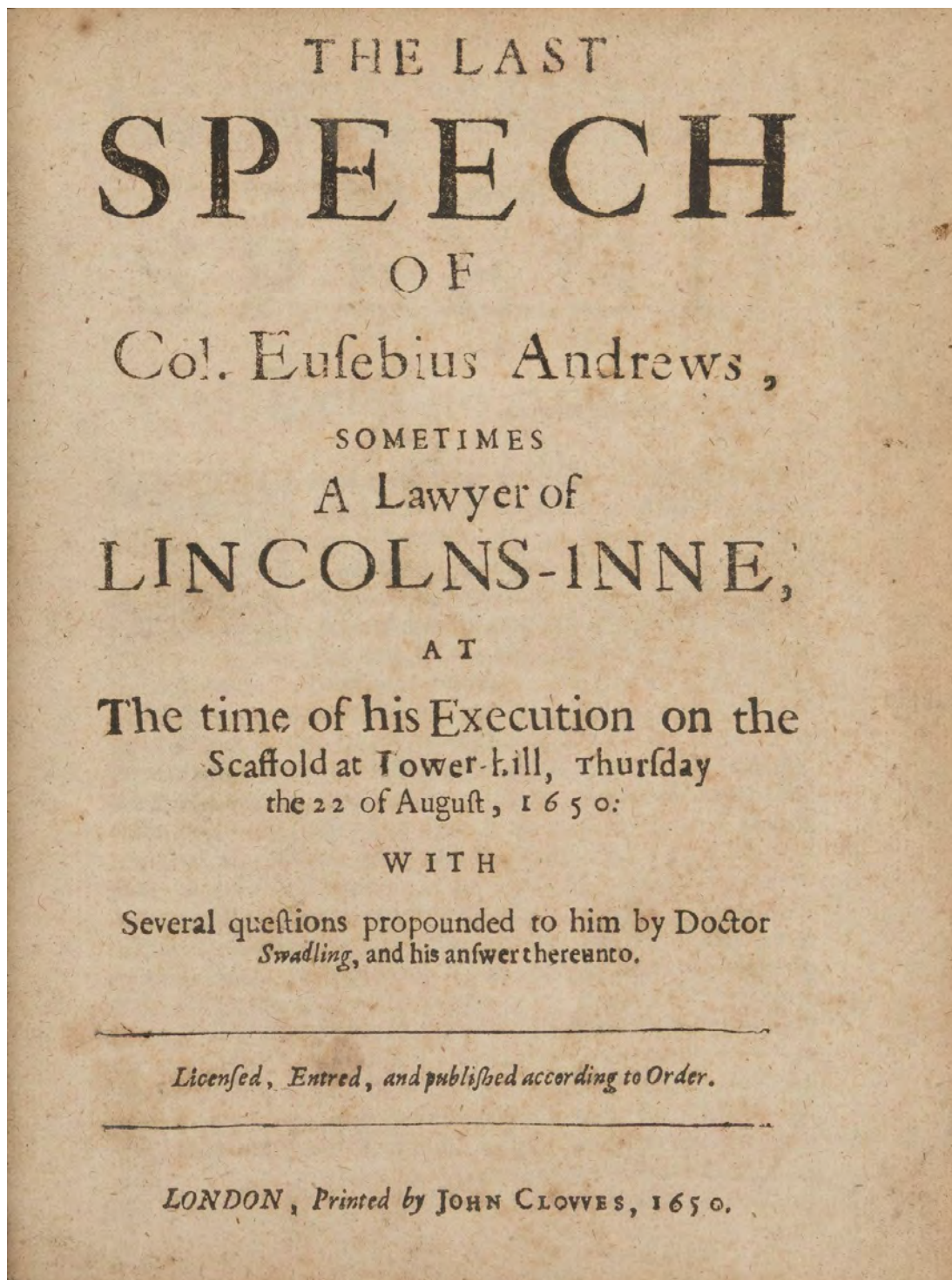


JUNE 30, 2026

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

English, American & Continental Law, 1538–1907





A "Sometimes" Lawyer is Beheaded for Treason

1. Andrews, Eusebius [d.1650].

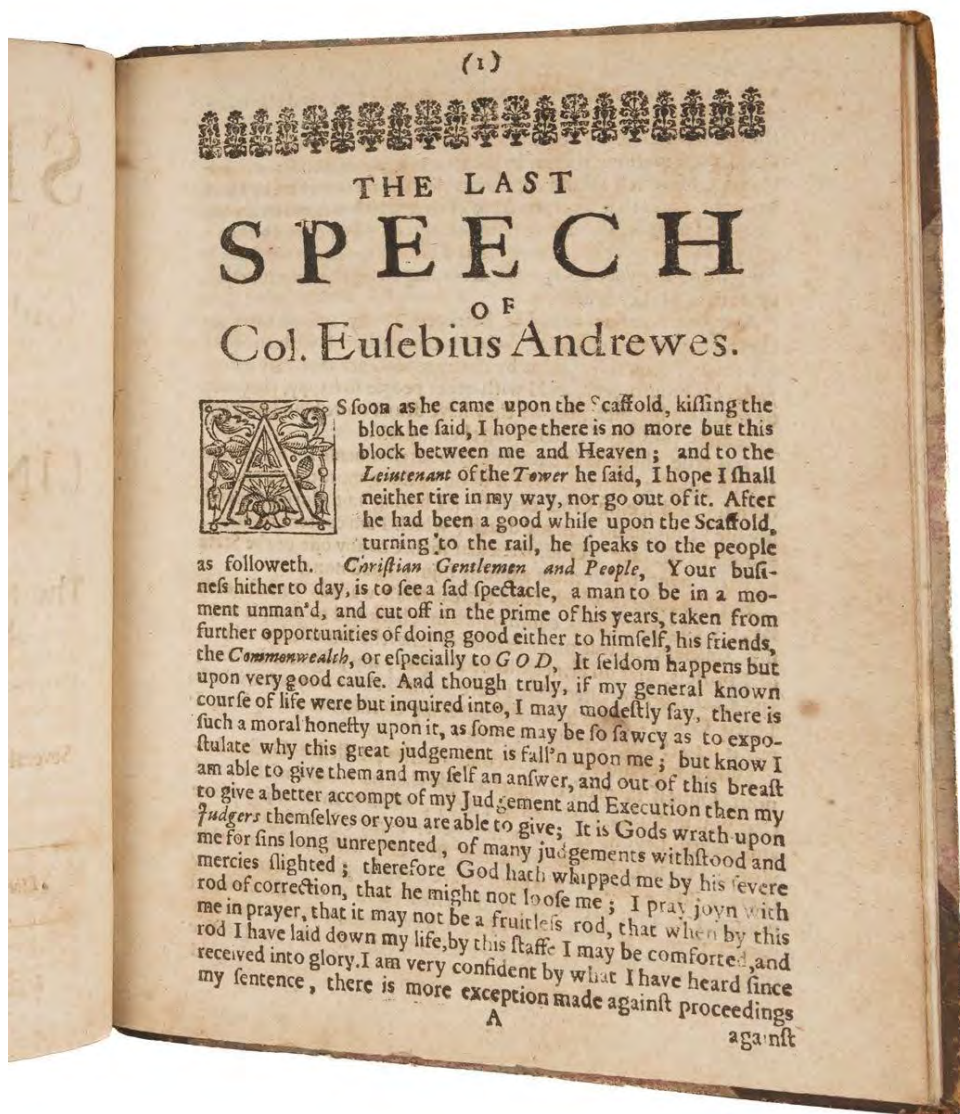
The Last Speech of Col. Eusebius Andrews, Sometimes a Lawyer of Lincolns-Inne, At the Time of His Execution on the Scaffold at Tower-Hill, Thursday the 22 of August, 1650: With Several Questions Propounded to Him by Doctor Swadling, And His Answer Thereunto. Licensed, Entred, And Published According to Order. London: Printed by John Clowes, 1650. [2], 5, [1] pp. Quarto (7" x 5-1/2"; 17.8 x 13.9 cm).

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into nineteenth-century binding, three-quarter calf over marbled boards, gilt title to spine. Notable rubbing to boards and extremities, front board partially detached but secure. Light toning and spotting to text. A well-preserved copy in a good binding. \$1,500.

* First and only edition. A rare, detailed contemporary account of the execution of Eusebius Andrews, a staunch Royalist colonel executed for his role in a conspiracy to trigger an anti-Cromwellian uprising on the Isle of Ely. A practicing lawyer before the English Civil Wars, Andrews had been a prominent supporter of the Crown since the early 1630s, eventually turning into a determined conspirator who organized multiple Royalist risings between 1642 and 1650.

At his trial, Andrews famously leveraged his legal background to challenge the jurisdiction of the High Court, arguing that its proceedings violated Magna Carta. Though condemned for treason, Parliament spared Andrews the standard, brutal execution of being hanged, drawn, and quartered, commuting his sentence to beheading on Tower Hill out of respect for his former legal and military status.

English Short-Title Catalogue R15663.



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A Glimpse into the Operation of a Venerable Hundred Court During the Mid-Nineteenth Century

2. [Archive].

[Courts, Great Britain].

[Documents Concerning the Salford Hundred Court]. Salford, England, 1838-1868.

12 documents: 2 jury lists, 4 jury summonses, 2 broadside notifications of court sessions, 2 receipts, 1 manuscript letter, 1 envelope (of another letter) with manuscript note. Printed and manuscript leaves, bifolia and an envelope, manuscript additions to printed items, sizes range from 2-3/4" x 4-3/4" to 11" x 8-1/2" (5.7 x 12 to 27.9 x 21.6 cm). Moderate toning, fold lines, occasional edgewear and light soiling, but all items are well-preserved and written or annotated in legible hands. \$750.

* Established in 1436, this institution-known officially as the Court Leet, View of Frankpledge, and Court of Record of our Sovereign Lord the King for his Hundred or Wapentake of Salford-was remarkably resilient. While most ancient hundred courts faded into obscurity, the Salford court survived via various jurisdictional modifications well into the twentieth century, before it was formally abolished in 1971. Administered by the Hereditary Steward of the Earls of Sefton, its jurisdiction covered an area that today comprises part of Greater Manchester.

Our archive dates from a period when the court's scope had been restricted primarily to lower-level personal actions, functioning much like a modern American small claims court. Together, they offer an intimate, granular look at the mechanics of mid-nineteenth-century English local justice. It consists of:

Jury Lists & Summonses: Focusing on the Township of Pendleton, Salford, the two jury lists detail local men who, based on strict property requirements, were deemed eligible or ineligible to serve.

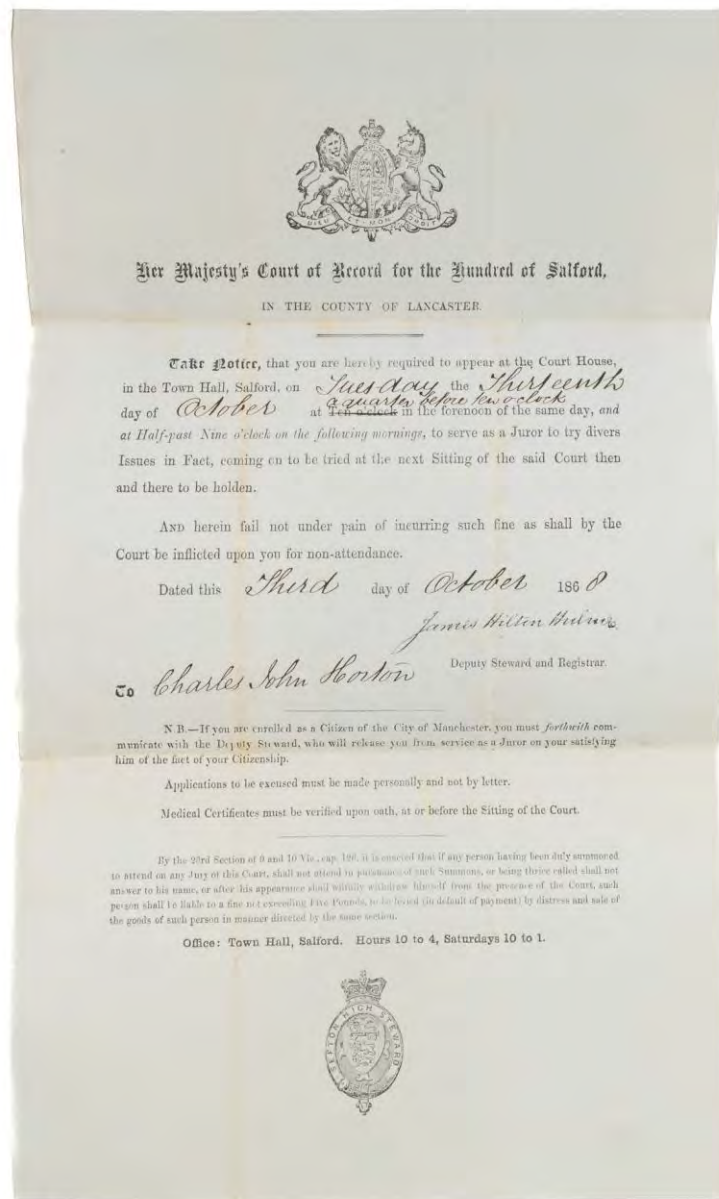
The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Recent Acquisitions June 30, 2026

Steward's Letter: A manuscript letter dated December 31, 1838, written by William Eaton Hall, Steward of the Earl of Sefton, to the local law firm of Hulme and Andrews. On the Earl's behalf, Hall inquires if the firm would be willing to assume the management of the court.

Annotated Envelope: Postmarked October 19, 1862, this envelope bears a detailed manuscript note indicating that the enclosed letter (now lost) was a request from a local citizen begging to be dismissed from jury duty.

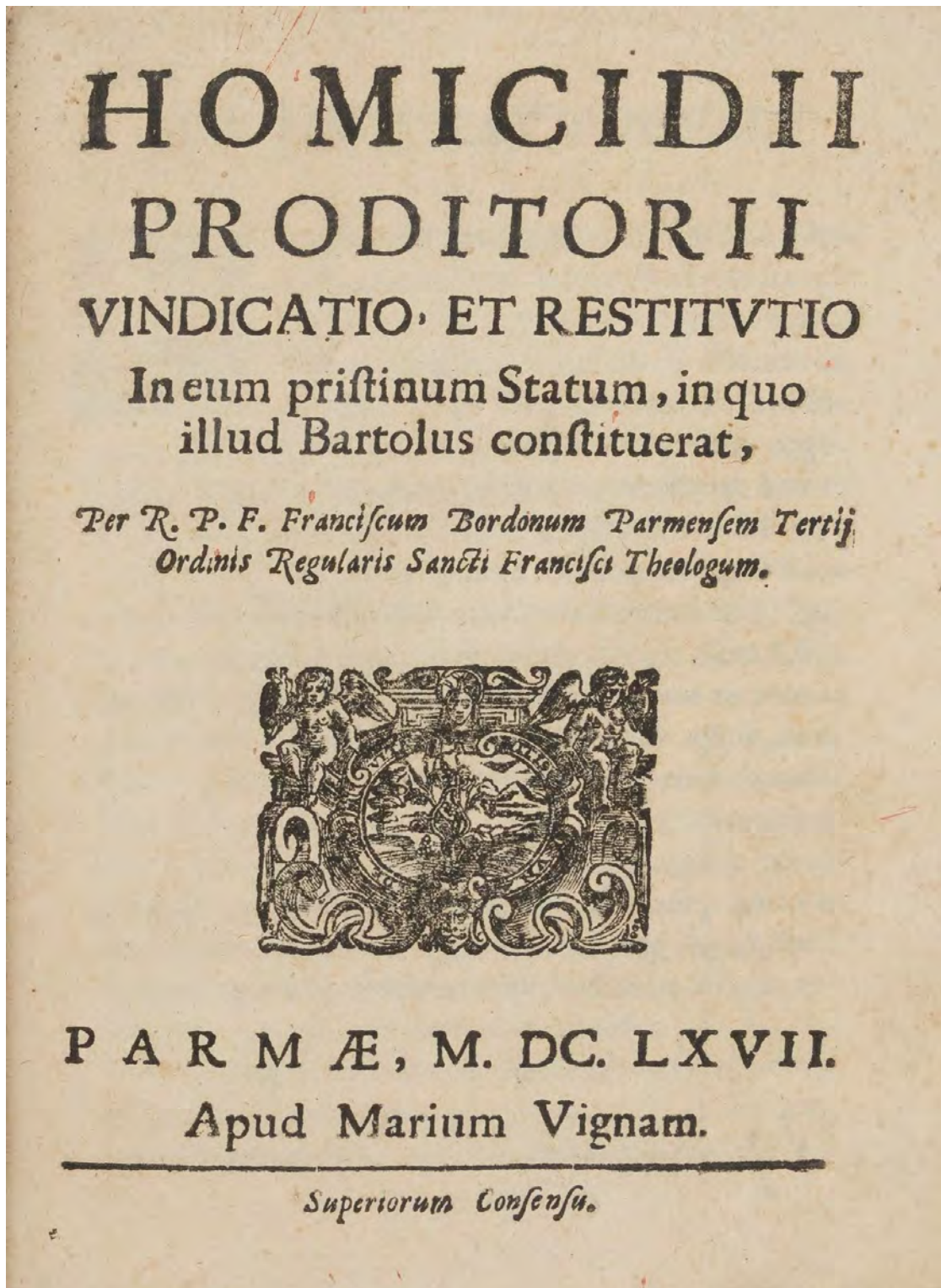
Broadsides and Receipts: the broadsides describe upcoming court sessions; the receipts record the payment of court-imposed fines.

An evocative, cohesive assembly of legal ephemera capturing the intersection of medieval administrative roots and Victorian-era civic reality.



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Only Edition of a Rare Inquisition-Era Defense of Bartolus on Murder

3. Bordoni, Francesco [1595-1671].

Homicidii Proditorii Vindicatio, Et Restitutio in eum Pristinum Statum, In quo Illud Bartolus Constituerat, per R.P.F. Franciscum Bordonum Parmensem Tertii Ordinis Regularis Sancti Francisci Theologum. Parma: Apud Marium Vignam, 1667.

The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Recent Acquisitions June 30, 2026

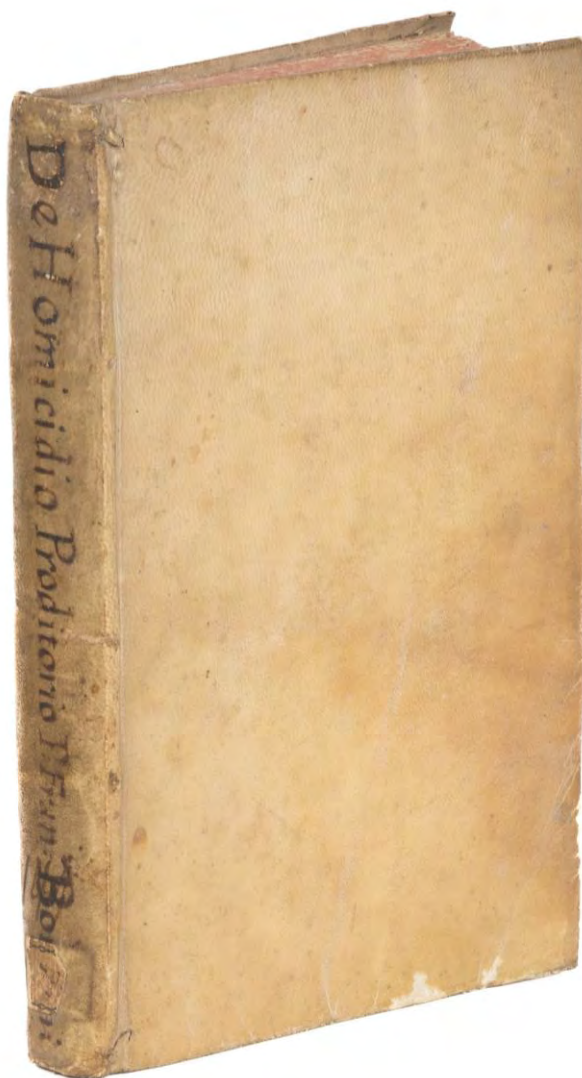
Quarto (7-1/4" x 5-1/2"; 18.4 x 13.9 cm). [xiii], 284 pp. Contemporary flexible vellum, early hand-lettered title and fragment of later shelf label to spine, speckled edges. Negligible soiling, some darkening to spine, minor wear to bottom edge and upper outside corner of front board. Moderate toning to interior. A very good copy. \$3,500.

* Only edition. A fascinating and sophisticated legal study on the work of the great medieval commentator Bartolus de Saxoferrato (1313-1357). This book represents a major shift in how Europe handled murder. During the medieval period, trials often relied on divine signs or eyewitnesses. Bartolus helped change this by using circumstantial evidence to prove secret crimes like ambush and poisoning. Bordoni's 1667 text defends this legal logic for the early modern world.

The author, Francesco Bordoni, was a top leader in the Franciscan order. His writings were highly valued by the Roman Inquisition. This book shows how church scholars shaped secular criminal laws regarding violence and intent.

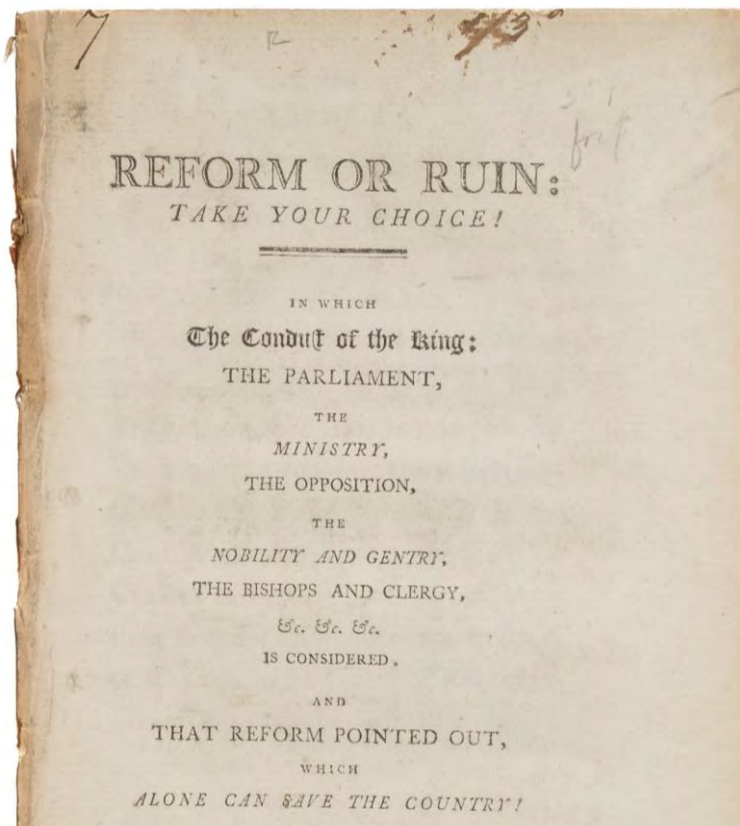
This is an exceptionally rare title. The *Universal Short-Title Catalogue* locates just 8 copies in European libraries, and OCLC adds only a single copy in North America (Library of Congress).

Universal Short-Title Catalogue 1726539.



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**Reform or Ruin: Take Your Choice!
A Critique of British Morals for Counter-Revolutionary Propaganda**

4. Bowdler, John, [1746-1823].

Reform or Ruin: Take Your Choice! In which the Conduct of the King: The Parliament, the Ministry, the Opposition, the Nobility and Gentry, The Bishops And Clergy, &c. &c. &c. Is Considered. And That Reform Pointed Out, Which Alone Can Save the Country! London: Printed for J. Hatchard; and F. and C. Rivington, ST. Paul's Church Yard, 1798. [iv], 42, [2] pp. Octavo (8" x 5" 20.3 x 12.7 cm).

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Moderate shelfwear and soiling. Rear leaf loose. Internally clean. A good copy. \$250.

* Fifth edition. A highly influential 1798 political and moral treatise written by British reformer John Bowdler [1746-1823]. Written during the height of the French Revolutionary Wars, the text critiques the moral failings across all strata of British society including the monarchy, parliament, clergy and nobility. It argues that only deep personal, moral and religious reform can save Britain from political collapse and revolution.

Unlike radical contemporary thinkers who demanded institutional or constitutional overhauls, Bowdler argued that true structural "reform" must begin internally with individual piety, morality, and adherence to Christian values. He meticulously reviews the behaviors of King George III, the Ministry, political opposition, high-ranking bishops and general gentry, holding them accountable for the nation's spiritual state.

The tract was immensely popular, running through dozens of editions and widely distributed abridged versions designed to instruct the working classes on the dangers of civil unrest.

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VERSES COMPOSED ON THE MURDER OF G. KALABERGO.

Giovanni Marie Ferdinando Kalabergo, was an Italian Jeweller, and had resided at Banbury for upwards of forty years; he was shot on Willscott-hill, on the evening of the 10th of January last, by his nephew, Gulielmo Giovanni Bazetti Kalabergo, who had lately come over from Italy and had only resided with his uncle about ten weeks. He was tried and convicted for the offence at the Oxford Assizes and executed on the 22nd of March, 1852.

BY WILLIAM HANDY, ILMINGTON.

Ye natives of this land I pray,
That would your feelings show,
Come purchase now of me to-day,
Before I further go.

Unto these lines that here are wrote,
Pray for a moment spend,
And hear the subject on the youth
Who shot his kindest friend.

Kalabergo was the man we hear,
That met this awful fate,
By one that was his kinsman near,
Who sought his life to take.

A jeweller was this man by trade,
And oftimes travelled wide,
But ne'er had felt the least afraid,
When riding side by side,

By him with whom he had such care,
And brought across the sea,
In order that he soon might share
His trade and property.

In Banbury town he made his home,
And by industry got
A horse and trap there of his own,
To take things from his shop.

Two days from home he had been out
A usual round had been,
Which shortly after brought about
This sad and murderous scene.

The business of the day being done,
They turned for home again,
But no thought in his mind had run,
That he should soon be slain.

Tho' standing on the brink of death,
This wicked deed was planned,
And shortly after yields his breath
Unto a murderer's hand.

This nephew now was walking by,
Who had the pistol got,
To Willscott-hill they soon drew nigh
He there his uncle shot.

This was the friend he thought to trust
In care of all his wealth,
One on which you might think just
As worthy as himself.

But man by nature's so defiled,
That came by Adam's fall,
And enters every mother's child,
And brings death on us all.

But none would think a man like this,
Possessed of such a friend,
Would sacrifice his hope of bliss,
To such a wicked end.

Some person distant heard the shot,
When travelling on that way,
Who shortly came unto the spot,
And found the body lay.

And several more not far behind,
Came up the corpse to view,
Which to their sorrow they did find,
A man whom they well knew.

The news soon went to Banbury town
And filled each mind with woe,
Still they hoped he might be found
Who laid his body low.

For none in years advanced so far,
Was more beliked than he,
The way he's gone to heaven's bar,
He paved with charity.

When first a stranger to this land,
His acts of love were shown,
To the distressed he lent his hand,
And soon became well known.

Ask where you may it is the same,
By high or low degree,
For miles around he bears the name,
"A man of Charity."

This murderous man could take no rest
But shortly ran for home,
A fire was kindled in his breast,
Against his heart of stone.

The craft he used this to conceal,
Struck numbers with surprise,
For many thought his grief was real,
And then he told such lies.

A month before the time we're told,
It seems the plot he laid,
He bought the pistol and the mould
And then the bullets made

With which he meant to shoot his
When he a chance could see, (friend
Which caused his own life for to end
Upon that fatal tree.

This wicked man was soon found out
That did this murderous deed,
Still lies proceeded from his mouth,
The people to deceive.

But after this within the cell,
He to the priest confessed,
And said, "I did my uncle kill,
Which much disturbs my rest.

"Great God have mercy on my soul
Though guilty as I be, (whole
Pray, wash me clean, and make me
Through Christ who died for me.

"My sentence now is to be hung,
My friends will long bewail
The loss of me, their wicked son,
Now lying in Oxford jail."

This little rhyme I now must end,
Which is alas, too true,
God rest the soul of that dear friend,
Killed by his own nephew.

WILLIAM PRATT, Printer, Digbeth, Birmingham.

"Killed by His Own Nephew": The Rare Sensational 1852 Banbury Murder Broadside

5. [Broadside].

[Murder].

Handy, William [1824-1896].

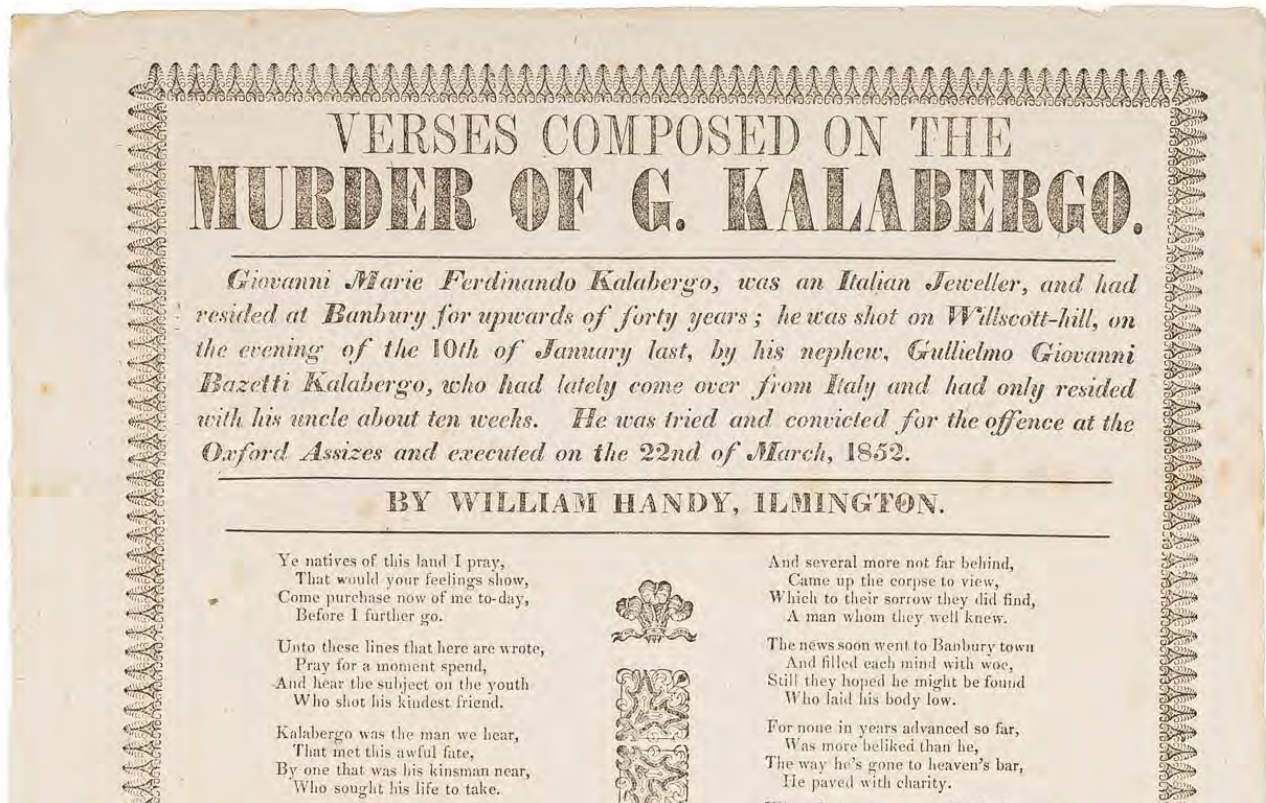
Verses Composed on the Murder of G. Kalabergo. Birmingham: William Pratt, Printer, Digbeth, [1852].

Broadside. 14-3/4" x 10" (37.6 x 25.3 cm). Text in two columns divided by an ornamental typographic rule below a bold headline; enclosed within an elaborate woodcut border. Moderate toning, original fold lines, sparse light foxing, and minor edgewear. A very good, crisp survival of a fragile ephemeral piece. \$1,850.

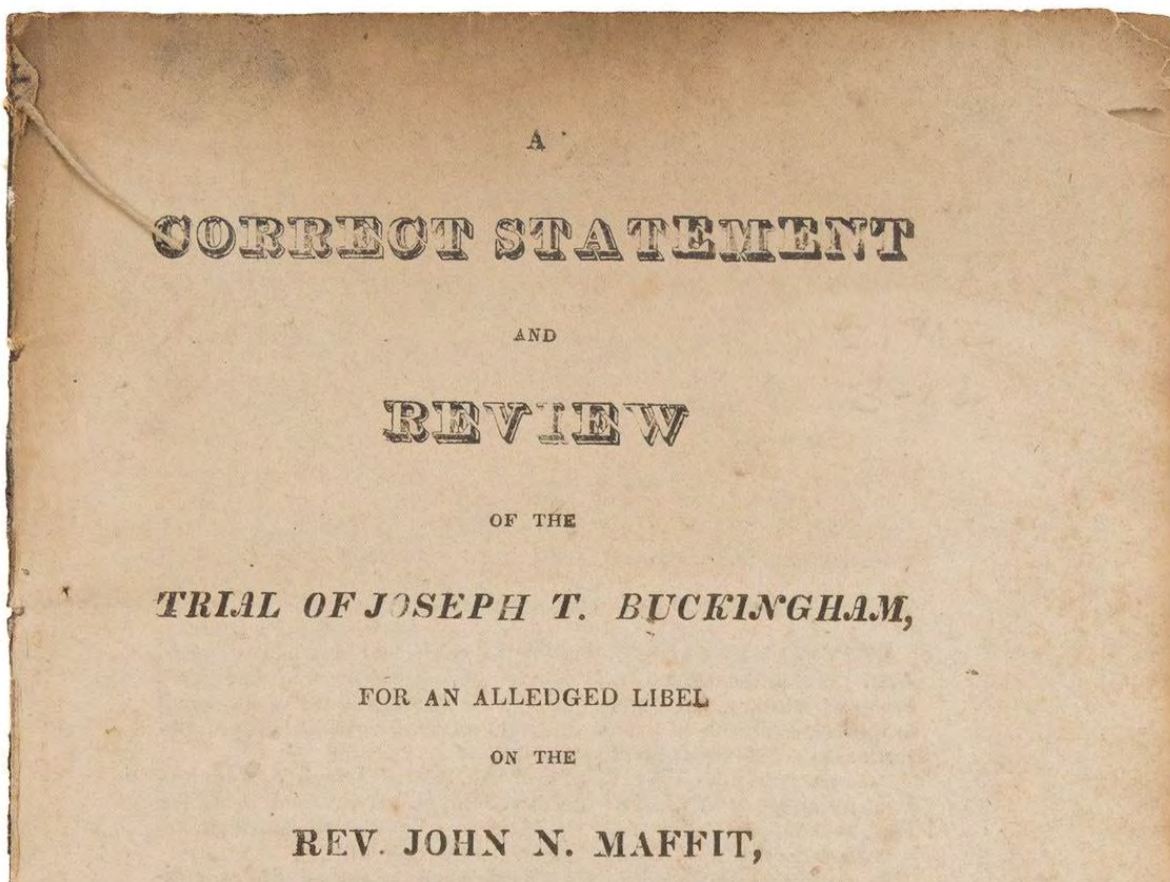
* First and only edition of this rare true-crime broadside ballad, written by the Warwickshire vernacular poet William Handy of Ilmington. The text recounts the sensational 1852 murder of Giovanni Maria Ferdinando Kalabergo, an Italian jeweler and 40-year resident of Banbury. In a notable case of avunculicide, Kalabergo was shot in the head on Williamscothe Hill by his 22-year-old nephew, Guglielmo (often anglicized as William), whom he had brought from Italy to assist in his clockmaking business. Guglielmo initially claimed they were ambushed by highwaymen, but a police search uncovered bloodstained clothes and matching bullet molds. Following a brief, heavily publicized trial at the Oxfordshire Lent Assizes and a dramatic escape attempt from a holding window, Guglielmo was executed at Oxford Castle before a crowd of 10,000.

This ballad represents one of only three known surviving works by William Handy. It stands as a significant artifact of mid-19th-century street literature and regional English printing, published by the prominent Birmingham broadside printer William Pratt.

OCLC locates 2 copies globally (British Library, Oxford University/Bodleian). Not found in Library Hub.



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Early American Freedom of the Press: The 1822 Boston Libel Trial of Editor Joseph T. Buckingham

6. Buckingham, Joseph T[inker], [1779-1861].

A Correct Statement and Review of the Trial of Joseph T. Buckingham, for an Alledged Libel on the Rev. John N. Maffit, before the Hon. Josiah Quincy, Judge of the Municipal Court, Dec. 16, 1822. Boston: William S. Spear, No. 4, Spear's buildings, Congress-street, 1822.

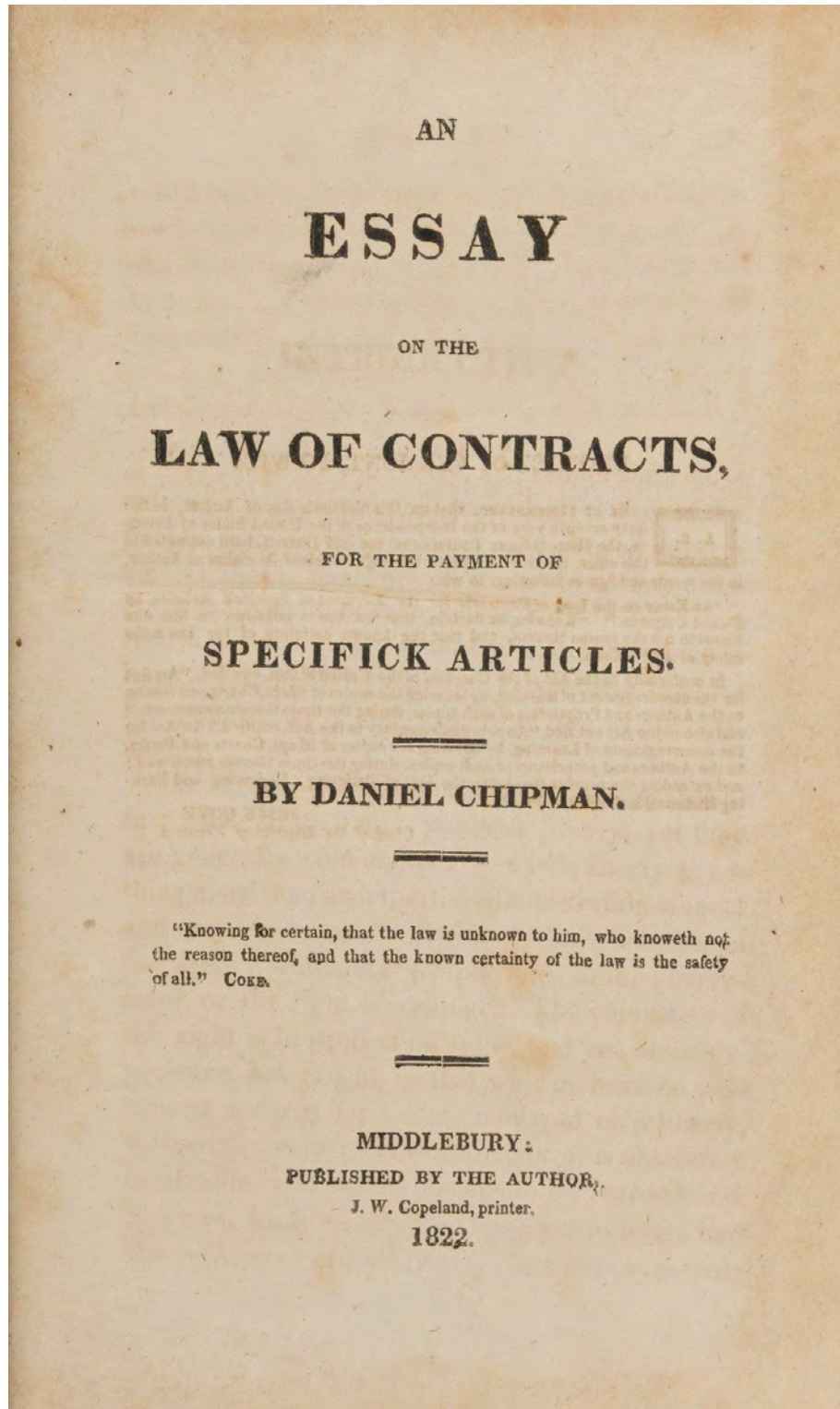
Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/4"; 21.6 x 13.3 cm.) [iii], 4-16 pp. Disbound pamphlet. Browned. Chipping to edges. Internally clean. A good copy. \$450.

* First edition. Buckingham was a fearless editor in the mold of William Cobbett, often involved in non-violent confrontations. Maffitt was a poet as well as a clergyman, whose theatrical preaching style made him a frequent target for critics. The presiding judge, Josiah Quincy, was a towering Massachusetts political figure who later became the Mayor of Boston and President of Harvard University.

This trial exposed a massive schism in Boston society between his devoted followers and defenders of traditional New England clerical decorum. The author praises both Buckingham and Maffitt, and agrees with the verdict, blaming the affair on misguided friends of Maffitt's, particularly Alexander Jones, Jr., an episcopal minister from Providence, Rhode Island.

Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 13280; McCoy, *Freedom of the Press* (B613).

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The First American Treatise on Contracts

7. Chipman, Daniel [1765-1850].

An Essay on the Law of Contracts, For the Payment of Specifick Articles. Middlebury, VT: Published by the Author, 1822. xvi, [17]-224 pp. Octavo (8" x 5"; 20.3 x 12.7 cm).

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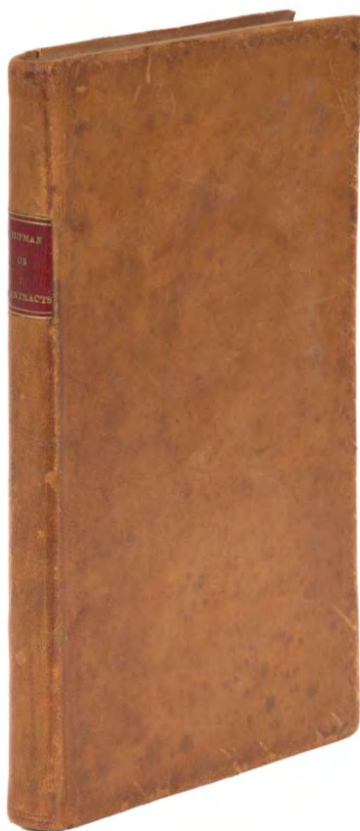
Full contemporary tan calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets and maroon gilt lettering piece to spine. A few minor nicks and scuffs, light rubbing to extremities, corners lightly bumped. Moderate toning to extremities, corner folds to a few leaves, foxing and offsetting to endleaves, some offsetting to margins of first and final leaves of text, faint illegible early pencil signature to front pastedown. A remarkably well preserved, very good copy. \$750.

* First edition. Chipman's landmark work occupies a pivotal place in American jurisprudence, capturing a moment of profound transformation in economic and legal thought. In his 1847 *Legal Bibliography*, J.G. Marvin famously criticized Chipman, asserting that the author "show[ed] what the law of contracts ought to be rather than what the law of contracts is." However, modern legal historians view Marvin's critique as a failure to grasp a rapidly evolving legal landscape, demonstrating instead that Chipman's ideas were profoundly ahead of their time.

As legal historian Morton Horwitz points out, Chipman was the first American jurist to dismantle the traditional, paternalistic "equity theory of contract"-which focused on the inherent fairness of an exchange-and submerge it in a modern "conception of contractual obligation based exclusively on express bargains" determined strictly by market values. Consequently, this essay remains an indispensable primary source for understanding the development of early American commercial law and the unique marketplace practices of the young republic.

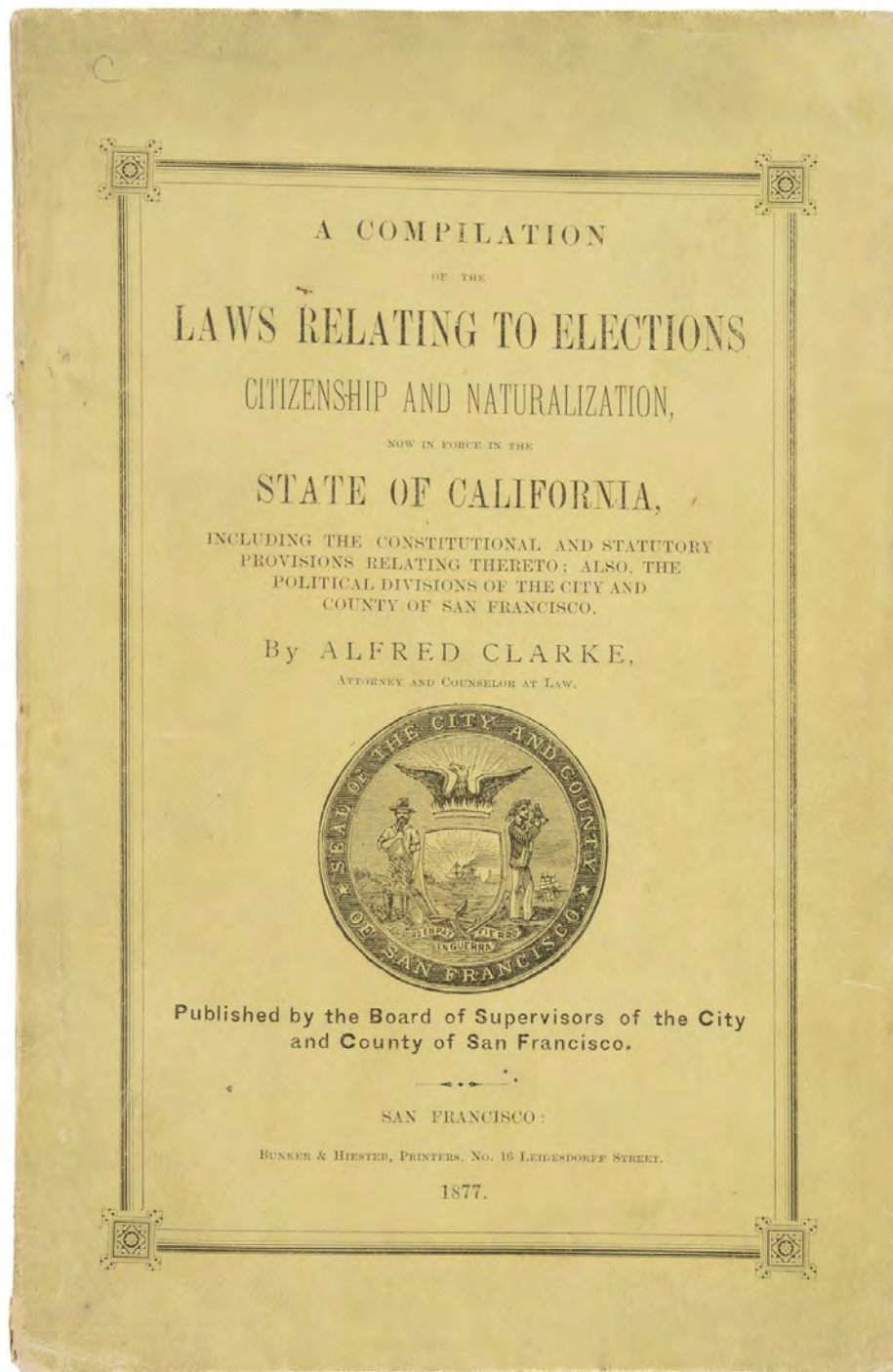
Daniel Chipman was a distinguished Vermont attorney, a professor of law at Middlebury College, and a vital political figure in the state's formative years. He served as a representative to both the Vermont state legislature and the U.S. Congress, and was a prominent delegate to several Vermont constitutional conventions.

Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 189. Horwitz, *The Transformation of American Law* 181. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 3621.



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Rare 1877 San Francisco Election and Naturalization Manual

8. Clarke, Alfred, Compiler.

A Compilation of the Laws Relating to Elections, Citizenship and Naturalization, Now in Force in the State of California, Including the Constitutional and Statutory Provisions Relating Thereto; Also, the Political Divisions of the City and County of San Francisco. San Francisco: Bunker & Hiester, Printers, 1877.

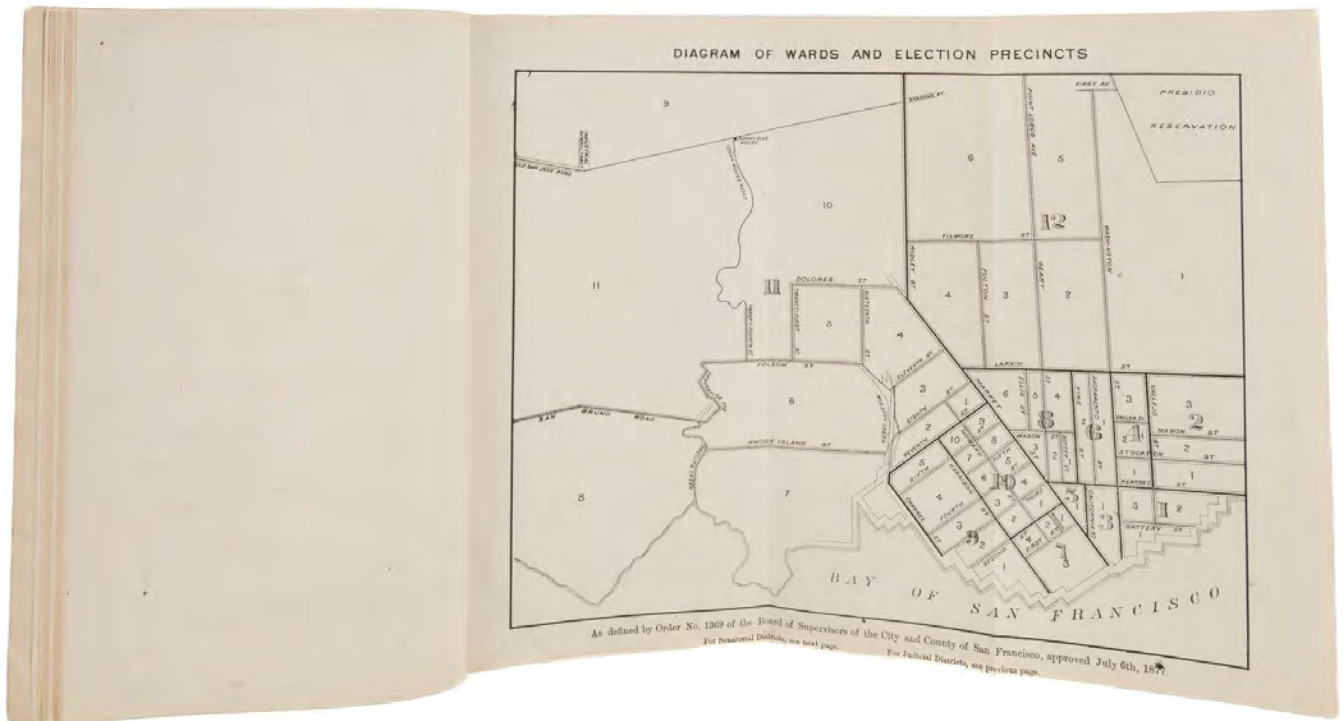
The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Recent Acquisitions June 30, 2026

Octavo (8-3/4" x 5-1/2"; 22.2 x 14 cm). xxiii, [1], 184 pp. 3 diagrams, 1 folded map of Wards and Election Precincts. Sewn stamped yellow printed wrappers. Moderately edgeworn and soiled. Internally clean. A very good copy. \$450.

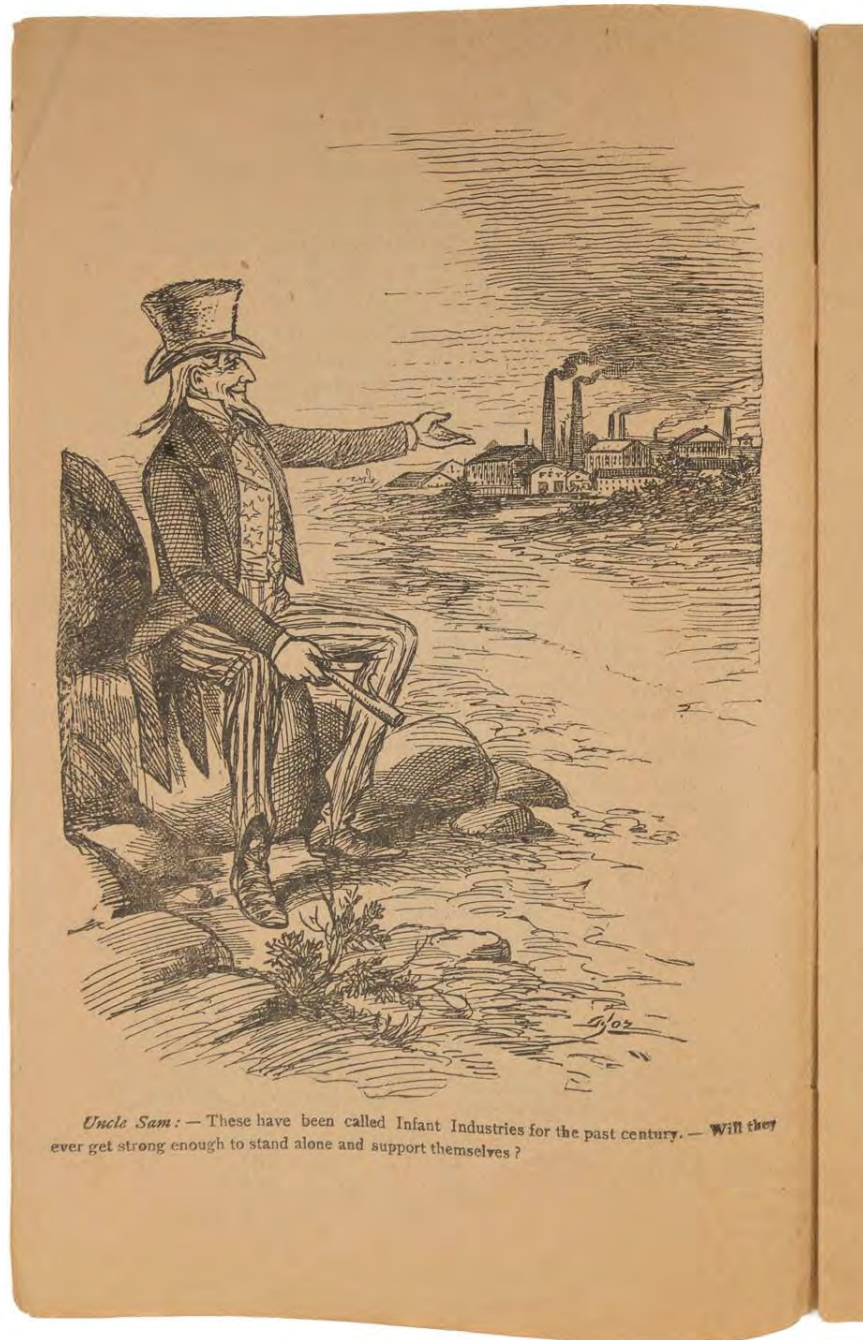
* An important historical legal reference book compiled by Alfred Clarke, an attorney and counselor at law, for the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco. It tracks early state statutes in the diverse and fast-evolving constitutional and statutory provisions governing voting and civil status in Reconstruction-era California prior to the major overhaul of the 1879 California Constitution.

The text outlines the criteria used by state and federal courts in California to process citizenship applications during a turbulent period of shifting immigration demographics and legal battles over nationality. It features a specialized local section outlining the municipal wards, voting precincts and district boundaries specific to the City and County of San Francisco during the late 1870s.

This work was compiled at a time when local municipalities and states still wielded massive influence over the policing of alien arrivals and the distribution of political rights before federal frameworks centralized standard immigration policy.



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"Thou Shalt Not Steal": Rare 1892 Grover Cleveland Campaign Pamphlet on Tariffs: OCLC Locates 2 Copies

9. Cleveland, Grover, [1837-1908].

Russell, William E.

Atkinson, Edward.

Mills, R.Q.

Carlisle, Senator.

Schurz, Carl.

"Thou Shalt Not Steal." A Few Words on the Tariff. Together with Some Pointed Illustrations by Prominent Artists. Boston: A.J. Philpott & Co., 1892. [32] pp. Illustrations. Octavo (9" x 6"; 22.8 x 15.2 cm).

The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Recent Acquisitions June 30, 2026

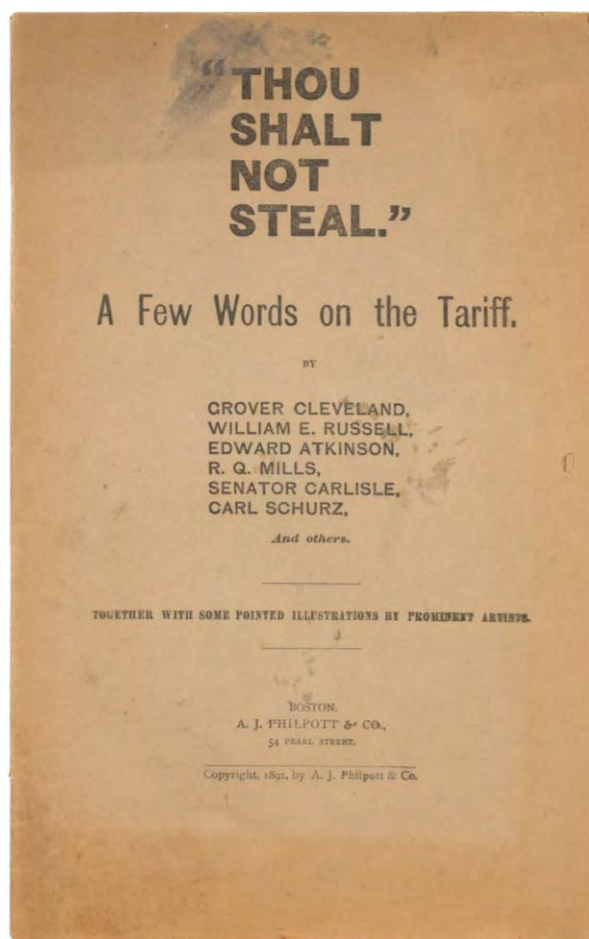
Stapled pamphlet. Moderate shelfwear and soiling with some smudging to cover. Frontispiece illustration of Uncle Sam has added crayon color. A good copy. \$450.

* This pamphlet was published during the 1892 presidential campaign when tariffs were the defining economic issue. It served as critical campaign literature for Grover Cleveland's historic non-consecutive reelection bid against Benjamin Harrison. Cleveland's Democrats campaigned heavily on lowering tariffs (framing high protective tariffs as "stealing" from the working class). Meanwhile, Republicans championed protectionism.

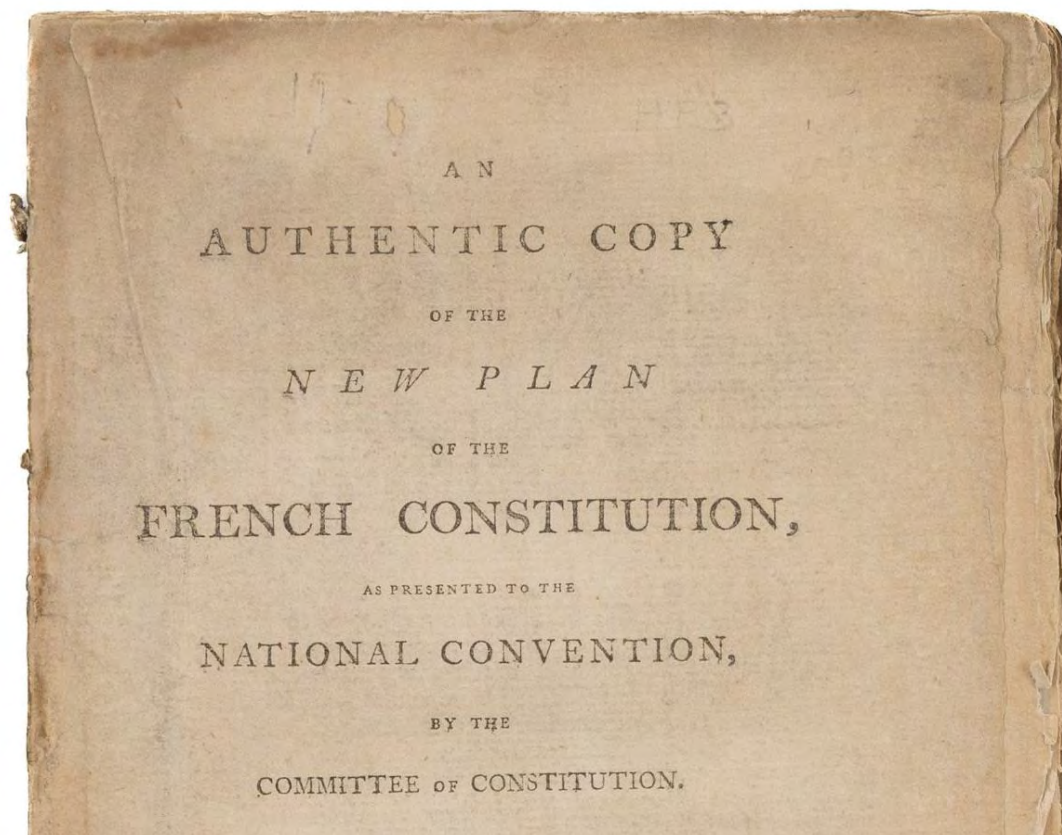
The list of contributors represents the intellectual and political powerhouse of the "Bourbon Democrats" (pro-business, anti-tariff, sound-money Democrats) and their allies, such as Edward Atkinson, a highly influential industrialist and free-trade economist; Carl Schurz, a famous Civil War general, politician, and leader of the "Mugwumps," or Republicans who crossed party lines to support Cleveland's anti-corruption, anti-tariff platform and Roger Q. Mills and Senator John G. Carlisle, who were key Southern congressional leaders who pioneered early tariff-reform legislation (like the Mills Bill of 1888).

"Our present tariff laws, the vicious, inequitable, and illogical source of unnecessary taxation, ought to be at once revised and amended." From Pres. Cleveland's address to Congress, Dec. 1887.

Only two copies found on OCLC at the Detroit Public, and the Rutherford B. Hayes Library.



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The Blueprint That Cost a Philosopher His Life: Condorcet's Tragic 1793 French Constitution Plan

10. Condorcet, M[arquis de Jean-Antoine-Nicolas de Caritat], [1743-1794].

An Authentic Copy of the New Plan of the French Constitution, as Presented to the National Convention, by the Committee of Constitution.: To which is Prefixed the Speech of M. Condorcet, on Friday, February 15, 1793, (M. Breard, President,) Delivered in the Name of the Committee of Constitution. London: Printed for J. Debrett, Opposite Burlington House, Piccadilly, 1793. [ii], li, [1], 58 pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/4"; 22.5 x 14 cm).

Disbound. Uncut. Outer leaves worn and chipped at edges, but text remains broad-margined and stable. Light age-toning. Internally clean and crisp. A good unsophisticated copy. \$450.

* First English edition. This text represents the intellectual peak of the French Revolution by turning abstract Enlightenment theory into a working legal framework. Known as the "Plan Condorcet," it served as the ultimate manifesto of the moderate Girondin faction. Its rejection by the National Convention marked the precise moment the Revolution swung from rational legal reform into the radical, violent Reign of Terror.

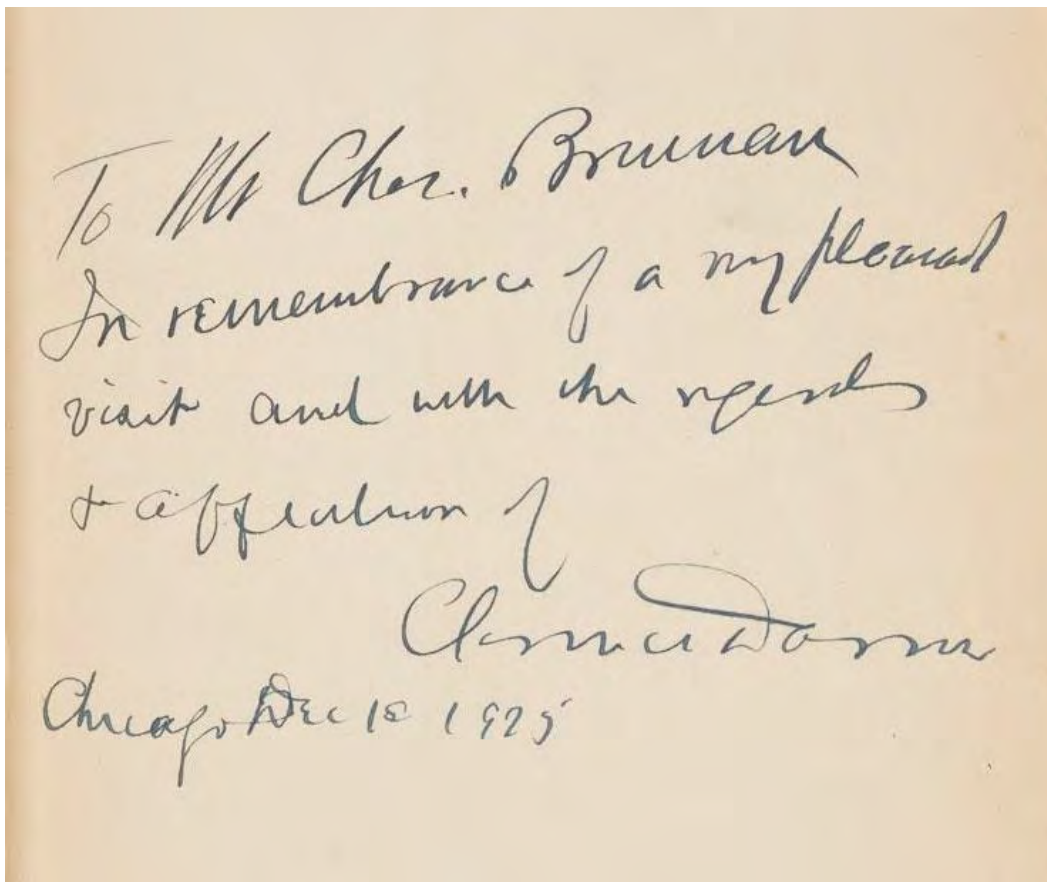
Shortly after presenting this plan, the Jacobins ordered Condorcet's arrest, forcing him into hiding where he wrote his famous philosophical masterpiece on human progress before dying mysteriously in a prison cell days after his capture.

Published by John Debrett, this specific London edition highlights how closely and anxiously the British public followed the political collapse of their neighbor across the Channel.

English Short-Title Catalogue T22771

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Inscribed by Darrow, Chicago, December, 1925.

11. Darrow, Clarence [1857-1938].

A Persian Pearl and Other Essays. Chicago: C.L. Ricketts (Lakeside Press colophon), 1902.

Second edition. Octavo. 160, [1] pp. Quarter cloth over patterned paper boards, gilt title to spine, top edge gilt, deckle fore and bottom edges. Light soiling along spine and cloth sections of boards, corners lightly bumped and worn. Light toning to interior. Previous owner's presentation inscription "Arthur- / I know Charlie / would have wanted you / to have this- / Affectionate regards- / Leonora Brennan" to front pastedown. Darrow presentation inscription "To Mr Char. Brennan / In remembrance of a very pleasant / visit and with the regards / & appreciation of / Clarence Darrow / Chicago Dec [10?] 1925" to front free endpaper. \$500.

* *A Persian Pearl* was Darrow's first book and remains the cornerstone of any Darrow collection. It consists of five essays. "A Persian Pearl" is an appreciation of Omar Khayyam's *Rubaiyat*. The other essays discuss Walt Whitman, Robert Burns, realism in literature and art and the importance of facing up to past mistakes without fear or shame.

In December 1925, Darrow was based in Chicago following his legendary defense in the Scopes "Monkey Trial" in Tennessee earlier that year, and the first deadlocked trial of Dr. Ossian Sweet in Detroit in November. At this time, Darrow was preparing for the retrial of Dr. Sweet, a Black physician, and his family, who were on trial for murder after firing into a white mob that attacked their newly purchased home in a white Detroit neighborhood.

Hunsberger, *Clarence Darrow: A Bibliography* 44

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**Abolitionist Protest & Princely Binding: A Rare
1591 Legal Humanist Landmark Gifted by John Jay II**

12. Everaerts, Nicolaas [1462-1532].

Pardoux, Duprat [1520?-1570?].

Loci Argumentorum Legales. Nunc Recens Recogniti, Diligentia Magna Emendati, Summariis Singulis Locis Praefixis Illustrati, Ac P. Prateij Adnotatiunculis Doctissimis ad marginem Adscriptis Locupletati. Accessit Geminus Index, Quorum Prior Seriem Locorum Legalium; Posterior Res & Verba in hoc Libro Contenta Copiosissimè Exhibet. Frankfurt: Ex Officina Typographica Nicolai Bassaei, 1591.

Octavo (7-1/2" x 5"; 19 x 5.2 cm). 24, 969 [i.e. 959], [1] pp. Error in pagination due to a contemporary printer layout mistake; text is complete. Contemporary paneled pigskin, front panel has central image of Frederick William I, Duke of Saxe-Weimar [reigned 1573-1602]. Rear panel features a central image of his coat of arms. Raised bands, faint early hand-lettered title to spine, small later shelf label to foot of spine, edges colored green. Light soiling, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and somewhat worn. Later bookplate of General Theological Seminary, New York, and faint early marking in red pencil ("945") to front pastedown. Presentation inscription from John Jay II (dated 1848) to front free endpaper. Seminary library label and security tag to rear pastedown. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing in places. Brief annotations and underlining in early hand to a few leaves, early owner inscriptions of St. Michael's Monastery of Bamberg and embossed stamp of Seminary to title page, seminary library numbers to its verso. A very good copy. \$4,500.

This text stands as a major landmark in the history of the theory of legal interpretation and logic. First published in 1516, it applies the classical method of discovering arguments through standard categories or "topics" (*loci*) specifically to civil and canon law. The work was highly influential throughout Europe. This rare 1591 edition uniquely highlights the network of Renaissance legal humanists. It blends Dutch legal humanism with French legal humanism (*mos gallicus*) by integrating the marginal notes (*scholia*) and detailed summaries written by the French scholar Pardoux Duprat. Duprat was a student of the famous Protestant jurist Jean de Coras. The primary author, Nicolaas Everaerts, served as president of both the Court of Holland and the Great Council of Mechlin. He is widely recognized as one of the earliest foundational authorities on Roman-Dutch law.

The custom pigskin binding links this book to the intense religious and political battles of late 16th-century Germany. The covers feature the official crest and portrait of Frederick William I, the Duke of Saxe-Weimar. In 1591, the exact year this edition was printed, the Duke became the powerful regent of the Electorate of Saxony. He was a strict defender of orthodox Lutheranism who actively fought to wipe out Calvinist influences in his territories. Displaying his coat of arms on a foundational book about legal logic highlights how closely law, publishing, and the politics of the Reformation were intertwined.

The book's physical journey includes an extraordinary association with the American anti-slavery movement. The title page shows it was originally held by the historic Benedictine St. Michael's Monastery in Bamberg, Germany, whose library was scattered when it closed down in 1803. The book was later acquired by John Jay II [1817-1894], a prominent New York City lawyer, diplomat, and grandson of Founding Father John Jay.

The front free endpaper features a signed presentation inscription from John Jay II to the General Theological Seminary dated 1848. This specific date carries immense historical meaning. During the late 1840s, Jay was leading a fierce public battle against the Episcopal Church and its leadership over their decision to remain neutral on slavery and their exclusion of Black students. Gifting a classic, authoritative textbook on legal logic, construction, and justice to the church's primary seminary in 1848 was a sharp, intentional political statement. Jay was challenging the school's legalistic and conservative arguments using the very tools of classical legal logic.

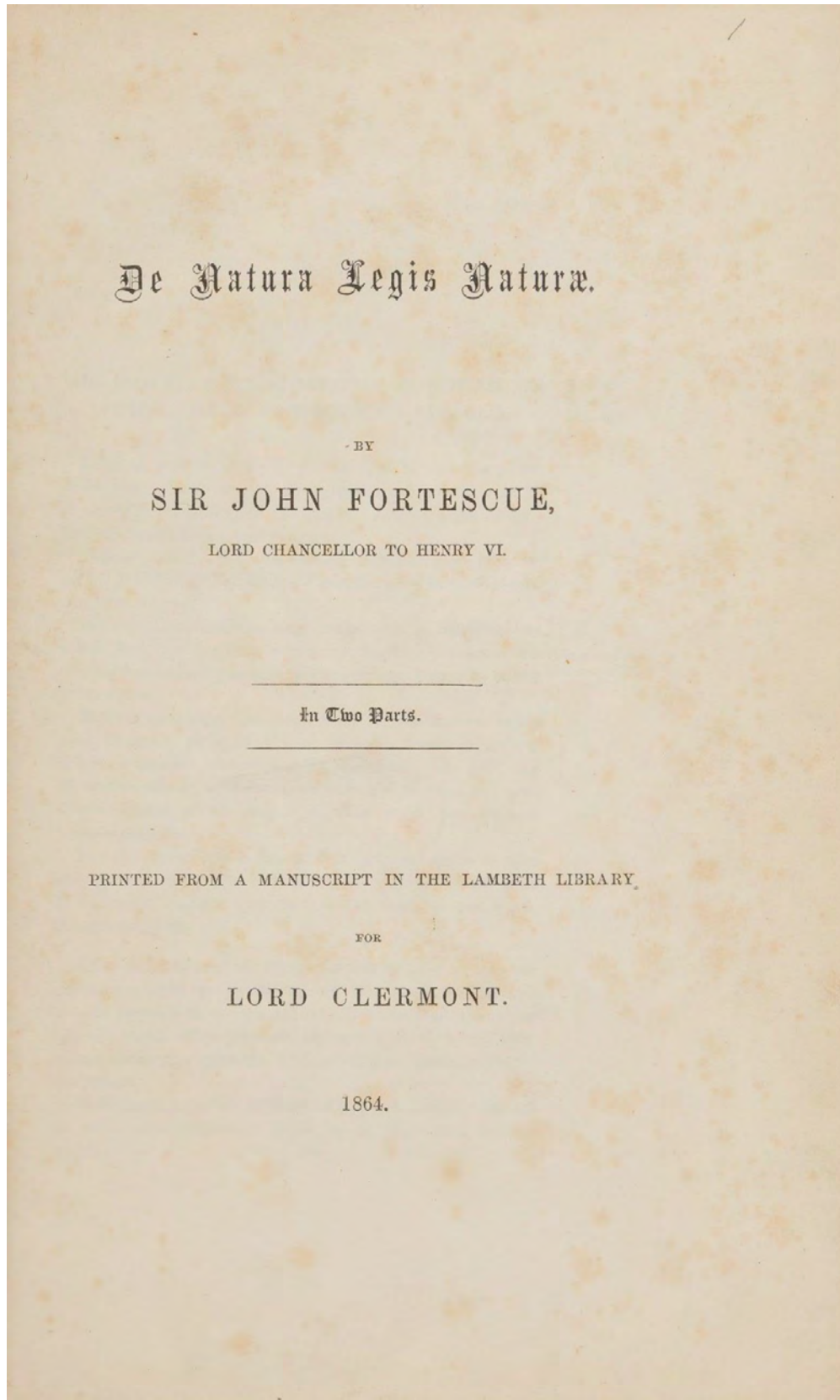
All early printings of this text remain exceptionally scarce. OCLC WorldCat records locate no physical copies of this specific 1591 Frankfurt edition in any library across North America.

Walker, *Oxford Companion to Law* 441-442. Dekkers, *Bibliotheca Belgica Juridica* 53.



Presented to
The Geneva Theological Seminary
at Chelsea,
by John Say-
may 10. 1840.

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The Rare True First Edition of Fortescue's 15th-Century Treatise: Lord Clermont's Own Copy (1864)

13. Fortescue, Sir John, (1394?-1476).

De Natura Legis Naturae... Printed from a Manuscript in the Lambeth Library for Lord Clermont. [London: s.n.], 1864. [ii], 66, 90 pp. Internal text contains *De Contentis* (p. [1]), *Pars Prima* (p. 3-66), and *Pars Secunda* (p. [1]-90). Octavo (10-1/4" x 6-1/2"; 26 x 16.5 cm).

Contemporary three-quarter blue morocco over gray-blue buckram with gilt stamped spine. Deckle edges. Worn and soiled with rubbing to extremities. Foxing to endleaves and blanks. Bookplate of Thomas Fortescue, Lord Clermont to front pastedown. A very good copy. \$850.

* First edition of this seminal fifteenth-century legal and political treatise, printed for private distribution. Written by Sir John Fortescue, Chief Justice of the King's Bench (1442-1461), during his exile in Scotland during the Wars of the Roses. This text remained in manuscript form for four centuries until this 1864 edition was pulled from the Lambeth Library by his descendant, Thomas Fortescue, Lord Clermont (1815-1887). Fortescue argues that natural law is the ultimate foundation of governance. He uses this concept to support the Lancastrian claim to the throne. His work heavily shaped English constitutional law by placing royal power under divine and legal principles rather than absolute rule.

The text provides a philosophical and legal defense of the Lancastrian claim to the English throne against the Yorkist faction. It famously argues that by both natural and divine law, succession cannot pass through a female line.

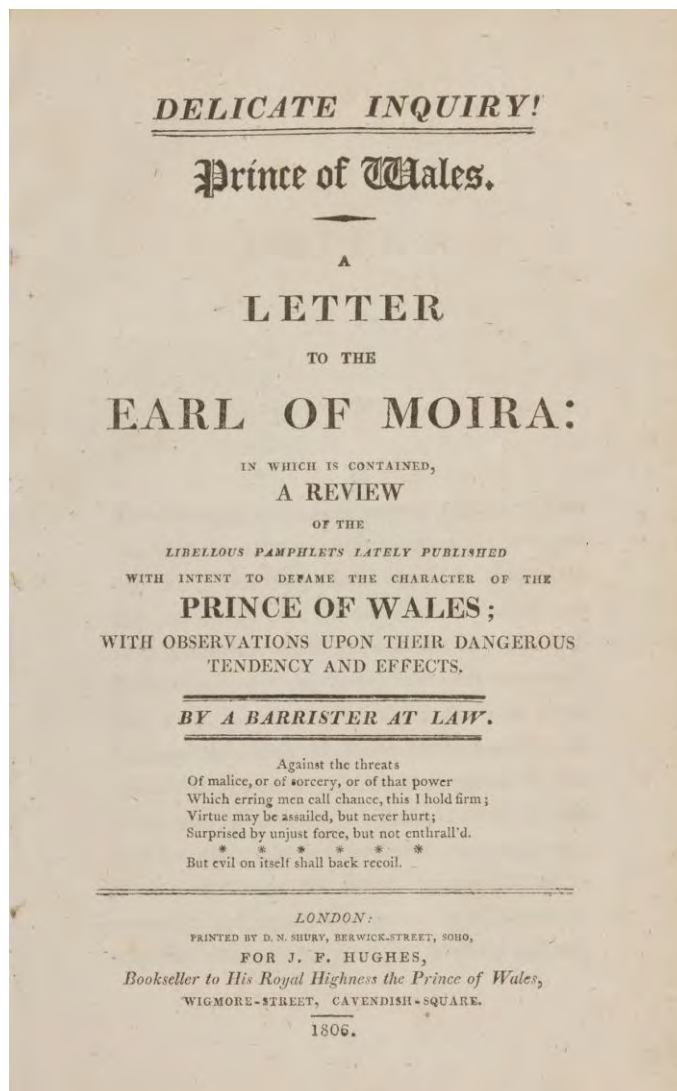
The work is a cornerstone of English constitutional history. It limits absolute royal power by arguing that a king's authority is bound by natural law, legal precedent, and coronation oaths.

Printed for private distribution by Thomas Fortescue, Lord Clermont (1815-1887), an Irish politician and family historian. Clermont transcribed the text directly from the original manuscript housed in the Lambeth Palace Library. This specific copy features Clermont's personal bookplate on the front pastedown.

OCLC locates 3 copies (British Library, Princeton, University of Manchester). Library Hub adds 3 more (Lambeth Palace, Oxford, Cambridge). Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:595.



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Scarce 1806 First Edition Defense of the Future King George IV Against "Libellous Pamphlets"

14. [Francis Rawdon-Hastings, Marquess of Hastings, [1754-1826]].

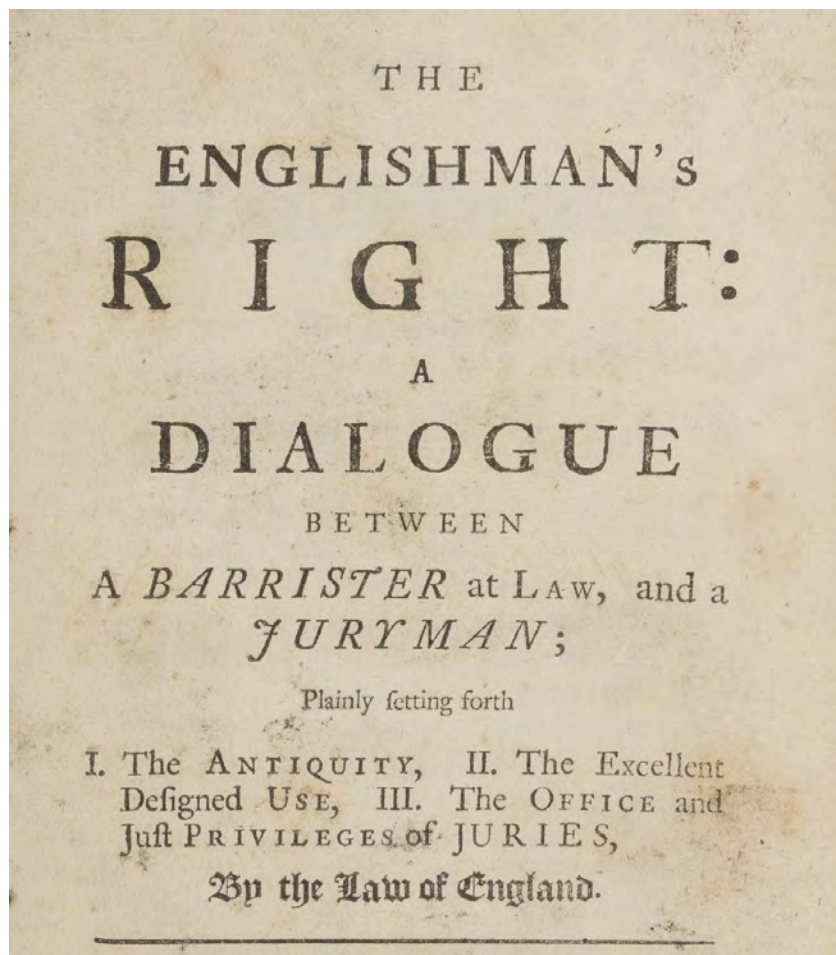
Delicate Inquiry! Prince of Wales: A Letter to the Earl of Moira in which is Contained a Review of the Libellous Pamphlets Lately Published with Intent to Defame the Character of the Prince of Wales; With Observations upon Their Dangerous Tendency and Effects. London: Printed by D.N. Shury for J.F. Hughes, 1806. 77 pp. Octavo (8" x 5"; 20.3 x 12.7 cm).

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet, with half-title, lacking final leaf of ads. Moderate shelfwear and soiling with traces of binder's glue to spine. Internally clean. A very good copy. \$250.

* First edition. A controversial pamphlet dating from the early in the Caroline controversies and a fine review of the ongoing pamphlet war, which erupted after the Prince of Wales (the future George IV) had asked a commission to undertake what the DNB characterizes as "this 'delicate investigation'" of reports of Princess Caroline's infidelities.

The commissioners found no proof of adultery but did discover that she was lending aid and support to her husband's political opponents.

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A Significant Work on the Right to Trial by Jury, This Copy Likely Belonged to Horace Walpole

15. Hawles, Sir John [1645-1716].

[Bacon, Sir Francis (1561-1626)].

The Englishman's Right: A Dialogue Between a Barrister at Law, and a Juryman; Plainly Setting Forth, I. The Antiquity, II. The Excellent Designed Use, III. The Office and Just Privileges of Juries, By the Law of England. London: Printed for Tho. Wotton, 1732. viii, 52 pp. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4"; 19.7 x 12.1 cm).

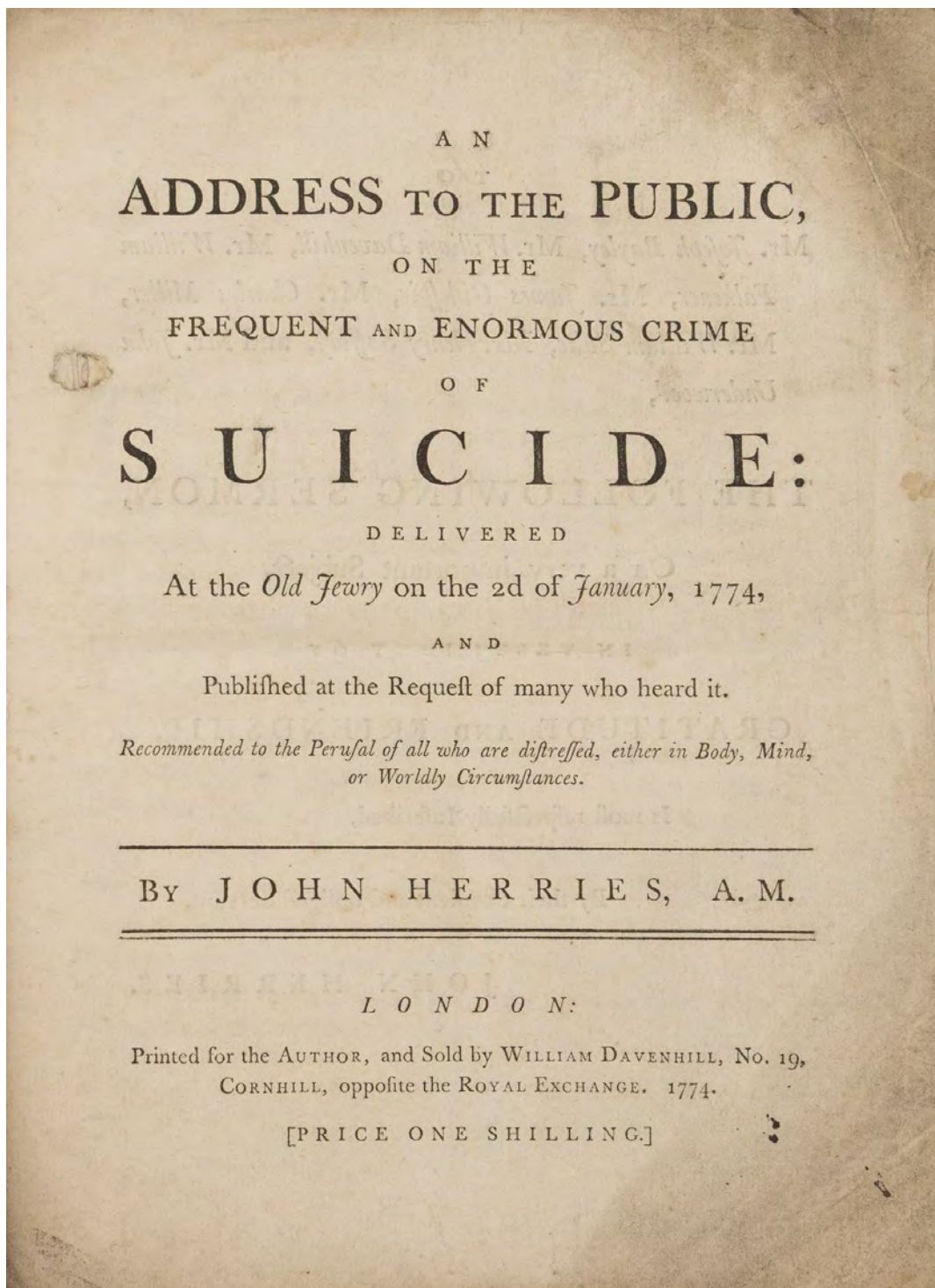
Stab-stitched pamphlet, untrimmed edges, bound in later wrappers with paper label to front cover. Penciling to paper label. Moderate toning, light soiling to exterior, light browning to margins of title page. A very good copy. \$650.

* Second edition of a work first published in 1680. This edition with a preface 'To The Bookseller' by 'J.K.' A staunch Whig, Hawles wrote *The Englishman's Right* to outline the rights, duties and proper behavior of a jurymen and to promote the jury system as a bulwark against tyranny. Immediately successful among Whigs and others who saw themselves as defenders of English liberties, it was received with great enthusiasm in America, where it was reprinted several times well into the nineteenth century.

Part of Lot 498 at Sotheby's, March 13, 1922, and possibly from the pamphlet collection of famed author and antiquarian Horace Walpole [1717-1797]. See Hazen, *A Catalogue Of Horace Walpole's Library* 1608. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T106583.

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Suicide, Sin and the Law in Georgian England

16. Herries, John [d. 1781].

An Address to the Public, On the Frequent and Enormous Crime of Suicide: Delivered at the Old Jewry on the 2d of January, 1774, And Published at the Request of Many Who Heard It. Recommended to the Perusal of All who are Distressed, Either in Body, Mind, Or Worldly Circumstances. London: Printed for the Author, And Sold by William Davenhill, No. 19, Cornhill, Opposite the Royal Exchange, 1774. [ii], 41, [1] pp. With a half-title. Quarto (11-1/2" x 9"; 29.2 x 22.8 cm).

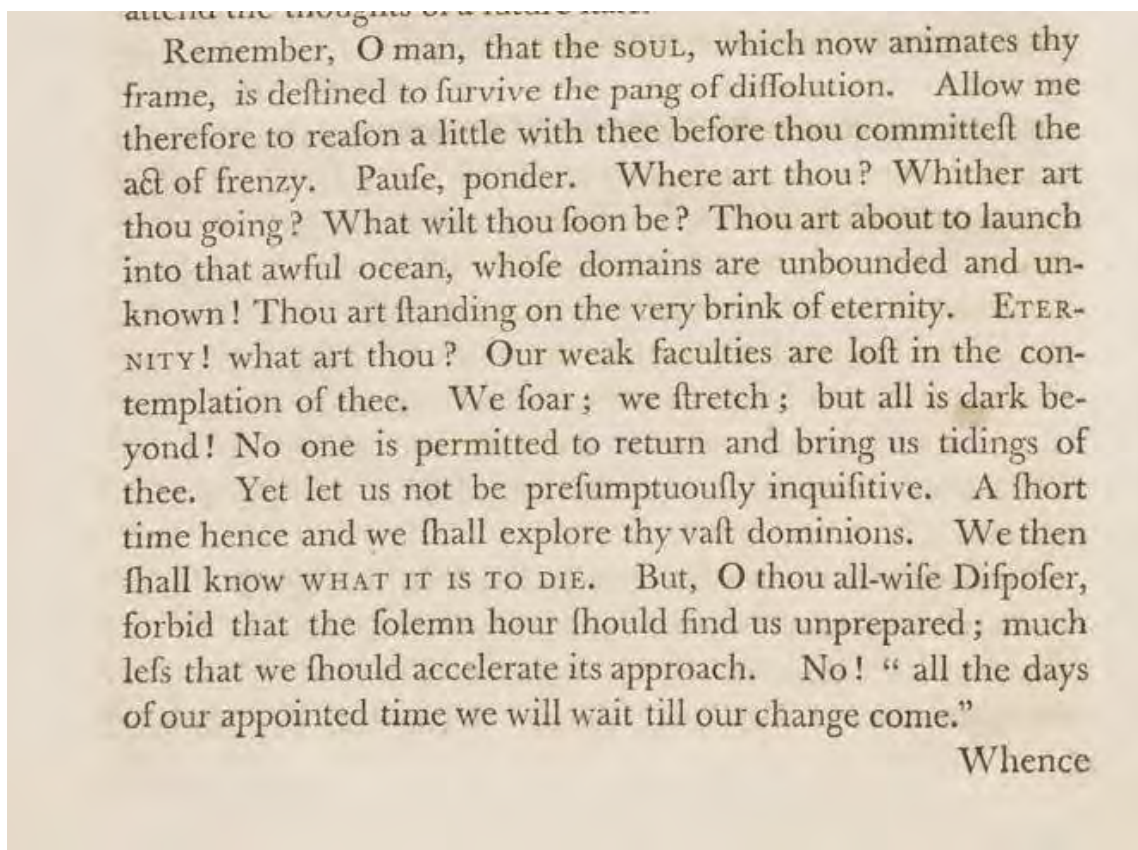
Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet with untrimmed edges laid into later plain thick-paper wrappers. Light soiling and some edgewear and chipping to wrappers. Moderate toning to interior, light soiling, edgewear, creasing, minor tears and a few chips to half-title, light foxing and dampstaining in a few places, title page and final leaf, corner folds to several leaves, tiny stab-hole through leaf E1 (pp.17-18) with negligible loss to text. A good, unsophisticated copy. \$650.

* First edition. Reverend John Herries, a Scottish clergyman and noted teacher of elocution and public speaking, delivered this address amid growing contemporary concern over suicide in Britain following the financial dislocations of the Credit Crisis of 1772-1773. Intended for readers "distressed, either in body, mind, or worldly circumstances," it offers a revealing glimpse into eighteenth-century religious, legal and social attitudes toward self-destruction.

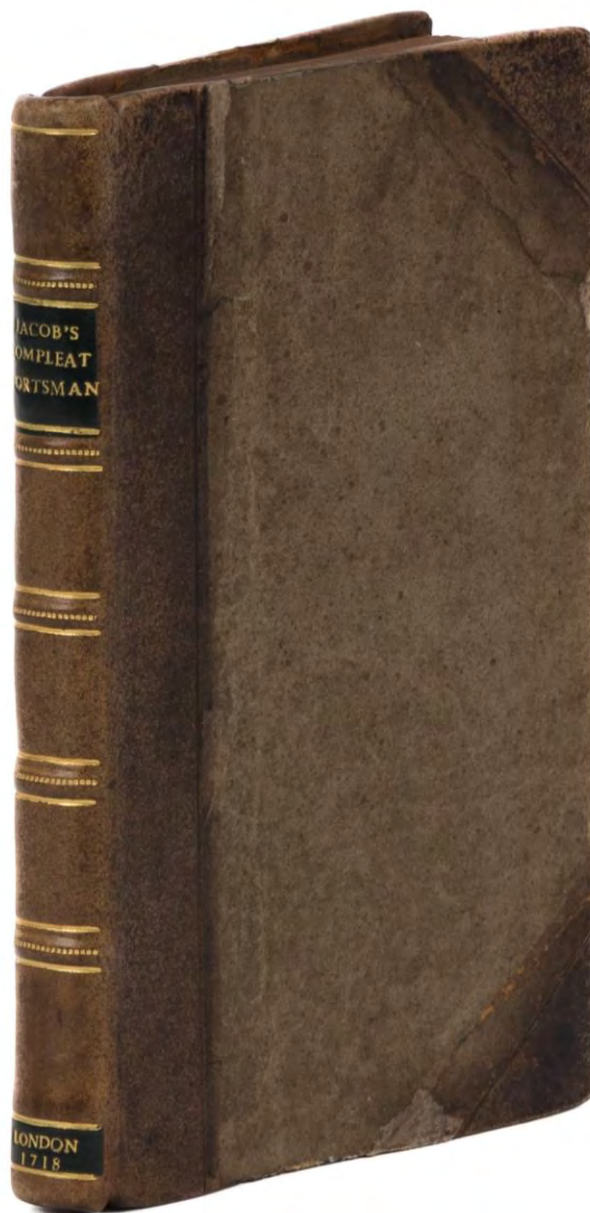
At the time suicide remained both a grave sin and a crime under English law, traditionally subjecting the deceased to a verdict of *felo de se*, with attendant penalties affecting burial and property rights. Herries vigorously rejects contemporary philosophical arguments that sought to justify self-destruction on grounds of personal autonomy, presenting suicide instead as a violation of divine law and social duty. Yet the work is equally notable for its pastoral concern for those suffering from emotional, physical or financial distress. Addressing readers tempted by despair, Herries advocates religious consolation, perseverance and communal support rather than condemnation alone.

A valuable document of the eighteenth-century debate over suicide, reflecting the intersection of religion, law, morality and emerging conceptions of mental suffering during the Enlightenment.

A second edition was published posthumously in 1781; both editions are notably scarce in trade. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T109020.



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Giles Jacob's Pioneering 1718 Masterwork on Hunting, Angling, and the Forest Laws

17. Jacob, Giles [1686-1744].

The Compleat Sportsman. In Three Parts. Part I. Containing the Nature and Various Kinds of Game, Under Their Several Denominations, with the Best Methods of Taking the Same, By Shooting, Hunting, Dogs, Nets, And Otherwise; and the Laws and Statutes made for Preservation of the Game, with Warrants to empower Game-Keepers, &c. Part II. Of the best Situations and Methods of erecting and Management of Parks, Warrens, &c. Of Hunting the Buck, Doe, &c. And a concise Abridgment of the Forest-Laws, and of all the Laws and Statutes relating to Deer: Methodically interspersed with Precedents of Warrants for Deer, &c. Part III. Of Fish and Fishing; The Most Successful Methods of Angling; The Only Proper Baits, Tackle and Agreeable Seasons for Taking all Sorts of Fish; and the Rivers Wherein they are to be Found; with the Statutes Relating to Fishing, &c. [London]: Printed by Eliz. Nutt, and R. Gosling, (Assigns of Edward Sayer Esq;) for J. Tonson at Shakespear's-Head in the Strand, and W. Taylor at the Ship in Pater-Noster-Row, 1718. 12mo. [12], 152, [4] pp. Octavo (6-1/4" x 4"; 15.8 cm x 10.2 cm).

The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Recent Acquisitions June 30, 2026

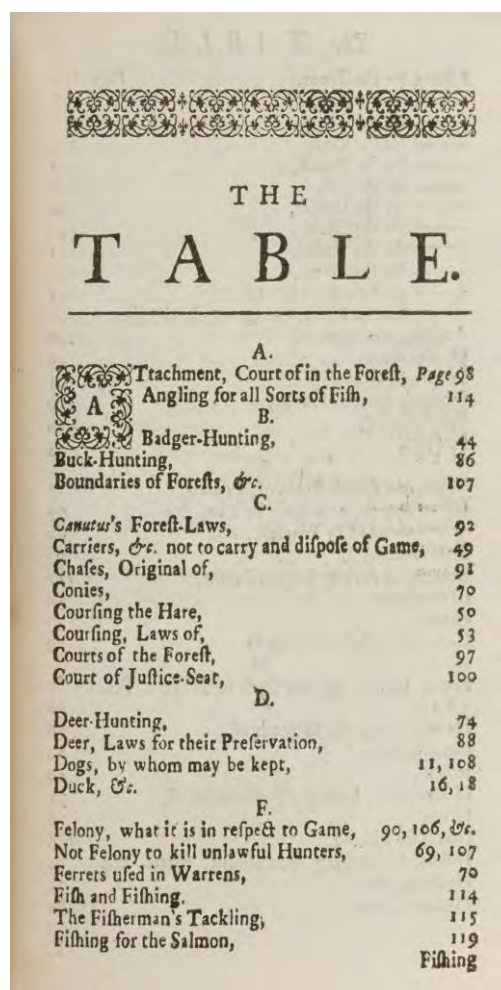
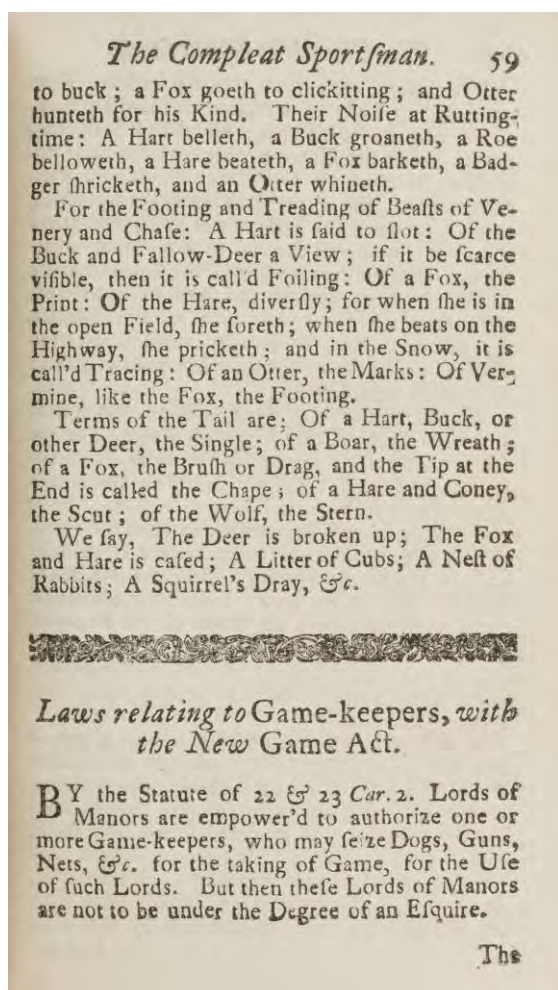
Recent three-quarter calf over original paper-covered boards, executed in a period style. Spine featuring gilt rules forming six compartments with a green morocco gilt lettering piece. Armorial bookplate of John Gunning to the front pastedown. A very good, crisp copy internally, featuring a neat, closed tear repair to the fore-margin of leaf B4, not affecting the text. \$1,500.

* The first and only edition published under this title of this pioneering guide. Giles Jacob, a prolific and idealistic 18th-century English legal writer, passionately believed that translating complex statutes into plain English would democratize the law and create a more egalitarian society.

This work represents the first time an English manual explicitly unified the recreational mechanics of field sports with the complex, restrictive web of English Forest and Game Laws. Divided into three comprehensive parts, the text systematically details the taking of game by shooting, hunting, and netting (Part I); the management of parks, warrens, and an abridgment of the Forest Laws (Part II); and the practical methods, baits, and seasons of angling alongside fishing statutes (Part III).

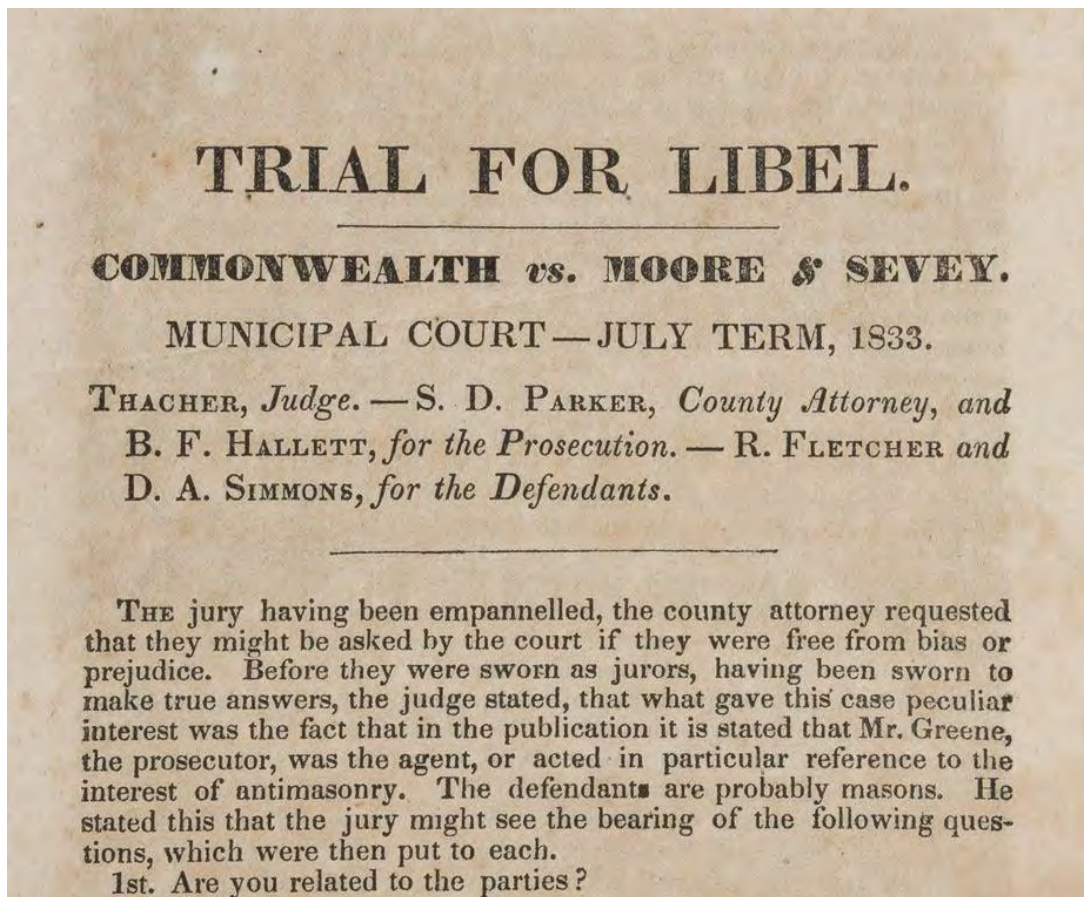
Jacob's highly successful handbooks eventually earned him the professional jealousy of Alexander Pope, who famously satirized him in *The Dunciad* as the "scourge of grammar" and the "blunderbuss of law."

English Short-Title Catalogue T137517.



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**A Vital Source for Research into Early American
Political Conspiracy, Partisan Journalism and Libel Law**

18. Locke, Charles H.

Trial of Moore & Sevey for a Libel of Samuel D. Greene: In the Municipal Court, Boston, July Term, 1833. Boston: Published by Moore & Sevey, 1833. 78, [2] pp. Includes the final unnumbered leaf containing publisher advertisements and errata. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2"; 22.8 x 13.9 cm).

Stab-stitched pamphlet in self-wrappers, untrimmed edges. Moderate toning, foxing, moderate soiling to exterior, faint dampspotting to a few leaves. A good, sound copy of a fragile and scarce survival. \$250.

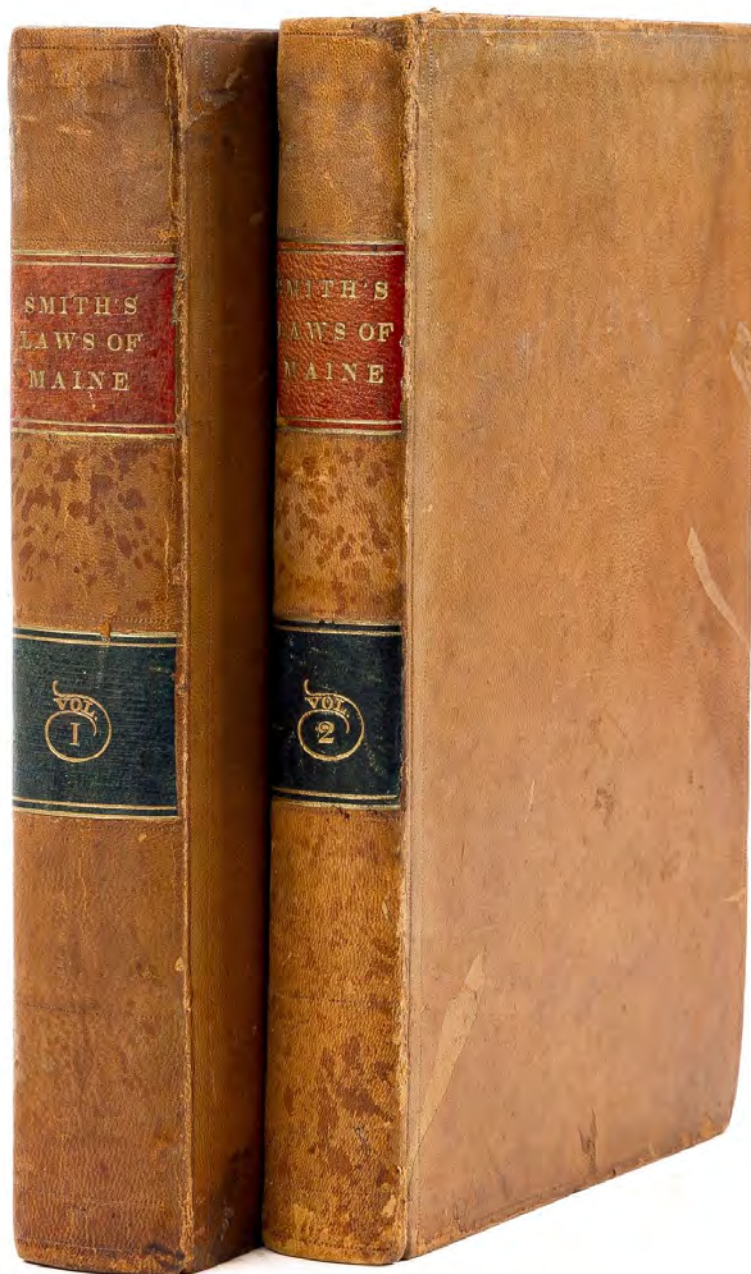
* First edition. This pamphlet documents the contentious criminal libel trial of prominent Freemasons Charles W. Moore and Edwin Sevey, who were accused of libeling outspoken and ardent Anti-Masonic activist Samuel D. Greene. The trial took place at the apex of the Anti-Masonic movement-America's first major third-party political movement-sparked by the mysterious 1826 disappearance of William Morgan. Greene was a highly vocal, radical anti-Masonic publisher in Boston.

By putting Moore and Sevey (editors of the *Masonic Mirror*) on trial for libel, this case publicly showcased the bitter, systemic legal and political warfare fought between secret societies and the early American establishment. A vital primary document for research into early American political conspiracy, partisan journalism, and the evolution of American libel law.

Sabin, *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America* 41724. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 12382.

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**Set of 1834 Maine Statutes Compiled by Morse Telegraph
Partner Francis O.J. Smith in a Handsome Contemporary Binding**

19. [Maine].

Smith, Francis O[rrmond] J[onathan] [1806-1876], Compiler.

Laws of the State of Maine, Volumes 1 and 2; With the Constitution of the U. States and of Said State, Prefixed. Also, Notes and References, Delineating the Additions and Modifications Thereof, Which have Been Enacted by the Legislature of the State, From 1821 to 1834. To Which are Appended, In Notes and Comments, A Full Synopsis of the Decisions Relating Thereto, Contained in the 17 Volumes of Massachusetts Reports, 10 Volumes Pickering's Reports, And 7 Volumes of Greenleaf's Reports. Portland: Thomas Todd and Colman, Holden & Co., 1834. Two volumes. [iv], 546, [2], civ, [2]; [iv], [547]-1048, [2] pp. Octavo (9-1/2" x 5-3/4"; 24.1 x 14.6 cm).

The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Recent Acquisitions June 30, 2026

Contemporary sheep, blind rules to boards, blind fillets and red and black lettering pieces to spines. Minor stains and scuffs to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities. Light toning to interiors, negligible light foxing in places, minor tears to edges of a few leaves. A very good set in a handsome contemporary binding. \$450.

* This comprehensive 1834 compilation consolidates Maine's statutory laws alongside detailed cross-references to contemporary judicial interpretations. In an ambitious effort to democratize legal access, the publisher's advertisement notes that this edition was:

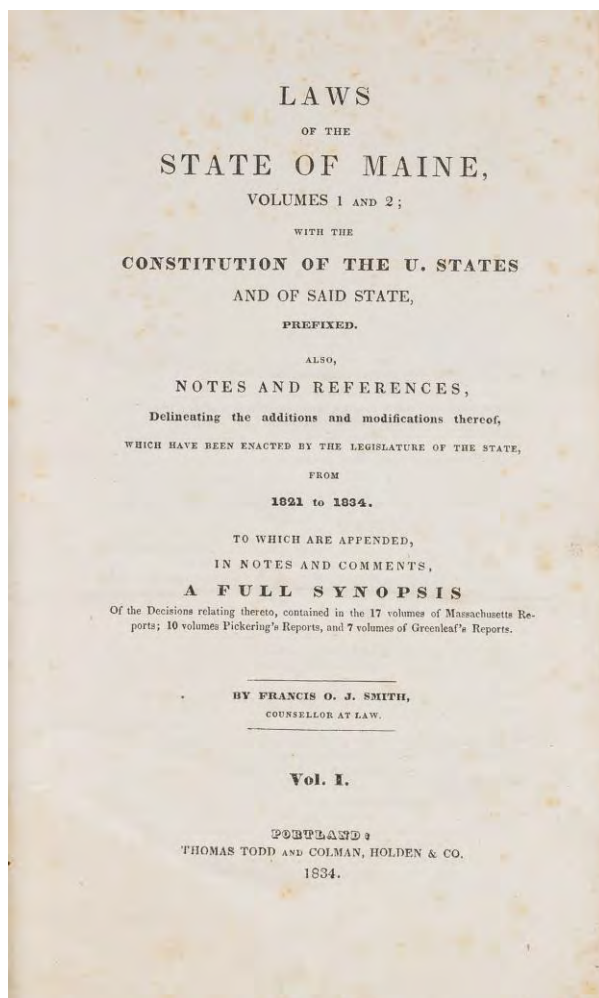
"...designed for the use of all classes of citizens, and not for those exclusively who are engaged in the practice of Law."

The volumes were meticulously designed to synthesize an entire legal library, aiming to serve as a reliable, single-source substitute for the thirty-four separate volumes of Law Reports from which its extensive notes were abstracted.

The compiler, Francis O.J. Smith, was a prominent Maine attorney and politician who would later secure a unique place in American history as an early business partner of Samuel Morse, helping to develop and promote the magnetic telegraph.

An exceptional, well-preserved copy of early New England legal history in a handsome contemporary binding.

Williamson, *A Bibliography of Maine* 9231. Babbitt, *Hand-List of Legislative Sessions and Session Laws* 160.



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The Government and People of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY,
in New-England.

To all unto whom these Presents shall come, Greeting :

KNOW Ye, That we have assigned and constituted, and do by these Presents assign, constitute and appoint Our Trusty and well-beloved Ebenezer Learned of Oxford Esquire to be one of Our Justices to keep Our Peace in our County of Worcester, within our State of Massachusetts Bay

And to keep and cause to be kept, the Laws and Ordinances made for the Good of the Peace and for the Conversation of the same, and for the Quiet, Rule and Government of Our People in the said County, in all and every the Articles thereof according to the Force, Form and Effect of the same, and to chastise and punish all Persons offending against the Form of those Laws and Ordinances or any of them in the County aforesaid, as according to the Form of those Laws and Ordinances shall be fit to be done ; and to cause to come before him the said Ebenezer Learned all those that shall break the Peace, or attempt any Thing against the same, or that shall threaten any of our People in their Persons, or in burning their Houses, to find sufficient Security for the Peace, and for the good Behaviour towards Us and our People ; and if they shall refuse to find such Security, then to cause them to be kept safe in Prison until they shall find the same ; and to do and perform in the County aforesaid, all and whatsoever, according to the Laws and Ordinances of our said STATE, or any of them, a Justice of the Peace may and ought to do and perform.

And with other our Justices of the Peace in our said County (according to the Tenour of the Commission to them granted) to enquire by the Oaths of good and lawful Men of our said County, by whom the Truth may be better known, of all and all Manner of Thefts, Trespases, Riots, Routs and unlawful Assemblies whatsoever, and all and singular other Misdoods and Offences of which by Law Justices of the Peace in their General Sessions may and ought to enquire, by whomsoever or howsoever done or perpetrated, or which shall hereafter happen, howsoever to be done or attempted in the County aforesaid, contrary to the Form of the Laws and Ordinances aforesaid, made for the common Good of our STATE aforesaid and the People thereof ;

And with other our Justices of the Peace in our said County (according to the Tenour of the Commission to them granted as aforesaid) to hear and determine all and singular the said Thefts, Trespases, Riots, Routs, unlawful Assemblies, and all and singular other the Premises, and to do therein as to Justice appertaineth, according to the Laws, Statutes and Ordinances aforesaid.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused the public Seal of our State of Massachusetts-Bay aforesaid, to be hereunto affixed : WITNESS the Major part of the Council of said State at Noabury this Sixteenth day of April. In the Year of our Lord, One thousand Seven hundred and seventy eight

By Order of the Major part of the Council with the Advice & Consents of Council.
John Avery Esq.

Jer. Bowd
Antimas Ward
Scouting
Palmer
St. Hotten
Zabier Tabor
John Whitecomb
Moses Gull
White
Benjamin
H. Garrison
Hopkins

John Stone
Oliver Prescott
A. Fuller

Justice of the Peace Commission Signed by 15 Revolutionary Patriots, Appointing Brigadier General Ebenezer Learned

**20. [Massachusetts].
[Justices of the Peace].**

The Government and People of the Massachusetts-Bay, In New-England. To All Unto Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greeting: Know Ye, That We Have Assigned and Constituted, And Do by These Presents Assign, Constitute and Appoint Our Trusty and Well-Beloved [Ebenezer Learned of Oxford Esquire] to be One of Our Justices to Keep Our Peace [In Our County of Worcester, Within Our State of Massachusetts Bay].... Roxbury, April 16, 1778.

15-3/4" x 10-1/2" (40 x 26.7 cm) part-printed document, filled in and signed by John Avery, Jr., Deputy Secretary of the Executive Council of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, large embossed seal to upper-right corner. Moderate toning, faint spotting, horizontal and vertical fold lines. A well-preserved document with remarkable associations. \$4,500.

* A remarkably preserved appointment issued during the height of the American Revolutionary War. Because Massachusetts had cast off British royal authority but had not yet ratified its formal state constitution (written by John Adams and adopted in 1780), the colony was governed by the 28-member Executive Council of the provincial congress. This document features the bold signatures of 15 Council Members acting collectively as the executive head of state, representing a "who's who" of Revolutionary New England leadership.

This commission was granted to Brigadier General Ebenezer Learned [1728-1801]. A seasoned veteran of the French and Indian War, Learned marched a regiment to Cambridge immediately following the Battle of Lexington in 1775 and played a vital role in the Siege of Boston. Promoted to Brigadier General in the Continental Army, he famously commanded a brigade under Horatio Gates at the Battle of Saratoga (1777), where his troops were instrumental in breaking the British lines. Plagued by failing health accelerated by the campaign, he resigned his military commission in March 1778. This civil appointment, dated exactly one month later, represents the home front honoring a broken hero with a vital peacetime magistracy.

Signers from the Executive Council include:

Artemas Ward [1727-1800], President of the Council: The first Commander-in-Chief of the New Army/Massachusetts forces before George Washington took command. Ward was a towering political and military figure, a Major General in the Continental Army, and later a U.S. Congressman. John Adams held Ward's integrity and leadership in the highest regard.

Thomas Cushing III [1725-1788]: A prominent lawyer, merchant, and statesman. Cushing was a delegate to the First and Second Continental Congresses and a close political ally of John Hancock. He later served as the first Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts.

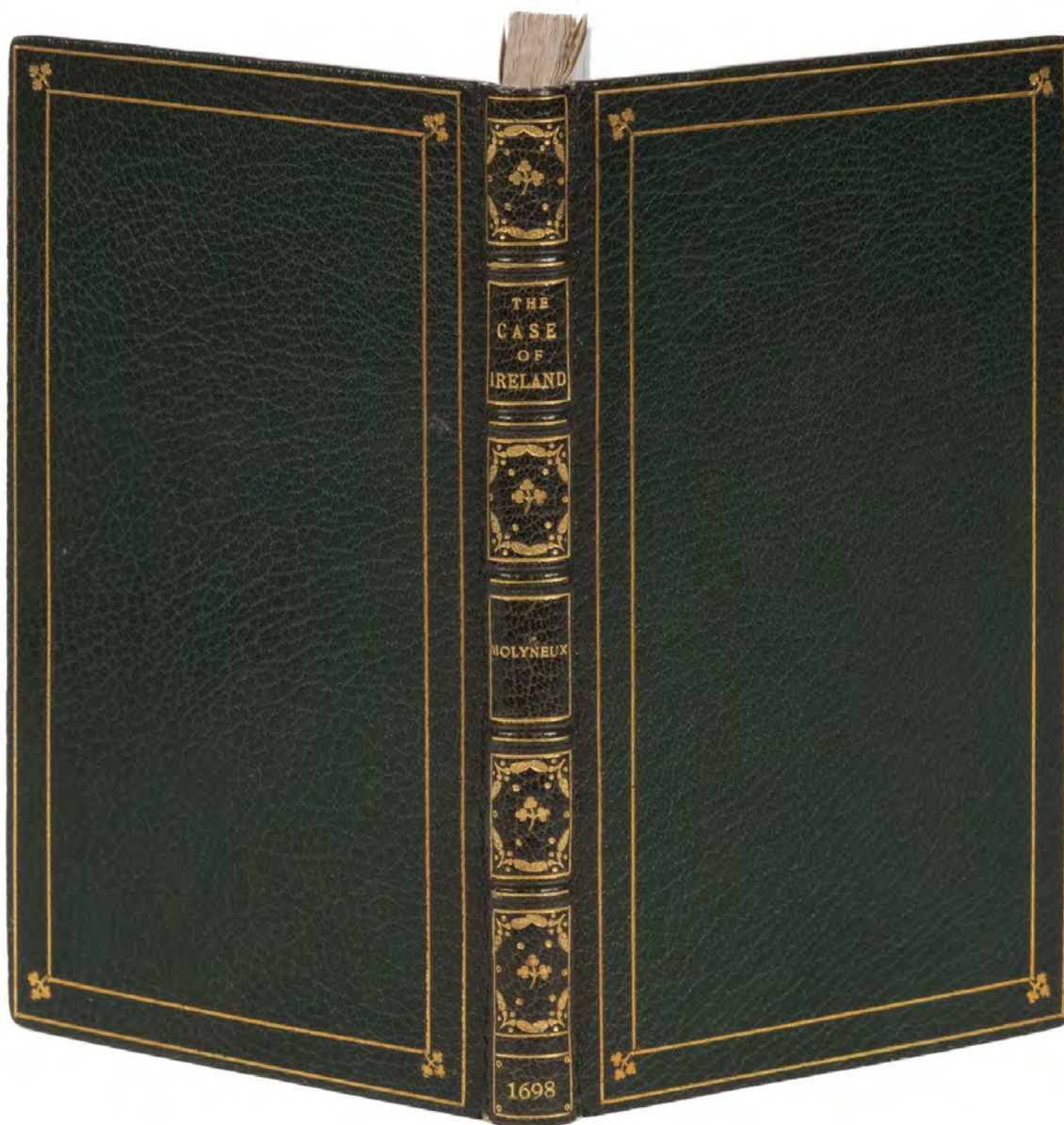
Oliver Prescott [1731-1804]: A respected physician, judge, and Major General of the Massachusetts Militia who was influential in securing the home front and managing wartime logistics.

Benjamin Austin [1752-1820]: A fierce political polemicist whose wartime writings cemented his place as a future leader of the Anti-Federalist movement and Thomas Jefferson's Democratic-Republican party in Boston.

John Avery Jr. [1739-1806], Deputy Secretary: Signed in his capacity as deputy to Council Secretary Samuel Adams. Following the 1780 ratification of the Massachusetts Constitution, Avery went on to become the first official Secretary of the Commonwealth, a position he held continuously until his death.

Schultz, *Legislators of the Massachusetts General Court, 1691-1780* (accessed online).

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The Root of "No Taxation Without Representation": An Exceptional Copy of Molyneux's Landmark 1698 Treatise That Sparked the American Revolution

21. Molyneux, William [1656-1698].

The Case of Ireland's Being Bound by Acts of Parliament in England, Stated. Dublin: Printed by Joseph Ray, And are to be Sold at His Shop in Skinner-Row, 1698. Octavo (17.1 x 10.8 cm; 6-3/4" x 4-1/4"). [16], 174, [2] pp. Complete with initial and final blanks (leaves A1 and N4).

Early twentieth-century full green morocco, spine richly gilt with raised bands forming six compartments, boards paneled in gilt, gilt board-edge rules, turn-ins decorated with gilt dentelles and floral cornerpieces, all edges gilt, marbled endpapers. Negligible, light rubbing to spine ends and corners. Intermittently, very light toning to interior. A superb, fresh copy, clean and crisp throughout. \$3,000.

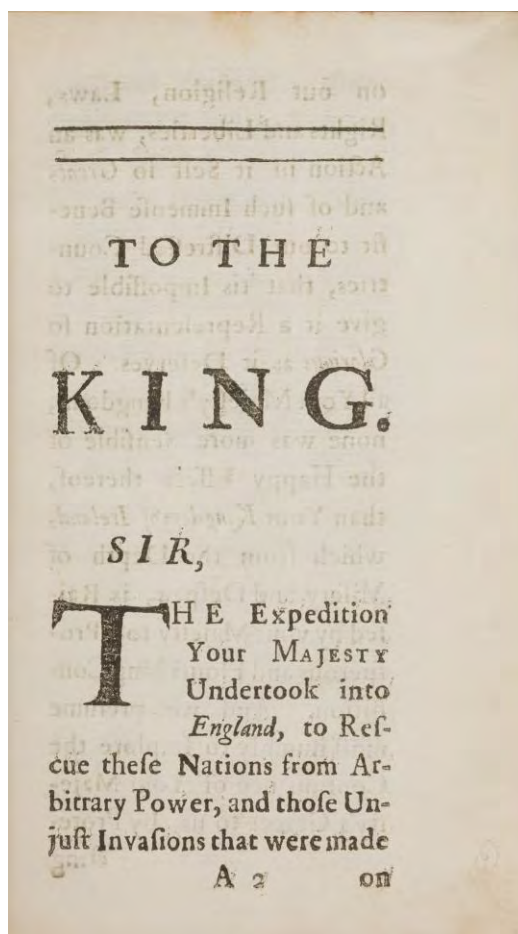
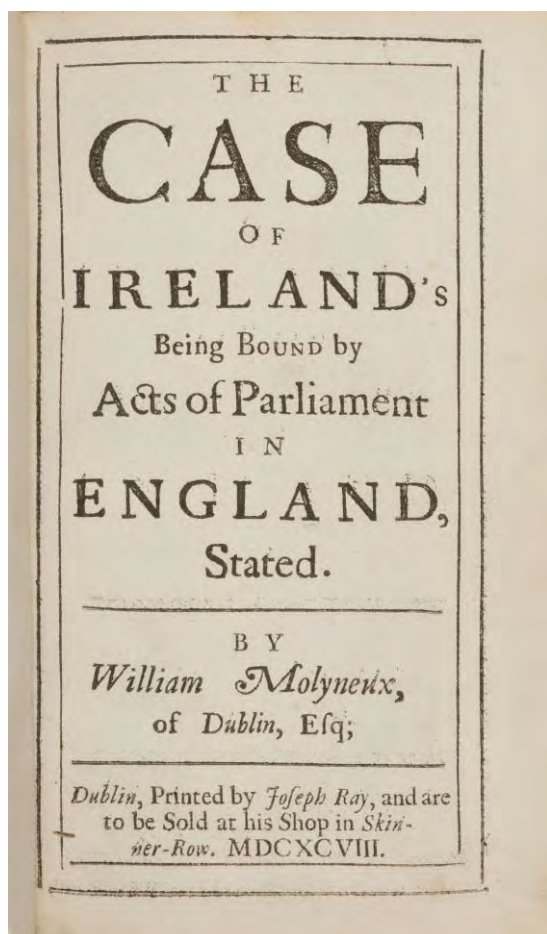
* First edition of this landmark political treatise, written by the prominent Irish scientist, philosopher, and politician William Molyneux. Published just months before his death, *The Case of Ireland* stands as one of the most influential constitutional arguments in Irish history. While Molyneux carefully avoids outright rebellion-accepting a shared crown with England-he fiercely argues that Ireland cannot be bound by English statutes without the consent of its own parliament, advocating instead for either full legislative independence or a true legislative union.

His arguments profoundly shaped Irish political thought throughout the eighteenth century, serving as a primary inspiration for Henry Grattan and the Patriots of 1782.

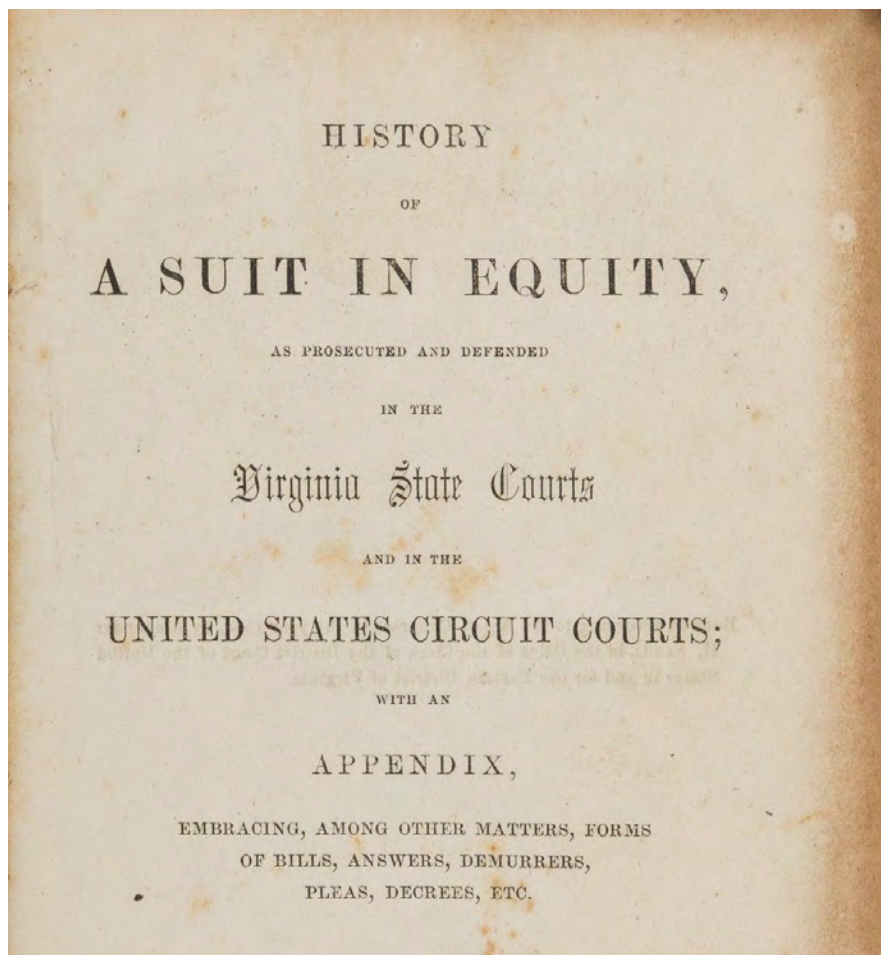
Beyond its profound impact on Irish constitutional history, *The Case of Ireland* holds a foundational place in the intellectual history of the American Revolution. Molyneux's core doctrine-that a people cannot be justly bound by a parliament in which they are not represented-became a vital blueprint for American colonists nearly a century later. His arguments regarding the illegitimacy of external taxation directly informed the rhetoric of revolutionary leaders like Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson. In fact, Patrick Henry's fiery declarations against the Stamp Act and the very phrase "no taxation without representation" trace their intellectual lineage directly to Molyneux's defense of Irish autonomy.

For collectors of Americana and constitutional law, this exceptional first edition represents not just an Irish classic, but a radical text that crossed the Atlantic to help spark the birth of a new nation.

O'Hara, "Molyneux, William," *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (accessed online). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R30063.



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1854 Treatise on Equity in the Virginia Courts

22. Sands, Alexander H.

History of a Suit in Equity, As Prosecuted and Defended in the Virginia State Courts and in the United States Circuit Courts... Richmond, VA: Published by A. Morris, 1854. xi, [1], 510, [2] pp. Folding table of "Equity Suits in Virginia State Courts" found at page 407. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5"; 21 x 12.7 cm).

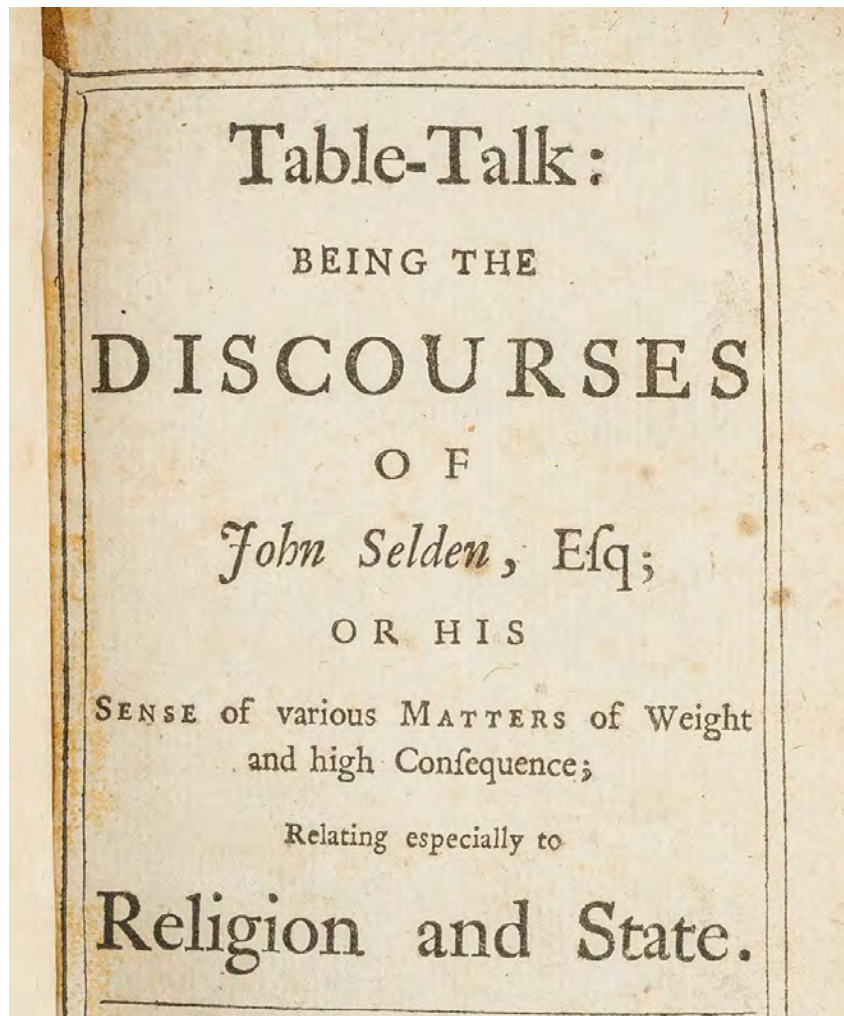
Contemporary full calf, boards with blind-stamped borders. Spine features raised bands, a gilt-lettered leather title label, and a second faint early owner's label ("Bury A. Hinton"). Leather worn and scuffed, with chipping and fraying to the head and foot of spine. Early owner's signature "Tho. Wallace" to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, occasional light foxing, otherwise internally clean. A good copy. \$650.

* First edition. Alexander Hamilton Sands' treatise was a vital procedural guide for lawyers navigating the complex division between law and equity in antebellum Virginia. This first edition earned widespread professional acclaim, receiving the formal commendation of prominent legal minds including John B. Minor, the legendary Professor of Law at the University of Virginia.

Later editions were published in 1882 and 1900.

Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 5004.

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Seeing the Law (and Life) Through Selden's Eyes

23. Selden, John [1584-1654].

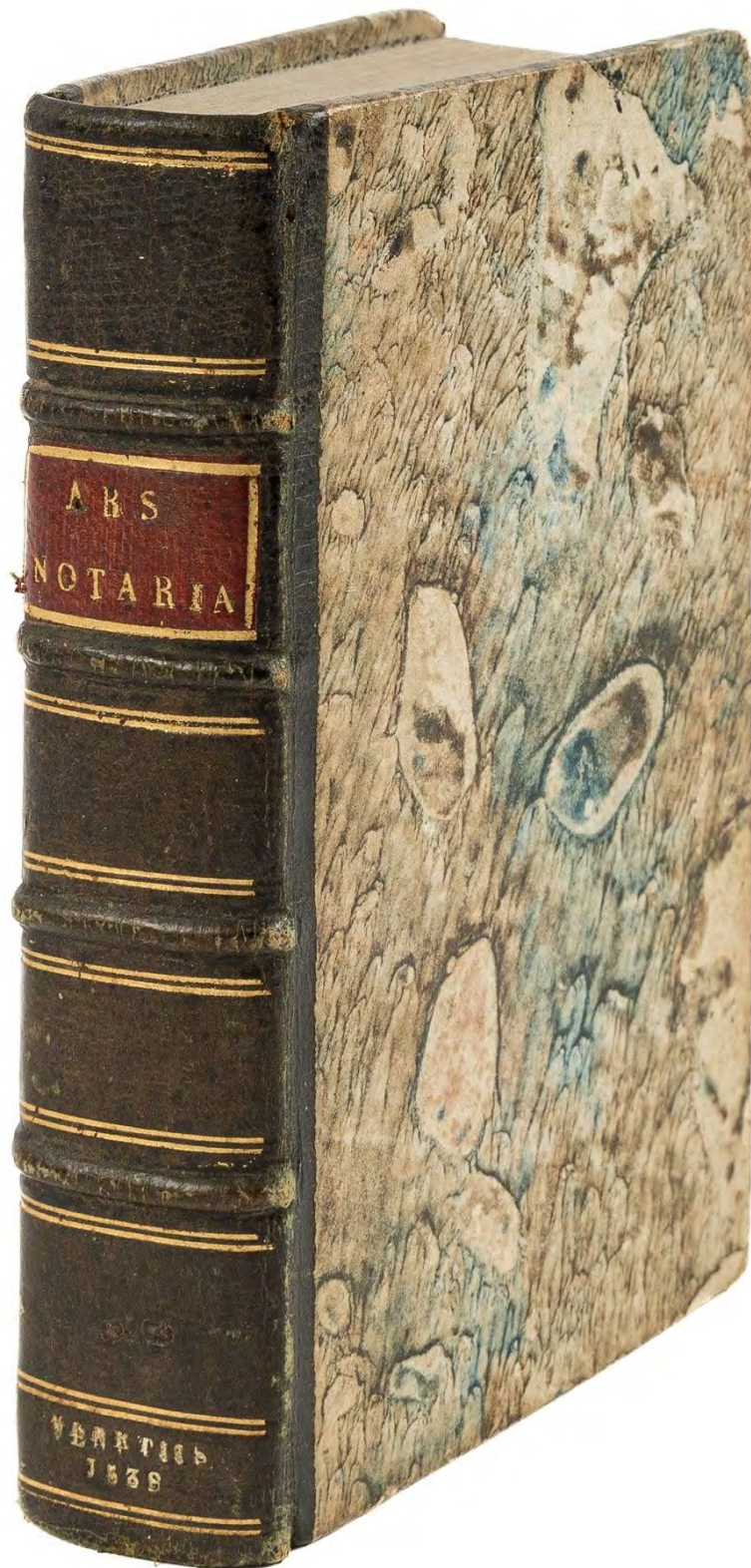
Table-Talk: Being the Discourses of John Selden, Esq. Or, His Sense of Various Matters of Weight and High Consequence. Relating Especially to Religion and State. London: Printed for Jacob Tonson, 1716. [viii], 136 pp. 12mo. (5-3/4" x 3-1/4"; 14.6 x 8.4 cm).

Contemporary speckled calf, gilt rules to boards, rebaced retaining existing backstrip with raised bands and lettering piece. Light rubbing and a few shallow scuffs, joints cracked, corners bumped and worn, hinges mended with paper. Moderate toning to interior, occasional unobtrusive light foxing. A good copy with remarkable typography. \$250.

* Third edition. Perhaps the most personal of Selden's works, *Table Talk* was compiled by Selden's secretary, Richard Milward. It was first printed in 1689, when the Civil War had given freedom to the press. "The work may safely be accepted as the most vivid picture extant of the habits of thought and the modes of expression of the great Erastian lawyer. The conversations cover a great range of subjects relative to human life and history...": *Dictionary of National Biography* XVII:1159.

English Short-Title Catalogue T115346.

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Legal Landmark: A Primary Source for the Evolution of Evidence and Record-Keeping

24. Spelungano, Leone.

Artis Notarie. Venice: [per Joannem Andream dictum Guadagninum et fratres de Vavassoribus], 1538.

Octavo (5-3/4" x 4"; 15 x 10.5 cm). [viii], 253, [3] ff.

Nineteenth century dark green quarter sheep over marbled boards with complimentary endpapers. Raised bands with red gilt-lettering piece and gilt fillets. Light rubbing to extremities; pin hole near head of front joint.

Text in Gothic type with Roman headline; woodcut title page printed in red and black with elaborate ornamental frame; woodcut initials throughout text; colophon and large printer's mark (Valvassori brothers) on verso of last page. Light toning to interior; occasional light and mostly unobtrusive foxing at edges.

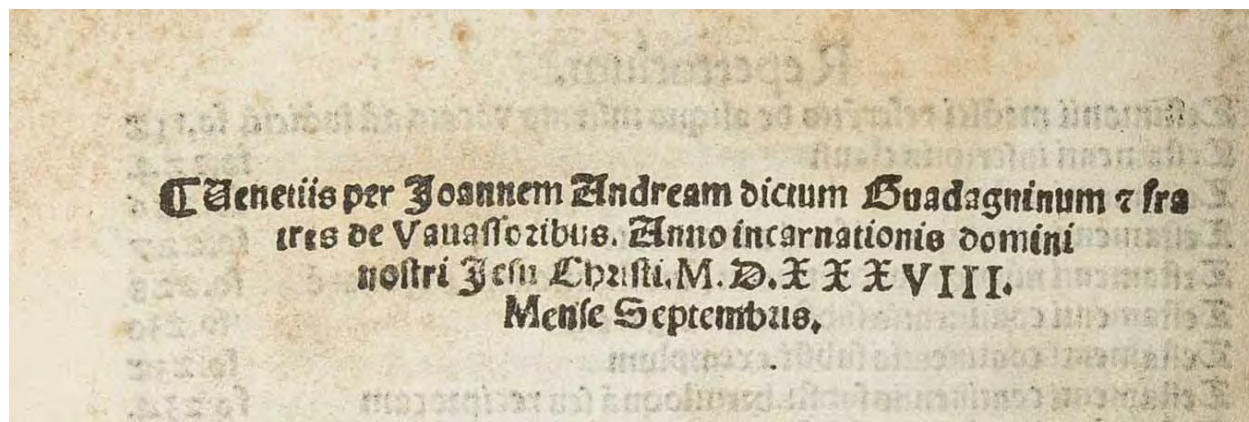
Illegible 19th-century owner signature to title page; same owner signature (abraded) and 19th-century annotations (in Italian, discussing other editions of this work and the provenance of this copy) to verso of front endleaf.

An attractive, well-preserved copy. \$4,500.

* Third edition. In the medieval and early modern Italian legal system, the notary was as important a figure as a lawyer or judge. "Notaries were involved in virtually any transaction of consequence," as Michael Widener notes. "As a result, handbooks for notaries became a significant niche market for book publishers. [...] Since much of the surviving records of public and private business in early modern Italy were produced by notaries, these books continue to serve as useful tools in historical research, and additionally as source material for the history of the written word, for the history of recordkeeping, and for the evolution of standards of evidence."

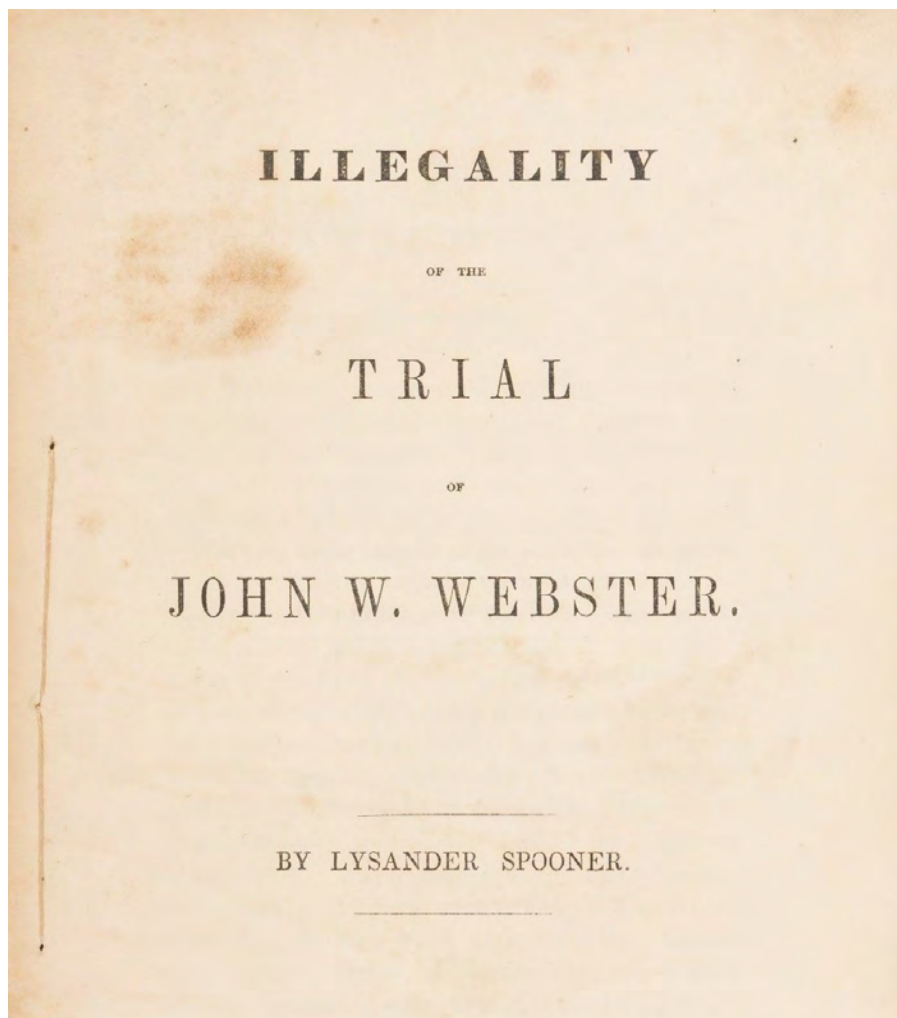
Artis Notarie is a popular, well-received example of a notarial handbook. Transmitted extensively in manuscript during the life of its author, civil jurist Leo Speluncanus, it was first published in Naples in 1526 with editorial oversight by notary Alessandro Pomarico. Like its manuscript predecessors, the print version enjoyed a wide circulation. At least nine editions were published, the last in 1574.

The 1538 edition is rare. OCLC locates 6 complete copies worldwide, 3 in North America (Harvard Law School, University of Pennsylvania, University of Wisconsin). Mayfair Rare Books & Manuscripts, *Notaries in Italy: A Selection of 17 Books* (May 2025). *Universal Short-Title Catalogue* 857223.





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Lysander Spooner's Opinion of the Famous Webster Case

25. Spooner, Lysander [1808-1887].

Illegality of the Trial of John W. Webster. Boston: Published by Bela Marsh, 1850. 16 pp. with Errata sheet, often lacking in copies of this title, present. Octavo (9-1/2" x 5-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers. Moderate wear and soiling to wrappers. \$250.

* Only edition. The grisly murder of Dr. John Parkman by Professor John W. Webster at Harvard Medical School was one of the most famous American crimes of the nineteenth century. Webster was convicted and hanged.

Spooner, the great Boston radical, claims the trial was rigged because potential jurors who opposed capital punishment were dismissed. There is also a larger point: "[I]f the government can exclude, on account either of their opinions or feelings, any persons thus drawn by lot, the trial is no longer a trial by 'the country,' but only by a portion of the country. It is, in fact, a trial by *the government*, instead of 'the country,'--because it is a trial by that portion only of the country, which has been selected by the government, on account of their having no opinions or feeling different from its own" (4).

McDade, *The Annals of Murder* 1058.

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Early American Pirated Edition of Gilbert's Celebrated Legal Satire

26. Sullivan, Arthur, [1842-1900], Composer.

Gilbert, W[illiam] S[chwenck], [1836-1911], Librettist.

Trial by Jury: A Dramatic Cantata. Boston: Oliver Ditson & Co., [1875?].

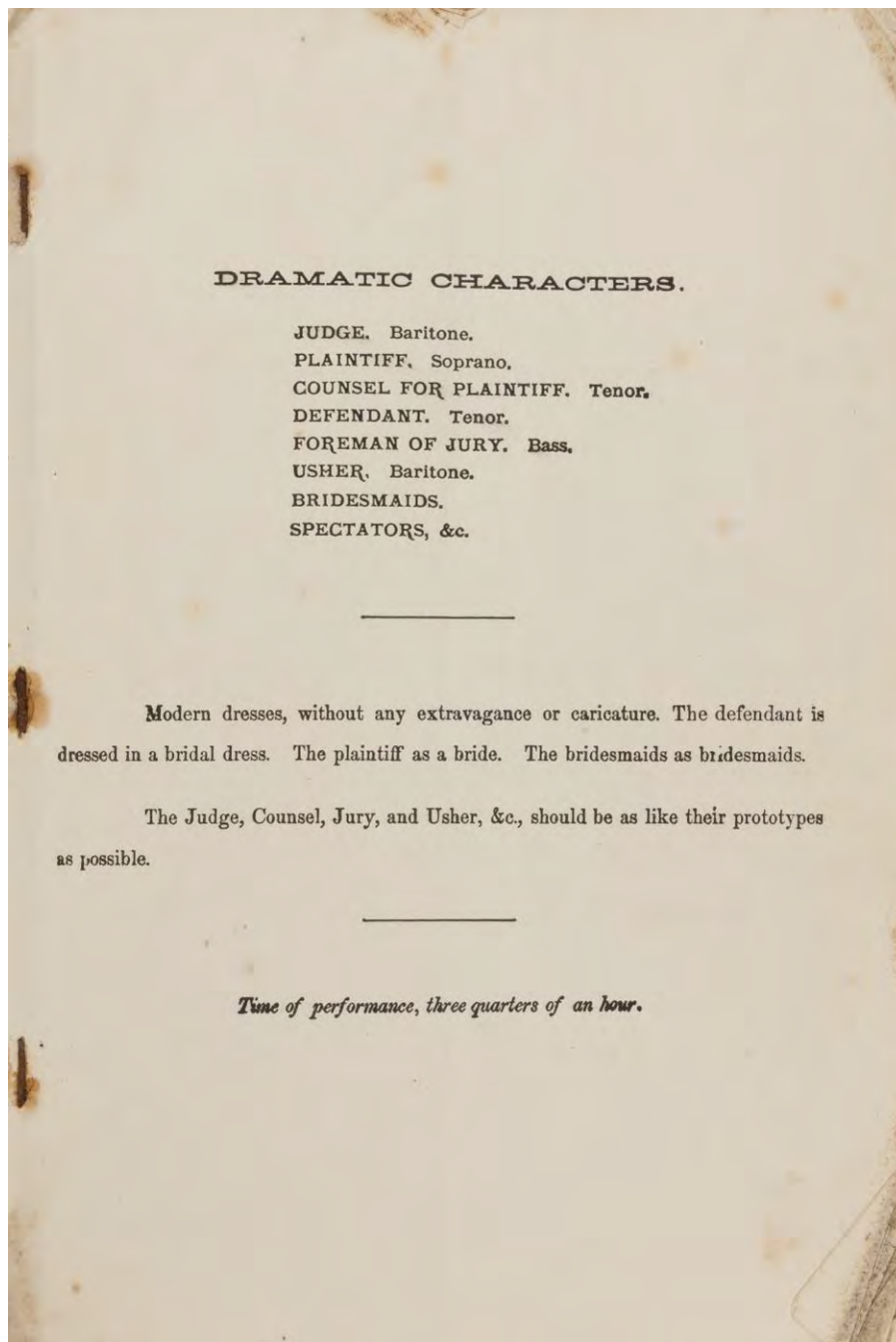
78 pp. Six pages of printed text, followed by the music and lyrics. Octavo (10" x 6-3/4"; 25.5 x 17 cm).

Original pink printed paper wrappers. Verso of front wrapper prints publisher's advertisement for "Oratorio Choruses"; rear wrapper features a trade list of "Sacred Music Books."

Wrappers are faded, lightly soiled, and chipped along the edges and spine. Front cover has a few small holes. Internal text block is secure, flat, and generally clean with light, uniform toning. Front wrapper features a contemporary ownership signature ("Judge") in black ink. Also features a faint, purple oval stamp for "Ch. Brown Pianos and Organs, Springfield, [MA]." A good copy. \$450.

* First American Edition (Presumed Pirated Printing) An early, unauthorized American vocal score of Gilbert and Sullivan's famous satire on the English legal system. Written by W.S. Gilbert-himself a practicing London barrister-the plot serves as a comedic spoof of a Victorian breach of promise trial. In the operetta, a jilted bride sues her former fiancé for breach of contract, culminating in an amoral judge settling the matter by marrying the plaintiff himself.

Bibliographically, this Oliver Ditson printing is a prime artifact of 19th-century transatlantic copyright conflict. Because the United States did not protect foreign creators until the International Copyright Act of 1891, American publishers rushed to print "pirated" editions of British works. The "Judge" inscription on the cover suggests this exact copy may have been used for a specific cast member's role in an early, unauthorized American staging.



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THE
S P E E C H
OF
Mr. George Kelly.

S P O K E
At the Bar of the House of LORDS,
ON
THURSDAY, the 2d of MAY, 1723.

IN
His DEFENCE against the BILL then
depending, *For Inflicting Pains and Penalties*
upon Him.

*Quamobrem à vobis, Judices, antè quàm de ipsa causa dicere incipio,
hoc postulo. Primum id quod aequissimum est, ut ne quid huic præju-
dicati afferatis. Etenim non modo auctoritatem, sed etiam nomen
judicum amittemus, nisi hinc ex ipsis causis judicabimus, ac si ad causas,
judicia jam facta domo, deferemus.*

CIC. pro CLUENTIO.



L O N D O N :

Printed for A. MOORE, near St. Paul's. MDCCXXIII.
[Price One Shilling.]

He Escaped the Tower to Join the Jacobite Rising of 1745

27. [Trial].

[Kelly, George [1688-1762].

The Speech of Mr. George Kelly. Spoke at the Bar of the House of Lords, on Thursday, The 2d of May, 1723. In His Defence Against the Bill then Depending, For Inflicting Pains and Penalties upon Him.

London: Printed for A. Moore, near St. Paul's, MDCCXXIII (1723). [Price One Shilling]. 15, [1] pp. Folio (13-1/2" x 8-1/2"; 34.3 x 21.6 cm).

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Occasional corner creasing; final leaf partially detached with some marginal fraying. Moderate toning and light dust-soiling. A very good unsophisticated copy. \$250.

* "First edition," one of 13 issued by 5 different presses, 2 of them anonymous, in 1723, 6 with later edition statements ranging from "second" to "seventh." The *English Short-Title Catalogue* (ESTC) notes that bookseller's name "A. Moore" is fictitious.

Kelly, an ordained clergyman who refused to take the oath of allegiance to the Hanoverian King George I, was implicated in the Atterbury Plot, a conspiracy to restore the Stuart monarchy. When the plot was discovered Kelly was arrested.

Because the government lacked enough evidence for a traditional treason conviction, they passed an Act for Inflicting Pains and Penalties against him, which led to the show trial where Kelly delivered the widely-circulated speech recorded in this pamphlet. This specific legislative act sentenced Kelly to life imprisonment and the forfeiture of all his property. Unlike a Bill of Attainder, an Act of Pains and Penalties usually stopped short of the death penalty but bypassed the need for a jury trial.

After 14 years in the Tower of London, Kelly famously escaped in 1736 fled to France. It was a dramatic feat; he reportedly walked out in a disguise after his captors became lax over a decade into his life sentence. His presence as one of the "Seven Men of Moidart"-the small group that accompanied Prince Charles Edward Stuart to Scotland in 1745-cements his role as one of the most persistent and effective Jacobite agents of the 18th century.

The imprint "A. Moore" is a classic bibliographical "red herring." During this period, printers used fictitious imprints to avoid prosecution for seditious libel. "A. Moore" (often punning on "Amour" or simply "more" copies) was a common pseudonym used for controversial political pamphlets, including works by Alexander Pope and Daniel Defoe.

The English Short-Title Catalogue T49691.

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Copy of a Notable Treatise on Nullity in Roman and
Canon Law Owned by Two Brothers-in-Law of Virginia Woolf

28. Vanzi, Sebastiano [d.1571].

Tractatus de Nullitatibus Processuum ac Sententiarum. Cum Indice Rerum & Varietate Literarum in Allegatis Distinctus. Speyer: Sumptibus Heliae Kembachii, 1604. [xiv], 685, [88] pp. Octavo (6" x 3-3/4"; 15.2 x 9.5 cm).

Contemporary overlapped vellum. Moderate soiling, spine darkened, chipping to head of spine. Moderate toning to interior, foxing to final quarter of text block, faint dampstaining in places, corner folds to several leaves, light soiling to endleaves, owner inscription of Cecil and Philip Woolf dated 1911 to front pastedown. A very good copy with an interesting literary association. \$950.

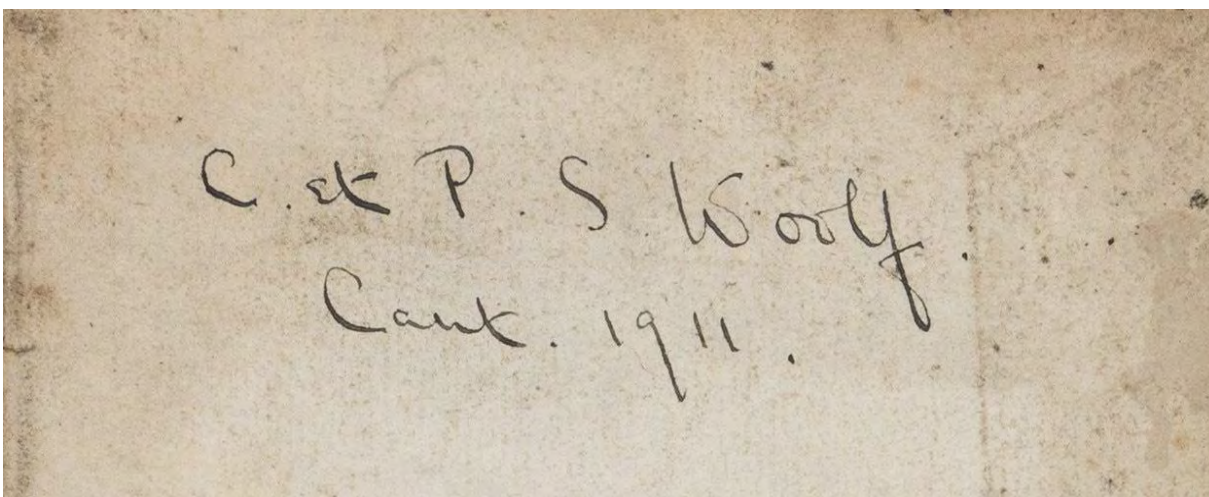
* Later edition. First published in Venice in 1554, this work served as a standard treatise on the errors and omissions that could nullify trials, legal actions, and verdicts. Its final edition was published in 1717.

The text provides structured guidance for lawyers and judges practicing in Roman and ecclesiastical courts. It emphasizes specific failures that void a trial, such as lack of jurisdiction (*ex defectu iurisdictionis*), faulty or missing summonses (*ex defectu citationis*), and procedural defects (*ex defectu processus*). It also outlines which authorities held the right to claim nullity inside or outside the courtroom, and how a contested sentence could be defended, rehabilitated, or definitively annulled by a judge.

The author, whose name is sometimes recorded as Vanti or Vantio, was a highly regarded legal expert from Rimini who later served as a bishop.

This copy was owned by two of Virginia Woolf's brothers-in-law (both younger brothers of Leonard Woolf). Cecil Woolf [1887-1917] was a promising poet and translator who was killed in action during World War I. He was serving alongside his brother, Philip Sidney Woolf [1889-1962], who was severely wounded by the shell that killed Cecil. A collection of Cecil's poems, featuring a preface by Philip, was printed for private circulation by Leonard and Virginia Woolf's famous Hogarth Press in 1918.

All editions of this work are scarce. OCLC locates no copies of our 1604 edition in North America. *Das Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachraum Erschienenen Drucke des 17. Jahrhunderts* 12:623033G



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EVERY WOMAN'S OWN LAWYER

By

Gordon C. Whadcoat

Solicitor

Author of "The Balance," etc.



London

T. Fisher Unwin

Adelphi Terrace

1907

An Uncommon Edwardian Guide to Female Empowerment and Legal Literacy

Tel: (800) 422-6686 or (732) 382-1800 | law@lawbookexchange.com | www.lawbookexchange.com

29. Whadcoat, Gordon C.

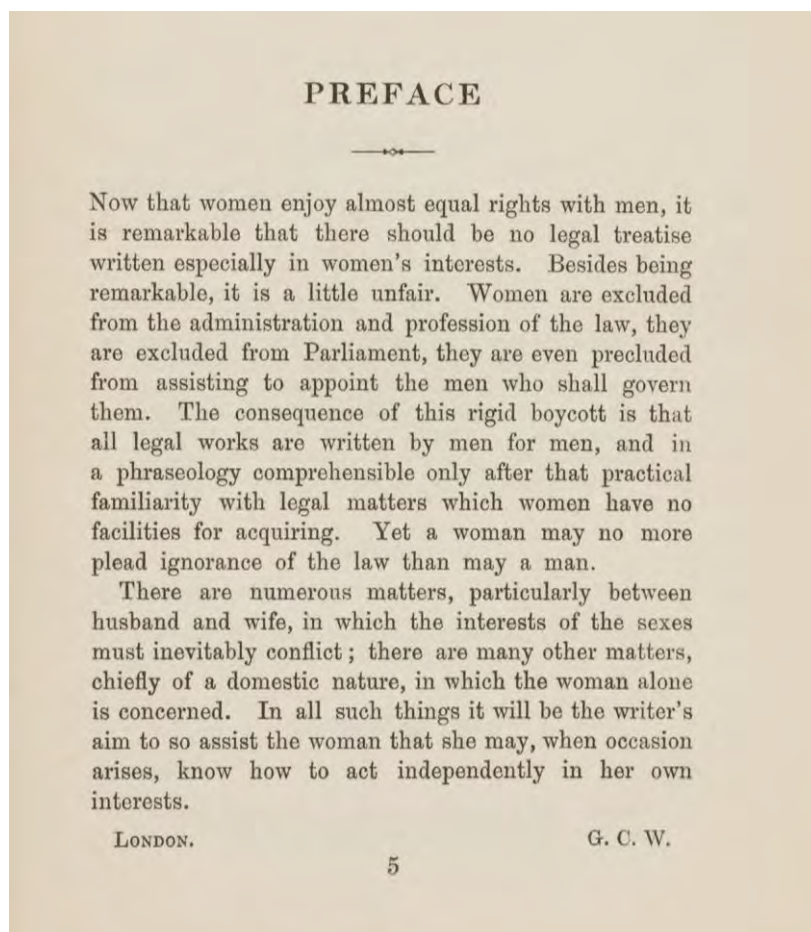
Every Woman's Own Lawyer. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1907. 285, [4] pp. Title page printed in red and black. Includes four pages of advertisements at rear, with additional advertisements to front and rear inside covers.

Publisher's light purple printed paper wrappers, faded and with moderate rubbing to edges and spine. A contemporary "2d" (two pence) retail price sticker is affixed to the front wrapper directly beneath the title. Interior clean, crisp and bright. A very good, completely unrestored copy of a fragile and scarce survival. \$650.

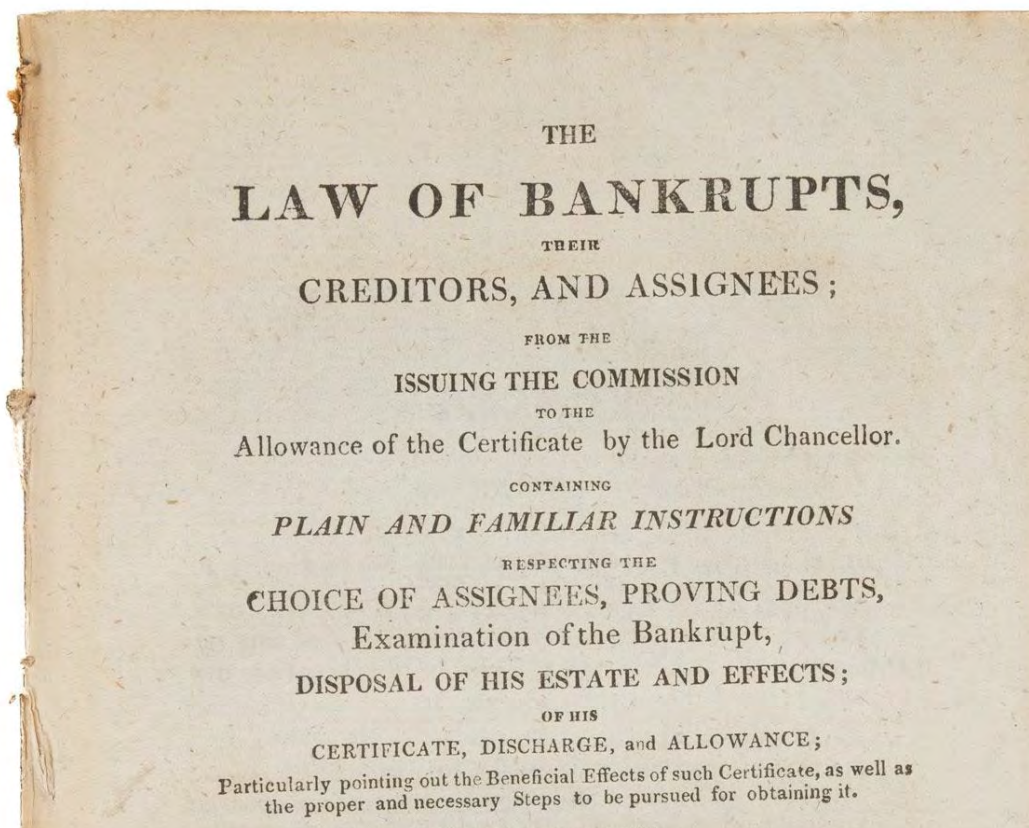
* First and only edition. This progressive handbook serves as a vital primary source documenting the legal landscape for women in Edwardian-Era Britain. Released during the height of the suffrage movement, the text acts as a practical guide for female legal literacy. It covers an array of contemporary topics, including the laws of domestic abuse, divorce, property distribution, servant relations, and a wife's liability for her husband's debts. Notably, the opening chapter, "Progress of Women's Rights," positions the entire work as a tool for political and social empowerment.

The author openly advocates for legal gender equality decades before women achieved full franchise in the United Kingdom. Adding to its cultural value, the commercial advertisements printed on the wrappers are specifically targeted at female consumers, offering a rare glimpse into the emerging market of independent, literate women at the turn of the century. The small "2d" price sticker on the cover highlights its intent as an affordable, mass-market resource meant to be widely accessible to everyday women.

OCLC locates 10 copies worldwide, 4 in North America, 2 in law libraries, Yale and the University of Cincinnati.



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A Rare Nineteenth-Century Guide to Bankruptcy Law and Procedure

30. Whittaker, Soame.

The Law of Bankrupts, Their Creditors, And Assignees; From the Issuing the Commission to the Allowance of the Certificate by the Lord Chancellor. Containing Plain and Familiar Instructions Respecting the Choice of Assignees, Proving Debts, Examination of the Bankrupt, Disposal of His Estate and Effects; Of His Certificate, Discharge, And Allowance; Particularly Pointing Out the Beneficial Effects of Such Certificate, As Well as the Proper and Necessary Steps to be Pursued for Obtaining It. Including All the Statutes and Decisions in the Courts of Law and Equity, On that Interesting Subject, Down to the Present Time. Equally Calculated for the Use of Bankrupts, Creditors, And Assignees, As Well as for Practising Attornies and Solicitors. London: Printed for Gale, Curtis, and Fenner, Paternoster-Row, 1812. iv, [2], 126 pp. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5"; 21 x 12.7 cm).

Disbound. Light toning, occasional light foxing, light soiling. Internally clean. \$450.

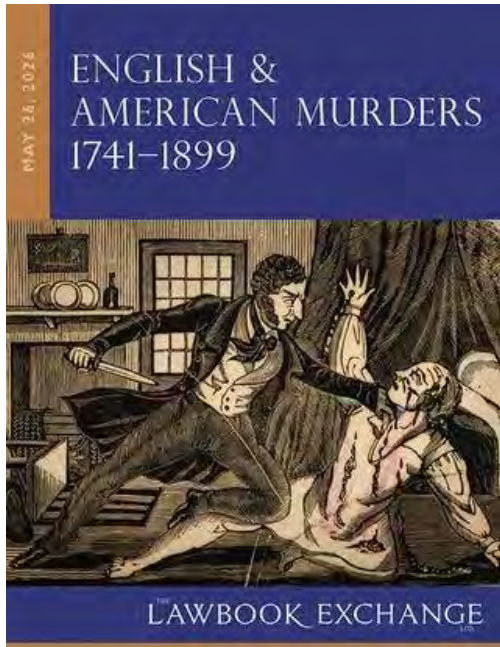
* Third edition, with considerable additions. A practical guide to bankruptcy law and procedure written for professional and lay readers. A second edition, published in 1807, was reissued in 1808; this third edition in 1812 and a fourth (and presumably final) edition was published in 1817. All editions of this work are rare.

During this time, bankruptcy law applied only to merchants and traders. Ordinary citizens or non-traders who could not pay their debts were instead subject to "Insolvent Debtors" laws, which frequently resulted in placement inside debtors' prisons. "Assignees" were individuals (typically chosen from among the leading creditors) appointed to manage, evaluate, and liquidate the bankrupt individual's entire estate and assets for distribution.

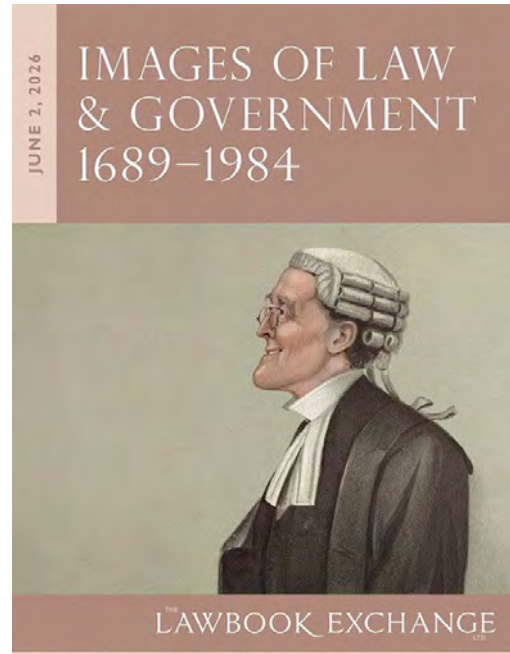
Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 2:379.

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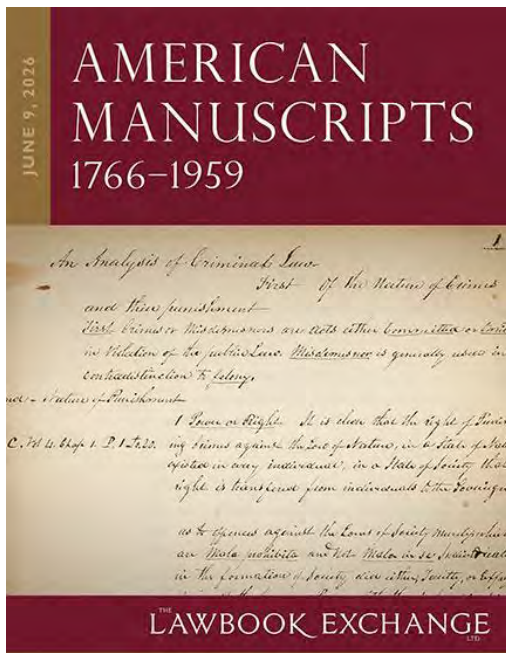
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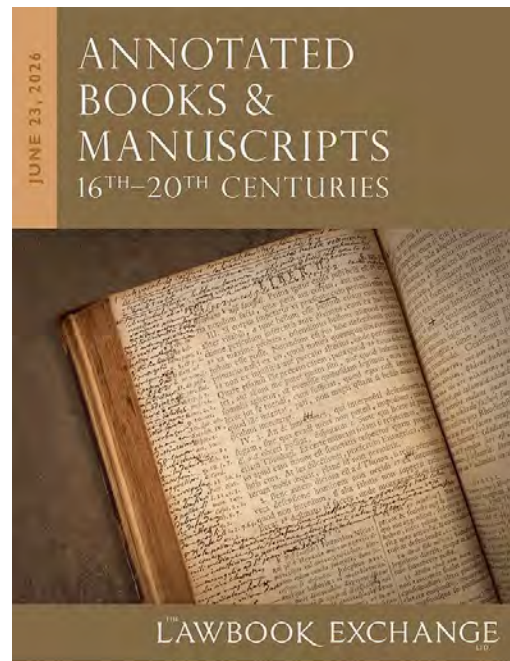
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