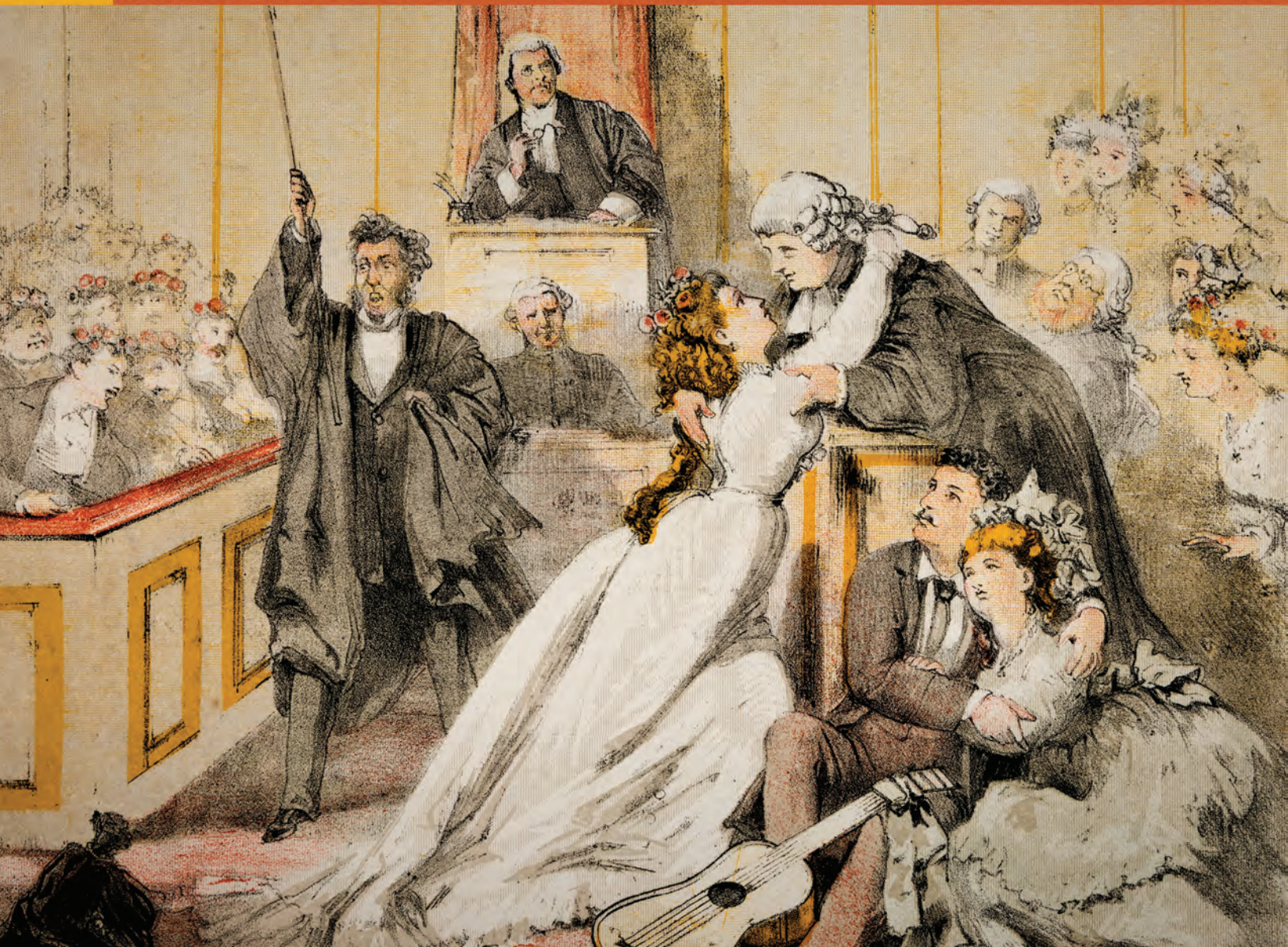


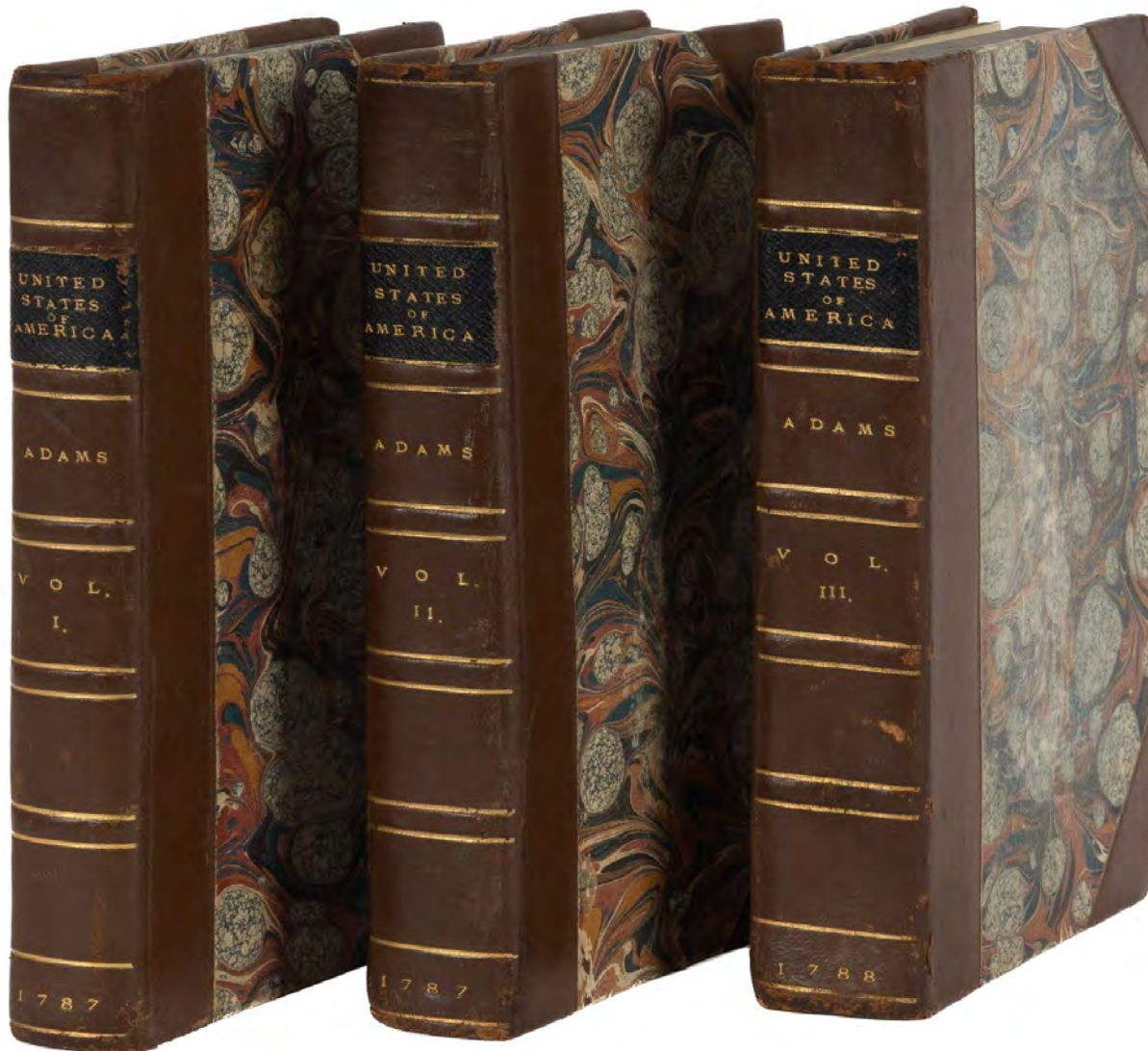
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**The Foundation of Checks and Balances: John
Adams's *Defence of the Constitutions* (First Edition, 1787-1788)**

1. Adams, John [1735-1826].

A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America.

London: Printed for C. Dilly and J. Stockdale, 1787-1788. Three volumes. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5"; 21 x 12.7 cm). [ii], xxxi, [1], 3-392; [iv], 451; [ii], 528, [36] pp. Volume II has half-title (as issued). Complete with index in Volume III.

Later three-quarter calf over marbled boards, spines gilt with raised bands, contrasting leather lettering pieces, marbled edges. Moderate rubbing to extremities and light scuffing to boards. Volume I rear hinge starting but secure. Volume II text block cracked between front free endpaper and first endleaf, binding remains firm. Intermittent light foxing and minor toning. A very good, handsomely bound set. SOLD.

* First edition. Written while Adams was serving as the first American minister to Great Britain, the *Defence* represents his most influential and enduring contribution to American political philosophy. Prompted by a letter from French statesman Anne-Robert-Jacques Turgot criticizing the complex structure of early state constitutions, Adams composed a massive, encyclopedic defense of a tripartite government consisting of an executive, a bicameral legislature, and an independent judiciary.

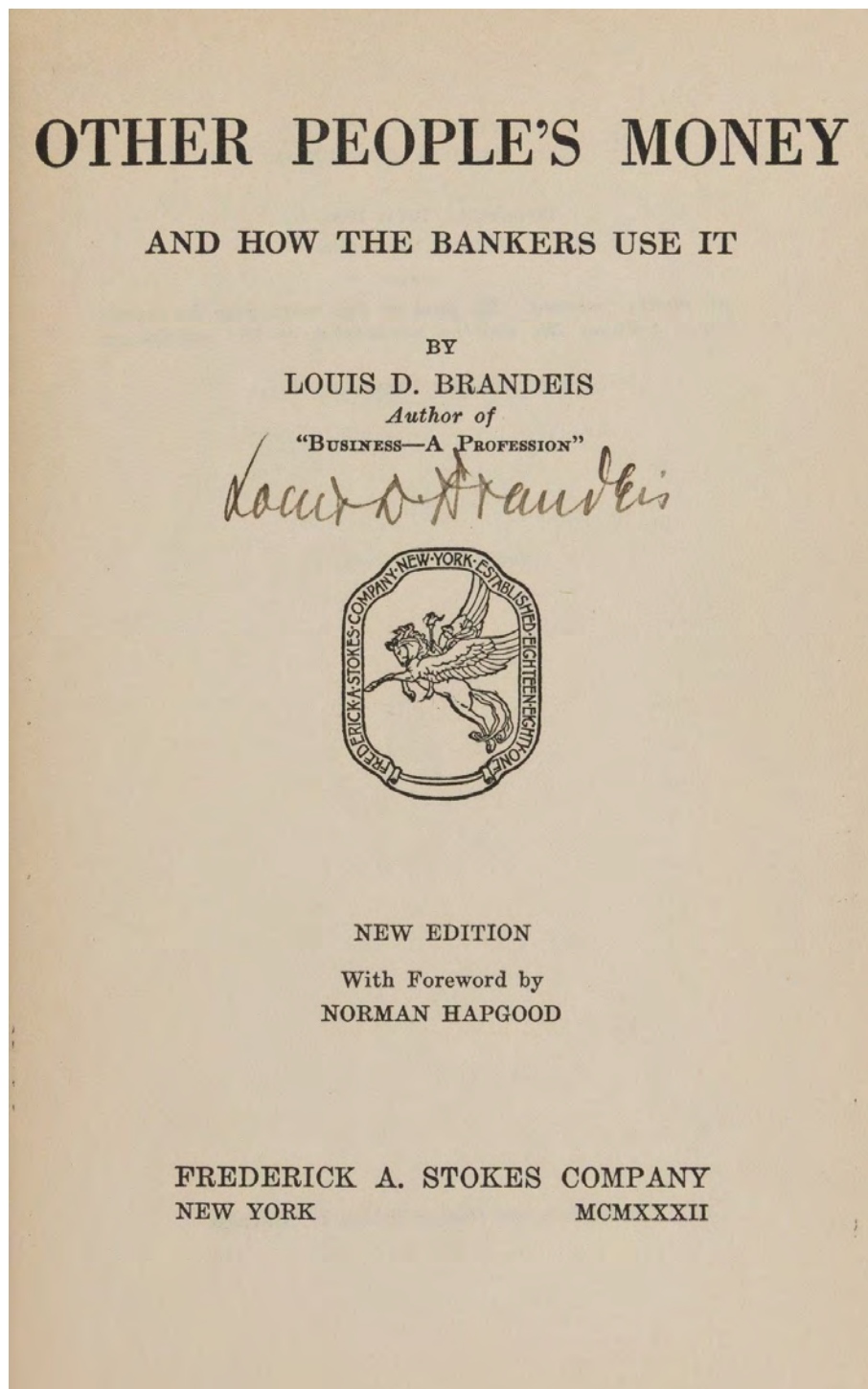
The publication timing of Volume I was extraordinarily influential. It arrived in Philadelphia in May 1787 just as delegates gathered for the Constitutional Convention. It served as a vital reference manual for the Framers, heavily coloring the debates surrounding separation of powers and checks and balances.

Adams initially envisioned the work as a standalone text, but intense critical reception prompted him to publish two subsequent volumes in 1788. While single volumes or later editions are frequently seen in the trade, complete first edition sets containing all three volumes in their original London printings are highly sought after by collectors of American constitutional history.

Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 2731. Sabin, *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America* 234; Howes A60 ("aa").



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Signed by Justice Brandeis: The Historic 1934
New Deal Printing of His Antitrust Masterpiece

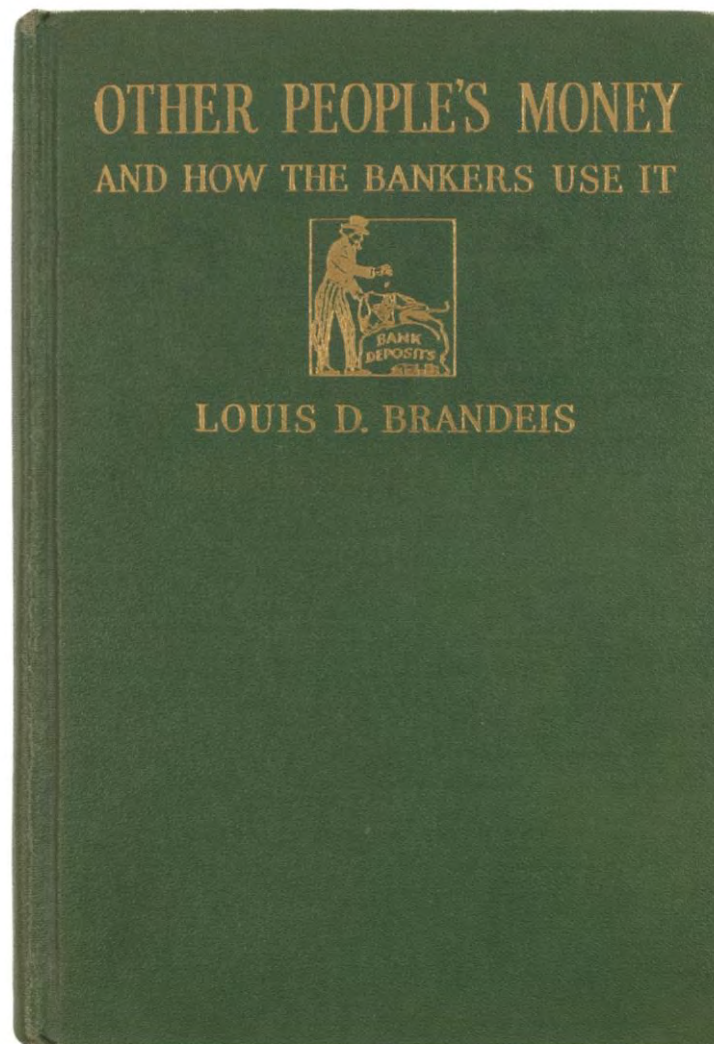
2. Brandeis, Louis D. [1856-1941].

Other People's Money And How the Bankers Use It. New Edition. With Foreword by Norman Hapgood. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company, 1932 [but December 5, 1934].

Octavo (7.5 x 5 inches); lxii, 223 pp. Tenth printing of this edition. Publisher's original green cloth, titles stamped in gilt to front board and spine. Very light rubbing to extremities; minor, uniform toning to text sheet margins. Boldly signed by Louis D. Brandeis on the title page. A near fine, tight copy. \$1,500.

* Brandeis's landmark Progressive-Era critique of "Our Financial Oligarchy" was originally published in 1914, serving as the definitive intellectual weapon against industrial-era monopolies. Based on a series of articles commissioned by Norman Hapgood for Harper's Weekly, the text directly influenced Woodrow Wilson's "New Freedom" platform and laid the groundwork for the Federal Trade Commission and the Clayton Antitrust Act.

While first issued to combat the "Money Trust" of the Gilded Age, this specific edition reflects the book's second wave of profound historical influence. Printed on December 5, 1934, during the depths of the Great Depression, Frederick A. Stokes Company reissued the text as Brandeis's theories were being actively weaponized by the Roosevelt Administration to construct the New Deal. The insights in *Other People's Money* heavily informed the passage of the Glass-Steagall Banking Act of 1933 and the establishment of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). This copy was boldly signed by Brandeis while serving as an active Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, at the exact moment he was ruling on the constitutionality of the very New Deal legislation his early writings inspired.



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THE TRIALS OF

CHARLES SHAW, aged 16, for Murdering JOHN OLDGROFT, aged 9.

RICHARD TOMLINSON, for Murdering MARY EVANS, his Sweetheart.

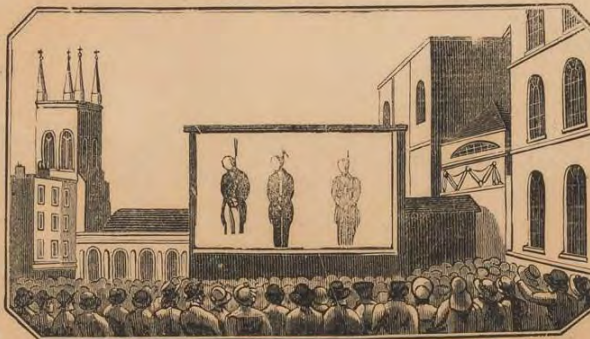
MARY SMITH, for Drowning her Infant Child.

Who all Three received Sentence of Death, at the late Staffordshire Spring Assizes, and were Ordered for

EXECUTION

Last WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1834.

"Thou shalt do no Murder!"
Matthew, ch. xv. v. 18.



"Whoso sheddeth man's blood,
by man shall his blood be shed."
Genesis, ch. ix. v. 6.

THE trials took place on Monday, 17th March, 1834, at the Staffordshire Spring Assizes, before The Hon. Mr. Justice Atteson.

Charles Shaw,

A well-looking lad of 16, was charged with the Wilful Murder of John Oldcroft, aged 9, by fixing a cord round his neck. The only assignable motive of the prisoner for the commission of the offense was the acquisition of 1s. 6d. which the deceased possessed. The prisoner and the deceased were both in the service of Mr. Hawley, a potter. Both had been paid their wages at about six o'clock, on the 3d of August last. The deceased had due to him 1s. 4d.; but, as he was a good lad, his master made it up 1s. 6d. In a few minutes after they were paid, the deceased and prisoner went away together, they were seen by various persons going towards the Etruria race-course. On their way they passed a boy named Robinson, who was bathing in the canal. He saw the prisoner dangle a piece of cord, and when afterwards the prisoner was reminded by Robinson that such was the case, he denied that he had any cord at all. The prisoner and deceased, after some little rough play with Robinson, then went on in the direction of Maccaroni-bridge, and they were seen playing with copper-money on a bank. The deceased not returning, his parents went in search of him, and proceeded to the house at which the prisoner lived, and the account he gave was, that he had left the deceased with gamblers, at the race-course. The parents continued their search without

success; but one of the peasantry having a wood-lark, which is a bird fond of some of the contents of a wasp's nest, he went in search of a wasp's nest, and found concealed under some willows the body of the deceased, with a cord round the neck, corresponding in appearance with that the prisoner carried. In consequence of suspicion the prisoner was taken up. There were several marks of blood on the prisoner's shirt, which had been covered with potter's clay, but it was found to be blood, he said his nose had bled, and he began rubbing his nose as if to make it bleed.

Witnesses were called to prove his insanity, and that the deceased died of drowning, and not of strangulation, the Jury however returned a verdict of Guilty, and he was sentenced to be hung on the next Wednesday.

COPY OF VERSES.

OH! listen to a tale of woe, I now to you unfold,
Of the Murder of John Oldcroft, a boy of nine years old;
His body was found all in a ditch, it's true what I do say,
With a rope tied round his neck, his life was taken away.
This poor boy worked at a pottery, his living for to seek
And all the wages that he earn'd, was eighteen pence per week.
When his week's work was done, upon each Saturday night,
His wages to his mother gave, which gave him great delight.
Charles Shaw was a wicked lad, and only fourteen years old,
That he rob'd and murder'd this poor boy, makes the blood run cold.
The poor mother is tearing of her hair, the father distracted wild,
Crying, oh dear! oh dear! we are undone, we've lost our dearest child.

G. Smeeton, Printer, 74, Tooley Street.

Richard Tomlinson,

A rough looking fellow, about 22 years old, was charged with the Wilful Murder of Mary Evans, at Kanton, on the 16th December last, by striking her on the head with a stone, and then throwing her into a ditch. The prisoner at first pleaded Guilty, but, on advice, pleaded Not Guilty. It appeared, by his own Confession, that he and the deceased had a quarrel relative to some property, he had previously given her, which she said he afterwards secretly took away again. At length it was agreed to go to a *Wife Man*, named Light, at High Breall, to learn who really did take them. She, on going thither, still kept accusing him, when, he told her, if she said so again, he would knock her down. She dared him; when he struck her. He then left her, and went to a beer-shop, where he acknowledged the murder. At the trial, witnesses were called to prove his insanity, but the Jury returned a Verdict of Guilty; and he was ordered to be executed on the following Wednesday.

COPY OF VERSES.

Come Lovers all of every class, pray listen to me,
While I unfold the sad details of this black tragedy,
These sweethearts a quarrel had, which rose to its highest pitch,
When he struck her on the head, and threw her in a ditch.
So Young Men and Maidens all pray warning take in time,
By this misguided pair, who thus perish'd in their prime,
And all thro' their own folly, as plainly you can tell,
For, had they curb'd their passions, all would now have been well.



Mary Smith,

Was convicted at the last assizes, for the Wilful Murder of her infant child, only twelve days old, by throwing it in the canal near Bloxwich. She was sentenced to be executed on the same day as the above-named culprits.

COPY OF VERSES.

IT'S of a cruel mother's fate, I now to you unfold,
Who most cruelly slew her babe, when only twelve days old.
She drown'd her own dear offspring—oh, dreadful to relate!
But mark, good people, what miseries did her then await.
She was plac'd in a gloomy cell, all in a dismal state,
Until her day of trial came, when her defence did fail.
The Judge then doom'd her, poor lost wretch! to die upon a tree,
A sad and dreadful punishment, for this mother's cruelty.

A Triple Execution at Staffordshire

3. [Broadside].

[Executions].

Shaw, Charles [d.1834].

Tomlinson, Richard [d.1834].

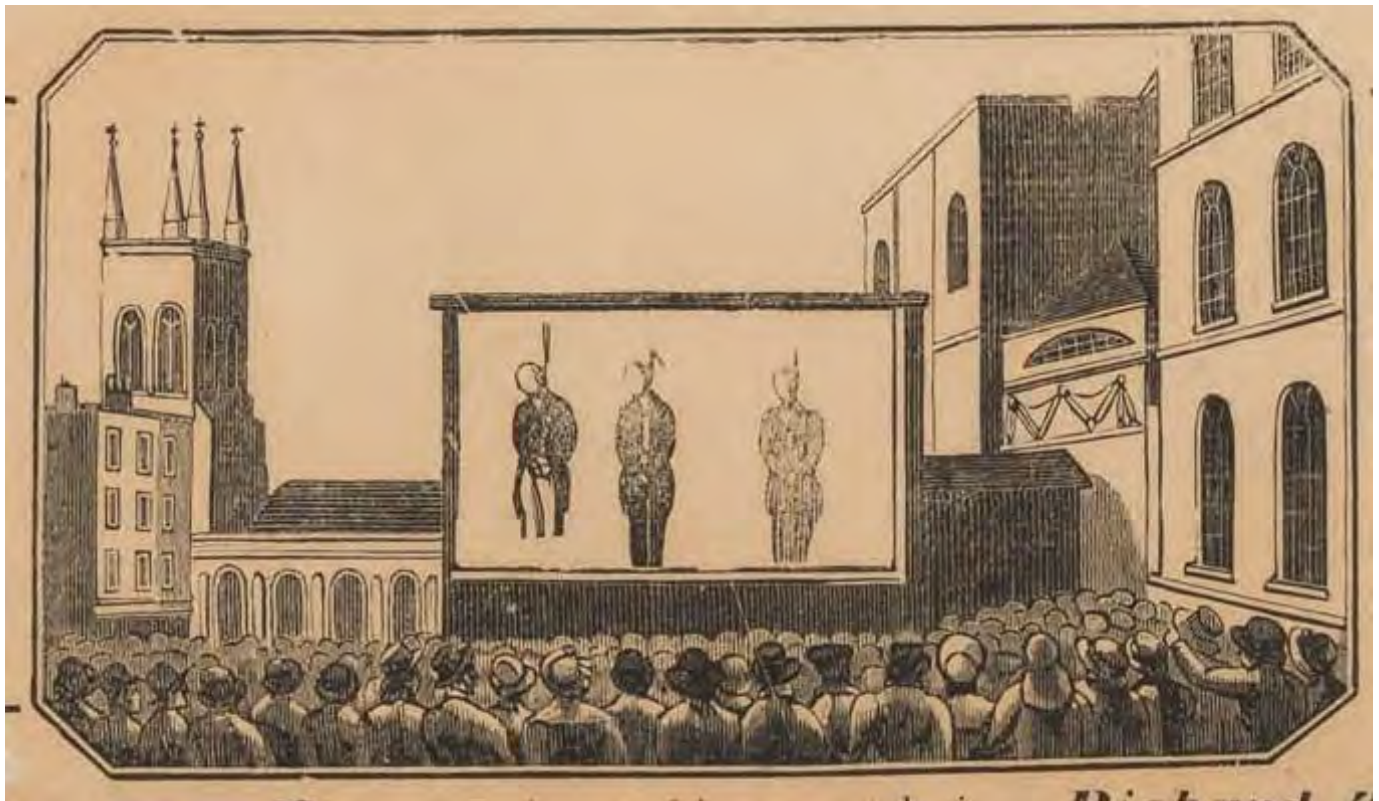
Smith, Mary [d.1834].

The Trials of Charles Shaw, Aged 16, For Murdering John Oldcroft, Aged 9. Richard Tomlinson, For Murdering Mary Evans, His Sweetheart. Mary Smith, For Drowning her Infant Child. Who All Three Received Sentence of Death, At the Late Staffordshire Spring Assizes, And were Ordered for Execution Last Wednesday, March 19, 1834. [London]: G. Smeeton, Printer, [1834].

14-3/4" x 9-3/4" broadside. Text in three columns enclosed by black rules, large woodcut vignette of execution scene flanked by excerpts from Genesis IX, 6 and Matthew XIX, 18. Verses at the end of each account. Evenly toned, slight creasing, small chips on the margins, with no loss of text. Rare. \$1,650.

* Shaw and Tomlinson appeared to have murdered in fits of rage sparked by disputes over money. In both cases witnesses were called to prove insanity. Smith, who may have been suffering from post-partum depression, threw her twelve-day-old baby into a canal. Nobody proposed an insanity defense for her.

OCLC and Library Hub locate 3 copies of this rare item (Library of Congress, Harvard Law School and Princeton). We located another copy at Cornell Law School.



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TIME AND REBELLION.

Written by a soldier in General Grant's army and of veteran authority. In 1861 he received a commission as "high private" in the rear ranks of a Hoosier Regiment, and having been so faithful and untiring in his country's cause, the War Department has renewed his commission for another three years.

This unequalled poem was not intended for the public's perusal of the whole world, but forcing some "General Order" might have it sent to the War Department, Washington, for future investigation, its author consented to "hand it over" in all its original magnificence:

O Time, with never tireless wing,
Changes o'er man and nations bring!
Years roll on and pass away
Regardless of the future day;
When Time shall be no more!

In eighteen hundred sixty-one
Our national troubles first begun;
And from that day to the present time,
A war we've had that's most sublime!
A million of men to arms have fled,
For "dixie land" or this wee Confed;
To quell rebellion's hellish flash,
That gladly would our nation smash!
Three years now have rolled around,
Since first we met upon the ground,
Our rights and freedom to maintain,
While many a battle have we gained!
At Cairo first our arms we tried,
But there not fully satisfied,
A little further on we'll go,
For victory o'er the Ohio!
Fort Henry was a fenshish hole,
Which rebels held in days of old;
But General Grant at once began,
To try his skill, he laid a plan
Which caused the rebels much disgrace,
And ever since we've held the place!
Fort Donelson next came on the list
Of all strong-holds where treason hissed;
But e're a month had rolled around
Its mighty walls were battered down!
Now here we had them bagged so slick,
A wisely planned, but Yankee trick;
Which cost them more than they had made,
In building this their first blockade!
Next came Shiloh further on,
Where treason loudly blew her horn;
Where rebel herdes by thousands stood,
To stop the Yankees, that they would!
Old Beauregard he led the van
Against our Grant, the very man;
Who met the vandals face to face,
And whipped the whole Confederate race!
Victory crowned our arms once more,
We drove the vandals as before;
While "forward!" cried our Gen'l brave,
Our nation now we're bound to save!
Onward moved our army round,
Till in front of Corinth town—
Here the rebels had fortified,
To stop the Yankees in their pride!
Now, a mighty seige began,
And General Halleck took command.
From right to left and centre too,
Were solid lines of braves in blue!
Now here were Generals Great and Small,
Who swore e're long the place must fall;
And from the flash of bayonets bright,
All signified desire to fight.
Department left was General Pope's,
He seemed to understand the ropes;

And thus to Halleck, Pope did say:
"I'm ready now to lead the way."
"But Halleck rather thought him dumb,
While all was ready at the tap of drum;
For Halleck was slow about the fight,
He thought he had them bagged all right;
But at the early break of day,
He learned the Rebs had ran away.
He rode up here and then down there,
But to find them he knew not where!
"Now, my men, there's work to do,"
While forward every General flew;
Forward all the lines advanced,
Hedged by Grant and Rosecrans!
Now, General Pope upon the left,
He took the town and the rest,
And then to Booneville he "lit out,"
To see what Price was now about! [more,
He captured prisoners forty thousand, or
With guns and cannon and Rebel's store.
Now, General Pope he won a name,
High above his rank or fame,
While on to Richmond he did go,
Which was the last of him you know.
Halleck, too, to Washington went,
There to help the President;
So there he is, at Washington still,
Grinding away with his Yankee mill!
Look, now, I've not forgot,
Where Rosecrans so bravely fought;
Where Price's men around him fell,
Like traitors in the jaws of hell!
The Hoosier boys now tried their luck,
Backed up by Minnesota's pluck;
And, by the way, Iowa too,
Found that here was work to do!
So here we fought in great uproar,
The Forty-Eighth and Fifth Iowa;
The Fourth from Minnesota true,
Fought like devils dressed in blue!
While battery 11th from the Buckeye State,
Shelled the Rebs at an awful rate!
The Forty-Eighth of Hoosier fame,
Here by hundreds they were slain;
They fought as Hoosiers always fight,
For a cause that's just and right!
Missourians, too, with all their tricks,
Both the Eleventh and Twenty-Six,
Fought like demons all did say,
And thus you see we gained the day!
Next again at Corinth town,
Came the Rebs from all around;
But here, you see, we had the boys,
From old Wisconsin and Illinois!
The Fifty-Ninth of Hoosier note,
And all the rest of whom I've wrote—
How like devils we did fight,
Until we put them all to flight;
And on retreat they swiftly sped,
With only half, for the rest were dead!
Now to the waters we did go,
Through rain, and hail, and falling snow;
While General Grant came up again,
And all was ready for a new campaign!
Now down the waters we did glide,
Upon the rivers rolling tide;
While at Port Gibson on the way,
Where hosts of seecsh all in gray;
But soon we gave them Yankee hail,
And to their heels they took leg bail!
We followed them up to Raymond field,
Where, of course, they had to yield—

Now forward all too Jackson steered,
In solid lines the Rebs appeared;
But here a charge of Layonets grand,
Was too much for the Rebs to stand!
Thus, again, with half our strength,
We gained the point desired at length;
While now for Vicksburg it must fall,
Should it cost the lives of all!
But Champion Hills was on our way,
And there the devil was to pay;
Here the Rebs came out en masse,
And swore the Yanks should never pass!
Now here a battle in wild dismay,
Began again at the break of day;
But ere the setting of the sun,
A mighty victory had we won!
Vicksburg now stood down the rear,
And mighty forts were built up here—
Where all the Rebels they sought to hide,
In a stronghold so fortified!
The Yankees now determined were,
To whale them out we did declare—
So all around a line we drew,
Right under their guns and batteries too!
Both day and night to them we stuck,
Which made them kuss our Yankee pluck;
We stormed their works and drove them
back,
And made them keep the inside track!
Our army now had gained their rear,
Gunboats in front some did appear;
While all within began to sigh,
For General Grant was drawing nigh!
The Yankees, too, came up so near,
It made them tremble, full of fear;
But soon the storm began to roar,
In thundering tones from shore to shore,
While grape and shell, and musket ball,
Caused many a seecsh thca to fall!
High up their truce they now did swing,
While we to order our arms did bring;
In honor, a shout of victory shrill,
Ran through the valleys and o'er the hill—
The battle was fought and victory won,
The forts surrendered with every gun;
Horses and mules, and all the stores,
Prisoners, too, by thousands, and by scores!
Thus a victory in all complete,
Which caused secession's sore defeat;
A blow that made old Davis feel,
The mighty effects of Yankee steel!
Here, again, our work was done,
While other strongholds must succumb;
So o'er the plains and mountains great,
Again we went at hasty rate;
Now Chattanooga we did gain,
Through cold and heat and falling rain,
And here again we whipped the foe,
Which made them to Atlanta go.
Now here upon this sacred soil,
Many a brave man met his fall—
But his name shall honored be,
And his country ever free.
Many a seecsh also fell,
While fighting for this tyrant's hell—
A hell of slavery, with Davis for king,
Where human blood would riches bring.
From sixty-one to sixty-four,
All this we've done, and ten times more!
And now old TIME, with tireless wing,
These are the changes you did bring!
HUNTSVILLE, ALA., Jan. 1st, 1864.

Unrecorded Alabama Union Broadside: A Hoosier Soldier's Poetic Assessment of the War & General Grant

4. [Civil War, American].

Time and Rebellion. Huntsville, AL, Jan. 1st, 1864.

14-1/2" x 9" (36.8 x 22.8 cm) broadside. text in three columns of poetic verse, enclosed within a classic decorative woodcut border positioned below the primary headline. Printed on fragile, mid-war paper stock; small edge chips and light tanning along margins, consistent with temporary campaign printing, but text fully intact and legible. \$1,500.

* An apparently unrecorded, privately printed Union campaign broadside issued at Huntsville, Alabama, on New Year's Day 1864, offering a soldier's poetic chronicle of the war's progress and predicting ultimate victory under General Ulysses S. Grant.

In late 1863 and early 1864, Huntsville, Alabama, served as a crucial strategic hub for Union forces following its re-occupation by Federal troops under Brigadier General George Crook and major elements of the Army of the Tennessee. Operating deep within Confederate territory, Indiana ("Hoosier") regiments-including troops attached to Grant's western campaigns-were stationed in and around the town to secure supply lines and maintain Northern control.

This broadside presents a rare, hyper-local artifact of soldier literary culture printed directly in the occupied South. Rather than standard official military orders, it captures the authentic voice, morale, and political outlook of an experienced Union infantryman looking ahead to the war's final phase in early 1864.

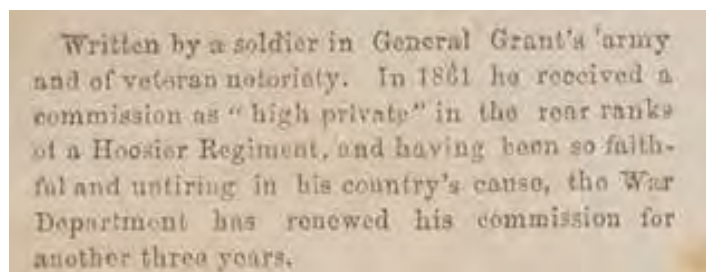
Directly beneath the title sits a lengthy, satirical, and fiercely patriotic biographical preamble:

"Written by a soldier in General Grant's army and of veteran notoriety. In 1861 he received a commission as 'high private' in the rear ranks of a Hoosier Regiment, and having been so faithful and unretiring in his country's cause, the War Department has renewed his commission for another three years. This unequaled poem was not intended for the public perusal of the whole world, but fearing some 'General Order' might have it sent to the War Department, Washington, for future investigation, its author consented to 'hand it over' in all its original magnificence."

The author's self-deprecating reference to holding a commission as a "high private" refers to his enlistment in 1861 and his recent re-enlistment ("renewed his commission for another three years") as a veteran volunteer-a vital effort by the Lincoln administration in late 1863/early 1864 to retain battle-hardened troops.

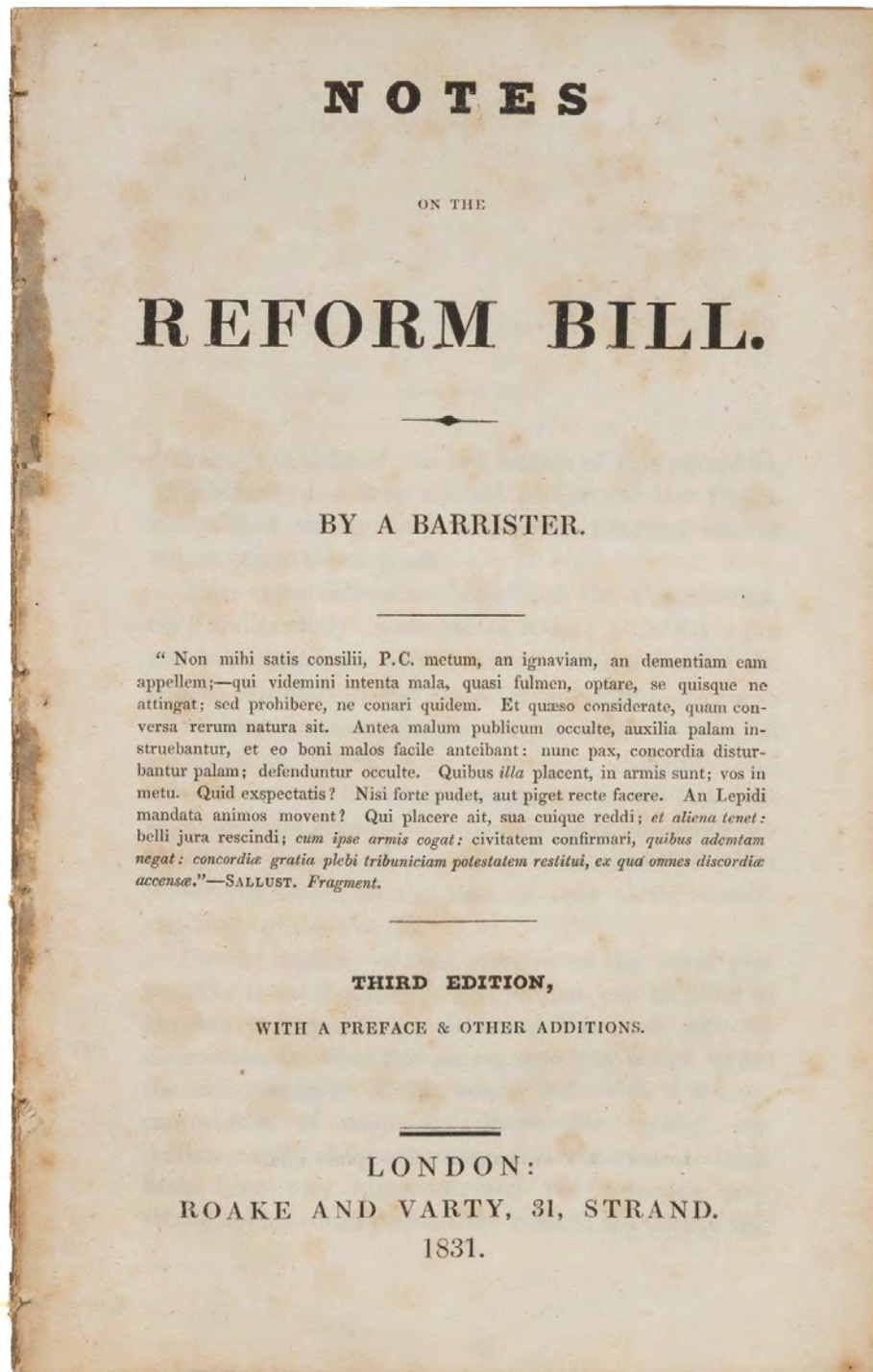
The accompanying three-column poem synthesizes major Union campaigns, key political turning points, and the rise of Ulysses S. Grant. By January 1864, following Grant's decisive victories at Vicksburg and Chattanooga, Northern soldiers increasingly viewed him as the commander capable of ending the rebellion-a sentiment clearly articulated in this verse.

Unrecorded in standard military and regional bibliographies. No institutional copies located in OCLC/WorldCat, Union list bibliographies, or major Civil War broadside collections (such as the American Antiquarian Society, Library of Congress, or Huntington Library). A unique survival of field-printed Union poetry from the Alabama theater.



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Rare 1831 Pamphlet of The Great Reform Act Debate

5. [Coleridge, John Taylor, (1790-1876)].

Notes on the Reform Bill. By a Barrister. London: Roake and Varty, 1831.

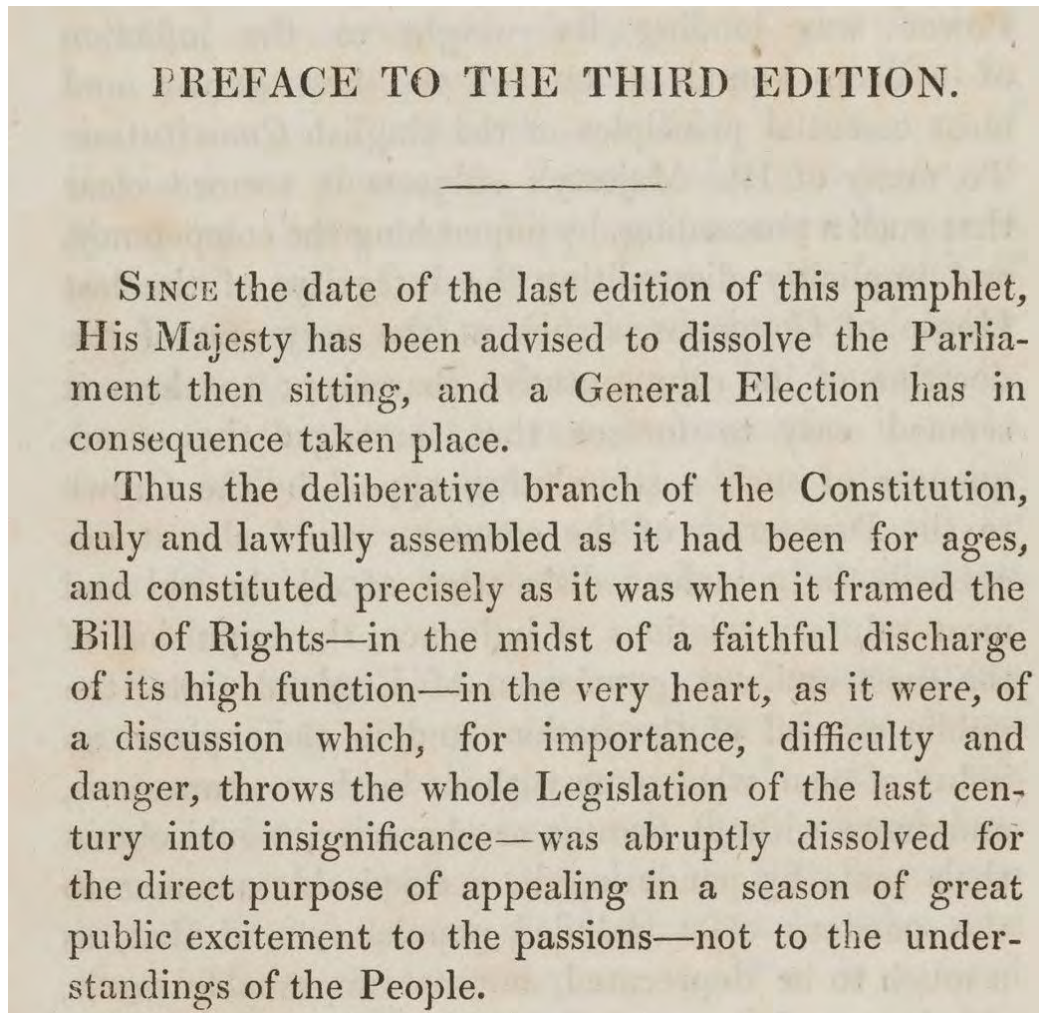
Third edition, with a preface & other additions. 84 pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2"; 19 x 11.4 cm). Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Slight soiling and foxing to covers, otherwise internally clean. A good copy. \$250.

* An important contemporary legal and conservative critique of the Whig administration's proposed electoral overhauls, written by English judge Sir John Taylor Coleridge under his customary pseudonym "A Barrister." Published immediately following the bill's second reading in the House of Commons, this pamphlet provides a primary window into the establishment's constitutional pushback against Lord Grey's government.

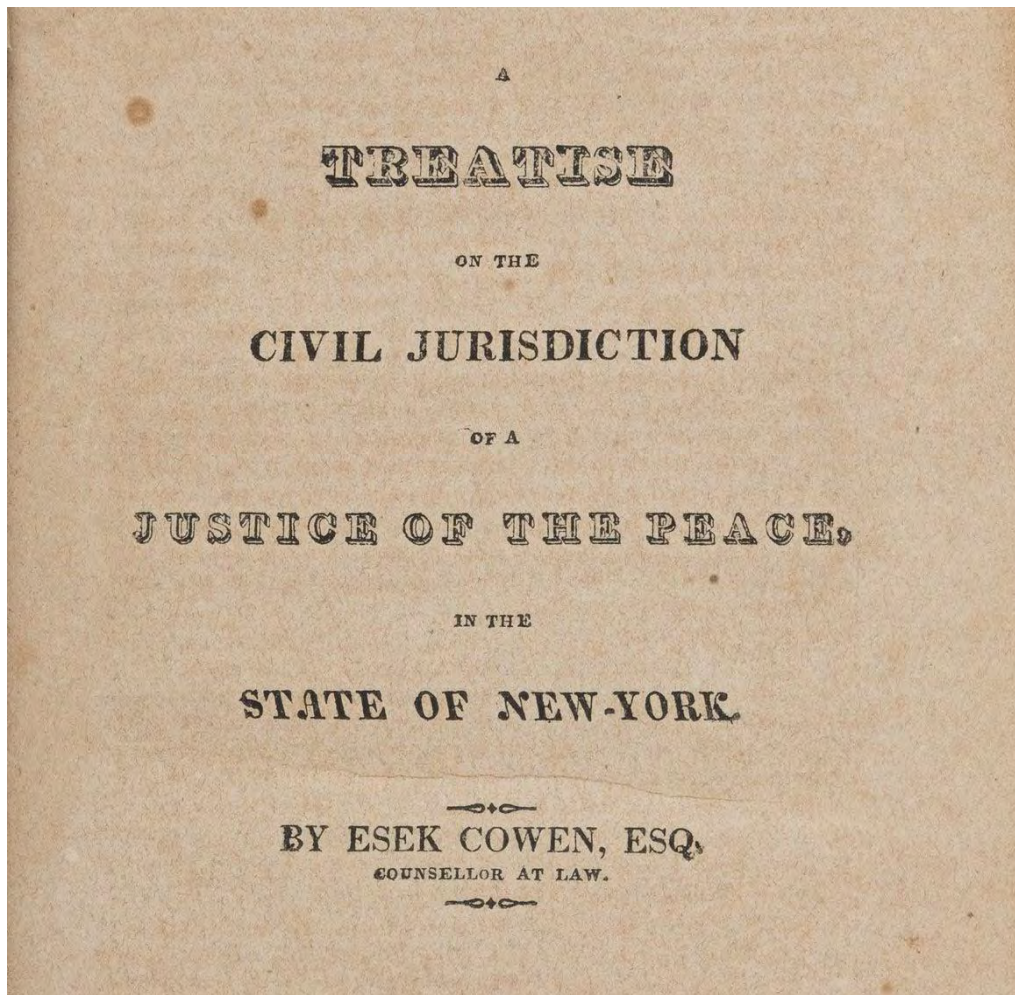
While acknowledging that some reform was necessary, Coleridge defended the principle of certain nomination boroughs (where patrons controlled the seats). He argued they provided a vital mechanism for introducing intelligent, independent men into Parliament who might not otherwise win popular elections.

Coleridge attacks the proposed uniform £10 property qualification, arguing that abandoning historic, localized voting customs would destabilize the social order. He famously defends "nomination boroughs" (rotten boroughs) as essential meritocratic vehicles for introducing brilliant men into Parliament without the caprice of popular elections. A vital primary source documenting the legislative battle that ultimately resulted in the Great Reform Act of 1832.

The third edition features an extensive author's preface to counter arguments made by pro-reform politicians in the months between the printings after fierce public backlash and intense parliamentary debates that occurred immediately after the first edition was printed.



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**The Definitive, Indispensable Handbook for Local
Magistrates and Legal Practitioners Throughout New York State**

6. Cowen, Esek.

A Treatise on the Civil Jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace in the State of New-York. Albany: WM. Gould & Co., 1821.

First edition. Thick octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2" x 2"; 22 cm x 14.5 cm x 5 cm), xxii, 9-750 pp.

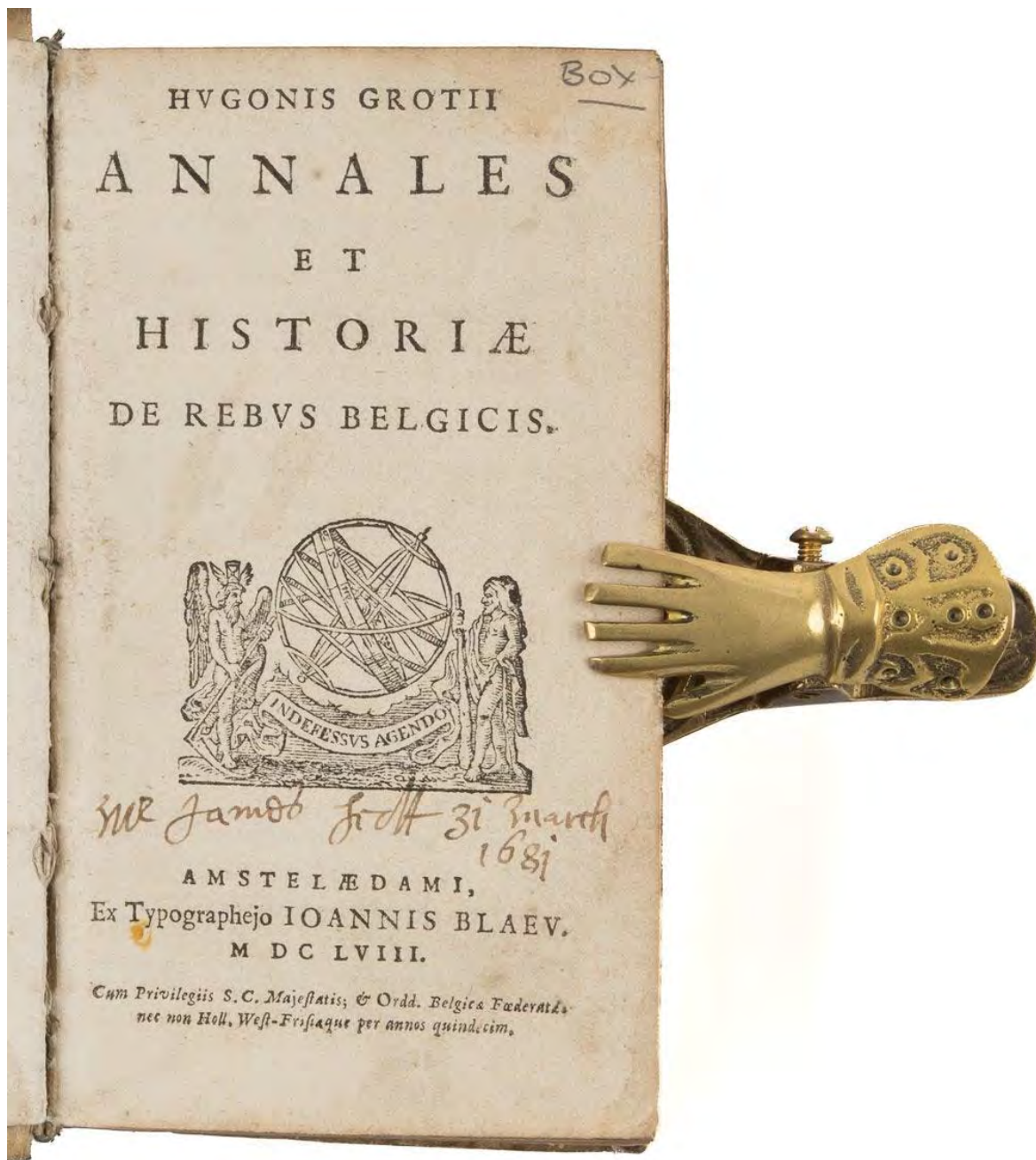
Contemporary full calf with red spine label and gilt. Exterior worn and scuffed, front hinge cracked but stable. Foxing to pastedowns and endpapers. Offsetting to textblock, text remains fully legible. A very good, well-preserved copy of this very important early American justice of the peace. \$350.

* The first edition of Esek Cowen's monumental legal work, which stood for decades as the definitive, indispensable handbook for local magistrates and legal practitioners throughout New York State.

Highly influential during the formative years of early American jurisprudence, this expansive volume systematically organized the statutory duties, civil liabilities, and procedural boundaries governing justices of the peace. A cornerstone text for collections specializing in early American statutory law and the development of regional court systems.

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**Early Pocket Edition of Grotius's Essential Work
on the Legal and Historical Foundations of State Sovereignty and Just War**

7. Grotius, Hugo. *Annales et Historiae de Rebus Belgicis*. Amsterdam: Ex Typographeio Joannis Blaeu, 1658. [xvi], 812 [i.e. 814], [34] pp. Pages 791-792 repeated in paging. 12mo. (5-1/2" x 3-1/4"; 13.5 cm x 7.5 cm).

Contemporary vellum with yapp edges. Early manuscript author, title, and date on spine, partially faded away. Binding slightly soiled, but tight and structurally sound. Armorial bookplate of Sir William Maxwell and small printed library ticket reading "Monreith House Library/ Please return this book to shelf/ 'Box'" (with shelfmark in manuscript) tipped in. Leaves clean and well-preserved. A very good copy. \$500.

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

* Early portable pocket edition, published just one year after Blaeu's grand folio first edition of 1657. Commissioned by the States of Holland in 1601 to provide the official legal and historical chronicle of the Eighty Years' War (1568-1648), Grotius used this text to formulate the practical state-practice arguments that undergird his epochal theories of international law.

While ostensibly a historical narrative of the Dutch War of Independence against Spain, the *Annales* serves as an indispensable legal companion to *De Jure Belli ac Pacis* and *Mare Liberum*. In it, Grotius systematically examines the legal parameters of rebellion, the limits of imperial jurisdiction, and the defense of maritime liberties. By analyzing the sovereign status of the United Provinces, he advances early modern doctrines on the rights of neutral powers, the legal validity of treaties with non-Christian states, and the framework for a "Just War" fought against oppressive, tyrannical authority. The text is a vital primary source showing how the concrete legal problems of the Dutch Revolt directly shaped the foundation of the modern *jus gentium* (law of nations).

Our copy features a distinguished legal and aristocratic provenance from the library of the Maxwell baronets at Monreith House, Wigtownshire, Scotland.

Ter Meulen & Diermanse, Bibliographie des écrits imprimés de Hugo Grotius 744. Short-Title Catalogue, Netherlands 852717863. Brunet, Manuel du Libraire II, 1767.



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**A Superb Copy of the Rare Second Blaeu Edition,
Featuring Grotius's Famous Anti-Piracy Warning and Distinguished Scottish Enlightenment Provenance**

8. Grotius, Hugo [1583-1645].

De Iure Belli ac Pacis Libri Tres. In Quibus Ius Naturae & Gentium, Item Iuris Publici Praecipua Explicantur. Editio Nova ab Auctore ipso Recognita & Correcta: De qua Vide Pagina Frequenti. Amsterdam: Apud Guilielmum Blaeu, 1632.

Octavo. 6-1/2" x 4; 16.51 x 10.16 cm. [xx], 421, [27] pp. Includes oversized frontispiece of Grotius. Contemporary calf, spine extra-gilt with raised bands, marbled endpapers and page edges. Early manuscript chapter note to headers of all recto leaves, printed ticket tipped in: "Monrieth House Library/ Please return this book to shelf/ "I7" (shelfmark in manuscript). Light rubbing to joints and extremities, minor uniform toning, but an exceptionally clean, crisp copy in a well-preserved contemporary binding. \$3,500.

* Third edition overall, representing the definitive second Blaeu edition. It serves as a corrected reissue of Willem Blaeu's landmark 1631 edition, incorporating Grotius's personal emendations.

First published in Paris in 1625, *De Iure Belli ac Pacis* established a revolutionary system of international law anchored in natural law (*droit naturel*) rather than Christian theology or national sovereignty. This secularized structure dictates that basic principles of justice bind all human societies, a premise that forms the bedrock of modern global diplomacy and international law.

This edition features a critical publishing dispute. A rival 1632 edition was pirated by Johannes Jansson, who falsely designated his low-cost, uncorrected reissue of the 1631 text as the "third edition." To combat this, Grotius authorized a stern admonition printed on the verso of the title page of this official Blaeu edition, denouncing Jansson's text as deeply inaccurate and validating Blaeu's imprint as the only authorized text.

From the ancestral library of Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, housed at the 1791 Georgian estate in Wigtownshire, Scotland. The armorial bookplate and manuscript shelf ticket ("Monreith House Library... '17") likely denote the collection of the 4th Baronet or his son, Lt. Col. Sir William Maxwell, 5th Baronet (1779-1838)-a Napoleonic War veteran who lost his arm at Corunna and served as an MP. This well-documented placement highlights the book's status within a highly curated Scottish library.

Carter and Muir, *Printing and the Mind of Man* 125 (citing first edition). Ter Muelen and Diermanse, *Bibliographie des Ecrits Imprimés de Hugo Grotius* 569. Somos et al., *The Unseen History... Census De Iure Belli Ac Pacis (1625-1650 editions)*, Oxford University Press, 2025. page 515.



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**The Foundation of Jury Nullification: A Beautifully Bound 1771
Edition of *The Englishman's Right*, Directly Informing Revolutionary Thought**

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

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: [S.n.], 1771.

Octavo (8-1/4" x 4-3/4"; 20.9 x 12.1 cm). iii-vi, [vii-viii], 51, [1] pp. Modern tree calf in a period style, boards bordered with extra gilt fillets, spine intricately tooled in gilt with a contrasting leather lettering piece, edges tooled in gilt. Lacking the half-title. Interior leaves crisp with uniform, negligible light toning. A near-fine copy in an expertly executed revival binding. \$1,750.

* A notable later edition of one of the foundational Anglo-American legal texts on jury nullification, individual liberty, and

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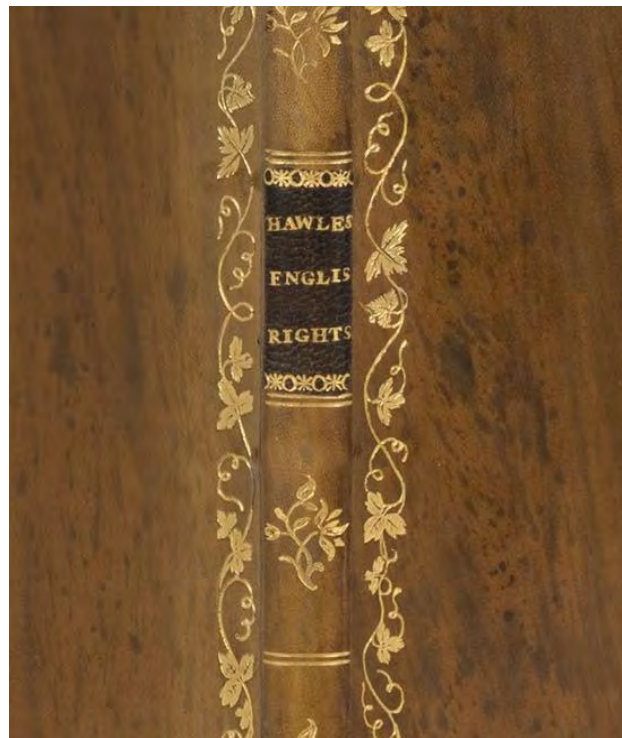
the constitutional role of the jury system. First published in London in 1680 during the turmoil of the Exclusion Crisis, *The Englishman's Right* was written by Sir John Hawles, a prominent Whig barrister who later served as Solicitor General under William III. Framed as a dialogue between a seasoned barrister and a conscientious jurymen, Hawles outlines the historical origins, constitutional authority, and solemn duties of juries under English common law.

Writing in the immediate wake of *Bushell's Case* (1670), which firmly established that judges could not fine or imprison jurors for returning a verdict contrary to the court's direction, Hawles championed the jury as an indispensable safeguard against judicial bias and royal despotism. Prior to this landmark case, courts routinely coerced juries by withholding food and water until a "guilty" verdict was delivered. Hawles popularized the ruling that a jury could not be punished for its verdict, effectively laying the groundwork for the modern doctrine of jury nullification.

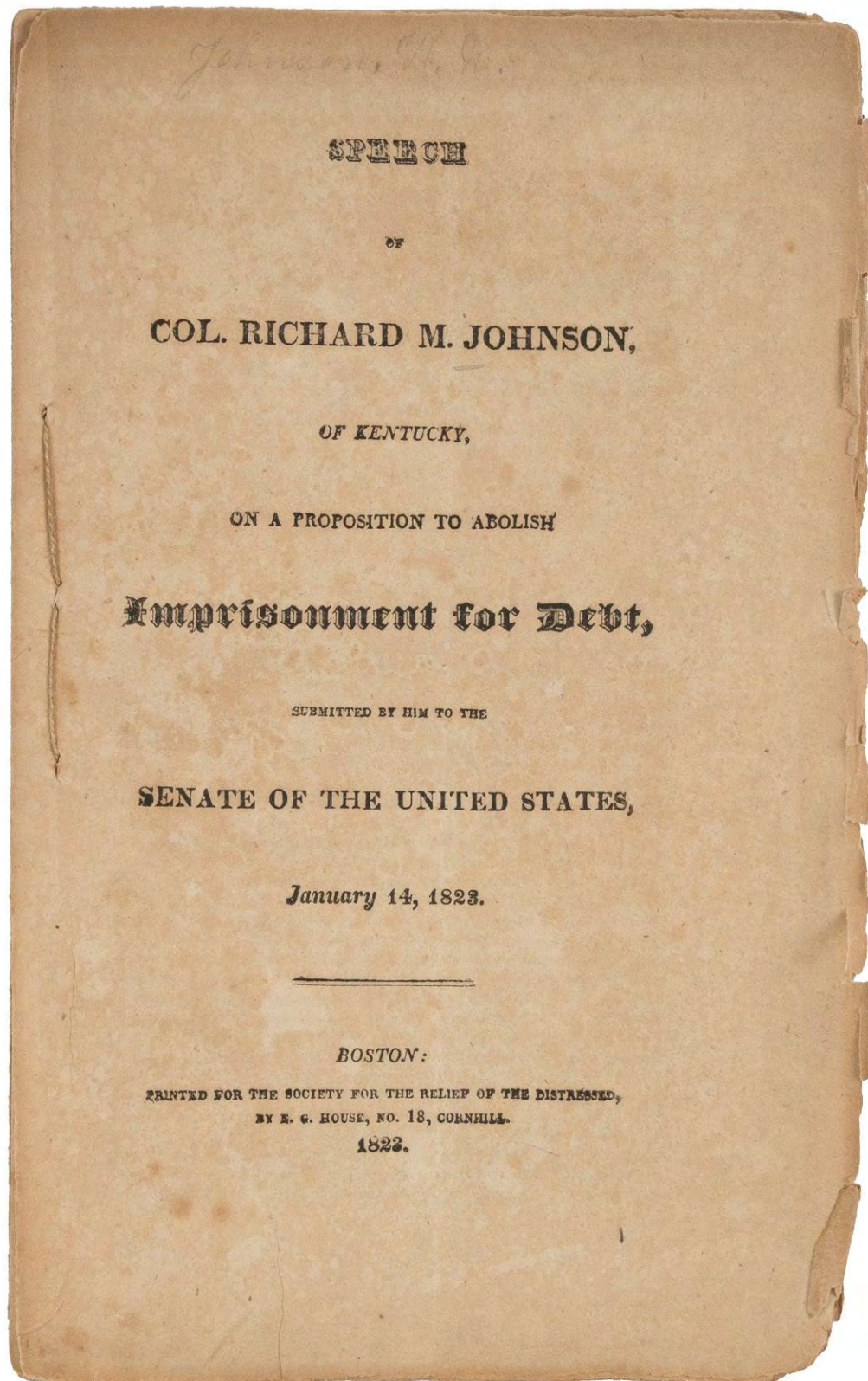
While initially written to counter royal absolutism in Great Britain, this specific 1771 edition was published at a critical tipping point in the American colonies. Following the Boston Massacre (1770) and the enforcement of the Townshend Acts, the British Crown increasingly utilized royal maritime and vice-admiralty courts to bypass local colonial juries entirely. This edition served as an active intellectual weapon for American Whigs and the Sons of Liberty. Widely circulated in the colonies in the immediate lead-up to the American Revolution, Hawles's defense of trial by jury directly informed Revolutionary thought on liberty, constitutionalism, and resistance to arbitrary power. Colonial figures heavily relied on the work to argue that jurors possessed the right to judge both the facts and the law, making it a cornerstone of American legal heritage through the nineteenth century.

The Advertisement to the Reader on page [vii] notes the meticulous care taken with this specific 1771 issue, stating that it "has been carefully collated with the first [and] so scrupulously has the Original been adhered to, that not a single word has been altered, except in the translation of the Latin sentences in page 3, the latter of which was before unintelligible."

English Short-Title Catalogue T119893.



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A Notable Jacksonian Denounces Imprisonment for Debt

10. Johnson, Richard M. [1780-1850].

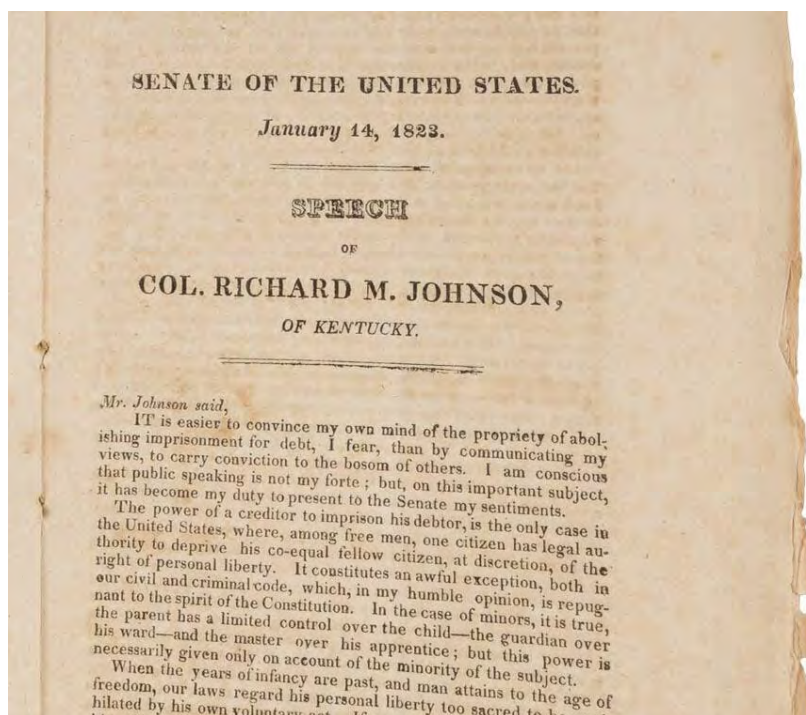
Speech of Col. Richard M. Johnson, Of Kentucky, On a Proposition to Abolish Imprisonment for Debt, Submitted by Him to the Senate of the United States, January 14, 1823. Boston: Printed for the Society for the Relief of the Distressed, 1823. First edition. 23, [1] pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2"; 22.9 x 14cm).

Original bound wrappers. Some chipping to edges. Light foxing, binding secure. Light pencilled gift inscription "Recd Dec 18, 1843/ The Gift of Mr & Mrs Clark/ of [?]" to interior front wrapper with penciling "Johnson, R.M." to front wrapper. A very good copy. \$450.

* A landmark speech delivered against debtors' prisons by U.S. Senator (and future 9th Vice President) Richard Mentor Johnson. It remains one of the most prominent early American arguments against the practice of locking individuals in debtors' prisons. Inherited from British common law, the American legal system routinely jailed impoverished citizens for unpaid debts, stripping them of the ability to earn wages to pay creditors. Johnson's legislative efforts laid the groundwork for federal and state-level abolishment of imprisonment for debt.

Johnson was one of the earliest and most prominent national champions of populist reforms, arguing that taking away a person's liberty for failing to pay a debt was both morally unjust and economically counterproductive. The speech was printed and distributed widely by advocacy groups, most notably by the Society for the Relief of the Distressed in Boston to shape public opinion and drive local Massachusetts legislative change.

"The power of a creditor to imprison his debtor is the only case in the United States where, among free men, one citizen has legal authority to deprive his co-equal fellow citizen, at discretion, of the right of personal liberty. It constitutes an awful exception, both in our civil and criminal code, which, in my humble opinion, is repugnant to the spirit of the Constitution" (3). Johnson, a Jacksonian Democrat who represented Kentucky in the House from 1807 to 1819 and the Senate from 1819 to 1829, was Martin Van Buren's vice president from 1837 to 1841. *Goldsmiths'-Kress Library of Economic Literature* 23925.



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Collecting a Debt in Colonial Massachusetts

11. [Manuscript].

[Massachusetts].

[Warrant for Seizure of Goods to Settle a Debt]. Taunton, MA, April 16, 1760.

[And]

[Bill from Creditor]. [Taunton, MA], April 17, 1760.

6-1/2" x 7-1/2" (16.5 x 19 cm) warrant and 3" x 7-1/2" (7.6 x 19 cm) bill, which is affixed to warrant with a pin, signed annotation to verso of warrant. Moderate toning, horizontal and vertical fold lines, light soiling and few minor stains, small clean tears starting along fold lines, traces of wax seals to warrant. \$500.

* Issued by the sheriff of Bristol County, this is a warrant that directs the "sheriff or marshall of the said County of Bristol or either of their deputies and constables of the town of Easton" to collect a debt, either in cash or a comparable amount in goods, from Thomas Willis of Easton. The amount, £2, 12s, 6d, was owed to the trader "R Neston" of Taunton. The affixed bill was written and signed by him.

The annotation says a summons was delivered on April 25, 1760 and left at his "usual place of abode." It is signed by Issac William, Deputy Sheriff.

* This document records that Philip Hathaway, a yeoman, successfully sued Barnabas Tisdale for one pound, seventeen shillings in the Bristol County Inferior Court of Common Pleas. It authorizes the sheriff's office to ensure the sum is paid to Hathaway, collect any fees and jail Tisdale for non-compliance. It is signed by Timothy Fales [1690-1777] in his capacity as the court clerk. Fales, a former sea captain educated at Harvard, served in various public offices from 1724 until at least 1774. The annotations and signature to the verso attest that the sum was collected by Samuel White and that Hathaway received the money.

Bristol April 25th 1760 by Virtue
of this writ attached an horse of the within
name Thomas I left a Summan at his
Last & usual place of abode
For Isaac Williams Dep^y Sheriff

Thomas Willis of East
1760 To 3 3/4 of Batten
14/4 - 2.12.6
April 1st 1760 N. Mellon
To N. Mellon Esq
By 36 feet Timber
215/ - 0.13.4
Balance Due 1.19.2
I 2.12.6
This due of the above Wood for 1000 make one
with your Doings therein unto myself at or before the

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I Susan Sheldon of Suffield in the County of Hartford & State of Connecticut being seventy six years of age do depose and say that I was born in said town when I resided until ^{was} about twenty six years of age; that my Father with whom I lived until that time resided in the west society in said town; and within one fourth of a mile of the residence of Benjamin Scott deceased; and I distinctly recollect that a Negro Woman by the name of Flora lived in the family of said Scott several years and I recollect that ~~she~~ had one child while living there I think a son. and that said Flora left the family of said Scott before my marriage which was at the age of twenty four & in a manner unknown to me.

Suffield August 13- 1842. Susan Sheldon

State of Connecticut
Hartford County ss. Suffield August 13th. 1842. Be it remem-
bered that on the day aforesaid Susan Sheldon, who hath subscribed
the foregoing deposition, appeared, before me, and after being exam-
ined & cautioned to speak the whole truth, made solemn oath to the
same deposition; which is taken at the request of Francis L
Anderson Esq. of Fincastle Botetourt Co. Virginia to be used by
the Court in sd county in Virginia. The adverse party living more
than twenty miles from the place of caption & out of the State and
having no known agent or attorney within that distance was not
notified or present. Said deposition was drawn up and certi-
fied by ~~me~~. Daniel W. Norton Justice of the Peace.

An Affidavit From an Important, Notably Complex Antebellum Virginia Emancipation Case

12. [Manuscript].

[Slavery].

[Affidavit Confirming the Past Connecticut Residence of a "Negro Woman"]. Suffield, CT, August 13, 1842.

Bifolium (16" x 10"; 40.6 x 25.4 cm). 4 pp. total, with 1 page of manuscript text and an integral address leaf on the fourth page. Addressed in ink to "Francis L. Anderson Esq. Fincastle / Botecourt [Botetourt] County Virginia / or to the / Clerk of [blank] Court sd. co. Vir..." and docketed "Susan Sheldon / affidavit / Dep- / 1845 April 18th" on verso. Original red wax seal residue present. Slight edgewear and minor toning along folds, clean tears along folds, a few repaired with collotape, else very good. \$950.

* This deposition is a crucial piece of evidence from the long-running Flora freedom suit, an extraordinary, multi-generational legal battle originating in Montgomery County, Virginia, in which an enslaved family fought for their freedom across nearly eight decades.

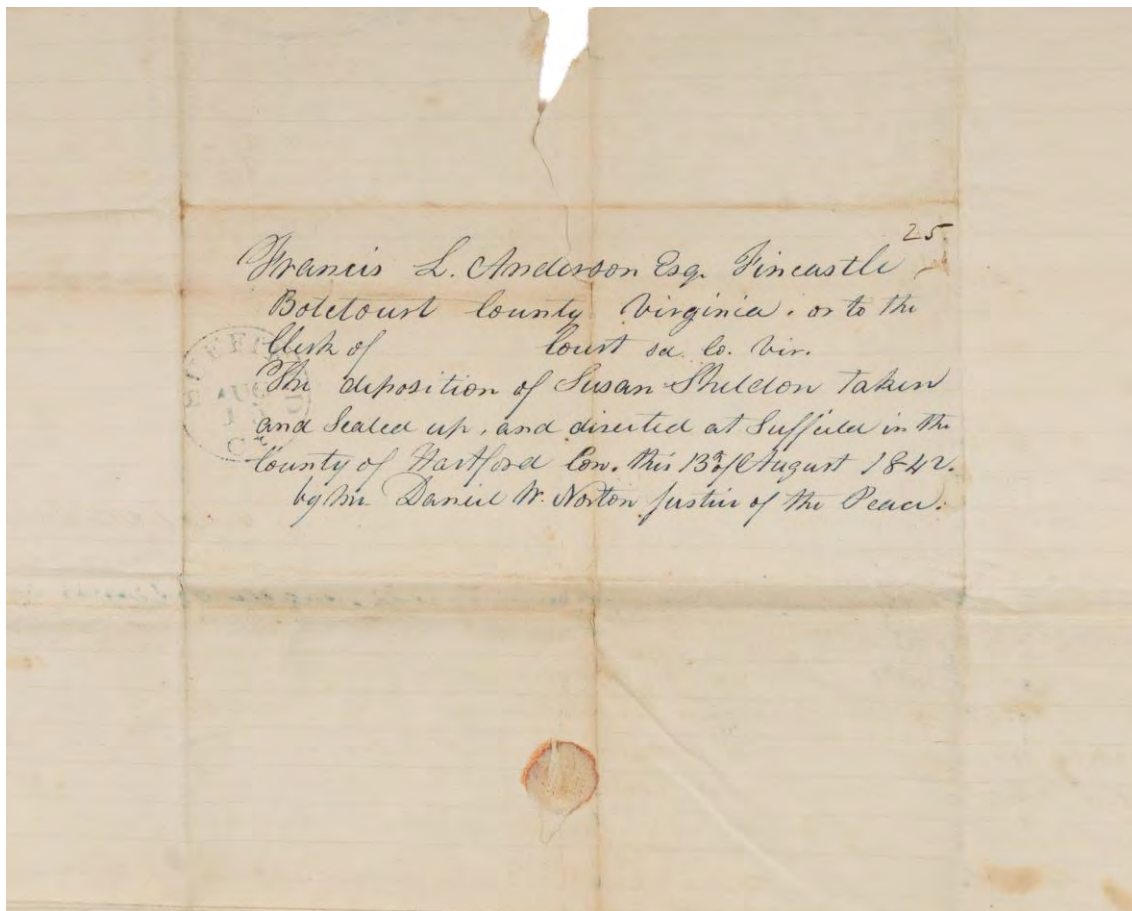
Flora, originally of Suffield, Connecticut, was enslaved by Benjamin Scott before being sold to Oliver Hanchett. In the late 1700s, James Stephens purchased Flora and her children, moving them to Montgomery County, Virginia. Upon entering the state, Stephens took a legally mandated oath promising not to sell enslaved persons brought into Virginia from other states.

In 1785, Stephens violated his oath by selling Flora to James Charlton. Realizing she had been brought into the state illegally, Flora asserted her legal right to freedom and sought documentation from her former residence in Connecticut to prove her prior status.

Decades after Flora's death, her descendants were sold by the Charlton family to Francis Thomas Anderson, Sr., a prominent Virginia lawyer, politician, and slaveholder. Citing the original state laws prohibiting the domestic trade of imported enslaved people, Flora's grandchildren sued Anderson for their freedom, securing a favorable verdict in 1846. Despite this victory, protracted appellate litigation kept the family enslaved until the ratification of the 13th Amendment in 1865.

This affidavit, taken in Connecticut to establish Flora's presence in Suffield decades prior, reads in part: "I Susan Sheldon [...] being seventy-six years of age depose and say that I was born in said town where I resided until I was about twenty six years of age; that my father with whom I lived until that time resided within one fourth of a mile of the residence of Benjamin Scott, deceased; and I distinctly recollect that a negro woman by the name of Flora lived in the family of said Scott several years and I recollect that she had one child while living there I think a son, and that the said Flora left the family of the said Scott before my marriage which was at the age of twenty four & in a manner unknown to me."

The complex legal history of this family is preserved in the archival records of the Montgomery County Circuit Court and is thoroughly documented in Daniel B. Thorp's *Seeking Justice: The Extraordinary Freedom Suits of an Enslaved Virginia Family* (Penn State University Press).



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State of Vermont) At a County Court begun & holden
Windsor County ss) at Woodstock within & for the County
of Windsor on the Monday preceding
the fourth Tuesday in March being
the Twenty first day of March Anno
domini Seventeen hundred & Ninety
Six . . .

Present

The Hon^{ble} Joseph Marsh Esq. Chief Justice -
Paul Brigham Esq. Jst Judges
Elijah Robinson Esq. Jst Judges

Samuel Gale of the City of Quebec in the Province of
Lower Canada Pl^{ff} versus Titus Willard of Hartland in
the County of Windsor & State of Vermont Def^t. In an
Action of the Case for that the said Titus at said Wood-
stock on the tenth day of April Anno domini Seventeen
Hundred & ninety three by his Note under his hand of
that date for value received promised the Pl^{ff} to pay him
or his Order Forty Six Pounds twelve shillings & three pence
meaning lawful money, in one year next following the
date of said Note with interest. Yet the said Titus tho' re-
quested the same sum hath not paid nor interest but neg-
lects it. - So the Damages of the Pl^{ff} as he says Seventy
Pounds lawful money . . .

And now the Def^t comes into Court defends &c where
and prays oyer of the Note &c. on which &c. & it is read
to him in the words following (to wit) April 10th 1793

Cross-Border Collections: Samuel Gale Pursues Titus Willard Over 1796 Debts

13. [Manuscript].
[Woodstock, Vermont].

Gale vs Willard. Judgement of Bills. Woodstock, VT, 1796.

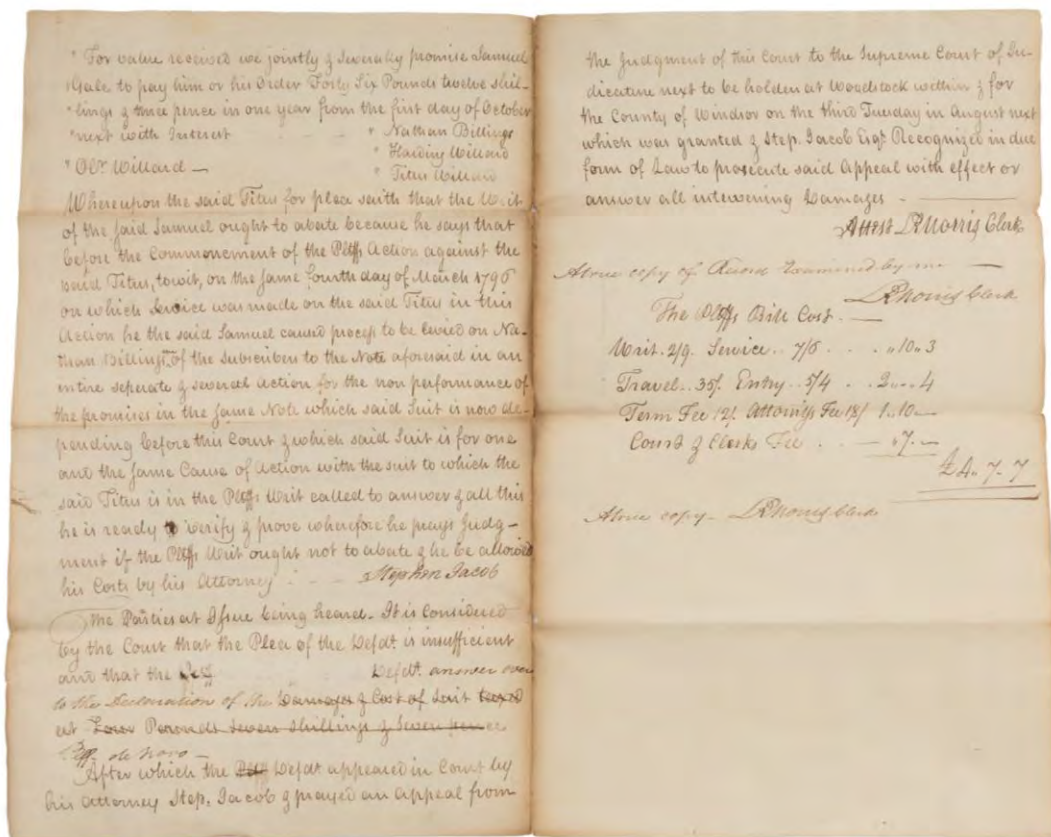
[3] ff. Bi-folium (12-1/2" x 8"; 32 x 20cm). Three-page legal document. Fold lines, minor toning and fading to ink. \$500.

* Manuscript legal document from 1796, detailing the attempt of Samuel Gale [1747-1826] of Quebec to collect a debt from Titus Willard [1764-1798] in Woodstock, Vermont. The conflict stemmed from complex, high-stakes land speculation and overlapping British-American regional alliances.

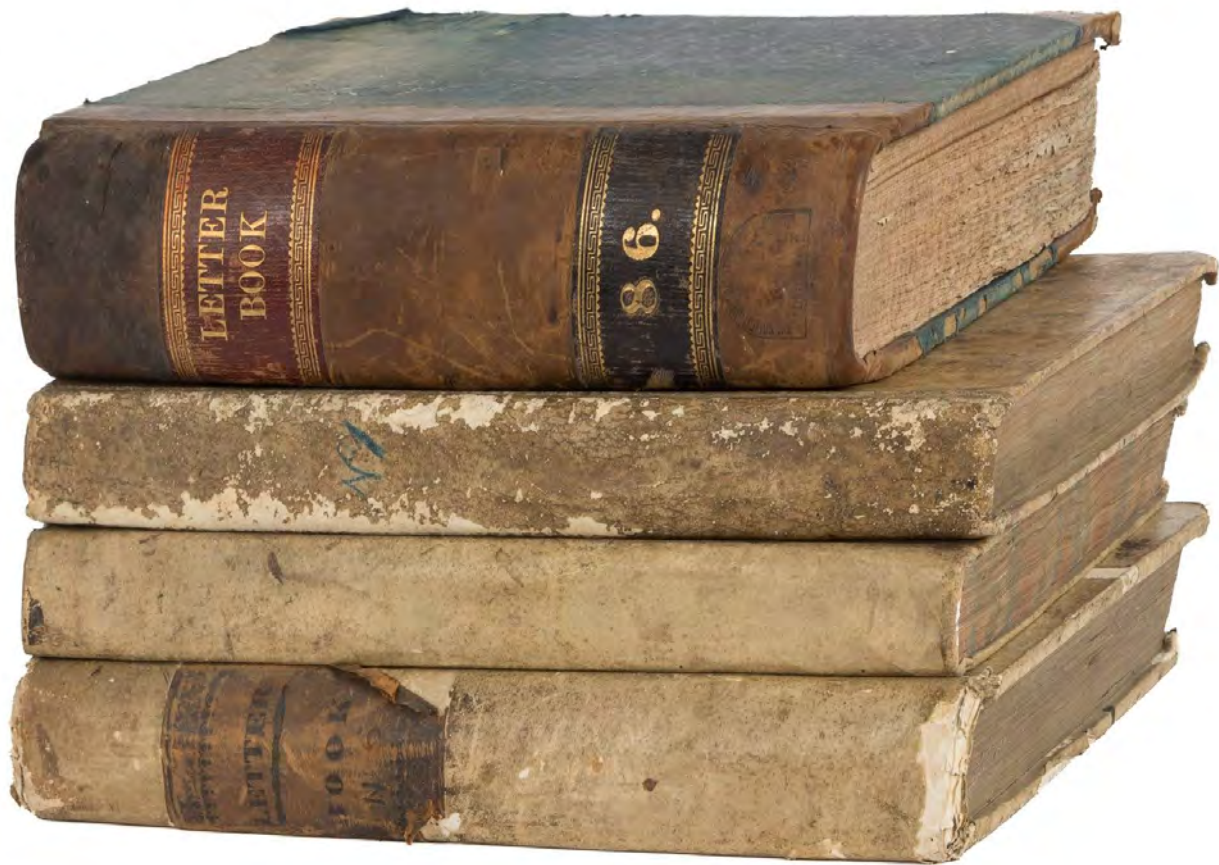
Gale was a prominent surveyor, land speculator, and government official in Quebec. Willard was the son of the original proprietor and founder of Woodstock, Col. Oliver Willard [1729-1810]. The Willard family were deeply tied to the borderlands and land grants between Vermont and Canada.

During this era, British authorities in Canada opened up the Eastern Townships of Quebec to American leaders ("Leaders and Associates"). Men like the Willards acted as agents, recruiting settlers and issuing large financial bonds.

By 1796, British authorities began cracking down on these land grants over fears of "pernicious" American democratic principles. As financial arrangements collapsed and the British Executive Council obstructed the original claimants, heavy debts and legal counter-suits rippled across the border between Quebec and Woodstock, Vermont. Gale was heavily criticized by Canadian rivals for manipulating these debts and collaborating with Vermont factions.



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The Tyacke Solicitors Archive: Law, Maritime Commerce, and Municipal Power in West Cornwall

14. [Manuscripts].
[Cornwall, England].
[Tyacke, Thomas Phillips (c.1809-1872) and
[Tyacke, James Walker (c.1846-1935)].

Records of Two Prominent Solicitors with Valuable Insights into the Economic and Social History of Helston, Cornwall, England.

Helston, Cornwall, 1833-1911. Four manuscript volumes.

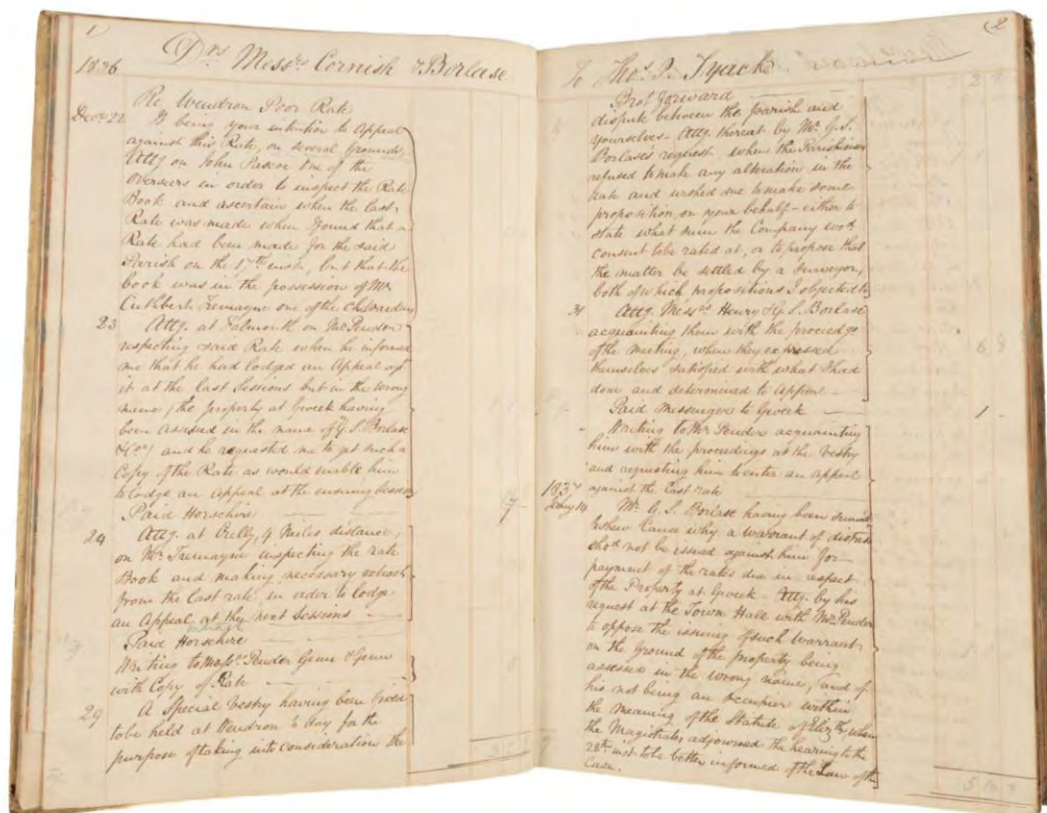
- **Volume I: Bill Book No. 1.** Helston, 1836-1842. 333 pp. Folio (12¼" x 8" / 31.1 x 20.3 cm).
- **Volumes II & III: Letter Book No. 1 [and] Letter Book No. 6.** Helston, 1833-1840, 1850-1853. [xxvi], 352; [xxvi], 523 pp. Folio (12½" x 8" / 31.7 x 20.3 cm). Bound in contemporary vellum, hand-lettered calf title label to spine of Letter Book No. 1, marbled endpapers. Moderate soiling and rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, front joint of Letter Book No. 1 tender. Front board of Letter Book No. 1 shows minor scar marks and an early vellum repair. Tears to front free endpaper and following flyleaf of Bill Book No. 1. Volume IV: Letter Book 86. Helston, 26 May 1911-28 October 1911. [cviii], 1,000 pp. Quarto (10½" x 8½" / 26.7 x 21.6 cm). Bound in three-quarter calf over cloth, red and black leather labels to spine. Staining to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with minor loss at corners.
- **Volume IV: Letter Book 86.** Helston, 26 May 1911-28 October 1911. [cviii], 1,000 pp. Quarto (10½" x 8½" / 26.7 x 21.6 cm). Bound in three-quarter calf over cloth, red and black leather labels to spine. Staining to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with minor loss at corners.

Overall very good. Interiors clean with light, uniform toning. Written in highly legible English cursive hands. \$2,500.

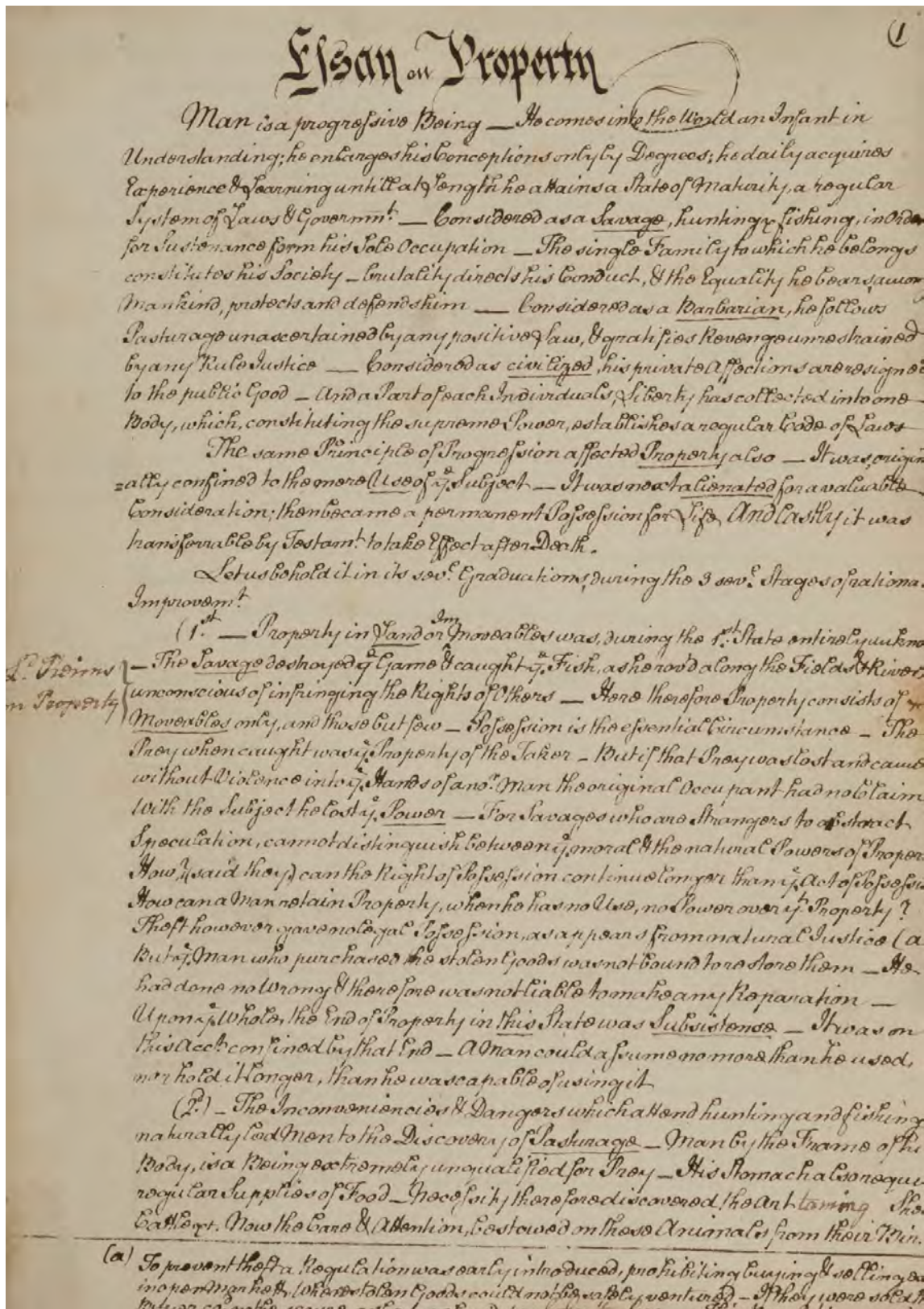
This collection of manuscript legal record books spans nearly eight decades, capturing the socio-economic evolution of Cornwall from the height of the Industrial Revolution to the dawn of modern telecommunications. Kept by two generations of the influential Tyacke family, the archive offers a localized look at Helston, a historic stannary town legally designated for the assaying and stamping of Cornish tin.

The early volumes, kept by Thomas Phillips Tyacke between 1833 and 1853, document the intricate financial networks supporting the regional mining boom. Because his firm, Cornish, Borlase & Tyacke, operated out of the nearby port of Gweek, these ledgers reflect the vital maritime commerce of the Helford River. Gweek was the essential industrial artery for the region, handling the heavy timber imports required for mine shaft shoring and the massive coal shipments needed to fuel steam-powered pumping engines. Tyacke's simultaneous roles as a Helston borough councilor and churchwarden for the vast mining parish of Wendron place these records at the intersection of local governance, ecclesiastical administration, and industrial capitalism.

The 1911 ledger of his nephew, James Walker Tyacke, bridges this mid-Victorian industrial past with 20th-century modernization. Serving as Helston's long-standing Town Clerk, the younger Tyacke steered municipal administration during a period of monumental technological change. Notably, his tenure coincided with the birth of global telecommunications just south of Helston on the Lizard Peninsula, where Guglielmo Marconi established the Poldhu wireless station and transmitted the first transatlantic radio signal in 1901. Together, these bill books and correspondence provides a valuable resource for studying legal practice, land tenure, shipping networks, and elite civic leadership in the West Country across two centuries.



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An 18th-Century English Manuscript Digest of Property Law

15. [Manuscripts].

[English Property Law].

Three 18th Century English Legal Manuscripts. [England. Circa 1780]. Three quarto volumes, each approximately 203 x 165 mm. A total of approximately 167 pages in three volumes.

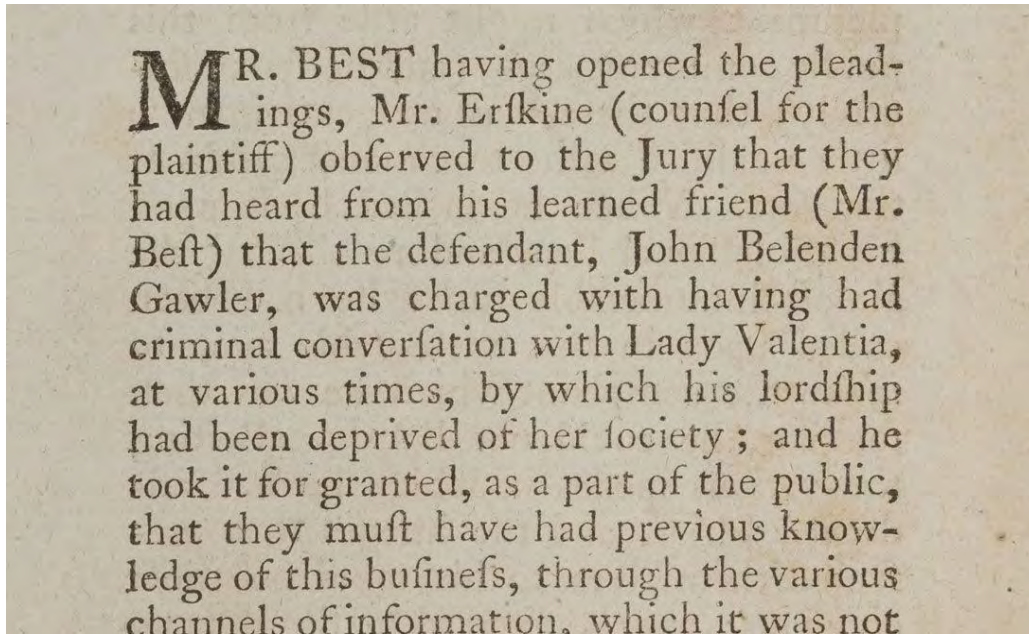
Bound in contemporary vellum stationer's bindings. Slightly bowed and soiled. Watermarks: Pro Patria; Countermark: GR. \$1,750.

* This practical digest of 18th-century English law has a particular emphasis on property law and related procedures. The contents of the manuscript are arranged into broad categories ("Property", "Arbitrament", and "Assumpsit"), each occupying a quarto volume, with subsections to each ("of the Feudal System", "Of Convenances", "Nature of Uses of Common Law", "Who may be an Arbitrator"; "When an award is void for the Whole", and so on).

The contemporary vellum stationers' bindings are utilitarian and economical, indicating a functional object created for reference or professional use rather than display; the carefully written texts are fair copies, and include contents pages. The manuscript thus amounts to a succinct overview of core areas of 18th-century English property law reflecting the practical legal knowledge required by students and practitioners.



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**A Rare 1796 "Crim. Con." Pamphlet: Homosexuality,
Blackmail, and Collusion in the 1796 Valentia Adultery Trial**

16. [Mountnorris, George Annesley, Earl of, (1769-1844)].

The Trial of John Belenden [sic] Gawler, Esq. for Adultery with Lady Valentia, (Sister to Lord Courtenay) in the Court of King's Bench, before Lord Kenyon, and a Special Jury, May 19, 1796. [London: Printed for T. Lewis, and J. Ridgway, 1796].

Octavo (8-1/2" x 5"; 21.6 x 12.7 cm). 16 pp. Original wrappers bound-in later quarter white cloth over gray-blue boards. Moderate shelfwear to boards with some browning to wrappers. Internally clean. A very good copy. \$450.

* An important legal record documenting a high-society scandal from late 18th-century England involving a high-profile suit for Criminal Conversation ("Crim. Con."). The plaintiff, George Annesley (later Earl of Mountnorris), held the courtesy title Viscount Valentia at the time of the trial. The defendant, John Bellenden Gawler (1764-1842), was an army officer who later changed his name to John Bellenden Ker and became a celebrated botanist. The wife at the center of the dispute was Lady Valentia (née Lady Anne Courtenay), daughter of the 2nd Viscount Courtenay.

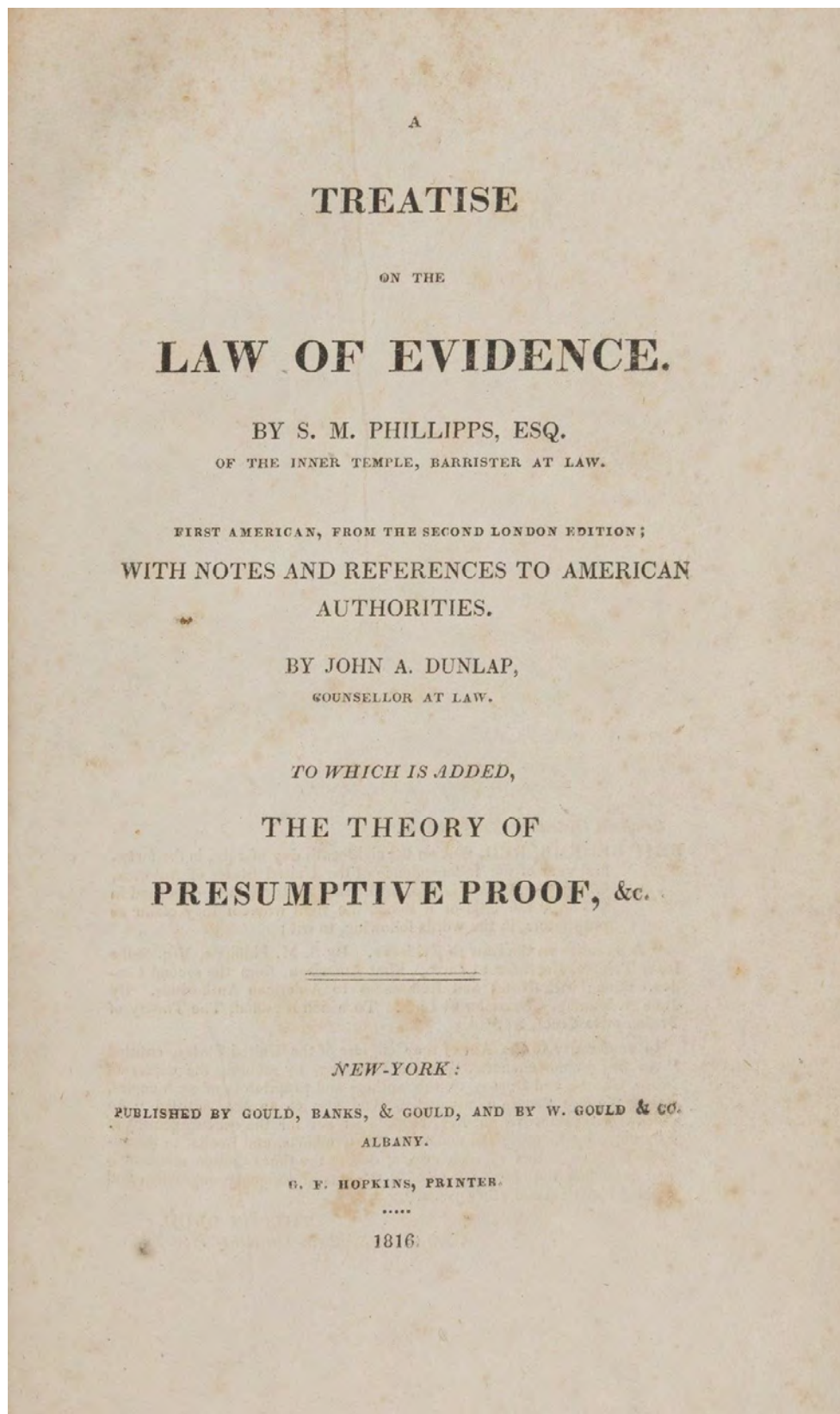
During this era, an aggrieved husband could sue his wife's lover for civil damages, legally treating the adultery as a trespass against his personal property. Presided over by Lord Chief Justice Kenyon, the special jury found Gawler guilty but awarded Lord Valentia only £2,000 of his original £10,000 claim. This drastically reduced award reflected widespread public and judicial suspicion that Valentia had actively condoned or orchestrated the affair.

The trial triggered massive aristocratic fallout. Lady Valentia counter-claimed that her husband was a promiscuous homosexual, and Gawler attempted to blackmail him to halt the legal actions. Though Valentia secured an ecclesiastical legal separation (divorce a mensa et thoro) in 1799, the House of Lords ultimately denied his petition for an absolute divorce due to heavy evidence of mutual collusion. Lady Valentia and Gawler subsequently lived together as lifelong partners, raising several children together.

ESTC No. N46711.

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First American Edition of Phillipps's Foundation Treatise on Evidence

**17. Phillipps, S[amuel] March [1780-1862].
[Dunlap, John A.(1793?-1858?)], Editor, Notes.**

A Treatise on the Law of Evidence.... With Notes and References to American Authorities. To Which is Added, The theory of Presumptive Proof, &c. New York: Published by Gould, Banks, & Gould, And by Gould & Co., Albany, 1816. xliii, 520, 106 pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2"; 22.8 x 13.9 cm).

Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine. Light rubbing to boards, faint early owner name (W.S. Ely) to head of front board, moderate rubbing to extremities with a bit of wear to spine ends and corners, front joint partially cracked, early owner bookplate (Abraham T. Rose) to front pastedown. Moderate toning and foxing to interior, faint dampstaining in places, early annotations to rear endleaves. A sound, very good copy. \$750.

* First American edition, star-paged to the second London edition (1815). This edition includes the supplementary treatise, Phillipps' *Theory of Presumptive Proof; or, An Inquiry into the Nature of Circumstantial Evidence*.

This is widely regarded as the first modern, systematic textbook on evidence law. Prior to Samuel March Phillipps, legal rules regarding evidence were scattered across disparate bench manuals, courtroom summaries, and unindexed case reporters. Phillipps organized the field into a rational legal framework, emphasizing underlying principles rather than an exhaustive list of precedents.

First published in London in 1814, the treatise went through ten English editions and numerous American printings, serving as the standard authority in Anglo-American courts for over half a century. Among its notable lasting contributions, Phillipps popularized the legal presumption of death-the rule that a missing person unheard from for seven years is presumed dead-which was rapidly integrated into early 19th-century American statutory and common law.

This first American edition was published simultaneously in New York and Albany by the legal publishing firm Gould & Banks. Editor John A. Dunlap appended *The Theory of Presumptive Proof*, a critical examination of circumstantial evidence and capital punishment cases that proved indispensable to early American trial lawyers evaluating high-stakes criminal defenses.

This copy belonged to Abraham T. Rose (1792-1857) of Bridgehampton, New York, whose bookplate sits on the front pastedown. Rose was a leading member of the Suffolk County bar, serving as a delegate to the 1846 New York Constitutional Convention, a Presidential Elector, and First Judge of the Suffolk County Court (1847-1855).

Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 5100.



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1874 Allan Pinkerton First Edition Debut Book

18. Pinkerton, Allan, [1819-1884].

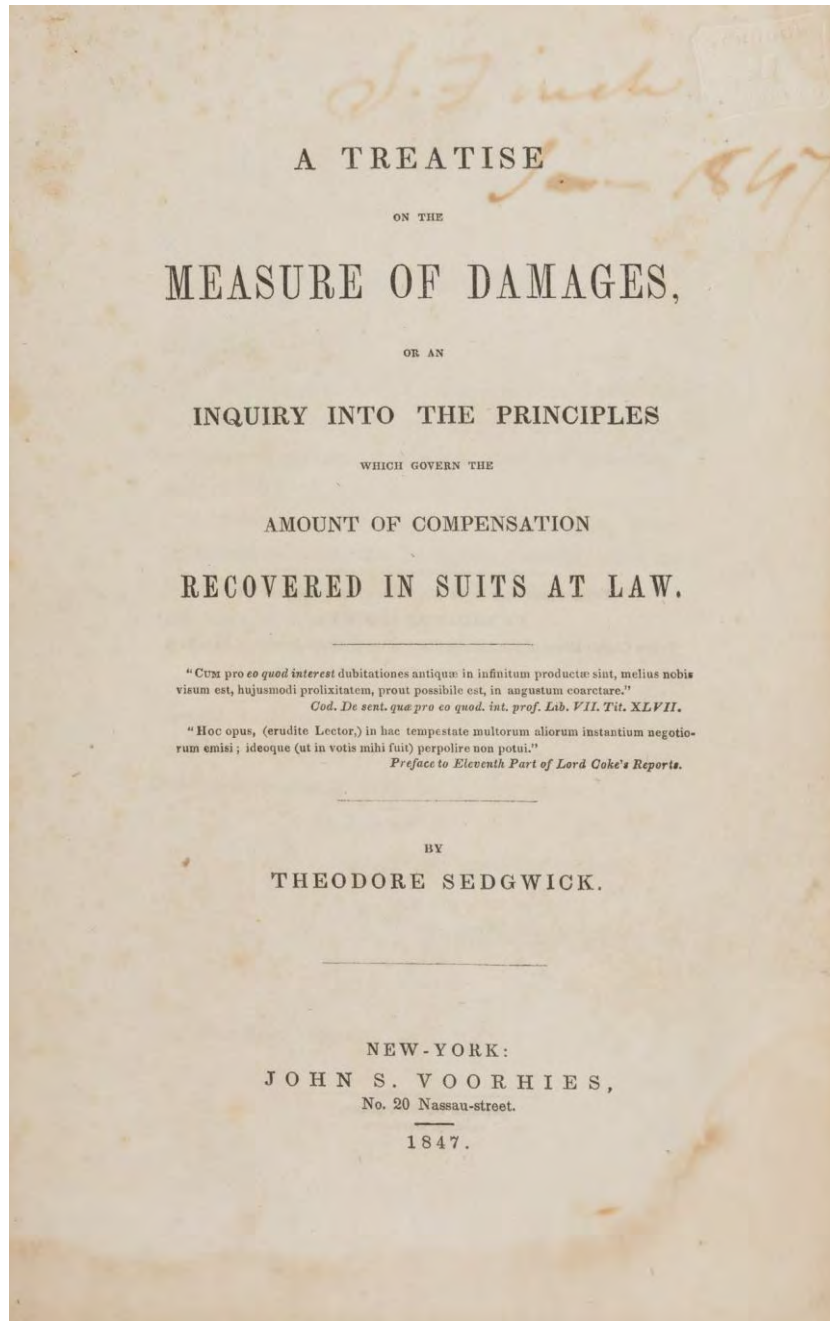
The Expressman and the Detective. Chicago: W.B. Keen, Cooke & Co., 1874.

First edition. 278 pp. 14 unnumbered leaves of plates. Octavo (7-1/2" x 5"; 19.1 x 12.7cm). Original green pictorial cloth with gilt stamped spine. Eye with Pinkerton motto "We Never Sleep" to front cover in rubbed gilt. Worn and scuffed. Internally clean. A good copy. \$250.

* The debut true-crime detective book written by Allan Pinkerton, the famous Scottish-American detective and founder of the Pinkerton National Detective Agency, based on real casework handled by the Agency. The case centers around a major 1859 heist in Montgomery, Alabama.

The Montgomery based Adams Express Company hires Allan Pinkerton to investigate when a package containing \$40,000 vanishes. Pinkerton deploys a massive, 10-month undercover operation utilizing ten operatives including himself and America's first female detective, Kate Warne. Nathan Maroney, an express messenger and upstanding citizen whose primary vice is horse racing, falls under heavy suspicion. The operatives infiltrate Southern society, gain Maroney's trust and shadow his wife to extract a confession and recover the stolen fortune.

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The First American Treatise Dedicated Entirely to the Law of Damages

19. Sedgwick, Theodore.

A Treatise on the Measure of Damages, or an Inquiry into the Principles Which Govern the Amount of Compensation Recovered in Suits at Law. New York: John S. Voorhies, 1847. First edition. Thick octavo (10" x 6-1/4" x 2"; 25.5 cm x 16 cm x 5 cm), xlv, 600 pp.

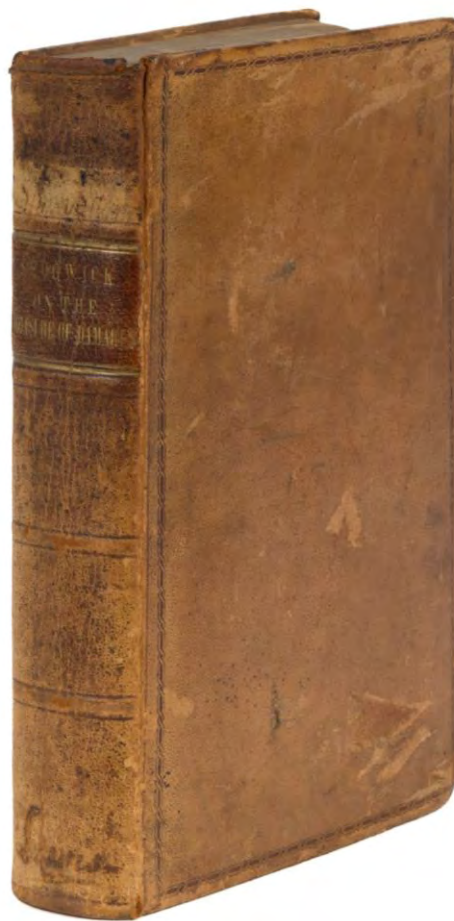
Contemporary law calf, leather label, raised bands, and decorative framing. Exterior worn, rubbed, and scuffed. Foxing with occasional ink and pencil markings to interior. Dampstaining to bottom text block, text unaffected. Ownership bookplate of "W.T. Lewis" to front pastedown. \$650.

* First edition. Theodore Sedgwick's *Treatise on the Measure of Damages* stands as a watershed moment in American legal scholarship—the first comprehensive American treatise devoted exclusively to the principles governing financial recovery in civil litigation. Prior to its publication in 1847, the law of damages in the United States was largely fragmented, tucked away in piecemeal fashion within general works on contracts, torts, or pleading, or buried in disparate English common law precedents.

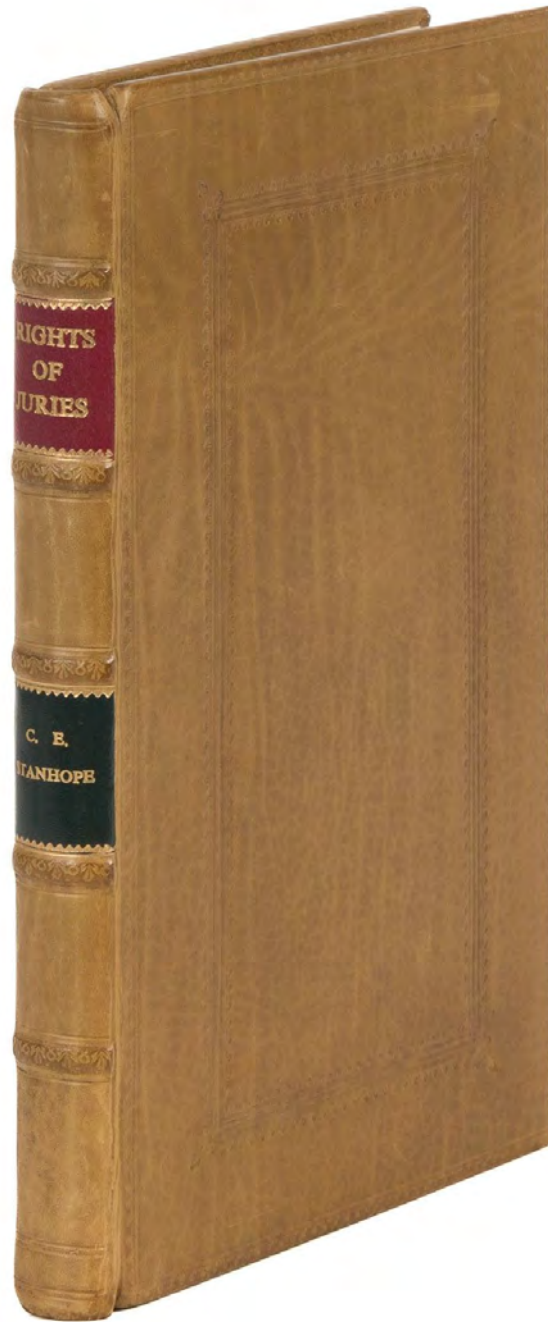
Sedgwick radically transformed the field by systematically structuring the doctrine of compensation. He categorized damages around clear, predictable standards, introducing rigorous analytical distinctions between direct and consequential damages, nominal versus punitive (exemplary) damages, and liquidated damages versus penalties. His work brought clarity to complex questions of remote injuries, foreseeability, and mental distress, establishing a unified conceptual framework for evaluating monetary relief across both contract and tort actions.

Throughout the nineteenth century, Sedgwick's treatise served as an essential authority for bench and bar alike, cited extensively in federal and state courts across the nation. It deeply influenced American jurisprudence during the expansion of industrial commerce, providing the predictability and standard rules necessary for economic growth, contractual enforcement, and corporate liability.

Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School (1909) II:554.



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Two Cornerstones of English Liberty

20. Stanhope, Charles, Earl [1753-1816].

The Rights of Juries Defended, Together with Authorities of Law in Support of Those Rights. And the Objections to Mr. Fox's Libel Bill Refuted. London: Printed by George Stafford, For P. Elmsly, 1792.

Octavo. [iv], 164 pp. Complete with half-title. (8-1/2" x 5-1/4"; 21.6 x 13.3 cm). Modern full paneled tan calf, spines with two contrasting gilt-lettered morocco labels. Armorial bookplate of Hugh Cecil, Earl of Lonsdale, to the front pastedown. Interior leaves crisp and clean. A very good, handsomely bound copy. \$1,500.

* First and only edition of this spirited defense of British civil liberties, carrying profound transatlantic legal significance. Published at the absolute peak of state panic surrounding the French Revolution, this pivotal tract addresses the acute threats posed to trial by jury and freedom of the press by contemporary seditious libel prosecutions. Written specifically to support Charles James Fox's historic Libel Bill of 1792, Stanhope directly challenges the judicial status quo of the era, wherein crown-appointed judges reserved the right to determine whether a text was legally libelous-leaving juries with the hollow task of merely confirming the physical fact of publication. Stanhope heavily relies on Thomas Erskine's landmark defense of William Shipley (the Dean of St. Asaph) to argue that a jury must possess the power to return a general verdict on the whole matter at issue.

This core legal argument-that juries have the right to determine both the law and the facts-shared a direct philosophical bond with the American Founding generation. During the Early Republic, American legal architects heavily integrated these exact English common-law defense models into the fabric of the Sixth Amendment and early state constitutions. Furthermore, the author himself was highly regarded across the Atlantic; as a Member of Parliament, Stanhope had fiercely opposed Great Britain's war against the American Colonies, cementing his reputation as a staunch ally to the nascent United States. His enduring impact on American intellectual life was formally recognized later in life when he was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1816.

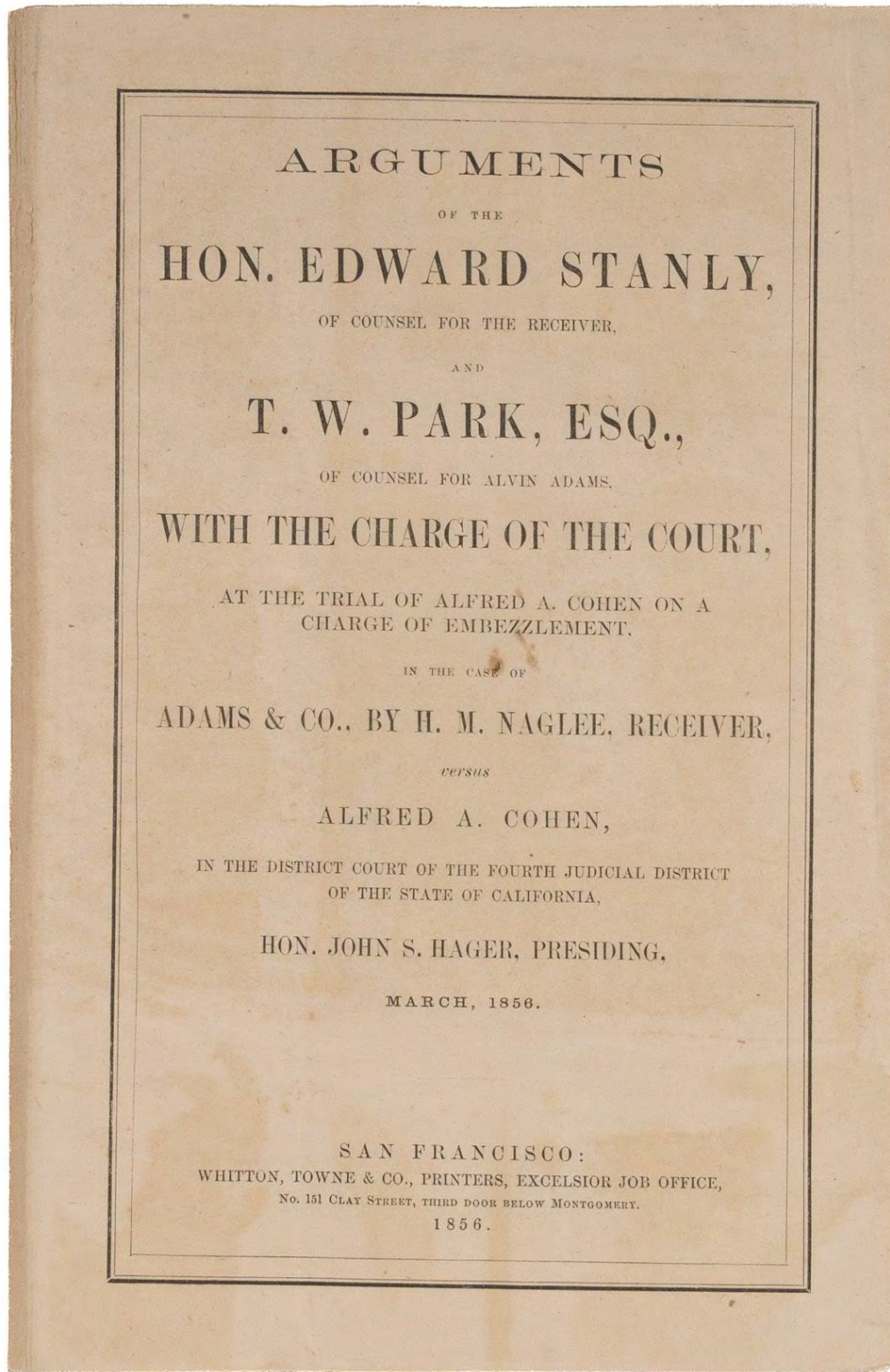
By advocating for a legal shift that foreshadowed both England's dramatic 1794 Treason Trials and the codification of American jury protections, Stanhope's work stands as a monument to shared Anglo-American liberty.

This copy boasts a distinguished provenance, bearing the armorial bookplate of Hugh Lowther, 5th Earl of Lonsdale (1857-1944), the iconic "Yellow Earl" and famed British sportsman whose magnificent library was housed at Lowther Castle.

English Short-Title Catalogue T140652.



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A Rare San Francisco Legal Imprint on Early Jewish Pioneer History and Nativist Prejudice

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21. Stanly, Edward.
Park, T[renor] W[illiam].
Naglee, Henry M[orris].
Cohen, Alfred A[ndrew].

Arguments of the Hon. Edward Stanly, of Counsel for the Receiver, and T.W. Park, Esq., of Counsel for Alvin Adams, with the Charge of the Court, at the Trial of Alfred A. Cohen on a Charge of Embezzlement, in the Case of Adams & Co., By H.M. Naglee, Receiver, Versus Alfred A. Cohen. San Francisco: Whitton, Towne & Co., 1856. 88 pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2; 22.8 x 14 cm).

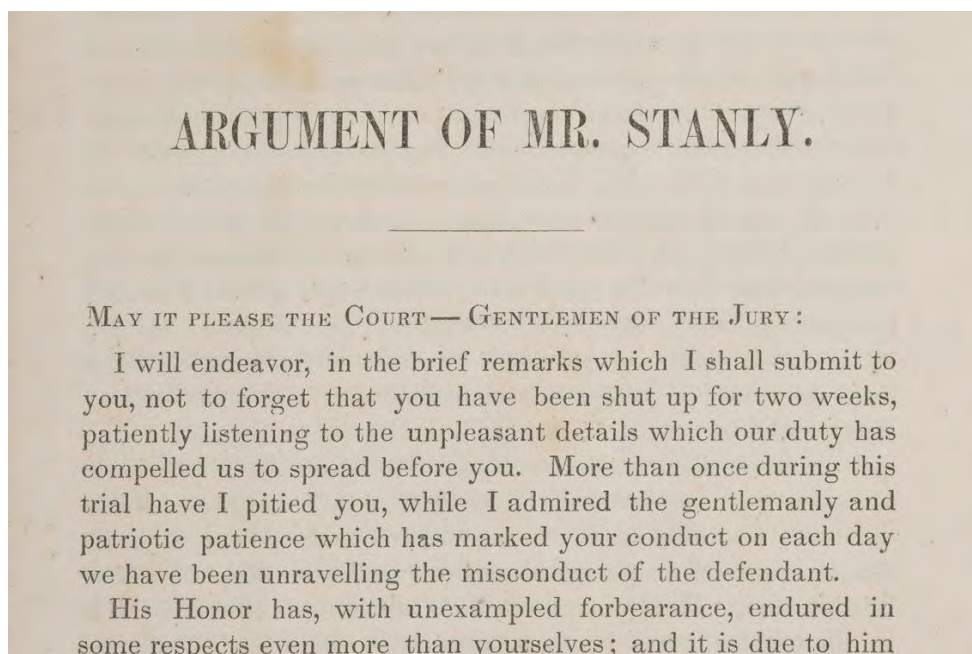
Stab-stitched pamphlet in original printed wrappers. Binding cocked, vertical crease through center of pamphlet, light browning to covers, occasional light foxing, light toning to a few leaves. A well-preserved copy of a scarce item. \$750.

* A scarce mid-nineteenth-century California legal imprint documenting the high-stakes embezzlement trial of Alfred A. Cohen following the collapse of the express and banking firm Adams & Company. Cohen was a prominent early Jewish pioneer who arrived in California in 1850 and helped establish San Francisco's burgeoning Jewish mercantile and civic community. His arrest occurred during a period of intense nativism and economic depression, an era when Jewish financiers in the West frequently faced disproportionate public scrutiny, xenophobic scapegoating, and legal prejudice.

This text records the sharp courtroom arguments of Edward Stanly and Trenor W. Park, which resulted in a massive \$269,000 judgment against Cohen. Historically, this case had a profound impact on early California jurisprudence, serving as a landmark precedent that shaped the state's nascent receiver laws, corporate governance protocols, and the legal framework governing systemic financial panics in the West.

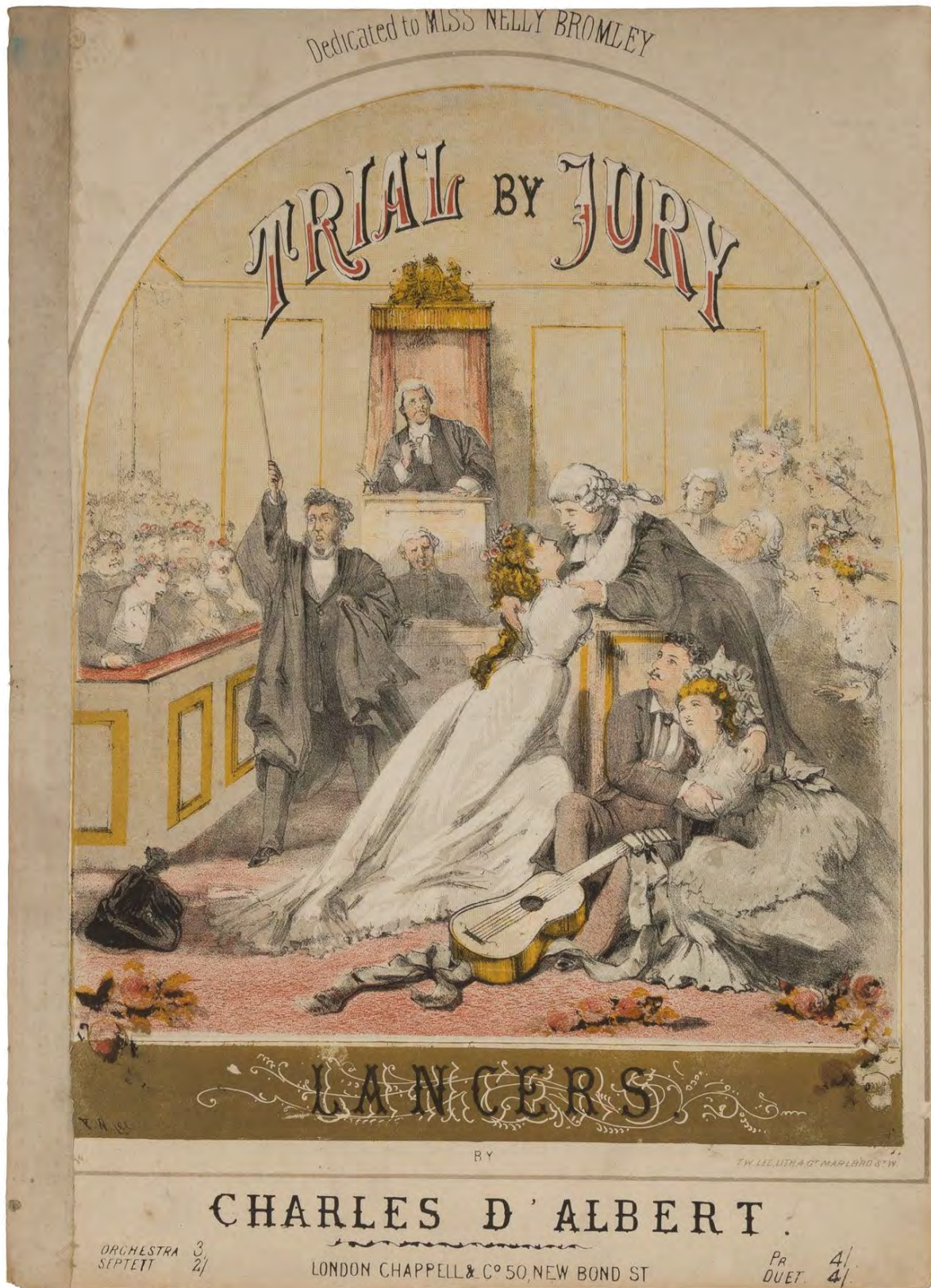
Crucially, Cohen studied law while imprisoned on these controversial charges, overturned the verdict, and went on to become one of California's most successful attorneys and railroad tycoons. This volume serves as an essential piece of Western Americana, illustrating both Gold Rush financial instability and the challenges faced by minority pioneers in early San Francisco.

OCLC locates only one copy in a U.S. law school at Harvard.



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Early Gilbert & Sullivan Legal Satire Arranged for the Victorian Ballroom

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22. [Sullivan, Arthur (1842-1900)].

[Gilbert, W.S. (1836-1911)].

D'Albert, Charles [1809-1886], Arranger.

Trial by Jury Lancers. [London: Chappell and Co., [1875?]. [ii], 8 pp. Folio (13-1/4" x 10"; 33.6 x 25.5 cm).

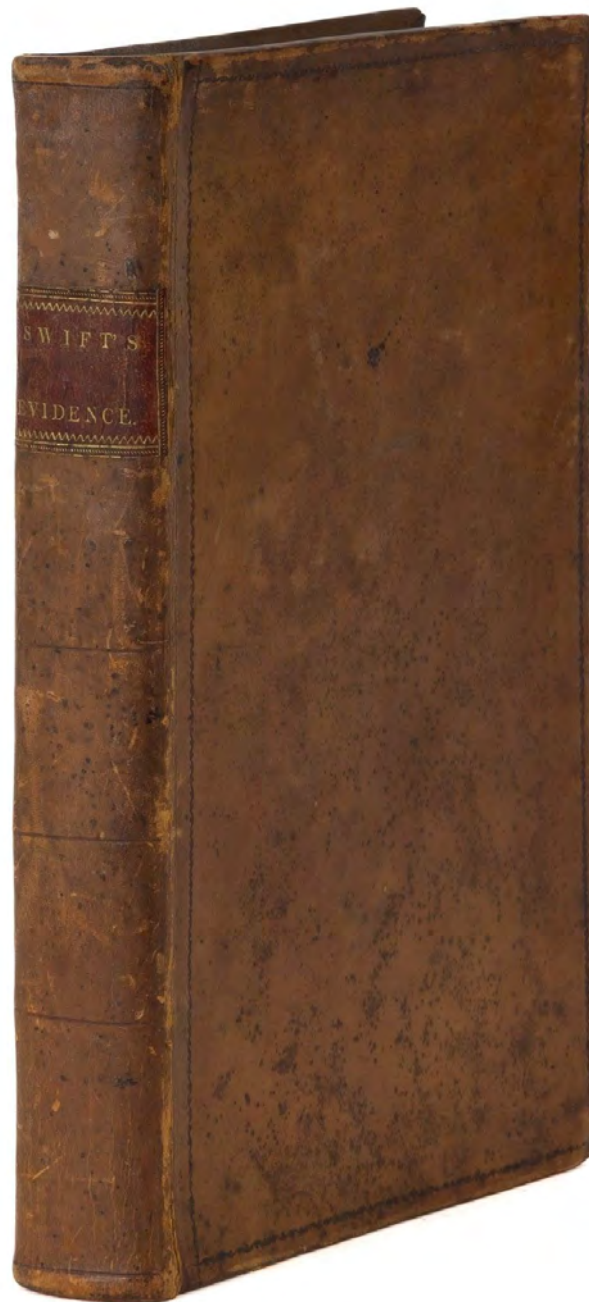
Original lithographed pictorial paper wrappers (based on the final scene), rear wrapper features a trade list of "New and Popular Quadrilles, Walzes, Galops, Etc., By the Most Popular Composers," spine reinforced with cloth, small bookseller stamp to upper-inside corner of text block. Light soiling to exterior, head of front wrapper slightly affected by trimming, a few minor chips to edges, light toning to interior, leaves loose but secure, faint dampstaining to upper margins. A good, complete copy. \$350.

* First edition of a set of lancers (a formal social square dance) based on themes from Gilbert and Sullivan's famous satire on the English legal system. *Trial by Jury* premiered in March 1875; this sheet music represents the earliest domestic merchandising of the operetta. Written by W.S. Gilbert, himself a practicing London barrister, the plot serves as a comedic spoof of a Victorian breach of promise trial, culminating in an amoral judge settling the case by marrying the plaintiff.

D'Albert was a prominent British dance master who published numerous dance arrangements of theatrical scores. This piece is dedicated to Nelly Bromley, the actress who originated the role of the Plaintiff. D'Albert's arrangement sets six of the operetta's legal satires to dance, including "Hark the Hour of Ten is Sounding" (the opening of court) and "When I, Good Friends, Was Called to the Bar" (the Judge's song detailing his corrupt rise to the bench), alongside "When First My Old, Old Love I Knew," "O'er the Season Vernal, Time May Cast a Shade," "All the Legal Furies Seize You" and "O Joy Unbounded." A scarce piece of 19th-century legal ephemera.



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The First American Text on the Law of Evidence

23. Swift, Zephaniah. [1759-1823].

A Digest of the Law of Evidence, in Civil and Criminal Cases, and a Treatise on Bills of Exchange, and Promissory Notes. Hartford: Oliver D. Cooke, 1810. [ii], [v]-xiv, [2], 361, [1], [30] pp. Octavo (9" x 5-1/2"; 22.9 x 13.9 cm).

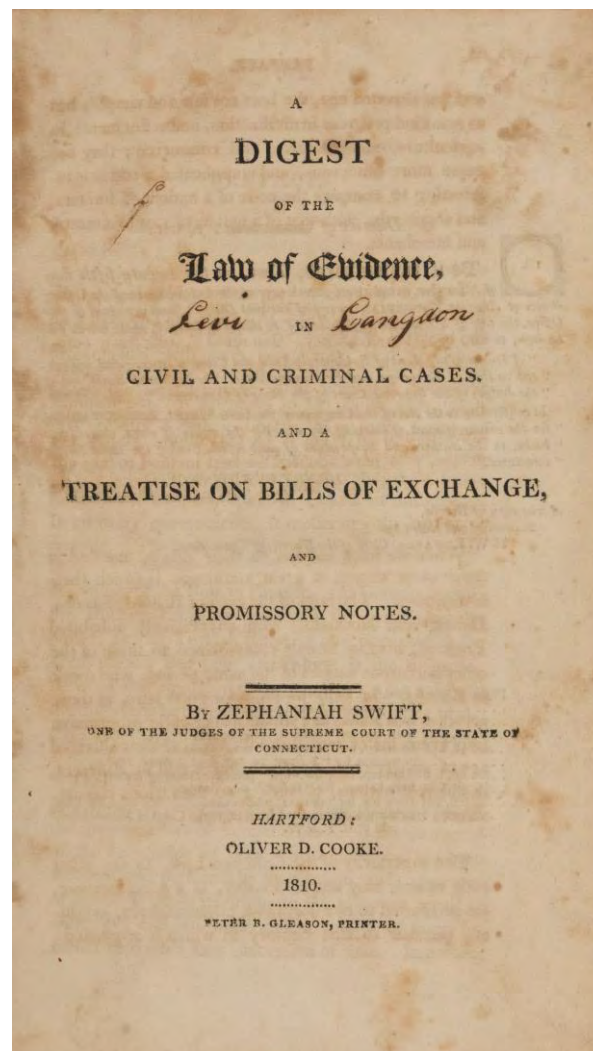
Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, lettering piece and blind fillets to spine. Faint spotting, fading to section of rear board, moderate rubbing to extremities, hinges cracked, front free endpaper lacking. Moderate toning and light foxing to interior, early owner signature (Levi Langston) to title page. A very good copy. \$850.

* First and only edition. Swift's *Digest* holds a pivotal place in early American jurisprudence as the first legal treatise on the law of evidence published in the United States. Prior to this publication, American courts relied almost entirely on imported British authorities (such as Peake or Gilbert). Swift systematically adapted English common-law doctrine to fit the evolving statutory framework and judicial needs of the young American republic.

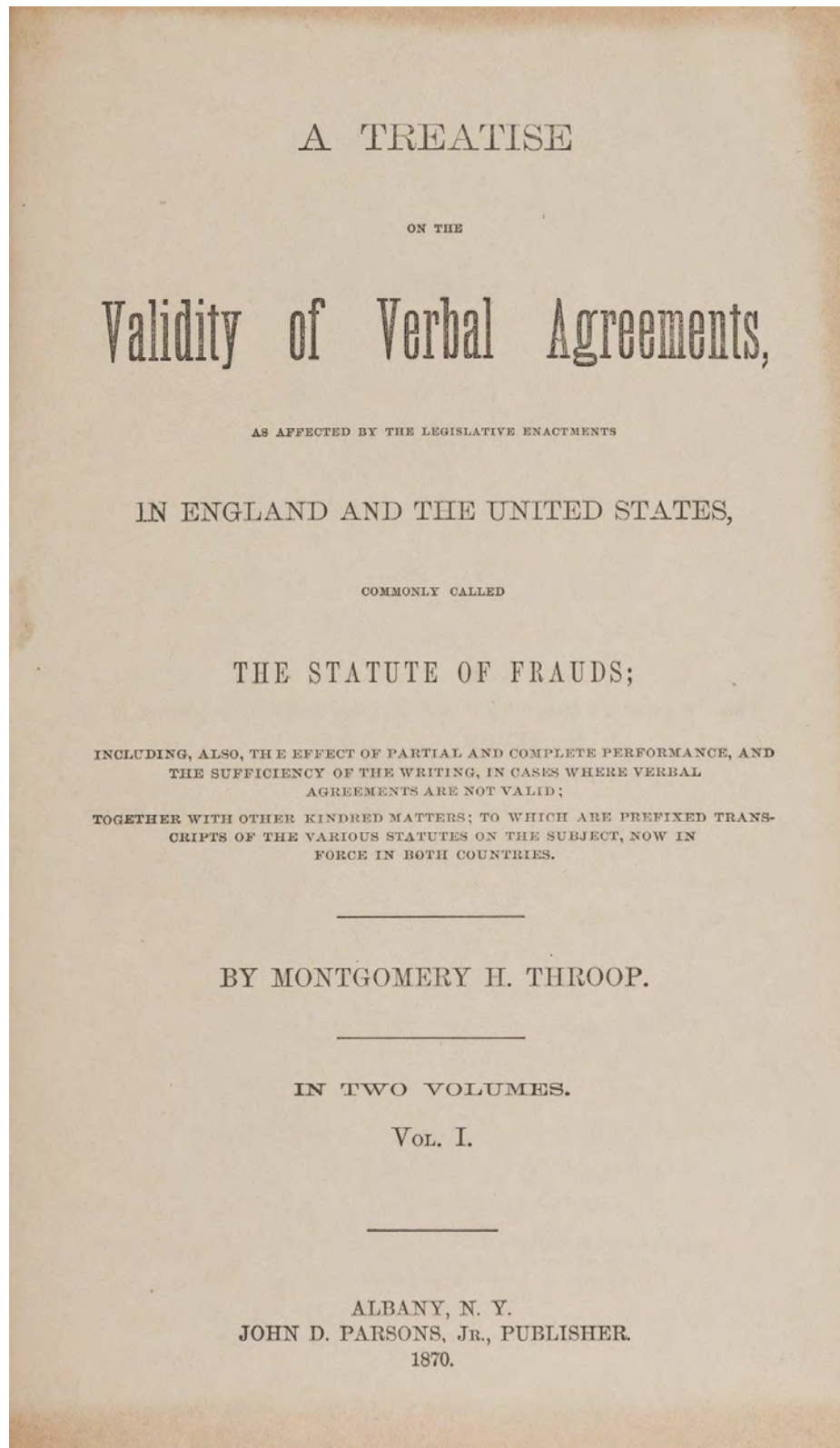
Beyond evidence, the second half of the volume comprises a comprehensive Treatise on Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, reflecting the growing commercial needs of early 19th-century American merchants and practitioners. Swift supplemented his text with a choice selection of foundational English decisions, notably including the landmark case *Omychund v. Barker* (1744), which famously established that non-Christians could be sworn as witnesses under their own religious traditions.

Swift was a Yale graduate, U.S. Congressman, and Chief Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court. A titan of early legal publishing, Swift also authored *A System of the Laws of the State of Connecticut* (1795-1796), recognized as the first general legal treatise published in America.

Woxland & Ogden, *Landmarks in American Legal Publishing* 22. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 5129.



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1870 Treatise on the Statute of Frauds by
Notable New York Legal Reformer Montgomery H. Throop

24. Throop, Montgomery H. [1827-1892].

A Treatise on the Validity of Verbal Agreements: As Affected by the Legislative Enactments in England and the United States, Commonly Called the Statute of Frauds. Albany: John D. Parsons, Jr., 1870. Volume I (all published). v, 794 pp. Octavo (9" x 6"; 22.8 x 15.2 cm).

Contemporary law calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets and red and black lettering piece to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Moderate rubbing to boards and extremities, stain to head of spine, corners bumped, hinges cracked, light toning to interior. A good copy. \$350.

* This is the only edition of Montgomery H. Throop's ambitious and comprehensive work examining the Statute of Frauds. First enacted in England in 1677, the Statute of Frauds requires certain contracts—such as land transfers, debt guarantees, and long-term agreements—to be memorialized in writing and signed to be legally enforceable. Throop's treatise provides an exhaustive, comparative analysis of how courts across various American jurisdictions and England interpreted, enforced, or carved out exceptions to oral (verbal) agreements. Though intended as the first volume of a larger study, Volume I was the only volume ever published, making it complete as issued.

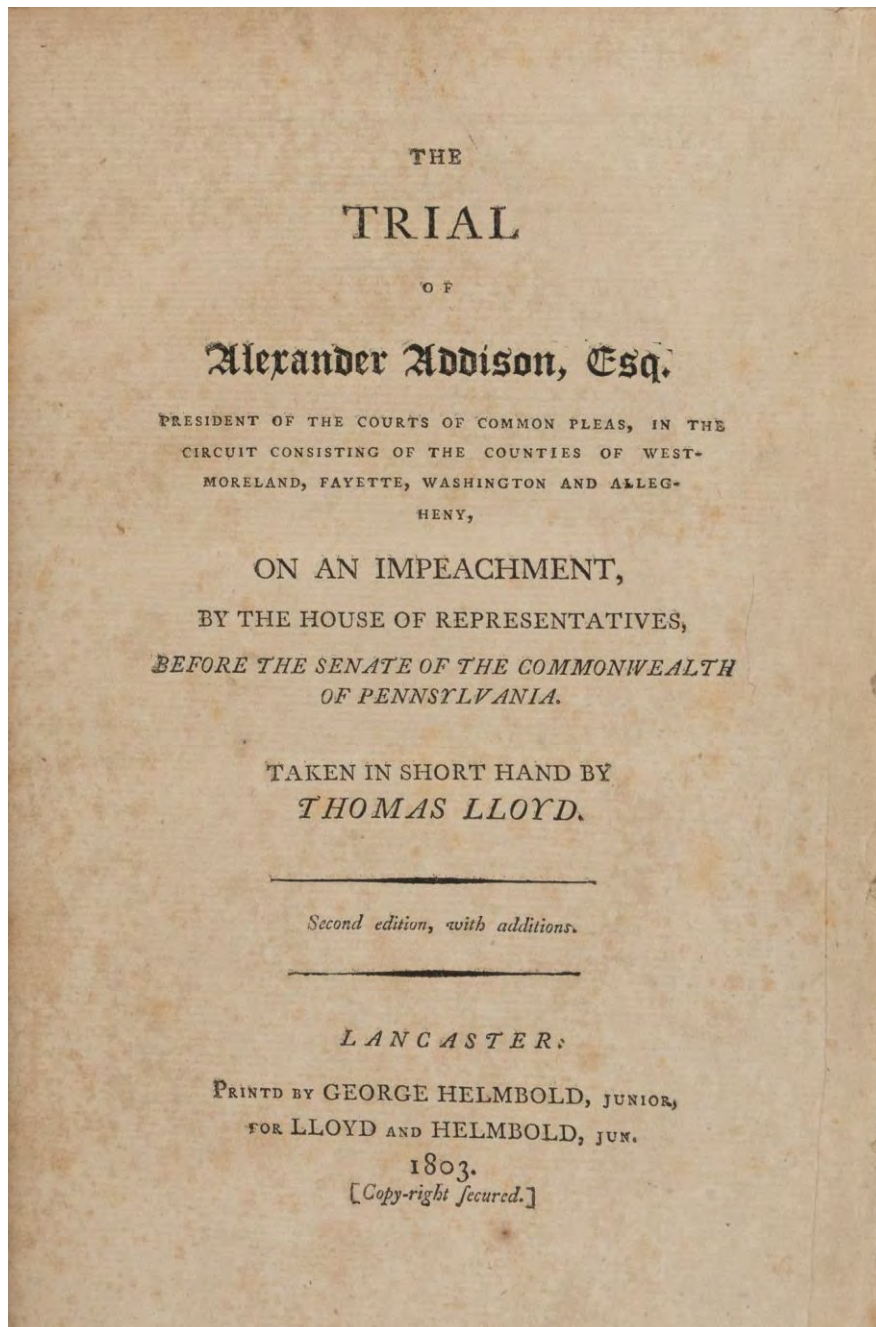
Throop was one of the late 19th century's most influential American legal scholars and codifiers. Best known for serving as Chairman of the New York State Commission to Revise the Statutes, he spearheaded the overhaul of the New York Code of Civil Procedure (often referred to as the "Throop Code"). His deep technical understanding of statutory mechanics and common law precedent is on full display in this volume.

Today, original 19th-century copies of Throop's legal treatises remain highly desirable among legal historians, academic law libraries, and legal bibliophiles.

Catalogue of the Library of the Harvard Law School (1909) II:746.



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1803 Impeachment of A Federalist Judge in Western Pennsylvania

25. [Trial].

Addison, Alexander [1759-1807], Defendant.

Lloyd, Thomas [Fl. 1788-1819], Reporter.

The Trial of Alexander Addison, Esq., President of the Courts of Common Pleas in the Circuit Consisting of the Counties of Westmoreland, Fayette, Washington and Allegheny, On an Impeachment, By the House of Representatives, Before the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Taken in Short Hand. Lancaster: Printed by George Helmbold, Junior, For Lloyd and Helmbold, Jun., 1803. [ii], [14], 154, [1] pp. (14 pp. from an unrelated legal work bound by accident between title page and main text.) Octavo (7-1/2" x 5"; 19.5 x 12.7 cm).

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into contemporary three-quarter morocco over marbled boards, gilt title to spine, marbled endpapers, untrimmed edges. Moderate rubbing to boards and extremities, section of paper lacking from front board, hinges cracked. Moderate toning and dampspotting to interior. A very good copy overall. \$450.

* Second edition, "with additions." This landmark trial represents one of the earliest and most fierce clashes between Federalists and Democratic-Republicans over judicial power in the early American republic.

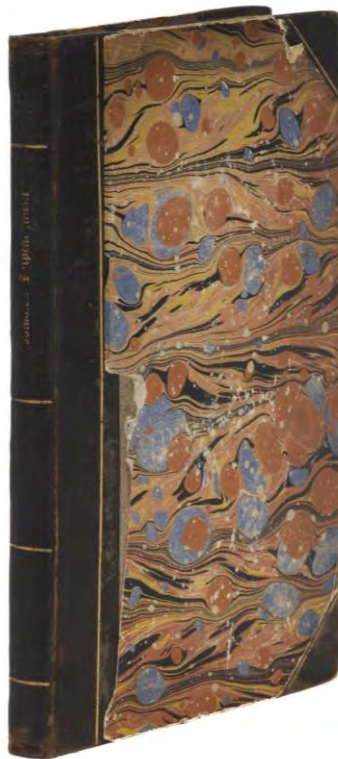
Alexander Addison, a staunch Scotch-Irish Presbyterian minister turned Federalist judge, served as President of the Fourth Judicial District in western Pennsylvania. A fierce partisan, Addison frequently used his jury charges as political pulpits to denounce the Whiskey Rebellion, French radicalism, and the rise of Jeffersonian democracy.

In response, the Democratic-Republican-controlled Pennsylvania House of Representatives impeached Addison in 1802 on charges of judicial misconduct-specifically for refusing to allow a Republican lay judge, John Lucas, to address a grand jury.

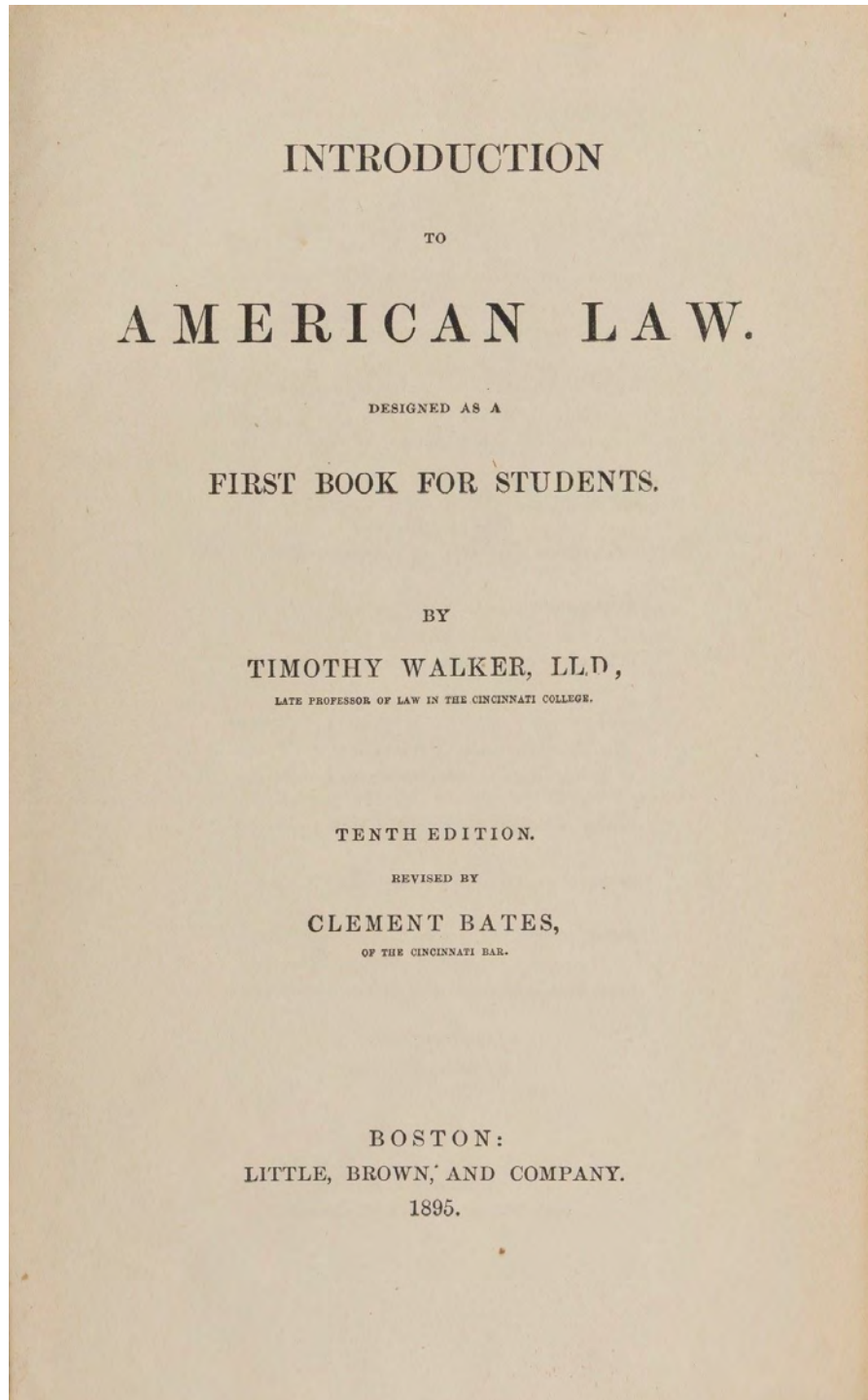
Addison's famous, impassioned speech in his own defense stands as a classic statement of Federalist philosophy, articulating a profound distrust of direct democracy and advocating for an independent, elite judiciary as a bulwark against mob rule. His defense proved futile; the Pennsylvania Senate convicted him, removing him from the bench and banning him from holding judicial office in the Commonwealth.

Recorded by Thomas Lloyd-often called the "Father of American Shorthand"-this text captures the full transcripts and arguments of the trial.

Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 14447.



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"The Western Blackstone"

26. Walker, Timothy.
Bates, Clement, Editor.

Introduction to American Law. Designed as a First Book for Students. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1895. xxvi, 867 pp.
Octavo (9-1/4" x 6-1/4"; 23.5 x 15.9 cm).

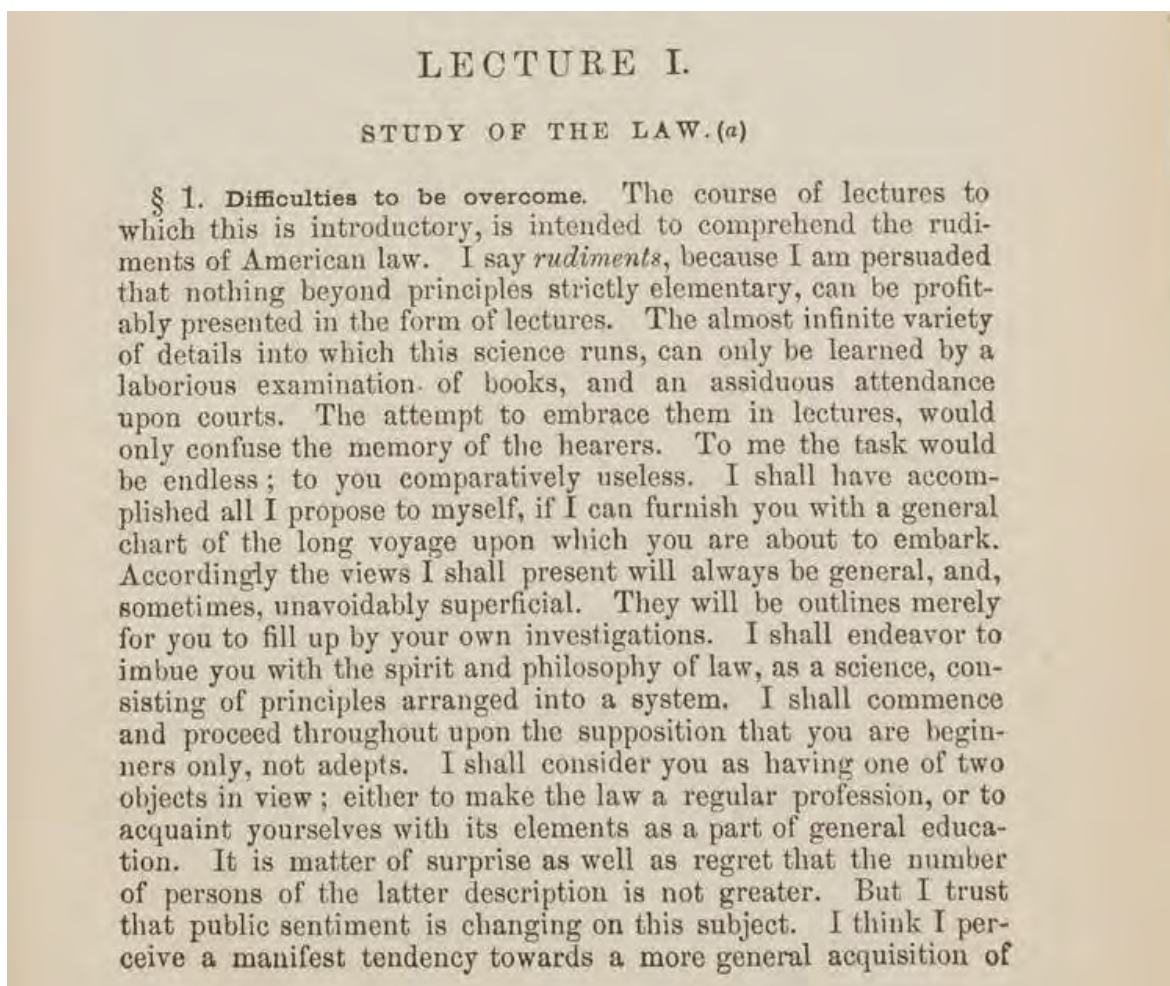
Contemporary law calf, blind frames to boards, raised bands and red and black lettering pieces to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine and corners, front hinge cracked, owner signature (M. Siegel) to front pastedown, offsetting and a few minor chips to margins of preliminaries and final few leaves. A very good copy. \$450.

* Tenth edition, the penultimate edition of this work. This foundational text in nineteenth-century American legal education is based on lectures delivered by Walker (1802-1856) during his tenure as a law professor at Cincinnati College, an institution he co-founded with Judge John C. Wright in 1833 as the first law school west of the Appalachian Mountains.

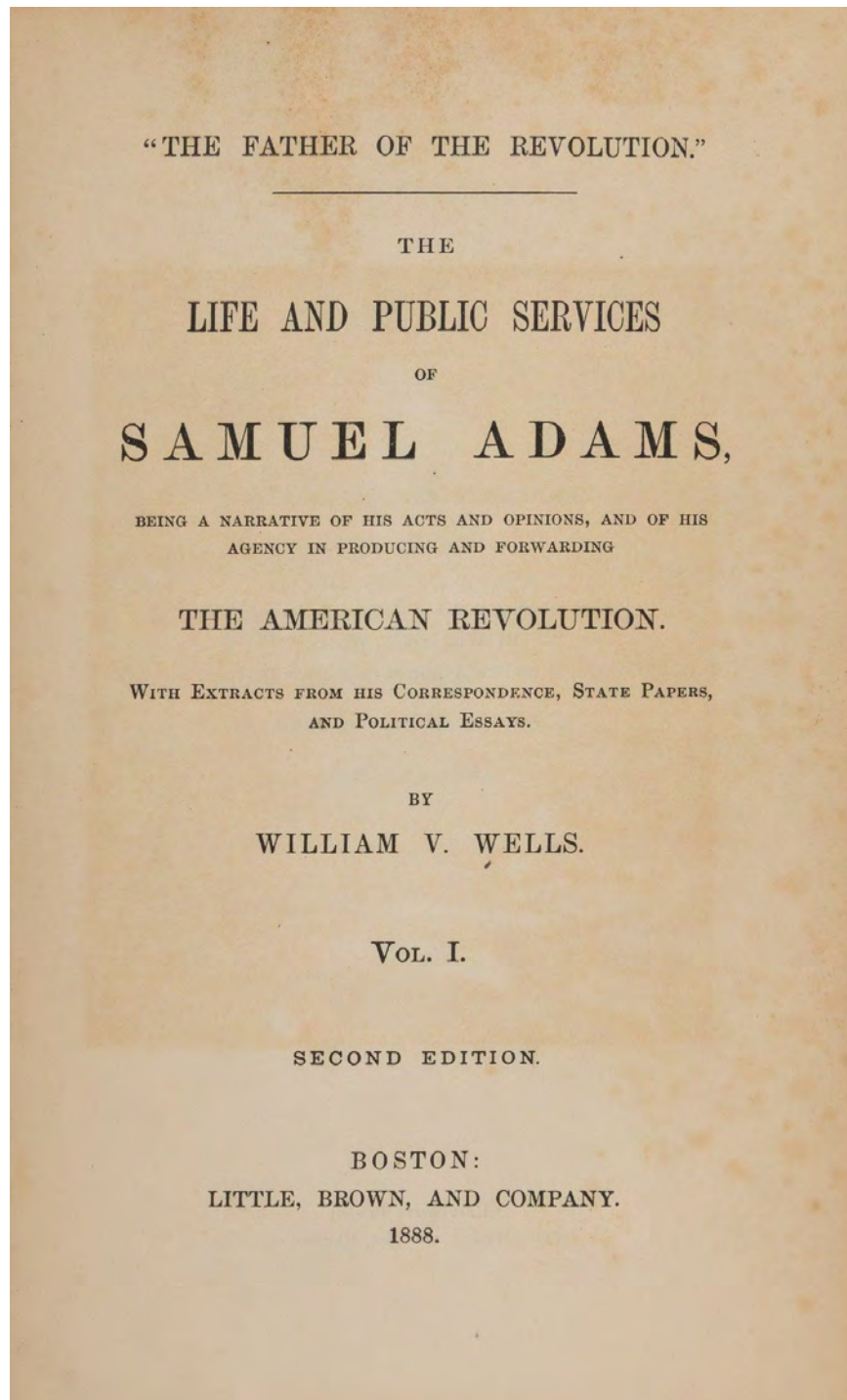
Often referred to by legal historians as the "Western Blackstone," Walker's work distilled complex common law principles into an accessible framework specifically tailored to the emerging American legal system. First published in 1837, the text's exceptional clarity and systematic layout ensured its dominance in classrooms for over half a century.

Julius J. Marke notes that the work "for many years was used as a textbook for American law students." The tenth edition, revised by the notable Ohio legal scholar Clement Bates, underscores the text's enduring longevity and its critical adaptation to the post-Civil War legal landscape. The eleventh and final edition was published in 1905.

Marke, *Catalogue of the Law Collection at New York University* (1953) 250.



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Biography of Samuel Adams Written by his Great-Grandson

27. Wells, William V[incent].

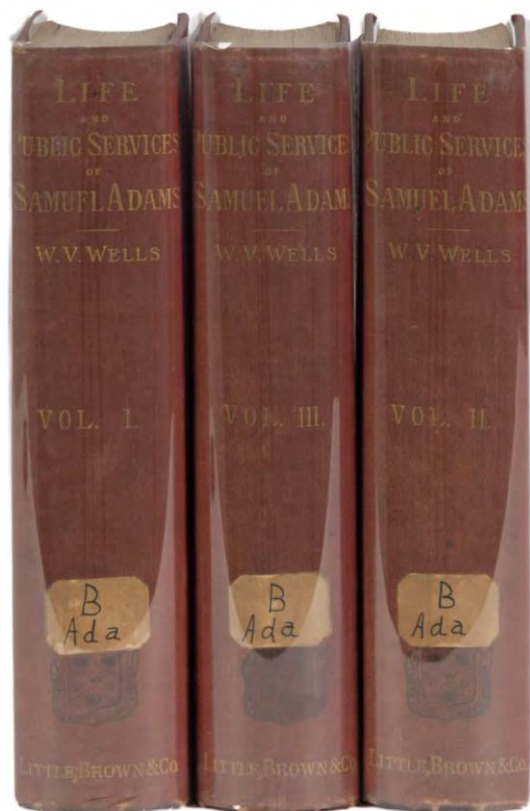
The Father of the Revolution: The Life and Public Services of Samuel Adams, Being a Narrative of his Acts and Opinions, and of His Agency in Producing and Forwarding the American Revolution. With Extracts from His Correspondence, State Papers, and Political Essays. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1888. 2nd edition. 3 volumes, complete set. Octavo (9-1/4" x 6-1/4"; 23.5 x 15.9 cm).

Publisher's red cloth with gilt stamped spine in Brodart. Top edge gilt. Ex-library shelf location label to spine. Foxing to pastedowns, front free endpapers, and title page and offsetting to front free endpapers. A very good set. \$350.

* A foundational nineteenth-century biography of Samuel Adams, authored by his great-grandson and serving as one of the most comprehensive archival compilations of primary documentation regarding the radical political organizing of the American Revolution. Drawing directly from Adams's original manuscripts, personal correspondence, revolutionary state papers, and political essays—many of which were transcribed prior to their dispersal or loss—Wells constructs a meticulously detailed narrative of Adams's life and public career.

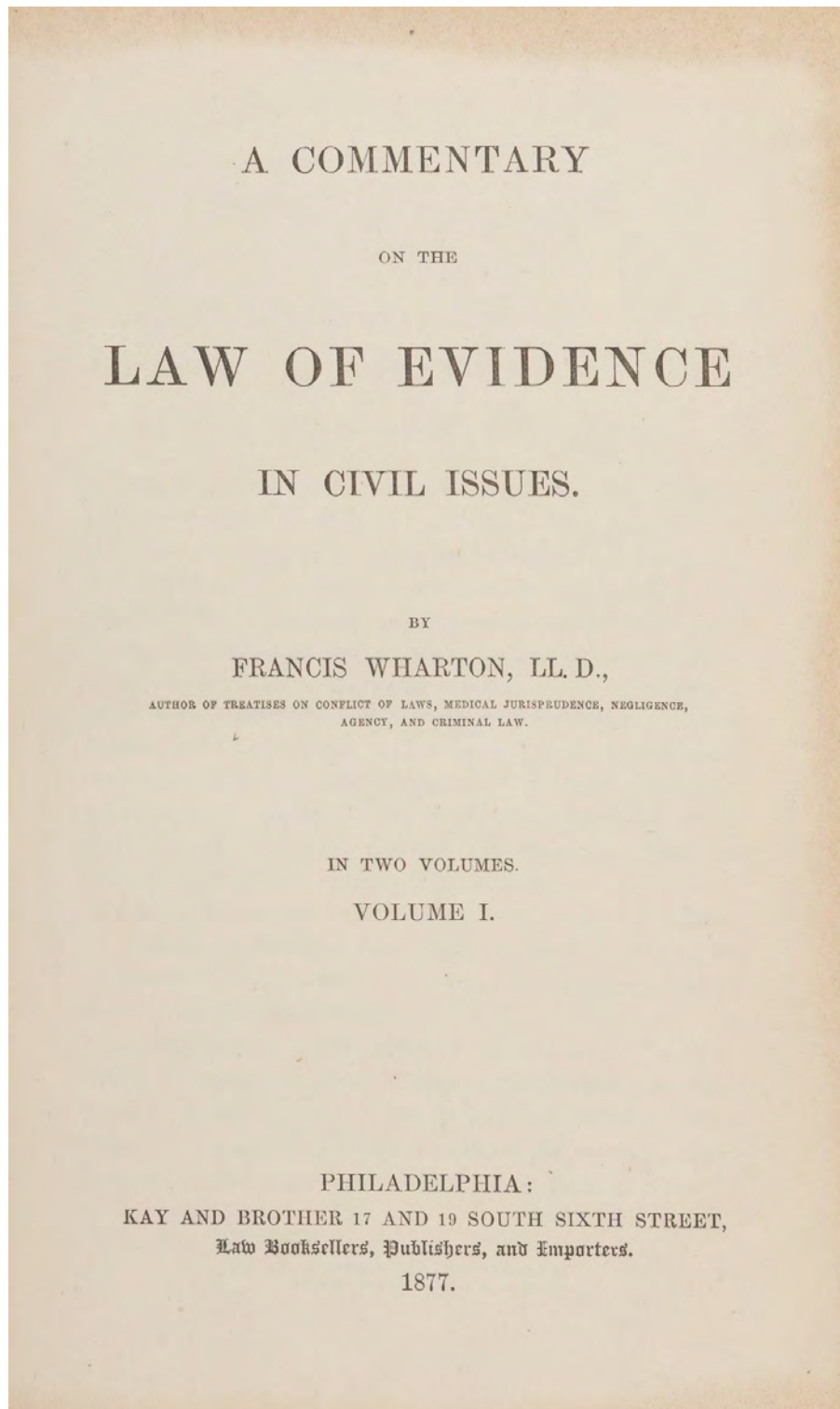
The three volumes thoroughly trace Adams's pivotal agency in key revolutionary movements, detailing his early opposition to the Sugar and Stamp Acts, his orchestration of the Boston Town Meetings, the establishment of the Committees of Correspondence, and his leadership surrounding the Boston Massacre and Boston Tea Party. Furthermore, the narrative offers extensive coverage of his influence within the First and Second Continental Congresses, his participation in drafting the Articles of Confederation, and his contribution to the Massachusetts Constitution of 1780.

Because Wells had direct family access to the vast corpus of Adams's personal papers, this biography functions not merely as a narrative life, but as an indispensable primary-source documentary archive. It remains an essential resource for legal and constitutional historians studying the intellectual, administrative, and operational mechanisms of early American resistance to British imperial authority.



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An Essential Operational Manual for Gilded Age Trial Lawyers and Jurists

28. Wharton, Francis [1820-1889].

A Commentary on the Law of Evidence in Civil Issues. Philadelphia: Kay and Brother, 1877. Octavo (9-1/4" x 6-1/4"; 23.5 x 15.9 cm).

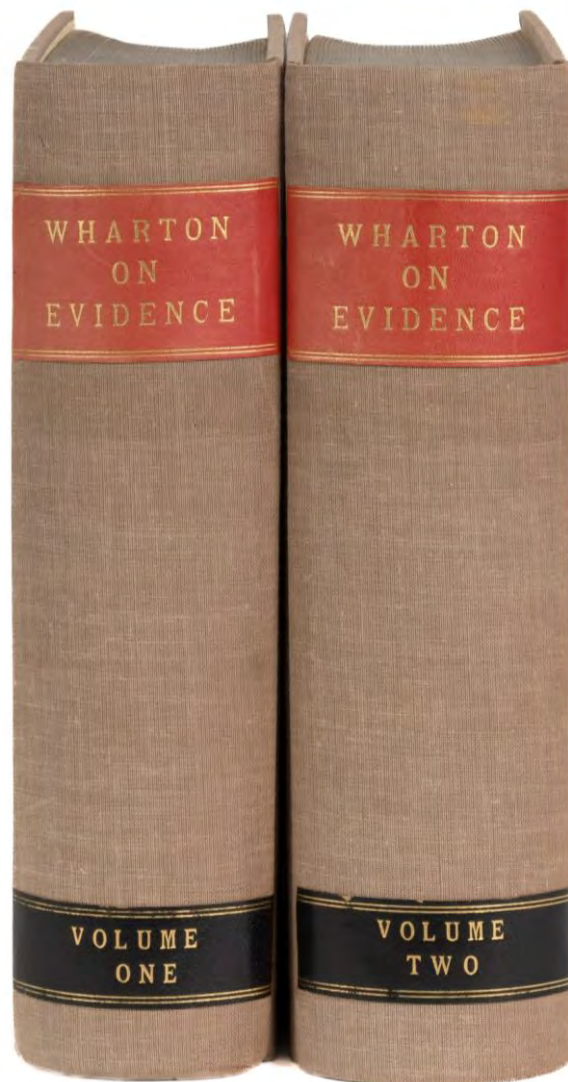
Tel: (800) 422-6686 or (732) 382-1800 | law@lawbookexchange.com | www.lawbookexchange.com

First edition. 2 volumes. Octavo. Modern tan cloth with spine featuring red and black leather labels and gilt titles. Occasional pencil and ink annotations to Volume 2, not affecting text, and ex-owner's inscription to front free endpaper; otherwise internally clean. A very good set. \$450.

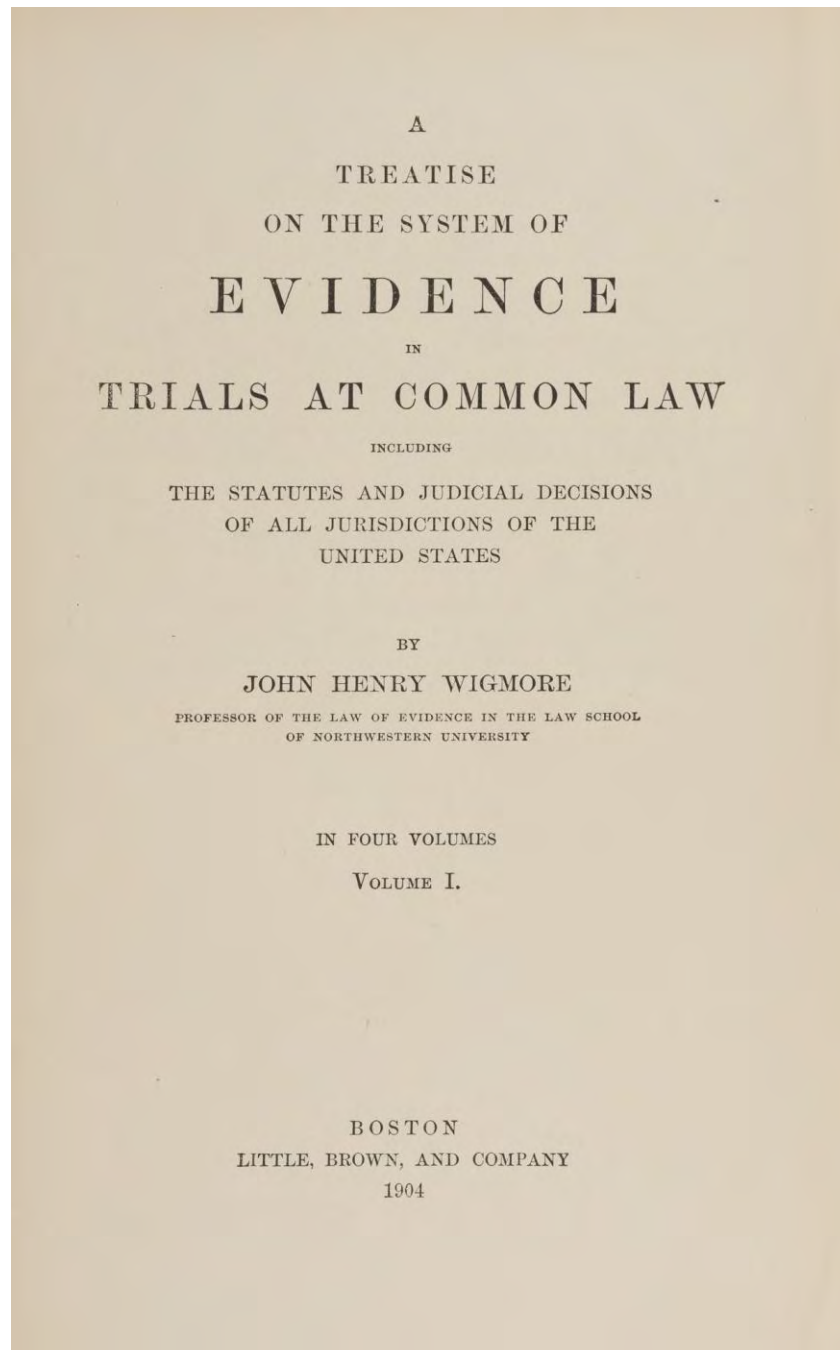
* A massive and pioneering 19th-century American treatise on civil evidence law, written during a transformative period of statutory reform in the post-Civil War era.

Francis Wharton, one of the preeminent legal treatises authors of his generation, systematically organizes and analyzes the rules governing the admissibility of testimony, documentary proof, presumptions, and judicial notice in civil litigation. His commentary traces the deep intersection between traditional English common law precedents and the rapidly emerging statutory codes across various United States jurisdictions.

This work served as an essential operational manual for Gilded Age trial lawyers and jurists. A desirable set for libraries focusing on the history of American civil procedure and legal doctrine.



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The First Edition of Wigmore on Evidence: A Landmark of American Jurisprudence:

29. Wigmore, John Henry [1863-1943].

A Treatise on the System of Evidence in Trials at Common Law including the Statutes and Judicial Decisions of All the Jurisdictions of the United States. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1904-1905. First edition. Four volumes. lv, 1002; xxi, 1003-1974; xvii, 1975-2950; xv, 2951-3842. Large octavo. 10" x 7"; 25.4 x 17.78 cm.

[with]

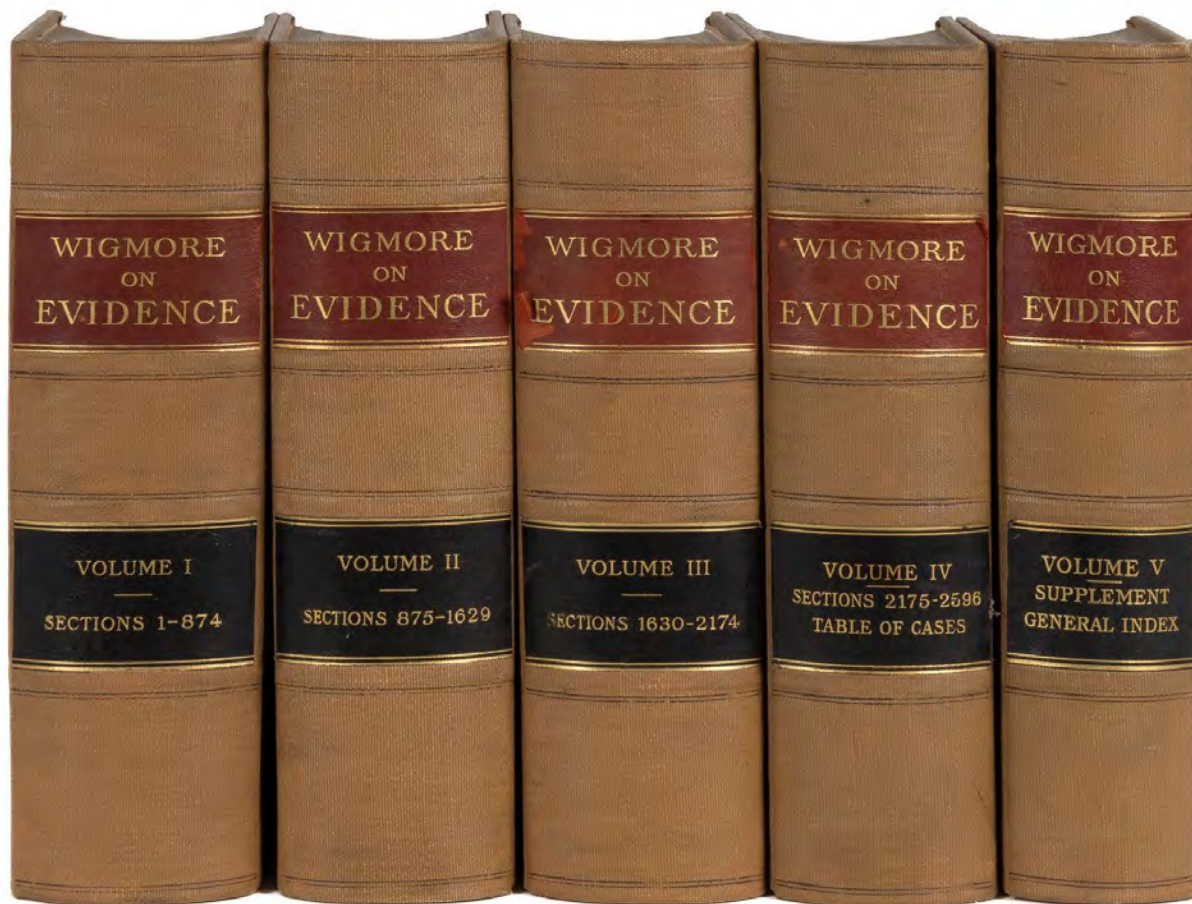
A Supplement to a Treatise on the System of Evidence in Trials at Common Law Containing the Statutes and Judicial Decisions 1904- 1907. Boston: Little Brown, 1908. First edition. One volume. xiii, 459 pp.

Together, five volumes. Publisher's original tan buckram, spines featuring red and black morocco lettering pieces gilt. Light shelfwear to boards; minor chips to spine label of volume three; nicks and scuffs to spine ends. Text blocks clean and bright. A near fine set. \$1,750.

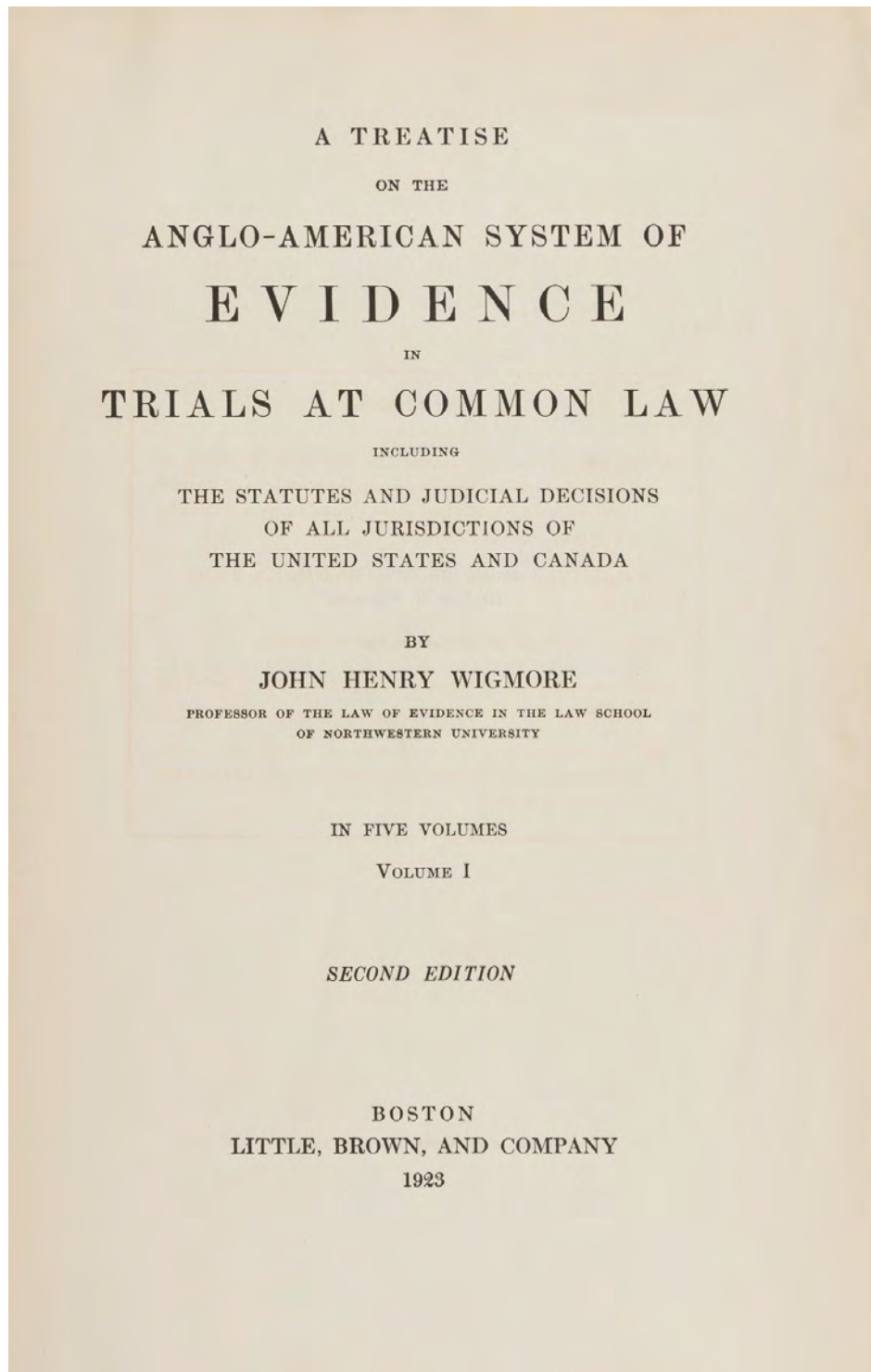
* The celebrated first edition of arguably one of the most influential legal treatise in American history. Before Wigmore's monumental intervention, American evidence law existed as a chaotic, fragmented slurry of regional common law rulings, local mandates, and contradictory judicial decrees. Wigmore single-handedly systematized this unwieldy field into a singular, ordered, and rational doctrinal system.

Beyond serving as an indispensable practical manual for generations of trial lawyers, this treatise provided the intellectual architecture for modern courtroom fact-finding. It pioneered the rigorous critical analysis of legal privileges and formalized the modern understanding of the hearsay rule, framing it not merely as a technicality but as a structural guardrail to preserve the constitutional right to cross-examination. Ultimately, Wigmore's exhaustive classification of exclusions directly shaped the standardizing principles that later became the Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE) in 1975.

Woxland & Ogden. *Landmarks in American Legal Publishing*. p. 26. Dauchy [et al.], *The Formation and Transmission of Western Legal Culture: 150 Books that Made the Law in the Age of Printing* 133. Marke, *A Catalogue of the Law Collection at New York University* (1953), p. 532.



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The Intellectual Foundation of Modern American Evidence

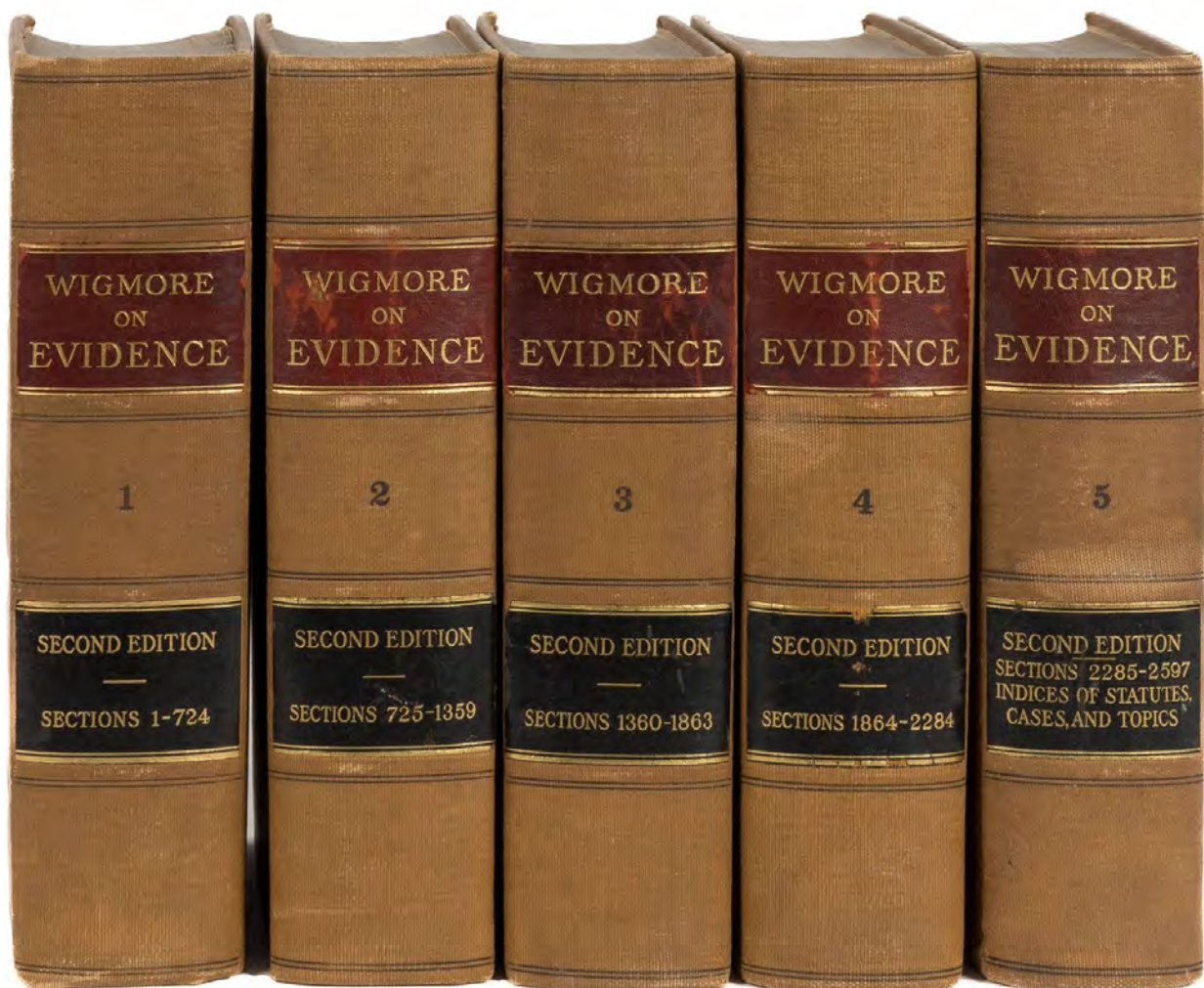
30. Wigmore, John Henry [1863-1943].

A Treatise on the Anglo-American System of Evidence in Trials at Common Law including the Statutes and Judicial Decisions of All the Jurisdictions of the United States and Canada. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1923.

Second Edition. Five volumes. Large octavo. 10" x 7"; 25.4 x 17.78 cm. Original tan buckram, spines featuring red and black morocco lettering pieces gilt. Light shelfwear to boards; minor nicks and scuffs to spine ends. Text blocks clean, bright, and free of ownership markings or foxing. A near fine, tight set. \$950.

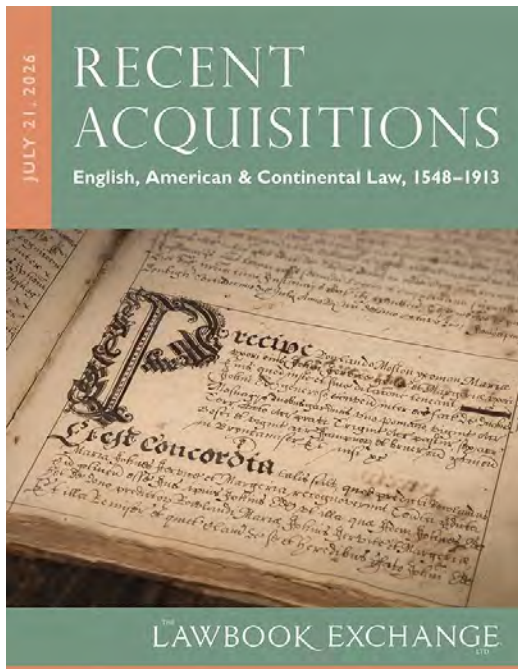
* The celebrated second edition of arguably the most influential legal treatise in American history. Originally published in 1904, Wigmore's monumental work synthesized a chaotic, disorganized slurry of regional common law rulings into a singular, unified doctrinal system. Beyond acting as a practical manual, this treatise famously provided the intellectual architecture for modern evidence law-pioneering the critical analysis of the hearsay rule and attorney-client privilege, and directly laying the philosophical foundation for the modern Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE). This scarce five-volume second edition represents Wigmore's final, tightly compressed iteration of the text before its expansion into the ten-volume third edition of 1940.

Marke, *A Catalogue of the Law Collection at New York University* (1953) 532.

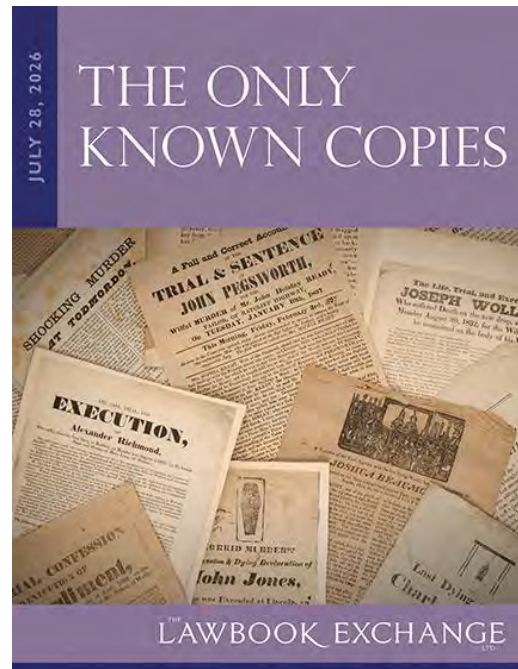


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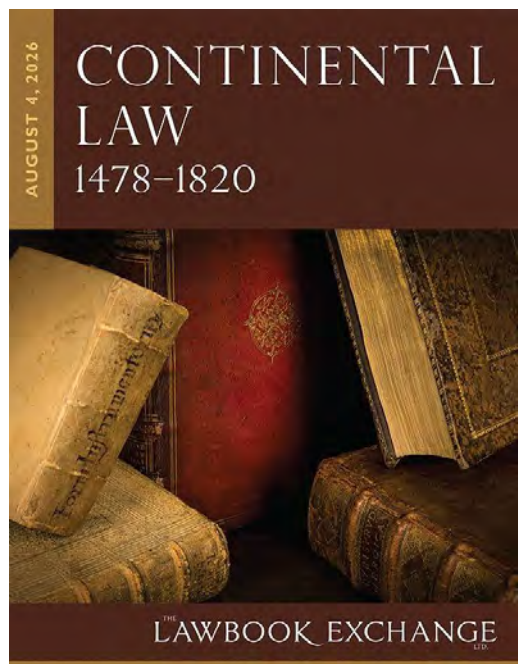
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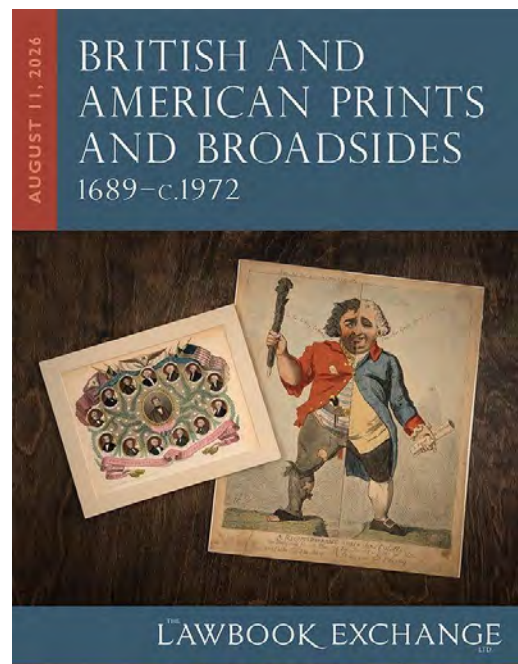
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