

DECEMBER 10, 2024

# RECENT ACQUISITIONS

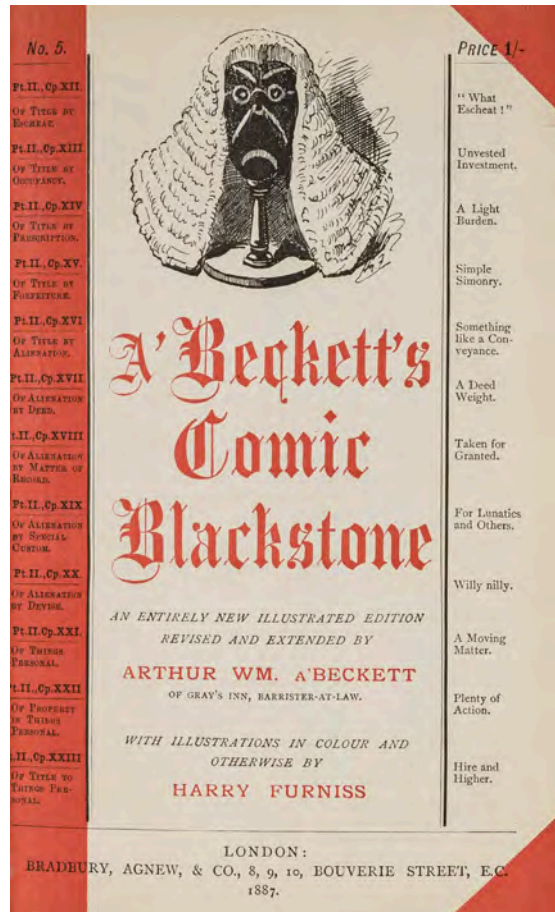
English, American & Continental Law, 1669–1918

30 ITEMS



THE LAWBOOK EXCHANGE LTD.





**The Most Lavish Edition of the Classic Satire:  
This Copy Finely Bound with an Original Pictorial Wrapper**

1. A'Beckett, Gilbert Abbott [1811-1856].

A'Beckett, Arthur William [1844-1909], Editor.

Furniss, Harry [1854-1925], Illustrator.

*The Comic Blackstone*. London: Bradbury, Agnew, & Co., 1887. xxviii, 324 pp. 10 color lithographed plates (including a frontispiece), 19 text engravings. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/4").

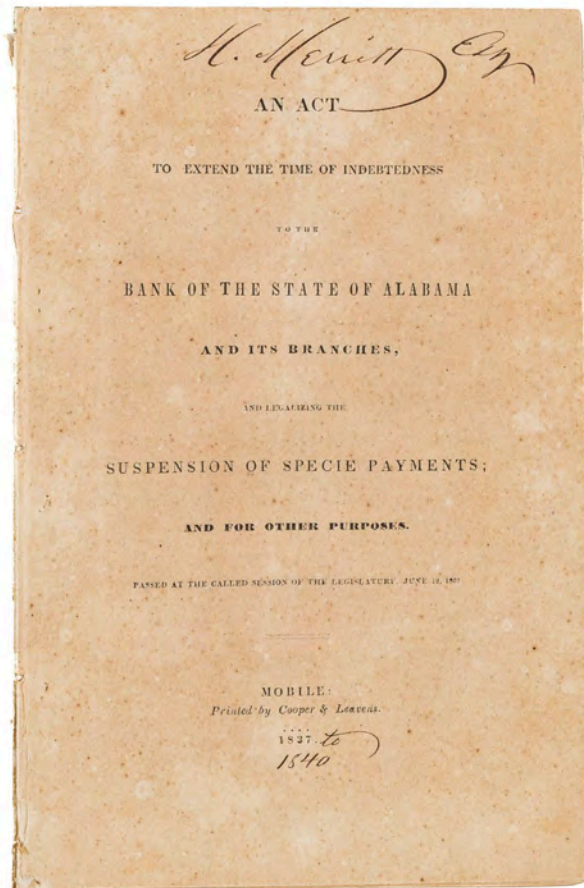
Three-quarter calf over marbled boards, a signed binding by Henry Young and Sons of Liverpool, gilt rules to calf edges, gilt spine with raised bands and lettering piece, top-edge of text block gilt, marbled endpapers. A few small scuffs to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, light wear to spine ends and corners, which are bumped, recent owner signature to front endleaf. Moderate toning, internally clean, illustrations vivid. An original red and black printed wrapper bound at beginning of text block. A handsome copy. \$200.

\* "New and revised" edition, the first with plates and text illustrations by Harry Furniss. Edited by the author's son, this is the most lavish edition of the classic satire ever published. It was first issued in parts with pictorial wrappers from 1886-1887; compiled trade editions in cloth were published in 1887. The binder of our copy retained the wrapper from Part 5.

Eller, *The William Blackstone Collection in the Yale Law Library* 196. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalogue of William Blackstone* 453.

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**Rare Printing of an Act to Protect the Bank of Alabama During the Panic of 1837**

**2. [Alabama].  
[Panic of 1837].**

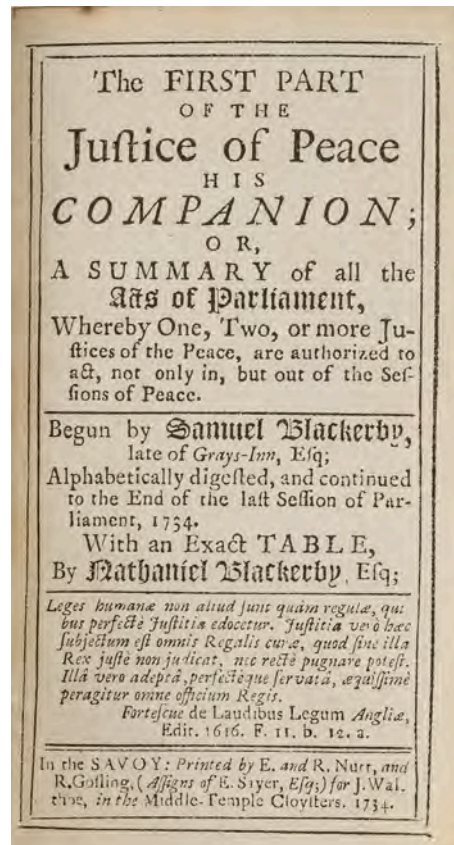
*An Act to Extend the Time of Indebtedness to the Bank of the State of Alabama and Its Branches, And Legalizing the Suspension of Specie Payments; And for Other Purposes. Passed at the Called Session of the Legislature June 12, 1837.* Mobile: Printed by Cooper & Leavens, 1837. 14 pp. Octavo (7-3/4" x 5").

Disbound stab-stitched pamphlet. Light rubbing to spine ends, moderate browning and dampspotting. Early owner signature, "H. Merritt Esq" to head of title page, "to 1840" in same hand next to publication date. \$1,500.

\* Only edition. The Panic of 1837 was a major economic depression that lasted into the 1840s. This 1837 act of the Alabama legislature was designed to minimize its effects on the state's bank. It specified terms for loan repayment, with a payment calendar and rates of interest. It also specified how the bank should issue loans and bonds and the amount of specie each bank branch should hold. One provision (No. 21) states that slaves, along with real estate, can be used as security against a loan. The Act was a success; the Bank of Alabama was one of the few banks in the United States to survive the Panic. It was fatally weakened, however, and its banking charter was revoked in 1842.

OCLC locates 1 copy, at Birmingham-Southern College. This record is obsolete; the college closed in May 2024 and this pamphlet was sold in the auction of its library special collections in August 2024. Not in Cohen.

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### A Primary Source for Many Subsequent Manuals

#### 3. Blackerby, Samuel [fl. 1720-1738].

##### Blackerby, Nathaniel.

*The First Part of the Justice of Peace His Companion; Or, A Summary of All the Acts of Parliament, Whereby One, Two, Or More Justices of the Peace, Are Authorized to Act, Not Only In, But Out of the Sessions of Peace. Begun by Samuel Blackerby, Late of Grays-Inn, Esq; Alphabetically Digested, And Continued to the End of the Last Session of Parliament, 1734. With an Exact Table, By Nathaniel Blackerby, Esq.* [London]: Printed by E. and R. Nutt, 1734. [xxiv], 540 pp. 12mo. (5-1/4" x 3").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and black-stamped initial "J" to spine, lettering piece lacking, gilt tooling to board edges. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, joints cracked, chipping to head of spine, corners bumped, front hinge cracked, rear hinge starting, faint offsetting to margins of endleaves. A few, mostly partial, cracks to text block, all leaves secure, light toning, internally fresh. \$300.

\* Fifth edition. With a digested index. The first edition of Blackerby's *Justice of the Peace, His Companion* appeared in 1711. A companion volume, *Cases in Law*, which carries the subtitle "The Second Part of the Justice of Peace's Companion," followed in 1717. Both were held in high esteem, went through several editions and served as primary sources for many subsequent manuals. *Justice of the Peace* is arranged alphabetically by topic. Such entries as Apprentices, Bastardy, Gaming Houses, Overseers of the Poor, Papists and Popish Recusants and Witchcraft offer a unique perspective on rural English society during the early 1700s.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* T62609.

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The Only Known Copy

4. [Broadside].  
[Execution].  
Jones, John [d.1870].

*Execution of John Jones, Alias Owens, At Aylesbury, For the Murder of 7 Persons at Denham, On May 22nd.* London: H. Disley, Printer, [1870].

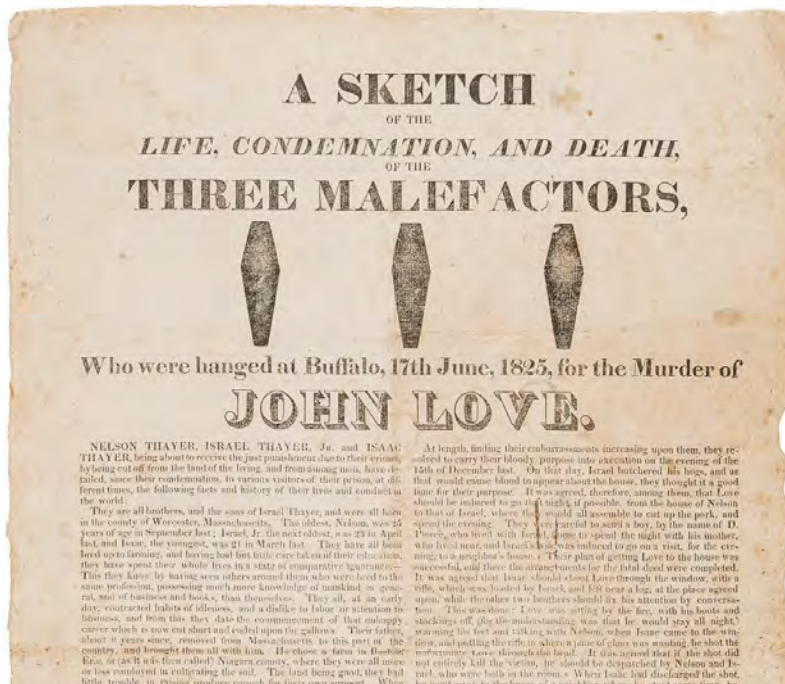
19-1/4" x 14-1/4" broadside mounted to backing sheet, main text in four columns below headline, central woodcut vignette spanning middle columns, woodcut vignettes and verses in five columns below text. Moderate toning, horizontal and vertical fold lines, light foxing to backing sheet and top portion of broadside, small tear to center of broadside with minor loss to vignette, small piece of cello tape and adhesive residue to backing sheet. \$3,850.

\* Jones (also Jenkins or Owens) was a blacksmith in Uxbridge. A "wild dissolute character," he was no stranger to the law: on his release from prison for theft in 1869, he allegedly told two wardens that he was owed money and would kill to get it. In May of 1870, he beat Emanuel Marshall and Marshall's wife, mother, sister and three children to death. He was apprehended wearing Marshall's clothes and had pawned a watch and chain from the house.

The most striking aspect of this broadside is the central image of Jones at the gallows surrounded by high walls and barbed wire. Following the Capital Punishment Amendment Act of 1868, public executions were banned, and the act stipulated that prisoners sentenced to death for murder be executed within the prison walls and buried on prison grounds. The act was thanks in large part to reformers like Charles Dickens and Sir Robert Peel who considered public executions barbaric and grotesque.

This broadside is rare and appears to be unrecorded. No copies on OCLC or Library Hub. Not at Harvard or the British Library.

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**An Unrecorded Variant Printing of a Broadside  
Documenting the Execution of a Murderous Trio of Brothers**

**5. [Broadside].**

**[Execution].**

**Thayer, Nelson [1798-1825].**

**Thayer, Israel [1801-1825].**

**Thayer, Isaac [1804-1825].**

*A Sketch of the Life, Condemnation, and Death of the Three Malefactors, Who Were Hanged at Buffalo, 17th June, 1825, For the Murder of John Love.* [Buffalo, NY: S.n.], 1825.

19-1/4" x 12" broadside, edges untrimmed. Text in two columns below headline and woodcut vignette of three caskets. Moderate toning, light foxing, a few small faint dampstains, horizontal and vertical fold lines, minor rust marks and a few tiny tears to right column, two mended on verso with loss to one letter of text and no loss to legibility. \$3,500.

\* Nelson, Israel and Isaac Thayer were brothers. Nelson and Israel, farmers who appear to have been lazy, owed a considerable amount of money to John Love, a wealthy bachelor who boarded with Nelson. Unable to clear their debts, the two older brothers enlisted their younger brother, Isaac, to murder Love. The broadside account concludes: "There is not, probably, a parallel case to this in the history of man. It was truly afflicting, to see three young men, all brothers, thus brought to an ignominious death for a crime committed to gratify a love for idleness and a lust for money. May all others take warning by this solemn example!!!"

This rare broadside appears to be an unrecorded variant of a related broadside with similar contents and a nearly identical title (beginning *A Sketch of the Life, Condemnation, And Death of the Three Thayers...*). No copies located on OCLC, which locates 4 copies of the related broadside (New-York Historical Society, American Antiquarian Society, University of Michigan Clements Library, Cornell).

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Unrecorded Broadside Marking the Death of Nicholas I

6. [Broadside].

Nicholas I [1796-1855], Emperor of Russia.

*Biography of the Emperor Nicholas and Sudden Deaths of the Romanoff Family!* Nottingham: Printed and Published by Thomas Stevenson, [1855].

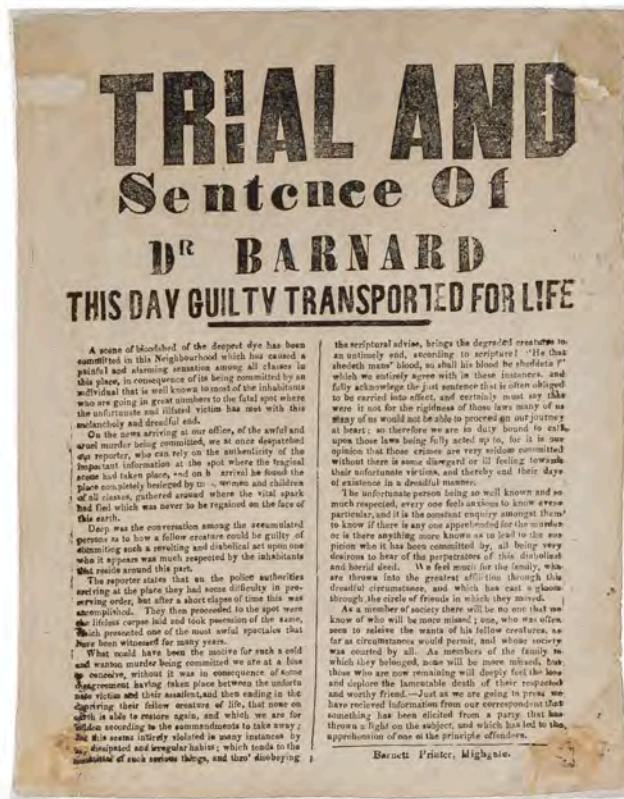
15" x 9-3/4" broadside, text in three columns below headline and large woodcut vignette depicting the death of Nicholas I. Moderate toning, very light edgewear, faint fold lines and creases to corners, light foxing to lower right corner, a few faint stains. Rare. \$1,600.

\* This broadside was published after the death of Nicholas I from pneumonia on March 2, 1855. His death occurred during the Crimean War and the Siege of Sevastopol, which had been ongoing since October 1854 and ended in September 1855, six months after Nicholas's death. The broadside is mostly dedicated to a brief biographical history of the Romanov dynasty. It ends with a section headed "Latest Intelligence" containing dispatches from Berlin, Warsaw, Sevastopol and Marseilles.

No copies located on OCLC or Library Hub. Not at the British Library.

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An Interesting (and Rare) Piece of Printing History

7. [Broadside].

*Trial and Sentence* [sic] of *Dr Barnard This Day Guilty Transported for Life*. [London]: Barnett Printer, Highgate, [c.1858?].

9-3/4" x 7-1/2" broadside mounted to later backing sheet. Moderate toning, faint residue and small tears to corners (from former mounting?), text affected at lower left and upper right corners, loss to one word of text and to final letter of "and" in title, "D" carefully filled in with ink. Rare. \$1,250.

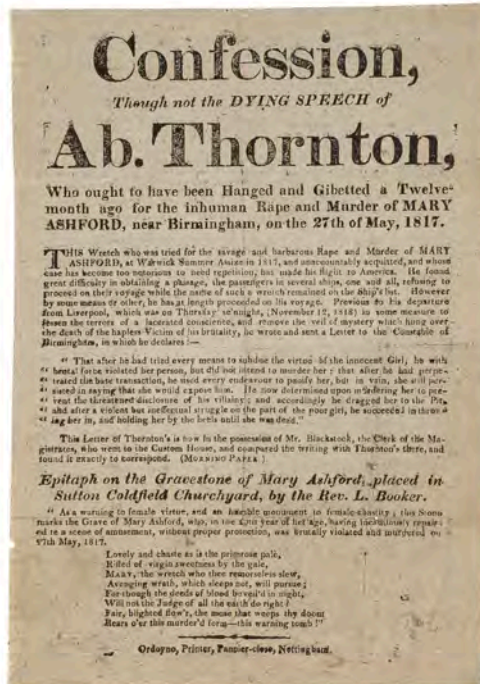
\* Riddled with printing errors and stock phrases, this broadside provides an excellent example of the economical and often generic nature of this kind of popular literature. References to the "unfortuuate [sic] and illfated victim," the "cold and wanton murder," the "dissipated and irregular habits" which led to the crime, and, of course, the "authenticity of the important information" this broadside contains would have all been familiar to contemporary readers, but the text contains no real details of any particular crime. The printer may have sought to capitalize on the high-profile trial of French surgeon Simon François Bernard, one of the conspirators in the 1858 Orsini plot to assassinate Napoleon III.

This broadside also demonstrates the readiness with which printers of popular material imitated each other's work. The only other known broadside printed by Barnett has the conveniently generic caption title *Full Particulars of this Dreadful Murder!* and text seemingly identical to that of this broadside. At least two other broadsides we located, published by London printers T. Rigdon and J. Lucksway, have identical text under the *Full Particulars* title.

This is a rare item. OCLC and Library Hub locate 3 copies (British Library, National Library of Australia, State Library of New South Wales).

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An Unrecorded Broadside About a Landmark Case

8. [Broadside].

Thornton, Abraham [c.1793-1860].

*Confession, Though Not the Dying Speech of Ab. Thornton, Who Ought to Have Been Hanged and Gibbeted [sic] a Twelve-Month Ago for the Inhuman Rape and Murder of Mary Ashford, Near Birmingham, On the 27th of May, 1817.* Nottingham: Ordoyno, Printer, [1818].

9-1/2" x 6-3/4" broadside mounted to later backing sheet, text in single column below headline. Moderate toning, light soiling, horizontal and vertical fold lines to broadside, a few tiny holes to text and small chip to left edge, no loss to legibility, ink library stamp to verso of backing sheet. \$3,500.

\* Abraham Thornton, a bricklayer, was accused of the rape and murder of Mary Ashford when she was found dead the morning after a dance where the two had been seen together. Ashford admitted that the two had been consensually intimate, but denied the charges of rape and murder. Eyewitness accounts backed up his story, and in the absence of other evidence he was acquitted of both charges. Public outcry around his acquittal led to Mary's brother William invoking an "appeal of murder." This uncommon legal practice allowed a retrial of a defendant acquitted for murder but, crucially, gave the defendant the right to trial by battle. Thornton invoked that right and was released after William Ashford declined the challenge. (The case resulted in the abolition of appeals by murder and thus the end of trial by battle.)

Despite his protestations of innocence, the public was thoroughly convinced of his guilt, as our broadside indicates. After several attempts to find a ship that would take him, he left for America on November 12, 1818. Contrary to the claims of this broadside, he never confessed to the murder. It also records Ashford's epitaph, placed by a local reverend as "a warning to female virtue, and an humble monument to female chastity."

This broadside is rare and appears to be unrecorded. No copies located on OCLC or Library Hub. Not at Harvard or the British Library.

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The End of Trial by Battle in the United Kingdom: A Rare and Apparently Unrecorded Account

9. [Broadside].

[Trial].

Thornton, Abraham [c.1793-1860], Respondent.

Appeal of Murder: The Decision of the Judges in the Case of Ashford, ver. Thornton, Court of King's Bench, April 20th, 1818. Nottingham: Shorrock, and Son, (Successors to E. Hodson,) Printers, [1818].

12-1/2" x 7-1/2" broadside mounted to later backing sheet, text in two columns separated by rule below headline and woodcut vignette of a landscape. Moderate toning, light soiling to edges, a few faint creases, printer's flaw and clean tear to right column, no loss to legibility. \$3,200.

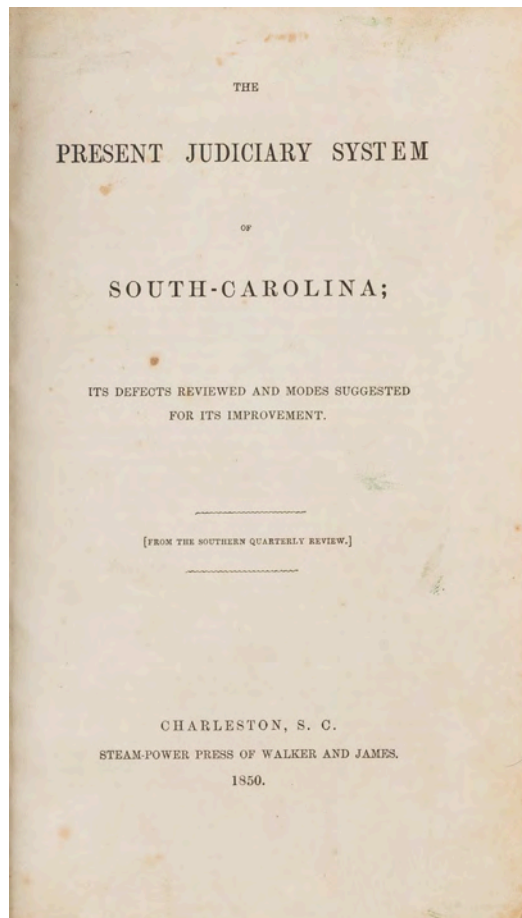
\* Ashford v. Thornton dealt with the aftermath of the murder of Mary Ashford in 1817. Abraham Thornton, who had seen and been intimate with Ashford the previous night, was tried for rape and murder but acquitted of both charges due to a lack of evidence and inconsistencies in the prosecutor's case. Public outcry around his acquittal led to Mary's brother William invoking an "appeal of murder." This uncommon legal practice allowed a retrial of a defendant acquitted for murder but, crucially, gave the defendant the right to trial by battle. Thornton invoked that right. After extensive proceedings in the Court of King's Bench, the court found that he was eligible to do so.

Our broadside documents the final hearing, in which Ashford declined to battle with Thornton and withdrew his appeal. Thornton was given a pro forma arraignment and released. The case resulted in the abolition of appeals by murder and thus the end of trial by battle in the United Kingdom.

This broadside is rare and appears to be unrecorded. No copies located on OCLC or Library Hub. Not at Harvard or the British Library.

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**Rare 1850 Pamphlet Proposing  
Reforms to South Carolina's Court System**

**10. [Courts].  
[South Carolina].**

*The Present Judiciary System of South-Carolina; Its Defects Reviewed and Modes Suggested for Its Improvement.* [From the *Southern Quarterly Review.*] Charleston: Steam-Power Press of Walker & James, 1850. 24 pp. Octavo (8-3/4" x 5-1/2").

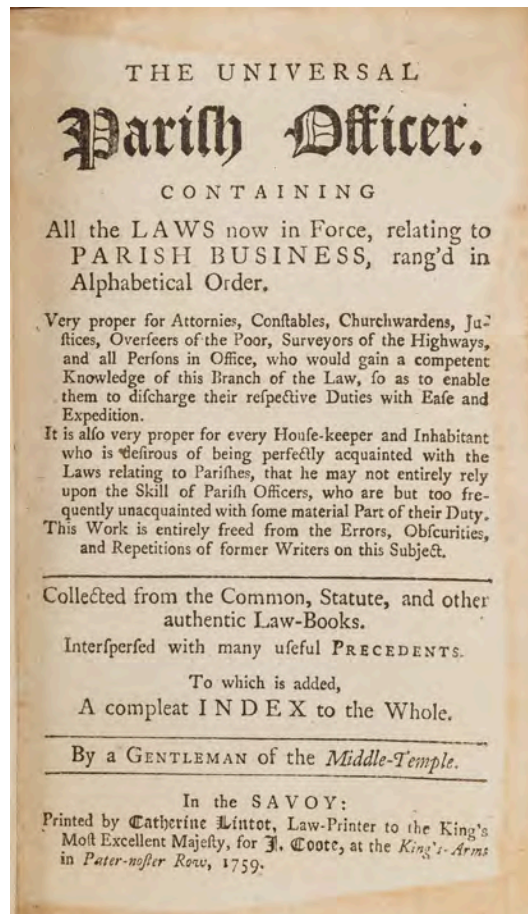
Stab-stitched pamphlet in recent plain wrappers. Light toning, light wear to outer corners of text block, light foxing in places, a few minor smudges to title page. \$650.

\* Only edition (as a pamphlet). The author, identified as "P" at the end of the text, describes the deficiencies of South Carolina's court system, mainly the small number of judges, who are overworked. Because they are kept "at a sort of mill-horse progress, round and round, through incessant circuits," they have "little of the necessary leisure for research, by which, alone, they can be enabled to keep pace with the progress of the profession" (4). As one would expect, the main proposed solution is the appointment of more judges with a corresponding reorganization of the court system that would minimize circuit riding.

OCLC locates 1 copy (University of South Carolina). Sabin, *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America* 87918. Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 1048.

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Scarce Eighteenth-Century Treatise for Parish Officers and Surveyors of Highways

11. Gentleman of the Middle Temple.

*The Universal Parish-Officer, Containing All the Laws Now in Force, Relating to Parish Business, Rang'd in Alphabetical Order...* [London]: Printed by Catherine Lintot, Law-Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, for J. Coote, 1759. [iv], 258, [20] pp. With an errata leaf and an advertisement leaf. 12mo. (6-1/2" x 3-3/4").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and hand-lettered paper label to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and a few shallow scuffs and scratches to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, front joint cracked, rear joint starting, chipping to head of spine, corners lightly bumped and worn, hinges cracked, later armorial bookplate (of Edmund Lechmere of Severn End, dated 1917) to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, light foxing to a few leaves, partial crack to text block between pp. 24-25, all leaves secure. \$350.

\* First edition. Arranged alphabetically, this is a handbook for highway and parish officers. Later editions titled *The New Universal Parish Officer* were published in 1764, 1767, 1771 and 1774. It is attributed sometimes to Timothy Cunningham, one of the most prolific legal writers of the eighteenth century. Lechmere [1865-1937] was a justice of the peace and deputy lieutenant for Worcestershire.

The first edition is scarce. OCLC locates 3 copies in North America, 2 in law libraries (Louisiana State University, UC-Berkeley). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T123367.

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1702 Amsterdam Printing of Gronov's Important Edition of Grotius

## 12. Grotius, Hugo [1583-1645].

### Gronov (Gronow), Johannes, Editor.

*De Jure Belli ac Pacis Libri Tres, In Quibus Jus Naturae & Gentium, Item Juris Publici Praecipua Explicantur. Cum Annotatis Auctoris, Ex Postrema Ejus Ante Obitum Cura. Accesserunt Annotata in Epistolam Pauli ad Philemonem; Dissertatio de Mari Libero; & Libellus Singularis de Aequitate, Indulgentia, & Facilitate. Nec non Joann. Frid. Gronovii V.C. Notae in Totum Opus De Jure Belli ac Pacis.* Amsterdam: Apud Henricum Wetstenium, ut & Rodolfum & Gerhardum Wetstenios, H. FF., 1702. [xiv], XXXIV, 904, [16], 32, [10], [94] pp. Copperplate portrait of Grotius, additional copperplate allegorical title page. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-1/2").

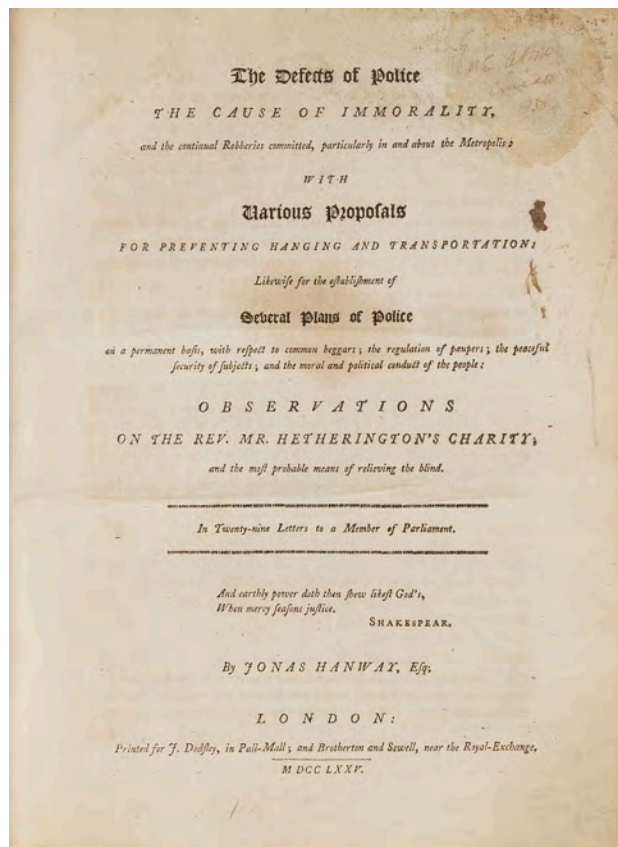
Contemporary mottled calf, gilt spine with raised bands and gilt title (mostly rubbed away), gilt tooling to board edges, fore and bottom-edges of text block marbled. Light rubbing to boards, which are slightly bowed, tiny worm track to lower outside corner of rear board, moderate rubbing to extremities, spine gilt partially oxidized, chipping to head of spine, corners lightly bumped, front hinge cracked, faint dampspotting to endleaves. Title page printed in red and black. Light toning to interior, occasional very light foxing and soiling, faint creasing to lower outside corners of a few leaves, small faint stains near gutters of portrait frontispiece and engraved title page. An appealing copy. \$750.

\* Later Gronov edition and the last Gronov edition to include the *Annotata in Epistolam Pauli ad Philemonem*, a commentary on St. Paul's Epistle to Philemon. With side-notes and index. First published in Paris in 1625, *De Jure Belli ac Pacis* established the system of modern public international law, based on the concept of "droit naturel," an immutable morality-based law that superseded the personalities of individuals or nations. Though based on Christian natural law, Grotius advanced the novel argument that his system, like a mathematical axiom, would still be valid if it lacked a divine basis. In this regard he pointed to the future by moving international law in a secular direction.

The first Gronov edition, one of the most important editions of Grotius, was published in 1663. In addition to the *Annotata in Epistolam*, this 1702 edition includes *Mare Liberum* (1st ed. 1609), often appended to editions of *De Jure Belli ac Pacis*. In general terms, it argued for the free navigation of the seas. More specifically, it defended Dutch fishermen who were attempting to operate near the English coast and the Dutch East India Company, which was engaged in a territorial dispute in the Caribbean with Portuguese traders.

Ter Muelen and Diermanse, *Bibliographie des Ecrits Imprimés de Hugo Grotius* 594.

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### Early Proposals to Improve the Quality of Policing in London

#### 13. Hanway, Jonas [1712-1786].

*The Defects of Police the Cause of Immorality, And the Continual Robberies Committed, Particularly in and About the Metropolis: With Various Proposals for Preventing Hanging and Transportation: Likewise for the Establishment of Several Plans of Police on a Permanent Basis, With Respect to Common Beggars; The Regulation of Paupers; The Peaceful Security of Subjects; And the Moral and Political Conduct of the People: Observations on the Rev. Mr. Hetherington's Charity; And the Most Probable Means of Relieving the Blind. In Twenty-Nine Letters to a Member of Parliament.* London: Printed for J. Dodsley, In Pall-Mall; And Brotherton and Sewell, Near the Royal-Exchange, 1775. [ii], xxxiv, 288 pp. Quarto (10-1/4" x 8").

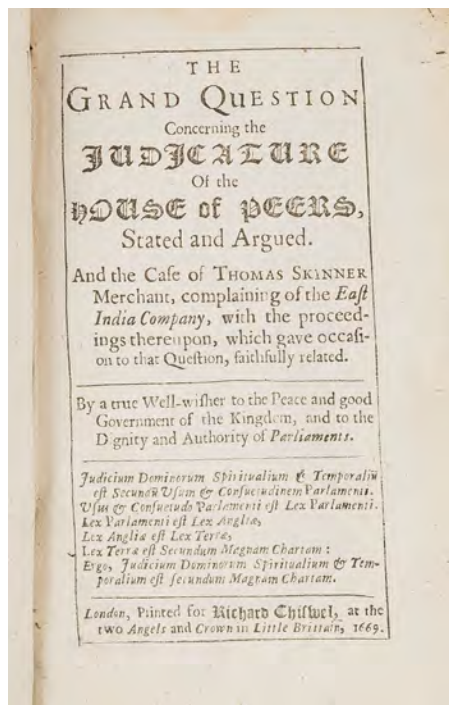
Recent morocco-stamped calf, gilt title and publication date to spine, endpapers renewed. Light rubbing to extremities, a few minor shallow scratches and scuffs to boards, lettering on spine oxidized and mostly rubbed away. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing to a few leaves, faint stains, inkspots and part-erased signature (dated 1930) to head of title page, small faint stain to following leaf. \$650.

\* First edition. Hanway, who made his fortune as a merchant, was a notable philanthropist, polemicist and travel writer. (He is chiefly remembered today as the first English man to carry an umbrella.) Published during the early years of London's first professional police force, the Bow Street Runners, *The Defects of Police* proposes ways to improve policing and London's social order, mainly to reduce the number of hangings and transportations. A second edition, with a title beginning *The Citizen's Monitor: Shewing the Necessity of a Salutary Police*, was published in 1780.

*Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature* 11353. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T93938.

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### The House of Lords vs. The House of Commons

#### 14. [Holles, Denzil Holles, Baron (1599-1680)].

*The Grand Question Concerning the Judicature of the House of Peers, Stated and Argued. And the Case of Thomas Skinner Merchant, Complaining of the East India Company, With the Proceedings Thereupon, Which Gave Occasion to that Question, Faithfully Related. By a True Well-Wisher to the Peace and Good Government of the Kingdom, And to the Dignity and Authority of Parliaments.* London: Printed for Richard Chiswel, 1669. [iv], 219, [1] pp. Octavo (6-1/4" x 3-1/4").

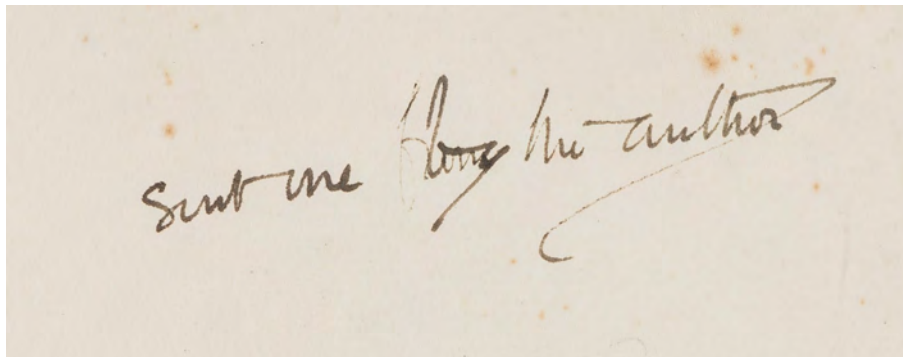
Contemporary sheep, blind fillets to spine, edges of text block speckled. A few small scuffs, nicks and faint stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, light wear to foot of spine and corners, which are bumped, pastedowns loose, recent bookplate (of historian and professor Geoffrey Hand [1931-2016]) to inner front board. Moderate toning to interior, tiny stains to edges of a few leaves, ink underlining in several places. \$750.

\* Only edition. After the East India Company seized the ships, cargoes and trading post of Thomas Skinner, a London merchant trading in India, Skinner presented a petition to Charles II seeking redress for his losses. The king referred the case to the House of Lords, which ruled in his favor and awarded him £5,000 in damages. The Company complained to the House of Commons, which ruled that the Lords' proceedings were illegal. This set off a constitutional squabble between the House of Lords and the House of Commons over original jurisdiction in civil suits. The stand-off was only resolved by the king's intervention in 1669, who ordered the two Houses to end proceedings and erase all mention of the case from their records. Afterwards, it was tacitly understood that the House of Lords did not have any claims of original jurisdiction in civil suits.

Holles, an English statesman and writer, had a long and varied career that spanned the Civil War, Commonwealth and Restoration periods. He is best known as one of the "Five Members" whose attempted unconstitutional arrest by King Charles I in the House of Commons of England in 1642 sparked the Civil War.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* R202445.

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Inscribed by Holmes to Lady Evelyn Charteris Vesey, Viscountess de Vesce

**15. Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr. [1841-1935].**

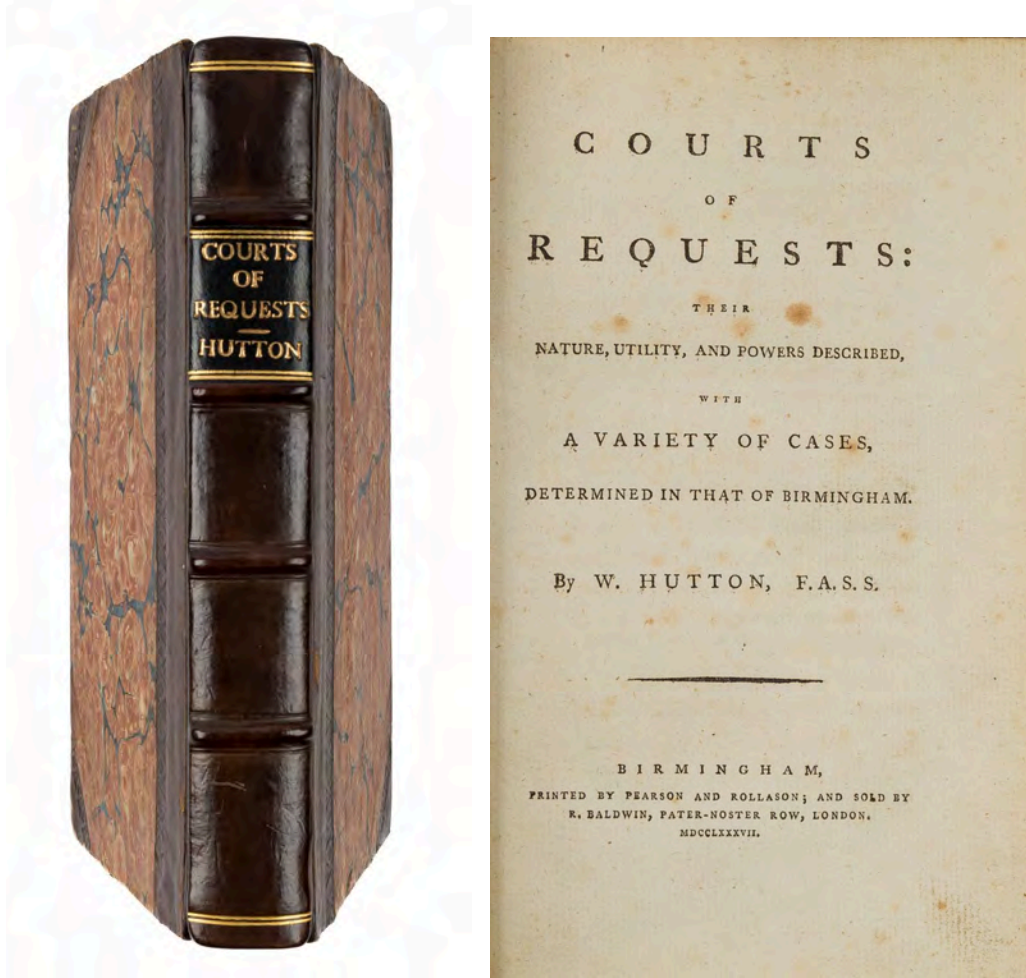
*Speeches*. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1900. [vi], 86 pp. Octavo (8-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Original printed paper-covered boards, deckle edges. Moderate rubbing and dampstaining to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities with wear to spine ends and corners, which are lightly bumped, armorial bookplate of Lady Evelyn Charteris Vesey, Viscountess de Vesce (designed by Charles William Sherbourn) to front pastedown. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing in places, mostly to gutters, presentation inscription from Holmes partially overwritten by annotation by Lady de Vesce to front free endpaper. Six-page offprint, moderately toned and edgeworn, with two horizontal folds and short clean tears to several leaves along folds, titled "Speech of Mr. Justice Holmes at a Dinner of the Harvard Law School Association of New York, On February 15, 1913," laid in. \$1,500.

\* Fourth edition. The inscriptions read: "Sent me by" (Lady de Vesce) and "from the author" (Holmes). Lady de Vesce [1849-1939] was typical of the women who attracted Holmes during his visits to Great Britain. Born into the aristocratic Charteris family, the daughter of Francis Richard Charteris, 10th Earl of Wemyss [1818-1914], a Whig politician of Scottish descent, she was married to John Robert William Vesey, 4th Viscount de Vesce, 5th Baron Knapton and 1st Baron de Vesce [1844-1903], an Anglo-Irish peer and army officer who sat in the House of Lords and served as Lord Lieutenant of Queen's County, Ireland.

Lady de Vesce was a member of an elite intellectual and artistic social circle known as The Souls, which included many distinguished British politicians. John Singer Sargent, a member of this group, painted portraits of Lady de Vesce and her father.

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### An Early Type of Small Claims Court

#### 16. Hutton, William [1723-1815].

*Courts of Requests: Their Nature, Utility, And Powers Described, With a Variety of Cases Determined in That of Birmingham.* Birmingham: Printed by Pearson and Rollason; And Sold by R. Baldwin, Pater-Noster Row, London, 1787. xvi, 430 pp. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Nineteenth-century three quarter calf over marbled boards with recent rebacking, raised bands, lettering piece and blind and gilt fillets to spine, marbled edges and endpapers. Light rubbing to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges with wear to corners. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing in a few places. \$350.

\* First edition. Hutton was a bookseller in Birmingham and the founder of that city's first circulating library. He was also president of the local Court of Requests, an early type of small claims court that was superseded in 1864 by the county court system. Hutton's study, which had later editions in 1788, 1806 and 1840, is a comprehensive study of these courts. It includes reports of 99 cases heard in Birmingham. Several of these were reprinted in *Curious Cases and Amusing Actions at Law* (1916).

*English Short Title Catalogue* T53073.

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**Rare Edition of a Scarce Guide for Lay Officers**

**17. J.P., Gent.**

*A New Guide for Constables, Headboroughs, Tything-Men, Church-Wardens, Overseers and Collectors for the Poor, Surveyors for Amending the High-ways and Bridges, With Directions for Keepers of Fairs and Markets, And Treasurers for the Relief of Poor Maimed Soldiers and Mariners...* London: Printed by the Assigns of Richard and Edward Atkins, Esquires, [1700?]. [viii], 160 pp. 12mo. (5-1/2" x 3-1/4").

Recent calf, raised bands, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, endleaves renewed. Very light rubbing to extremities, light fading to spine. Moderate toning to interior, occasional faint dampstaining, light foxing and soiling to a few leaves. A handsome copy of a rare edition. \$1,250.

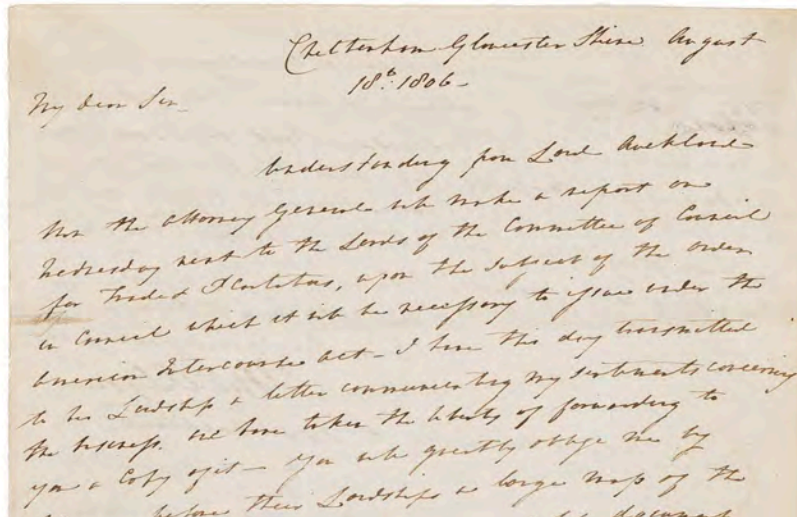
\* Second edition. This is a topically digested guide for lay officers other than justices of the peace. It focuses primarily on the relevant statutory basis for their authority and duties. A popular work, the first edition was published in 1692 and the sixth and final edition in 1790.

This edition includes the Vagrancy Act 1698 (11 & 12 Will. 3. c. 18), which was granted royal assent on April 11, 1700 and enforced beginning June 24, 1700. Based on this, the *ESTC* assigns a provisional date of 1700. Sweet & Maxwell suggests that it was printed between the 1692 and 1700 editions but do not propose a date.

All editions of this title are scarce. The undated edition is rare. OCLC, Library Hub and the *English Short-Title Catalogue* locate 2 copies (British Library, Oxford). *English Short-Title Catalogue* R217962. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:235.

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### Evading Jefferson's 1806 Non-Importation Act in Jamaica

18. [Manuscript].

[Jamaica].

Lyon, Edward P[usey] [1767-1831].

[Letter to George Chalmers, Office for Trade, Whitehall, London. Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, August 18, 1806]. 8 pp.

9" x 7-1/2" bifolia, text in neat hand to rectos and versos of three leaves, address, postmark and docket on verso of fourth leaf, which has a wax seal. Moderate toning, negligible light soiling and discoloration in few places, horizontal fold lines, small chip and tear from opening wax seal mended with archival tissue. A transcription of the letter is included. A well-preserved item. \$850.

\* Jamaica's agent in England from 1803 to 1812, Lyon belonged to a family that owned several plantations in Jamaica with a notably large number of enslaved workers. He lived in Jamaica from 1789 to 1801. During that time he helped to manage the family's holdings and served as a magistrate in St. Catherine. A committed supporter of the West Indian plantation system, he supported efforts to prevent the abolition of slavery. Chalmers [1742-1825] was the chief clerk of the Board of Trade and Plantations, and a notable antiquarian and political writer.

The letter asks Chalmers to place a large map of Jamaica before the Board when it discusses a letter he had sent, with the same date, to George Eden, 1st Earl of Auckland [1784-1849], President of the Board of Trade. The rest of this letter is a transcription of the letter to Eden. It discusses the potential effects of Jefferson's Non-Importation Act. Enacted on April 18, 1806, it curtailed the importation of British goods in an attempt to punish Great Britain for its violations of American sovereignty and neutrality during the Napoleonic Wars. Lyon concludes that it would be possible to evade the act in Jamaica. He notes that the act bars American vessels from Jamaica's existing custom houses, but says nothing about any houses established later. This, he states, is a loophole. In total, there are some 1,300 words detailing potential locations of new custom houses in Jamaica. Taking a non-legal course, he also notes how the act can be subverted by smugglers, whaling ships and European privateers.

The efforts of people like Lyon contributed to the ineffectiveness of Jefferson's 1806 act, and similar acts passed in 1807 and 1809. The failure of these acts were primary causes of the War of 1812.

"Edmund Pusey Lyon" in Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slavery, University College London (accessed online). Macdonald, James (1911). "Chalmers, George," *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (11th ed., accessed online).

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**A Former Law Student of Aaron Burr Criticizes  
New York State's Idea of "A Well-Regulated Militia"**

**19. [Manuscript].**

**Western, Henry M. [c.1795-1853].**

[Draft Remarks Regarding State Militias]. [New York?], June 4, 1822. 8 pp.

Four 12-3/4" x 7-1/2" sheets, first three held together with pin at top-edge, heavily corrected text in single hand to rectos and versos, docket to verso of final leaf. Moderate toning, horizontal fold lines, a few small, faint dampstains to verso of final leaf not affecting legibility. \$1,500.

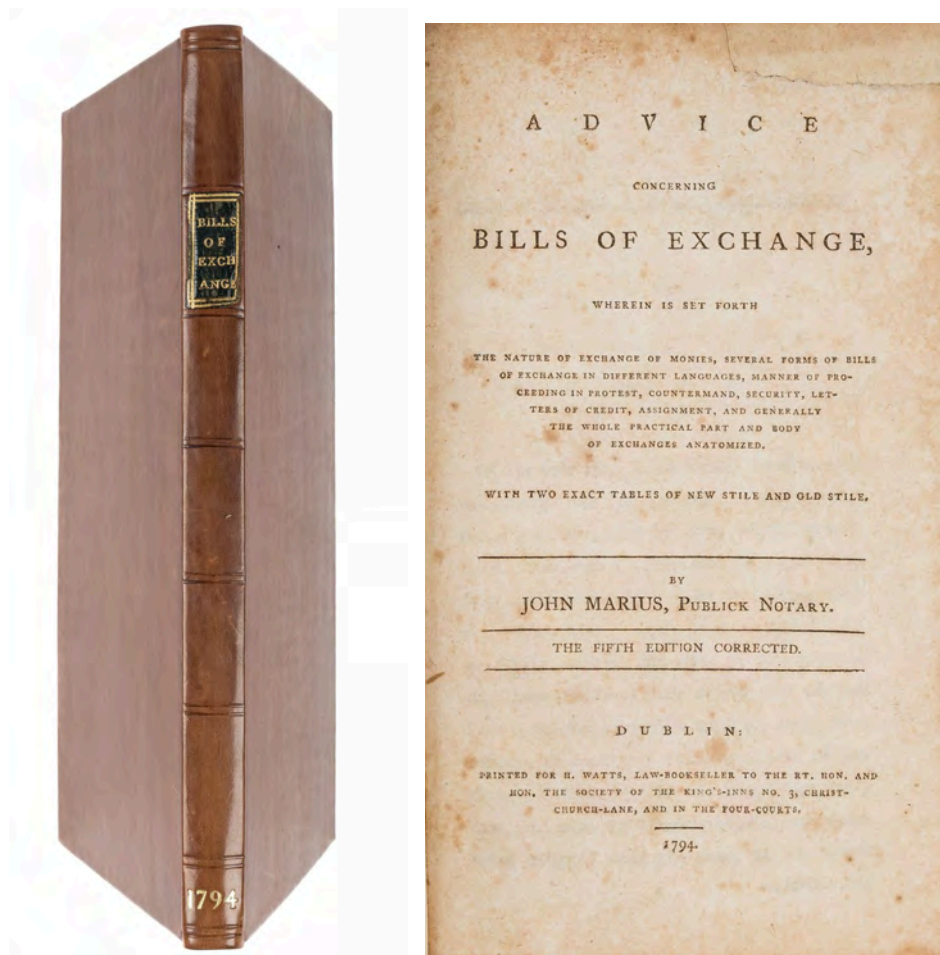
\* Western was a wealthy and distinguished lawyer who practiced in New York City. He studied law in Aaron Burr's office, and the two remained close afterwards; Burr was often a guest at Western's Long Island estate, Dosoris. In this manuscript, he harshly criticizes a new set of militia regulations proposed by New York State, describing them as too lax, inimical to military discipline and "an abortion" of the intent of the framers of the federal and state constitutions. "...if there is to be neither Parades nor Dicipline [sic]," he writes, "how is the Spirit [?] of the Constitution or the intent of the Legislature fulfilled- But that is not all say they- the present act provides no Court Martial & as we have no right to Punish Men, ergo have we no right to command them."

Western's remarks provide interesting insight into how early Americans interpreted the Second Amendment in a rapidly changing country. Eleven years later, his concern would be echoed by Joseph Story in his *Commentaries*: "The right of the citizens to keep and bear arms has justly been considered, as the palladium of the liberties of a republic... And yet, though this truth would seem so clear, and the importance of a well regulated militia would seem so undeniable, it cannot be disguised, that among the American people there is a growing indifference to any system of militia discipline, and a strong disposition, from a sense of its burthens, to be rid of all regulations. How it is practicable to keep the people duly armed without some organization, it is difficult to see. There is certainly no small danger, that indifference may lead to disgust, and disgust to contempt; and thus gradually undermine all the protection intended by this clause of our national bill of rights."

Story, *Commentaries on the Constitution* (1833) 746-747.

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### A Well-Regarded Work on Bills of Exchange

#### 20. Marius, John.

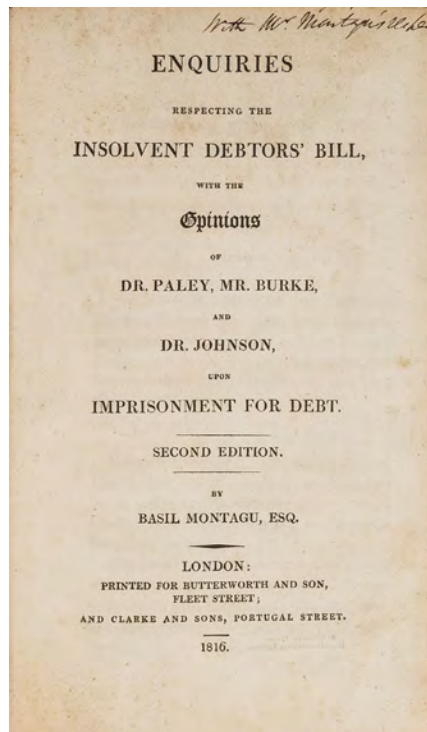
*Advice Concerning Bills of Exchange, Wherein is Set Forth the Nature of Exchange of Monies, Several Forms of Bills of Exchange in Different Languages, Manner of Proceeding in Protest, Countermand, Security, Letters of Credit, Assignment, And Generally the Whole Practical Part and Body of Exchanges Anatomized. With Two Exact Tables of New Stile and Old Stile.* Dublin: Printed for H. Watts, 1794. [100] pp. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4").

Recent calf, blind fillets, gilt date and retained lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed. Light scratches and very light fading to exterior. Light toning to interior, occasional light foxing, upper outside corners of half-title and title page lacking (mended on verso). \$650.

\* Only Dublin edition (stated fifth). This well-regarded treatise on bills of exchange went through a number of editions in London, Dublin and Philadelphia, the first in London in 1651. It was incorporated into the final edition of Gerard Malynes's classic *Lex Mercatoria* (1686), a sign of its reputation.

OCLC locates 7 copies of this edition (UC-Berkeley Law School, Free Library of Philadelphia, Brigham Young University, Yale, Columbia Law School, University of Pennsylvania Law School, New York State Appellate Division Library). *English Short-Title Catalogue* N46926.

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**Authorial Presentation Copy of  
Montagu's Scarce Essay on Debt Imprisonment**

**21. Montagu, Basil [1770-1851].**

*Enquiries Respecting the Insolvent Debtors' Bill, With the Opinions of Dr. Paley, Mr. Burke, And Dr. Johnson, Upon Imprisonment for Debt.* London: Printed for Butterworth and Son, Fleet Street; And Clarke and Sons, Portugal Street, 1816. xvi, 38, [viii] pp. Final 8 pp. are a prospectus (for *The Scotsman*, which commenced publication in 1817). Octavo (8" x 4-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into recent quarter cloth over marbled boards, gilt title to spine. Light rubbing to spine ends and corners, light toning to interior, faint dampspotting in places, author presentation inscription to head of title page, name of recipient removed by trimming. \$650.

\* Second and final edition. Lawyer, versatile legal author and philanthropist, Montagu is best known for his tireless efforts to reform bankruptcy law and abolish capital punishment, work he pursued with considerable success. *Enquiries* was first published in 1815 in response to the enactment of the Insolvent Debtors' Act of 1813, which liberalized the law but failed to satisfy Montagu.

It begins with an essay by Montagu, "Notes Upon Imprisonment for Debt &c.," which considers "reasons why a debtor ought to be imprisoned" and "by whom ought a debtor to be imprisoned." This is followed by remarks on debt imprisonment by three authorities: Edmund Burke [1729-1797], the statesman and political philosopher, William Paley [1743-1805], the Anglican priest and moral and political philosopher, and Samuel Johnson [1709-1784], the writer and social critic.

Both editions of this title are scarce. OCLC locates 7 copies of the second edition, 2 in North America (New York Public Library, University of Nebraska). Library Hub does not add other copies. *British Museum Catalogue* (Compact Edition) 17:843.

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### A New Hampshire Prison "For Juvenile and Female Offenders"

#### 22. [Prisons].

#### [New Hampshire].

*"House of Reformation for Juvenile and Female Offenders Against the Laws" To be Erected for the State of New Hampshire at Manchester. Under the Direction of Hon. Frederick Smith, Hon. Matthew Harvey and Hon. Hosea Eaton, Commissioners. William R. Lincoln and Gridley J.F. Bryant, Designers and Architect. Boston: Kramer & Co's Lith., [1856?].*

16-3/4" x 21-3/4" (image size 11-1/2" x 19") black-and-white lithograph. Moderate toning, faint offsetting horizontal and vertical fold lines, a few tiny clean tears along fold lines with minor loss to image. \$650.

\* Construction of the New Hampshire House of Reformation began in 1856. The building was designed by notable Boston architect Gridley J.F. Bryant [1816-1899], who had designed a number of prisons and would go on to renovate the New Hampshire State House in 1866. Intended for "juvenile and female offenders," the House of Reformation opened in 1858 and took in offenders from across the state. It was severely damaged and mostly destroyed by fire in 1865.

OCLC locates 3 copies of this lithograph (Library Company of Philadelphia, Boston Athenaeum, American Antiquarian Society). We located additional copies at Dartmouth and the New Hampshire Historical Society. Reed, *Building Victorian Boston: The Architecture of Gridley J.F. Bryant* 186.

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**With a Fore-Edge Painting of Scotland's Kilchurn Castle**

**23. Pufendorf, Samuel von [1632-1694].**

**Johnson, Thomas [fl. 1718], Editor.**

**Buddeus, Joannes Franciscus (Johann Franz) [1667-1729], Notes.**

*De Officio Hominis & Civis Juxta Legem Naturalem Libri Duo. Selectis Variorum Notis, Maximeq; Propriis Illustravit, Celeberrimi Buddei Historiam Juris Naturalis Notis Adauctam Praemisit, Indicemq Rerum Subjunxit Tho. Johnson. Longe Auctior & Emendatior.* London: Impensis G. Thurlbourn, 1758. [i], xvi, 513 pp. Copperplate portrait frontispiece. Octavo (8" x 5").

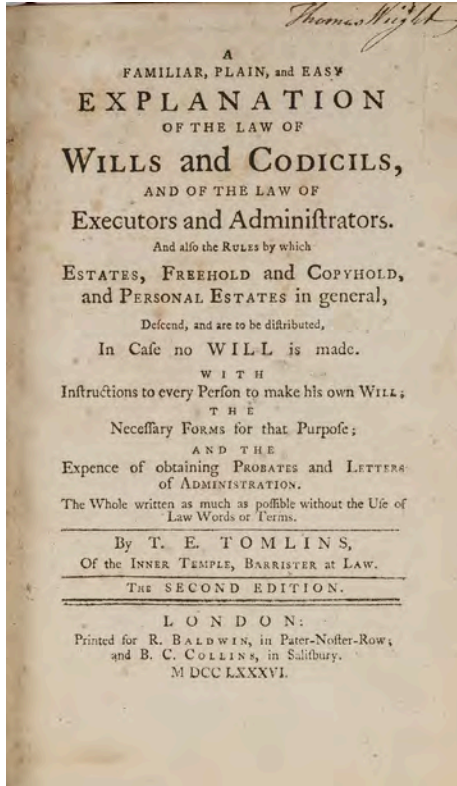
Contemporary calf, rebacked, portions of later (twentieth-century?) spine with gilt ornaments and title laid down, rouged edges. Light rubbing and some small scuffs, nicks and scratches to boards, hinges cracked but secure, later owner signature ("Clair J. Grece," dated 28th March 1863) to front free endpaper, which has a small mend to its lower outside corner. Title page with copperplate vignette printed in red and black, attractive woodcut head and tail-pieces. Light toning to interior, light foxing to several leaves, title page and frontispiece mended at lower outside corners without loss to text or image. Later unsigned fore-edge painting with a view of Kilchurn Castle in Scotland. Housed in lightly shelfworn marbled slipcase. \$2,500.

\* Fourth edition (by Johnson). *De Officio* is a synopsis of Pufendorf's *De Jure Naturae et Gentium*, a landmark work that proposed a thorough system of private, public, and international law based on natural law. It is significant in part because it develops principles introduced by Grotius and Hobbes. Unlike Hobbes, Pufendorf argued that peace, not war, was the state of nature, and he proposed that international law was not restricted to Christendom. Buddeus was a renowned German jurist, theologian, historian and professor at the University of Jena. The first English edition was published in 1682 and the first by Johnson in 1735.

Grece [1831-1901] was a solicitor, legal writer and correspondent of Charles Darwin. Fore-edge paintings on legal titles are uncommon.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* T141118.

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### Tomlins on Wills

#### 24. Tomlins, Thomas Edlyne [1761-1841].

*A Familiar, Plain, And Easy Explanation of the Law of Wills and Codicils, And of the Law of Executors and Administrators. And Also the Rules by Which Estates, Freehold and Copyhold, and Personal Estates in General, Descend, And Are to be Distributed, In Case No Will is Made. With Instructions to Every Person to Make his Own Will; The Necessary Forms for That Purpose; And The Expence of Obtaining Probates and Letters of Administration. The Whole Written as Much as Possible Without the Use of Law Words or Terms.* London: Printed for R. Baldwin, 1787. xii, 137, [3] pp. Octavo (8" x 4-3/4").

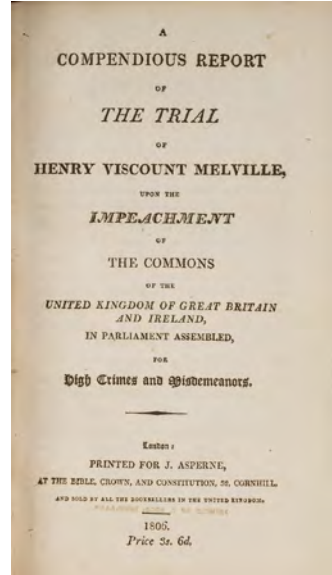
Contemporary tree calf, gilt spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and a few small nicks and scratches to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, joints starting, a few horizontal cracks across spine, chipping to head of spine, corners bumped, hinges cracked, early pencil annotations to front pastedown. Light toning to interior, light foxing and soiling to a few leaves, pencil and ink marks to margins of a few pages, early owner signature (Thomas Wright) to head of title page. \$250.

\* Second edition. First published in 1785, this useful and popular book went through seven subsequent editions, the last in 1819. It was written for laymen. According to the preface, it was inspired by the author's "daily experience...of the mischiefs attending the neglect of that duty which every man owes his family, friends, or dependents, in the disposal and settlement of his property by will." Tomlins was a leading legal writer of his day. He published an important dictionary, edited important editions of Littleton's *Tenures* and Jacob's *A New Law-Dictionary* and contributed entries to the *Statutes of the Realm*.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* N7918.

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With an Attractive Fore-Edge Painting Depicting the Tower of London

25. [Trial].

**Dundas, Henry, 1st Viscount Melville [1742-1811], Defendant.**

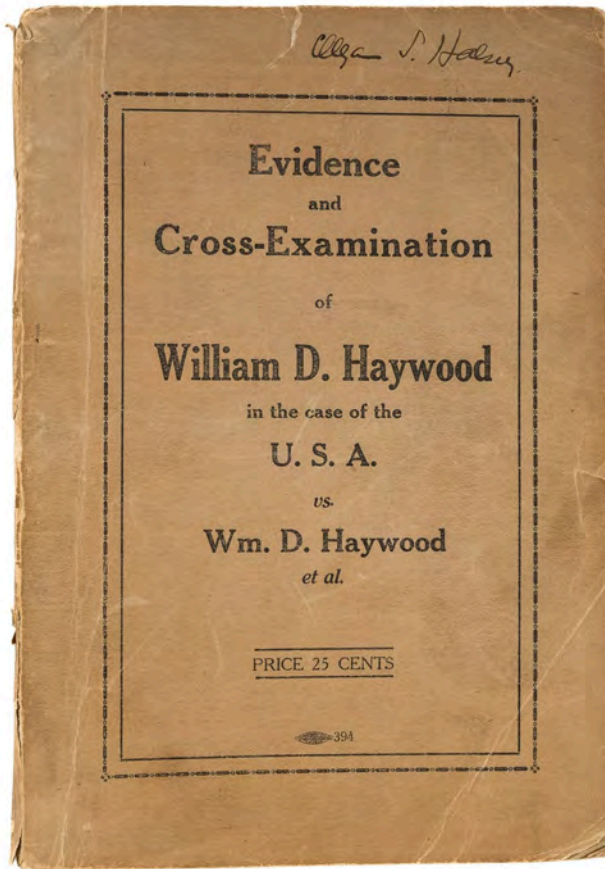
*A Compendious Report of the Trial of Henry Viscount Melville, Upon the Impeachment of the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, In Parliament Assembled, For High Crimes and Misdemeanors.* London: Printed for J. Asperne, at the Bible, Crown, and Constitution, 1806. [iv], 237, [1], 14 pp. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5").

Contemporary straight grained fine tooled crimson morocco, gilt rules and fillets to boards, gilt spine with raised bands and title, gilt rules to board edges, gilt dentelles, marbled endpapers, all edges gilt, small Henry Sotheran bookseller ticket to verso of front free endpaper. Light toning and light foxing to a few leaves, internally clean. Attractive unsigned contemporary fore-edge painting depicting a view of the Tower of London over the Thames. (Fore-edge paintings on legal titles are uncommon.) A handsome copy. \$5,000.

\* First and only edition. Henry Dundas was a powerful and distinguished Scottish politician with close ties to Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger. In 1805, a report from the Commissioners of Naval Inquiry found that misappropriation of naval funds had taken place during Dundas's time as treasurer of the Royal Navy (though Dundas was not accused of personally benefiting). Impeachment proceedings began in 1806. The trial garnered significant attention given Dundas's prestige, ties to Pitt and Scottish heritage. Dundas was acquitted, but the proceedings brought an end to his career.

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**An Important Trial for Organized Labor**

**26. [Trial].**

**Haywood, William [1869-1928].**

*Evidence and Cross-Examination of William D. Haywood in the Case of the U.S.A. vs. Wm. D. Haywood et al.* [Chicago: General Defense Committee, 1918]. 312 pp. Portrait.

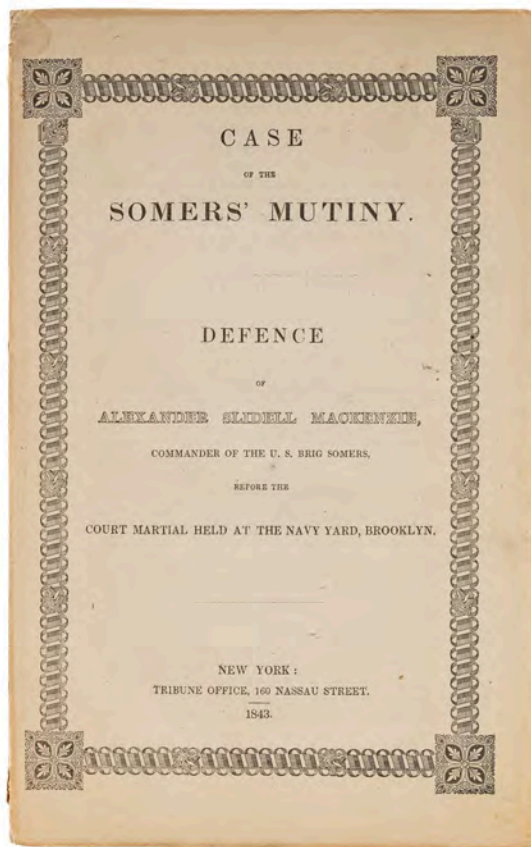
Stapled in stiff printed wrappers. Light soiling and faint creasing to wrappers, owner signature (Olga S. Halsey) and small tear to head of front wrapper, faint stain to rear wrapper, tearing to spine. Light toning, partial crack in text block after title page, all leaves secure, internally clean. \$450.

\* The Haywood trial concerned the murder of Frank R. Steunenberg, who had called in federal troops to break miners' strikes as former governor of Idaho. Harry Orchard, a former member of the Western Federation of Miners, confessed to the crime but when threatened with hanging claimed that he had committed the murder on the orders of senior members of WFM leadership, including William "Big Bill" Haywood. Haywood and two other men implicated in the plot were extradited to Idaho from Colorado and tried for murder. The trial became a flashpoint for organized labor. Famed American attorney Clarence Darrow led Haywood's defense, successfully undermining Orchard's character and securing an acquittal after one of the passionate closing summaries that would become his trademark as an attorney.

Olga Spencer Halsey [c.1889-1970], the probable former owner of this item, was a social scientist and researcher for the American Association for Labor Legislation. A passionate advocate of health insurance reform, she drafted some of the first health insurance legislation in the U.S.

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### The Only Mutiny Plot That Occurred on a U.S. Navy Ship

#### 27. [Trial].

#### MacKenzie, Alexander Slidell [1803-1848], Defendant.

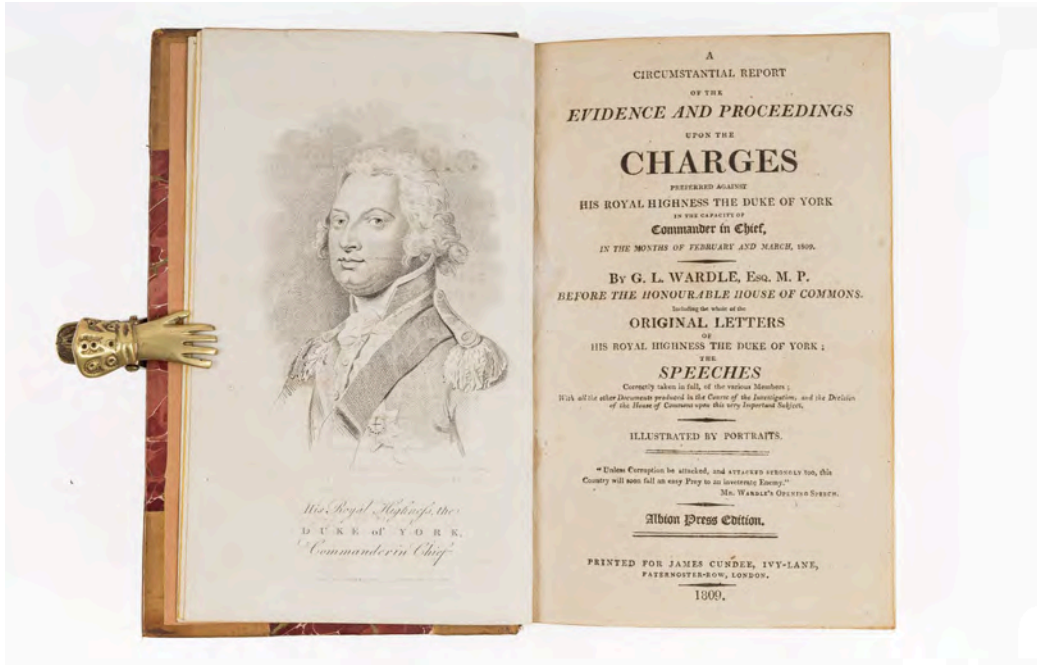
*Case of the Somers' Mutiny. Defence of Alexander Slidell Mackenzie, Commander of the U.S. Brig Somers, Before the Court Martial Held at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn.* New York: Tribune Office, 160 Nassau Street, 1843. 30, 11 pp. Octavo (9-1/4" x 6").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in printed wrappers. Light soiling, a few minor stains to exterior, spine ends abraded, faint traces of erased penciled annotation to front wrapper. Light toning to interior, light foxing to p. ii. A well-preserved copy. \$650.

\* Only edition. This trial concerns the only time a mutiny plot was discovered on a U.S. Navy ship. "Alexander Slidell Mackenzie was a career naval officer and author of many books. In 1842, while he was commander of the brig Somers, Mackenzie executed three members of his crew for allegedly plotting a mutiny. The three (Philip Spencer, Samuel Cromwell, and Elisha Small) were executed without a hearing. The incident aroused much public interest and criticism since Spencer was the son of the secretary of war, John C. Spencer. Although a court of inquiry cleared Mackenzie, the secretary of the navy charged him with murder. A court martial, held at Mackenzie's request, found him innocent" (Cohen). Because it was the first, and, as time would show, only, attempted mutiny in the history of the U.S. Navy, this case attracted a fair amount of subsequent attention, most recently Philip McFarland's 1985 account *Sea Dangers: The Affair of the Somers*.

Cohen, *Bibliography of Early American Law* 13563.

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### One of the Great Scandals of Georgian England

#### 28. [Trial].

Wardle, G[wyllym] L[loyd] [1762?-1833], Reporter.

Frederick Augustus, Prince, Duke of York and Albany [1763-1827], Defendant.

*A Circumstantial Report of the Evidence and Proceedings Upon the Charges Preferred Against His Royal Highness the Duke of York in the Capacity of Commander in Chief, In the Months of February and March, 1809. Before the Honourable House of Commons. Including the Whole of the Original Letters of His Royal Highness the Duke of York; The Speeches Correctly Taken in Full, Of the Various Members; With All the Other Documents Produced in the Course of the Investigation, And the Decision of the House of Commons Upon This Very Important Subject. Illustrated by Portraits. Albion Press Edition.* London: Printed for James Cundee, Ivy-Lane, 1809. viii, [3]-700 pp. Stipple-engraved frontispiece, 12 stipple-engraved plates. Complete. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5").

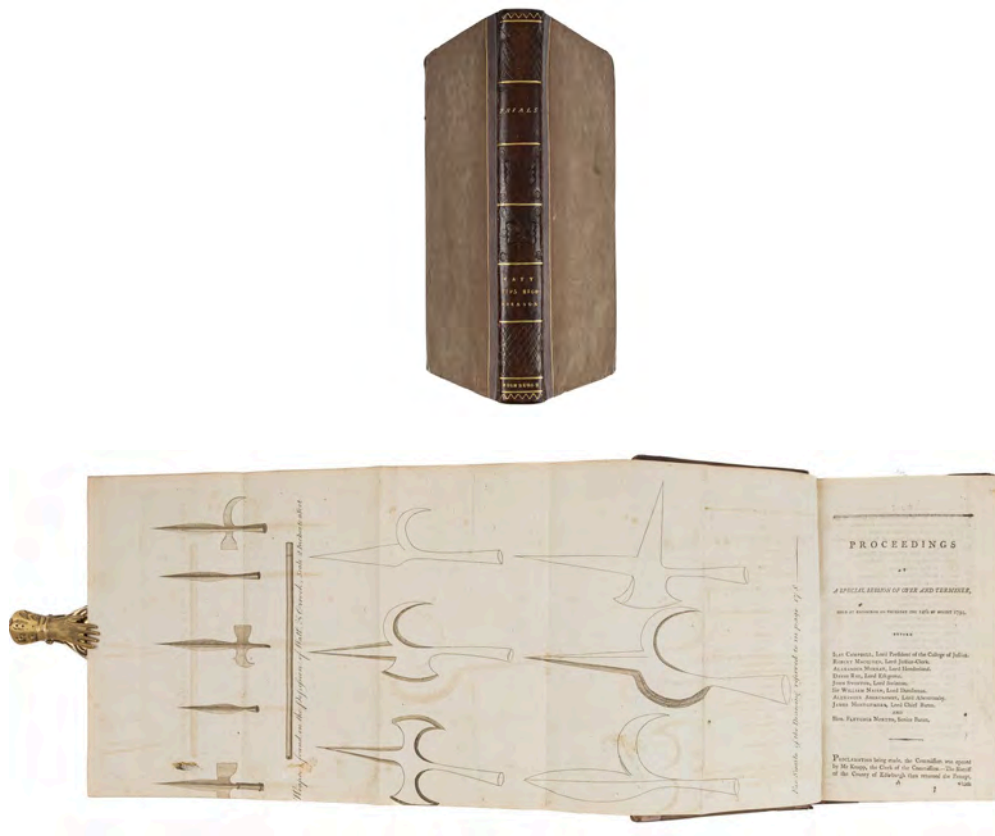
Nineteenth-century three-quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands, gilt fillets and red and black lettering pieces to spine, edges colored yellow. Negligible light rubbing and a few minor scuffs to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and lightly worn, small bookseller stamp (Lawrance & Hill, London) to verso of front free endpaper. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing in places, finger smudges to a few leaves, small hole to leaf 3E2 (pp. 403-404) with minor loss to text. \$350.

\* Only edition. This trial was one of the great scandals of Georgian England. In 1806 it was discovered that Mary Anne Clarke, the mistress of Prince Frederick, Duke of York and Albany [1763-1827], commander-in-chief and the second son of King George III, was selling commissions for personal profit, presumably with Frederick's cooperation. Investigated by Parliament, Frederick was exonerated, but he resigned his post, however, because a large minority voted against him. He was reinstated two years later. Clarke was forced to leave London. She was convicted of libel in 1813 and served a nine-month prison sentence. She then moved to France and spent the rest of her life there. Lloyd, a former military officer and the reporter of this account, initiated the case as a Member of Parliament.

*British Museum Catalogue* (Compact Edition) 26:691.

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### An Ill-Founded Plot to Establish an Independent Scotland

#### 29. [Trial].

#### **Watt, Robert [c.1761-1794], Defendant.**

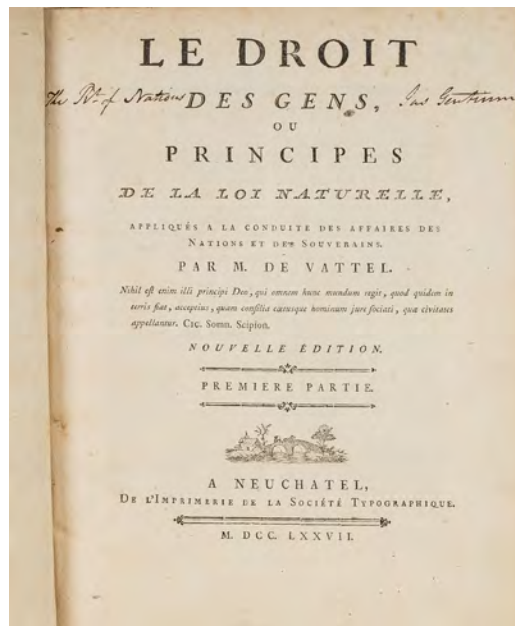
*Trial of Robert Watt, For High Treason, Before the Court, Under the Special Commission of Oyer and Terminer Held at Edinburgh. Taken in Short Hand by Mr. Blanchard, Revised by the Counsel on Both Sides, And Published with the Permission of the Court.* Edinburgh: Printed for William Brown, 1795. [ii], 364 pp. Folding plate (illustrating pikes found in Watt's possession). Octavo (8" x 4-3/4").

Contemporary three-quarter calf over paper-covered boards, gilt rules to boards along calf, blind ornaments and gilt fillets and title to spine, speckled edges. Light rubbing and a few minor spots and smudges to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped and moderately worn. Moderate toning to interior, negligible light foxing and tiny smudges and stains to preliminaries, plate, final leaf of text and rear endleaves. A handsome copy. \$650.

\* Only edition. Watt, a wine merchant and political radical, was the architect of a somewhat confused plot to establish Scotland as an independent country. After a search of his house turned up a number of pikes and the type for a seditious handbill, he was arrested and tried for treason. A co-conspirator was pardoned, but Watt was not so lucky. He was convicted and sentenced to be hanged and beheaded despite the jury's recommendation of mercy. The sentence reflected the court's opinion of the severity of Watt's crime. It was also intended to be a warning to other radicals.

*English Short-Title Catalogue* N013806.

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**A Classic and Influential Treatise on International Law**

**30. Vattel, [Emmerich] de [1714-1767].**

*Le Droit des Gens, Ou Principes de la Loi Naturelle, Appliqués à la Conduite des Affaires des Nations et Des Souverains*. Neuchâtel: De l'Imprimerie de la Société Typographique, 1777. 2 volumes in 1 book, each with title page. xvi, 298, xvii-xx, 299-300; [iv], 230, [2] pp. As in other copies we have seen, leaves c1-2 (pp. xvii-xx) misbound after p. 298 of first volume; text complete. Quarto (10" x 7-1/4").

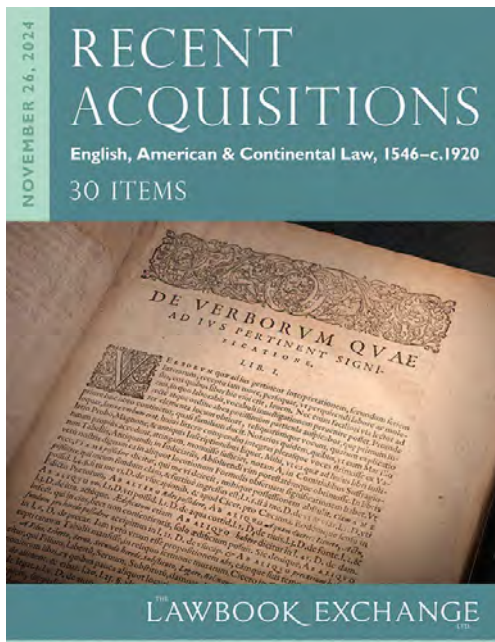
Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and some scuffing and scratches to boards, faint gatoring to front board near spine, moderate rubbing to extremities, somewhat heavier to spine, joints cracked, spine ends and corners bumped and worn. Main text printed in two columns, woodcut headpieces. Light toning to interior, occasional light foxing, lower corners of leaf A1 (pp. 1-2) lacking without loss to text, creasing (from printer's flaw?) to foot of first column on same leaf affecting text without loss to legibility, early annotation to first title page, early owner signature ("Henry J. Jessup" [?], possibly of solicitor Henry James Jessup [1762-1806]) to half-title of second volume. \$850.

\* Later ("Nouvelle") edition, issued in 12mo. the same year. First published in Neuchâtel in 1758, this is one of the most influential treatises on international law. It was re-edited nine times in the 18th and eleven times in the 19th century, before the standard edition in the *Classics of International Law* series, Washington, 1916.

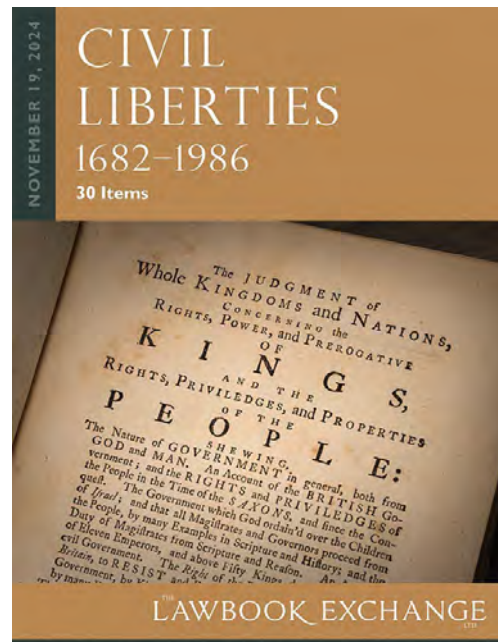
Vattel's work was especially influential in the United States: Jefferson ranked it with the works of Grotius, Pufendorf and Wolff. It was also cited more frequently than any other writer on international law in early U.S. courts. "*Le Droit des Gens* is certainly a work of the first magnitude. It modernized the whole theory and business of International Law, brought it out of the study into the field, the mart, the council chamber, and the palace. (...) He did indeed, much for nations, for he imposed upon them theories of moral rational development up to which it became, in a sense, necessary for them to live" (MacDonnell).

Dauchy, *The Formation and Transmission of Western Legal Culture: 150 Books That Made the Law in the Age of Printing*. 88. MacDonnell, *The Great Jurists of the World* 479, 504. This edition not in Camus.

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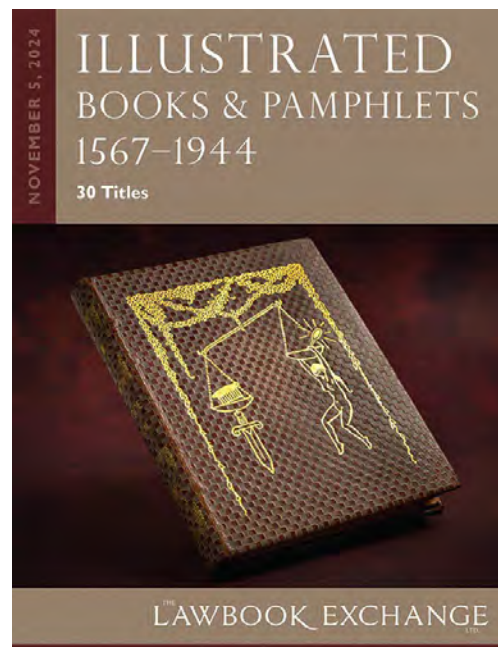
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