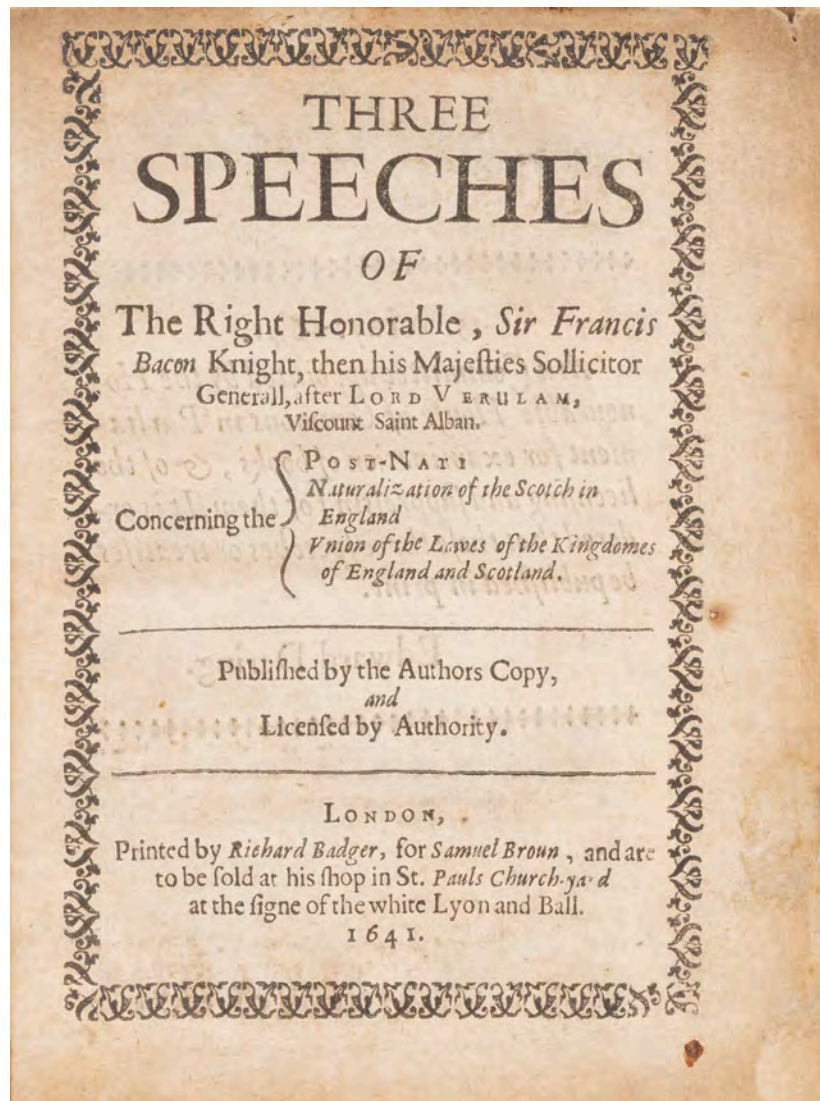


SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

IRISH, SCOTTISH & WELSH LAW



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LTD.



**Bacon's Post-Nati and American Liberty: The 1641 MasterWork That Laid
The Common-Law Foundation for U.S. Birthright Citizenship**

1. Bacon, Sir Francis [1561-1626].

Three Speeches of the Right Honorable, Sir Francis Bacon Knight, Then His Majesties Solicitor General, After Lord Verulam, Viscount Saint Alban. Concerning the { Post-Nati Naturalization of the Scotch in England Union of the Lawes of the Kingdomes of England and Scotland. Published by the Authors Copy, And Licensed by Authority. London: Printed by Richard Badger, for Samuel Broun, 1641.

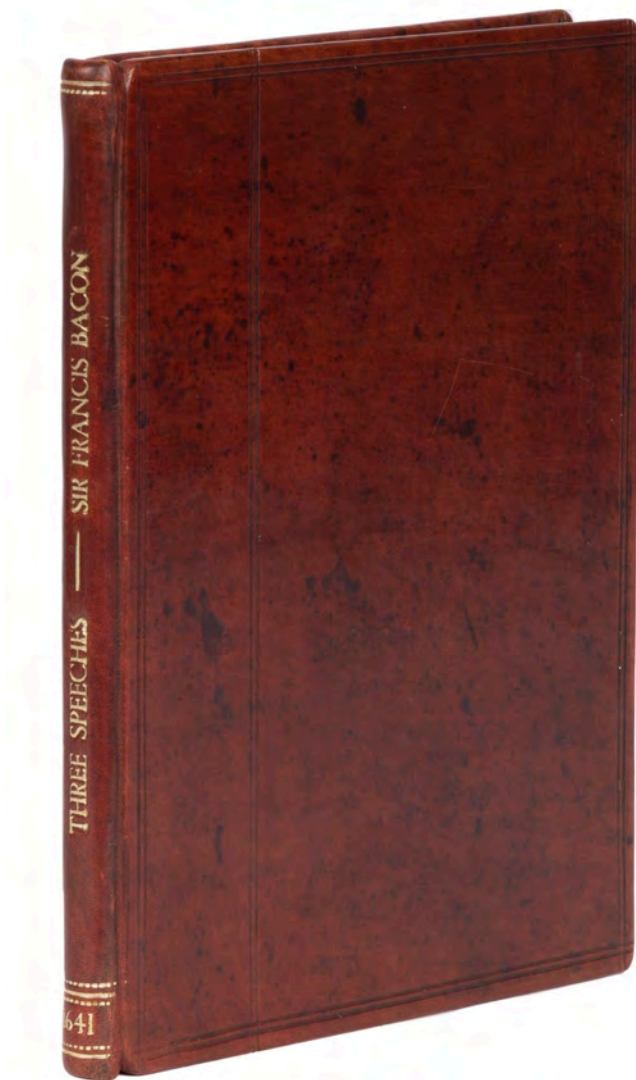
Quarto (7" x 5-1/2"; 178 x 140 mm). [ii], 58, 57-88 pp. (complete, with erratic pagination as issued). Modern period-style speckled calf, blind rules to boards, gilt title to spine. Title printed within a woodcut border. Moderate interior toning, light browning to outer margins at opening and closing leaves, minor soiling to title page and verso of final leaf. A clean, well-margined, and attractive copy in a sympathetic modern binding. \$1,500.

* First and only edition. Delivered while Bacon served as Solicitor General to King James I, these three interconnected speeches represent a seminal articulation of Baconian natural law and carry profound, long-term implications for the evolution of American constitutional theory. At the heart of this collection is Bacon's highly contentious defense of the "Post-Nati," Scots born after the Union of the Crowns in 1603. Bacon famously argued that because these individuals

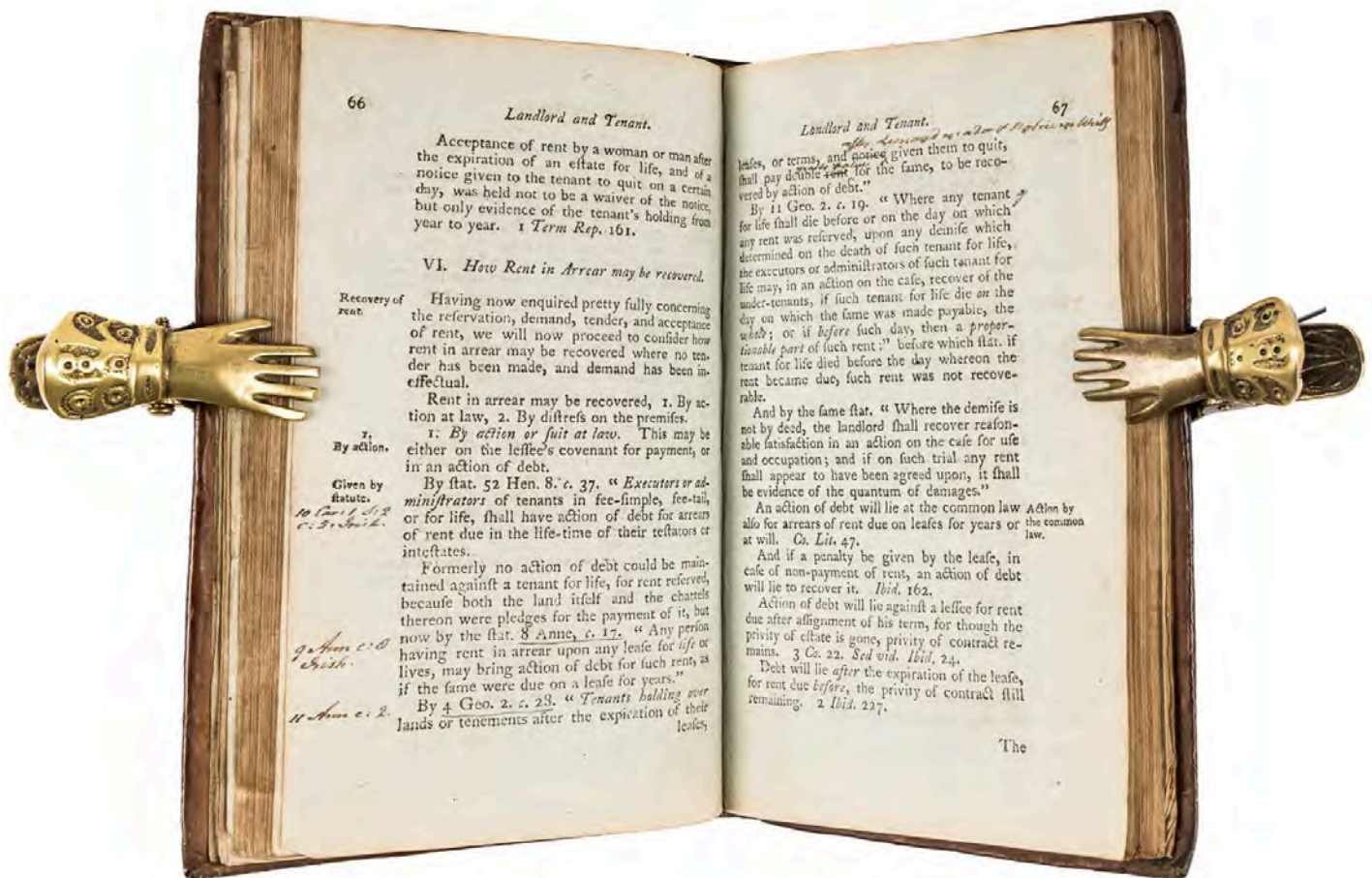
were born within the King's dominion, they were natural-born subjects by birth. This conceptual framework became a foundational pillar of the landmark ruling in *Calvin's Case* (1608), which established the doctrine of birthright citizenship (*jus soli*) in English common law. Through this specific vector, Bacon's arguments crossed the Atlantic to become an enduring cornerstone of the American legal tradition, directly informing colonial charting practices, early jurisprudence on citizenship, and ultimately the framing of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

While originally delivered to advance James I's vision of a single unified British realm, these texts sat unpublished for decades. They were finally brought to light in 1641 amid the intense political and religious turmoil of the Bishops' Wars. Issued by Royalist sympathizers, the publication served as an urgent, contemporary defense of prerogative rights and regal authority under Charles I, utilizing Bacon's legal genius to justify structural monarchical powers. The legislative unification Bacon masterfully championed would not be fully realized until the Acts of Union in 1706 and 1707. This copy is exceptionally well-preserved, showcasing the irregular page sequencing characteristic of rapid seventeenth-century pamphlet production.

OCLC locates 7 copies in North America, 2 in law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R17387.



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**The Evils of Distress: An Annotated 1794 Irish Manual on Landlord-Tenant Law,
Published by a United Irishman on the Eve of Rebellion**

2. Bird, James Barry (fl. 1794-1833).

[*The Laws*] *Respecting Landlords, Tenants, And Lodgers, Laid Down in a Plain, Easy, And Familiar Manner; And Free from the Technical Terms of the Law... Containing Also Distinct Treatises on the Various Kinds of Estates...* Dublin: Printed by N. Kelly, For Messrs. P. Byrne [et al.], [1794].

First Dublin Edition. 12mo. (6-3/4" x 3-3/4"; 172 x 95 mm). [xii], 157, [11] pp. Bound in full contemporary Irish calf, boards framed with blind rules, spine divided by blind fillets with a dark calf lettering piece, blind tooling to board edges. Ten contemporary manuscript leaves (6-1/4" x 3-3/4") loosely sewn into the front endleaves, plus early annotations to several interior text margins. Upper margin of the title page neatly excised (removing the first two words of the title, "The Laws"), with those words carefully supplied in a contemporary hand on the blank verso of the preceding leaf. Light rubbing and minor ink spots to boards; moderate rubbing along extremities with corners slightly bumped; faint dampstaining to rear endleaves. Text block lightly toned with scattered light foxing. Overall, a very good, solid, and unrestored copy in its original binding, uniquely augmented for Irish practice. \$650.

Published the same year as the London original, this is the uncommon first Dublin edition of Bird's popular legal handbook. Designed to bypass dense legal jargon for the benefit of both laymen and "the young practitioner," it became a standard reference work on property law, leases, distress, and ejectment, running through multiple editions well into the 19th century.

The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Irish, Scottish & Welsh Law September 1, 2026

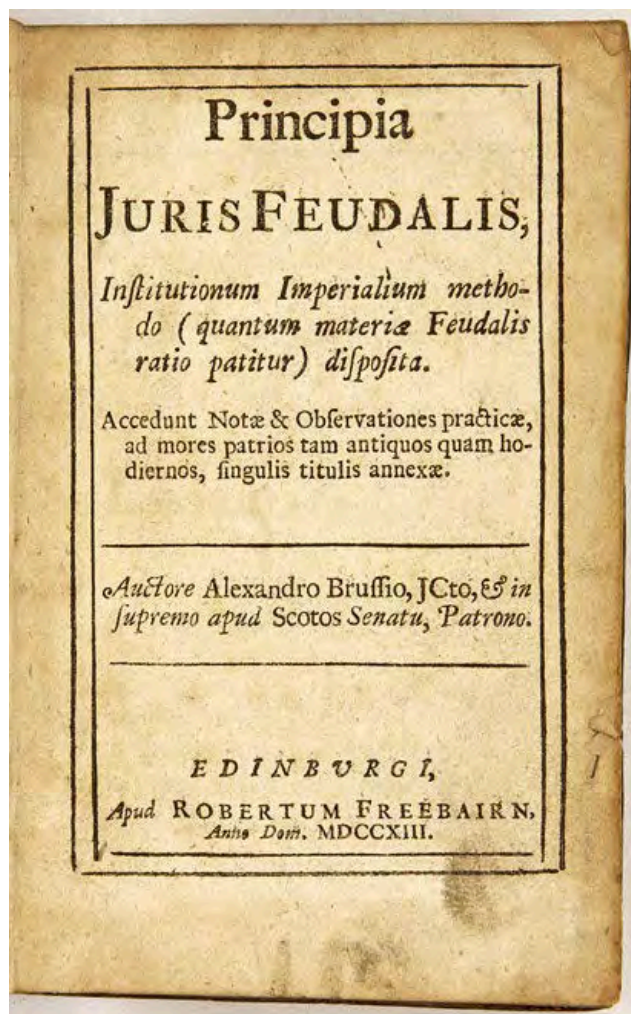
This copy is a significant, highly customized artifact of late 18th-century Irish legal practice. The ten inserted manuscript sheets and extensive marginalia are written in a neat, single, contemporary hand. Crucially, the annotations focus heavily on updating statutory references specifically for Ireland, with particular attention paid to the law of distress (the seizure of a tenant's property for back rent) and rent recovery. Because Ireland retained its own independent parliament until the Act of Union in 1800, English legal guides were frequently inaccurate on Irish soil without these precise, localized statutory corrections.

Furthermore, this volume carries notable political subtext in its imprint: co-publisher Patrick Byrne was a prominent radical member of the Society of United Irishmen. Byrne's shop was a known meeting place for political dissidents, and he would eventually be arrested for high treason in 1798 and exiled to America. This text represents the intersection of English common law, localized Irish statute, and the fraught socio-political environment of Dublin on the eve of the 1798 Rebellion.

OCLC locates 4 copies of the Dublin edition in North American law libraries (DePaul, Ohio State, University of Iowa, Social Law). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N12323.



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1713 Scots Feudal Law Treatise: Roman Tradition, Jacobite Printing, and Historic Perth Provenance

3. Bruce, Alexander [d. 1729].

Principia Juris Feudalis, Institutionum Imperialium Methodo (Quantum Materiae Feudalis Ratio Patitur) Disposita. Accedunt Notae & Observationes Practicae, ad Mores Patrios Tam Antiquos Quam Hodiernos, Singulis Titulis Annexae. Edinburgh: Apud Robertum Freebairn, 1713.

First and only edition. Duodecimo (152 x 102 mm; 6" x 4"). [viii], xix, 352 pp. Contemporary full calf, blind-ruled boards with floral motif, blind fillets along borders. Moderate rubbing to extremities; joints just starting with minor chipping to spine ends and bumped corners. A few minor nicks and wormholes to boards. Front hinge cracked, but text block remains firm. Internally, text shows very light browning, faint dampstaining in places, and light scattered foxing. Minor finger smudging and light soiling to the title page. A very good copy in its original binding. \$450.

Provenance: Pictorial bookplate to front pastedown featuring a circular engraving of Lady Justice, inscribed within the border: "Society of Procurators - Perth".

* Only edition of this significant Early Modern legal treatise, which stands as a premier example of the "Romanization" of Scots law. Written primarily for law students and practitioners, Bruce explicitly models his exposition on Justinian's Institutes, systematically arranging native, highly complex Scottish customary and feudal law into a structured, Roman-style framework.

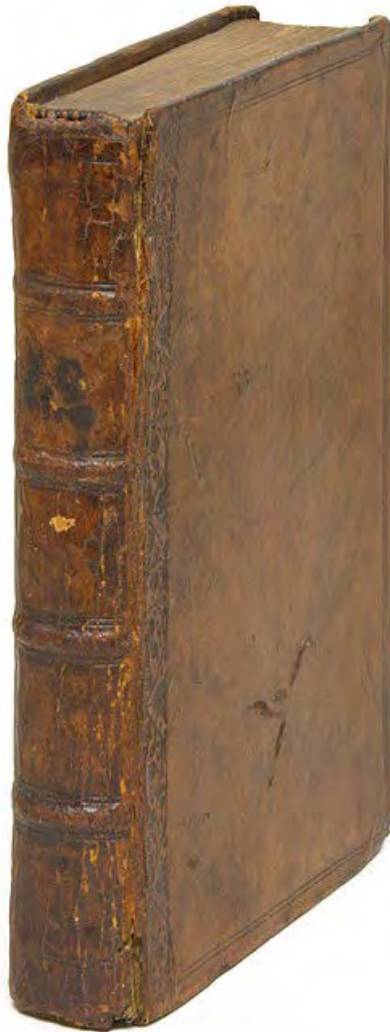
The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Irish, Scottish & Welsh Law September 1, 2026

Published just six years after the Acts of Union (1707), the work captures a critical transitional moment in Scottish legal history. Each section (titulus) is augmented with Bruce's practical notes (Notae & Observationes Practicae), which serve as an invaluable contemporary record comparing ancient customary traditions with early 18th-century court practices as Scotland fiercely sought to preserve its distinct institutional identity within the newly formed Kingdom of Great Britain. Alexander Bruce was an Advocate and prolific legal writer, best known for his reports of decisions of the Court of Session and his authoritative work on military and feudal law.

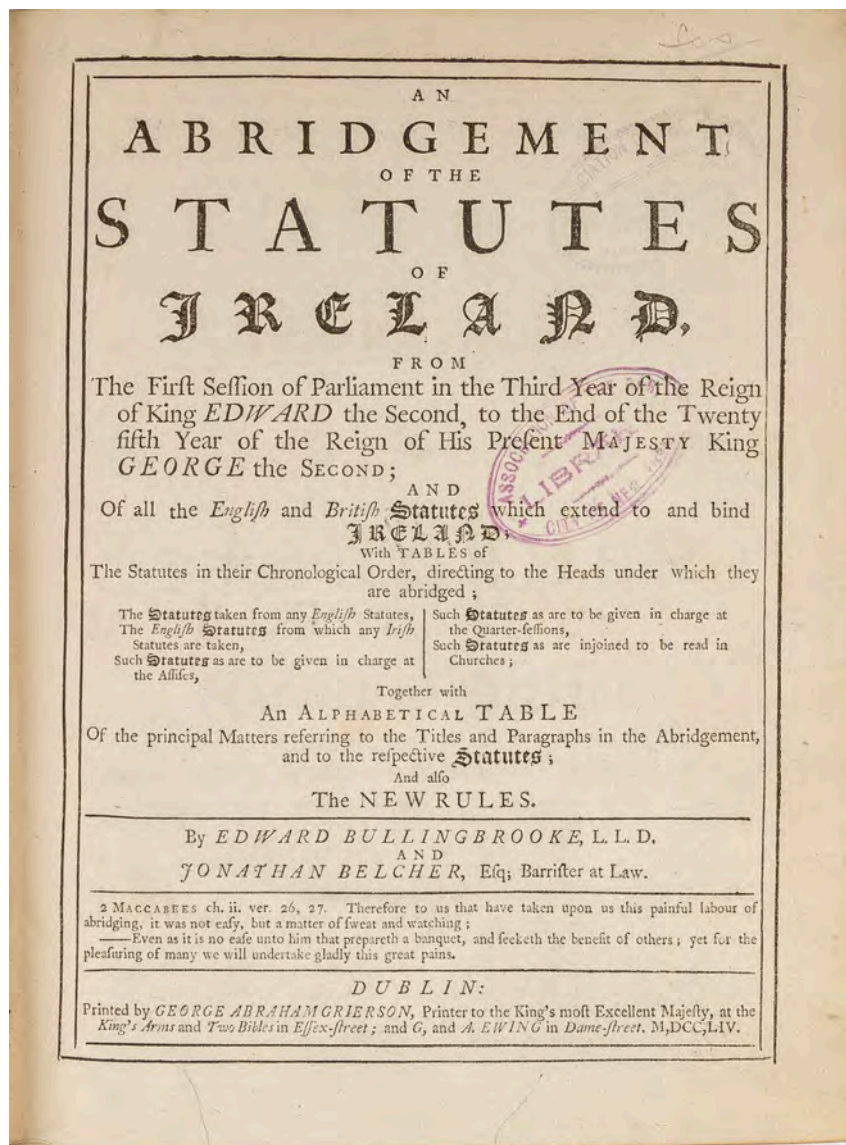
Of additional interest is the imprint of Robert Freebairn, a prominent and politically volatile Scottish printer. Freebairn had recently secured a patent as King's Printer in Scotland following a fierce legal battle, but during the Jacobite Uprising of 1715, he defected to Perth to serve as the official printer to the Old Pretender (James Francis Edward Stuart). This volume represents his high-quality Edinburgh production just prior to his involvement in the rebellion.

The bookplate from the Society of Procurators in Perth, instituted in 1825 (and receiving a Royal Charter in 1857), the Society originally began when local court agents banded together to build an exclusive law library inside Robert Smirke's newly erected Perth County Buildings. This volume was clearly an foundational asset acquired by the Society to anchor its collection with essential historic texts on native Scottish feudal jurisprudence.

English Short-Title Catalogue T116092.



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The Transatlantic Legacy of Jonathan Belcher: The 1754 Abridgement of the Statutes of Ireland

4. Bullingbrooke, Edward and Jonathan Belcher, Compilers.

An Abridgement of the Statutes of Ireland, From the First Session of Parliament in the Third Year of the Reign of King Edward the Second, To the End of the Twenty Fifth Year of the Reign of His Present Majesty King George the Second; And of All the English and British Statutes which Extend to and Bind Ireland; With Tables of the Statutes in their Chronological Order... Together with an Alphabetical Table of the Principal Matters Referring to the Titles and Paragraphs in the Abridgement, And to the Respective Statutes; And also the New Rules.
Dublin: Printed by George Abraham Grierson, 1754. Only edition.

Quarto (10" x 8"; 254 x 203 mm). xii, [xxiv], 977; [351] pp. Early 20th-century tan institutional buckram, red and black morocco lettering pieces to spine, endpapers renewed.

Ex-library copy with a discrete shelf location label to the foot of the spine, property stamp to the title page "Association of the Bar City of New York Library," standard cataloging annotations to its verso, and return stamps to the rear pastedown. A very good copy. \$350.

* A comprehensive mid-eighteenth-century digest of Irish legislation and imperial statutory control, compiled jointly by

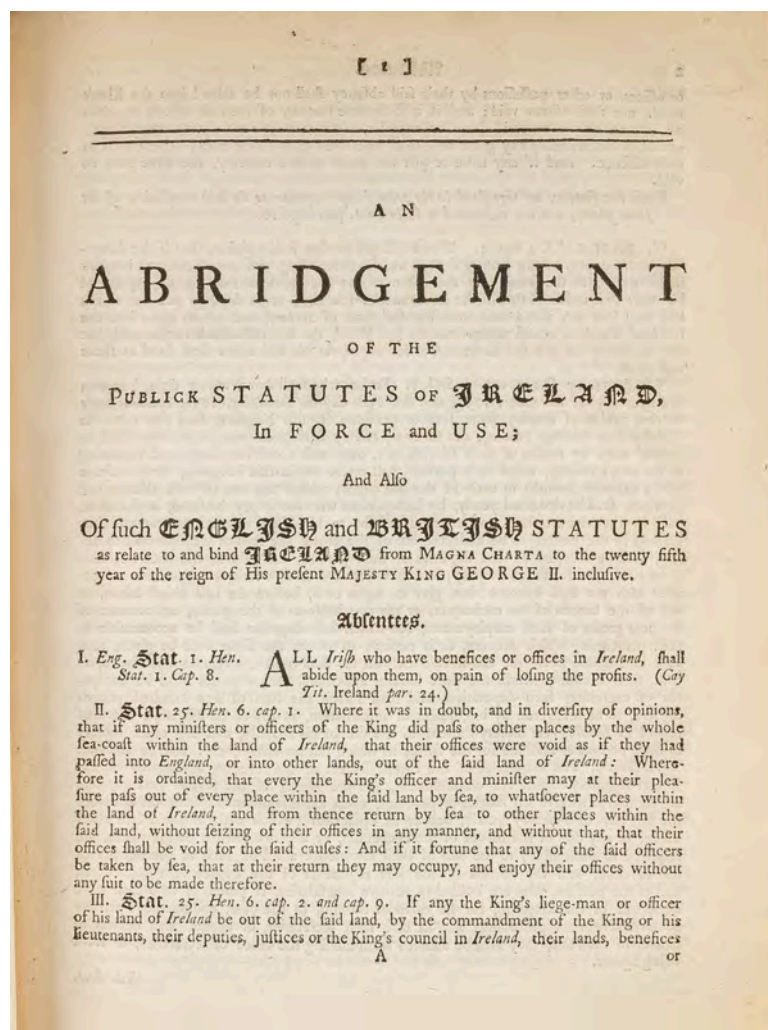
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prominent Dublin civil lawyer Edward Bullingbrooke and Harvard-educated jurist Jonathan Belcher. This volume serves as a vital artifact of the legal framework governing the Protestant Ascendancy, systematically indexing Irish parliamentary enactments alongside English statutes binding upon the Kingdom of Ireland under Poyning's Law and the Declaratory Act of 1720.

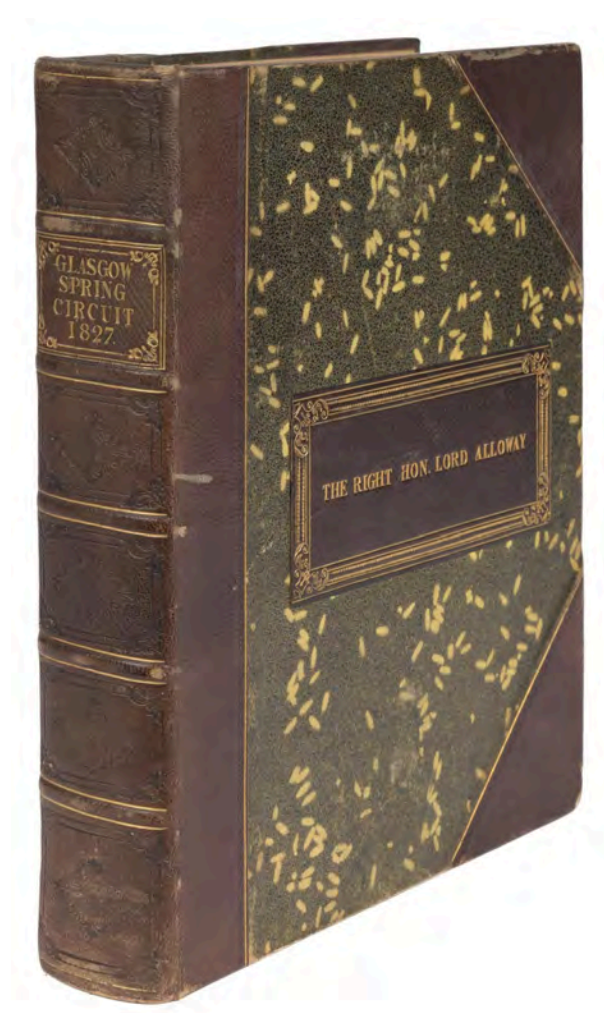
The extensive apparatus is especially notable for administrative and social historians: it features distinct tables cross-referencing Irish acts derived from English models, statutes required to be charged at the Assizes and Quarter-Sessions, and penal and civic decrees explicitly enjoined to be read aloud from church pulpits to ensure public compliance.

For collections of early Americana and colonial law, co-compiler Jonathan Belcher would be appointed the first Chief Justice of Nova Scotia the same year this volume was published. Belcher famously utilized this exact expertise in statutory synthesis to draft the foundational laws of Nova Scotia, making this text a direct bridge between Irish and Canadian constitutional history.

OCLC locates 7 copies in North America, 3 in law libraries (Harvard, Notre Dame, South Texas College of Law). Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 4:11.



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**A Unique Judicial Archive: Lord Alloway's Deeply Annotated Copy
of the 1827 Glasgow Circuit Court Records**

5. Cathcart, David, Lord Alloway (1763-1829).

List of Cases for Trial at the Glasgow Spring Circuit, May, 1827. Right Honourable Lord Gillies and Lord Alloway. A. Wood, Esq. Advocate Depute. [Glasgow]: Printed by John Graham and Co., [1827].

Quarto (10" x 8-1/4"; 25.4 x 21 cm). [788] pp. 77 consecutively compiled court documents totaling [788] pp. Various paginations; each case record is individually paginated and docketed in print on the versos.

Contemporary three-quarter morocco over marbled boards, featuring a small green binder's ticket on the front pastedown reading: "John Carss of Glasgow Bookbinders." Front board features a custom gilt-stamped morocco label reading: "The Right Hon. Lord Alloway." Spine with blind decoration, gilt fillets surrounding raised bands, and gilt title "Glasgow Spring Circuit 1827." Light rubbing to boards with minor scuffs, nicks, and scratches; moderate rubbing to extremities and bumped corners. Structurally sound. A definitive, signed example of the work of Glasgow's premier binder of the era, custom-bound for the judge's personal reference library.

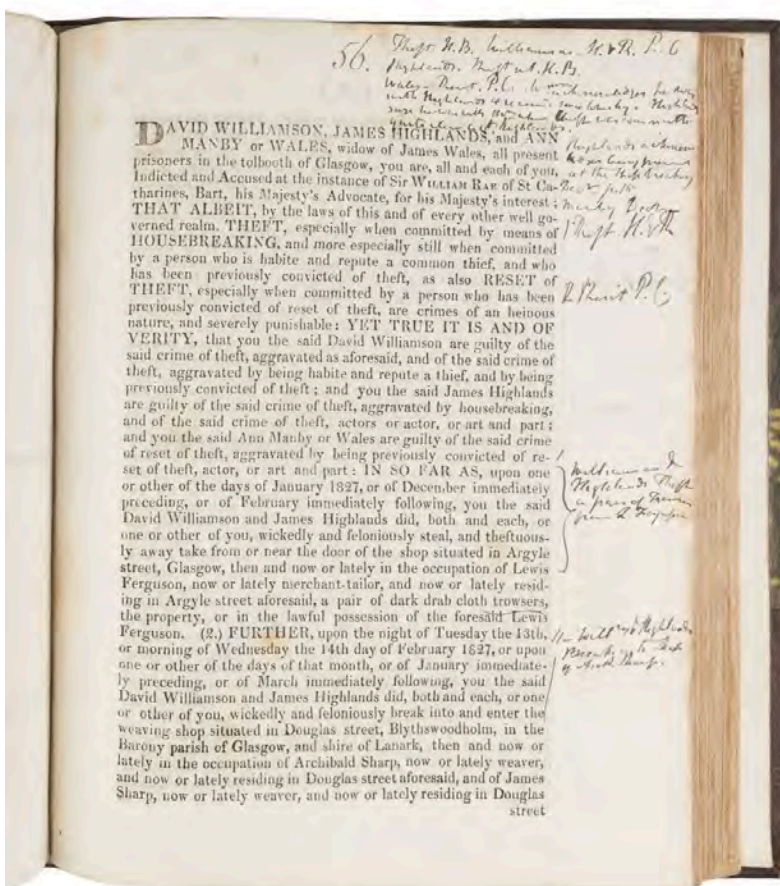
Interior shows light toning and occasional moderate foxing. Two slight horizontal fold lines are present on most leaves (indicative of original delivery style before binding), along with a few folded corners and minor local soiling. A single internal crack to the text block before the final leaf, though the binding remains firm. A handsome, well-preserved volume. \$1,500.

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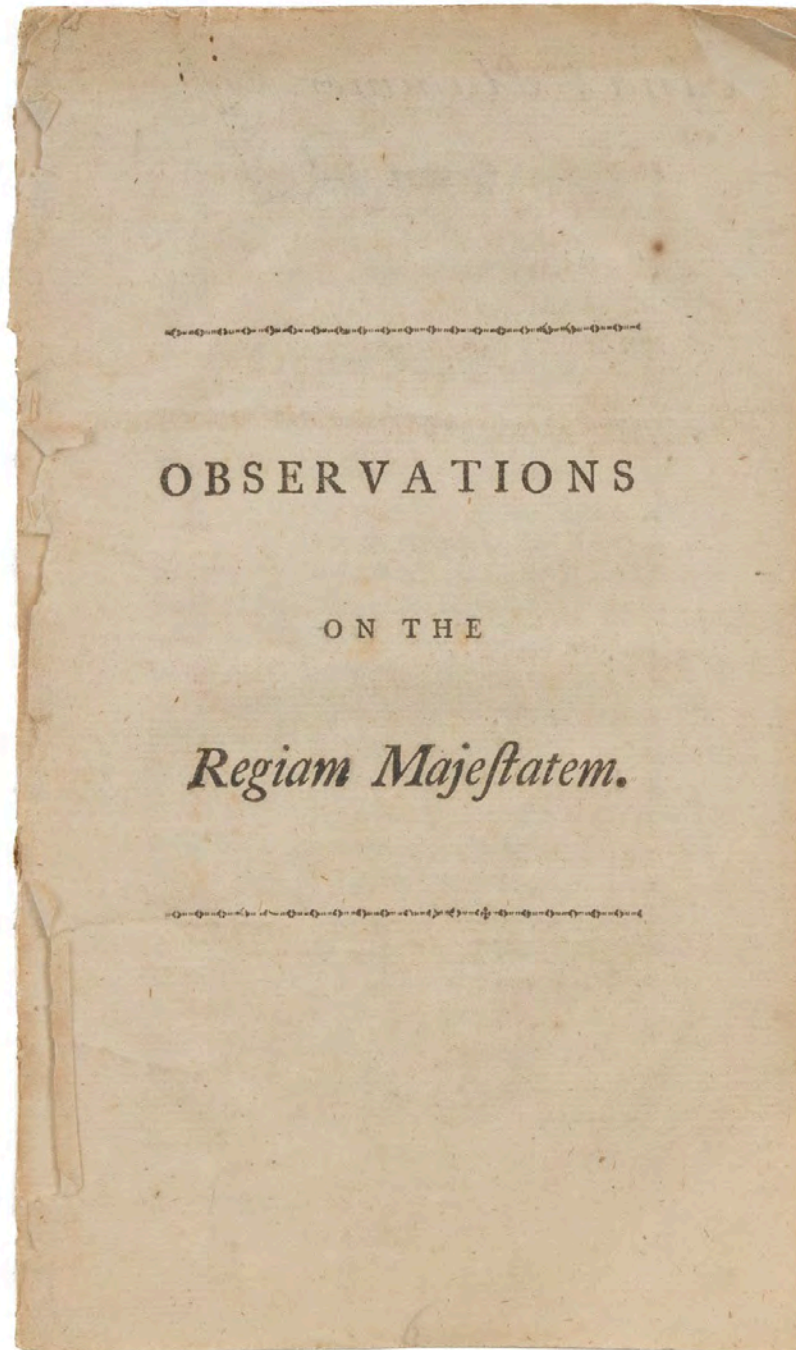
A unique, comprehensively annotated association copy documenting the inner workings of nineteenth-century Scottish criminal justice. Compiled directly over the course of the session, this volume begins with the printed master list of 77 cases on the docket for the Glasgow Circuit Court of Justiciary in May 1827. It is followed by the individual printed records for 72 of those cases (typically 5-8 pages each), providing a summary of the indictment alongside full lists of witnesses and jury pools. The fact that these documents were printed individually and docketed on the verso reveals a sophisticated system of rapid legal printing designed to serve as functional bench briefs before oral arguments took place.

The master list and many individual case records are annotated in manuscript by presiding Judge Lord Alloway (David Cathcart), a highly respected jurist of the Scottish Enlightenment who was appointed to the Justiciary Court in 1826. His handwritten annotations offer a direct window into the judicial mindset of the era, capturing "living law" as he filtered evidence, assessed witness credibility, and managed jury selection in real time. The charges recorded range in severity from capital murder to petty theft, reflecting the intense pressure building within the Scottish Justiciary system as the Industrial Revolution rapidly transformed the Glasgow region into a high-volume, densely populated urban center.

Custom-bound compilation volumes of this nature were prepared exclusively for the personal use of sitting judges and advocates, making them incredibly scarce. While OCLC locates 6 related compilation volumes from the Glasgow Justiciary Court (5 at the University of Glasgow, 1 at Harvard), this specific annotated copy stands alone as a unique, unrecorded legal survival of historical significance.



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The Roots of Scots Law: An Outstanding Association Copy of Davidson's Enlightenment Critique of the Regiam Majestatem, Gifted by Antiquary David Herd to Sheriff Andrew Plummer

6. Davidson, John, [1724-1797].

Observations on the Regiam Majestatem. [Edinburgh]: s.n., [1792].

First edition. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5"; 210 x 127 mm). 15, [1] pp.

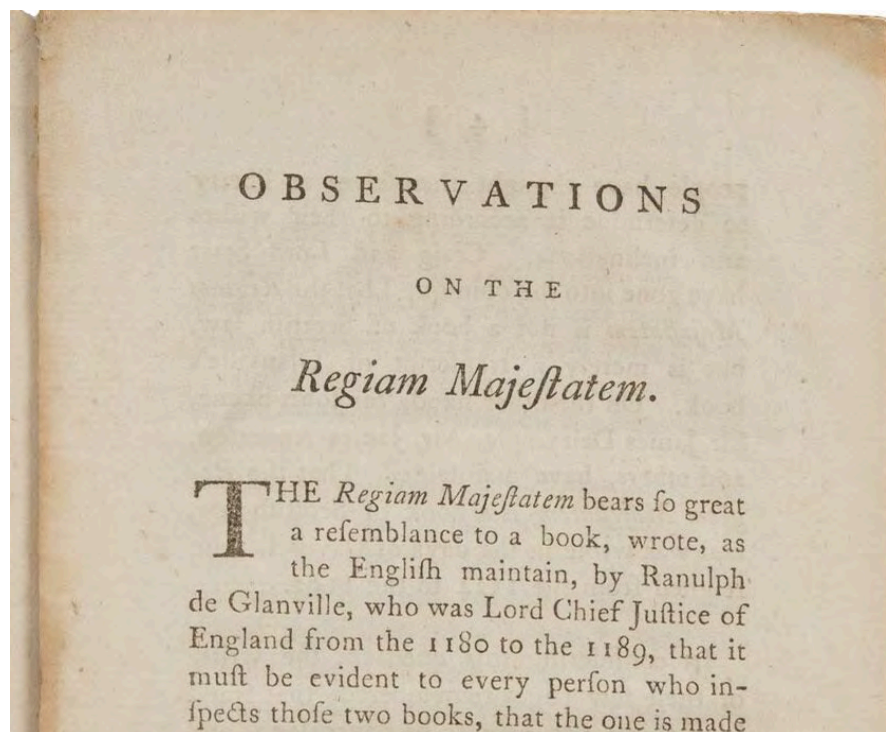
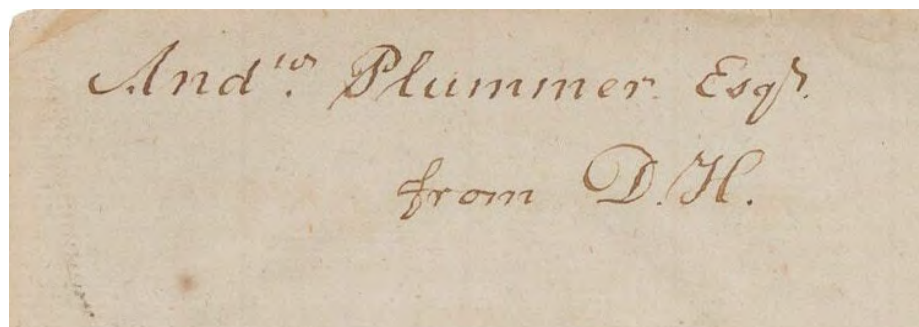
Issued anonymously. Sewn textblock disbound from a larger sammelband. Outer leaves (the half-title/verso presentation leaf and the final blank) are cleanly detached but present. Light uniform age-toning, otherwise clean, crisp, and internally fresh.

Features a contemporary ink presentation inscription on the verso of the half-title page: "Andw Plummer Esq./ from D.H." The recipient was Andrew Plummer of Middlestead (d. 1799), Sheriff-Depute of Selkirkshire and close friend to John Davidson. The presenter "D.H." is almost certainly the celebrated Scottish antiquary, editor, and folklore collector David Herd (1732-1810). \$450.

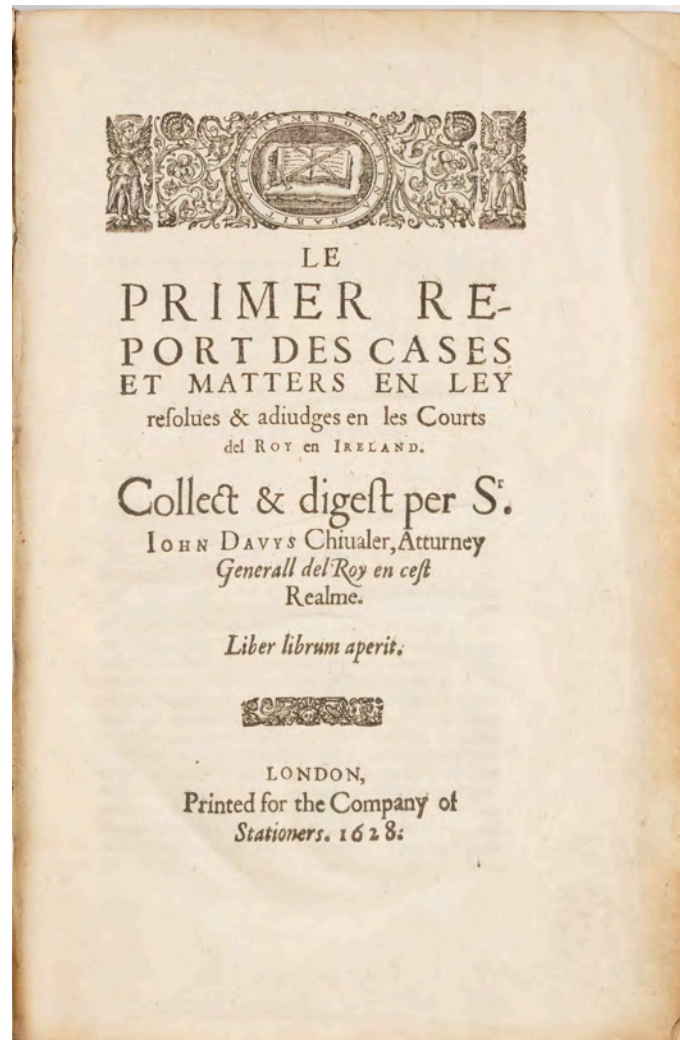
In this treatise, John Davidson, a Writer to the Signet and meticulous antiquary, applies the empirical skepticism of the Scottish Enlightenment directly to the medieval text. Through a sharp, line-by-line textual dissection, Davidson demonstrates that the work heavily mirrors Ranulf de Glanvill's 1188 English legal treatise, proving it to be a localized adaptation rather than a purely native creation.

By using document-based analysis to challenge romantic nationalist assumptions, Davidson actively modernized Scottish legal history. This copy is an exceptional association artifact, physically linking three major figures at the absolute center of the late 18th-century Scottish antiquarian revival.

English Short Title Catalogue T69433.



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**The Chaworth-Hopkinson Copy: A 1628 Printing of the First Irish Legal Reports,
Bearing an Exceptional Continuous Record of Legal Ownership Back to 1636**

7. Davies, Sir John [1569-1626].

Le Primer Report des Cases et Matters en Ley Resolues & Adiudges en les Courts del Roy en Ireland. Collect & Digest per Sr. Iohn Davys Chivaler, Attorney Generall del Roy en Cest Realme. London: Printed [by Adam Islip] for the Company of Stationers, 1628.

Folio (10-1/2" x 6-3/4"; 267 x 172 mm). [16], 84, 84-99 ff. Complete. First English edition, and the second edition overall, following the virtually unobtainable 1615 Dublin first edition. No subsequent volumes were issued.

Contemporary speckled calf, boards ruled in blind, board edges ruled in gilt. Spine with raised bands and blind fillets, bearing a later handwritten paper title label. Spine ends expertly repaired with matching calf; corners bumped with moderate wear to extremities. Boards lightly bowed with minor scuffs and surface scratches. Hinges starting at the head, but boards remain securely attached. Text block split in a few places, but all leaves remain firmly bound. Light uniform toning, faint scattered foxing, and minor dampstaining restricted to outer margins. Occasional marginal annotations in ink spanning the 17th to late 19th centuries, consisting primarily of brief analytical glosses and cross-references to later precedent, with the latest entry dated 1896. A sound, well-preserved copy with an exceptional legal history. \$1,000.

This copy features a distinguished chain of English legal ownership beginning with George, 1st Viscount Chaworth of Armagh (c. 1580-1639), a prominent English peer and member of the Stuart court, whose contemporary possession is

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documented via a 19th-century manuscript provenance label tracing the volume's history back to 1636. It later entered the collection of the noted antiquary and solicitor William Hopkinson (1784-1865), who affixed his armorial bookplate to the front pastedown. The volume was subsequently presented by Hopkinson to the County Magistrates of Lincoln, as recorded by the institutional presentation bookplate marking his gift.

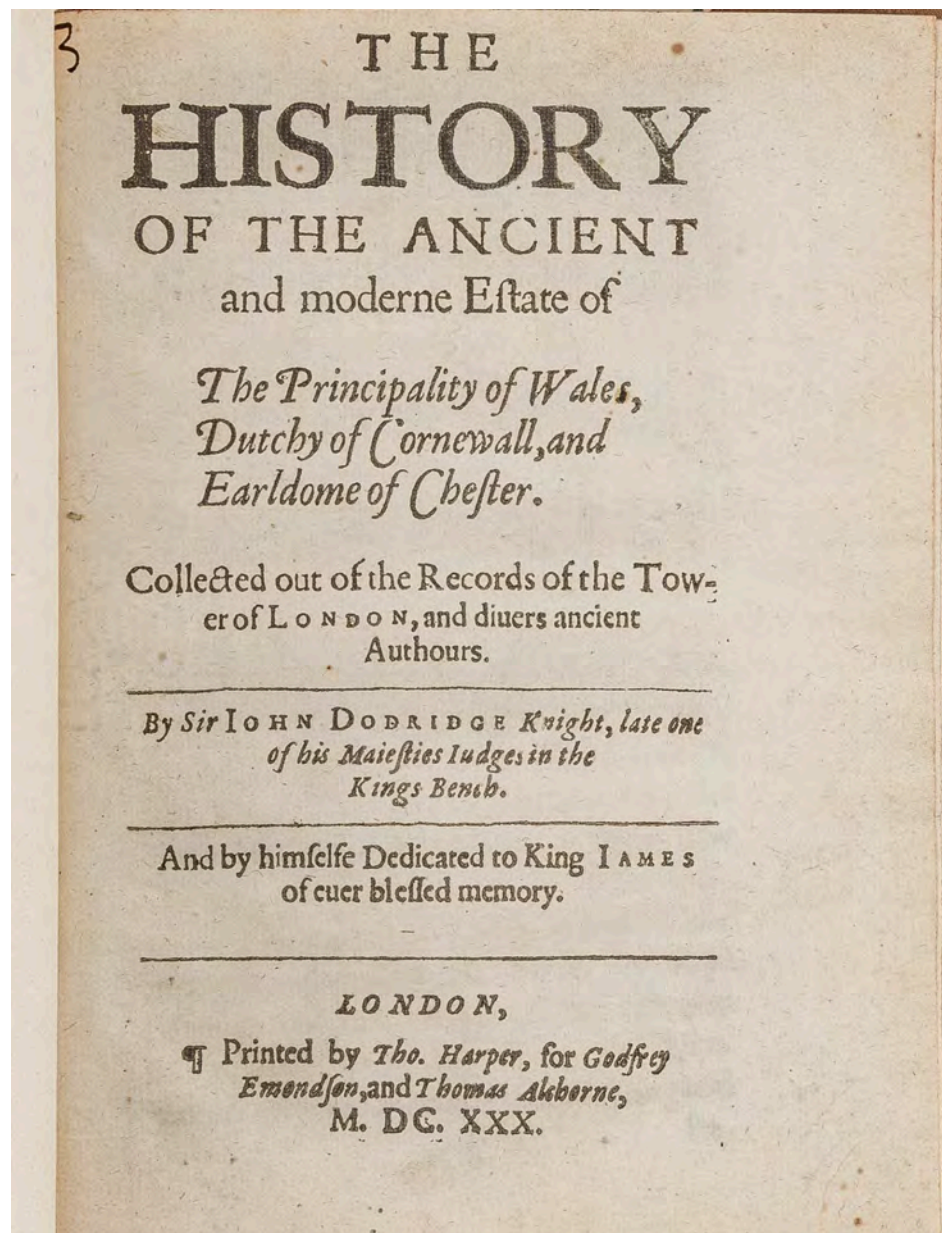
First printed collection of Irish legal reports, covering seminal cases resolved in the Irish courts between 1604 and 1612 under James I. While Sir John Davies-poet, lawyer, and Attorney-General for Ireland-intended the volume principally for practitioners within the jurisdiction, it quickly became an essential, highly cited authority in English courts, earning high praise from jurists such as Chief Justice Willes, Sir William Lee, Lord Kenyon, and Chief Justice Tindal.

The work serves as a foundational text in British imperial history, documenting the legal architecture used to systematically supplant native Irish Brehon law with English common law during the Plantation of Ulster. Foremost among these is the landmark Case of Tanistry (1608), which established the criteria for the validity of customary law within the common law tradition, declaring Irish customs void due to uncertainty. Furthermore, the volume contains the Case of the Royal Fishery of the Banne (1610), a cornerstone ruling on the royal prerogative, tidal waters, and public navigation rights that remains an active precedent in modern environmental law. The early ownership by Viscount Chaworth underscores the immediate contemporary value placed on these Irish rulings by elite English political figures navigating the limits of royal power during the reign of Charles I.

Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:299 (42). *English Short-Title Catalogue* S123364.



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**The Revival of Wales as a Principality:
A Fundamental 17th-Century Legal & Historical Inquiry**

8. Doddridge (Dodderidge), Sir John [1555-1628].

The History of the Ancient and Moderne Estate of the Principality of Wales, Dutchy of Cornewall, And Earldome of Chester. Collected Out of the Records of the Tower of London, And Divers Ancient Authours. By Sir Iohn Doddridge Knight, Late One of His Maiesties Iudges in the Kings Bench. And by Himselfe Dedicated to King Iames of Ever Blessed Memory. London: Printed by Tho. Harper, For Godfrey Emondson, And Thomas Alchorne, 1630.

Quarto (6-3/4" x 5-1/4"; 172 x 133 mm). [xvi], 142, [2] pp. Final leaf blank. Modern period-style three-quarter calf over marbled boards; spine featuring gilt title and decorative fillets; renewed endpapers. Light interior toning throughout; headlines trimmed slightly close in a few places (with no loss of legibility); faint dampstaining along the fore-edge margins of a few rear leaves; early manuscript "3" to the upper inner corner of the title page. A clean, attractive, and handsome copy. \$450

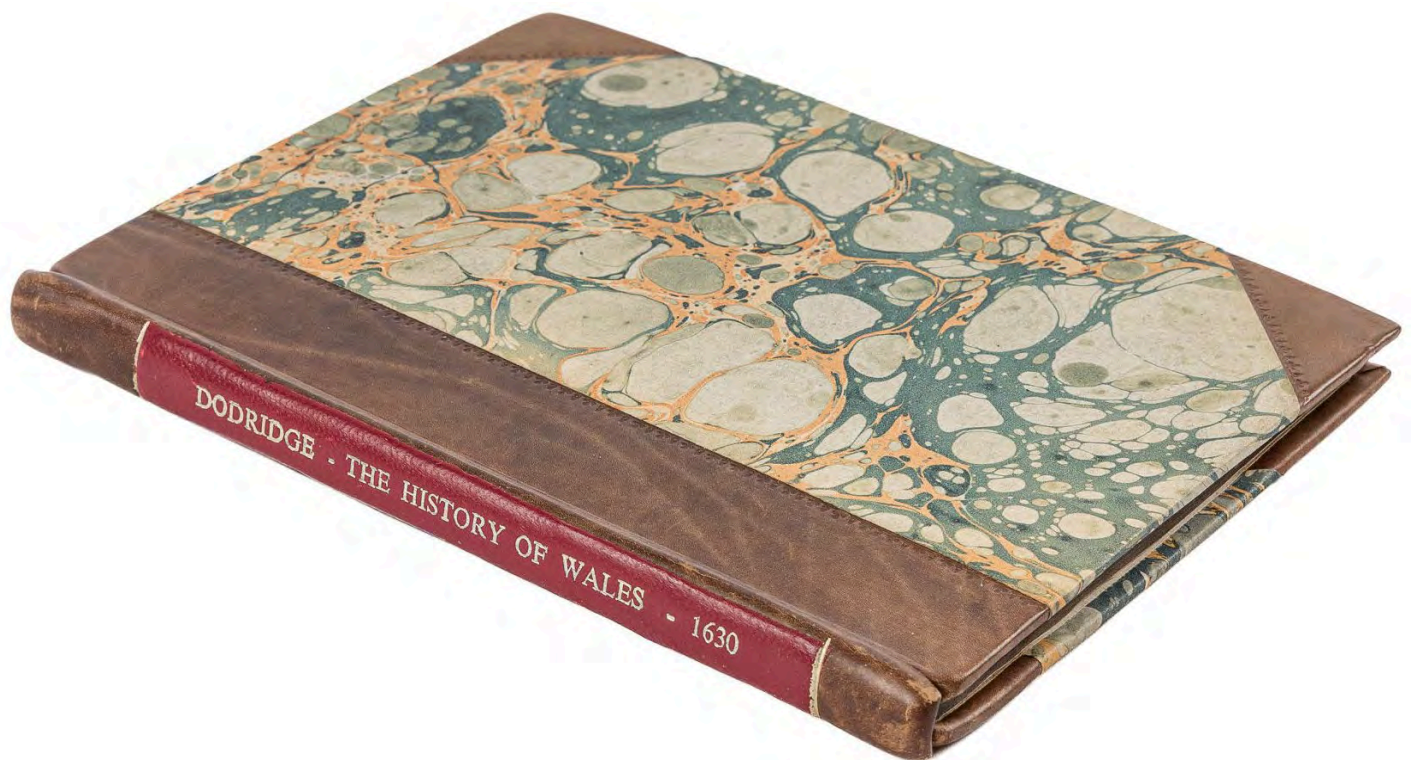
* Sir John Doddridge, Justice of the King's Bench, was one of the most formidably learned jurists of the early Stuart era. Unusually versatile for his time, he was trained both as a common lawyer at the Middle Temple and as a civilian, holding a Doctor of Civil Law (D.C.L.) from Cambridge. Sir William Holdsworth held Doddridge in exceptionally high esteem, noting his rigorous archival scholarship and foundational contributions to early modern legal history.

Originally composed during the early reign of King James I, *The History* drew directly upon primary administrative manuscripts and rolls housed in the Tower of London. Doddridge undertook this exhaustive research to argue for the formal administrative revival of Wales as a distinct principality.

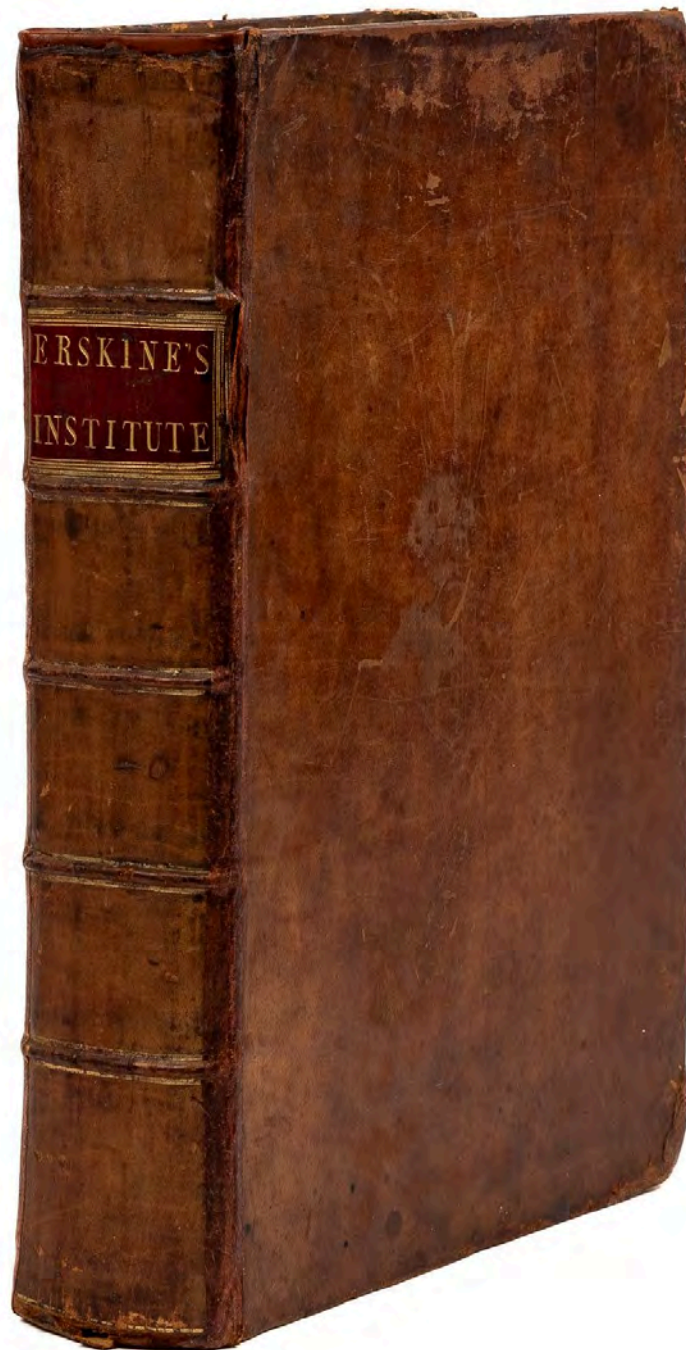
Following a period of bureaucratic decline, the historical administration of the Principality of Wales was formally abolished by Parliament in 1641 amid the prelude to the English Civil War. Although briefly re-established following the Restoration, it was permanently dismantled in 1689. Doddridge's narrative remains one of the primary contemporaneous legal surveys tracing the feudal and administrative relationships of Wales, Cornwall, and Chester to the English Crown.

Issued posthumously two years after Doddridge's death, this 1630 edition represents the work's true First Edition. A secondary edition was not published until 1714.

English Short-Title Catalogue S109765.



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An Important 18th-Century Treatise on Scots Law: Erskine's Classic Institute

9. Erskine, John, Of Carnock [1695-1768].

An Institute of the Law of Scotland. In Four Books. In the Order of Sir George Mackenzie's Institutions of that Law. Enlarged by Additional Notes, Containing the Latter Decisions of the Supreme Court on Many Interesting Points; And Improved Likewise by a More Ample Index, And the Addition of a Running Margin. Edinburgh: Printed for John Bell, 1785. Two volumes with continuous pagination bound in one book. x, 438; [439]-813, [57] pp. Folio (12-1/2" x 8"; 31.8 x 20.3 cm).

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Contemporary full calf, spine featuring raised bands and a gilt lettering piece; blind tooling to board edges. Old professional repair to the head of the spine and joints reinforced. Light rubbing to boards with moderate rubbing to extremities; minor chipping at the foot of the spine; corners bumped and worn. Hinges cracked but holding. Early armorial bookplate of Sir John J. Scott Douglas affixed to the front pastedown. Text block exhibits light, uniform toning with slightly heavier patches in places, alongside minor offsetting to the margins of the preliminaries and the final leaf. Overall, a clean and complete copy in a solid contemporary binding. \$750.

* Second edition. Esteemed for its deep erudition, clarity, and precision, Erskine's Institute stands as one of the definitive institutional statements of Scots law—a cornerstone of Scottish legal scholarship alongside the works of Stair and Bankton. Modeled after Sir George Mackenzie's structure, Erskine's treatise provides a comprehensive overview of 18th-century Scottish jurisprudence while remaining rich in sociological and historical context. Beyond core doctrines of property, obligations, and court procedure, the work treats specific penal and social topics of historical interest, including laws regarding witchcraft, sodomy, bestiality, adultery, dueling, and gypsies.

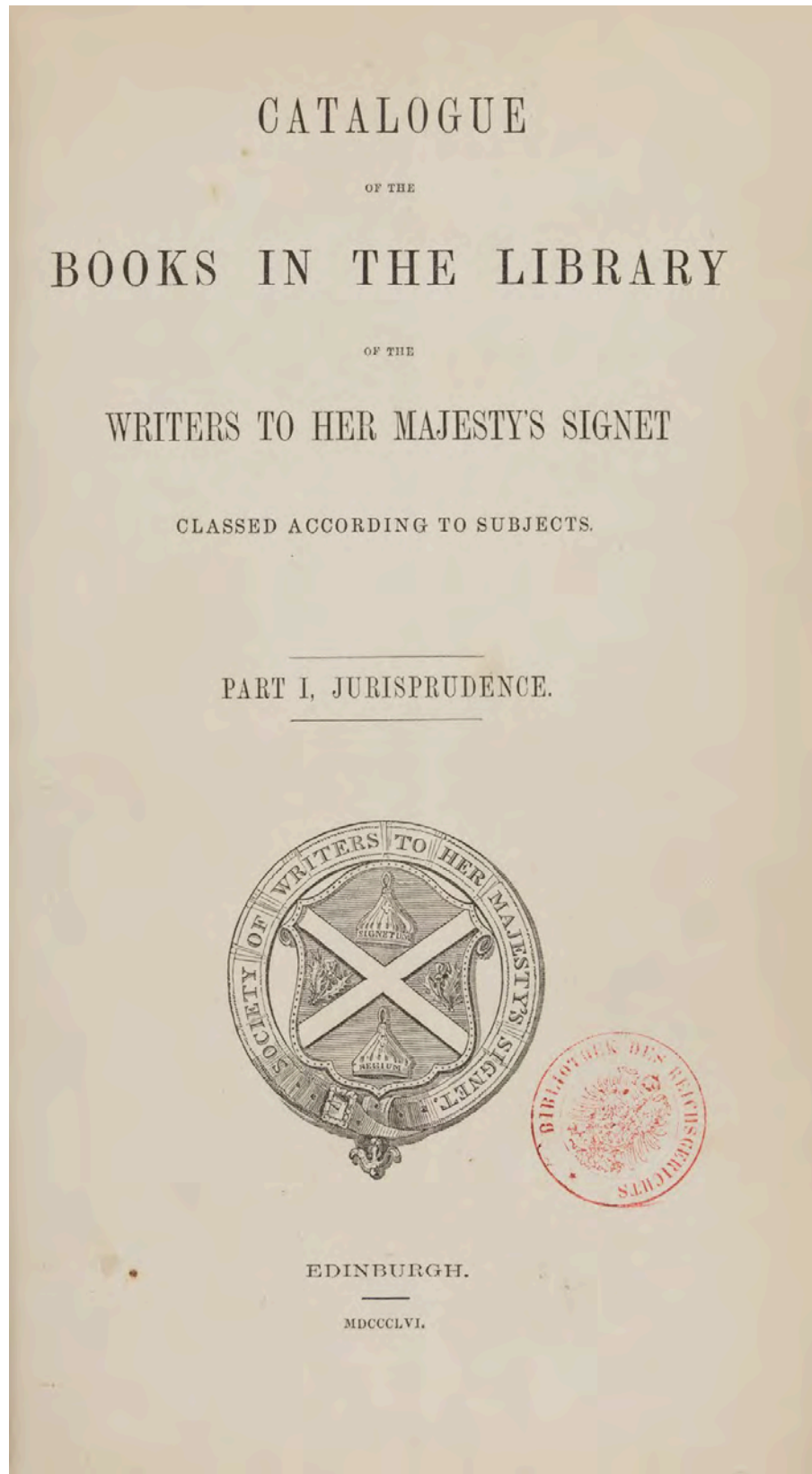
The Institute was exceptionally durable; first published posthumously in 1773, it went through multiple revised editions, culminating in an eighth and final edition in 1871.

Sir John James Scott Douglas, 3rd Baronet [1792-1836], of Springwood Park, Roxburghshire. A distinguished military officer, Scott Douglas served with the 15th (King's) Light Dragoons (Hussars) during the Peninsular War and fought at the Battle of Waterloo.

English Short-Title Catalogue T188612.



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From Edinburgh to Leipzig: The Lord Justice Clerk's Signet
Library Catalog, Later Held by Germany's Supreme Reichsgericht (1856)

10. Ivory, William, [1798?-1868].

Catalogue of the Law Books in the Library of the Society of Writers Her Majesty's Signet in Scotland. Arranged Systematically, with an Alphabetical Index of Authors and Subjects. Edinburgh: [Alex. Laurie & Co., Printers to Her Majesty], 1856. 268 pp. Octavo (10-1/4" x 6-1/2" 26 x 16.5 cm).

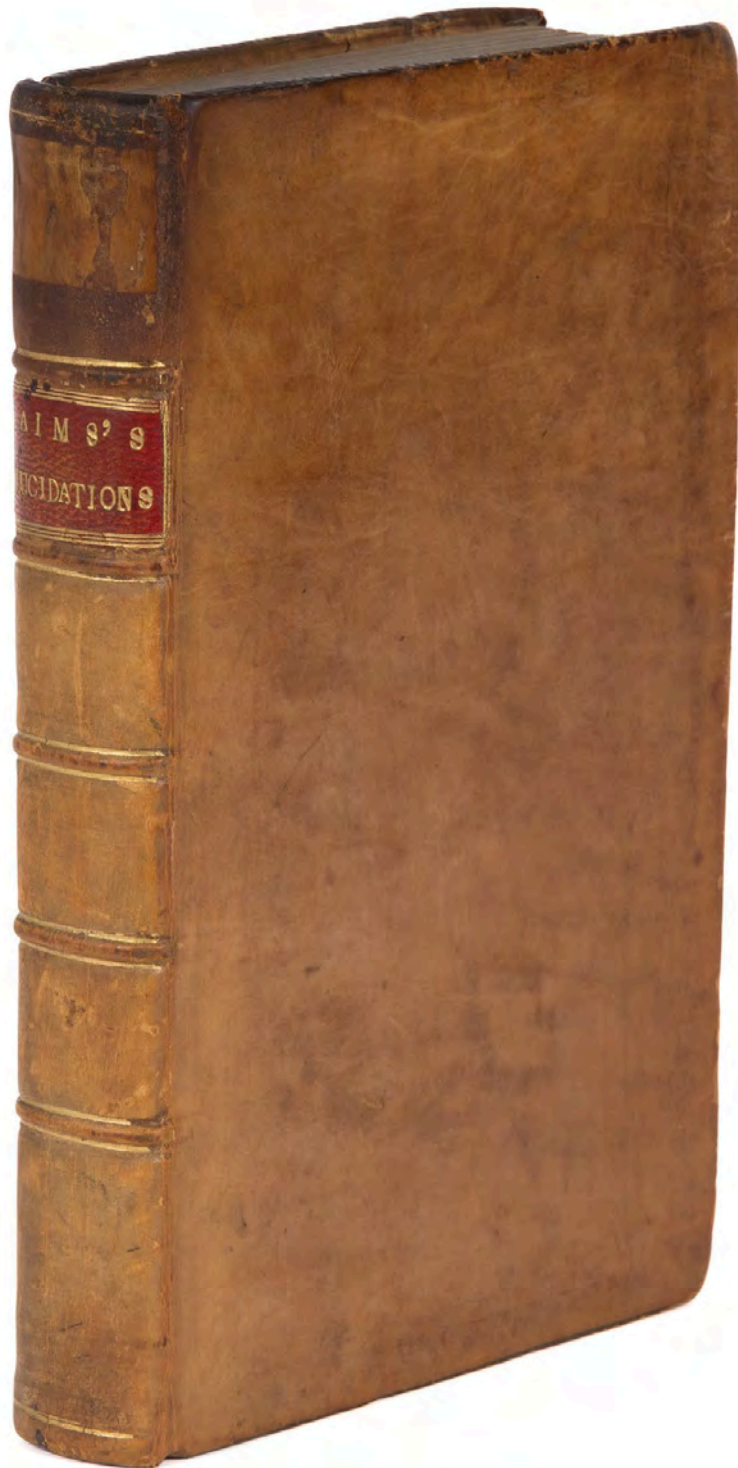
Publisher's green textured quarter cloth over marbled boards with gilt stamped spine. Light shelfwear. Ex-library with shelf location label to head of spine. Property stamp of "Reichsgericht" library to half-title. Contemporary library slip tipped-in to rear free endpaper. Contemporary presentation inscription "To/ The Rt. Honble The Lord Justice Clerk/ from the Curators of the Library" to front endleaf. A very good copy. \$750.

* A seminal 1856 bibliography that marks the definitive, systematic census of Scotland's premier legal repository, the Signet Library, providing an invaluable structural record of early *Scottish Court of Session Papers*. Crucially, this copy serves as a direct bridge between two apex tiers of European judicial history. It is inscribed from the Library's Curators to John Hope (1794-1858), the long-serving Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland and head of the Second Division of the Inner House.

Beyond its immediate mid-19th-century Scottish significance, the volume charts an extraordinary mid-20th-century continental odyssey. It bears the ink property stamp of Leipzig's *Reichsgericht*, the supreme high court of Germany, and carries the shelf labels documenting its post-WWII evacuation to Karlsruhe, where it integrated into the modern library of the German Federal Court of Justice. An exceptionally clean, tight copy in its original textured quarter cloth, this volume represents a stunning, cross-border artifact connecting the highest judicial authorities of Great Britain and Germany.



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First Edition of an Uncommon Study by Lord Kames

11. [Kames, Henry Home, Lord (1696-1782)].

Elucidations Respecting the Common and Statute Law of Scotland. Edinburgh: Printed for William Creech, 1777. xvi, 421, [2] pp. Includes two-page publisher list of other titles by Kames. Octavo (8" x 5"; 20.3 x 12.7 cm).

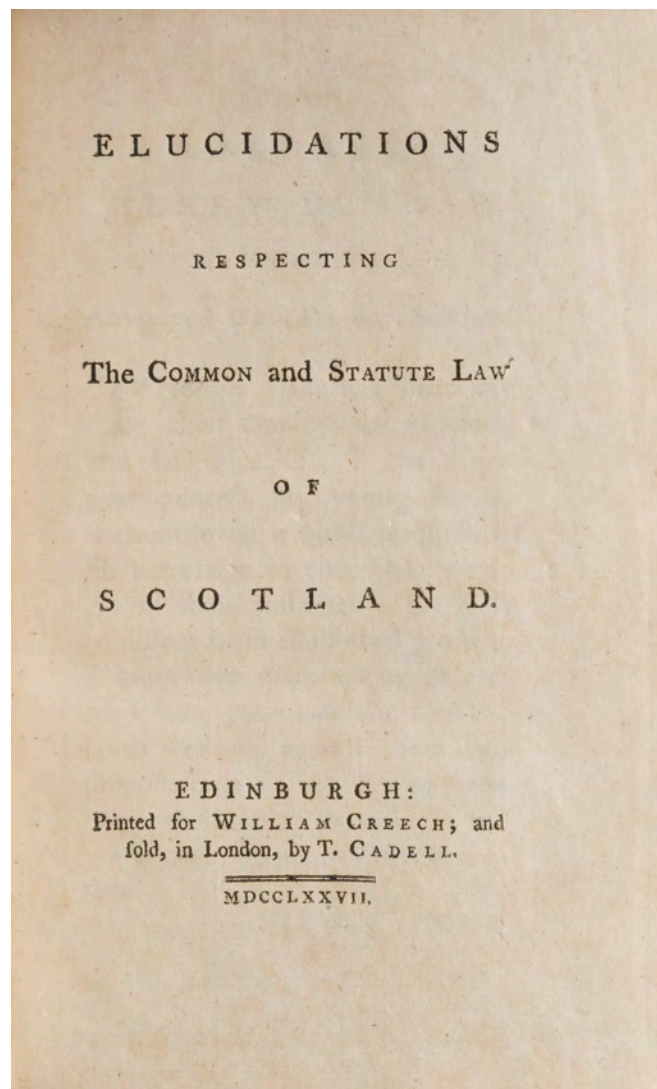
Contemporary full calf, spine with raised bands framed in gilt, contrasting lettering piece, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing to boards, somewhat heavier wear along extremities, small area of faint residue near head of spine, corners bumped. Early ownership signature of Charles Scott to front free endpaper; early ink markup ("nt") to front pastedown. Text block crisp and clean. A handsome, unrestored copy. \$950.

* First Edition. Lord Kames's final major legal treatise, written as an analytical critiquing mechanism rather than a traditional digest: "As my intention is only to give examples of reasoning, free from the shackles of authority, I pretend not to say what our law actually is, but what it ought to be" (p. xiii).

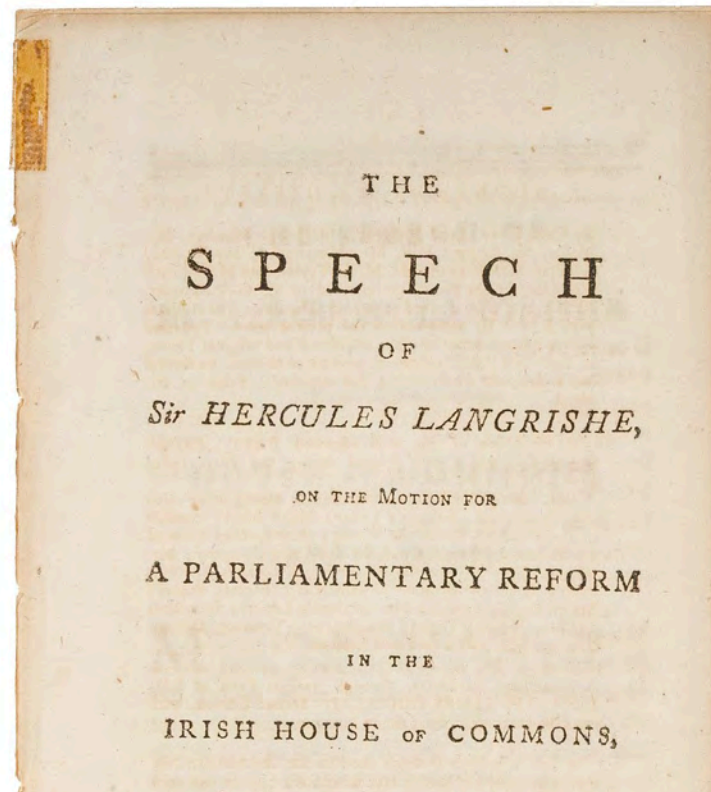
A central figure of the Scottish Enlightenment, Home served as a judge on the Court of Session and exerted a profound influence on contemporaries including David Hume, Adam Smith, and James Boswell.

Issued by William Creech, the preeminent Edinburgh publisher of the Enlightenment. A second and final edition appeared posthumously in 1800.

English Short-Title Catalogue T32628.



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An Irish Politician Speaks Against Catholic Franchise Reform

12. Langrishe, Sir Hercules [1729-1811].

The Speech of Sir Hercules Langrishe, On the Motion for a Parliamentary Reform in the Irish House of Commons, On Thursday, April 28, 1785. [London]: Printed by T. North, Little Tower-Street, [1785?]. [ii], 21, [1] pp. Octavo (8" x 5"; 20.7 x 12.9 cm).

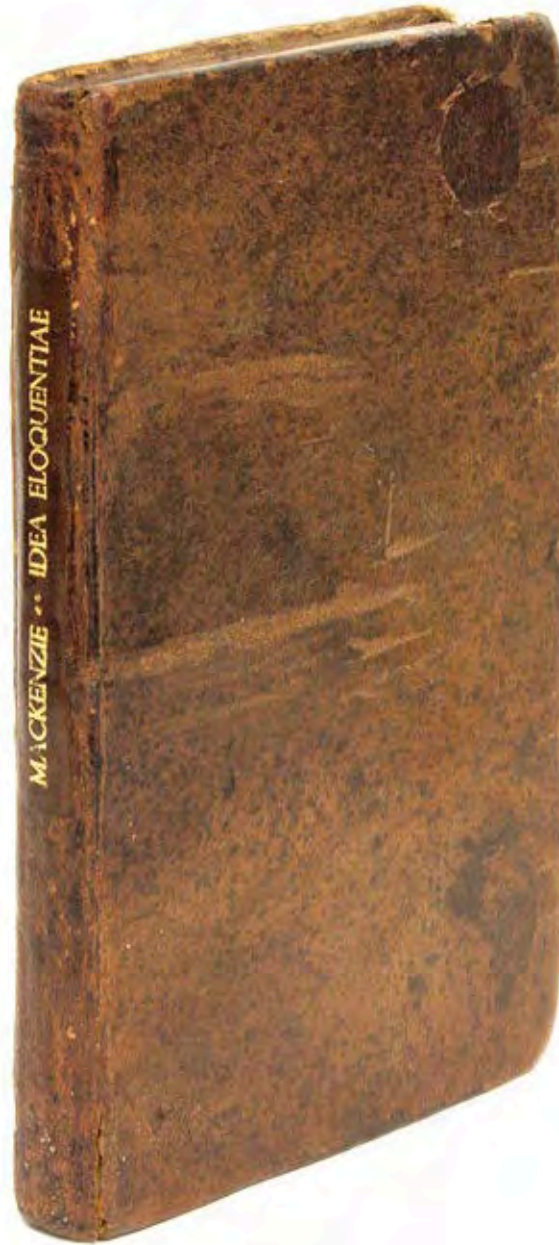
Disbound pamphlet. Light toning, cellotape residue to spine ends, leaves separating, first leaf detached. \$250.

* Only edition. Sir Hercules Langrishe, 1st Baronet, was a long-serving member of the Irish House of Commons representing Knocktopher from 1761 until the Act of Union in 1800. While Langrishe supported early Catholic relief measures regarding land ownership and property rights, he strongly opposed Henry Flood's motion for parliamentary reform and the extension of the political franchise to Irish Catholics in 1785. As noted in the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Langrishe resisted extending voting rights at this time "because, he felt, the resultant democracy would subvert the minority protestant administration in Ireland."

Langrishe's stance evolved over the following decade, largely owing to his close personal friendship and correspondence with Edmund Burke. Burke's seminal Letter to Sir Hercules Langrishe (1792) urged Langrishe to reconsider Catholic franchise rights as a necessary bulwark against radical revolution. Influenced by Burke, Langrishe subsequently introduced the landmark Irish Catholic Relief Act of 1792, which permitted Catholics to practice law and intermarry with Protestants.

"Langrishe, Sir Hercules, first baronet," *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (accessed online). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N24914.

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**The Very First Treatise on Court Oratory
and Legal Advocacy Published in the British Isles**

13. Mackenzie, Sir George [1636-1691].

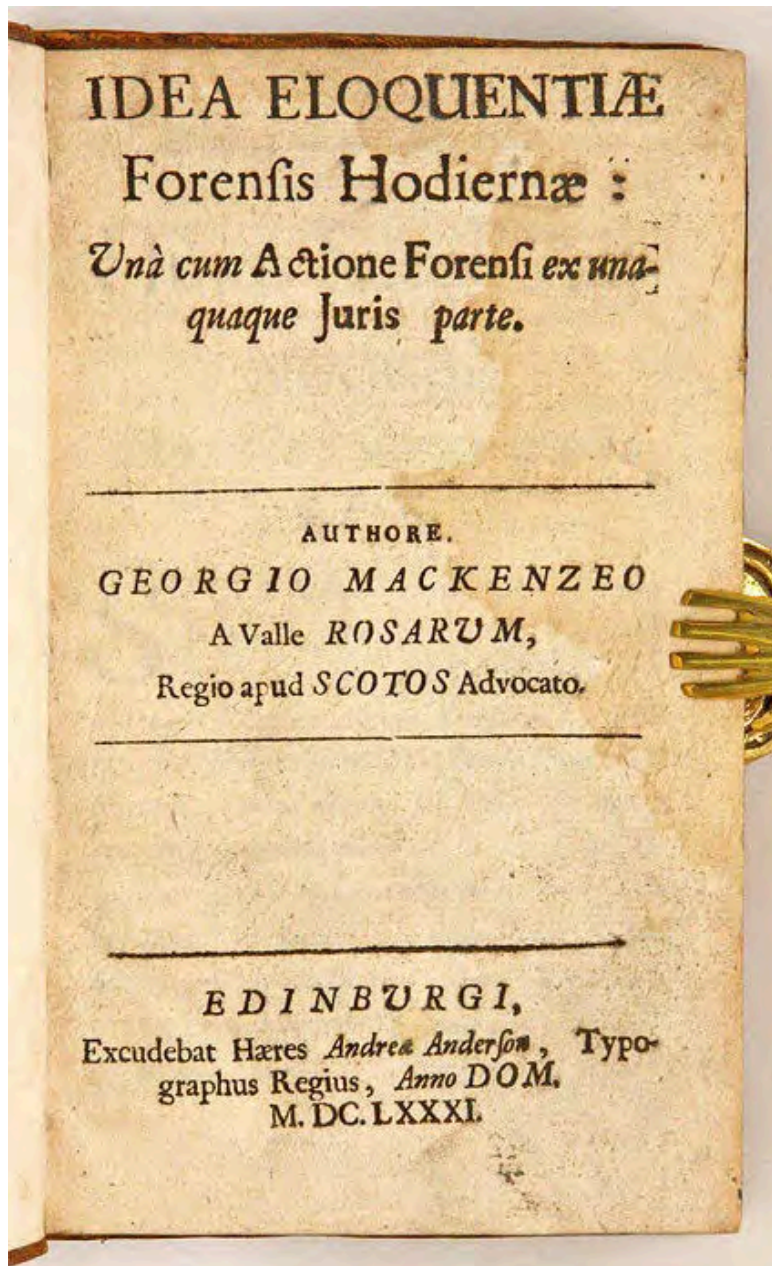
Idea Eloquentiae Forensis Hodiernae: Una cum Actione Forensi ex Unaquaque Juris Parte. Edinburgh: Excudebat Haeredes Andreae Anderson, 1681. [xii], 182 pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4"; 16.5 x 10.2 cm).

Contemporary sheep, later calf lettering piece to spine. Moderate rubbing to extremities, some shallow nicks and scuffs to boards, front joint just starting at foot, corners and lightly worn, rear free endpaper neatly removed. Moderate toning and some crinkling to text, faint dampstaining to upper corners of preliminaries. An appealing copy of a scarce title. \$1,500.

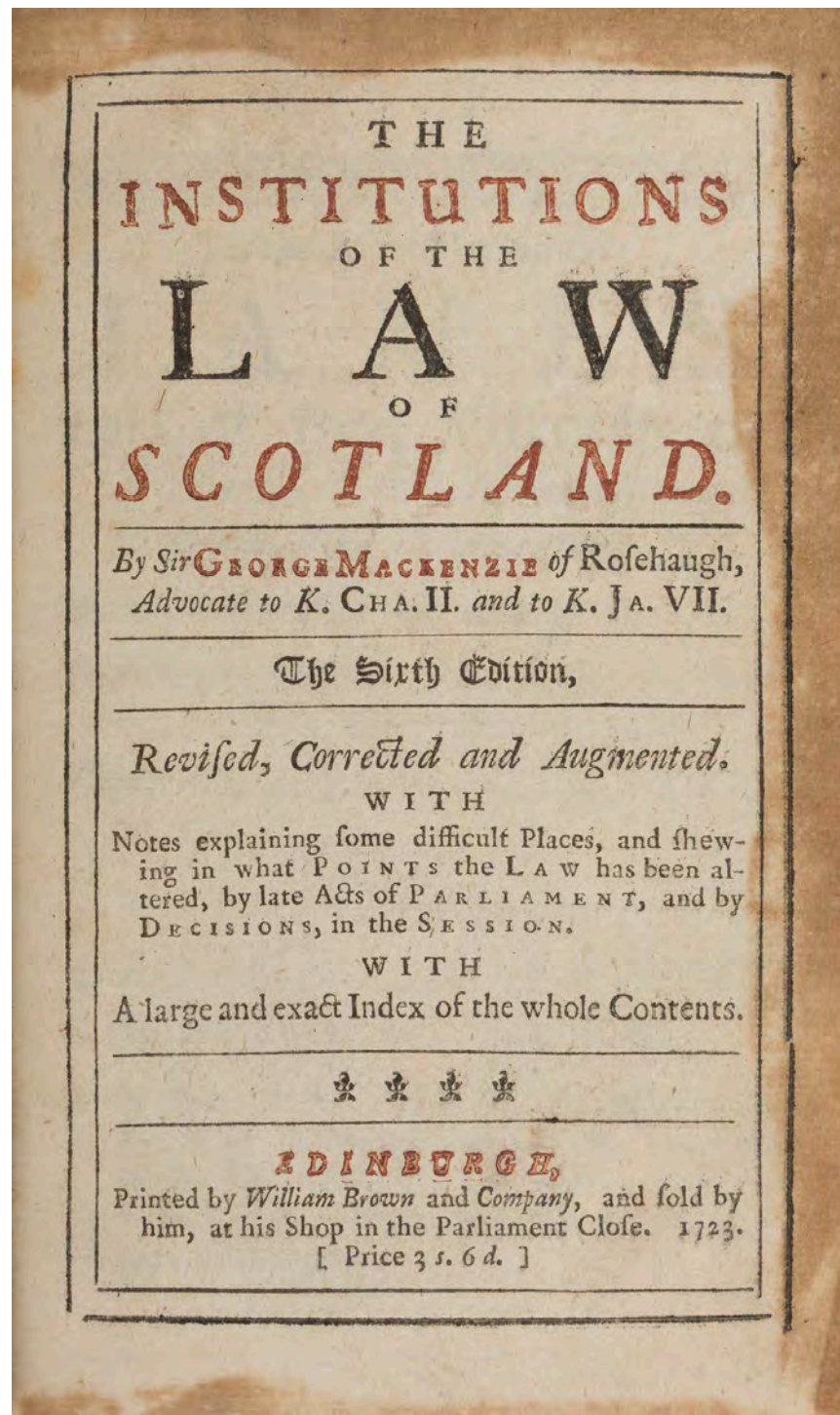
* First edition. Sir George Mackenzie's *Idea Eloquentiae Forensis Hodiernae* (1681) is a rare and historical item. It represents the very first treatise on court oratory and legal advocacy published in the British Isles. It is a seminal Scottish text establishing formal rules and principles for courtroom advocacy (forensic eloquence).

Sir George Mackenzie was a brilliant legal scholar who founded the Advocates Library in Edinburgh (which formed the nucleus of the National Library of Scotland). However, during his tenure as Lord Advocate under Charles II and James VII, his ruthless prosecution of Covenanters earned him the notorious moniker "Bloody Mackenzie." Extremely rare on the market. OCLC locates 3 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, UC-Berkeley).

OCLC locates 3 copies in North American law libraries (Harvard, Library of Congress, UC-Berkeley). Walker, *Oxford Companion to Law* 792. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R11799.



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Early 18th-Century Legal Lexicography: Mackenzie's *Institutions* with Dictionary of Scots Law Words

14. Mackenzie, Sir George [1636-1691].

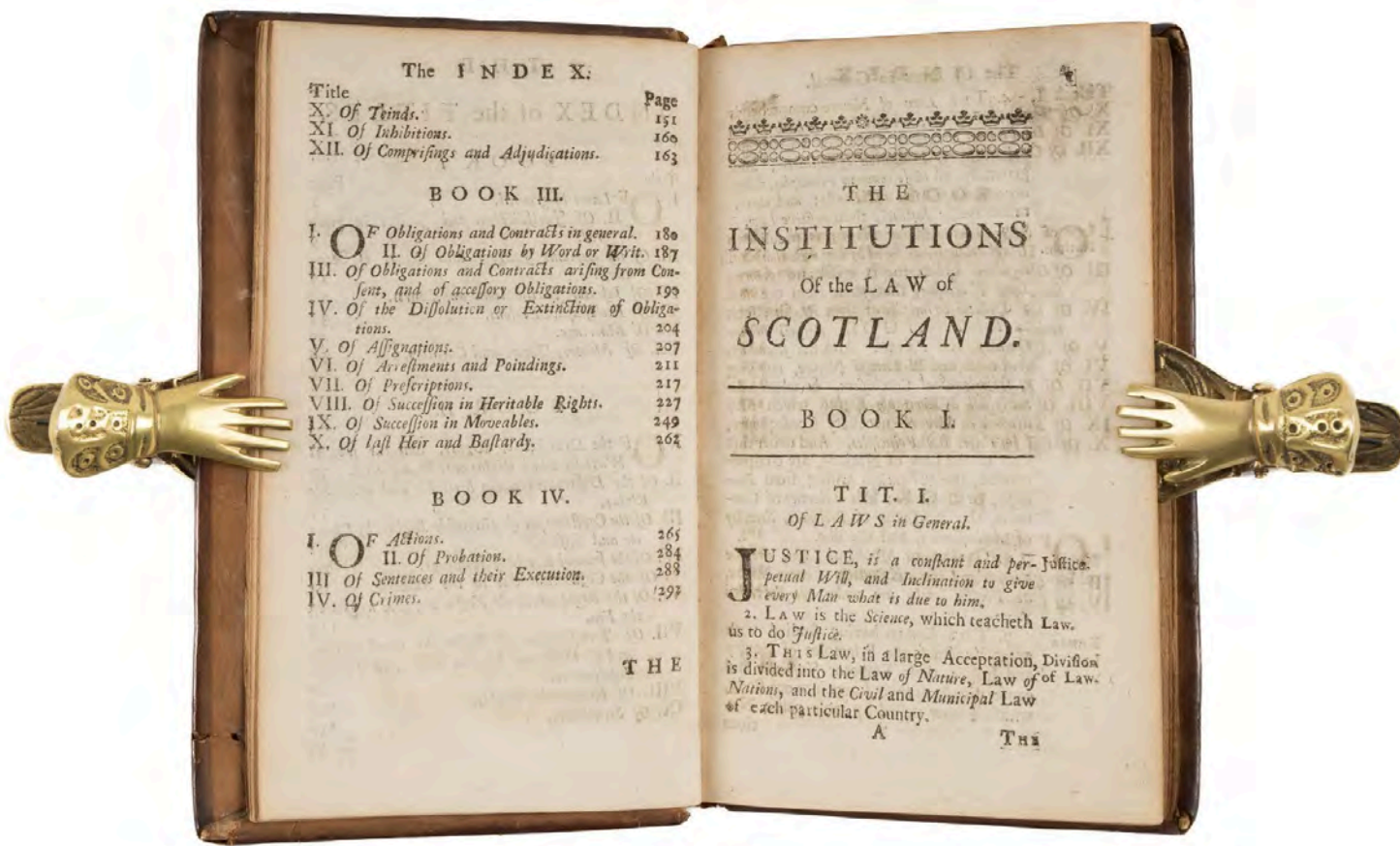
The Institutions of the Law of Scotland. Revised, Corrected and Augmented. With Notes Explaining Some Difficult Places, And Shewing in What Points the Law Has Been Altered, By Late Acts of Parliament, And by Decisions, In the Session. With a Large and Exact Index of the Whole Contents. Edinburgh: Printed by William Brown and Company, and sold by him, at his Shop in the Parliament Close, 1723. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4"; 16.7 x 10 cm). [x], 303, [29] pp.

Contemporary speckled calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands and original gilt lettering piece to spine, blind tooling to board edges, edges of text block speckled. A few small nicks to rear board, moderate rubbing to extremities, top of spine with half-inch chip, corners bumped and worn, rear hinge starting. Title page printed in red and black, woodcut head and tail-pieces. Moderate toning to interior, faint offsetting to edges of first few leaves. A very good copy in a contemporary Scottish binding. \$650.

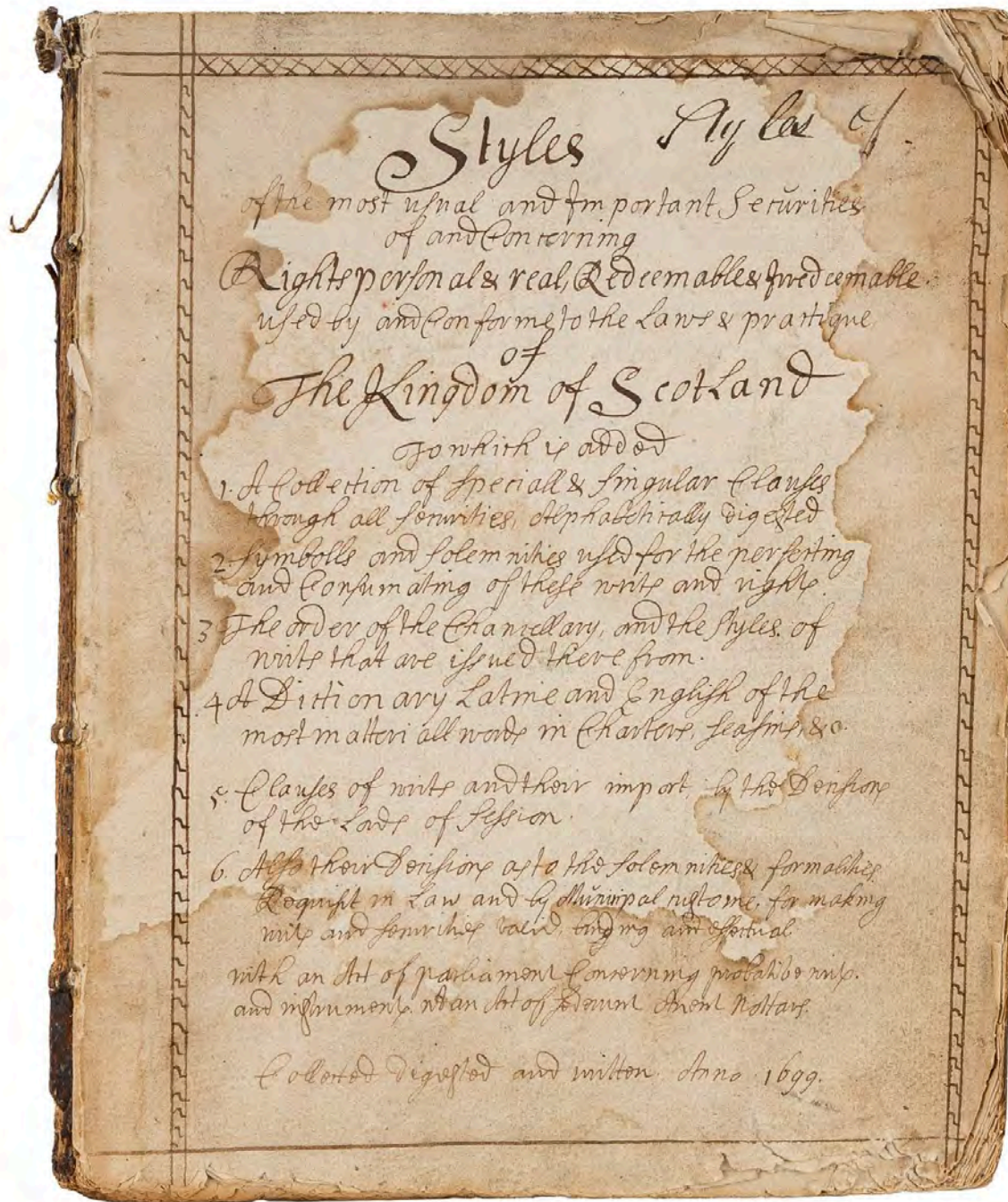
* Sixth edition. First published in 1684, Mackenzie's *Institutions* served as the primary textbook for Scottish legal education for nearly 75 years until the publication of John Erskine's *Institutions* in 1758. This 1723 edition is historically significant as it represents the law of Scotland in the critical window following the Acts of Union (1707). The revisions and augmentations reflect the integration of new Acts of Parliament and decisions from the Court of Session, illustrating how Scots law maintained its distinct identity within the burgeoning British state. Sir George Mackenzie, known both as the founder of the Advocates Library (now the National Library of Scotland) and as "Bloody Mackenzie" for his relentless prosecution of the Covenanters, was a pre-eminent jurist of his era. Notably, he took a skeptical view of witchcraft trials from 1661 to 1663, arguing that many of the accused were innocent victims of hysteria.

This edition is particularly valuable for its inclusion of an early dictionary of "Scots Law Words," providing a lexicographical window into 18th-century legal Scotticisms. Its imprint at "Parliament Close" places the book's origin at the literal heart of the Scottish legal world.

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. Marke, *Catalogue of the Law Collection at New York University* 251. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T57563.



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Only Known Copy of A Scholarly Scottish Manuscript Style Book

15. [Manuscript].
[Scotland].

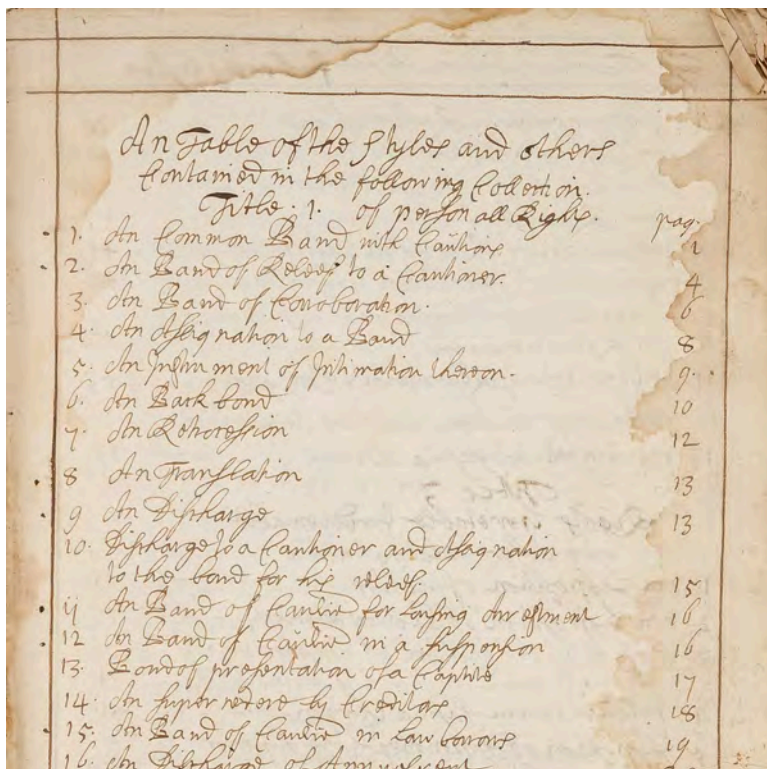
Styles of the Most Usual and Important Securities of and Concerning Rights Personal and Real, Redeemable & Irredeemable, Used by and Conforme to the Law & Practique of The Kingdom of Scotland. [Scotland]: Collected, Digested and Written Anno 1699. [xviii], 248 pp. Quarto (8" x 6-1/4"; 20.3 x 15.9 cm).

Disbound, moderate toning, dampstaining and wear to edges of text block, which is split between pp. 208 and 209, charring to fore-edges of pp. 203-248 with minor loss to text, but not meaning, repairs to a few burned leaves. Title page and text within ruled borders. Text in neat hand, later owner inscription, "Liber Davidson, Esq." to foot of p. 248. Item housed in custom cardboard archival box. \$4,500.

* Likely a copy of a book that circulated in manuscript, and which was never printed, this appears to have been the work of a practitioner with an interest in scholarship. It has a title page that simulates a printed example, a table of contents, an 18-page glossary of Latin terms with English translations, which is called a dictionary, and an 18-page preface that traces the evolution of agreements from the verbal promises of "the first Ages of the World" to "written, Evident, Chirography, hand writing" and the practice of "our nation of Scotland." The preface draws an interesting connection between secular education and the promotion of "subtily" and "deceit" and presents the subsequent collection of styles as a corrective.

The contents are summarized on the title page: "1. A Collection of Speciall & Singular Clauses through all securities, Alphabetically Digested. 2. Symbolles and Solemnities used for the perfecting and Consumating of these writs and rights. 3. The order of the Chancellary, and the styles of writs that are issued therefrom. 4. A Dictionary Latine and English of the most matteriall words in Charters, Leasing &c. 5. Clauses of writs and their import by the Decisions of the Lords of Session. 6. Also their Decisions as to the Solemnities & formalities Requisite in Law and by Municipal custome, for making writs and securities valid, binding and effectual. With an Act of Parliament Concerning probative writs and instruments & an Act of Sederunt Anent Nottars."

We were not able to locate another copy of our manuscript. This is not surprising because pre-Union style books are rare. The earliest known example is that compiled by Oliver Colt, c. 1600, which is held by the National Archives of Scotland. Written eight years before the Act of Union with England, this manuscript offers a notably thorough summary of purely Scottish practice in its final phase. The compiler demonstrates a belief in the systematic organization of law and correct legal practice, as well as a keen sense of Scottish identity.



An Table of the Styles and others contained in the following Collection.	
Title	Page
1. An Common Band with Canthors	1
2. An Band of Release to a Canthor	4
3. An Band of Conoboration	6
4. An dlag nation is a Band	8
5. An imprisonment of imprisonment	9
6. An Bark Bond	10
7. An Release	12
8. An Translation	13
9. An Diplomas	13
10. Diplomas for a Canthor and dlag nation to the Band for his relief	15
11. An Band of Canthor for buying an offment	16
12. An Band of Canthor in a supposition	16
13. Bond of presentation of a Canthor	17
14. An supposition by Canthor	18
15. An Band of Canthor in Law Canthor	19
16. An Release of Amundment	20

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County of ...
 The Information of Margaret Jackson of Tonduff in
 the County of ... given before me Gilbert Fitz Gerald
 Esq^r one of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for S. Conn by
 the 25 day of June 1807 —

Informant saith that on the Evening of the 26th Nov^r,
 as she was driving sheep in the Mountain of Tonduff, &c.
 she was met by Miles Barron of Tonduff Esq^r, who took
 a hold of her and threw her down then opened his small
 clothes Inform^t asked him what he was going to do he
 answered he would rape her then extending her legs and
 endeavoring to force something into her Body and struggled
 with her near an hour Inform^t still screaming and telling him
 that she would discover his treatment to her Master that there
 he is Miles Barron let her go for a while and took hold of
 her a second time and then seized Inform^t by the thighs and
 laid them asunder and closed himself into her ^{and} from the
 pain she suffered at that time and for a long time after
 she believes that he forced something into her Body as she
 was a long time unable to walk or even to stand on her
 limbs taken the day and year last above written —

I did not swear Informant to this Information, as she
 appeared to be intirely ignorant of the nature of an oath but
 the facts are strongly corroborated by other evidence & I am
 inclined to give credit to her assertions — Gilbert Fitz Gerald

"I Am Inclined to Give Credit to Her Assertions": An Irish Magistrate's Defense of an 1807 Rape Victim

16. [Manuscript].

[Trial].

[Ireland].

[*Account of a Rape*]. [County Carlow, Ireland, June 25, 1807]. 11" x 7" (27.9 x 17.8 cm) leaf, docketed on verso.

Horizontal fold lines, light browning and edgewear. Annotations by presiding magistrate to foot of recto and sections of verso. \$1,500.

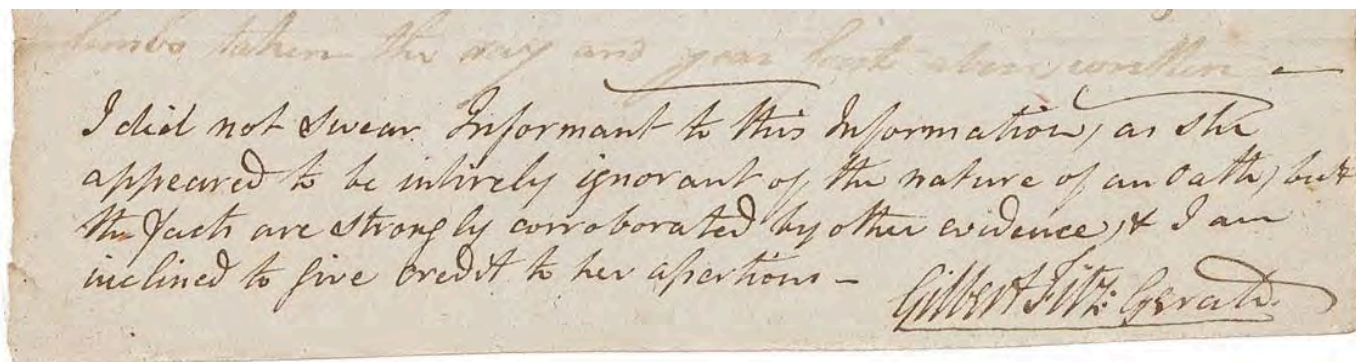
* A powerful and hauntingly detailed original sworn manuscript record detailing an account of sexual violence in rural County Carlow, paired with a rare, candid commentary by the presiding local magistrate regarding the legal competence and credibility of the female victim.

Taken before Gilbert Fitzgerald, a prominent local Magistrate of the Peace, this manuscript records the direct testimony of Margaret Janson regarding an assault by Myles Barin. The body of the information vividly captures the victim's contemporaneous narrative: "[Myles Barin] opened his small cloths, informant asked him what he was going to do to her he answered he would ride her then extending her legs and endeavouring to force something into her body and struggled with her near an hour."

In 19th-century Irish and British common law, victims of sexual crime faced formidable legal obstacles, often compounding the trauma of the assault itself. Female testimony was frequently met with deep skepticism, stringent requirements for physical corroboration, and strict adherence to oaths that marginalized uneducated or illiterate witnesses.

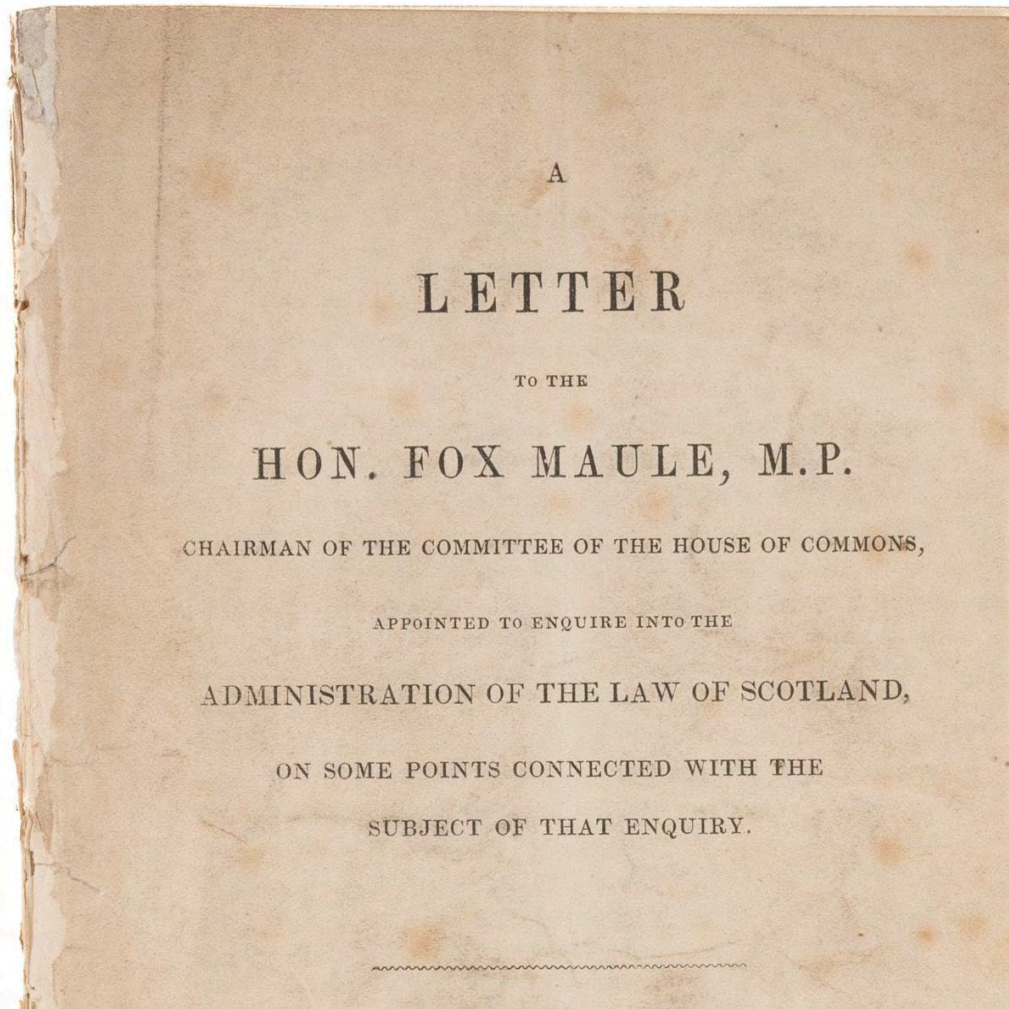
What elevates this document from a routine legal record to a remarkable artifact of historical criminal justice is Magistrate Fitzgerald's handwritten commentary appended directly to the foot of the document: "I did not swear Informant to this Information, as she appeared to be entirely ignorant of the nature of an Oath, but the facts are strongly corroborated by other evidence and I am inclined to give credit to her assertions."

Fitzgerald's willingness to bypass strict procedural religious swearing while explicitly validating Janson's truthfulness reflects a rare moment of judicial empathy and flexibility. His note bridges the gap between official legal reluctance and the practical reality of rural Irish testimony, providing vital context for historians of women's history, early legal precedent, and societal attitudes toward sexual crime during the Georgian era.



The image shows a close-up of a handwritten manuscript on aged, slightly stained paper. The handwriting is in cursive, written in dark ink. The text is a commentary by a magistrate, Gilbert Fitzgerald, regarding a case. The visible text reads: "I did not swear Informant to this Information, as she appeared to be entirely ignorant of the nature of an Oath, but the facts are strongly corroborated by other evidence, & I am inclined to give credit to her assertions - Gilbert Fitzgerald". The paper has some horizontal fold lines and light browning, consistent with the description in the text.

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Scarce Tract on Judicial Reform in Scotland

17. A Member of the College of Justice.

A Letter to the Hon. Fox Maule, M.P., Chairman of the Committee of the House of Commons Appointed to Enquire into the Administration of the Law of Scotland, On Some Points Connected with the Subject of that Enquiry. Edinburgh: Sold by Adam and Charles Black, 1840. 51, [1] pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2"; 19.1 x 11.4 cm).

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet with red-speckled edges. Title page and following four leaves are detached (with the title page separated from the group). Features moderate toning, light foxing, and minor soiling on the outer leaves. \$250.

* Written during a period of intense parliamentary debate over the Scottish legal system, this tract specifically addresses proposed reductions in judicial staff. The author criticizes the political motivations driving the reform agenda and argues that effective administration of Scottish law requires maintaining or expanding, rather than decreasing, the bench.

The pamphlet is exceptionally scarce, with OCLC recording only 4 holding institution copies worldwide (including 2 in North America: University of Minnesota Law School and New York Public Library).

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A Statement of Parliamentary Principles to the People of North Wales

18. Middleton (Myddelton), Sir Thomas [1586-1666].

A Declaration Published by Sir Thomas Middleton Knight, Serjeant-Major-Generall, And Vice-Admirall for the Sixe Counties of North-Wales. Setting Forth the Illegality and Incongruity of a Pernicious Oath and Protestation, Imposed upon Many Peaceable Subjects Within the Said Counties (Who to Avoid Plundering or Imprisonment) Were Inforced to Take the Same, Whereby the Imposers of the Said Oath Endeavour Under Paine of Perjury, To Make the People to Renounce Their Owne Just Liberties, And the Benefit, And Protection of the Knowne Lawes, And to Submit to a Tyranicall, Arbitrary, And Slavish Government, Exercised by the Commissioners of Array. And Likewise, Setting Forth the Use and Intentions of the Forces Raised for the Service of the King and Parliament, Under the Command of the Said Sir Thomas Middleton, The Benefit that the Country Shall Receive by Their Protection: And What They are to Expect that Contemne Their Power. London: Printed for Io: Thomas, 1644. [ii], 6 pp. Woodcut portrait of Middleton on horseback to verso of title page, later lithograph portrait of Middleton inserted before title page. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-3/4"; 19.1 x 14.6 cm).

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into nineteenth-century pebbled cloth, gilt title to center of front board. A few tiny stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with some wear to spine ends and corners. Title printed within typographical border, title and text ruled in red ink. Moderate toning and light foxing, faint inkstains to margins. \$1,750.

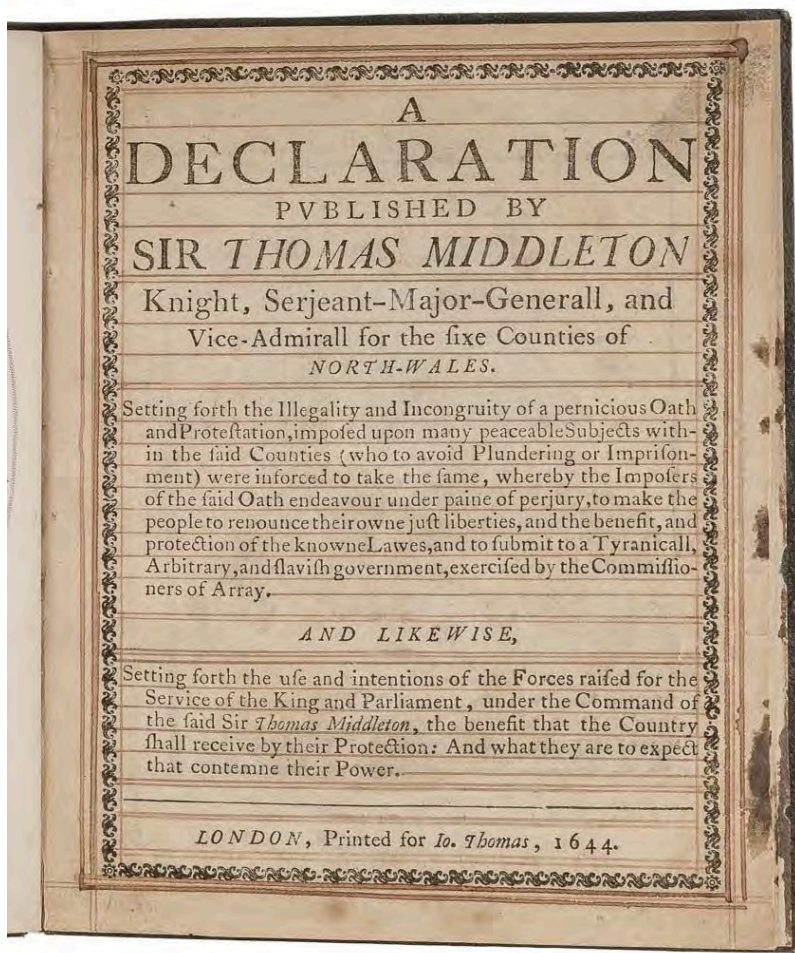
* Only edition of this landmark Civil War manifesto issued to the populace of North Wales by the Parliamentary commander Sir Thomas Middleton (Myddelton).

Following the outbreak of the First English Civil War, Middleton—a prominent Welsh politician, merchant, and Member of Parliament—was appointed Sergeant-Major-General and Vice-Admiral over the six counties of North Wales. Tasked with establishing Parliamentary authority in a region staunchly loyal to Charles I, Middleton encountered intense military and ideological resistance from Royalist forces and local Commissioners of Array.

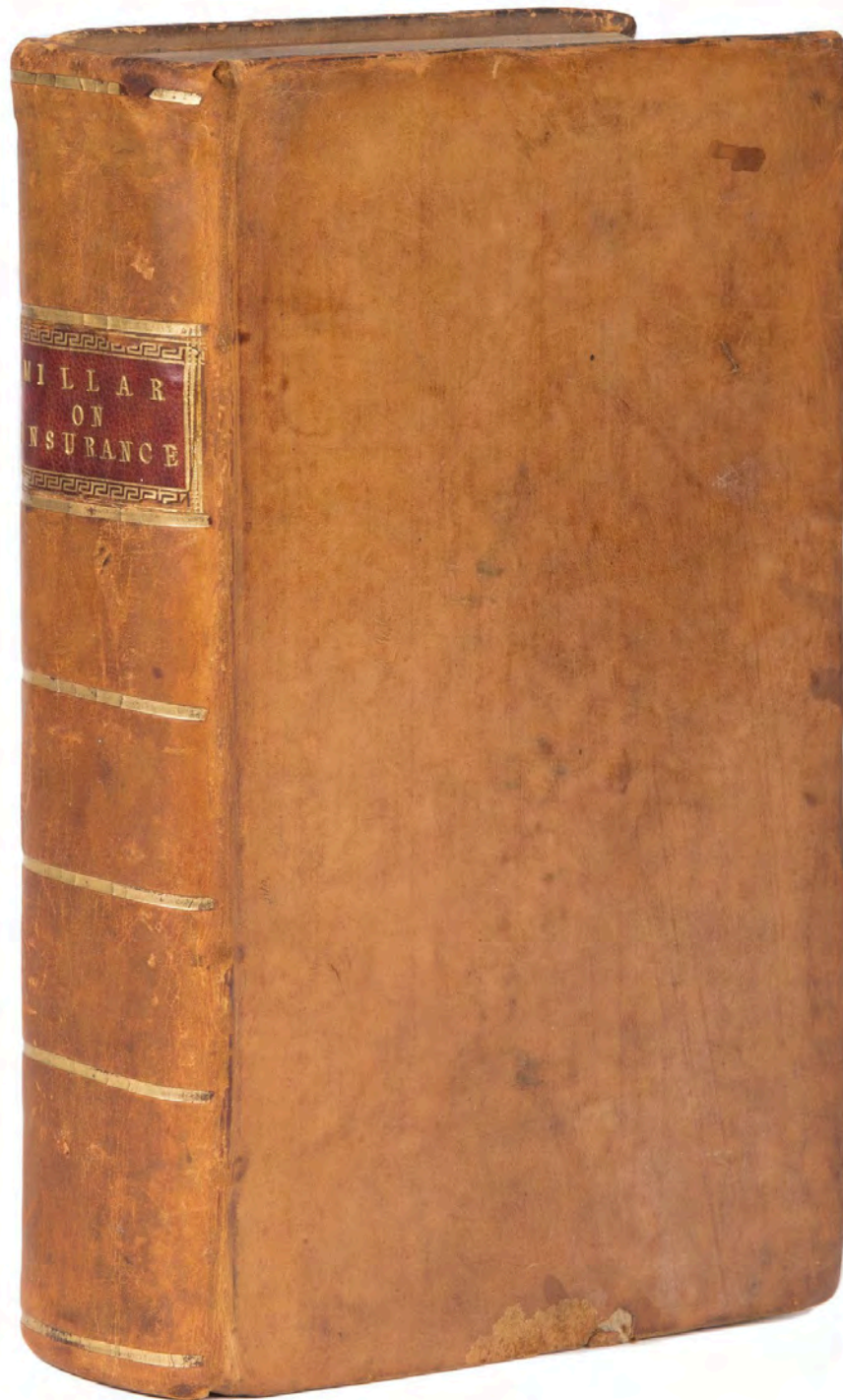
In this fiery manifesto, Middleton addresses local civilians forced to take a Royalist oath of allegiance under threat of imprisonment or plunder. He denounces the oath as an illegal, tyrannical tool designed to strip citizens of their constitutional protections under the "knowne lawes." Articulating the broader Parliamentary stance, Middleton presents his army not as an invading force, but as defenders of Protestantism, civil liberties, and the joint authority of King and Parliament.

Beyond its political rhetoric, the tract serves as a significant artifact of 17th-century propaganda, designed specifically for local distribution in Wales to win over a hesitant regional populace.

OCLC locates 3 copies, 2 in North America (Harvard University, McGill). The ESTC locates 12 copies, adding 4 more locations in North America (Folger Library, Huntington Library, Newberry Library, Yale). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R15187.



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**Exceptional Copy of a Scarce Treatise on Insurance
Praised For Its "Uncommon Judgment and Freedom of Inquiry"**

19. Millar, John [1760-1796].

Elements of the Law Relating to Insurances. Edinburgh: Printed for J. Bell, 1787. xi, 560, [6] pp. With errata leaf and cancel errata slip. Octavo (8" x 5"; 20.3 x 12.7 cm).

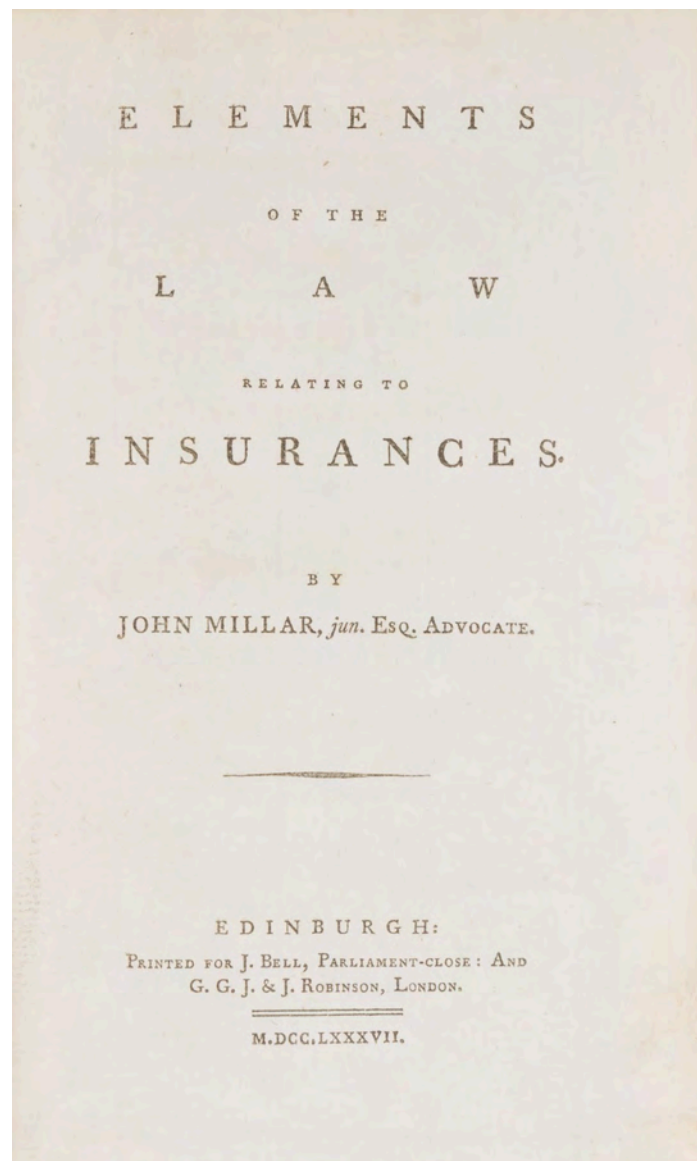
Tel: (800) 422-6686 or (732) 382-1800 | law@lawbookexchange.com | www.lawbookexchange.com

Contemporary calf, gilt fillets and lettering piece to spine, blind tooling to board edges, edges rouged. Light rubbing and a few scuffs and nicks to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, hinges starting, armorial bookplate (of James Brodie) to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, minor light foxing to a few leaves. With its rare errata leaf and cancel errata slip. A handsome copy of a scarce title. \$1,500.

* An exceptional first edition copy. Millar-son of the famous Scottish philosopher and jurist John Millar of Glasgow-produced one of the earliest systematic treatises synthesizing Scottish decisions, English common law, and Continental civilian legal theory on insurance.

Though noted by legal bibliographer J.G. Marvin for its "uncommon judgment and freedom of inquiry," the work saw limited commercial success, making surviving copies exceptionally scarce today (OCLC locates only 8 copies in legal institutions).

Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 513 (citing 20 *North American Review* 71). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T112830.



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THE
Administration of English Law
IN
Wales and the Marches.

A Dissertation

READ BEFORE THE REGIUS PROFESSOR OF CIVIL LAW
IN THE SCHOOLS AT OXFORD
ON THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 1900.

A Scarce Pamphlet by an Influential Welsh Antiquary

20. Owen, Henry, [1844-1919].

The Administration of English Law in Wales and the Marches: A Dissertation Read Before the Regius Professor of Civil Law in the Schools at Oxford on the Thirty-First Day of January, 1900. London: Printed for the author, 1900. 32 pp.

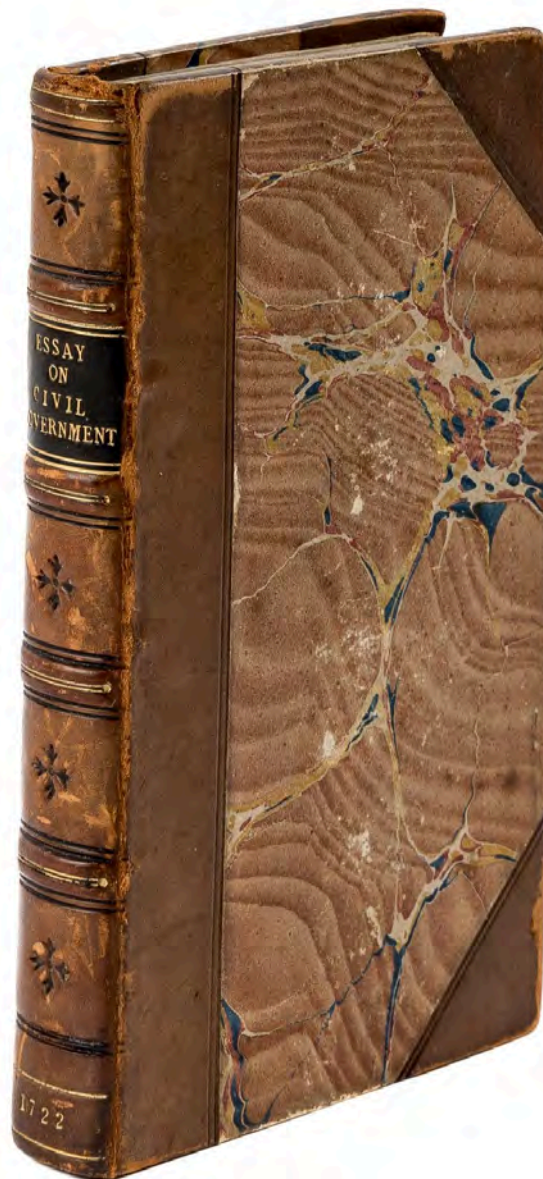
Original buckram printed oversized boards. Deckle edges. Worn and unevenly darkened. Ex-library with King's College, University of London bookplate to front pastedown. Property stamps to pastedowns, title page and 32 pp. Previous owner's contemporary signature to front free endpaper. Some adhesive residue to front free endpaper, otherwise internally clean. A good copy. \$250.

* The dissertation explores the complex legal evolution that integrated Wales into the English judicial system following the Edwardian conquest and the subsequent Tudor reforms including The Marcher Lordships, Acts of Union (1536 and 1543), Council of Wales and the Marches and the Court of Great Sessions.

Henry Owen, [1844-1919], was an influential Welsh antiquary and author and a prominent figure in the London-based Welsh cultural and antiquarian Cymmrodorion Society.

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**A Cornerstone of Jacobite Political Philosophy:
The First English Edition of Ramsay's *Essay upon Civil Government***

21. [Ramsay, Andrew Michael (1686-1743)].

An Essay Upon Civil Government: Wherein is Set Forth the Necessity, Origine, Rights, Boundaries, And Different Forms of Sovereignty. With Observations on the Ancient Government of Rome and England. According to the Principles of the Late Archbishop of Cambray. Translated from the French. London: Printed for Randal Minshull, 1722. [viii], [iii]-231, [1] pp. Pagination of preliminaries irregular, text complete. Publisher advertisements to last page. 12mo. (5-3/4" x 3-1/4"; 14.5 x 8.5 cm).

Later (nineteenth-century) three-quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands, gilt and blind fillets, blind ornaments and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, head of spine and corners lightly worn, faint offsetting to endpapers. Title page printed in red and black. Moderate toning to interior, occasional light (often very light) foxing, faint pencil marks to several leaves, early owner signature ("J. Brotherton") to head of title page, small ink library stamp ("of the Selbourne Library") to its verso. A very good copy. \$1,500.

* The first English edition of Andrew Michael Ramsay's seminal work on political theory, following its original French publication the previous year. A Scottish-born naturalized Frenchman and prominent Jacobite, Ramsay--often known as the Chevalier Ramsay--composed this treatise to promote a Stuart restoration to the British throne.

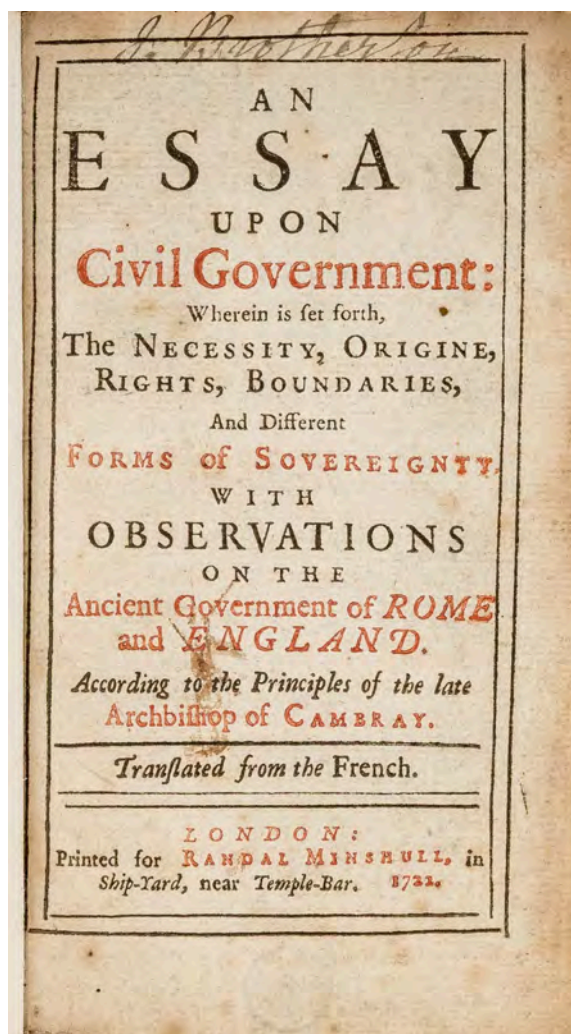
The text is presented as a synthesis of British political tradition and the philosophical principles of Ramsay's mentor, François Fénelon, the celebrated Archbishop of Cambray. In it, Ramsay argues for a monarchy moderated by an aristocratic senate, attacking the "excess of liberty" that he believed led to the revolutions of the 17th century.

Ramsay was the primary editor of Fénelon's papers and his first biographer. This book deliberately leverages Fénelon's massive international reputation for peace and justice to cloak Ramsay's own more absolutist and pro-Stuart agendas.

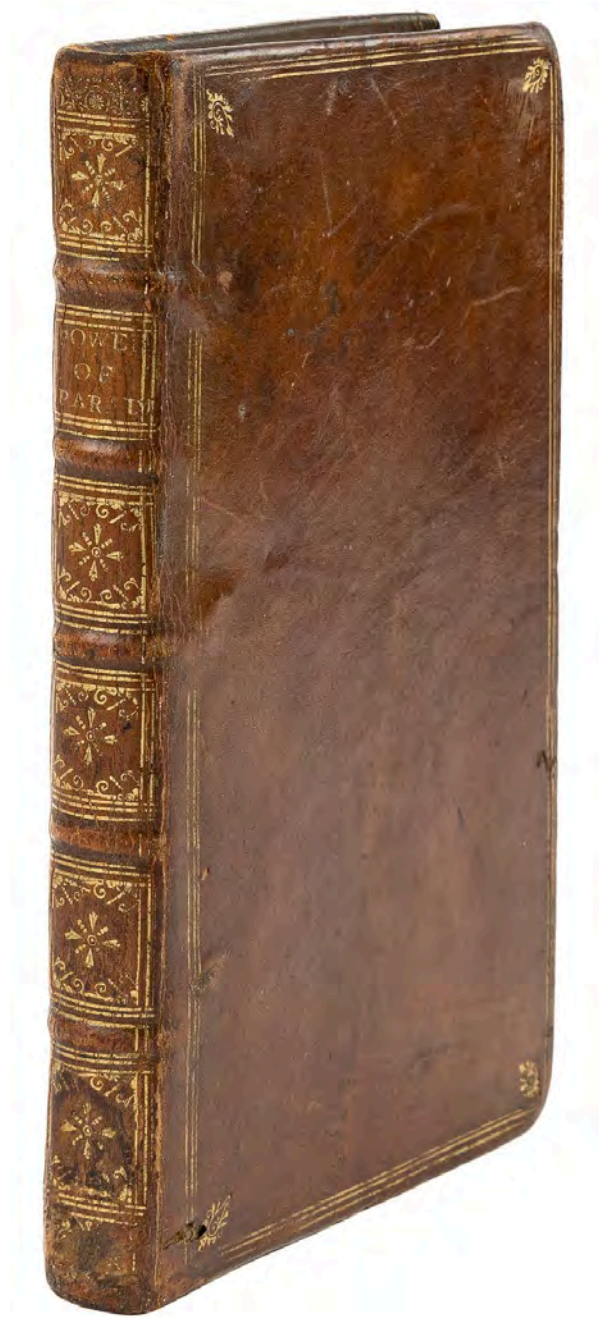
This work is a primary artifact of Jacobite political thought. Ramsay, who briefly served as tutor to the young "Bonnie Prince Charlie" (Charles Edward Stuart), used the *Essay* to provide a theoretical foundation for the return of James Stuart.

Despite its monarchist bent, the work is a significant "intellectual conduit" between French and British thought during the Early Enlightenment, blending the absolutism of Bossuet with British "Country" party critiques of parliamentary corruption.

Beyond his political career, Ramsay was a pivotal figure in early European Freemasonry, and his writings on universalism and moral philosophy influenced various 18th-century intellectual circles.



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"Antient" Scottish Limitations on Monarchy

22. [Ridpath, George (d.1723)].

An Historical Account of the Antient Rights and Power of the Parliament of Scotland. Humbly Offer'd to the Consideration of the Estates, When They Come to Settle Limitations for the Next Successor. To Which is Prefix'd, A Short Introduction upon Government in General. [Edinburgh]: S.n., 1703. xxxii, 160 pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2"; 19 x 11.4 cm).

Contemporary calf, gilt rules and corner fleurons to boards, gilt spine with raised bands and lettering piece, gilt tooling to board edges. Negligible light rubbing and a few minor nicks to boards, tiny worm hole near lower inside corner of front board, somewhat heavier rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, later owner signature (J.L. Weir, July 1936) to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, some offsetting to margins of endleaves. A very good copy. \$850.

* First and only edition. This pivotal constitutional treatise was published during the volatile lead-up to the Acts of Union (1707), which established Great Britain by uniting England, Scotland and Wales. Writing at a time when the future of the Scottish Crown and its relationship with England hung in the balance, Ridpath provides a scholarly yet politically charged defense of Scottish legislative independence.

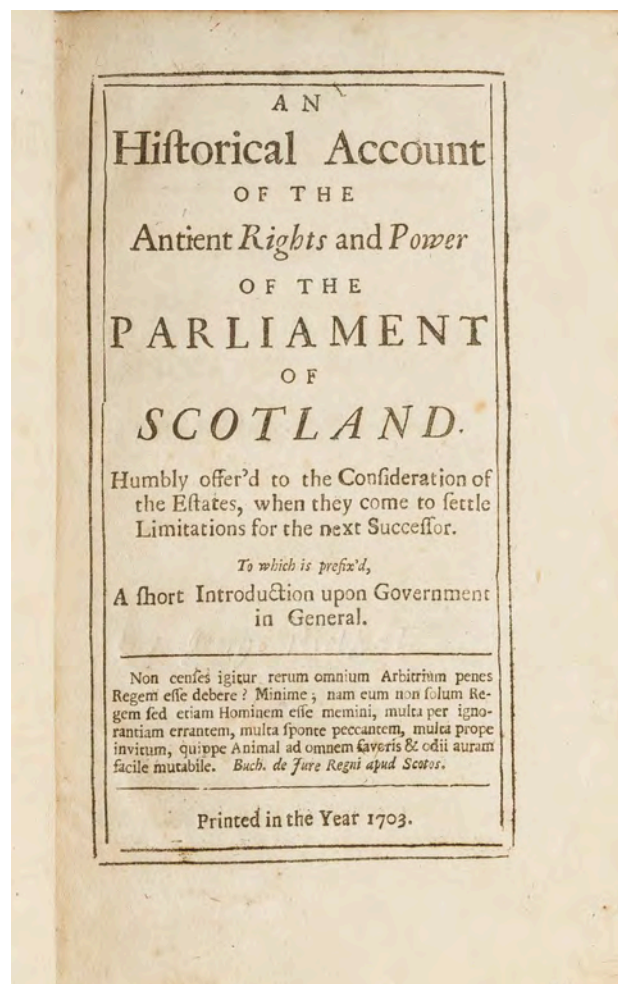
As a prominent Whig journalist, Ridpath explores historical precedents to argue that the Estates of Scotland possessed the inherent, "antient" right to impose limitations on the monarchy.

The work was a direct contribution to the fierce debates following the death of King William III, as the Scottish Parliament weighed the succession of Queen Anne and the potential for a separate Scottish monarch.

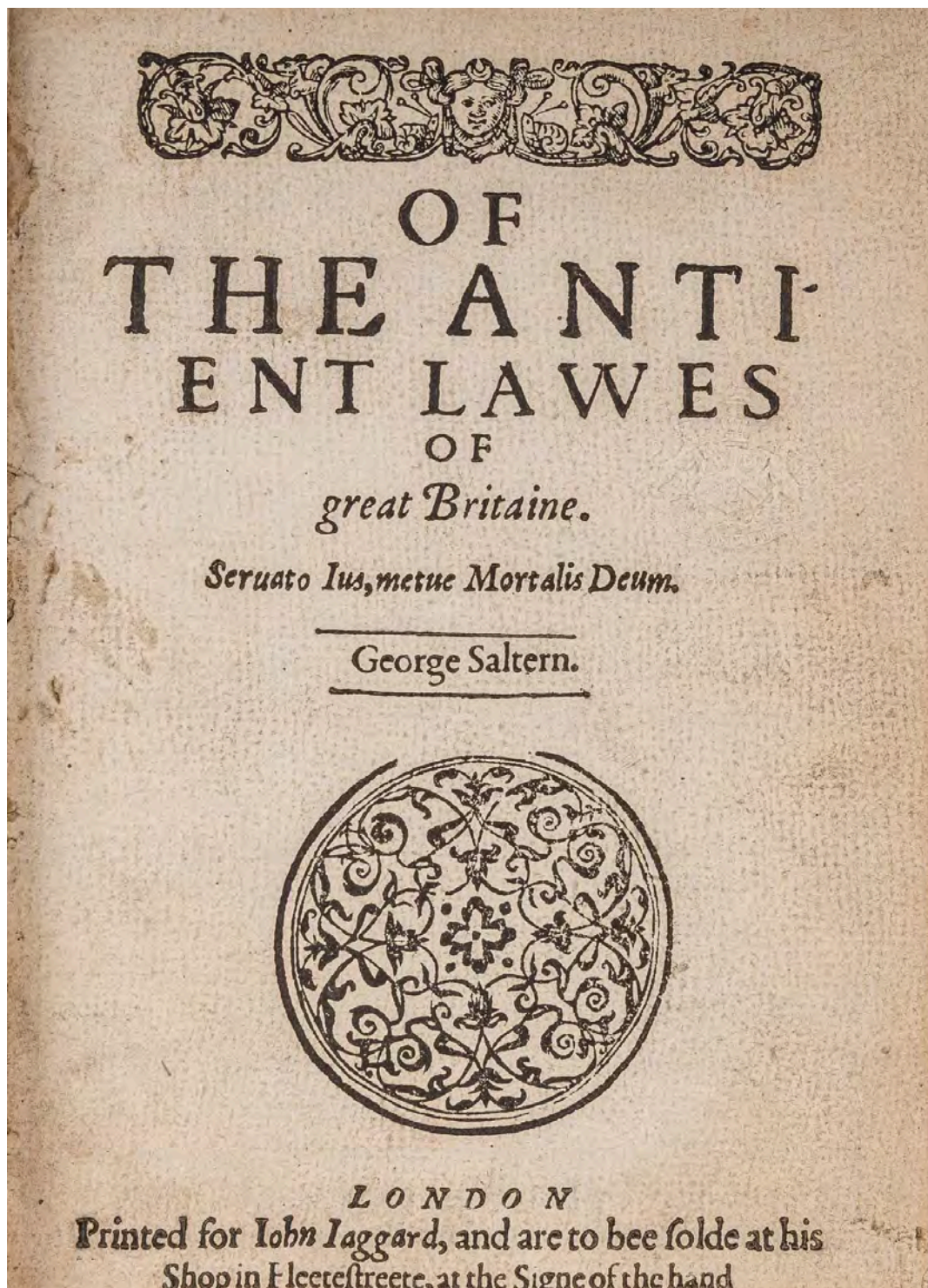
The text serves as a manifesto for the Presbyterian and radical Whig viewpoint, asserting that royal authority is legally bound by the "public good" rather than divine right.

While primarily attributed to George Ridpath, this work is closely aligned with the intellectual circle of Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun. It remains a primary source for the "Country Party" platform-the anti-unionist faction that sought to preserve Scottish sovereignty through a decentralized, limited monarchy.

English Short-Title Catalogue T78868.



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An Early Stuart Apologia for Legal Union Myth, Antiquity, and the Defense of "Ancient Liberties"

23. Saltern (Salteren), George.

Of the Antient Lawes of Great Britaine. London: Printed for Iohn Iaggard, And Are to bee Solde at His Shop in Fleetstreete, at the Signe of the Hand and Starre, 1605. Quarto (6-3/4" x 5"; 172 x 127 mm). [86] pp. Wanting initial blank A1; text complete.

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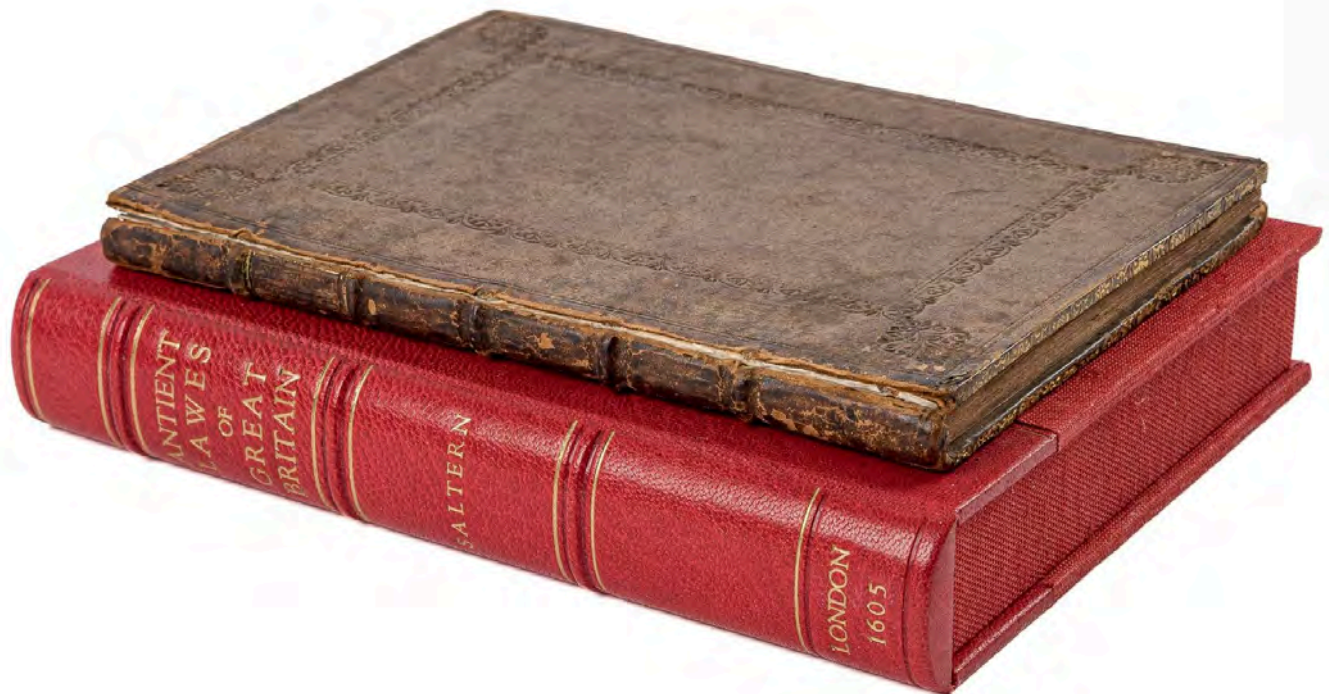
Later paneled calf, raised bands, red morocco lettering-piece, board edges gilt. Some rubbing and minor scuffing, more pronounced at extremities; front board detached. Early shelfmark and armorial bookplate of the Earls of Macclesfield to front pastedown. Moderate browning, with occasional light dampstaining and soiling. Margins trimmed, at places shaving signature marks, catchwords, and part of the imprint. Early annotations and underlining in a contemporary hand, occasionally affected by trimming. Discreet embossed Macclesfield stamps to title and following leaf. Housed in a crimson quarter morocco clamshell case. \$5,000.

* Only edition. Rare. A curious and ambitious contribution to the ideological literature surrounding the proposed Anglo-Scottish Union under James I. Writing at a moment of acute constitutional sensitivity, Saltern seeks to allay entrenched anxieties that incorporation would erode the "ancient liberties" of either realm. His strategy-distinctive among Unionist writers-is to posit not divergence but deep continuity: an inherited body of "antient lawes" shared by both kingdoms, extending (with characteristic early-Stuart antiquarian licence) from a pre-Roman past into the present.

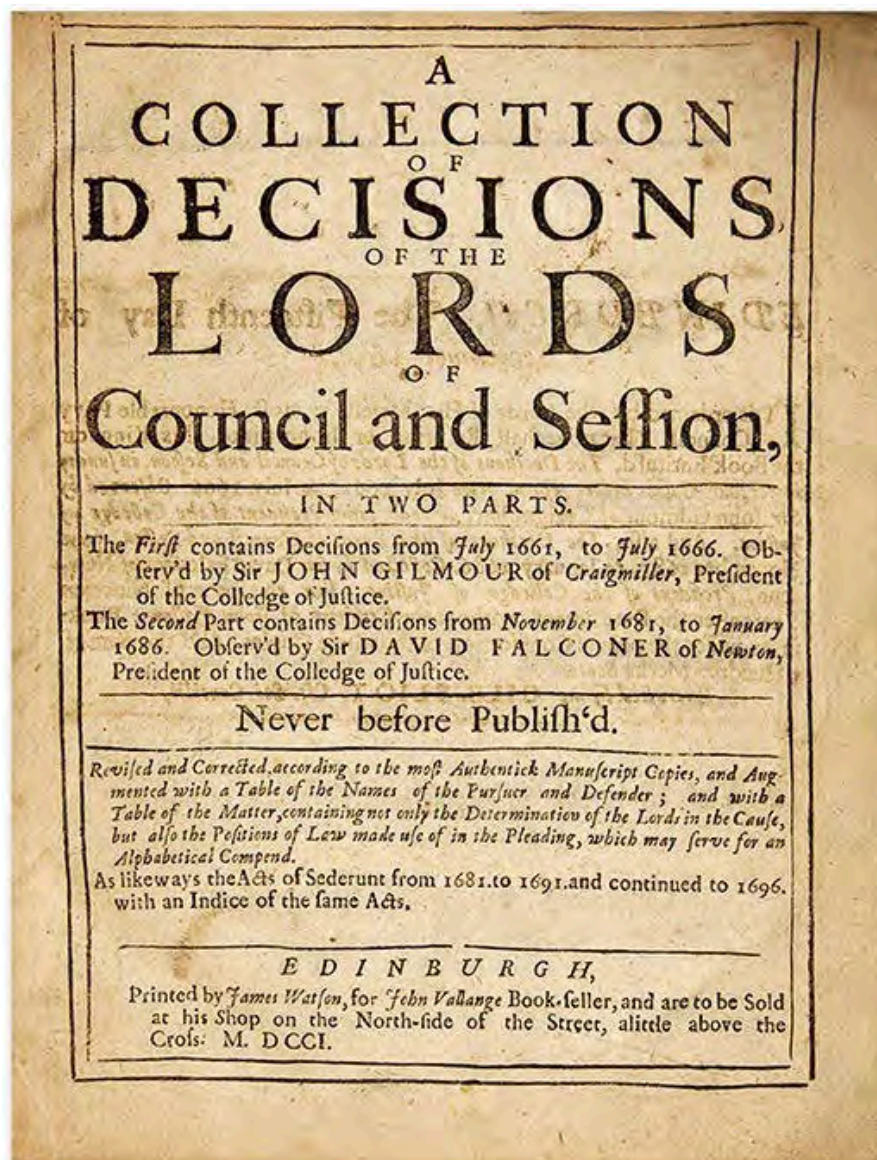
The tract thus belongs to that fertile intersection of legal humanism and political propaganda in the early seventeenth century, where history-frequently conjectural-was deployed in aid of present constitutional design. Its argument, though ultimately unpersuasive in its own moment, anticipates later efforts to articulate a common British legal identity prior to the statutory Union of 1707.

Provenance: The celebrated Macclesfield library at Shirburn Castle, one of the great aristocratic collections formed in the eighteenth century and long noted for the strength of its legal holdings.

Rare in commerce, with no recent market presence traced. *ESTC* S116514. OCLC records copies at a small number of institutional libraries (including Harvard, Yale, the Library of Congress, and others), with *ESTC* adding Columbia.



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A Seventeenth-Century Scottish "Case Book"

24. [Scotland].

[Court of Session].

[Vallange, John, Editor].

A Collection of Decisions, Of the Lords of Council and Session, In Two Parts. The First Contains Decisions From July 1661, To July 1666. Observ'd by Sir John Gilmour of Craigmiller, President of the Colledge of Justice. The Second Part Contains Decisions from November 1681, To January 1686. Observ'd by Sir David Falconer of Newton, President of the Colledge of Justice. Never Before Publish'd. Revised and Corrected, According to the Most Authentick Manuscript Copies, And Augmented with a Table of the Names of the Pursuer and Defender; And with a Table of the Matter, Containing not Only the Determination of the Lords in the Cause, But also the Positions of Law Made Use of in the Pleading, Which May Serve for an Alphabetical Compend. As Likewise the Acts of Sederunt from 1681 to 1691. And Continued to 1696. With an Indice of the Same Acts. Edinburgh: Printed by James Watson, For John Vallange Book-Seller, 1701. Quarto (8-1/4" x 6-3/4"; 21 x 17.1 cm). 8, [2], 136, [18]; [2], 80, [16]; [2], 32; 15, [3] pp. Three parts bound in one volume, each with its own title page, pagination, and index. Includes the original copyright slip pasted to the front endleaf and two errata slips pasted to the rear free endpaper.

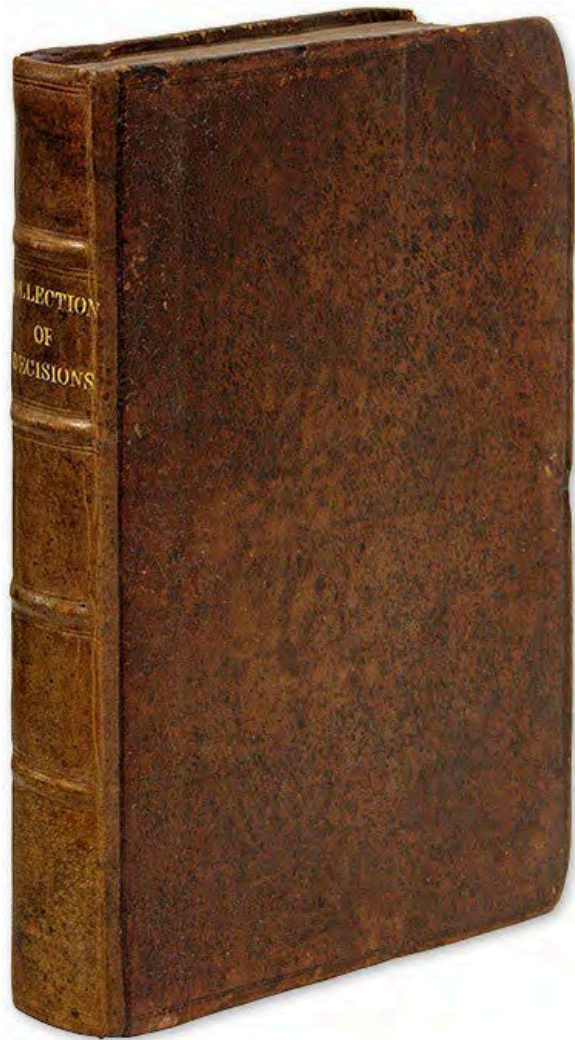
The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Irish, Scottish & Welsh Law September 1, 2026

Contemporary mottled calf, professionally rebaked in period-style plain calf with raised bands, blind rules to boards, and a gilt title label. Board edges lightly rubbed; corners bumped. Internal contents show moderate, uniform toning with scattered light foxing. The final index leaf of Part I is partially detached, with moderate edge wear and minor chipping not affecting legibility. Overall, a clean, sturdy, and well-preserved copy. \$750.

* This rare collection offers an invaluable window into Restoration- era Scots Law, compiling decisions reported by two prominent Presidents of the College of Justice: Sir John Gilmour of Craigmillar (1605-1671) and Sir David Falconer of Newton (1623-1685).

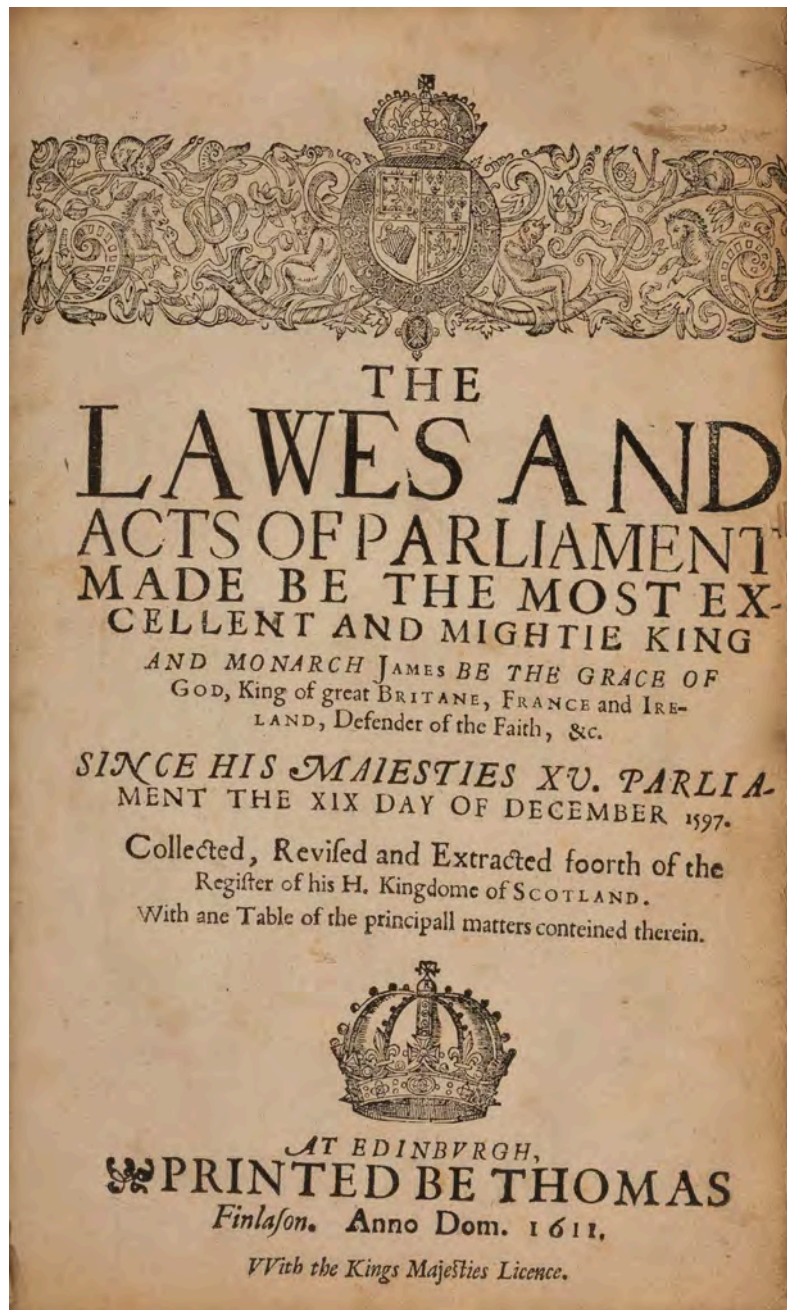
Beyond its utility as a law report, this work is historically significant as an early precursor to the modern legal casebook. Unlike standard report collections of the era, each decision is prefixed by a succinct statement detailing the underlying legal principles and arguments applied in the pleading. As noted on the title page, the comprehensive subject indexes were intentionally structured to include "not only the determination of the Lords in the cause, but also the positions of law made use of in the pleading, which may serve for an Alphabetical Compend"-effectively serving as an instructional manual and thematic digest for practicing advocates and law students alike.

English Short-Title Catalogue T78113.



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Scottish Acts from 1600-1609

25. [Scotland].

Skene, John [1543?-1617], Compiler.

The Lawes and Acts of Parliament Made be the Most Excellent and Mightie King and Monarch James be the Grace of God, King of Great Britane, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Since His Maiesties XV. Parliament the XIX Day of December 1597. Collected, Revised and Extracted Foorth of the Register of his H. Kingdome of Scotland. With ane Table of the Principall Matters Contained Therein. Edinburgh: Printed be Thomas Finlason, 1611. [i], 40, [2] ff. Folio (10-1/2" x 6-1/2"; 26.7 x 16.5 cm).

Recent quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets to calf edges, gilt fillets and title to spine, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing and slight fading to spine. Light toning to interior, light soiling and very light foxing in a few places, very light edgewear to first few leaves, tear to bottom-edge of f. 16 not affecting text, early annotations to ff. 17-19. \$750.

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The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. Irish, Scottish & Welsh Law September 1, 2026

* Only edition. This single-volume collection of Scottish statutes acts as a direct continuation of Sir John Skene's landmark 1597 compilation, *The Lawes and Actes of Parliament*. Printed in Edinburgh by Thomas Finlason-who succeeded Robert Waldegrave as King's Printer-this work codifies the primary legislation passed during a critical transitional era in British legal history.

The volume captures the sixteenth through twentieth Parliaments of King James VI of Scotland (1600-1609), a period spanning his accession to the English throne as James I in 1603 and his relocation to London.

Contains key acts restoring and regulating the Episcopal hierarchy in Scotland, reflecting James VI's effort to align Scottish ecclesiastical governance more closely with the Church of England.

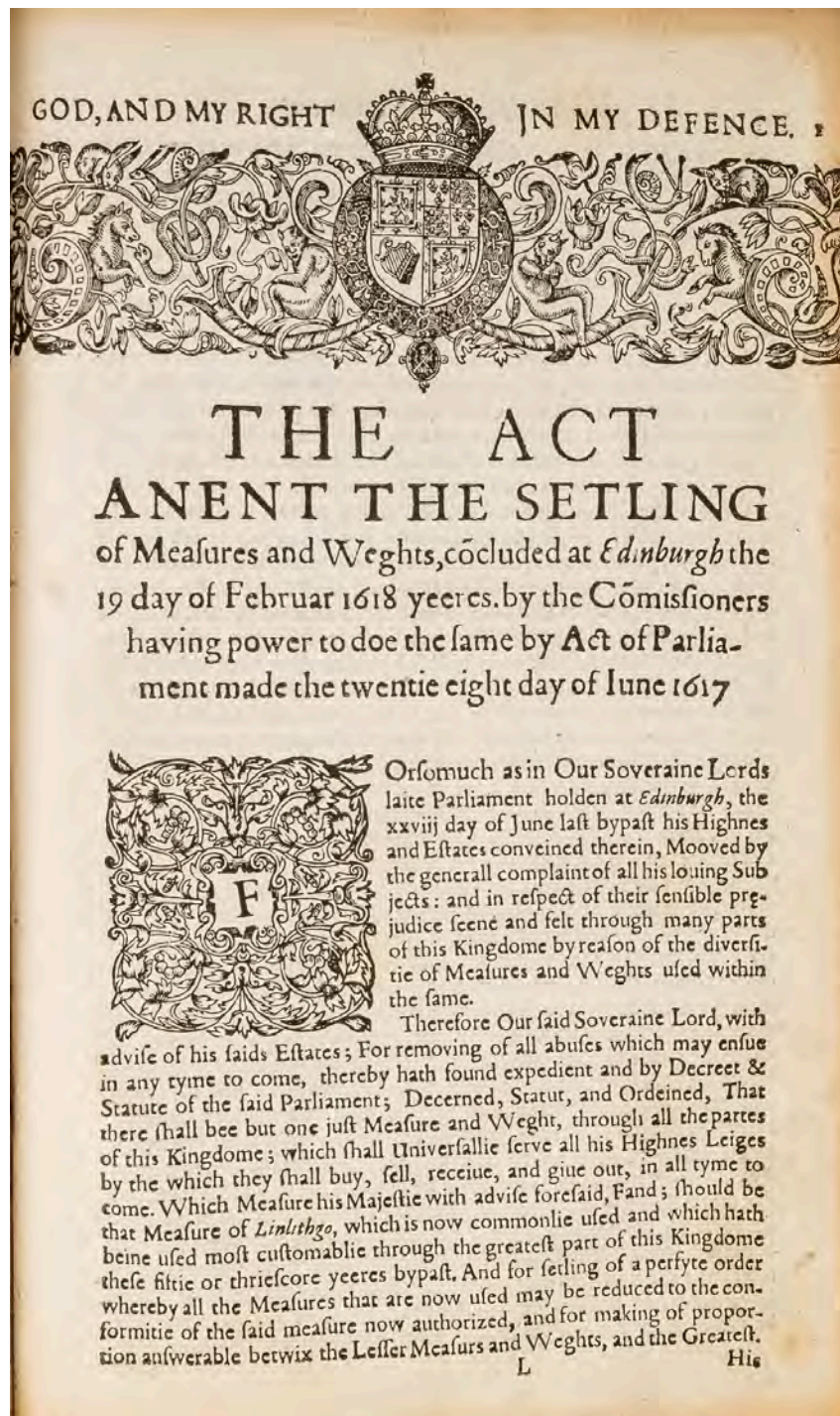
Features the notable "Act Against Skandalous Speeches and Lybels," highlighting the Crown's stringent control over public discourse, sedition, and political dissent during the Union of the Crowns.

Compiled by Sir John Skene of Currie, Clerk Register and prominent legal antiquary, whose official revisions standardized public access to statutory law in early modern Scotland. The annotations to our copy are brief glosses.

English Short-Title Catalogue S116978.



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A Milestone in Scottish Economic History

26. [Scotland].
[Statutes].

James VI [1566-1625], King of Scotland.

The XXII Parliament of Our Most High and Dread Sovereine James be the Grace God, King of Scotland, England, France, And Ireland: Defender of the Faith [sic] &c. Halden be His M at Edinburgh, The 28 day of Iune 1617. With Advise of the Estates of this Realme [Drop-Head Title]. [Edinburgh: Thomas Finlason, 1617]. 20 ff.

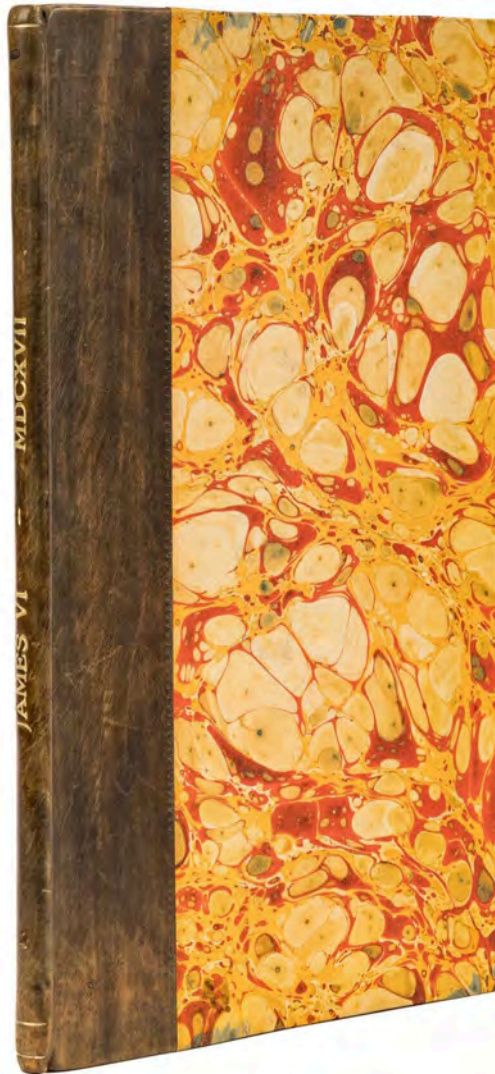
[Bound with]

The Act Anent the Settling of Measures and Weghts, Co[n]cluded at Edinburgh the 19 Day of Februar 1618 Yeeres. By the Co[m]missioners Having Power to Doe the Same by Act of Parliament Made the Twentie Eight Day of Iune 1617 [Drop-Head Title]. [Edinburgh: Thomas Finlason, 1618].

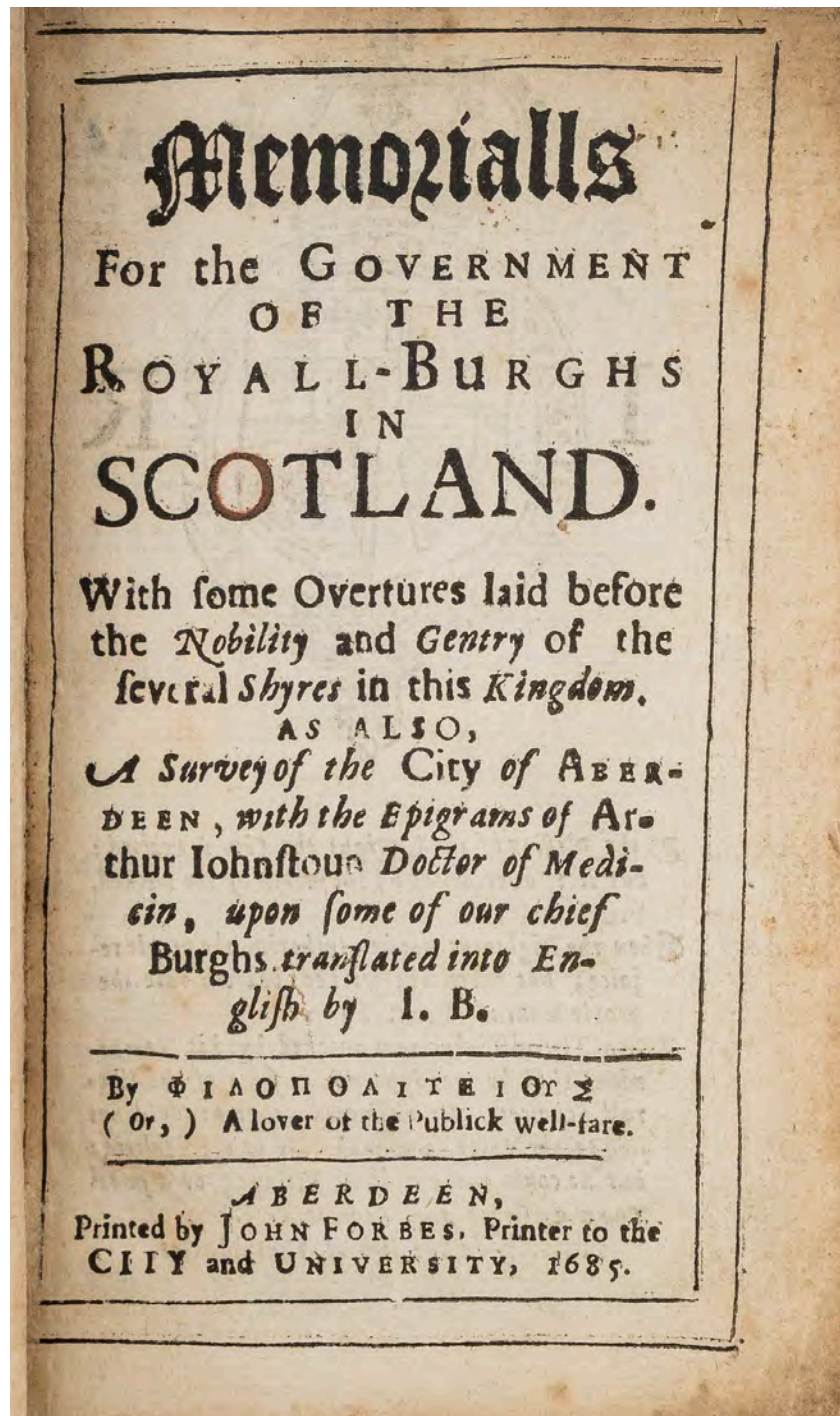
Folio (10-3/4" x 6-1/2"; 27 x 16.5 cm). Recent quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets to calf edges, gilt fillets and title to spine, endpapers added. Moderate toning to interior, light browning to margins, woodcut head-piece of Fol. 1 affected by trimming along fore-edge, small ink spots and spark burns to a few leaves. \$500.

* A collection of 41 public acts with a table bound to an important 1618 act to reform the Scottish system of weights and measures. This work represents a milestone in Scottish economic history. It documents the formal establishment and standardization of uniform weights and measures throughout the Kingdom of Scotland (including standardizing the ell, stone, pint, and firloft) under royal commission. .

English Short-Title Catalogue S122277, S122309.



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Handbook for Inexperienced Officials in Scotland

27. [Skene, Alexander (c. 1621-1694)].

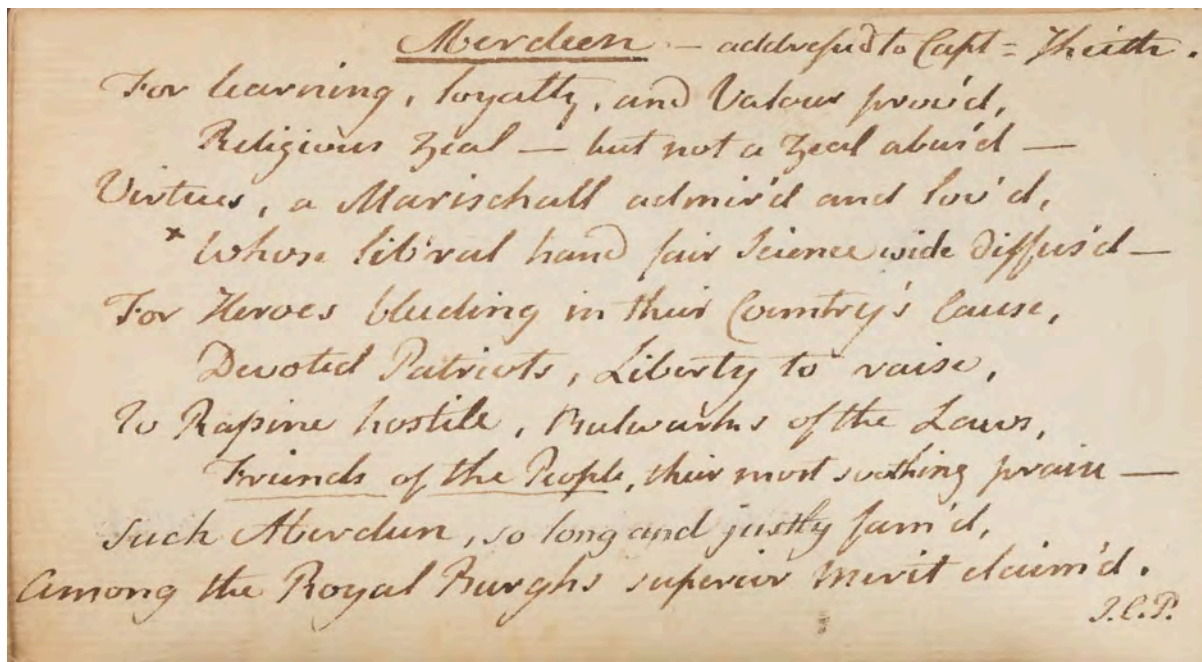
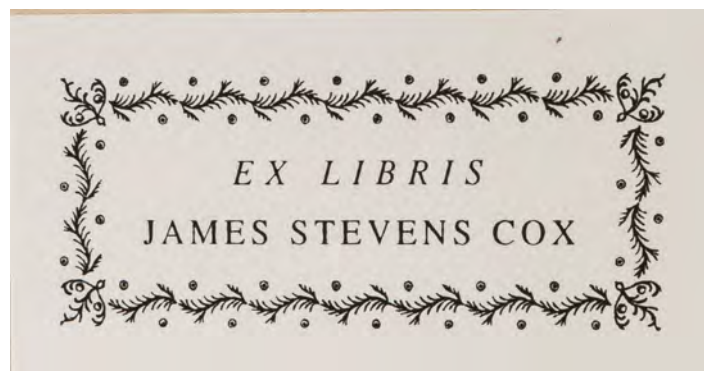
Memorialls for the Government of the Royall-Burghs in Scotland. With Some Overtures Laid Before the Nobility and Gentry of the Several Shyres in this Kingdom. As also, A Survey of the City of Aberdeen, With the Epigrams of Arthur Iohnstoun Doctor of Medicin, Upon Some of Our Chief Burghs Translated into English by I.B. By Philopoliteious (Or,) A Lover of the Publick Well-Fare. Aberdeen: Printed by John Forbes, 1685. 288 pp. *A Succinct Survey of the Famous City of Aberdeen* has separate dated title page (p. 199). Octavo (5-1/2" x 3-1/2"; 14 x 8.9 cm).

Later period-style polished calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands and gilt title and date to spine, endpapers renewed, all edges gilt. A few minor nicks to boards, some fading to spine, recent owner bookplate (of James Stevens Cox) to front pastedown. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, faint dampstaining to lower corners of some leaves, edges trimmed with minor loss to page numbers of a few leaves, light soiling to title page, early owner manuscript annotations to rear endleaf. A handsome copy. \$500.

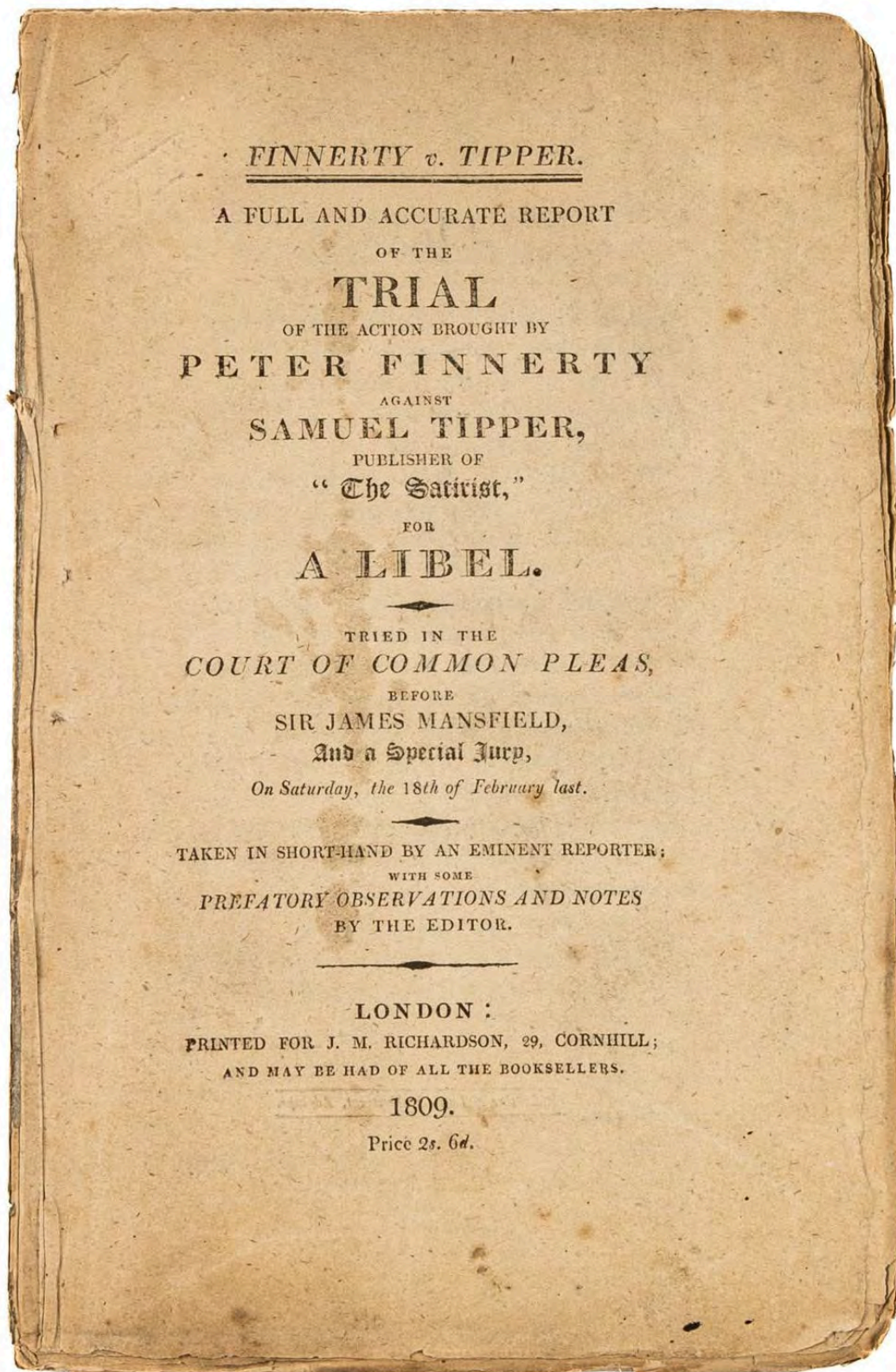
* Only edition. Written by a seasoned politician and state official, this work provides a systematic description of the political, legislative and bureaucratic organizations of the Scottish burghs was intended for inexperienced government officials. A prescriptive work as well, it offers opinions on such matters as trade, the establishment of public libraries and ways to instill civic values in young people. It also includes a collection of celebratory poems in Latin and English about Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Inverness, Perth and other cities and towns in Scotland.

This copy was once in the library of the distinguished bibliophile, publisher, and antiquarian scholar James Stevens Cox (1910-1997).

English Short-Title Catalogue R38926.



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"A Shilling for His Reputation": An Ironic
Libel Suit Brought by a Convicted Libeler - Exceptionally Rare

28. [Trial].

Tipper, Samuel, Defendant.

Finnerty, Peter [c.1766-1822], Plaintiff.

Finnerty v. Tipper. A Full and Accurate Report of the Trial of the Action Brought by Peter Finnerty Against Samuel Tipper, Publisher of "The Satirist," For a Libel. Tried in the Court of Common Pleas, Before Sir James Mansfield, And a Special Jury, On Saturday, The 18th of February Last. Taken in Shorthand by an Eminent Reporter; With Some Prefatory Observations and Notes by the Editor. London: Printed for J.M. Richardson, 1809. vii, 80 pp. Octavo (8-3/4" x 5-1/2"; 22.2 x 14 cm).

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet, retaining its original untrimmed edges. Moderate toning, light intermittent foxing, and minor soiling in a few places. Leaves starting at the head but remaining firmly secure. A well-preserved survival of a fragile production. \$1,500.

* First and only edition. This exceptionally rare verbatim report captures a deeply ironic moment in British legal history: a notorious libeler bringing a civil suit for libel to protect a reputation he barely possessed.

The plaintiff, Peter Finnerty, was a fiery Irish radical, publisher, and journalist whose career was defined by legal battles against the British establishment. In 1797, he was convicted of seditious libel for publishing works sympathetic to the United Irishmen rebellion. Finnerty's relentless anti-establishment crusade made him a celebrated figure among Romantic radicals; the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley famously wrote and published *A Poetical Essay on the Existing State of Things* (1811) specifically to raise funds for Finnerty's mounting legal fees and support him during his imprisonment.

By 1809, Finnerty was once again in the government's crosshairs, facing new libel charges after publishing a pamphlet exposing the Duke of York's scandalous sale of military promotions (the infamous Mary Anne Clarke affair). While Finnerty awaited trial for this offense, Samuel Tipper, publisher of the fiercely Tory and pro-establishment magazine *The Satirist*, launched a vicious print attack on him. Refusing to take the insult lying down, Finnerty swiftly brought a civil libel suit against Tipper in the Court of Common Pleas.

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See Item 29



Notable Bilingual Compilation of Welsh Civil and Ecclesiastical Law

29. [Wales].

[Howel, Welsh King (d. 950CE)].

Clark, William [1696-1771], Editor.

Wotton, William [1666-1727], Compiler of Appendices.

William, Moses [1686-1742], Compiler of Appendices.

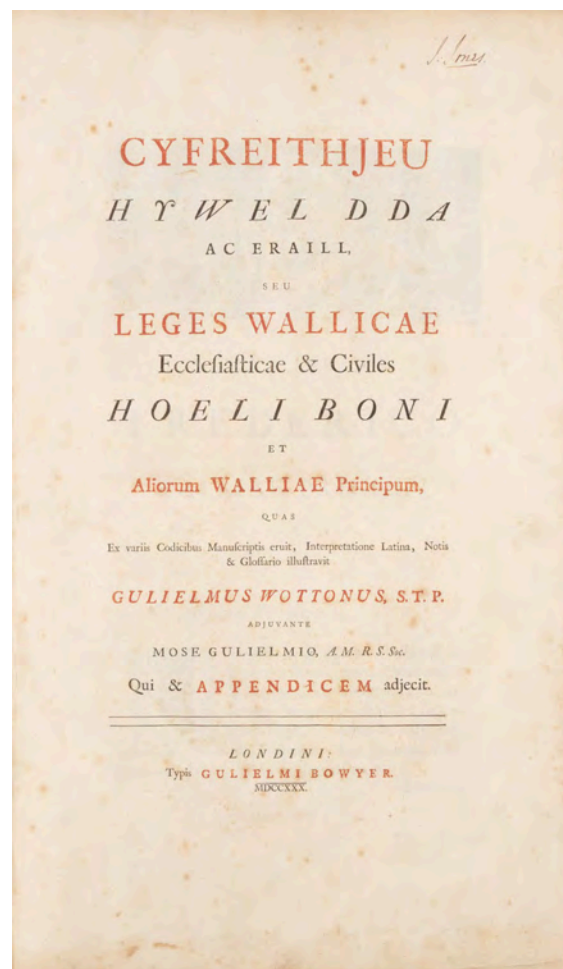
Cyfreithjau Hynwel Dda ac Eraill, Seu Leges Wallicae Ecclesiasticae & Civiles Hoeli Boni et Aliorum Walliae Principum, Quas Ex Variis Codicibus Manuscriptis Erui, Interpretatione Latina, Notis & Glossario Illustravit Guilielmus Wottonus, S.T.P. Adjuvante Mose Guilielmio, A.M.R.S. Soc. Qui & Appendicem Adjecit. London: Typis Gulielmi Bowyer, 1730. [xlii], 586, [20] pp. Lacking half-title. Parallel Welsh and Latin texts. Folio (18-1/4" x 11-1/2"; 46.4 x 29.2 cm).

Contemporary calf, rebacked retaining existing gilt spine with lettering piece, gilt tooling to board edges, corners mended, endpapers renewed, hinges reinforced with cloth. Light rubbing and some nicks and scuffs to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, wear to board edges in a few places, corners bumped. Title page printed in red and black, fine copperplate text vignette in preface, large copperplate headpiece vignette dedicated to Frederick, Prince of Wales, and large woodcut headpieces at the beginnings of sections. Light to moderate toning, light foxing in a few places, early owner signature ("J. Jones") to head of title page. An attractive, wide-margined copy. \$500.

* First and only edition of this landmark compilation, 1 of 2 issues from 1730, complete with subscriber list. A monument of eighteenth-century legal philology and Celtic scholarship, this is the first printed critical edition of the ancient laws of Hywel Dda (Howel the Good, r. c. 942-950 CE) alongside other early Welsh civil and ecclesiastical codes (Cyfraith Hywel).

William Wotton mastered the Welsh language specifically to undertake this project, collating medieval manuscripts from the Cottonian and Harleian libraries. Following Wotton's death in 1727, the edition was brought to completion by his son-in-law, William Clarke, with substantial bibliographic assistance from the Welsh scholar Moses Williams. The volume features parallel Welsh text and Latin translation, extensive scholarly annotations, and Wotton's pioneering Glossarium Wallo-Latinum (a comprehensive glossary of historic Welsh legal terms). Beautifully printed by William Bowyer.

OCLC locates 9 copies in North America, 5 in law libraries (Case Western Reserve, Harvard, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Virginia). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T63960.



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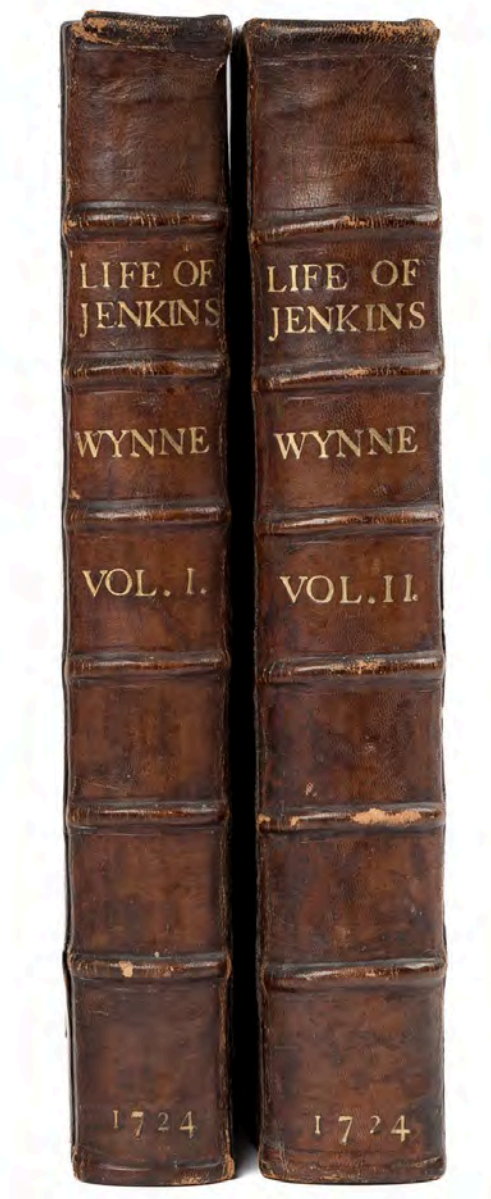
30. Wynne, William [1692-1765].

Bound in contemporary paneled calf, skillfully rebaked with period- appropriate raised bands, gilt-lettered leather spine labels, and date stamps. Edges and corners reinforced; board centers display blind- and gilt-stamped institutional seals ("Library Insignia" front and rear); endpapers renewed. Moderate rubbing to boards, joints starting slightly at the heads of both volumes, corners bumped with minor shelf wear. Front hinge of Volume II cracked but secure. Moderate age-toning and light margin foxing throughout. Minor crinkling and faint dust- soiling to the head and foot of text blocks. Discrete institutional bookplates and small shelf labels to front pastedowns, with neat library stamps to title pages and select internal leaves. Overall, a clean, sturdy, and impressive folio set. \$500.

* Only Edition. This definitive two-volume set remains the primary contemporary source for the life, legal opinions, and diplomatic correspondence of Sir Leoline Jenkins. As Judge of the High Court of Admiralty and the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Jenkins was instrumental in reshaping and modernizing 17th-century English admiralty law, civil law, and international maritime commerce. His legal opinions on prize law, merchant rights, and jurisdiction are preserved extensively in Volume I.

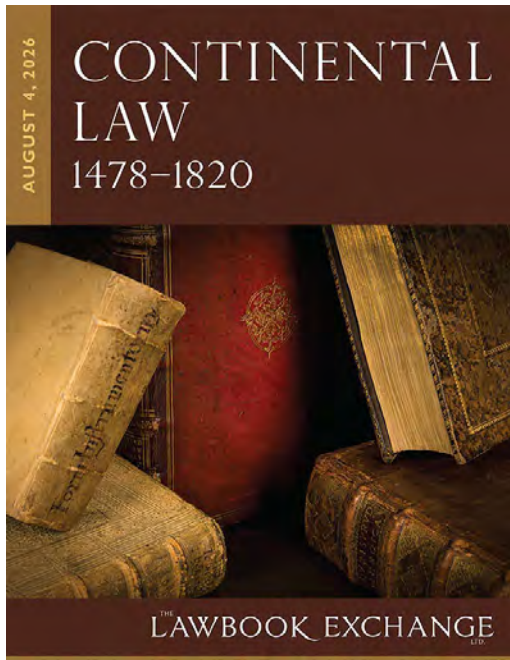
A staunch Royalist during the English Civil War, Jenkins rose to prominence during the Restoration, eventually serving as Secretary of State to King Charles II. Volume II provides an extraordinary record of European diplomacy, containing the full series of letters and state papers from his tenure as principal English mediator at the Congress of Nijmegen (1678-1679), which ended the Franco-Dutch War.

English Short Title Catalogue T145598.

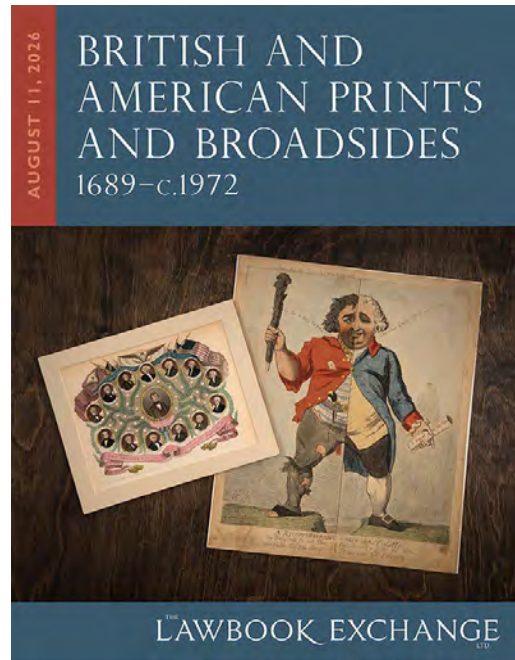


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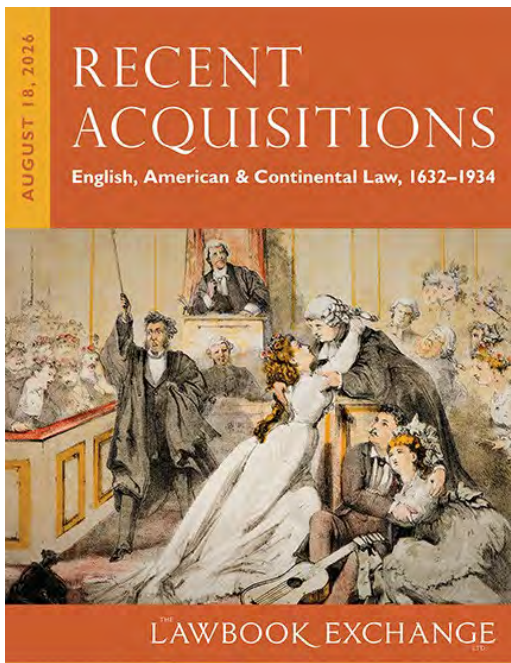
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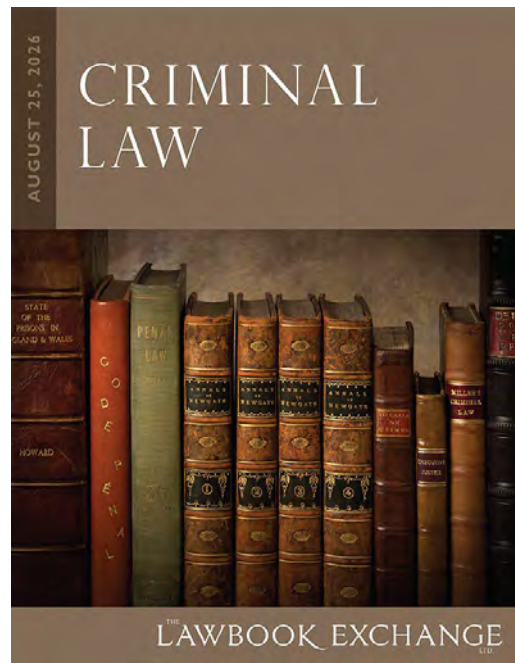
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