

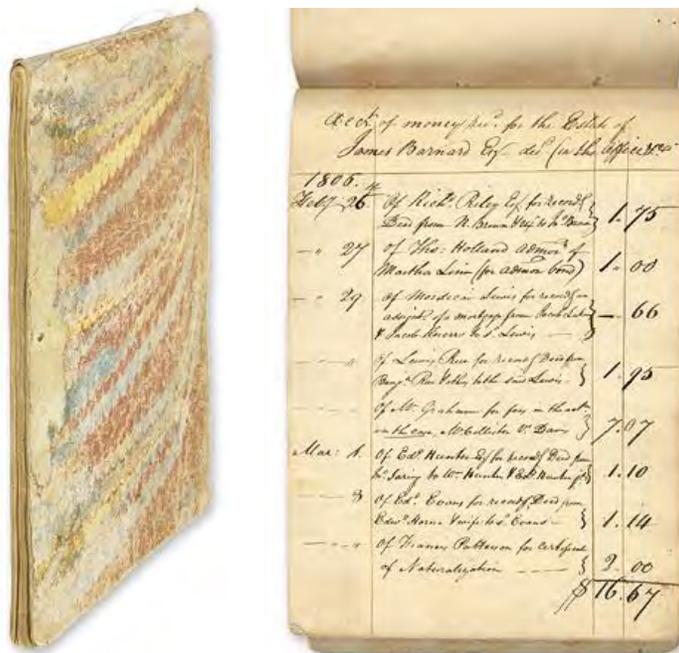
MANUSCRIPTS

30 ITEMS

September 8, 2020



THE
LAWBOOK EXCHANGE
LTD.



Early Nineteenth-Century
Manuscript Account Book of Pennsylvania Lawyers

1. [Barnard, James (1755-1806)].

[Barnard, Isaac D. (1791-1834)].

[Barnard, Thomas D. (1793-1873)].

[*Acct. of Money Recd. for the Estate of James Barnard, Esq. Decd. in the Office, Etc.*]

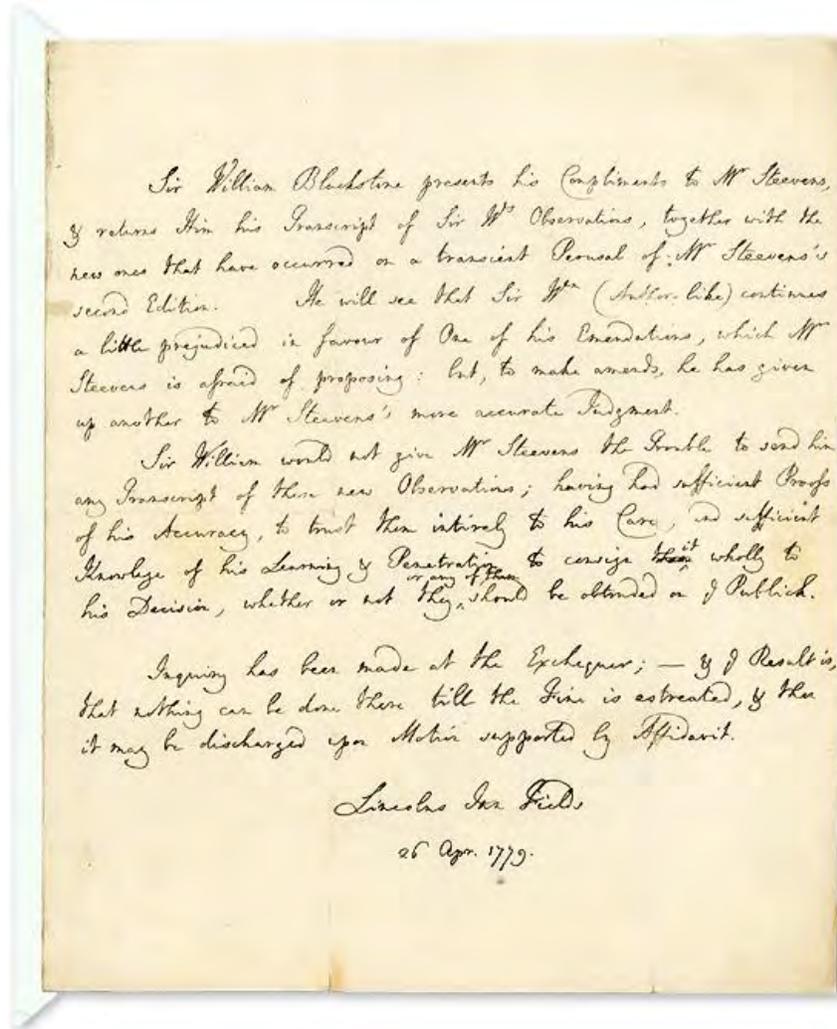
[And]

[*Acct. of Money Recd. by Isaac D. Barnard Belonging to His Late Father's Estate*]. Chester, PA, February, 26 1806-August 22, 1845. Content in fine hand filling 23 pp. followed by several blank leaves, final six excised. Oblong octavo (8" x 5-1/2").

Stiff marbled sewn wrappers. Moderate rubbing to exterior, some wear to spine and corners, light toning to interior. \$650.

* James Barnard of Chester, Pennsylvania, was married to Susannah Dutton. James served as sheriff, registrar, recorder, prothonotary and clerk of the courts in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The Barnards had eight children. The eldest son, James Day Barnard, a lawyer, died at 25, a few months after his father's death. Upon his father and brother's death, the eldest surviving male Barnard, Isaac, received, or perhaps he personally recorded, his brother's outstanding legal fees and his father's estate assets and accounts recorded in this manuscript notebook. Like his deceased elder brother, Isaac studied law and was admitted to the Pennsylvania bar in 1816, after notable service as a major in the War of 1812. He served terms in the Pennsylvania State Senate and U.S. Senate.

The accounts are notable as the first segment records all of the monies collected for various legal work performed by Isaac's older brother, James, from recording judgments, estate administration, vendue matters, for certificates for naturalization of citizenship, or for fees earned for specific cases (*Gibbons v. Riley*, *Miles v. Adams*, *McElroy v. Hibbard*, etc.). These accounts span 1806-1807 and suggest that the fees within must have been collected posthumously by Isaac for services performed before his brother's death. The notebook's second segment records moneys earned by the father in office, primarily for recording deeds. Again, the chronology suggests a similar scenario as the notebook's first segment. There are also several leaves of entries with much later dates recording monies received by Thomas Barnard. All accounts are clearly legible and amounts of fees charged for all legal services are provided. In all, this record provides a fine image, in microcosm, of legal costs on Pennsylvania during the early nineteenth century. [Order This Item](#)



Blackstone Discusses Shakespeare

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

[Steevens, George (1736-1800)].

[Autograph Letter (in Third Person) to George Steevens, London, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 26 April 1779].

9-1/2" x 7-1/2" bifolium, one page of text, archival guard at inner edge. Light toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines. \$8,500.

* Addressed to the eminent Shakespearean George Steevens, the letter discusses Blackstone's critical notes on Shakespeare, which were ultimately published the following year (after his death) in Edmund Malone's supplement to the 1778 edition of Shakespeare's plays by Samuel Johnson and George Steevens. Blackstone returns a transcription of the notes "together with the new ones that have occurred on a transient Perusal of Mr Steevens's second edition. He will see that Sir W[illia]m (Author-like) continues a little prejudiced in favour of One of his Emendations, which Mr Steevens is afraid of proposing; but, to make amends, he has given up another to Mr Steevens's more accurate Judgement." He adds that there is no need to send a transcript of the new "observations," and concludes with a note on a legal case: "Inquiry has been made at the Exchequer; - & [the] Result is, that nothing can be done there till the Fine is estreated, & then it may be discharged upon Motion supported by Affidavit." [Order This Item](#)



"Diabolical and Against the Order of Nature"

4. [Buggery].
[Virginia].

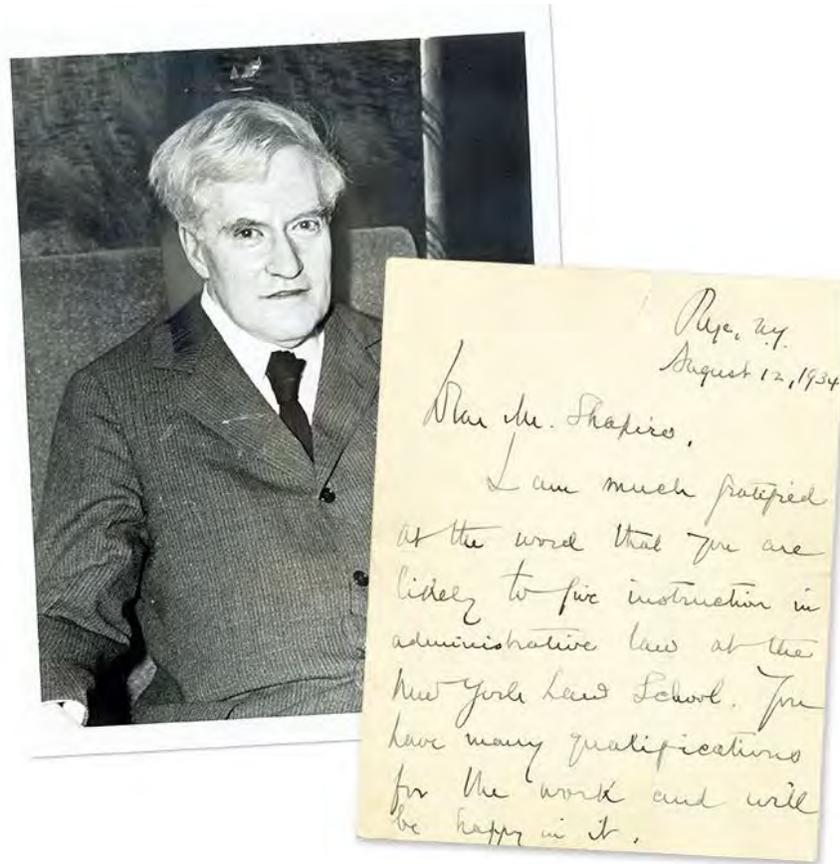
[Documents Relating to an Act of Buggery Between a Man and a Horse].

[Culpepper County, VA, 1846, 1848, 1849]. Bifolium bench warrant, 12-1/2" x 7-1/2", dated October, 28, 1846, docketed on verso of second leaf, two writs of capias, 8" x 6" dated September 14, 1848 and March 13, 1849, both docketed on versos. Three items in all.

Light browning, minor dampstaining and some edgewear, horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears. Content in neat hand. \$1,500.

* These documents relate to the indictment and attempted arrest of Joseph Hackley for the "feloniously, wickedly diabolical and against the order of nature, detestable and abominable crime of Buggery" with a "black mare." The bench warrant is signed by Judge Richard H. Field and countersigned "Wm M. Huffman." The verso is docketed 4 times by 3 different people. The docket notations show a committed judge and a clever felon. The first orders his arrest. The second notation reads: "I cannot execute this Warrant the party Joseph having left this County." The third and fourth notations show the warrant was reissued on June 5th and October 23rd, 1848. Annotations to the writs of capias, issued to the sheriff of Culpepper County on September 14, 1848 and March 13, 1849, show that Hackley was never located.

[Order This Item](#)



Cardozo ALS Concerning the Ethics of Writing a Reference Letter with a Photo

5. Cardozo, Benjamin N. [1870-1938].

[Shapiro, Harold].

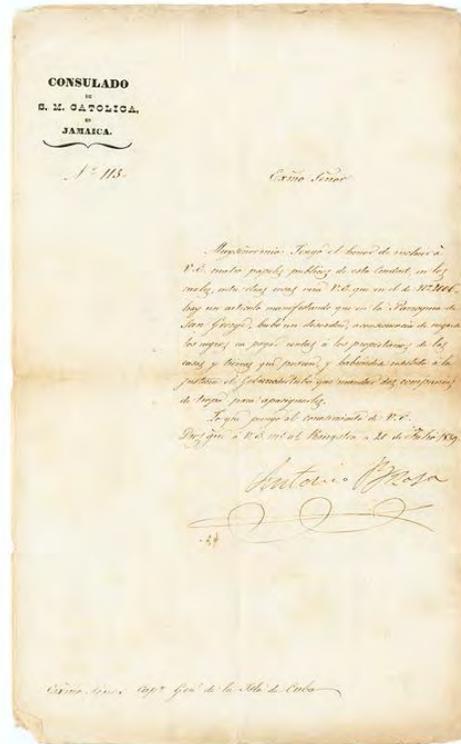
[Autograph Letter, Signed, To Harold Shapiro on U.S. Supreme Court Letterhead]. Rye, NY, August 12, 1934. Single sheet folded to form four 6-1/2" x 5" leaves. Faint mark to top edge from paper clip, horizontal fold lines, otherwise fine.

[With]

Cardozo, Benjamin N.

[6-1/2" x 8-1/2" Black-and-White Photograph of Cardozo]. [New York: Acme News Agency, January 10, 1938]. Light wear to edges, faint crop marks and minor retouching to image, stamps, annotation and caption to verso. \$1,500.

* This letter concerns a request for a recommendation. Shapiro was a lawyer and legal writer involved with trade and anti-trust regulation during the New Deal. In 1934 he applied for a teaching position at New York Law School and asked Cardozo to support his candidacy with a recommendation letter. Although he believed Shapiro was qualified for the position, he wrote: "As for writing to the Dean, I have a fixed rule never to recommend anyone for appointment to a position of any kind unless my opinion has been solicited by the appointing power. You will agree with me, when you reflect about the matter, that this is the only appropriate attitude for a judge to take." Cardozo thus appealed to Shapiro as a fellow lawyer to explain the necessity of impartiality. It is indicative of Cardozo's personality that he doesn't flaunt his status as a Supreme Court justice; he simply calls himself a "judge." The caption of the photo reads (in part): "Justice Cardozo, Ill, Ordered to rest--Although slight improvement has been noted in the condition of Supreme court Justice Benjamin Cardozo (above), who has been ill from heart attacks and shingles, he has been ordered to remain absolutely quiet for some time." [Order This Item](#)



Anxiety About the Effects of Abolition in Jamaica

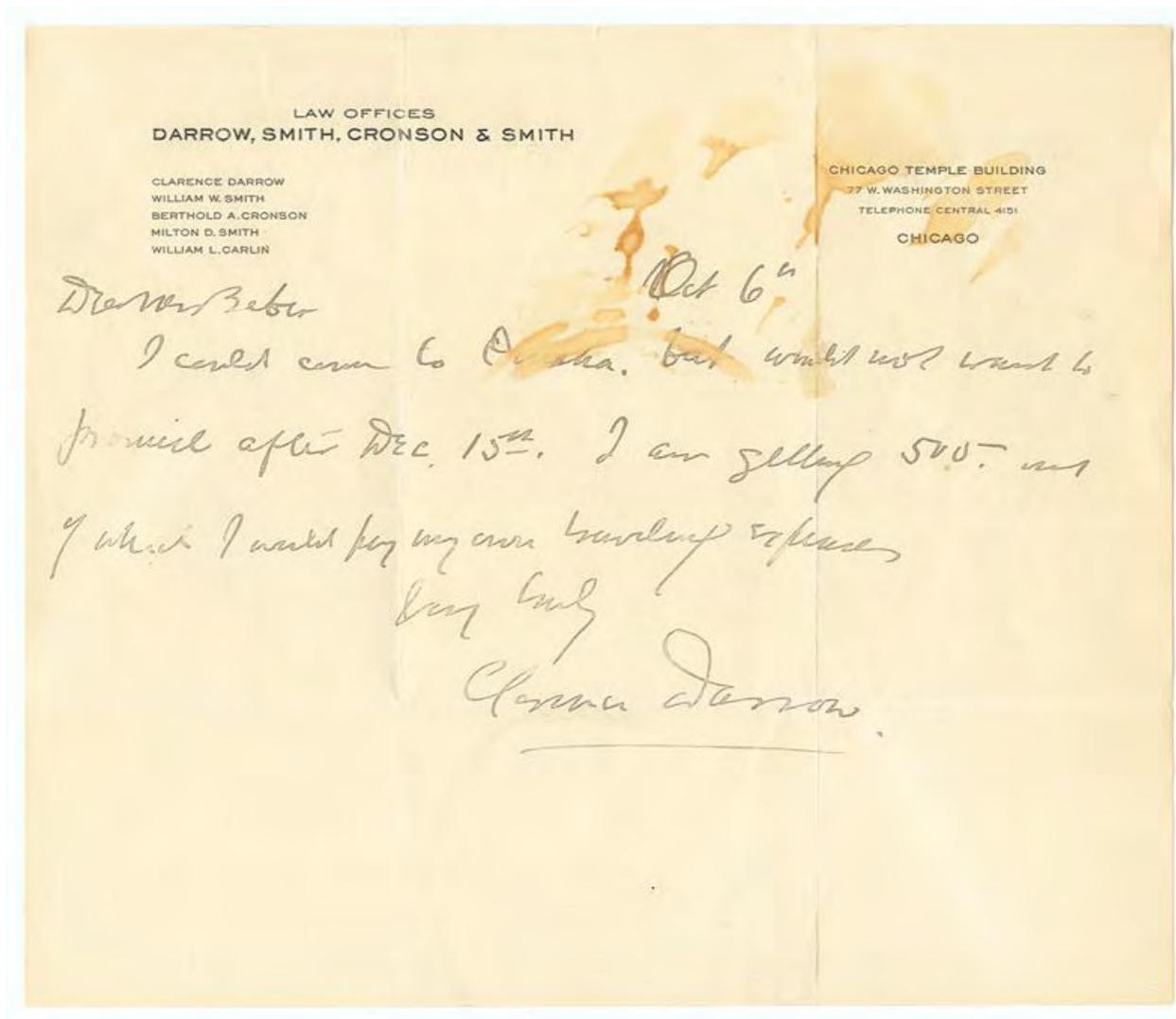
6. [Cuba].
[Jamaica].
[Brosa, Antonio].
[Duquesnay, Carlos].

[Three Letters Reporting on Slavery on the Letterhead of the Cuban Consulate in Jamaica]. Jamaica, 1839-1842.

Three letters, 8" x 12-3/4," manuscript in ink. Two letters, dated March 28, 1839 and July 20, 1839, are single leaves with blank versos. The third, dated August 3, 1842, is a bifolium with content on recto of the first leaf. This letter encloses a bifolium addendum dated August 23, 1842, 6" x 8-1/2," with content on recto of the first leaf.

Moderate toning and foxing, some edgewear, faint fold lines, minor burn through, a few minor tears and worm holes, very good overall. \$2,500.

* These letters were written at a time when the Cuban government had a constant fear of its slave and free-black population. The Haitian Revolution was a fairly recent event, the abolition movement was becoming more popular and there was constant talk about slave insurrections. What's more, Cuba was a nation in a region with a majority population of free, enslaved and recently emancipated people of African origin. Addressed to the Capitan General de la Isla de Cuba from the consulate in Jamaica, these letters record impressions about the effects of abolition, which occurred in stages between 1834 and 1838. They were dispatched by two consular officials, Antonio Brosa and Carlos Duquesnay. The first letter, from March 28, 1839, reports that his troop level has dwindled down to 1,300 men, including 100 "negroes." He is concerned about the effectiveness of this force and doubts the loyalty of his "negro" soldiers. The other letter by Brosa, dated July 20, 1839, requests a company of troops to address a "disorder" resulting from a group of "negroes" refusing to pay their rent. The Letter from Duquesnay, reports on a series of "disruptions" caused by "los emancipados." Taken together, these letters record the anxiety of Cuba's governing class over the shifting dynamics of slavery. [Order This Item](#)

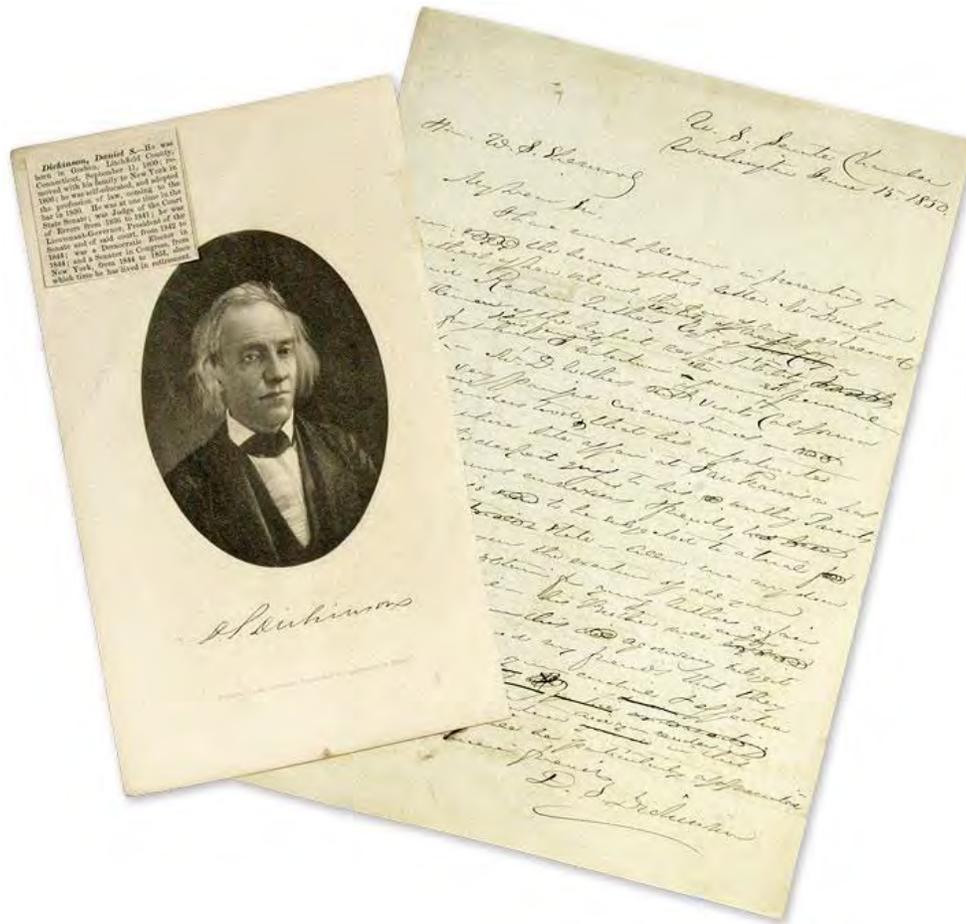


Darrow Discusses an Issue in Omaha

7. Darrow, Clarence [1857-1938].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, On the Letterhead of Darrow, Smith, Cronson & Smith, October 6 (1925-1929)]. Single 8-1/2" x 7-1/4" sheet. Some toning, two fold lines, one horizontal and one vertical, faint coffee stain near upper right hand corner, otherwise fine. \$1,000.

* Addressed to a Mr. Becker (or Beber) and signed by a bold signature, this note relates to a business or legal matter in Omaha, Nebraska. It reads (in part): "I could come to Omaha, but would not want to promise after Dec 15th. I am selling 500-, [illegible] of which I would pay my own traveling expense." The firm of Darrow, Smith, Cronson & Smith existed from 1925 to 1929. Darrow's relationship with these attorneys began when he opposed them during the trial of Leopold and Loeb. [Order This Item](#)



**Letter Regarding a California Trial
for the 1849 Murder of an African-American**

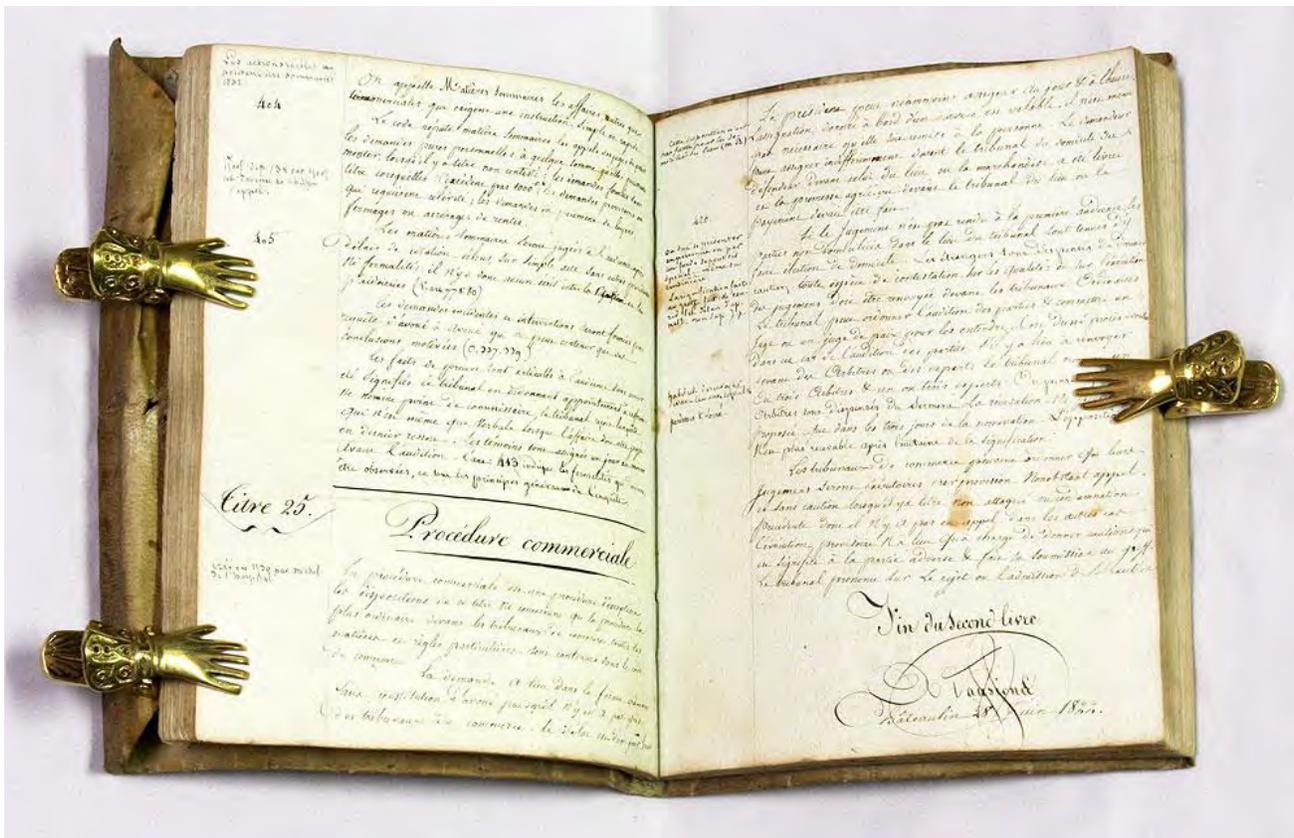
8. Dickinson, [D]aniel S. [1800-1866)].

[Sherwood, Winfield S. (1817-1865)].

[Draft of Autograph Letter, Signed, to Winfield Scott Sherwood, Washington, DC, U.S. Senate Chamber, 1850].

Single 10-3/4" x 8" leaf, docketed on verso, some toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines, a few later annotations in tiny hand. Letter accompanied by biographical sketch clipped from a contemporary source and a lithograph portrait plate removed from an unidentified book. \$500.

* A retained draft of a letter by Daniel S. Dickinson, a U.S. Senator from New York, concerning the trial of Reuben Withers Jr. for the murder in California of an African-American named "Bones." Addressed to former New York politician Winfield S. Sherwood, a signer of the California Constitution of 1849, candidate for governor, and later district judge, the letter introduces Reuben Withers's brother, New Orleans banker Dunham Withers, and asks Sherwood to make sure Reuben receives a fair trial. Reuben Withers Sr. was president of the Bank of New York; his son Dunham was a representative to the southern states for the New York banking firm of Howland & Aspinwall. David Dunham Withers of New Orleans was a noted thoroughbred horseman and president of the racing organization that became the Jockey Club. Senator Daniel S. Dickinson previously served as lieutenant governor of New York and later as its 27th attorney general. Dickinson was a potential candidate in 1864 for vice president to Abraham Lincoln. [Order This Item](#)



Handsome French Manuscript on Procedure from 1821

9. [France].

Procédure. Rennes, France, 1821. 100 pp. Quarto (8" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary limp vellum with flap, tie lacking. Light soiling and a few minor stains and tiny holes, spine ends bumped, vellum beginning to crack through pastedowns, which have some worming. Light toning to text, some soiling to title page, burn-through from a few letters of title (due to acidic ink). Text in small elegant hand to rectos and versos of 41 leaves, most beginnings and ends of most sections have calligraphic decorations. Handsome. \$750.

* Carefully organized and written with fine penmanship, this is a fair copy of lecture notes on procedure. It is arranged in three books with chapters (titles) and furnished with side-notes. The final six leaves, in the same hand, are a collection of poems (on non-legal subjects). [Order This Item](#)

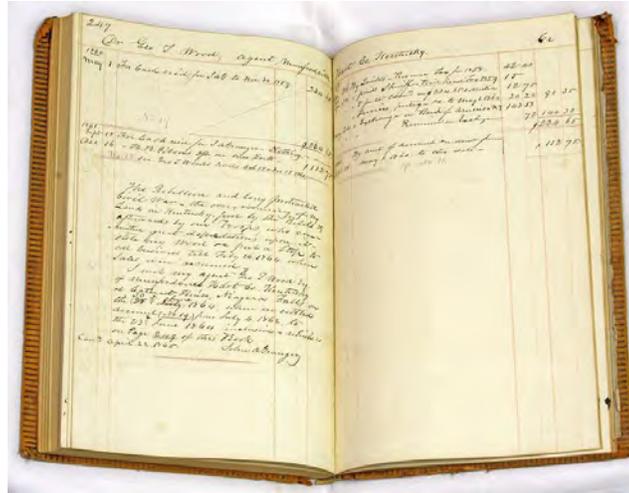


Frankfurter Quotes Holmes

10. Frankfurter, Felix [1882-1965].

[*Typed Letter, Signed, On Harvard Law School Letterhead, November 5, 1932*]. Single 8" x 5-1/2" sheet and 6" x 3-1/2" envelope. Some toning, two horizontal fold lines to letter, which has a full signature. Items housed in handsome recent cloth solander case with calf lettering piece. \$650.

* Friendly letter to Alice Strong, who was compiling an anthology of quotations. It appears she asked Frankfurter for a suggestion. He writes, "I should like to offer...Mr. Justice Holmes' words: 'The mode by which the inevitable comes to pass is effort.'" It appears that Strong never completed (or published) her anthology. This letter was part of the collection of James S. Copley, the newspaper publisher and bibliophile. [Order This Item](#)



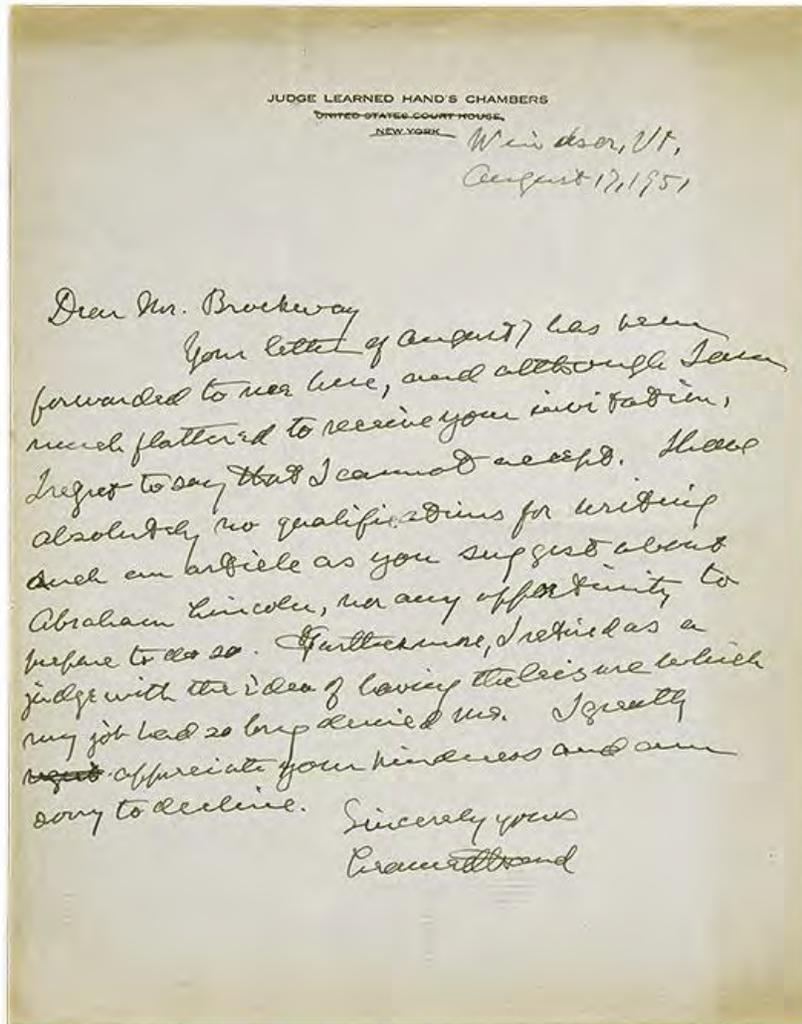
Ledger Detailing the Sale of Lands from "Granger's Great Tract" in Kentucky

11. [Granger (Grainger), John A. (1795-1870)].

List of Kentucky Land and Sales, January 22, 1845. [New York?, 1845-1868]. 280 pp. 3 manuscript slips laid in. Folio (12-1/4" x 7-3/4").

Reversed calf, black-stamped fillets and frames to boards, hand-lettered title to front board, raised bands and lettering piece (reading "Journal") to spine. Some staining to boards and spine, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to corners, some chipping to spine ends, rear hinge starting at ends. Light toning, content in neat hand to roughly 90 pp., mostly dating from 1845-1850, interspersed with additional blank pages and a few later unrelated entries with later dates through 1868. \$1,250.

* One of Kentucky's largest landowners, Gideon Grainger (or Granger), a New Yorker, held 64,000 acres in the region around Bardstown and Glasgow, an area nicknamed "Granger's Great Tract." Divided into three sections, this ledger records the sale of his lands by Gideon's heirs. It has a detailed accounting of the "List of Lands belonging to the Heirs of Gideon Granger, remaining unsold in Hardin, Hart & Larue Co's. Kentucky" totaling some 35,078 acres. An accompanying notation reads: "All the above Land in Kentucky belongs to John A. Granger and was Deeded to him on the 22nd January 1845 by Mindwell P. Granger & Francis Granger Executors & Trustees of the Estate of Gideon Granger, deceased, which Deed is duly recorded in Hardin, Hart & Larue Counties, Ky. and is in the hands of Geo. T. Wood Esq. my agent at Munfordville, Hart Co., Ky." John A. Granger. The second section of ledger is titled: "List of Squatters in John A. Granger's land all but two seen and visited by him in May 1844 & April 1845." Each squatter is listed by name and respective parcel with various notations such as "Old Road on the east Line - boundary disputed," "On the Nashville Turnpike," "Superior Land," "On the Litchfield Road," etc. A number of squatters purchased land, transactions likely prompted by Granger's site visits. The third section contains a "List of Land sold by George T. Wood, agent for Gen. John A. Granger," comprising numerous names and various notations. Fourth and final section is titled: "George T. Wood, agent at Munfordville Ky. in a/c with John A. Granger." This section contains extensive lists and some elaborate notations pertaining to the sale of land with names and prices, taxes, surveyor expenses, leases and deeds, etc. John A. Granger, the compiler of this ledger, was a New York militia leader and major general of the 22nd division of infantry. In the back of book he writes: "The Rebellion and long protracted Civil War - the over-running of my land in Kentucky - just by the Rebels & afterwards by our troops who committed great depredations upon it - stole my wood and put a stop to all business til Feby 26, 1864 when sales were resumed. I met my agent Geo. T. Wood Esq. of Munfordville at Cataract House, Niagara Falls on the 30th June 1864, when we settled account (No. 19) from July 4, 1862 to 23rd June 1864..." A fascinating document, it offers insights into patterns of land ownership and conveyance and the history of Kentucky's Bluegrass Region. [Order This Item](#)



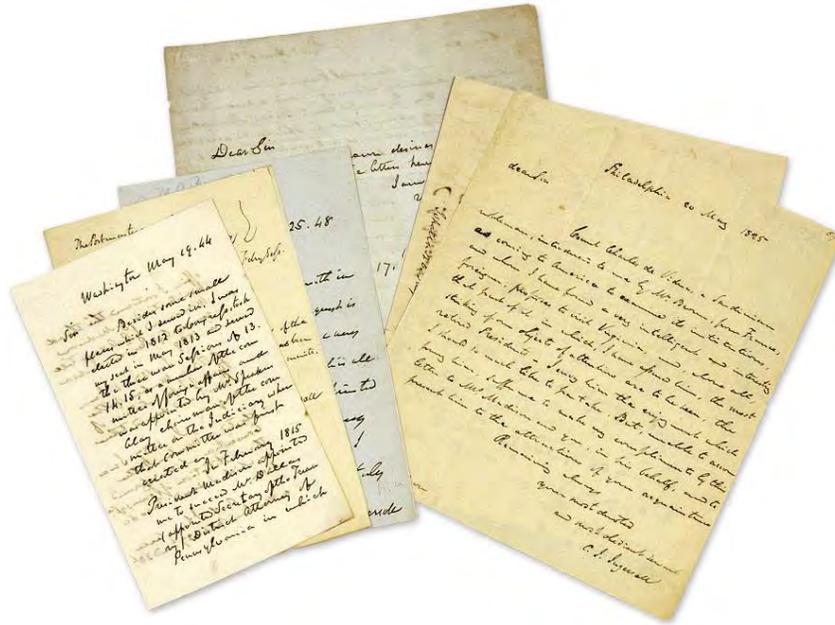
Learned Hand Declines to Write an Article About Abraham Lincoln

12. Hand, Learned [1872-1961].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, On Hand's U.S. Court House Letterhead, Address Struck-Through and Corrected, Windsor, VT, August 17, 1951].

11" x 8-1/2" sheet. Some toning, fold lines, two vertical and one horizontal, light offsetting (from corrugated screen?) to verso, with a bit of negligible show-through on recto. \$1,250.

* One of the most significant American jurists of the twentieth century, Hand was a judge of the U.S. Southern District of New York, later a judge of the Court of Appeals, Second Circuit. He was renowned for his judgments, which were also admired for their lucidity and elegance. This letter is addressed to a "Mr. Brockaway," apparently an editor, who solicited an article from Hand about Abraham Lincoln. Hand declined, saying he had "absolutely no qualifications" to write about Lincoln or time "to prepare to do it." He adds: "Furthermore, I retired as a judge with the idea of having the leisure which my job had so long denied me." At the time of this letter Hand was a retiree, but he would soon return to work. Assuming senior status, he continued to hear special cases for the next ten years. During that time he published two books: *The Spirit of Liberty* (1952) and *The Bill of Rights* (1958). [Order This Item](#)



**A Notable Philadelphia Attorney
Writes to James Madison and Others**

13. Ingersoll, Charles Jared [1782-1862].

[Madison, James [1751-1836], And Other Recipients].

[*Letters from Ingersoll to James Madison and Others*]. Philadelphia or Washington, D.C. 1825-1848.

6 letters comprising 11 pages, sizes range from 7-1/4" x 3-1/2" to 10" x 8." Manuscript in ink. Light to moderate toning, fold lines, minor wear and soiling. \$950.

* The son of Jared Ingersoll [1749-1822], Continental Congressman and Signer of the U.S. Constitution, Charles Jared Ingersoll was a Philadelphia lawyer and Pennsylvania U.S. District Attorney and Congressman. This small but interesting collection of letters are representative of his equally distinguished legislative and judicial careers.

The addressees in our group of letters include former U.S. President James Madison, lawyer and later Mayor of Philadelphia John Morin Scott and John Young Mason, jurist and then U.S. Secretary of the Navy. The letter to Madison introduces a French nobleman visiting America who wishes "to examine its institutions." The letter to Scott concerns *The Postmaster General v. Eldred &c. of Ridgway*, a legal case he was hearing in the Court of the U.S. Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In 1844, while serving as U.S. Representative from Pennsylvania in the 28th Congress, Ingersoll wrote a letter to Richard E. Stillwell providing a detailed response to a request for a professional memoir. Ingersoll's letter of July 17, 1844 to E.L. Burd of Chestnut Street in Philadelphia accedes with the latter's request for an introduction to the newly appointed U.S. Minister to France, William Rufus King. Burd's reply the next day was written upon the same bifolium and returned to Ingersoll with Burd's "sincere thanks."

In 1847 Samuel Grice of Kensington in Philadelphia, trying to obtain a midshipman warrant in the navy for his nephew, Samuel J. Deacon, wrote Ingersoll for his help. When no immediate action was taken by the Secretary of the Navy, John Young Mason [1799-1859], Deacon himself appealed to Ingersoll via letter on April 17, 1847. In turn, Congressman Ingersoll (without endorsement or comment) forwarded the letter to the Secretary of the Navy that same day to support his case. Writing to an unnamed recipient, Ingersoll's letter of March 25, 1848 sends along an unauthorized Philadelphia imprint concerning his thoughts "on the Mission to Italy" during the Risorgimento of 1848. This letter was written when he was Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Foreign Affairs. [Order This Item](#)

State of New York: On the 5th Day of February
1806 before me came Rufus Backus,
Isaac Sargent & Solomon Baker of the
County of Washington, & severally acknow-
-ledged themselves to be indebted to David
Richardson in sixteen hundred Dollars to be
levied on their respective goods & Chattle,
lands & Tenements if Default be made
in the following Condition -
The Condition of the above Recog-
-nizance is that if Rufus Backus
aforesaid shall prosecute a writ of Habeas
from the Supreme Court to the Court for
the Trial of Impeachments & the Correction
of Errors on a Judgment obtained against
him in the said Supreme Court in favor
of the said David Richardson & shall pay and
satisfy, if such Judgment shall be affirmed
the debt or Damages & Costs to be adjudged
upon such Judgment & all Costs & Damages
to be awarded by the Delay of Execution
then the above Recognizance shall be void
otherwise to be & remain in full Force
I have & acknowledge
before me Feb. 5 - 1806
James Kent

A Court Document in Kent's Hand, Signed by Kent

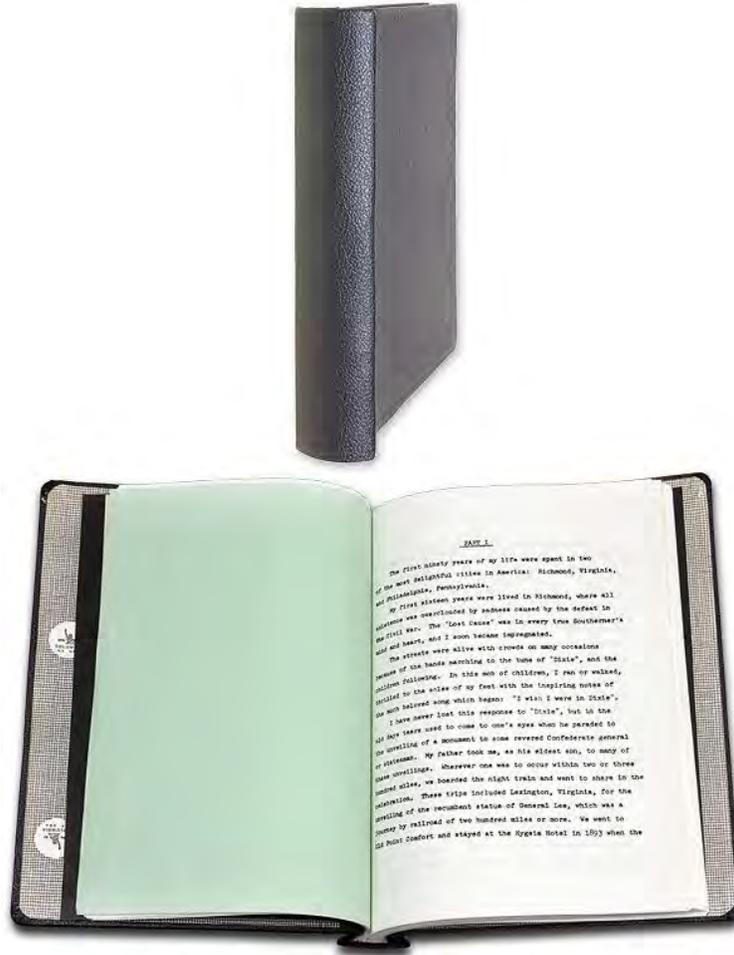
14. Kent, James [1763-1847].

[*Court Document in Kent's Hand, Signed by Kent*]. [New York]: February 5, 1806. 4 pp.

12-3/4" x 8-1/4" bifolium, docketed on verso of second leaf.

Horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears, light browning and minor edgewear. Content in small hand filling one page. \$950.

* A recognizance composed and signed by Kent when he was chief justice of the New York Supreme Court. It concerned a sum of \$1,600.00 owed to David Richardson by Rufus Backus. This debt was related to land owned in Washington County, NY. Kent, the great judge and legal scholar, is known for his path-breaking his *Commentaries on American Law* (1826-1830) and precedent-setting career as chief justice of the New York Supreme Court (1804-1814) and chancellor of New York (1814-1823). [Order This Item](#)



**Unpublished Autobiography of
Prominent Philadelphia Lawyer and Judge**

15. Lewis, Edwin O. [1879-1974].

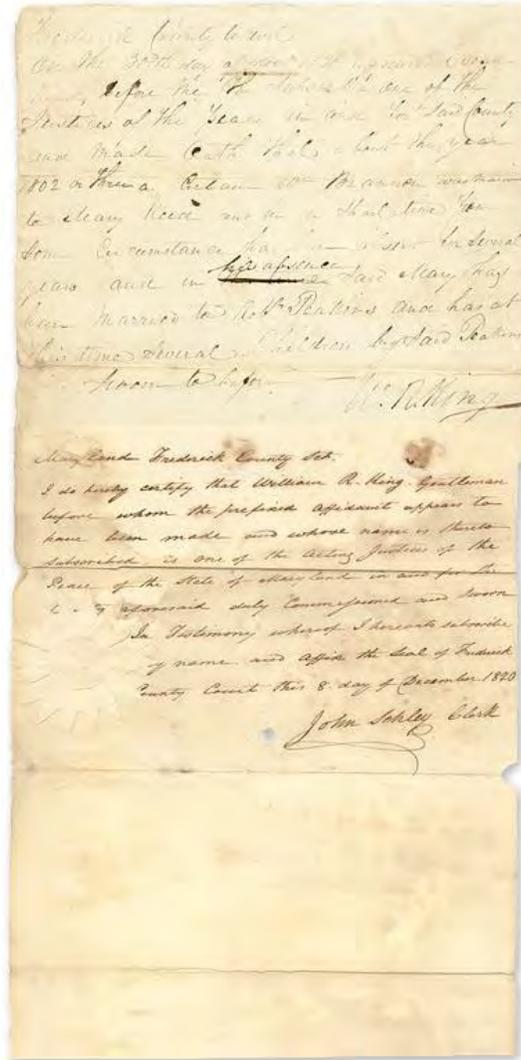
[*Here Lies an Honest Lawyer*]. [Philadelphia, c.1969] 125 pp.

[And]

The Papers of Judge Edwin O. Lewis: Table of Contents. [Philadelphia, n.d.] 21 pp.

Photocopied typescripts in bound in calf-stamped cloth dissertation binder, light shelfwear. "Here Lies an Honest Lawyer/ Edwin O Lewis retired/ former President, Judge/ Common Pleas Court # 2/ Philadelphia County/ An Autobiography/ (Typographical Corrections/ by CLW) in pencil to sheet preceding typescript. "For Geoffrey/ LB Walton" to head of *Papers*, photocopied (but signed) 4 pp. letter from Edwin O. Lewis clipped to *Papers*. \$750.

* Born in Richmond, Edwin O. Lewis attended law school at the University of Pennsylvania and settled in Philadelphia, where he became a prominent lawyer, judge and civic leader. He led the effort to establish Independence National Historic Park. This photocopy of his interesting and rather charming autobiography, never published, bears corrections by his daughter, Caroline Lewis Walton, who seems to have been assigned the role of editor. According to the letter by Lewis, *Papers* is an inventory of papers Lewis donated to the archives of the Independence National Historic Park. Geoffrey Walton was Lewis's grandson. [Order This Item](#)



**Manuscript Document
Relating to a Bigamy Case in Maryland**

16. [Maryland].

King, William R., And John Schley, Justices of the Peace.

Frederick County to Wit. On the 20th Day of November 1820 Appeared Evem [Evan or Eben] Reed, Before Me the Subscriber One of the Justices of the Peace in and for Said County and Made Oath That About the Year 1802 or Three a Certain William Brannon was Married to Mary Reed. [Frederick County, Maryland.] December 8, 1820. Two 16-1/2" x 8" leaves sealed together with wax, embossed paper seal. Toning and some light stains, five horizontal fold lines, partial tear near center. \$250.

* A curious pair of conjoined documents relating to a bigamy case. One is signed by William R. King, justice of the peace, who attests that an Evem [Evan or Eben] Reed made an oath before him. Reed claimed that in 1802 a man named William Brannon was married to a Mary Reed "and in a short time from some circumstance has been absent for several years. And in his absence said Mary has been married to Robert Peakins and has at this time several Children by said Peakins." The second item is signed and sealed by John Schley, clerk of Frederick County Court, Maryland. It verifies William R. King is a justice of the peace. [Order This Item](#)

Cincinnati
10 Aug 1852

Dear Sir,

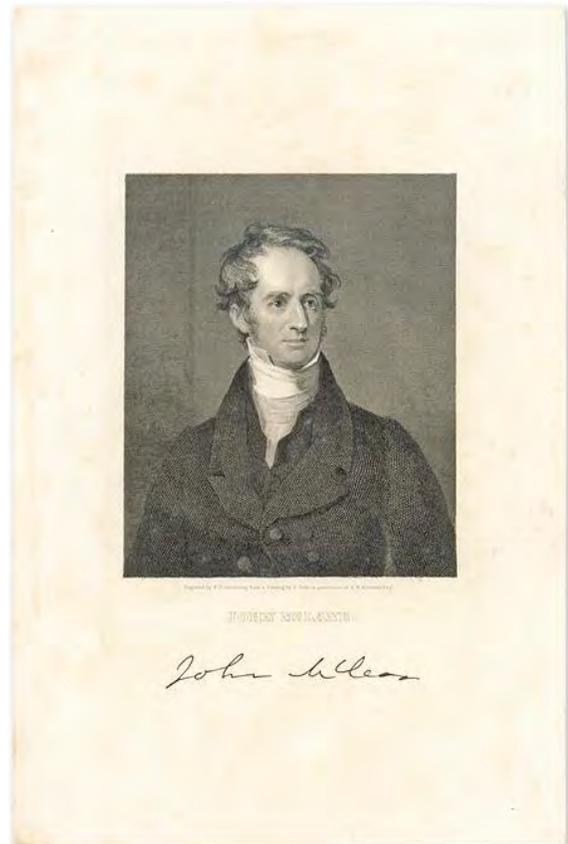
This morning I received your note respecting
 Gov. Morrow and regret that I am not able to state
 whether there be any member of his family living to whom
 you could apply for the desired information. He had
 a son, I think, who was a clergyman and who was settled
 in Chillicothe, Ohio, but I am under an impression that
 he is not living. Many years ago I was well acquainted
 with Mr. Morrow, having served in Congress with him, resided
 at the same house with him in Washington, and lived in
 the same county with him in Ohio. But, for the last twenty
 years I have only seen him occasionally, and I do not
 know what family he left. His wife, I think, died some
 years before his death.

If you will write to Howard
 Dunlevy Esquire, of Lebanon, Ohio, I have no doubt he
 can give you the desired information. Mr. Dunlevy lives
 at the County Seat, about six miles from Mr. Morrow's
 place, where he died.

Very respectfully yours,

John McLean

Post P. Adams Exp.
 A very hasty sketch of his person is added. John McLean
 Mr. Morrow was a native of Adams County, Pennsylvania.
 He came to Ohio when young. He was in the Convention which



Memories of Ohio Governor Jeremiah Morrow by an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court

17. McLean, John [1785-1861].

[Adair, Robert F.].

Morrow, Jeremiah (1771-1852)].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, To Robert F. Adair, Cincinnati, OH, August 10, 1852].

Single leaf folded to form bifolium and a single leaf, all 10-1/2" x 8-1/2," franked on verso of single leaf. Content in neat hand to rectos and versos of bifolium leaves. Light toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines, small losses at wax seal causing very small text loss, but no loss of legibility, minor edgewear and a few short tears to margins. This letter is accompanied by a contemporary 4-1/2" x 3-1/2" copperplate portrait of McLean (on a 9" x 6" leaf). \$950.

* A substantive 4-1/2 page letter by U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice John McLean about late Ohio congressman, senator, and governor, Jeremiah Morrow, who died five months earlier. McLean had served in Congress with Morrow. Appointed by President Andrew Jackson, McLean is best remembered today as the senior Supreme Court justice, and one of only two justices, who dissented in *Dred Scott v. Sanford*. During the 1850s, when Chief Justice Roger B. Taney was frequently ill, McLean who presided over the Court. In this letter, McLean replies to a query about Morrow from Robert F. Adair and here appends a four-page memoir of his late friend. Robert F. Adair of Maysville, Kentucky may possibly be silversmith Robert Farriss Adair (1833-1907). Justice McLean writes: "Many years ago I was well acquainted with Mr. Morrow, having served with him in Washington, and lived in the same county with him in Ohio." McLean directs Adair to write to "Howard Dunlevy Esquire" who lived only six miles from Governor Morrow. Almost like a postscript, McLean writes "[a] very hasty sketch of Morrow." Much more than a sketch, it almost four pages in length and includes biographical facts and, more interestingly, personal observations, anecdotes and judgments. [Order This Item](#)



The Administration of a Small New Hampshire Town, 1783-1815

18. [New Hampshire].

[Documents Relating to the Town of New Ipswich, 1783-1813]. New Ipswich, NH, 1783-1813.

7 stab-stitched manuscript volumes, 1 is 6-1/4" x 4" (18 pp.), 1 is 12-1/2" x 8" (12 pp.), 1 is 14" x 12-1/2" (16 pp.) and 4 are 7-1/4" x 6-1/2" (6 pp., 8 pp., 14 pp., 18 pp.). Manuscript in ink to most rectos and versos. Moderate browning, somewhat lighter in places, foxing, some leaves have dampstaining, tears or chips, with loss of text in a few cases. An interesting archive. \$850.

* New Ipswich is a small New Hampshire town on the Massachusetts border, about 40 miles north of Worcester. The volumes in this archive record the daily operations of the town government, such as lists of taxes collected from residents and payments for selectmen, constables and building expenses. It is, on the whole, an interesting collection of source material concerning the inner workings of small New England town government in the post-Revolutionary period.

[Order This Item](#)



Land Indenture Signed by Richard Varick

19. [New York City].

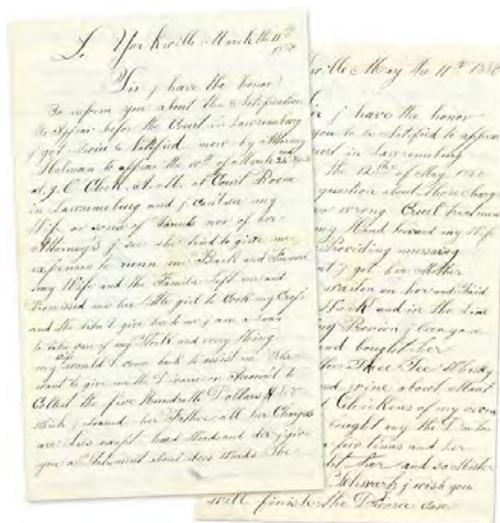
[Varick, Richard (1753-1831)].

[Indenture for New York City Property Signed by Mayor Richard Varick]. New York City, 8 May 1800.

16" x 21" bifolium, top edge indentured. Toning, fold lines, light wear to edges, a few minor tears along folds. \$300.

* This indenture (with seals) records the conveyance of a plot of land on Barclay Street, New York City, from "Cornelius Pawles of the City of New York Carpenter and his wife" to "Martin Pawles of Harrington in the county of Bergen and State of New Jersey." The verso has a one-page endorsement by Mayor Richard Varick signed with a bold signature.

[Order This Item](#)



Documents of a Contentious 1880 Divorce in Indiana

20. [Ober, Anthony].

[*Legal Rant Over a Contentious Divorce and a Personal Summons to Appear in Court*]. Yorkville, IN, 1880.

Two bifolio letters, 8" x 5," manuscript in ink, dated March 11 and May 11, 1880. Letter of May 11 docketed "Yorkville Ind." Light toning, vertical and horizontal fold lines. \$250.

* Two almost stream-of-consciousness letters concerning Ober's contentious divorce from his wife. Ober's handsome penmanship is a stark contrast to his poor spelling, lack of punctuation and obviously anxious mental state. (Ober's spelling and sentence construction also suggests that German may be his native language.) Ober's letter of March 11 is an unleashed flood of words: "Sir I have the honor To inform you about the Notification To Appear before the Court in Lawrenceburg [Dearborn County, Indiana] i got. Twice Notified now by Attorney Holman to appear the 10th of March and 24th April at 9 O'Clock. A.M. at Court Room in Lawrenceburg and i can't see my Wife or some of Parents nor of her Attorney's i see she tried to give me expenses to runn me Back and Forward my Wife and the familie Left me and Promised me her Little girl to cook my crop... She want to gve me the Divorce on Account to Collect the five hundred Dollars \$500 which i Loaned her father all the Charges are Lies except hard Words and der [there] i give you a Statement about does [those] words She Smashed the Buckey [buggy] and ruined the Horse She came Home in the Evening vitout [without] a Buckey nor Horse that on one Sunday and several other cases and i Notify that i never will Pay nothing about my wife so long She will Stay outside my House...i Married that woman not on Account her good Look or about her Money because it got none around the intire Familie want to get my Money I took her for to doe My work and to Live Still togeter [together]..."

Ober's second letter appears to assume the form of a personal, rather than court-issued, summons to appear in court. He seems to be reconciled to the divorce. The letter may be addressed to his attorneys, Holman and Schwartz, likely former (and future) Congressman William S. Holman and former mayor of Lawrenceburg and Bavarian immigrant, John Schwartz: "Sir i have the honor to inform you to be Notified to appear befor the court in Lawrenceburg throuh you the 12the of May 1880 to anwser [answer] the question about those charges those Charges are wrong Cruel treatment i never raised my Hand toward my Wife and Neglect for Providing necessairy Care or Treatment...so Mister Holman and Schwartz i wish you will finish the Divorce case to receive the Divorce From my Wife i been praieing [praying] and Talken to her to come Back shee wouldned [wouldn't] doed [do it] She want allways my Money and Put me Now in so deep expences and Shee Brought not one cent in the Marriage so is my will and wish to tak [take] the Divorce from her because we can Live any more Peacefull together [together]... It appears that Anthony Ober wants out, at any cost.

[Order This Item](#)



Early Docket Book from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania

21. [Pennsylvania].

[Commissioners of Mifflin County].

[Docket Book, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, 1812-1839]. [300] pp. Oblong folio (15-1/2" x 6-1/2").

Three quarter sheep over marbled boards. Light rubbing to boards, heavier rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends and corners. Light toning, faint dampstaining, a few partial cracks to text block, text in small neat hand to rectos and versos of 66 pages, later annotations in pencil to endleaves and a few other places. \$500.

* Apparently a retrospective record, this ledger records court appearance records for Mifflin County, Pennsylvania from 1812 to 1839. This is an early docket book; the county was founded in 1789. The content is related exclusively to cases heard in this central Pennsylvania county, with hundreds of individual names and various institutions, such as the Turnpike Road Company, United States Bank, Juniata Bank and Lewistown Presbyterian Church. The entries include an "indictment for the murder of her child," an "indictment for larceny," and an "indictment for scaring defendants [who were] not guilty." [Order This Item](#)

For Gladys
 New. My.
 Feb 27, '65

My dear Sir,

Came of 15th. came
 to eight Saturday evening. It
 was directed "Rocky Hill" and
 remained to the P. O. here. I
 left for Wash. Thursday 24th
 & not Saturday eve.

In regard to Levi Benson, I
 suppose him to be a brother
 of Benson of the "Cromwell
 Sage, Murder case", who was
 convicted of perjury & sentenced
 to State Prison; as I always
 thought unjustly; and pardoned
 out by the Legislature of '62. One
 of the Bensons spent some time
 in Rocky Hill a year or more
 ago, since which have known
 nothing of his whereabouts, etc.

Crime and Prostitution in Connecticut

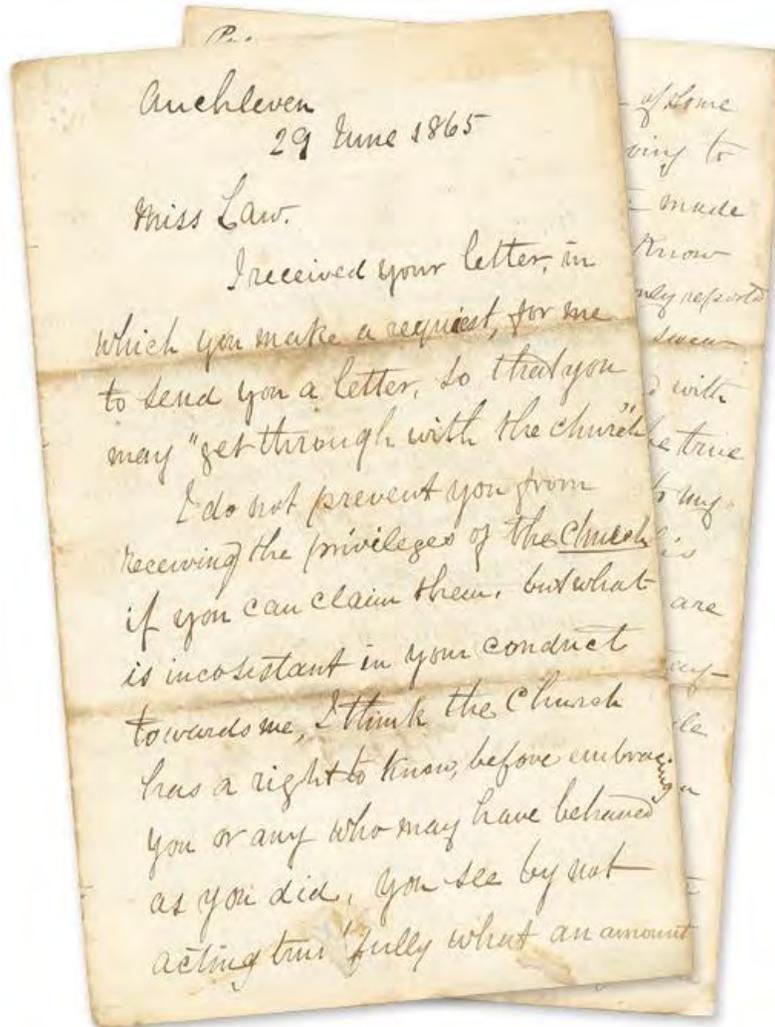
22. Pratt, Charles T.

[Jones, Samuel F.].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, South Glastonbury, Connecticut, February 27, 1865].

Single leaf folded to from 8" x 5" bifolium, no transmittal envelope. Horizontal fold line, first and last pages browned. Content in neat hand to rectos and versos of all pages. \$450.

* A curious Civil War-era letter reporting that a member of the noted Connecticut Goodrich family was operating an illegal saloon, gambling establishment and brothel in Pumpkintown, Connecticut, a village near Rocky Hill. The author of this letter, apparently one Charles T. Pratt, seems to be acting as a private investigator or informant for Saml. F. Jones Esq., who was probably an attorney. Pratt's letter begins with a description of various criminals associated with murder, perjury, and prisons. He then turns to the dishonorable conduct of Nathaniel B. Goodrich: "Nath'l long ago commenc'd keeping a rum hole in "Pumpkintown" as its call'd (west part of Rocky Hill" at which; it's been said; all sorts of games men play'd day & night, Sunday's included. "Twas indeed a bad place. Some three or four years ago he went to Hrfd [Hartford] & kept a saloon in the cellar of Sissery [?] block, when; he admitted to me; he kept whores: indeed he never attempted to disguise the thing. He has a little regard for "law & order" probably as any man ever had." It appears that Goodrich is facing a court trial. Pratt may be involved in gathering the facts of the case and locating or evaluating witnesses. Pratt continues: "His cousin will try hard to save him. I heard he had for witnesses, such chaps as George Wright, whose word no one acquainted with him would regard good for any thing. If testimony such as he will be apt to get will swear him clear, there is no danger of his final conviction. So far as I can learn "everybody" thinks Nat. guilty & that he used Kelly for a tool. All I have to say is, God grant that justice may be done all around." [Order This Item](#)



How Do You Know It's Mine?

23. Rae, L.M.

[Autograph Letter Signed, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, June 29, 1865].

Two bifolium 7-1/2" x 4-1/2" sheets, no transmittal envelope. Vertical and horizontal fold lines, some toning and minor soiling. Content in neat hand to rectos and versos of all leaves. \$450.

* A passionate letter to "Miss Law" alleging infidelity and a birth out of wedlock. Rae also discusses issues of child support and the involvement of church authorities. It seems Miss Law had gotten herself "in the family way" but the timing of the birth of the child and Rae's absence (he may have been a soldier) are not adding up. Reflecting back on the time just before law told Rae she was pregnant, he remembers how odd it was that she was forcing herself upon him and how "friendly" she was with one William Dick. He continues, hinting at even more lovers she might have had. Rae does not deny he has had sexual relations with Miss Law. He even suggests her father may have encouraged her duplicity and he is adamant that he was absent from her at the time of conception. It is unclear, but Law may have been seeking charity money from the church as an abandoned mother, or perhaps, she may be attempting to garnish Rae's salary with the church's help. In all, the letter records a sad and sordid tale. [Order This Item](#)



Diary of a Prominent Yonkers, New York, Lawyer, Judge and Politician

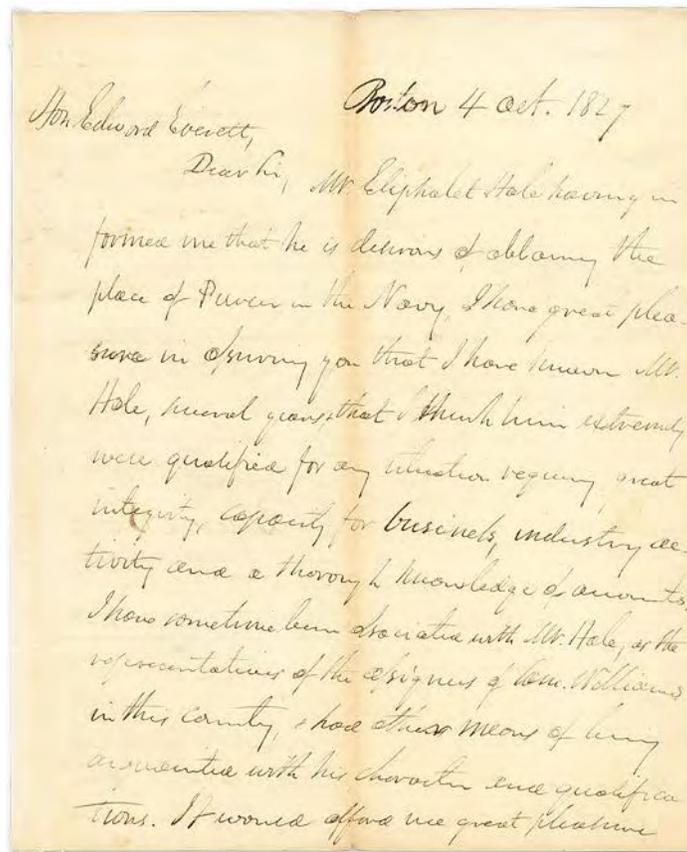
24. Scrugham, William Warburton [1820-1867].

[*Diary of William Warburton Scrugham*]. [Yonkers, NY, February 1, 1844--March 31, 1845]. 19, [120] pp. 12mo. (6-1/4" x 3-3/4").

Quarter sheep over marbled boards, printed paper title panel to front board (reading *Diary for 1844*. Published by Jansen & Bell, 158 Nassau-Street, New York). Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, spine abraded, a few cracks to text block. Light toning to text, some leaves have light foxing, a few have faint dampstains. "Scrugham 1844" to front free endpaper, rectos and versos of most leaves filled in small neat hand. \$1,500.

* Scrugham studied at Columbia College and read law in the office of Samuel E. Lyon, in White Plains, New York, around 1836. When he was accepted to the County Board at White Plains as the supervisor for Yonkers, he was the youngest member, but he was popular and eventually became chairman. He continued to represent Yonkers for several years. In 1848 he was elected District Attorney of the county and in 1849 appointed lieutenant colonel of the 17th Regiment of State Militia, and the following year he was promoted to colonel. He infused new life into the regiment and was soon put in command of the Brigade as a Brigadier General. In 1849 he was nominated for Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, and upon taking his seat on the court, resigned his commission. In politics he was always a Democrat, but sided with the "Free Soilers" in 1848. A businessman and civic leader, he was the founder, Director and Secretary of the Yonkers Gas Light Company, an original trustee of the Yonkers Savings Bank, a director of the First National Bank of Yonkers, a director of the Yonkers and New York Fire Insurance Company, a trustee of the Yonkers Cemetery Association, one of the vestrymen of St. John's Church and a Mason.

The majority of entries in his diary concern his work as an attorney. They cover the time period after he left the office of Samuel E. Lyon in White Plains and set up his own practice. Scrugham's entries concern cases, searching out property records, writing up leases, wills and codicils and meetings with clients. Scrugham mentions several meetings with Lyon. The diary also includes an almost separate manuscript account of two transatlantic crossings. He left for Liverpool, England, on August 6th, 1844, arriving there on the 2nd of September. He visited some local sites but headed to London, where he explored the city until the middle of October. He then traveled to France, visiting Paris. After Paris and stops at other cities, he sailed back to America on November 18th, after spending over three months in Europe. He returned to America in early January, 1845. He describes his sailing voyages in great detail (gale winds, masts breaking, waves washing over the decks, ship is blown off course, becalmed, etc.) as well as the various places he visited and the people he either met, or called upon. The entries for the last couple of months (January-March 1845) resume descriptions of his daily life and law practice. [Order This Item](#)



Lemuel Shaw Asks Edward Everett to Help a Friend Seeking a Naval Commission

25. Shaw, Lemuel [1781-1861].

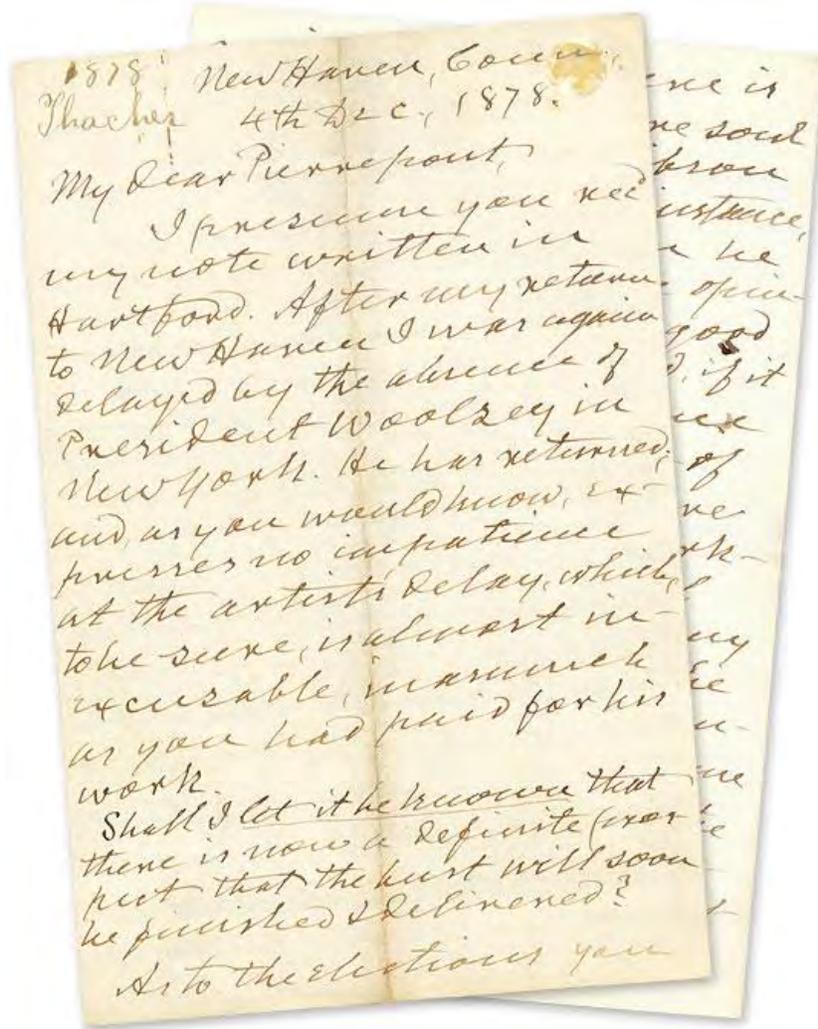
Everett, Edward [1795-1865].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, to Edward Everett with Everett's Appended, And Signed, Letter of Transmittal, Boston, October 4, 1827 and October 12, 1827]. Single leaf folded to form 9-3/4" x 7-3/4" bifolium with integral address leaf, franked in red on verso of second leaf.

Some toning, old lines with short tears at ends, some remnants of paper from old mounting on back with no loss of legibility. \$750.

* This item from future Chief Justice of Massachusetts Lemuel Shaw to then Congressman and future Gettysburg orator Edward Everett contains two letters. It contains Shaw's original letter, requesting help for a friend who was seeking a commission as a purser in the Navy, and Everett's appended letter on behalf of Shaw's friend to the Secretary of the Navy, Samuel L. Southward. In the 19th century, Edward Everett was celebrated as a preacher and public orator. He is most famous for delivering a two-hour oration in 1863 at the dedication of the Gettysburg military cemetery. Everett's speech was subsequently eclipsed by President Abraham Lincoln's immortal, two-minute Gettysburg Address. At the time this letter was written Shaw had already served in both houses of the Massachusetts Legislature and had drafted the first charter of the City of Boston. In 1830, he became the Chief Justice of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He served on that court for 30 years and participated in such notable cases as the "Parkman-Webster" murder case and in Commonwealth v. Hunt, an important labor law precedent establishing that labor unions were not criminal conspiracies.

[Order This Item](#)



**1878 Letter from a Yale Professor to a Notable New York Attorney
Concerning the End of Reconstruction and a Bust of Yale's President**

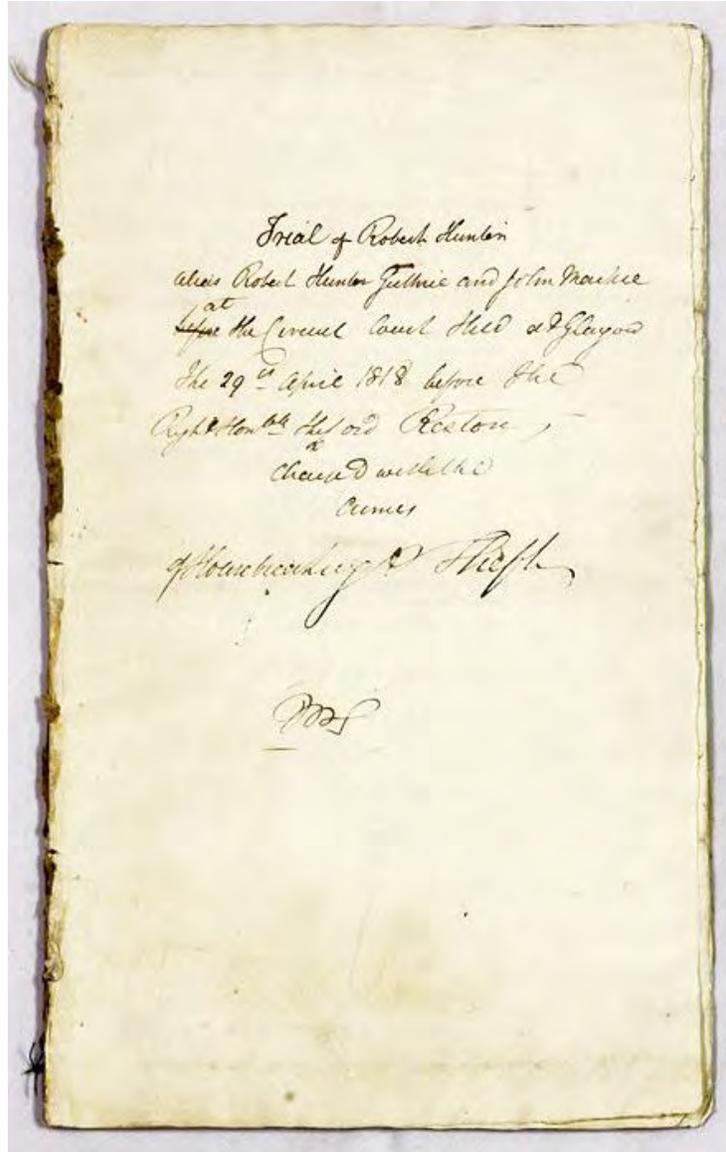
26. Thacher, Thomas A. [1815-1886].

[Edwards Pierrepont (1817-1892)].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, To Edwards Pierrepont, New Haven, CT, December 4, 1878].

Two 8" x 5" sheets, text to rectos and versos, no transmittal envelope. Moderate toning and a few minor stains, vertical fold lines. \$250.

* A candid 1878 letter by Yale classics professor Thomas A. Thacher discussing the upcoming Congressional mid-term elections, Louisiana politics, and the "villainy" of the "white people of the slave states." It is addressed to "My Dear Pierrepoint," a Yale College and Yale Law graduate who was one of the most important lawyers and political figures of the later nineteenth century. Thacher gives his negative opinion of the post-Reconstruction South and discusses the former Confederate General Randall L. Gibson, who was then a Democratic Congressman from Louisiana. Thacher's letter also discusses the delay in delivering a bust of Yale College President Theodore Dwight Woolsey by sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens that was commissioned by Pierrepont. [Order This Item](#)



Who Stole My Cheese?

27. [Trial].

[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. \$1,500.

* 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](#)

August term of Peace and
Terminals, said business of one
thousand eight hundred and
thirty four

Grand Jurors
We the grand jurors
sworn at the term aforesaid
would respectfully present, that we can
not feel at liberty to separate without
performing the duty that in the course
of a long and careful examination of
testimony in this case of Rape &
the intention for that found and
returned, at this term to the court, we
have become satisfied that the follow-
ing persons are also guilty of a wicked
and felonious rape, upon the body of
Nancy Burns viz. Wm. Harper, Lorentine Miller, David
McCummins - ^{viz. Nancy Burns} ^{viz. Wm. Harper, Lorentine Miller, David}
and that proper measures be pursued
for the arrest and punishment of these
persons, whom we also learn have
fled the country -

The grand jurors by reason further
present, that ample proof has been given
before them to show that some persons
whom names are unknown to them

"Bribes, Threats and Alarms"

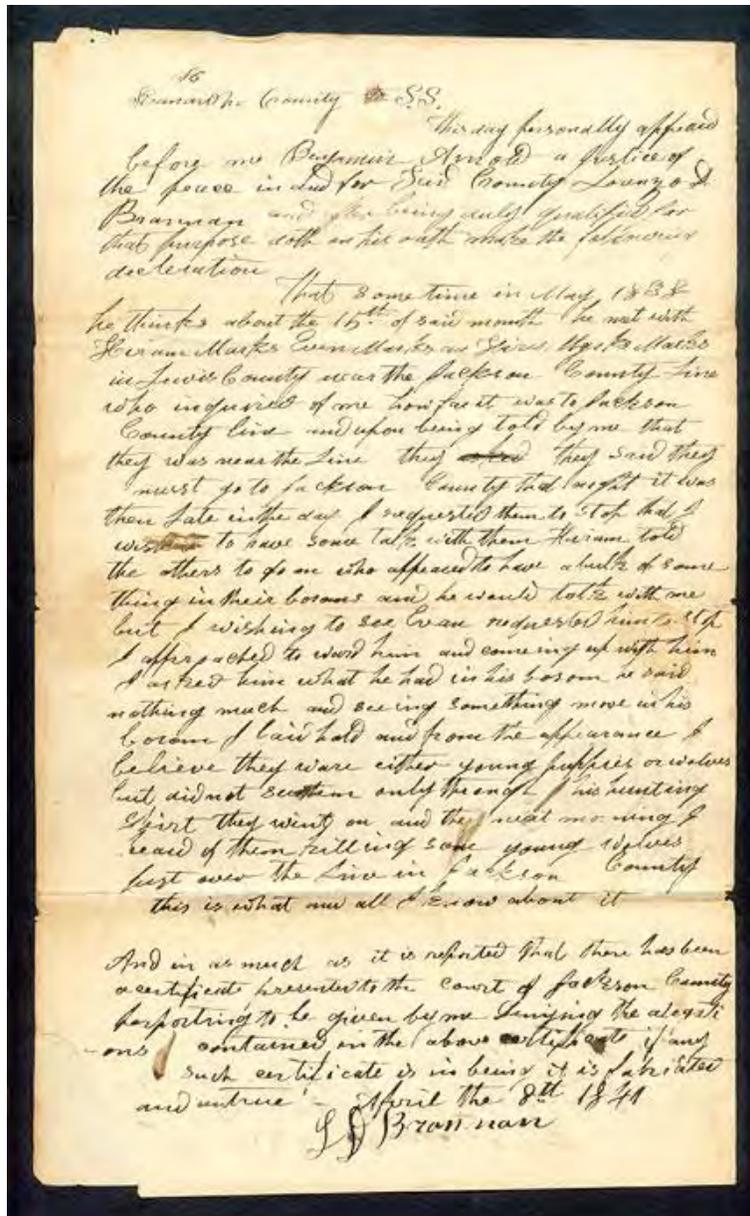
28. [Trial].

[Pennsylvania].

[Grand Jury Presentment Concerning Improprieties in a Rape Case]. [Erie County, PA, August 8, 1834]. 4 pp. 13" x 8" bifolium, docketed on verso of second leaf.

Horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears, light browning and minor edgewear. Content in small hand filling three pages. Item accompanied by typed transcription. \$1,250.

* This appears to be a document from an unrecorded rape case. It reads, in part: "We the grand jurors... have become satisfied that the following persons are also guilty of a wicked and felonious rape, upon the body of Nancy Burns viz., Wm. Harper, Lorentine Miller, David McCummins and that proper measures be pursued for the arrest and punishment of these persons, whom we also learn have fled the country. The grand jurors further present, that ample proof has been given before them to show that some persons whose name are unknown to them have by bribes, threats and alarms, spirited away one of two or three very important witnesses in this very important matter..." [Order This Item](#)



Fraudulent Collection of Wolf Bounties in Virginia

**29. [Virginia].
[Wolf Bounties].**

[Autograph Deposition Addressed to J.P. Thomasson and other justices of Jackson County, Signed by Justice of the Peace Benjamin Arnold, Kanawha County, Virginia, April 8, 1841]. 4 pp. 12-1/2" x 7-1/2" bifolium, docketed on verso of second leaf.

Horizontal fold lines, a few with minor tears, tear through most of fold between the leaves, light browning and minor edgewear, a few small chips to edges. Content in neat small hand filling one page and a quarter of another. \$300.

* This deposition says the Marks family from Lewis County was carrying wolf puppies into Jackson county lines in order to kill them there in order to collect wolf-killing bounties awarded by the county. [Order This Item](#)

in population and in resources of every description is unparalleled in the Annals of
 the world, is a position which I believe will not be controverted, and if they continued
 to prosper for a very short period indeed, as they have commenced and prospered hitherto
 no nothing can prevent them from eclipsing every other nation on earth. I fear however
 that we are deficient in one thing; if we are the most favored nation on earth, & which
 I think there can be no doubt, we ought also to be the most grateful nation on earth to
 the great dispenser of all events - in that point, I fear, we are immeasurably deficient; we
 are too apt to ascribe our prosperity to ourselves, and not to give the praise to God to
 whom it is really, and justly, due. - Nothing of any moment has yet transpired in the
 either house of Congress, but an immense deal of business is cutting out for us, it is highly
 probable we shall not adjourn before the latter end of May or beginning of June. I suppose
 however to see you at the Apic Court, if I should ever be obliged to return to this place
 afterwards, but I do not see how I can be at Eastern or Lancaster, to perform a journey
 of four hundred and twenty miles in stage, travelling day and night in cold climates
 we could not do any thing but suffer. I should be glad to see you at Harrisburg, but would certainly not
 suit my mind. - I am extremely sorry to hear that a prosecution has been commenced
 against the gentleman you mention, because I do not believe it can be sustained,
 and it will in case it fails, of which I have no doubt, look so much like perjury
 that it will have an effect entirely contrary to that which is intended. - I saw
 Mr. Greenleaf this morning who informed me that he had just received a subpoena
 requiring his attendance at Harrisburg, as a witness on the part of the judges,
 on the 20th instance; of course I suppose your attendance will be required about
 the same time - in Bond's paper it is said that the present house of Representatives
 do not consider themselves bound, in relation to the impeachments, by the
 proceedings of the last, but that they will re-examine the wisdom and desire
 for themselves, as to the course they will pursue - but from the circumstances of the
 witness being subpoenaed on the part of the judges, I presume they must have
 determined to proceed. - I commenced this letter with an intention of merely
 acknowledging the receipt of yours, you see to what a length I have gone with
 even saying any thing with the object or answer - my pen is bad and I can't
 do to mend it, or I should probably have worried your patience still more.

With much respect
 Your obt. Servt.
 Geo. Wolf

John Cooper Esq

**Interesting Letter by a Distinguished
Nineteenth-Century Pennsylvania Lawyer-Politician**

30. Wolf, George [1777-1840].

[Autograph Letter, Signed, Washington, DC, December 16, 1825].

Single 9-3/4" x 8" leaf. Four fold lines, two vertical and two horizontal, light brownish. Content in small neat hand to recto and verso, fragments of paper (from an album) along left-hand margin. \$750.

* A lawyer and Jeffersonian, later Jacksonian politician, Wolf was a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1814, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1824 to 1829 and the governor of Pennsylvania from 1829 to 1835. Appointed by President Jackson, served as the first comptroller of the Treasury, a post he held until 1838. He is best known as the governor who oversaw the establishment of Pennsylvania's public school system. Addressed to a John Cooper, an associate judge in Pennsylvania, this letter was written when Wolf was a U.S. Representative. Rich with "inside" information, it touches on several interesting topics: his work as a member of the "select committee on the subject of the monument to Geo. Washington," the annual message of President Adams, a mission to Panama, the prosperity of the United States and the impeachment of Robert Porter, a judge in Northampton, Pennsylvania. Letters by Wolf in the market are rare. We could locate only two auction records, the last at Henkels in 1907 (Lot 354, 3 Letters).

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