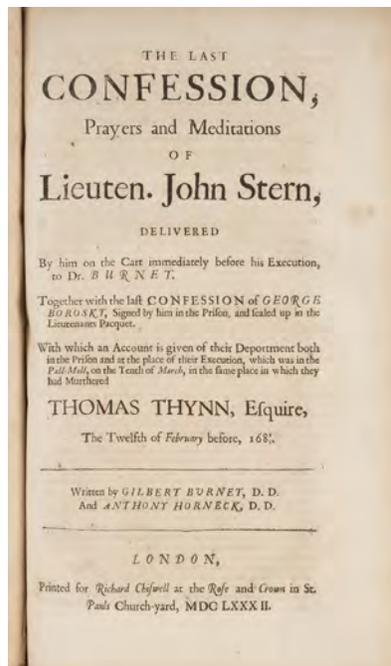
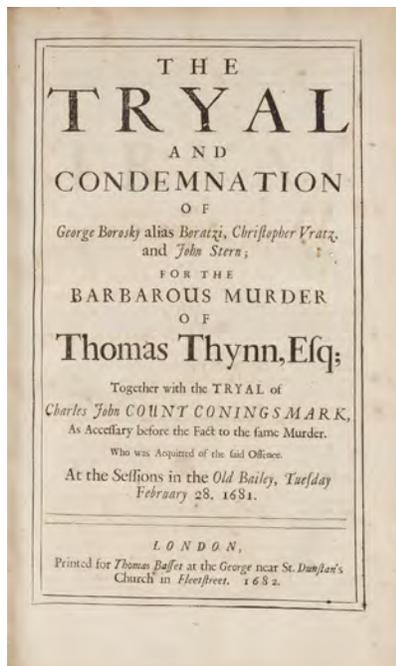
High Treason!! The Whole Proceedings on the Trial of Arthur Thistlewood, Gent. James Watson, The Elder, Surgeon, Thomas Preston, Cordwainer, And John Hooper, Labourer: Upon an Indictment Found Against Them for High Treason. Fairburn's Edition. London: [Printed by W. Marchant ; published by John Fairburn, 1817]. 23 parts, comprising 360 numbered columns. Folding frontispiece, two plates. Complete. Octavo (9" x 5-3/4").

Original plain paper-covered publisher boards with contrasting spine, untrimmed edges. Some soiling and staining, moderate edgewear, spine abraded and worn, front board detached, early owner signature (L. Palmer) and later owner bookplate of William Hartmann Woodin to front pastedown. Moderate toning to text, minor oil stains and dampstains to a few leaves. Brief annotations in pencil to front pastedown and verso folding plates, both entry references to Douglas's *Works of George Cruikshank*, interior otherwise clean. Duplicate of folding frontispiece, hand-colored, and with an annotation by George Cruikshank laid in. It is lightly soiled, lightly edgeworn and beginning to tear along fold lines, later reference annotation to Douglas bibliography to top margin. Items housed in a quarter-morocco over cloth slipcase with raised bands and gilt title to spine. Moderate rubbing to extremities. A unique copy of a rare title. \$950.

* Only edition. Thistlewood, Watson, Preston and Hooper were leaders of the Spencians, a group of English radicals who opposed private land ownership. They were indicted for treason when a mass audience at a Spencian rally at Spa Fields, Islington, England on 15 November and 2 December 1816 degenerated into a riotous mob. Watson was acquitted and the other three were released without trial. Fairburn's serialized account features a courtroom scene and portraits of the defendants by Isaac Cruikshank, who is not credited. The colored duplicate frontispiece has an annotation by his son George Cruikshank reading: "Not any of it by me-GCK." This remark illustrates how the work of the two men were often confused. Issac Cruikshank's work was often mistaken for his. This copy belonged to William Hartmann Woodin [1868-1934], an industrialist who served as a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York from 1927 to 1932 and briefly as treasury secretary under Franklin Roosevelt's in 1933. OCLC locates 3 copies (National Library of Australia, Oxford, University of Illinois).



[Order This Item](#)



Two Titles Related to the “Barbarous Murder” of Thomas Thynne

25. [Thynne, Thomas (1648-1682)].

The Tryal and Condemnation of George Borosky Alias Boratzki, Christopher Vratz, and John Stern; For the Barbarous Murder of Thomas Thynn, Esq; Together with the Tryal of Charles John Count Coningsmark, As Accessary before the Fact to the Same Murder. Who was Acquitted of the Said Offence. At the Sessions in the Old Bailey, Tuesday February 28. 1681. London: Printed for Thomas Basset, 1682. [vi], 56 pp. Recent photostat of a c.1734 copperplate depiction of the murder bound after imprimatur leaf.

[Bound With]

Burnet, Gilbert [1643-1715].

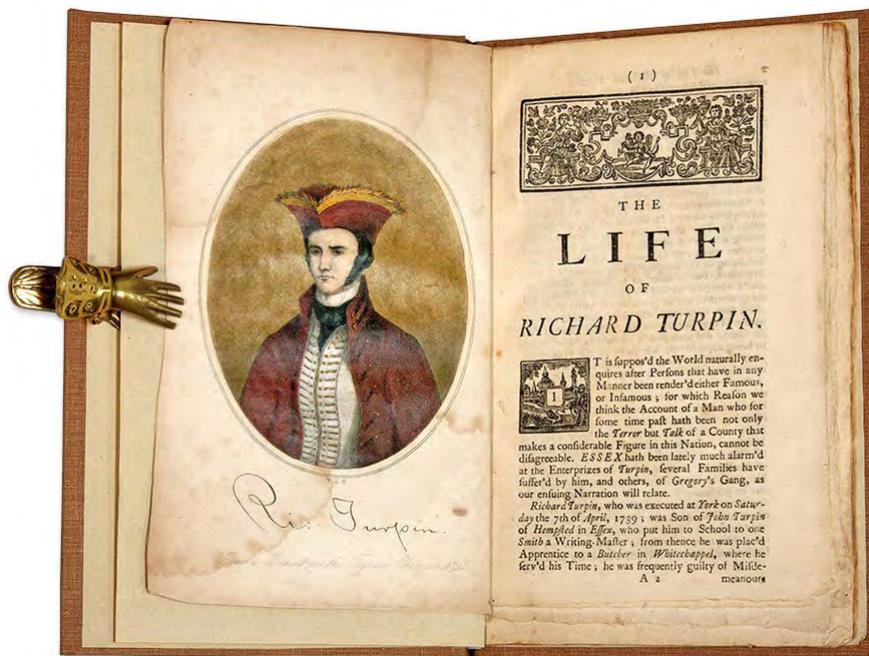
Horneck, Anthony [1641-1697].

The Last Confession, Prayers and Meditations of Lieuten. John Stern, Delivered by Him on the Cart Immediately Before His Execution, To Dr. Burnet. Together with the Last Confession of George Borosky, Signed by Him in the Prison, And Sealed Up in the Lieutenants Pacquet. With Which an Account is Given of their Deportment Both in the Prison and at the Place of their Execution, Which was in the Pall-Mall, On the Tenth of March, In the Same Place in which they had Murdered Thomas Thynn, Esquire, The Twelfth of February before, 1681/2. London: Printed for Richard Chiswell, 1682. [ii], 12, 15-28 pp. Complete.

Folio (12" x 6-3/4"). Stab-stitched pamphlets bound into recent quarter cloth over marbled boards, edges rouged. Moderate toning to interior, occasional light foxing and soiling, light spotting in a few places. Leaf of early ms. notes describing execution of defendants bound between titles. \$650.

* Only editions. While riding in his coach on February 12, 1862, Thomas Thynne was shot by three men, George Borosky, Christopher Vratz and John Stern. The three were suspected to have acted on the orders of Count Karl Johann von Konigsmark, who had been pursuing an affair with Thynne's wife. All four were arrested, and Konigsmark was charged as an accessory before the fact. The trial was apparently fraught with language barriers, since the men were all foreign nationals, but the three primary defendants were duly convicted and hanged on March 10, 1682. Konigsmark escaped the noose himself, to some controversy.

The ESTC indicates a portrait frontispiece to the *Tryal*, but we have found many copies catalogued without the plate and our copy lacks any offsetting, suggesting that plates were inserted later and only into some copies. Our photostat is of a different plate. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R235837, R35457. [Order This Item](#)



Unrecorded Imprint with an Added Hand-Colored Portrait of the Criminal

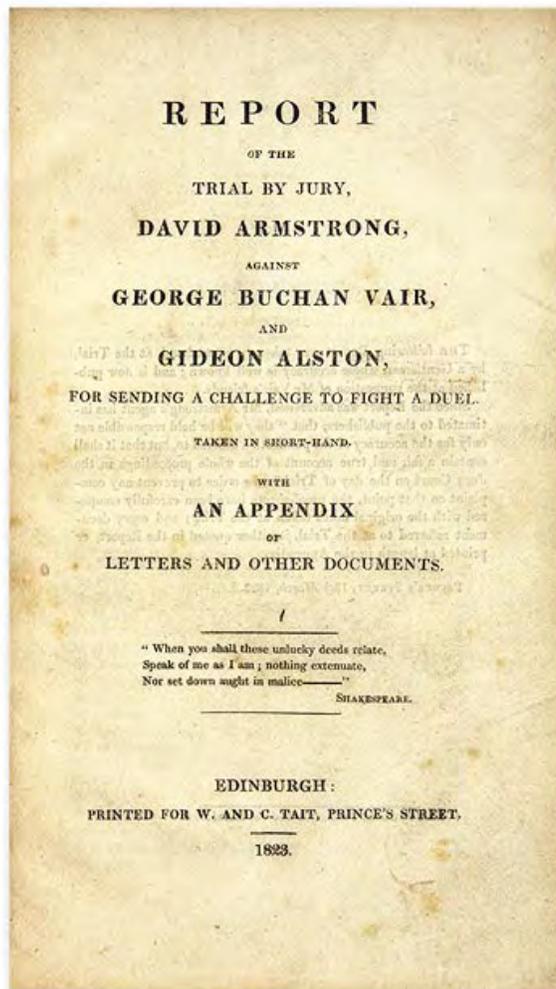
26. Turpin, Richard [c.1705-1739], Defendant.

Kyll, Thomas, Reporter.

The Whole Life and Trial at Large of the Notorious Highwayman Richard Turpin, At York Assizes, On the 22d Day of March, 1739, Before the Hon. Sir William Chapple, Knt. Judge of Assize, And One of His Majesty's Justices of the Court of King's Bench. Taken Down in Court by Mr. Thomas Kyll, Professor of Short-Hand. To Which is Prefix'd, An Exact Account of the Said Turpin, From His First Coming Into Yorkshire, To the Time of His Being Committed Prisoner to York Castle; Communicated by Mr. Appleton of Beverly, Clerk of the Peace for the East-Riding of the Said County. With a Copy of a Letter which Turpin Received from his Father, While Under Sentence of Death. To which is Added, His Behaviour at the Place of Execution, On Saturday the 7th of April, 1739. Together with the Whole Confession he Made to the Hangman at the Gallows; Wherein he Acknowledg'd Himself Guilty of the Facts for Which he Suffer'd, Own'd the Murder of Mr. Thompson's Servant on Epping-Forest, And Gave a Particular Account of Several Robberies which he Had Committed. The Sixth Edition. To Which is Prefix'd, a Large and Genuine History of the Life of Turpin, From his Birth to his Execution; And of All his Transactions and Robberies, And the Various Methods he Took to Conceal himself. The Whole Grounded on Well-Attested Facts, And Communicated by Mr. Richard Bayes, At the Green Man on Epping-Forest, and Other Persons of the County of Essex. York: Printed by Ward and Chandler Booksellers, At their Printing-Office in Coney-Street; And Sold at Their Shop without Temple-Bar, London, 1739. (Price Sixpence). [vi], [2], 18, iii-vii, [1], [3]-25, [1] pp. Copperplate portrait frontispiece of Richard "Dicky" Dickinson. Added Colored portrait of Turpin dated 1742 preceding p. iii. Complete. Octavo (8" x 5").

Stab-stitched pamphlet with untrimmed edges bound into recent cloth, gilt title to spine, small bookplate (Waite Collection) to front pastedown. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing to title page and a few other leaves, faint dampstaining to margins of Turpin portrait. \$1,850.

* Sixth edition. Turpin, a charismatic highwayman, was one of the "media sensations" of his day, especially after his execution for horse theft. Not related to the text, the frontispiece depicts Richard "Dicky" Dickinson was a popular eccentric who managed a spa house in the fashionable spa town of Scarborough, North Yorkshire. The publisher's preface says it was included as a bonus. All editions by Ward and Chandler are rare, with no copies this edition found on OCLC or COPAC. Not in the *English Short-Title Catalogue*. [Order This Item](#)



Trial of a Would-Be Scottish Duelist

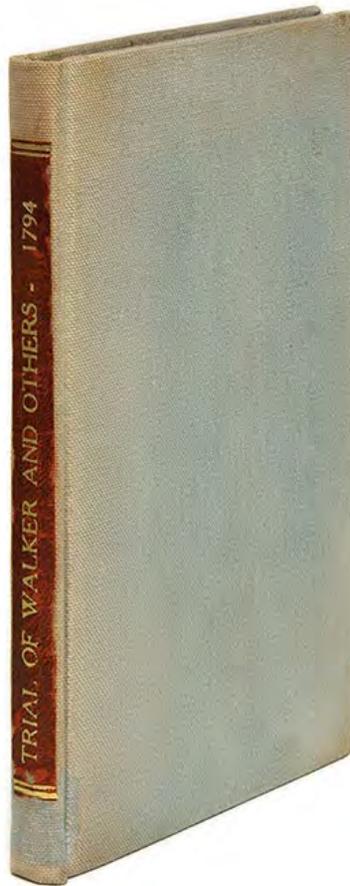
27. Vair, George Buchan, Defendant.

Alston, Gideon, Defendant.

Report of the Trial by Jury, David Armstrong, Against George Buchan Vair, and Gideon Alston, For Sending a Challenge to Fight a Duel. Taken in Short-Hand. With an Appendix of Letters and Other Documents. Edinburgh: Printed for W. and C. Tait, 1823. iv, 134, [2] pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5").

Contemporary calf with later rebacking, blind fillets to boards, gilt title to spine, hinges mended. Moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn, some gatoring along joints. Moderate toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, internally clean. \$400.

* Only edition. Vair, a spirit-dealer in Leith, was apparently engaged to Miss Dinah Grive, "a lady in Dumfries." He objected to inappropriate attentions paid her by David Armstrong, a writer. Vair alleged that Armstrong had caused the lady to break off her engagement and was therefore entitled to challenge him to a duel. Armstrong refused the challenge, won the court case and was awarded 20 pounds in damages. OCLC locates 4 copies in North American law libraries (LA County, Library of Congress, Social Law, University of Pennsylvania). [Order This Item](#)



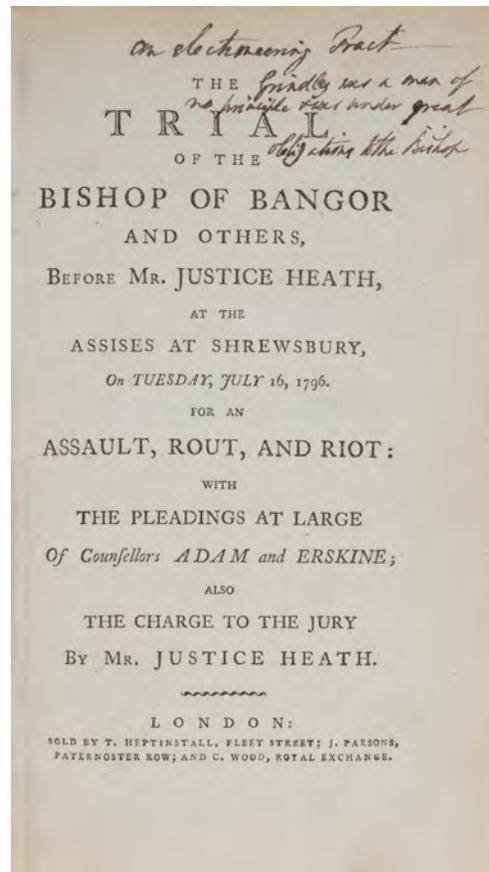
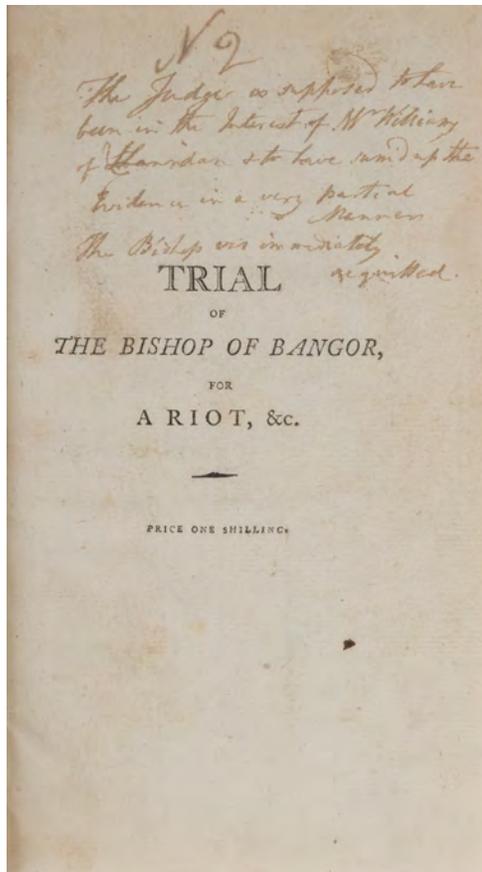
Treason Trial of a Notable Manchester Cotton Merchant and Political Radical

**28. Walker, Thomas [1749-1817], Principal Defendant.
Gurney, Joseph [1744-1815], Reporter.**

The Whole Proceedings on the Trial of an Indictment Against Thomas Walker of Manchester, Merchant, William Paul, Samuel Jackson, James Cheetham, Oliver Pearsall, Benjamin Booth, And Joseph Collier; For a Conspiracy to Overthrow the Constitution and Government, And to Aid and Assist the French, (Being the King's Enemies) in Case they Should Invade this Kingdom. Tried at the Assizes at Lancaster, April 2, 1794, Before the Hon. Mr. Justice Heath, One of the Judges of His Majesty's Court of Common Pleas. Taken in Short-Hand by Joseph Gurney. Manchester: Printed for T. Boden, 1794. xvi, 134, [2] pp. With a half-title and errata leaf. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4").

Later library cloth, calf lettering piece to spine. Light soiling and shelfwear, light chipping to edges of lettering piece. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, light foxing to a few leaves, library stamp to title page, library mark in pencil to verso. \$250.

* Only edition. A cotton merchant by trade, Walker was a well-connected radical and social reformer. His circle of friends and acquaintances included Thomas Paine, Charles James Fox, Josiah Wedgwood, Joseph Priestley and John Horne Tooke. He and his friends aroused suspicion during the anti-radical hysteria in Great Britain that followed the outbreak of the French Revolution. That was the basis of the treason trial of Walker and several of his associates. The defence was conducted by Thomas Erskine. The trial showed that the evidence was perjured, so the charge was abandoned. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T81558. [Order This Item](#)



"Assault, Rout, and Riot"

29. Warren, John [1730-1800], Defendant.

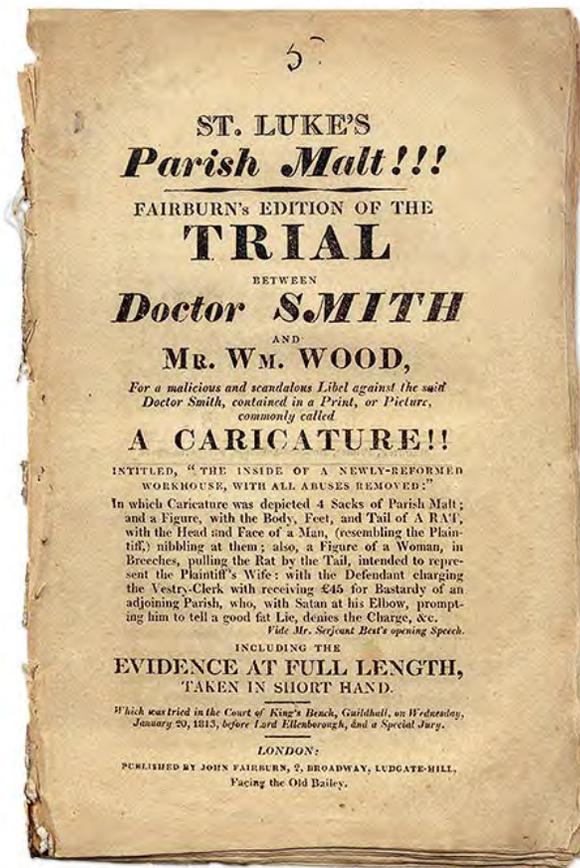
The Trial of the Bishop of Bangor and Others, Before Mr. Justice Heath, At the Assises at Shrewsbury, On Tuesday, July 16, 1796. For an Assault, Rout, And Riot: With the Pleadings at Large of Counsellors Adam and Erskine; Also the Charge to the Jury by Mr. Justice Heath. London: Sold by T. Hepinstall, J. Parsons, And C. Wood, [1796]. 47, [1] pp. Octavo (8-1/4" x 4-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound in later quarter cloth over plain boards, gilt fillets and title to spine. Light toning to boards, small scuff to front board, light fading to edges of rear board, small later ink annotations to front free endpaper and rear pastedown. Light toning to interior, light foxing and soiling in a few places, contemporary notes in ink to half-title and title page with underlining and marginal marks to a few other pages, ownership signature (of Peter Bailey Williams) dated 1794 to verso of final leaf. \$1,250.

* First edition. Warren, the bishop of Bangor in northwest Wales, had appointed his nephew as registrar of the diocese. Since the nephew was underage, Samuel Grindley was appointed deputy registrar, but when the nephew attempted to replace him, he refused to leave his office. A fight broke out between Grindley and Warren with others joining the bishop's side. At one point, Grindley threatened Warren with a pistol, and the fight did not conclude until the bishop's wife intervened and dragged Warren away. Erskine was engaged for the defense and secured an acquittal despite the judge's summing-up in favor of conviction.

The notes to the half-title and title page remark (somewhat disparagingly) on the case. Williams [1763-1836] was a Welsh Anglican rector in Caernarfonshire.

OCLC locates 11 copies of this title, 4 in North America (Library of Congress, Newberry Library, Huntington Library, Redwood Library and Athenaeum). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T191335. [Order This Item](#)



**"A Figure with the Body, Feet, And Tail of a Rat,
With the Head and Face of a Man, (Resembling the Plaintiff)"**

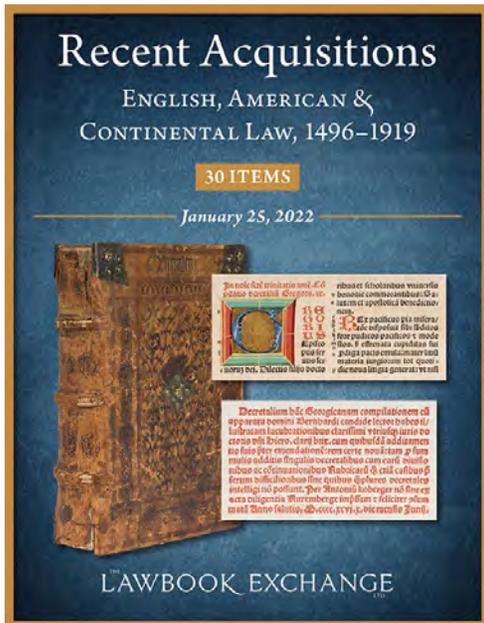
30. Wood, William, Defendant.

St. Luke's Parish Malt!!! Fairburn's Edition of the Trial Between Doctor Smith and Mr. Wm. Wood: For a Malicious and Scandalous Libel Against the Said Doctor Smith, Contained in a Print, Or Picture, Commonly Called a Caricature!! Intituled, "The Inside of a Newly-Reformed Workhouse with All Abuses Removed": In Which Caricature was Depicted 4 Sacks of Parish Malt and a Figure with the Body, Feet, And Tail of a Rat, With the Head and Face of a Man, (Resembling the Plaintiff), Nibbling at Them: Also a Figure of a Women in Breeches, Pulling the Rat by the Tail Intended to Represent the Plaintiff's Wife: With the Defendant Charging the Vestry-Clerk with Receiving £45 for Bastardy of an Adjoining Parish who with Satan at his Elbow, Prompting Him to Tell a Good Fat Lie, Denies the Charge, &c.: Including the Evidence at Full Length, Taken in Short Hand. Which was Tried in the Court of King's Bench, Guildhall, On Wednesday, January 20, 1813, Before Lord Ellenborough, And a Special Jury. London: Published by John Fairburn, [1813]. 24 pp. Octavo (8" x 5-1/4").

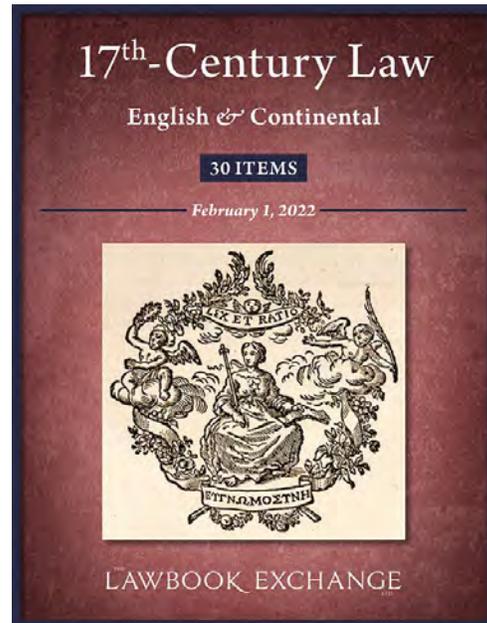
Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Light browning and foxing, moderate edgewear, final few leaves partially detached, negligible light soiling to exterior, "5" in early hand to head of front wrapper. A rare title. \$750.

* First and only edition. "This was an action brought by John Smith, a surgeon and apothecary, (...) against William Wood, a boot and shoe maker, (...), in the same parish; to recover a compensation in damages for publishing a gross, scandalous, and malicious, libel, in the form of a caricature picture, or print, (...) tending to injure and defame the character of the plaintiff.-The damages were laid at one thousand pounds" (pp. 3-4). The court found for the defendant. OCLC locates 1 copy (Cornell University). *Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School* (1909) II:1191. [Order This Item](#)

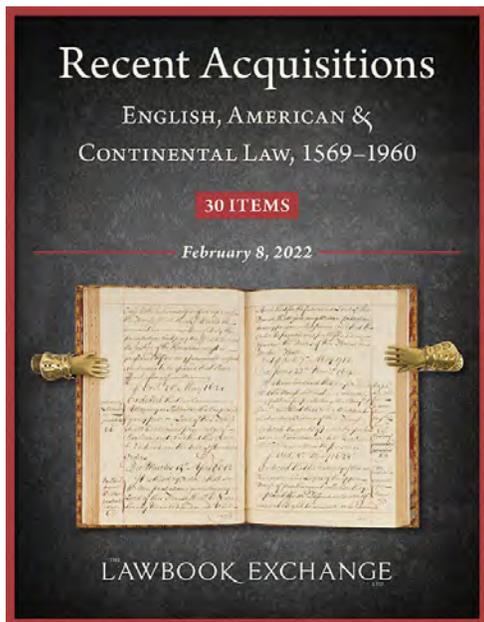
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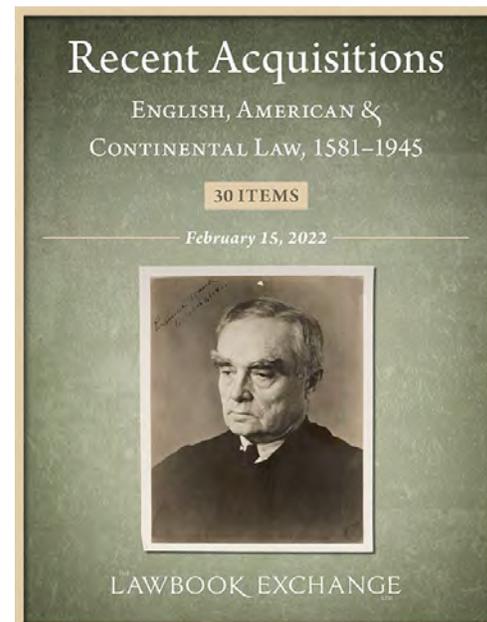
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