

DECEMBER 17, 2024

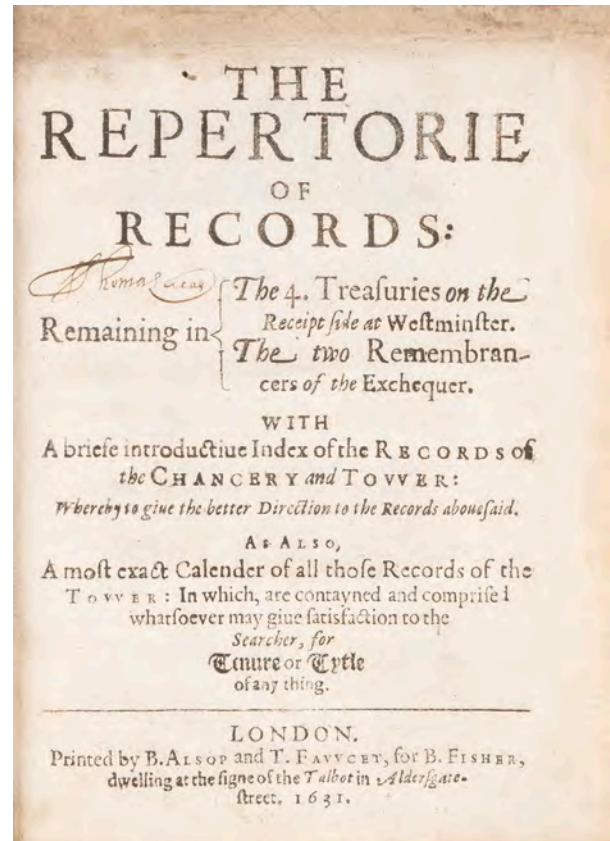
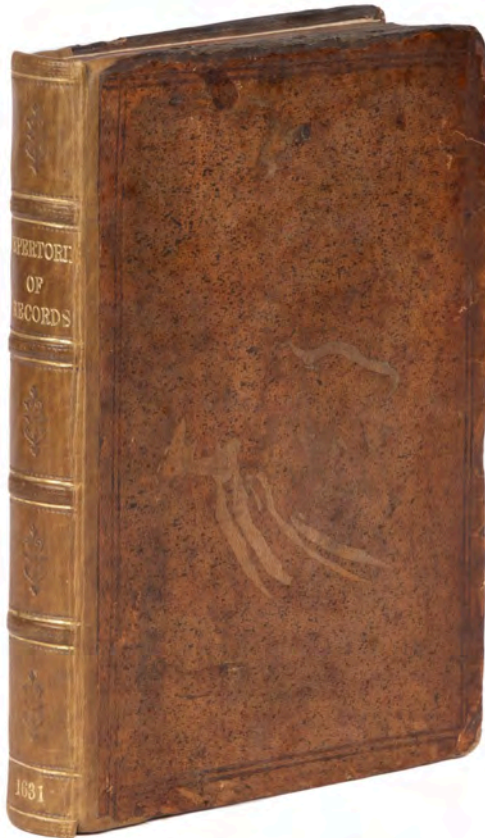
BRITISH LAW

1525–1833

30 Items



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Probably the First Census of English Public Records

1. [Agard, Arthur (1540-1615), Compiler].

[Powell, Thomas (1572?-1643?), Editor].

The Repertorie of Records: Remaining in the 4. Treasuries on the Receipt Side at Westminster. The Two Remembrancers of the Exchequer. With a Briefe Introductive Index of the Records of the Chancery and Tower: Whereby to Give the Better Direction to the Records Abovesaid. As Also, A Most Exact Calender of All Those Records of the Tower: In Which are Contayned and Comprised Whatsoever May Give Satisfaction to the Searcher, For Tenure or Tytle of Any Thing. London: Printed by B. Alsop and T. Fawcet, For B. Fisher, 1631. [viii], 141, 144-217, [1] pp. Pagination irregular. Text complete. First leaf blank. Quarto (7" x 5-1/2").

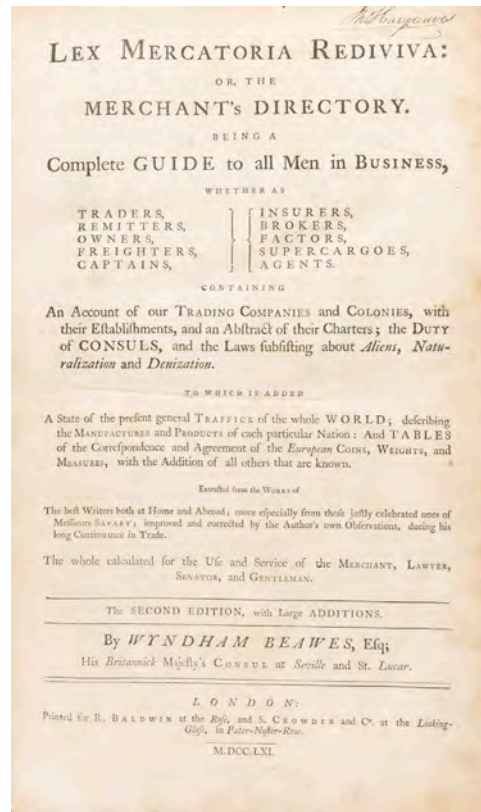
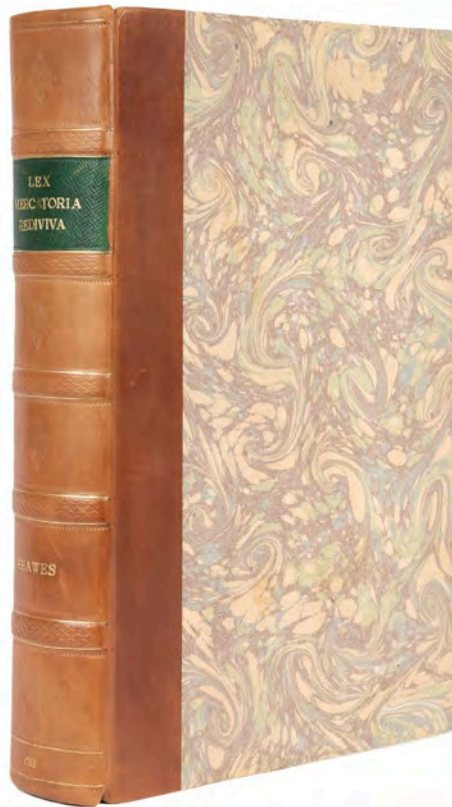
Contemporary speckled sheep with recent period-style calf rebacking, blind rules to boards, lettering piece, blind ornaments, gilt-edged raised bands and gilt publication date to spine, endpapers renewed. A few shallow scuffs to boards, a larger scuff to rear board, moderate rubbing to board edges. Light browning to interior, offsetting and light edgewear to preliminaries and rear endleaves, "Char: Gray 1719" to verso of initial blank, early owner signature ("Thomas Lucas"?) to title page. \$450.

* Only edition, one of two issues from 1631. This is probably the first attempt to produce a census of the English public records. The project was begun by Agard; and completed after Agard's death by Powell. One of this book's former owners was likely Charles Gray [bap.1696-1782], a lawyer, antiquary and Conservative MP for Colchester. Gray was also one of the original trustees of the British Museum and would have found this title appealing to his scholarly and antiquarian interests.

English Short-Title Catalogue S122217.

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Regarded as "An Authority in Mercantile Customs" by Kent

2. Beawes, Wyndham [fl. 1775].

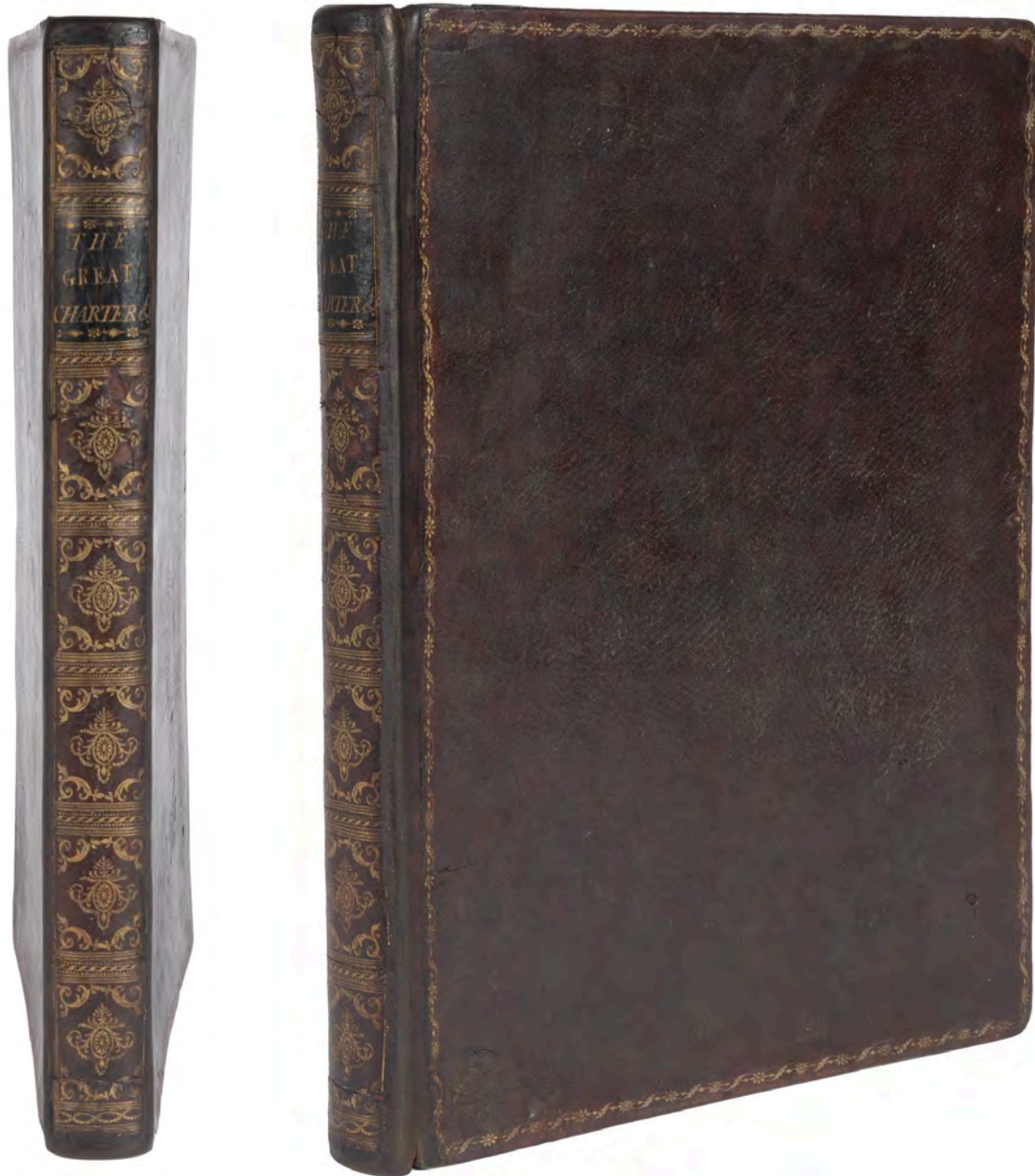
Lex Mercatoria Rediviva: Or, The Merchant's Directory. Being a Complete Guide to All Men in Business, Whether as Traders, Remitters, Owners, Freighters, Captains, Insurers, Brokers, Factors, Supercargoes, Agents. Containing an Account of Our Trading Companies and Colonies, With Their Establishments, And an Abstract of Their Charters; The Duty of Consuls, And the Laws Subsisting About Aliens, Naturalization and Denization. To Which Is Added a State of the Present General Traffick of the Whole World; Describing the Manufactures and Products of Each Particular Nation: And Tables of the Correspondence and Agreement of the European Coins, Weights, And Measures, With the Addition of All Others that are Known. Extracted from the Works of the Best Writers Both at Home and Abroad; More Especially from Those Justly Celebrated Ones of Messieurs Savary; Improved and Corrected by the Author's Own Observations, During His Long Continuance in Trade. The Whole Calculated for the Use and Service of the Merchant, Lawyer, Senator, And Gentleman. With Large Additions. London: Printed for R. Baldwin and S. Crowder and Co., 1761. [ii], vii, [3], 898, [20] pp. Folio (14-3/4" x 9-1/2").

Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands, blind and gilt ornaments, lettering piece and gilt publication date to spine, endpapers renewed. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing in a few places, mostly to margins, negligible faint dampstaining to lower margins of final ten leaves, light soiling, light foxing and early owner signature (Jonathan Hargreaves) to title page. A handsome copy. \$550.

* Second edition. Beawes was a merchant and his book was intended to be "a guide to all men in business." Nonetheless the *Lex Mercatoria* was often cited in court, and its authority formed the basis of several decisions. First published in 1751, it was especially influential in the United States, where, according to Kent, it was "an authority in mercantile customs."

Kent, *Commentaries on American Law* III:126. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T136427.

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The First Critical Edition of Magna Carta

3. Blackstone, Sir William [1723-1780], Editor.

The Great Charter and Charter of the Forest, With Other Authentic Instruments: To Which is Prefixed an Introductory Discourse, Containing the History of the Charters. Oxford: At the Clarendon Press, 1759. [iv], lxxvi, [iv], 86 pp. As in many copies, half-title and table of contents (Tabula) are bound between pp lxxvi and 1. Copperplate engraved dedication leaf, initials and tail-pieces. Quarto (13-1/2" x 10-1/4").

Contemporary diced calf, gilt fillets to boards, rebaced retaining existing gilt spine with lettering piece, gilt tooling to board edges, gilt inside dentelles, marbled edges and endpapers. Negligible light rubbing and a few nicks and scuffs to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, bookplate residue to front pastedown, early bookplate ("RW" monogram) to verso of front free endpaper. Light toning, light soiling and foxing to a few leaves, occasional light offsetting from engravings. A desirable, wide-margined copy. \$7,500.

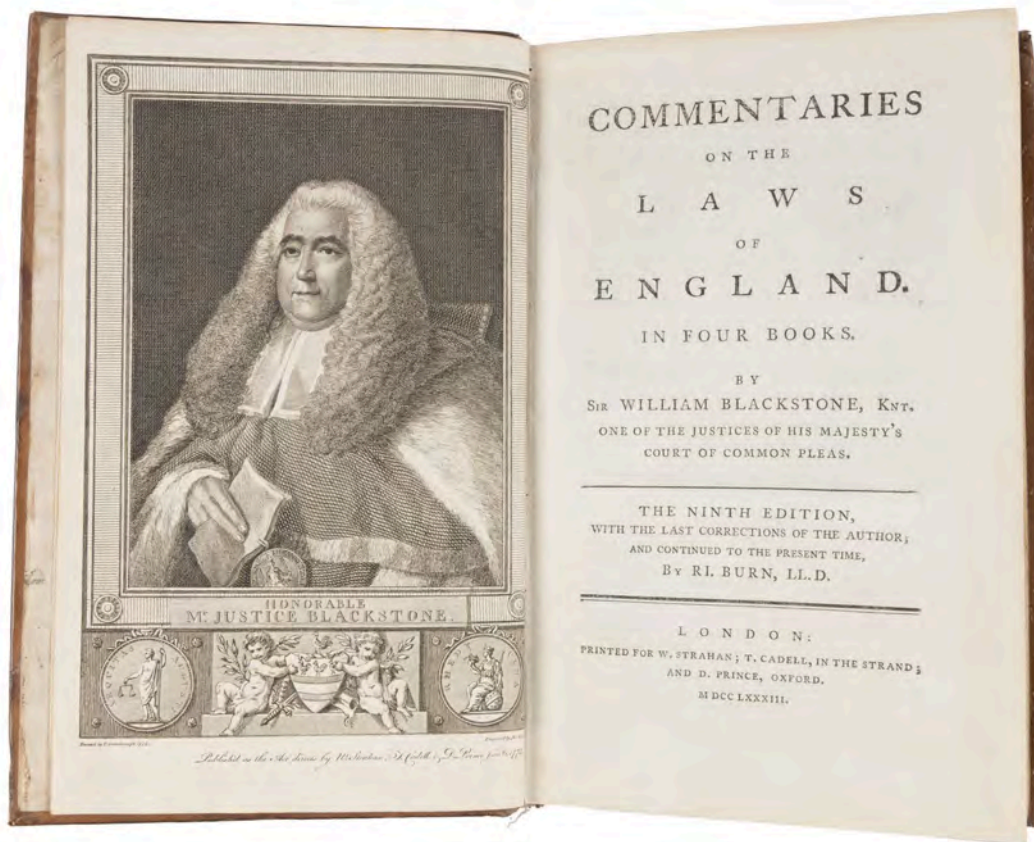
* First edition of the first modern critical edition of Magna Carta. Blackstone's first important work, it contains the Articles of the Barons and the issues of the Great Charter in 1215, 1216 and 1217, with several charters of confirmation, the Charter of the Forest, and the Statute of Marlebridge. The introduction is in English and the texts of the Magna Carta and Carta de Foresta in Latin. Blackstone's essay, which is based on a great deal of original research, argued that the charter was the foundation of English liberties. This idea, first proposed by Coke, was a central tenet of Whig ideology. More important, Blackstone's research into the original texts demonstrated that all earlier editions of the charter were based on the significantly different reissue of 1225, in the reign of Henry III, rather than the original one endorsed at Runnymede. His philological approach was highly influential; it established the textual focus that has governed subsequent study of the charter.

This edition is esteemed for its handsome appearance, which was recognized as early as 1829 in Richard Thompson's *An Historical Essay on the Magna Charta of King John*, which described it as a "beautiful and rare edition" and noted that its "elegance of typography is very great." The engraved dedication to the Earl of Westmoreland is surmounted with his armorial ensigns; engraved historiated initials in the text depict views of buildings at Oxford University. The tail-pieces on pages lxxvi and 73 are historical vignettes; the other ten engraved tail-pieces reproduce the royal seals attached to the original documents.

Eller, *The William Blackstone Collection in the Yale Law Library* 237. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 548.



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The Final Edition with Blackstone's Corrections

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

Burn, Richard [1709-1785], Editor.

Commentaries on the Laws of England. In Four Books. With the Last Corrections of the Author; And Continued to the Present Time. London: Printed for W. Strahan; T. Cadell, In the Strand; and D. Prince, Oxford, 1783. Four volumes. Copperplate portrait frontispiece of Blackstone, "Table of Consanguinity" and folding "Table of Descents." Octavo (8" x 5-1/4").

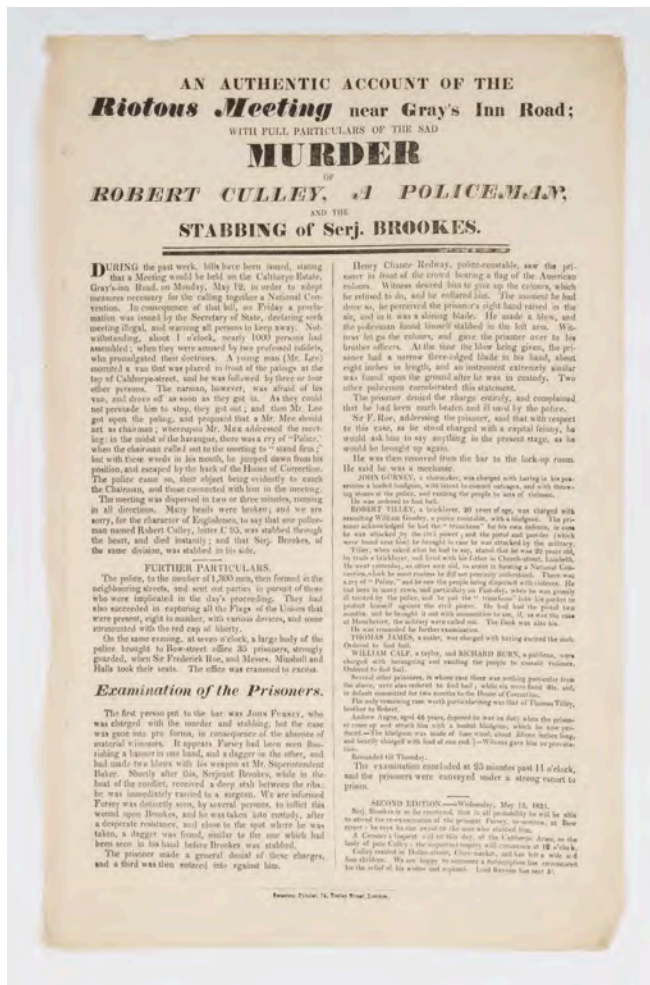
Contemporary tree calf, elaborate gilt-tooled spines. Light rubbing and some shallow scuffing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, light chipping to heads of spines, corners bumped and moderately worn, joints starting at ends, hinges cracked, armorial bookplate (of Guernsey bailiff John Guille [1788-1845]) to front pastedown of each volume. Light toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, some edgewear to folding table, light soiling to title page of Volume I. A handsome set. \$1,500.

* Ninth edition. The first edition published after Blackstone's death, it was the basis of several subsequent editions. Burn's advertisement in Volume I, dated July 20, 1783, states: "The alterations...since the publication of the last edition, were made by the author himself, as may appear from a corrected copy in his own handwriting...The editor...[has noted] alterations made by subsequent acts of Parliament." Burn, an attorney and notable legal writer, was the author of *The Justice of the Peace, And Parish Officer* (1st edition 1755), a work praised by Blackstone in the *Commentaries*.

Eller, *The William Blackstone Collection in the Yale Law Library* 14. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 18.

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A Rare Broadside Documenting a Clash Between Police and Protesters

**5. [Broadside].
[Coldbath Fields Riot].**

An Authentic Account of the Riotous Meeting Near Gray's Inn Road; With Full Particulars of the Sad Murder of Robert Culley, A Policeman, And the Stabbing of Serj. Brookes. London: Smeeton, Printer, [1833].

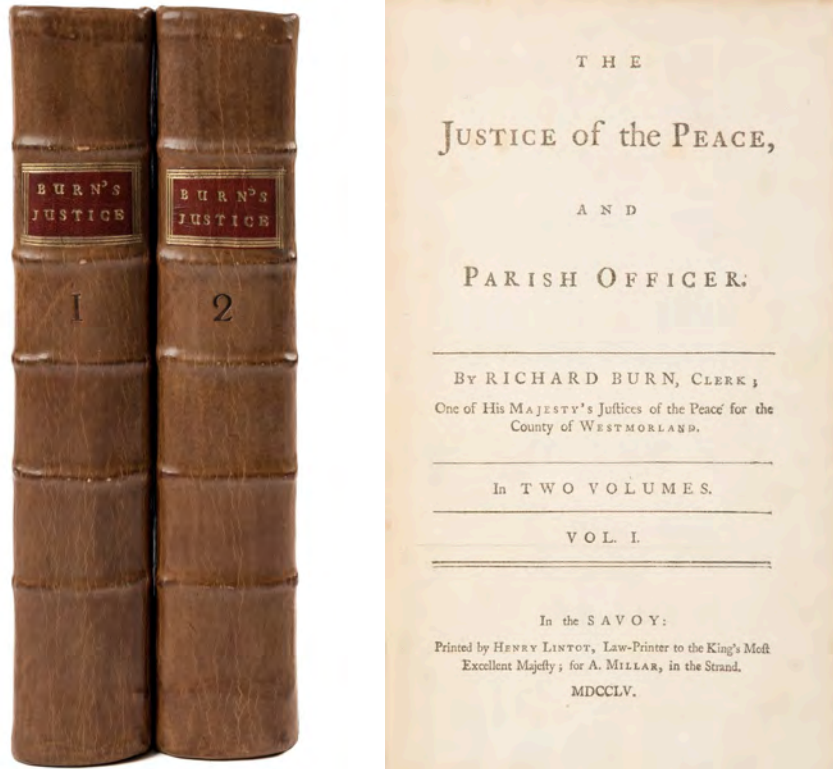
14-3/4" x 10" broadside, double-column text below headline. Light toning, moderate edgewear, a few creases to corners, left-hand margin backed with strip of paper, possibly part of a hinge from an album. A well-preserved copy. \$2,000.

* Second edition. This broadside records an early clash between the London Metropolitan Police, founded in 1829, and a group of organized protesters. Held on May 16, 1833, the Coldbath Fields Riot began as a public meeting of the National Union of the Working Classes at Coldbath Fields in Clerkenwell, an area of central London. Batons drawn, the police marched on the 1,000 attendees at the meeting. In the violence that followed three policemen were stabbed. One of them, Robert Culley (or Cully), died from his wounds. The subsequent inquest showed that the protesters were overwhelmed in number by the police. More important, no officer issued a call to disperse. Based on those facts, the jury returned a verdict of lawful homicide.

OCLC and Library Hub locate 1 copy of all editions (British Library).

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With Neat Manuscript Annotations by an Early Reader

6. Burn, Richard [1709-1785].

The Justice of the Peace, And Parish Officer. [London]: Printed by Henry Lintot, 1755. Two volumes. xxvii, [1], 541, [3]; [iii], 573, [11] pp. Three-page publisher advertisement at end of Volume I, another one-page advertisement facing title page of Volume II. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, blind tooling to board edges, rebacked with raised bands, lettering pieces and black-stamped volume numbers to spines, hinges mended. Light rubbing and a few minor stains to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped and somewhat worn, contemporary armorial bookplate (of Henry Reveley, above small contemporary signature "Ja. Coles") to each pastedown. Light toning to text, occasional annotations, underlining and other markings in an early hand to both volumes. \$2,000.

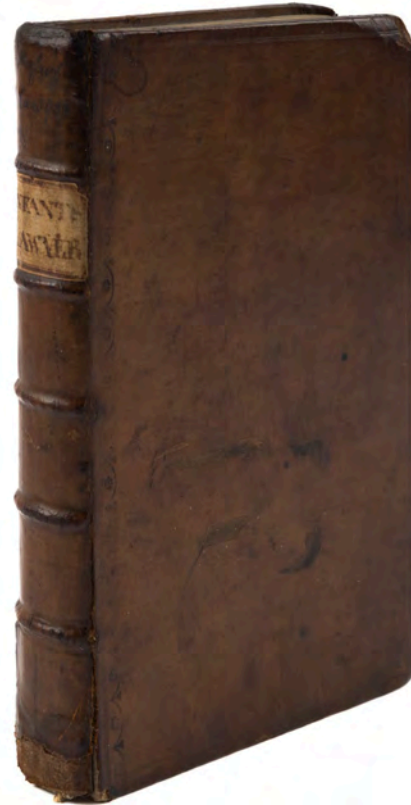
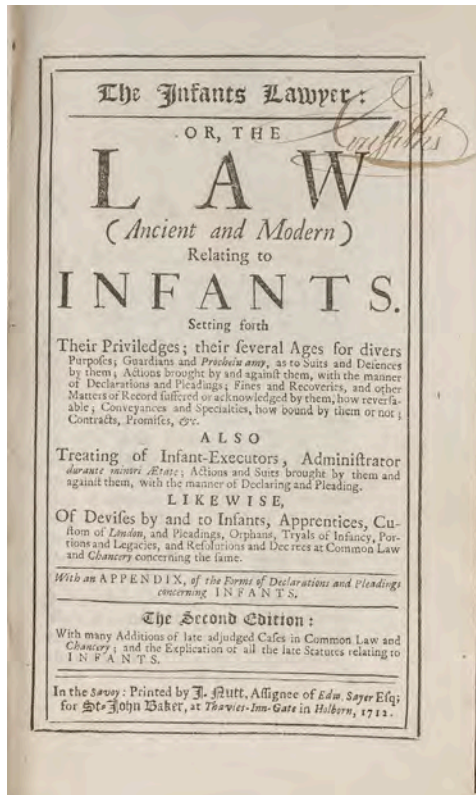
* First edition. A remarkably durable work, Burn's *Justice* went through 30 editions by 1869 and was excerpted often in early American justice manuals, such as Parker's *Conductor Generalis* (1764) and Burn's *Abridgment of Burn's Justice of the Peace and Parish Officer* (1773). It covers such topics as Accessory, Alehouses, Aliens, Assault and Battery, Bail (By Writ of Habeas Corpus), Bankrupt, Bastards, Burglary, Clergy, Dogs, Evidence, Excise and Customs, Forgery, Game, Homicide, Jurors, Libel, Oaths, Insolvent Debtors, Polygamy, Promissory Notes, Rape, Riot, Robbery, Taxes and Vagrants. Holdsworth notes that "a perusal of these headings tells us something of the development of the system of local government" during the time of the book's publication.

The bookplate is likely that of Henry Reveley [1737-1798], a book collector and lawyer who served as Commissioner of the Excise. The manuscript annotations in our copy are mostly summaries and elucidations that indicate careful study by a knowledgeable reader.

Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* X:162. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T68627.

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The First English Treatise on the Law of Infants

7. [Carter, Samuel].

The Infants Lawyer: Or the Law (Ancient and Modern) Relating to Infants. Setting Forth Their Priviledges; Their Several Ages for Divers Purposes; Guardians and Prochein Amry, As to Suits and Defences by Them; Actions Brought by and Against Them, With the Manner of Declarations and Pleadings; Fines and Recoveries, And Other Matters of Record Suffered or Acknowledged by Them, How Reversable; Conveyances and Specialties, How Bound by Them or Not; Contracts, Promises, &c. Also Treating of Infant-Executors, Administrator Durante Minori Aetate; Actions and Suits Brought by Them and Against Them, With the Manner of Declaring and Pleading. Likewise, Of Devises by and to Infants, Apprentices, Custom of London, And Pleadings, Orphans, Tryals of Infancy, Portions and Legacies, And Resolutions and Decrees at Common Law and Chancery Concerning the Same. With an Appendix, Of the Forms of Declarations and Pleadings Concerning Infants. With Many Additions of Late Adjudged Cases in Common Law and Chancery; And the Explication of All the Late Statutes Relating to Infants. [London]: Printed by J. Nutt, 1712. [xxiv], 380, [28] pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and early hand-lettered paper title label and faint early hand-lettered title to spine. A few minor nicks and scuffs to boards. some rubbing to extremities, chip to foot of spine, corners bumped and lightly worn, joints starting, hinges cracked. Light toning to text, light foxing to a few leaves, early owner signature ("Griffiths"?) to head of title page. \$2,500.

* Second edition. First published in 1697, this is the first English treatise on the subject. Its twenty comprehensive chapters consist of a digest of the case law relating to each topic with explanatory comments. Holdsworth notes that "[i]t was a useful book to practitioners since it covers all the topics connected with its subject." A third edition was published in 1726.

All editions are scarce. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* XII:399-400. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T86178.

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Early Printings of the First Four Parts of Coke's Reports

8. Coke, Sir Edward [1552-1634].

[*Les Reports de Edward Coke*]. Second editions, London, c.1601-1604. Parts 1-4 (of 11) in one volume:

- 1: Thomas Wight, [c.1601]. [iv], 177, [1] ff.
- 2: Thomas Wight, [c.1604]. [vi], 94 ff.
- 3: Thomas Wight, 1602. [xviii], 91, [1] ff.
- 4: Thomas Wight, 1604. [x], 128 ff.

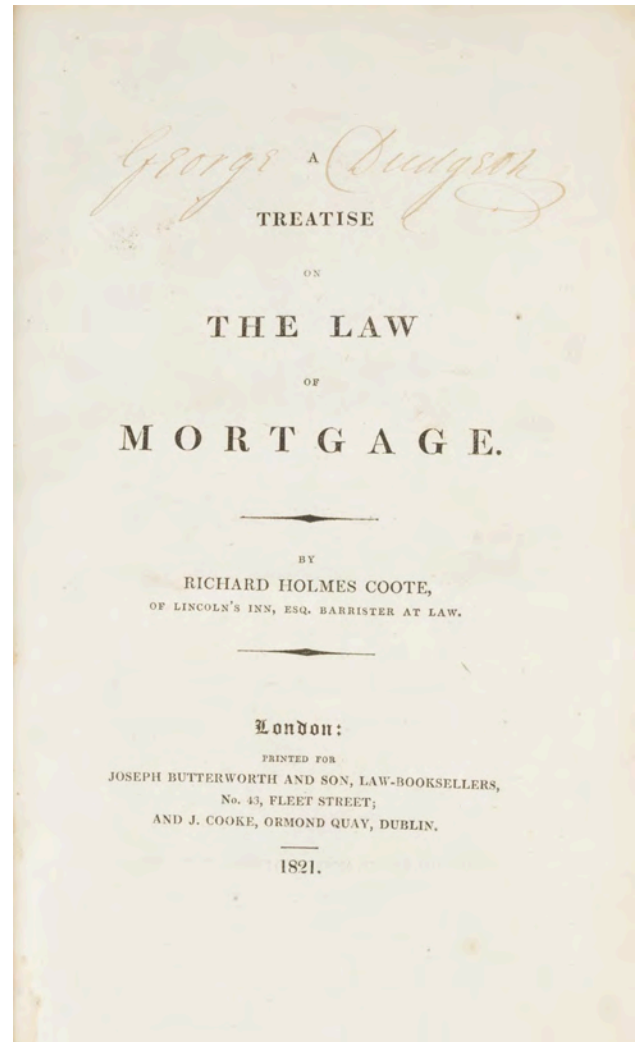
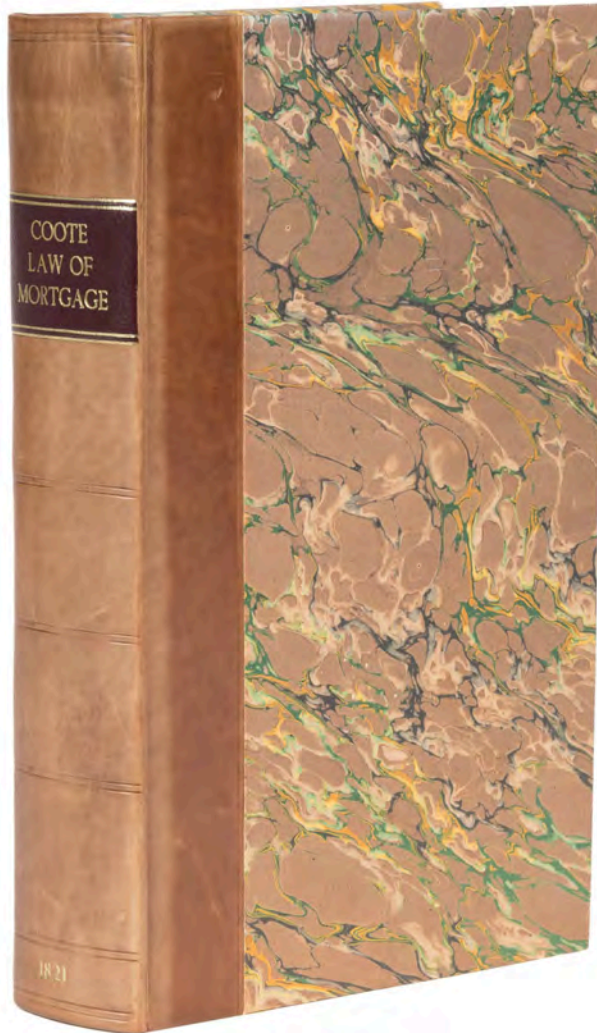
Folio (10-3/4" x 7-1/4"). Contemporary calf with later rebacking, blind rules and fillets to boards, raised bands, black-ruled fillets and black-stamped title to spine, corners mended. Some scratches and shallow scuffing to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, corners bumped, pastedowns loose. Moderate toning to interior, faint dampstaining and dampspotting in a few places, gradually diminishing worm-track to gutter of Fols. 80-128 of the fourth part, moderate soiling, edgewear to endleaves, preliminaries of first part and final leaves of fourth part, brief early annotations to a few leaves in each part, some affected by trimming, inkstains to a few leaves, including title page of the fourth part, three early struck-through signatures to title page of first part, a small piece near its top-edge removed. \$2,500.

* Second editions. A work of immense authority for generations, Coke's *Reports* are not reports in the conventional sense; they are highly detailed anthologies of precedents organized by topic. Taken together, the *Reports* form the most extensive and detailed treatment of common law pleading that had yet appeared. The first editions, all in Law-French, were first published in 1600, 1602, 1602, 1604, 1605, 1607, 1608, 1611, 1613, 1614, and 1615. After Coke's death editors compiled a "General Table" to Parts 1-11, which was first published in 1652, and two more parts, which were first published in 1656 and 1659. The first edition in English, which did not include pleadings, was published in 1658. The annotations in this volume are glosses of the cases and cross-references.

English Short-Title Catalogue S124194, S116287, S107227, S107228.

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First Edition of One of the Most Important Treatises on the Law of Mortgage

9. Coote, Richard Holmes.

A Treatise on the Law of Mortgage [with] *Part the Second*. London: Printed for Joseph Butterworth & Son and J. Cooke, 1821 and 1823. 2 parts in 1 volume. viii, 372; viii, 373-712 pp. Octavo (9-1/4" x 5-3/4").

Recent quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets, lettering piece and gilt date to spine, endpapers renewed. Light fading to spine. Light toning to interior, negligible light soiling to a few leaves, light foxing to last fifteen or so leaves, early ownership signature (of solicitor and legal writer George Dudgeon) to head of title page, early underlining and marks to margins on a few leaves. A nice copy. \$650.

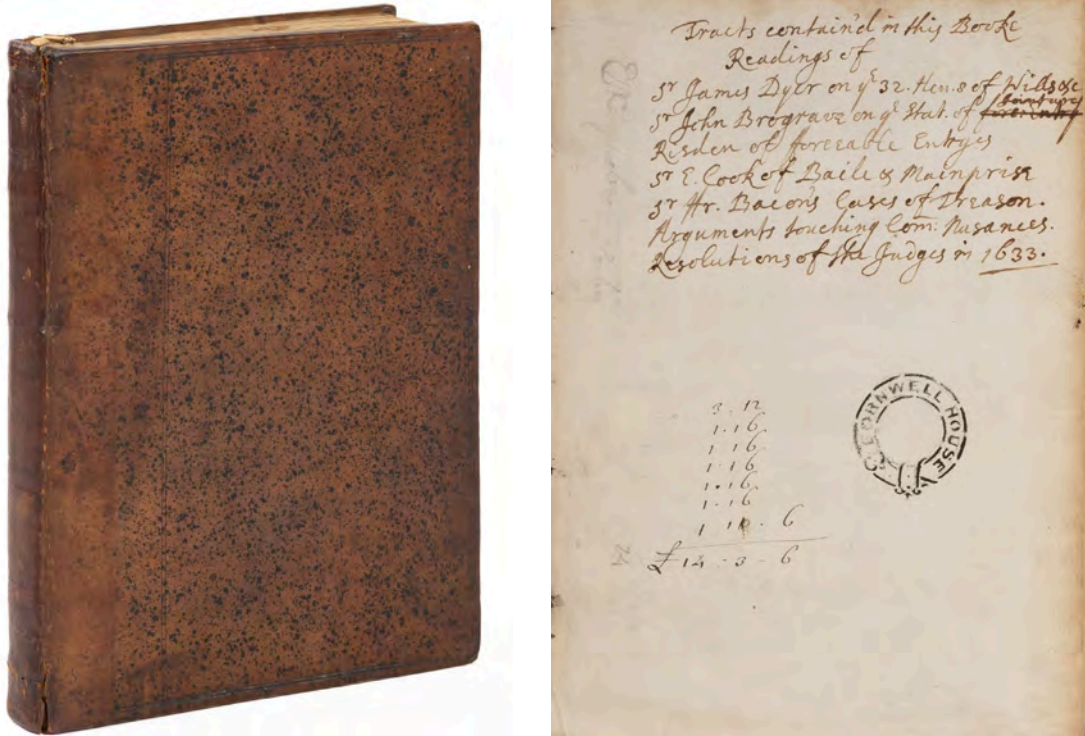
* First edition. One of the most important nineteenth-century treatises on the law of mortgage, it was considered the "standard work" by Holdsworth. It went through nine editions, the last in 1927.

George Dudgeon, a former owner of our first edition, is best known as the author of *The Duties of Overseers of the Poor, and Assistant Overseers* (1st ed. 1838), one of the many manuals for overseers that proliferated after the New Poor Law of 1834.

Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* XIII:477. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 2:78.

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A Volume of Legal Tracts, 1639-1648, Belonging to the Rev. Francis Astry

10. Dyer, Sir James [1512-1582].

Brograve, Sir John [d.1613].

Ridsen, Thomas.

Three Learned Readings Made Upon Three Very Usefull Statutes: The First [...] Upon the Statute of 32.H.8.Chap.I. Of Wills, [...] The Second, [...] Upon the Statute of 27.H.8.Chap.10. Concerning Jointures. The Third, [...] Upon the Statute of 8.Hen.6. Chap.9. Of Forcible Entry. London: Printed for W. Lee, M. Walbancke, D. Pakeman, and G. Bedell, 1648. [iv], 12 [i.e. 123], [1] pp.

[Bound with]

Coke, Sir Edward [1552-1634].

A Little Treatise of Baile and Maineprize. London: Printed for William Cooke, 1637. [iv], 33, [1] pp.

[And]

Bacon, Sir Francis [1561-1626].

Cases of Treason. London: Printed by the Assignes of John More, 1641. [iv], 35, [1] pp.

[And]

[Real Property].

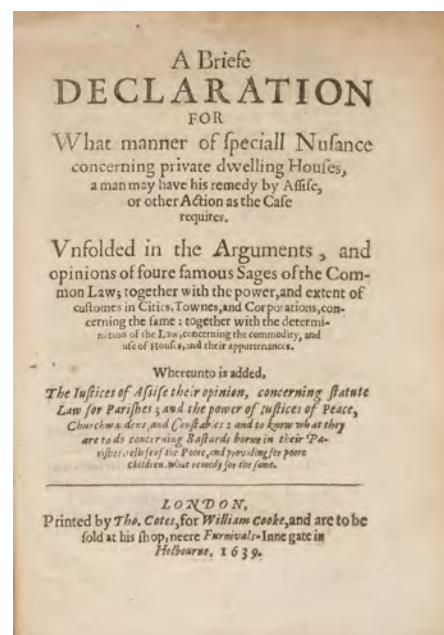
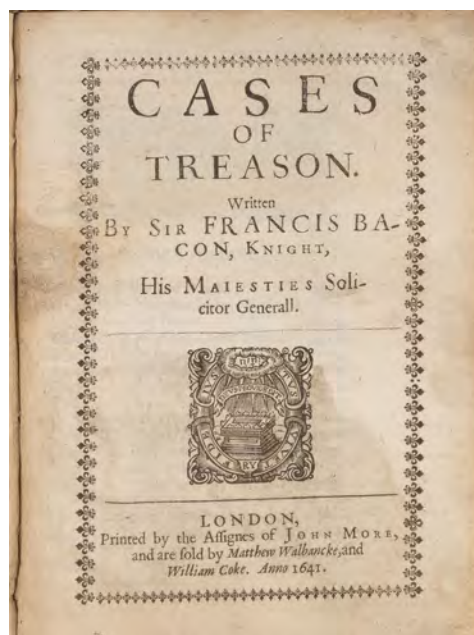
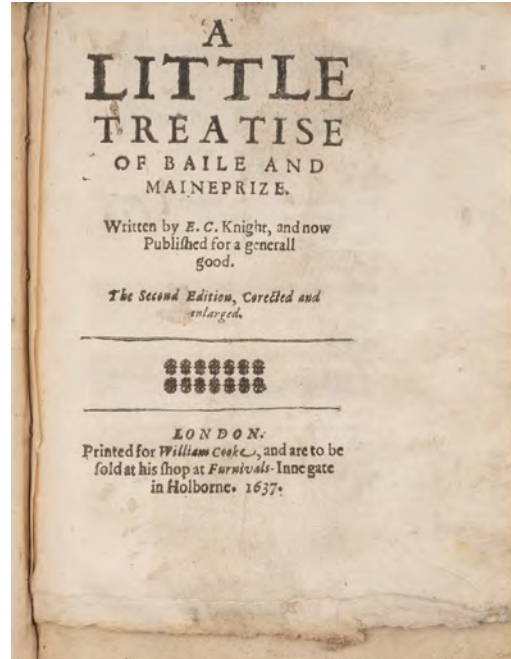
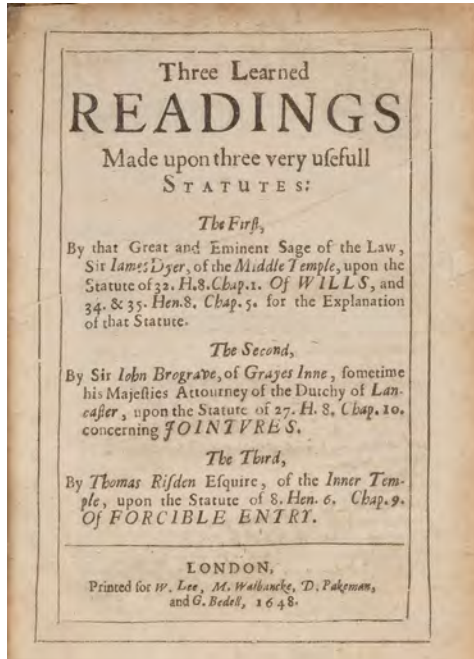
A Briefe Declaration for What Manner of Speciall Nuisance Concerning Private Dwelling Houses, A Man May Have His Remedy by Assise, Or Other Action as the Case Requires. Unfolded in the Arguments, And Opinions of Foure Famous Sages of the Common Law... London: Printed by Tho. Cotes, for William Cooke, 1639. [ii], 45, [1] pp.

Together four works in one volume. Quarto (7" x 5"). Contemporary speckled calf, blind rules to boards and board edges, blind fillets to spine. Very light rubbing to boards, which are slightly bowed, and board edges, moderate rubbing to joints, which are starting slightly at ends, minor crack across foot of spine, corners just bumped and lightly worn, hinges cracked, front pastedown loosening. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing and soiling in a few places, a few partial cracks to text block, all leaves secure, folded corners and small tears to edges of a few leaves not affecting text, fore and bottom edges of *A Little Treatise* untrimmed, brief later pencil annotation to p. 5 of first work. Later (c.1741) ink and pencil annotations to endleaves with later pencil annotation to p. 5 of first work, circular ink stamp (Cornwell House) of Francis Penyston to front endleaf. An appealing volume with an interesting provenance. \$4,800.

* Only editions. A group of important treatises on a range of topics in the common law, including Coke's overview of the law of bail and Bacon on treason, felony and the king's prerogative. The first work focuses on property law, including Dyer on land inheritance, Brograve on jointures and Risdén on landlord and tenant and forcible entry. The final work deals with public nuisance law. It also summarizes the 1633 assizes resolutions on the Elizabethan poor law.

The volume was owned by the Reverend Dr. Francis Astrey [1676-1766], an honorary canon and treasurer of St. Paul's Cathedral, and given to his cousin Francis Penyston in 1741. Astrey was active as a royal commissioner for his local community and would have found the works in this volume useful for their discussion of real property and the poor laws.

English Short-Title Catalogue R204745, S108453, R16590, S109444.



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First Tottell Edition of the Book that "Made the Common Law"

11. Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony [1470-1538].

La Graunde Abridgement Collect par le Juge Tresreverend Monsieur Anthony Fitzherbert, Dernierment Conferre Auesq[ue] la Copy Escript, Et per Ceo Correct: Aueques le Nombre del Sueil, Per Quel Facilement Poies Trouver les Cases cy Abyrdges en les Lyvers Dans, Novelment Annote: Iammais Devaunt Imprimee. London: In Aedibus Ricardi Tottell, 1565. Three parts in two books [i], 379; [ii], 128; 207 ff. First and second parts have title pages, second part has title beginning: *La Secoude Part du Graund Abridgement*. Tipped-in cancel slip to verso of leaf M2 in third part. Folio (13-1/2" x 9-1/4").

Contemporary calf, rebaked in period style, blind rules to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, endpapers renewed with carefully matched antique paper. Moderate rubbing and light gatoring to boards, heavier rubbing to board edges with wear to corners. Title pages printed within woodcut architectural borders. Moderate toning, faint dampstaining to foot of text block, light soiling to title page of first part, "W" in small later hand to upper right-hand corner. An impressive copy. \$2,800.

* First Tottell edition. Arguably one of the most imposing volumes in the history of English law, Fitzherbert abridged 13,485 cases under 263 titles in alphabetical order. First published in 1514 (or 1516), it was the first serious attempt to arrange the common law in a systematic manner and was a model for such writers as Brooke and Rolle. According to Boersma, Fitzherbert accomplished "nothing less than to abridge all notes of significant cases at common law." A standard work in Great Britain, it was equally important in the American colonies. Thomas Jefferson, for example, owned a copy from 1577. Graham and Heckel refer to this work as the "book that 'made' the common law."

Beale's record for the second part differs from our copy, which matches that in the *ESTC*. The most notable difference is that the Beale copy does not include the first 128 leaves of the second part.

Boersma, "Sir Anthony Fitzherbert: A Biographical Sketch and Short Bibliography," *Law Library Journal* 71 (1978) 395. Graham and Heckel, "The Book That 'Made' the Common Law," *Law Library Journal* 51 (1957) 101. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson 1776*. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R463, R464. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S122166.

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A Work Highly Esteemed by Coke and Blackstone in a Handsome Contemporary Binding

12. [Fitzherbert, Sir Anthony (1470-1538)].

[Rastell, William (1508?-1565), Table of Contents].

La Nouvelle Natura Breuiū[m] du Iudge Tresreuerende Monsieur Anthonie Fitzherbert, Denierement Renue & Corrigee per L'auteur, Avecques un Table Parfaite des Choses Notables Contenus en Ycell, Nouelment Compose per Guiliaulme Rastell, & Iammais per Cy Deuaunt Imprimee. London: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, 1567. (Colophon begins: Imprinted at London by Rycharde Tottill.) [xxxii], 271, [1] ff. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind frames with corner fleurons, large central arabesques and initials "IW" to boards, raised bands to spine, recent repairs to spine ends and corners, three of four early ties present. A few minor nicks and wormholes to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, a few chips to board edges, pastedowns loose, later armorial bookplate to verso of front board. Light toning to interior, underlining and brief annotations to several leaves. \$1,850.

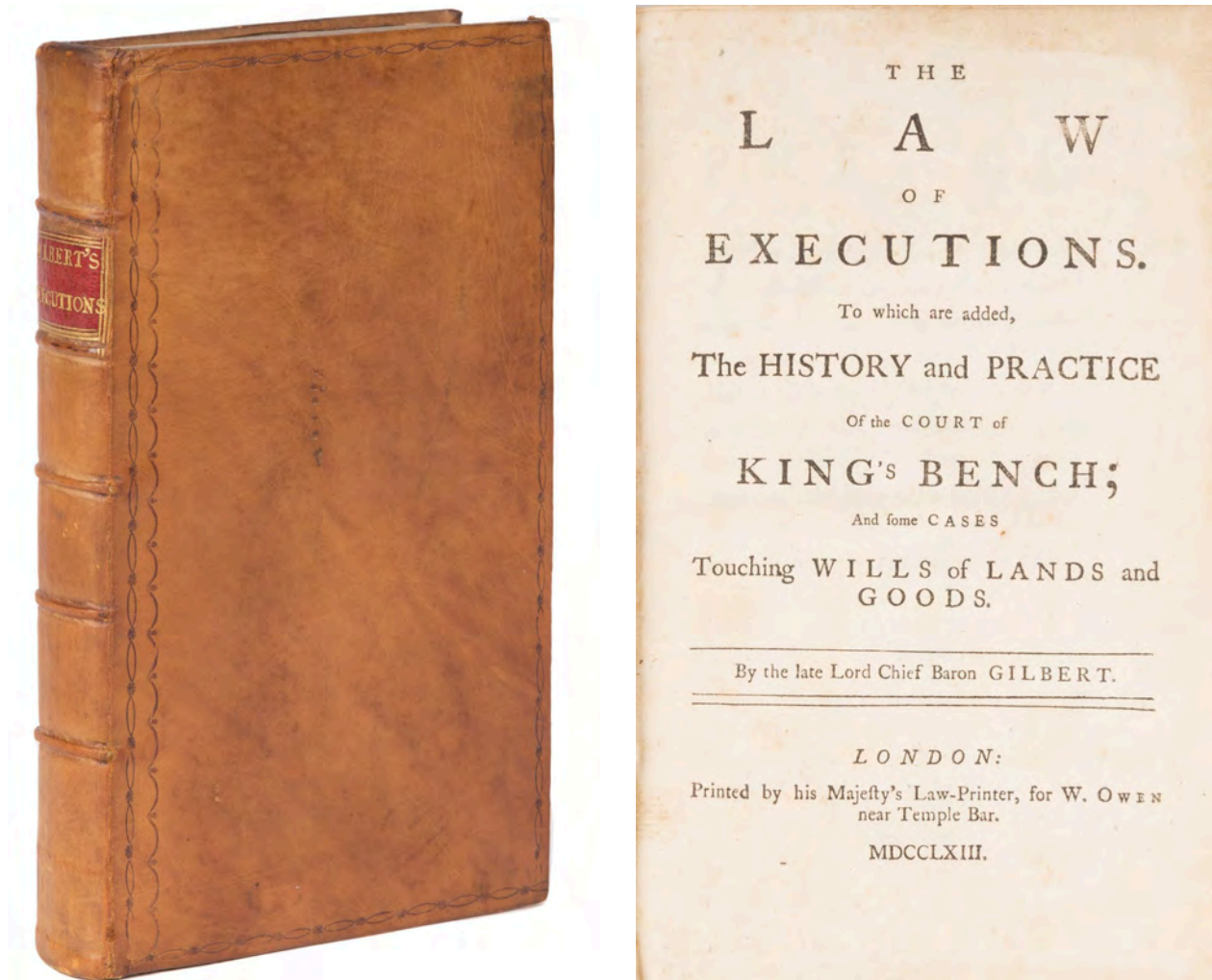
* First published in 1534, the *Nouvelle Natura Brevium* is a procedure manual written by a judge of the Common Pleas during the reign of Henry VIII. Winfield notes that "Coke put it among the books which he considered most necessary and of greatest authority and excellency"; Blackstone considered it an authority as well. Compiled from the earlier *Natura Brevia* and the *Registrum Brevium*, it includes several original observations on the form and function of writs. Rastell's revisions include the addition of a table. A popular work, it went through numerous editions in Law French and English, the final appearing in 1794. It remains significant to this day for its descriptions of writs that were becoming obsolete in the early sixteenth century.

With few exceptions, the annotations in our copy are references to cases and statutes. The others are glosses or interpretive remarks.

Winfield, *Chief Sources of English Legal History* 303. Beale, *Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T347. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S4100.

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A Handsome Copy of Gilbert on Wills

13. [Gilbert, Sir Geoffrey (1674-1726)].

The Law of Executions. To Which are Added, The History and Practice of the Court of King's Bench; And Some Cases Touching Wills of Lands and Goods. London: Printed by His Majesty's Law-Printer, for W. Owen, 1763. [vi], 427, [5] pp. Octavo (8" x 5").

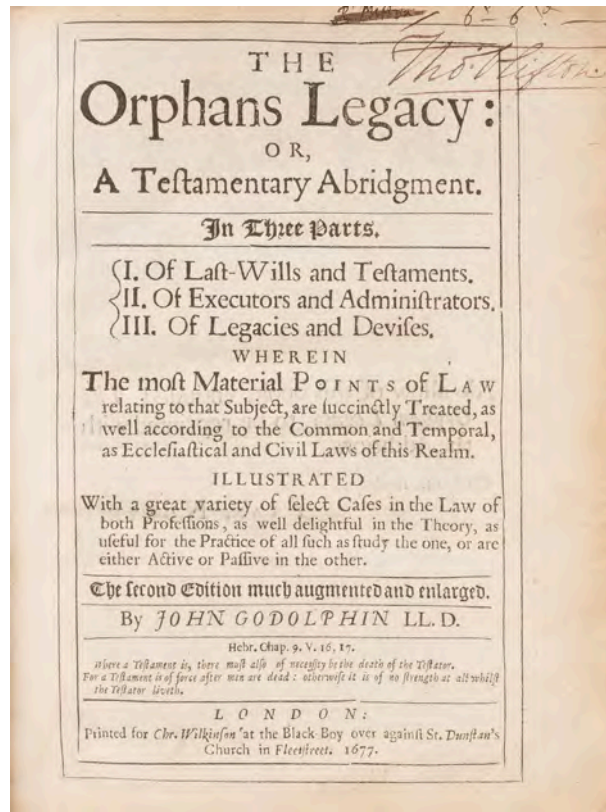
Contemporary calf, blind fillets to boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing to boards and extremities, small nick to front board, corners bumped and lightly worn, front hinge cracked. Moderate toning to interior, negligible faint dampstaining to final few leaves of text, offsetting to margins of preliminaries and rear endleaves, faint spotting to margins of title page. A notably well-preserved copy. \$850.

* Only edition. Gilbert was a distinguished Whig judge, puisne baron of the exchequer, fellow of the Royal Society and prolific legal writer. His books were highly regarded; a few were standard works for decades. His treatise on executions addresses an important aspect of the law concerning wills during the eighteenth century: the different writs of execution under the common law, such as outlawry, certiorari and dower. Holdsworth discusses this book as length and praises it as "a clear account." A Dublin reissue was published the same year as the London edition.

Holdsworth, *History of English Law* XII:355. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T95573.

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The "First Really Able" Book on the Subject

14. Godolphin, John [1617-1678].

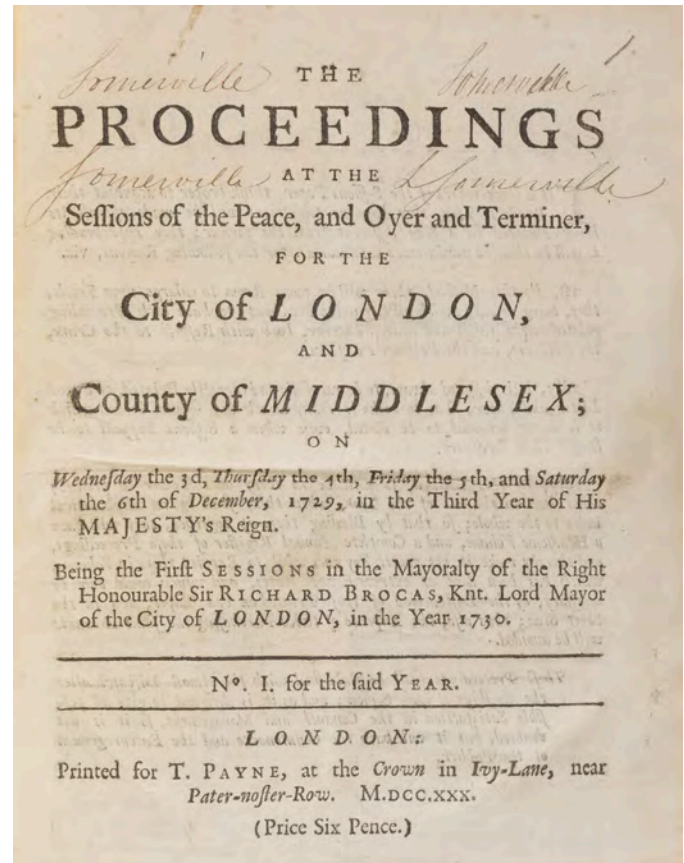
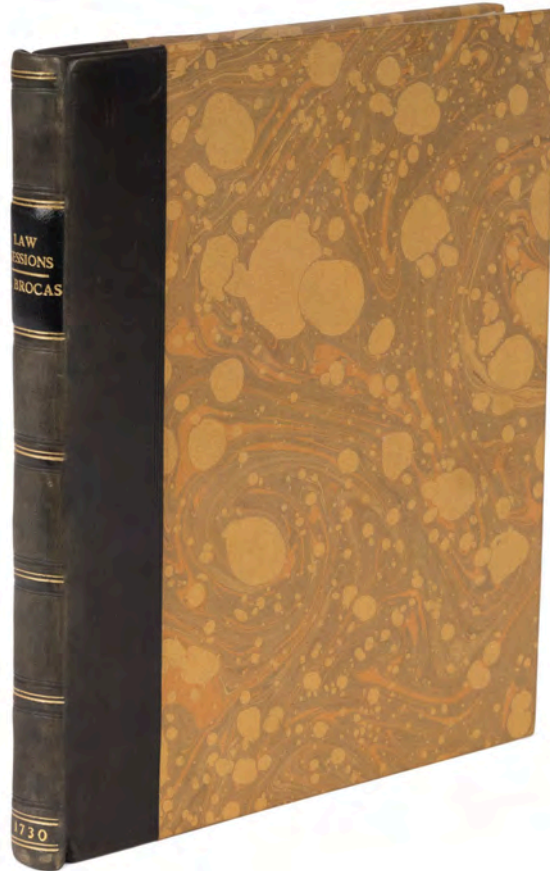
The Orphans Legacy: Or, A Testamentary Abridgment. In Three Parts. I. Of Last-Wills and Testaments. II. Of Executors and Administrators. III. Of Legacies and Devises. Wherein the Most Material Points of Law Relating to That Subject, Are Succinctly Treated, As Well According to the Common and Temporal, As Ecclesiastical and Civil Laws of This Realm. Illustrated with a Great Variety of Select Cases in the Law of Both Professions, As Well Delightful in the Theory, As Useful for the Practice of All Such as Study the One, Or Are Either Active or Passive in the Other. Much Augmented and Enlarged. London: Printed for Chr. Wilkinson, 1677. [viii], 478 [i.e. 476], [20] pp. Quarto (8-1/2" x 6-1/2").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, raised bands and blind fillets to spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Moderate rubbing and a few later ink annotations and stains to boards, some rubbing and light wear to extremities, small chips to spine ends, front joint starting at foot, corners bumped, hinges cracked, illegible early annotation (an ownership signature?) to front endleaf, which is lacking its upper corner, early annotations to rear pastedown and clipped rear free endpaper. Moderate toning to interior, slightly heavier in places, occasional light foxing, early underlining and annotations in several places, early ownership signatures (one of Thomas Clifton) to head of title page. An appealing copy. \$650.

* Second edition. "The first really able books upon ecclesiastical law as a whole were written by Godolphin in the latter half of the seventeenth century. (...) [One of them is his] *Orphan's Legacy* [which deals with the subject] from the point of view not only of the ecclesiastical law, but also of the common law, and of the rising jurisdiction of the Chancellor" (Holdsworth). First published in 1674, its fourth and final edition appeared in 1701. The annotations to our copy are mostly brief, though some are longer, and are in two hands. The annotations to the rear pastedown concern relevant cases.

Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:12. Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 1:492.

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A Rare Eighteenth-Century English Reporter

15. [Great Britain].

[Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace, Middlesex].

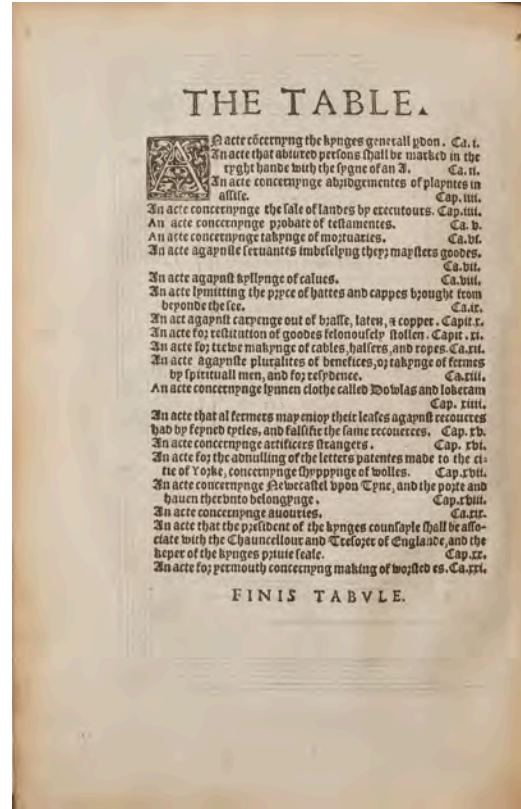
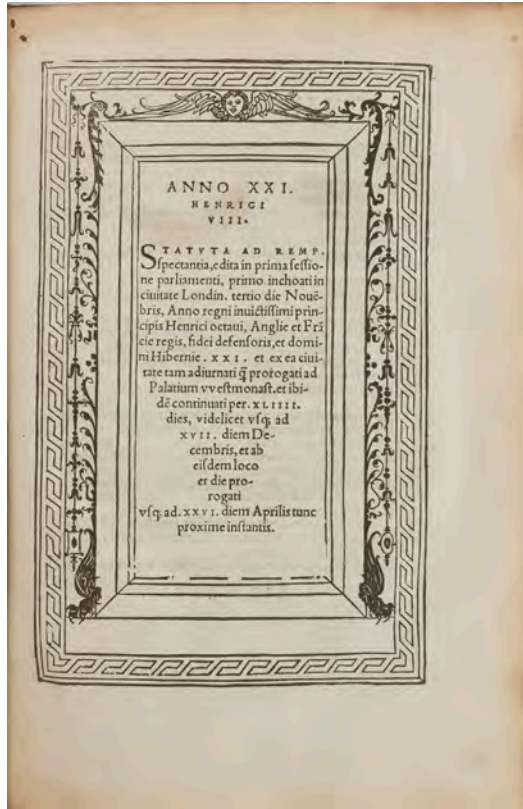
The Proceedings at the Sessions of the Peace, And Oyer and Terminer, For the City of London, And County of Middlesex; On Wednesday the 3d, Thursday the 4th, Friday the 5th, And Saturday the 6th of December, 1729, In the Third Year of His Majesty's Reign. Being the First [- Eighth] Sessions in the Mayoralty of the Right Honourable Sir Richard Brocas, Knt. Lord Mayor of the City of London, In the Year 1730. No. 1 [-8]. London: Printed for T. Payne, 1730. 24, [4]; 24; 19, [1]; 21, [3]; 17, [3]; 22, [2]; 22, [2]; 23, [1] pp. Main text in parallel columns. Each number has individual title page and pagination and ends with 1-3 pp. of advertisements. Quarto (8-1/2" x 6-3/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlets bound into recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, lettering piece and gilt fillets to boards. Moderate toning to text, somewhat heavier in places, text affected by trimming in a few places, light foxing and minor stains to a few leaves, early owner signatures ("Somerville") to title pages of Nos. 1 and 4 and a few other leaves. \$1,500.

* Providing brief reports of recent cases, this periodical was published during the annual sessions. Its final volume was published in 1742.

OCLC locates several single issues, few of them in North America, and a run covering the first six years at the University of Liverpool. The *ESTC* locates a complete set of the 1730 issues at Harvard Law School, the University of Kansas and the Dublin Honourable Society of King's Inn. *English Short-Title Catalogue* N65170.

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King Henry VIII Makes Some of His First Moves Against the Catholic Church

16. [Great Britain].

[Statutes].

[Henry VIII (1491-1547), King of England].

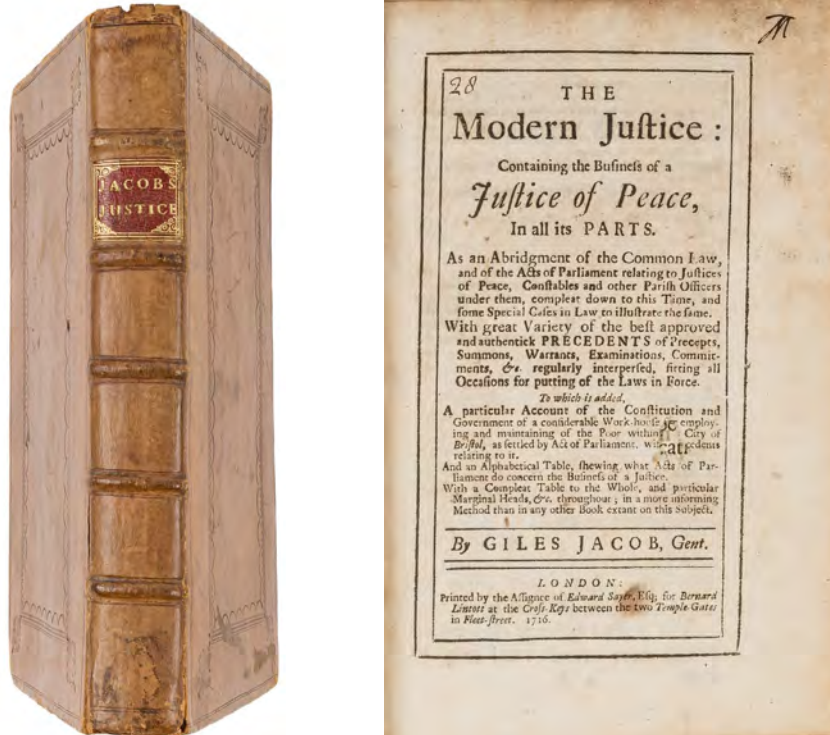
Anno XXI. Henrici VIII. Statuta ad Remp. Spectantia, Edita in Prima Sessione Parliamenti, Primo Inchoati in Ciuitate London. Tertio die Nouembris, Anno Regni Inuictissimi Principis Henrici Octauis, Anglie et Francie Regis, Fidei Defensoris, Et Domini Hibernie. XXI. et ex ea Ciuitate tam Adiurnati Quam Prorogati ad Palatium Westmonast. et Ibi Continuat per. XLIII. Dies, Videlicet Vsque; Ad XVII. Diem Decembris, Et ab Eisdem Loco et Die Prorogati Vsque; Ad. XXVI. Diem Aprilis tunc Proxime Instantis. [London: In Aedibus Thomae Bertheleti Regii Impressoris, 1536?]. XXVII ff. Final leaf, a blank, lacking. Folio (11-1/4" x 7-1/2").

Recent three-quarter calf over marbled boards, blind fillets to calf edges, gilt fillets and title to spine. Negligible light rubbing to extremities. Title printed within woodcut border, woodcut decorated initials. Moderate toning to interior, minor worming to upper gutter of text block not affecting text, occasional very faint marginal dampstaining, light soiling in a few places, underlining and brief early annotation to verso of leaf VI. A handsome copy. \$2,750.

* This volume records 21 acts for the 21st regnal year of Henry VIII (April 22, 1529-April 21, 1531). This was the second regnal year of the Reformation Parliament, so called because it was the first Parliament to enact legislation against the Catholic Church. The 21st year included acts secularizing inheritance matters (Chapters 4 and 5) and eliminating the rights of clergy to hold multiple benefices (Chapter 13).

Our copy is similar to Beale S130 and *Short-Title Catalogue* 9366.5, but has a different distribution of periods in the title and may have other small differences as well. OCLC locates 3 copies of this imprint in North America (Huntington Library, Columbia Law School, Harvard Law School), all different from our copy.

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The First Edition of Jacob's Classic JP Manual

17. Jacob, Giles [1686-1744].

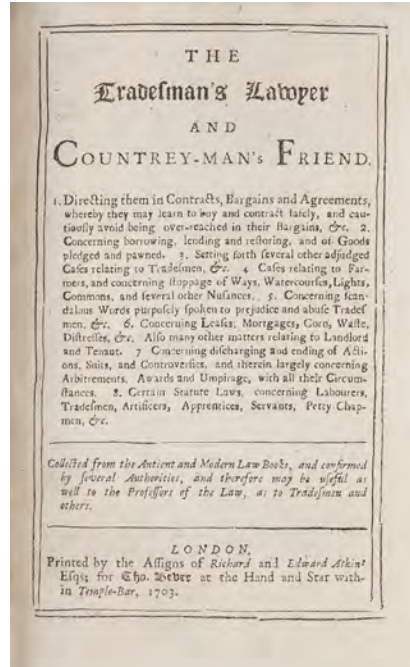
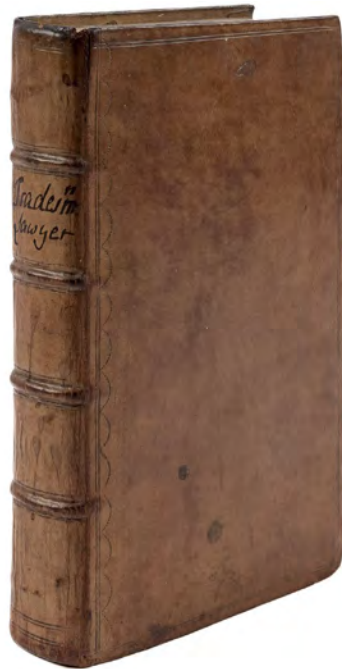
The Modern Justice: Containing the Business of a Justice of Peace, In All its Parts. As an Abridgment of the Common Law, And of the Acts of Parliament Relating to Justices of Peace, Constables, And Other Parish Officers Under Them, Compleat Down to this Time, And Some Special Cases in Law to Illustrate the Same. With Great Variety of the Best Approved and Authentick Precedents of Precepts, Summons, Warrants, Examinations, Commitments, &c. Regularly Interspersed, Fitting all Occasions for Putting of the Laws in Force. To Which is Added, A Particular Account of the Constitution and Government of a Considerable Work-House for Employing and Maintaining of the Poor Within the City of Bristol, As Settled by Act of Parliament, With Precedents Relating to It. And an Alphabetical Table, Shewing What Acts of Parliament do Concern the Business of a Justice. With a Compleat Table to the Whole, And Particular Marginal Heads, &c. Throughout; In a More Informing Method Than in Any Other Book Extant on This Subject. London: Printed by the Assignee of Edward Sayer, Esq; for Bernard Lintott, 1716. [viii], 409, [39] pp. Octavo (7-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Contemporary paneled calf, raised bands, blind fillets and lettering piece to spine, blind tooling to board edges. Light rubbing and a few small scuffs, nicks, scratches and stains to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, front joint just starting at ends, corners bumped, front hinge starting, early bookplate of Sir Timothy Waldo to front pastedown, recent pencil notes and early date (17th June 1719) in ink to front free endpaper. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing in a few places, small hole to title page with minor loss to text, residue from removed bookplate to its verso. An appealing copy. \$650.

* First edition. One of the most interesting features of this important JP manual is its detailed five-page description of the workhouse at Bristol. It forms part of a full chapter devoted to the Poor Law (pp. 272-294). Subsequent editions appeared in 1718 and 1720. This copy of the first edition belonged to the British lawyer Sir Timothy Waldo [1711-1780] of Hever Castle.

The first edition is scarce. OCLC locates 8 copies in North American law libraries. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T136996.

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A Superb First Edition of *The Tradesman's Lawyer*

18. [Layman's Guide].

The Tradesman's Lawyer and Country-Man's Friend. 1. Directing Them in Contracts, Bargains and Agreements, Whereby They May Learn to Buy and Contract Safely, And Cautiously Avoid Being Over-Reached in Their Bargains, &c. 2. Concerning Borrowing, Lending and Restoring, And of Goods Pledged and Panned. 3. Setting Forth Several Other Adjudged Cases Relating to Tradesmen, &c. 4. Cases Relating to Farmers, And Concerning Stoppage of Ways, Watercourses, Lights, Commons, and Several Other Nusances. 5. Concerning Scandalous Words Purposefully Spoken to Prejudice and Abuse Tradesmen, &c. 6. Concerning Leases, Mortgages, Corn, Waste, Distresses, &c. Also Many Other Matters Relating to Landlord and Tenant. 7. Concerning Discharging and Ending of Actions, Suits, and Controversies, And Therein Largely Concerning Arbitrements, Awards and Umpirage, With All Their Circumstances. 8. Certain Statute Laws, Concerning Labourers, Tradesmen, Artificers, Apprentices, Servants, Petty Chapmen, &c. Collected from the Antient and Modern Law Books, And Confirmed by Several Authorities, And Therefore May be Useful as Well to the Professors of the Law, As to Tradesmen and Others. London: Printed by the Assigns of Richard and Edward Atkins Esqs., 1703. [viii], 424 pp. Octavo (6-1/2" x 4-1/4").

Contemporary calf, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, raised bands and early hand-lettered title to spine, gilt tooling to board edges. Negligible light rubbing and a few minor nicks to boards, corners lightly bumped, rear hinge cracked. Light toning to text, slightly heavier in places, tiny worm track near upper corners of final four text leaves, rear free endpaper and rear pastedown, early owner annotation to pp. 10 and 34 and rear free endpaper. Book housed in a cloth clamshell box, quarter morocco over cloth, gilt title and gilt-edged raised bands to spine. A notably well-preserved copy of a rare title. \$5,000.

* First edition. An early form of "consumer protection," this book was written to protect members of the middle ranks of English society from the "cunning" of "persons of a higher Rank," who always enjoyed the "Learning and Leisure to read the Law." Two later editions were published in 1709 and 1720 with the title *Gentleman's Assistant, Tradesman's Lawyer and Country-Man's Friend*.

The ESTC and OCLC locate 7 copies worldwide, 1 in a law library (Library of Congress). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T111090.

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A Principal English Treatise on Canon Law

19. [Lyndwood, William (c.1375-1446)].

[Badius, Josse (1462-1535), Editor].

Provinciale Seu Co[n]stitutiones Anglie: Cu[m] Summariis/Atq[ue] Iustis Annotationibus/Politisimis Characteribus/Summa[que] Accuratione Rursus Revis[ae] Atq[ue] Impresse. [Antwerp: Christophori Endouien[si]...impresum...Impensis vero Francisci Brickman, 1525]. cclv [i.e. 256], [28] ff. Folio (10-1/2" x 7-1/4").

Later paneled calf, rebaked with gilt-edged raised bands and gilt author name and title to spine, blind decoration to compartments, blind tooling to board edges, endpapers renewed, edges speckled red. Light rubbing and some minor nicks and scratches to boards, light rubbing to extremities, spine and board edges lightly varnished, corners neatly mended, library bookplate to front pastedown and front endleaf. Text in two columns with linear gloss, printed in red and black, occasional woodcut initials. Light toning to interior, light soiling in a few places, small hole to lower right corner of first two leaves, minor loss to legibility of two words of text on f. ii, trimming to top-edge affecting headline on ff. xvii and xlii, clean tear to f. cxii, no loss to legibility, small hole to margin of final leaf, brief contemporary annotations to a few pages. A nice copy of an important title. \$5,000.

* Second post-1500 edition. Main text followed by 28-ff. two-part index. Compiled around 1433 and first published around 1483-1485, *Provinciale* is the main authority for early English canon law. Divided into five books, it is a digest of the synodal constitutions of the province of Canterbury, from the period of Archbishop Stephen Langton [c.1155-1228] to that of Archbishop Henry Chichele [1414-1443], with Lyndwood's gloss. It is considered the law of the Church of England by some authorities. This edition was printed in Antwerp for the English market.

English Short-Title Catalogue S109035. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T408b.

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A Bold Blackstone Signature

20. [Manuscript].

Blackstone, Sir William [1723-1780].

[Walker, Thomas (1724-1804)].

[*Franked Docketed Address Leaf Addressed to Walker, Signed, In Blackstone's Hand, Oxford, October 14, (1766?)*].

9" x 7" leaf from a bifolium letter, Moderate toning, moderate soiling, vertical and horizontal fold lines, chips along fold lines, minor loss from seal tears, verso silked, "1766" in faint pencil to lower-right corner.

[With]

[Gainsborough, Thomas (1727-1788), After].

[Hall, J., Engraver].

[*Portrait of Blackstone*]. [Oxford, 1775].

7-1/4" x 4-3/4" copperplate leaf mounted on 11-1/4" x 8-1/2" sheet. Light toning and a few faint fox-spots to image, moderate toning to sheet, a few minor tears to its edges.

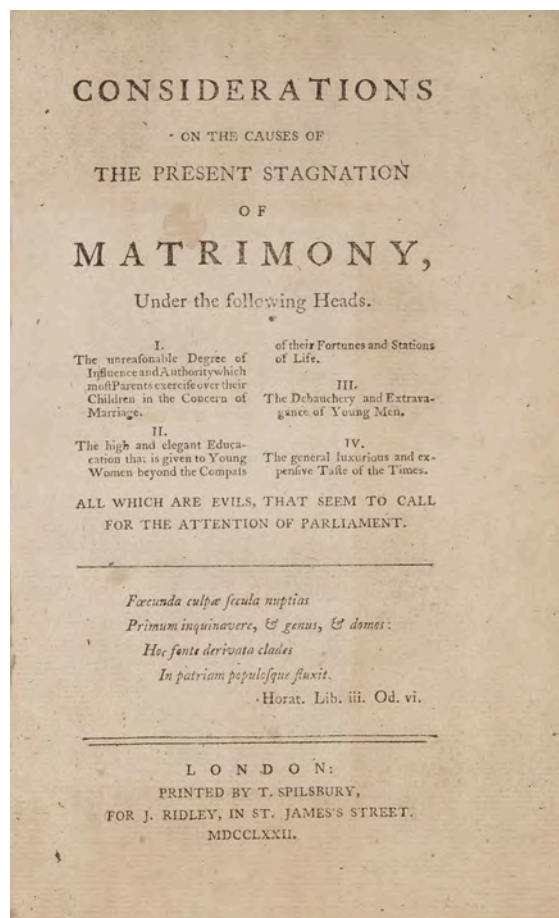
Together two items. \$2,500.

* Addressed to Walker, "Begbrook near Woodstock Oxon," and signed, in a bold hand, "Free/ W. Blackstone." Walker, a prominent Oxfordshire attorney and town clerk of Oxford, was a professional associate and friend. The portrait is a frontispiece from a copy of the seventh edition of the *Commentaries*.

Prest, *William Blackstone* 138, 278. Laeuchli, *A Bibliographical Catalog of William Blackstone* 15 (frontispiece).

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Proposals for Addressing "The Present Stagnation of Matrimony"

21. [Marriage]. [Great Britain].

Considerations on the Causes of the Present Stagnation of Matrimony, Under the Following Heads. I. The Unreasonable Degree of Influence and Authority which Most Parents Exercise Over Their Children in the Concern of Marriage. II. The High and Elegant Education that is Given to Young Women Beyond the Compass of Their Fortunes and Stations of Life. III. The Debauchery and Extravagance of Young Men. IV. The General Luxurious and Expensive Taste of the Times. All of Which are Evils, That Seem to Call for the Attention of Parliament. London: Printed by T. Spilsbury, for J. Ridley, 1772. [iii]-vii, [1], 71, [1] pp. Complete. Octavo (8-1/4" x 5-1/4").

Stab-stitched pamphlet in plain wrappers. Front wrapper detached, small tears and chips to fore-edges of wrappers, moderate toning, small holes to a few leaves affecting legibility of one word on p. 47. \$650.

* Only edition. In addition to the usual female vanity and male debauchery, this pamphlet discusses parents' undue influence over their children's marriages and the tendency to view marriage as a way to gain wealth and social status. The author suggests that the celibacy requirement for fellows at Oxford and Cambridge be lifted and that the age of consent for marriage be lowered in order "to leave young folks open to the influence of their own affections, before the pride of life had corrupted the simplicity of nature" (70).

OCLC and the ESTC locate 10 copies, 5 in North America, 1 in a law library (Library of Congress). *English Short-Title Catalogue* T68641.

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A Statement of Parliamentary Principles to the People of North Wales

22. 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 Contemme 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").

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. Middleton was a politician and general in the Parliamentary army during the Civil War. He was given command of troops in North Wales, where he encountered fierce opposition from Royalist forces for several years. Distributed among local civilians in the region, Middleton's *Declaration* was intended to win loyalty to the Parliamentary cause. It contrasts Parliament's defense of "just liberties and the benefit and protection of the knowne lawes" with the "Tyranicall, Arbitrary, And Slavish Government" of Charles I.

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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A Copy in an English Royal Binding with Contemporary Annotations

23. Prynne, William [1600-1669].

Brevia Parliamentaria Rediviva. In XIII. Sections. Containing Several Catalogues of the Numbers, Dates of All Bundles of Original Writs of Summons and Elections Newly Found, Or Formerly Extant in the Tower of London During the Reigns of King Edw. 1, 2, 3. R. 2. H. 4, 5, 6. And E. 4 Being 117 Bundles: Of All the Knights Names of Each County Returned on These Writs; And all Cities, Boroughs, Ports Therin Summoned to Elect, Send, Or Actually Returning Citizens, Burgesses, Barons, And How Oft They Did It During These Kings Reigns: With 3. Catalogues of All the Citizens, Burgesses Returned on These Writs for Bathe, Bristol, London: The Ancient Forms of Elections, Returns Cedulae, Indentures Relating to Each County, City, Borough, Port; Besides Sundry Rare Writs, Records, Memorials, And Observations from them Touching Elections, Returns: The True Original, Creation, Continuance, Discontinuance, Exemption of Antient Boroughs: The Late Erections of New, And Revival of Some Old Petty Boroughs; Most of Which Writs, Bundles, Records, Rarities (Long Buryed in Dust and Darknesse in Caesars Chappel) Hitherto Unknown, Were Lately Discovered, And Here Published for the Benefit of Posterity. London: Printed for the Author, 1662. [xxiv], 232 pp., 233-248 ff., [4], 249-384, 369-376, 393-398, [2] pp. Pagination irregular, text complete. Quarto (7-1/2" x 5-1/2").

Contemporary calf, gilt royal arms (dated 160II, i.e. 1662) and gilt frames with corner *fleurs de lis* to boards, raised bands, lettering piece and gilt ornaments to spine. Moderate rubbing to boards and extremities, some scratches to rear board, corners bumped and somewhat worn, boards beginning to separate, but still secure, early shelf mark, shelf label and armorial bookplate of Charles Pratt, 1st Earl Camden, to front pastedown, front free endpaper partially detached. Moderate toning to text, light soiling and a few finger smudges to title page, early owner signature, and one blotted-out signature (John Cottam) to front free endpaper, extensive early annotations, most likely by Camden, to rear endleaves. \$2,500.

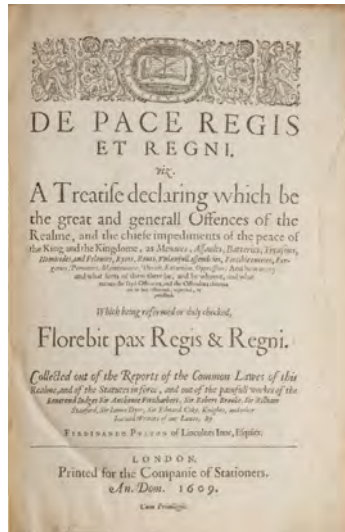
* Only edition. Complete in itself, this is the third part of a four-volume collection issued from 1659 to 1664 known collectively as the *Brief Register*. Our 1662 volume contains material from the reigns of King Edward I through King Edward IV. Other volumes collect material from different periods. Prynne was a contentious and erudite Puritan attorney and legal antiquarian who wrote several books and pamphlets about legal history, religion and politics. He had an unrivalled ability to antagonize others. His personality and choice of targets eventually led to his disbarment, imprisonment, and mutilation (loss of ears) by Star Chamber. After the Restoration Prynne was appointed Royal Archivist in the Tower of London. It was during this period that he compiled the latter volumes of the *Brief Register*.

Camden [1714-1794], an important lawyer, judge and Whig politician, was a leading proponent of civil liberties, jury rights and the limitation of state power. The annotations discuss passages in the book concerning writs and returns for knights (i.e. substantial landowners) and writs concerning the election of knights of shires (Members of Parliament representing a county). We were not able to determine the identity of John Cottam. The presence of the English royal arms on the binding suggests this book belonged to one of the royal libraries. The date 1662 above the royal arms, with a zero stamped in error instead of a second six, shows this book was added during the reign of Charles II in its year of publication. Prynne dedicated the book to him.

English Short-Title Catalogue R14426.



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**Criminal Law in Shakespeare's England:
The First Edition of Pulton's *De Pace Regis et Regni***

24. Pulton, Ferdinand[o] [1536-1618].

De Pace Regis et Regni. Viz. A Treatise Declaring Which be the Great and Generall Offences of the Realme, And the Chiefe Impediments of the Peace of the King and the Kingdome, As Menaces, Assaults, Batteries, Treasons, Homicides, And Felonies, Ryots, Routs, Unlawfull Assemblies, Forcible Entries, Forgeries, Perjuries, Maintenance, Deceit, Extortion, Oppression: And How Many and What Sorts of Them There Be, And by Whome, And What Means the Sayd Offences, And the Offendors Therein are to bee Restrained, Repressed, Or Punished. Which Being Reformed or Duly Checked, Florebit Pax Regis & Regni. Collected Out of the Reports of the Common Lawes of This Realme, And of the Statutes in Force, And Out of the Painfull Workes of the Reverend Iudges Sir Anthonie Fitzherbert, Sir Robert Brooke, Sir William Stanford, Sir Iames Dyer, Sir Edward Coke, Knights, And Other Learned Writers of Our Lawes. London: Printed for the Companie of Stationers, 1609. [vi], 258, [22] ff. Folio (11" x 7-1/4").

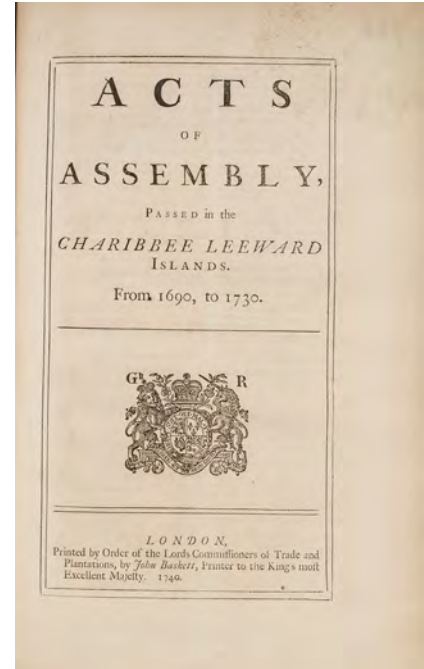
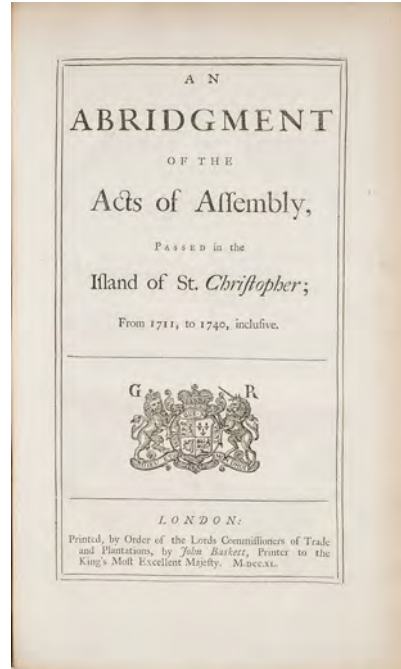
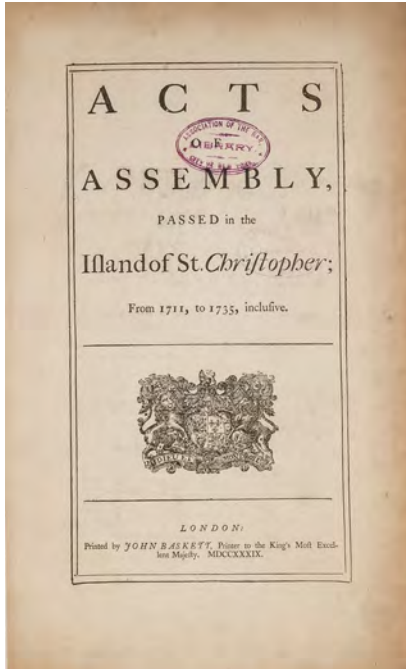
Period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, lettering piece, blind-tooled raised bands and blind fillets to spine, marbled edges, endpapers renewed, retained bookplate of Hugh Cecil Lowther, 5th Earl of Lonsdale to front pastedown. Moderate toning to interior, slightly heavier in places, light foxing to a few leaves, faint staining to margins of endleaves and verso of final leaf. An attractive copy. \$2,750.

* First edition. With comprehensive index, glosses and side-note references to the works of Fitzherbert, Brooke and others. Pulton is best known for his respected abridgements *An Abstract of all the Penal Statutes Which are General* (1560) and *A Kalendar or Table of All the Statutes* (1606). *De Pace Regis et Regni* took his earlier works as the starting point for a comprehensive overview of criminal law. Holdsworth, who holds this work in high regard, observes that it was only the second title devoted to the subject. The first, Staunford's *Les Ples del Coron*, was published posthumously in 1560. Holdsworth adds that a comparison between Pulton and (the less comprehensive) Staunford "enables us to appreciate the effect of the additions to and alterations of the criminal law made during this period, both by the legislature, and by the judges of the common law courts and of the court of Star Chamber" (392-393). This is especially evident in his discussion of topics like "Triall by Battaile," "The King's Pardon," "Maihem" and "Corruption of Bloud." In all, Pulton's treatise offers a fascinating perspective on criminal law as it was understood in Shakespeare's England.

Lowther, the former owner of this copy, [1857-1944] was an English soldier, sportsman and founder of the Dumb Friends League, now the Blue Cross, an important English animal welfare society.

Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:392-393. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S116053.

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The First Published Compilations of the Laws of St. Kitts and the Leeward Islands

25. [Saint Kitts].

Acts of Assembly, Passed in the Island of St. Christopher; From 1711, to 1735, Inclusive. London: Printed by John Baskett, 1739. x, 182 pp.

[Bound with]

An Abridgment of the Acts of Assembly, Passed in the Island of St. Christopher; From 1711, To 1740, Inclusive. London: Printed by John Baskett, 1740. [ii], clvii-clviii, 169-198.

[And]

[Leeward Islands].

Acts of Assembly, Passed in the Charibbee Leeward Islands, From 1690, To 1730. London: Printed by John Baskett, 1740. [v], [i], 24, [iv] pp.

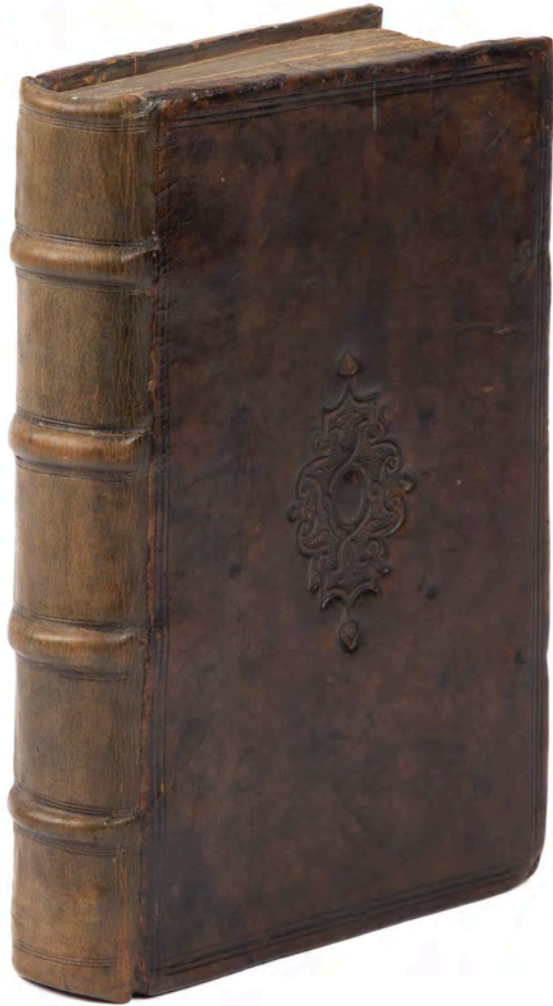
Folio (14-1/2" x 9-1/2"). Recent period-style quarter calf over marbled boards, raised bands and lettering piece to spine, vellum-covered corners, endpapers renewed. Each volume has identical attractive copperplate vignette featuring King George II, attractive woodcut initials, head-pieces and tail-pieces. Moderate toning, somewhat darker in places, occasional light foxing, internally clean, library stamps to title page of first title, a few library markings to its verso. An appealing copy in a handsome binding. \$1,500.

* Only editions. St. Christopher (St. Kitts) was discovered by Columbus in 1493. It was colonized by the British in 1623 and was the first British colony in the Leeward Islands. It was held jointly by the French and English from 1628 to 1713 and returned to exclusive British rule under the terms of the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. Often bound together, these two volumes are the first published compilations of the laws of St. Kitts. Pp. 165-82 of the 1739 *Acts of Assembly* contain acts from 1739-1740. The third title is the first printed edition of acts of the government of the Leeward Islands (Antigua, Barbuda, St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla).

OCLC locates 3 copies of the St. Kitts acts in North American law schools (Columbia, University of Michigan, Yale), one of the Leeward Islands (Harvard). Sweet & Maxwell, *A Legal Bibliography of the British Commonwealth* 7:318-19, 310.

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Owned by an Influential Seventeenth-Century English Statesman

26. Staunford, Sir William [1509-1558].

Les Plees del Coron, Divisees in Plusors Titles & Comon Lieux. Per Queux Home Plusis Redement & Pleinement Trouver a Quelque Chose que il Quira, Touchant les Dits Plees. Dernierment Corrigee Avecques un Table Parfaicte des Choses Notables Contenus en Ycelle, Novelment Reveu & Corrigee. [London]: In Aedibus Richardi Tottelli, [1583]. [xii], 196 [i.e. 198] ff.

[Bound with]

Staunford, Sir William.

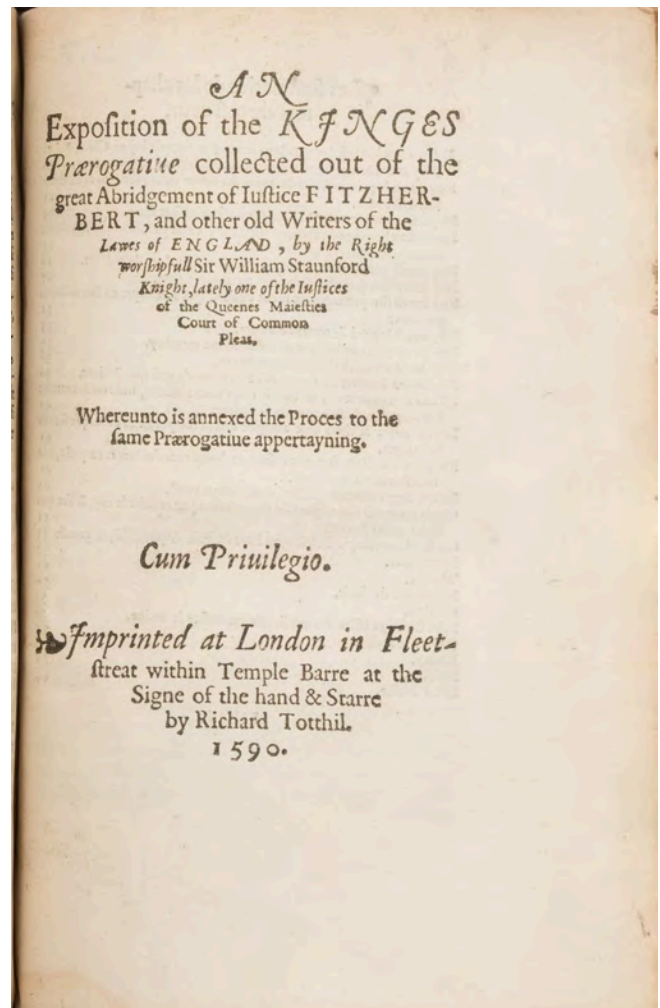
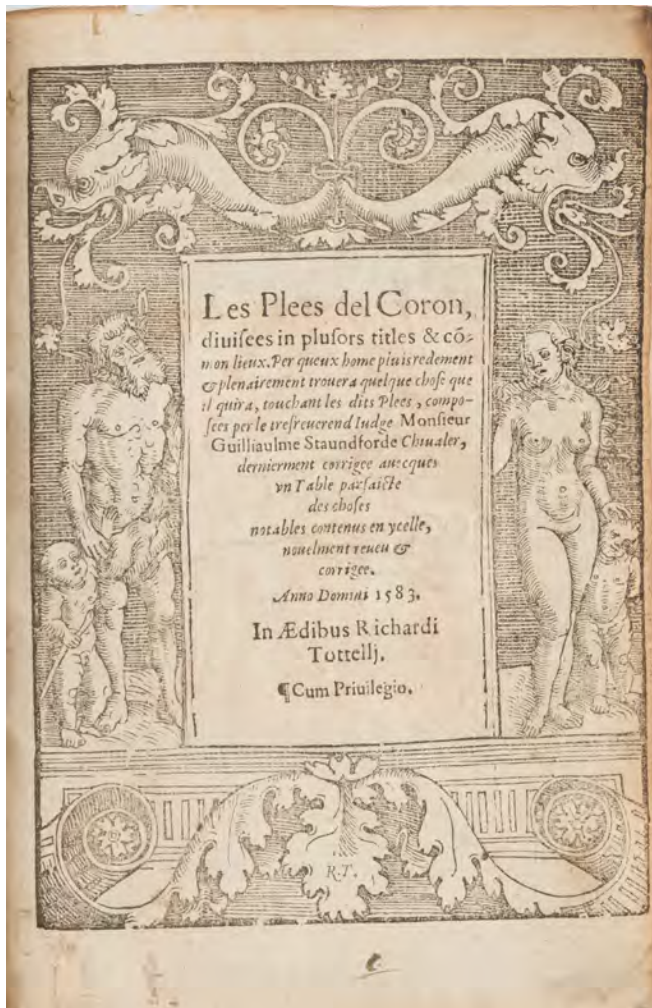
An Exposition of the Kinges Praerogative Collected Out of the Great Abridgement of Iustice Fitzherbert, And Other Old Writers of the Lawes of England, By the Right Worshipfull Sir William Staunford Knight, Lately One of the Iustices of the Queenes Maiesties Court of Common Pleas. Whereunto is Annexed the Proces to the Same Praerogative Appertayning. London: Imprinted...by Richard Totthil, 1590. [ii], 6-84 [i.e. 85] ff. Pagination irregular; text complete.

Quarto (7-3/4" x 5"). Contemporary calf, blind rules and central blind arabesques to boards, rebacked and recorned in period style with raised bands and blind fillets, remnants of silk ties to inner board edges. Light rubbing and a few small scratches to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped, pastedowns loose, endleaves rehinged, front endleaves, which have later annotations (shelfmarks?), lightly soiled and laid down, later armorial bookplate (of Charles Lord Halifax, 1702) to verso of title page. Title page of *Plees* printed within woodcut architectural border. Light toning to interior, more moderate in places, light soiling and faint marginal dampstaining in a few places, a few folded corners. \$1,250.

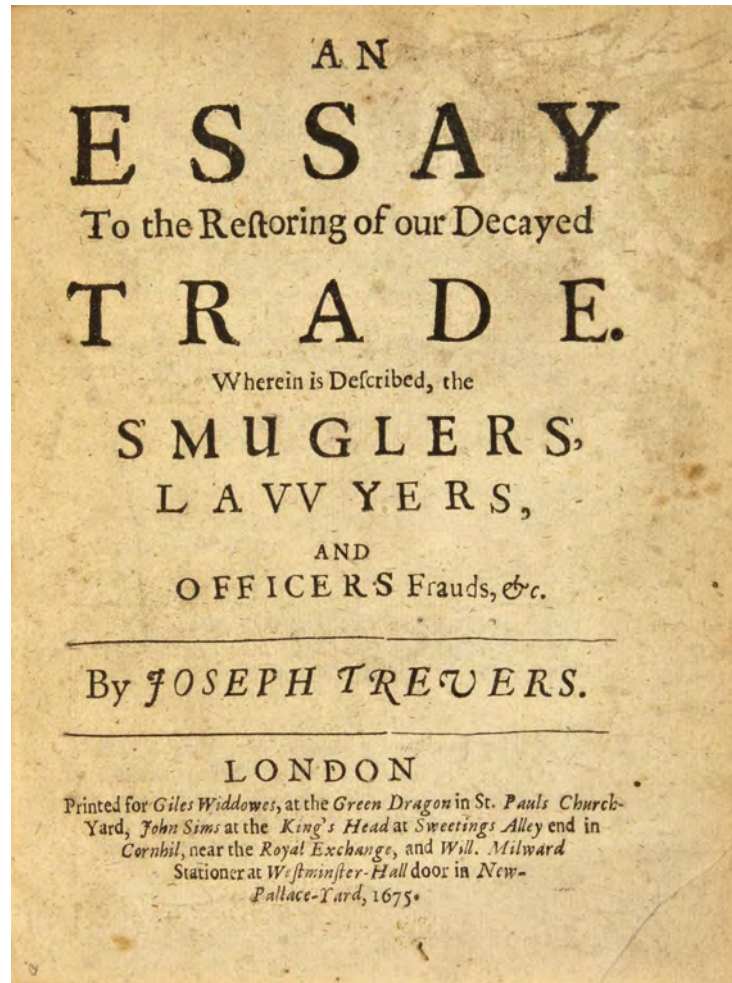
* Later editions. Building on Bracton, the Year Books and especially Fitzherbert's *Graunde Abridgement*, Staunford sought to digest the authorities and principles of the law even further for the benefit of students and practitioners. First published in 1557, *Plees* was the first book devoted entirely to criminal law. Used as a standard reference by many, including Sir James Dyer, it "may well have become an assize judge's vade mecum" (Baker). Our 1583 edition is considered definitive and was the one owned by Thomas Jefferson. *Exposition of the Kinges Prerogative* was first published in 1567. It addresses discretionary rights enjoyed by the monarchy in foreign policy, domestic affairs, legal and governmental administration, religion and economic matters.

This volume was owned by Charles Montagu, 1st Earl of Halifax, an English politician and statesman. One of the four major members of the "Whig Junto," Montagu was highly influential as a minister under King William III, particularly in matters of finance, though his influence declined under Queen Anne. He served as Commissioner of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer and First Lord of the Treasury.

Baker, *Reports from the Lost Notebooks of Sir James Dyer* I (Selden Society 109). Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* T490, T496. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S117812, S117820. Sowerby, *Catalogue of the Library of Thomas Jefferson* 1945 (*Plees*).



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A Scarce Protectionist Take on "Our Decayed Trade"

27. Trevers, Joseph.

An Essay to the Restoring of Our Decayed Trade. Wherein is Described, The Smugglers, Lawyers, And Officers Frauds, &c. London: Printed for Giles Widdowes, John Sims, and Will. Milward, 1675. [x], 24, 33-59, [5] pp. Complete; text and register continuous despite pagination. Quarto (7" x 5-3/4").

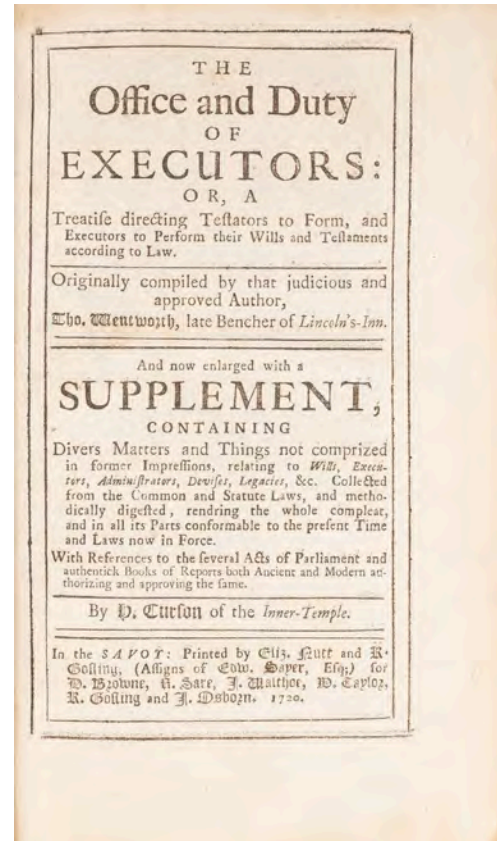
Stab-stitched pamphlet bound into nineteenth-century signed binding by Morley of Oxford, quarter-morocco over marbled boards, gilt title to spine. Some rubbing to extremities, front hinge starting. Negligible light browning, to text, light foxing to a few leaves, recent repair to corner of leaf a1 (pp. [vii]-[viii]), light soiling and staining to title page. A handsome copy. \$1,950.

* First edition. With two laudatory poems addressed to the author. Trevers was a customs officer who was formerly a clothier. His essay proposes legislation to combat trade policies, taxes and abuses by government officials and middlemen that affect the manufacture and trade of wool and woolen cloth. Most of his ideas are stridently protectionist; several reflect a keen hostility toward lawyers. Later editions were published in 1677 and 1678.

All editions are scarce. OCLC locates 7 copies of the first edition in North America, none in law libraries. *Kress Library of Business and Economics Catalogue* 1390. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R222765.

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"The Foundation of All Similar Productions"

28. Wentworth, Thomas [c.1568-1628].

Curson, H[enry], Editor.

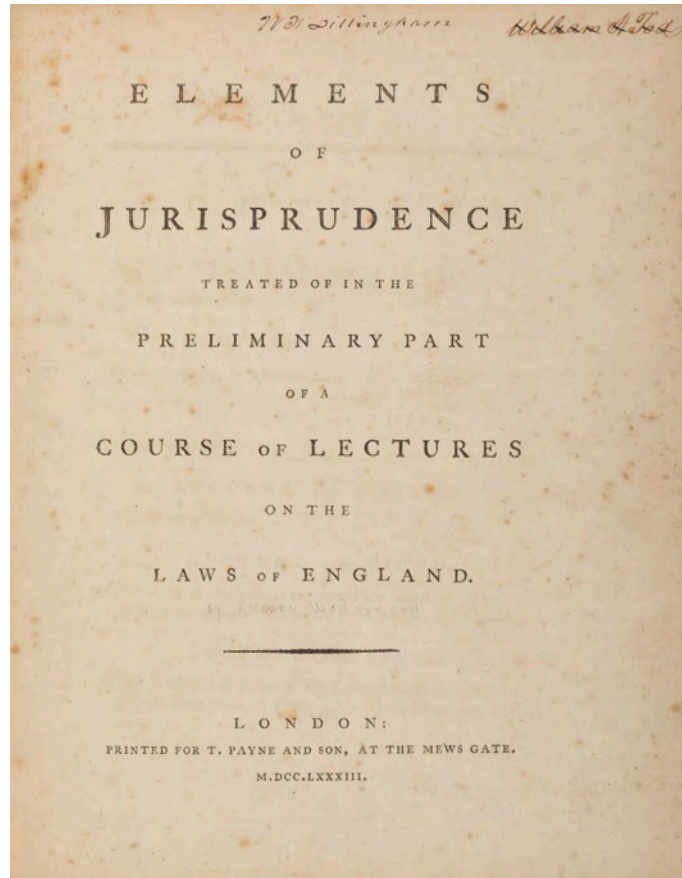
The Office and Duty of Executors: Or, A Treatise Directing Testators to Form, And Executors to Perform Their Wills and Testaments According to Law. Originally Compiled by That Judicious and Approved Author, Tho. Wentworth, Late Bencher of Lincoln's-Inn. And Now Enlarged with a Supplement, Containing Divers Matters and Things not Comprized in Former Impressions, Relating to Wills, Executors, Administrators, Devises, Legacies, &c. Collected from the Common and Statute Laws, And Methodically Digested, Rendring the Whole Compleat, And in All its Parts Conformable to the Present Time and Laws now in Force. With References to the Several Acts of Parliament and Authentick Books of Reports both Ancient and Modern Authorizing and Approving the Same. By H. Curson of the Inner-Temple. [London]: Printed by Eliz. Nutt and R. Gosling, 1720. [iv], vi, [10], 468, [72] pp. Octavo (7-3/4" x 4-3/4").

Contemporary calf, rebacked in period style, blind rules to boards, blind fillets along joints, blind tooling to board edges, raised bands, lettering piece, blind fillets and gilt publication date to spine, hinges mended. Minor nicks, scuffs and tiny stains to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, corners bumped, early owner signature (Wm. Orde) to front and rear pastedowns. Moderate toning to interior, faint dampspotting to a few leaves. \$400.

* Later edition. First published in 1641, the "authorship of this treatise is ascribed to Mr. Justice Dodderidge, though the work is commonly Known as Wentworth's Executors. It constitutes the foundation of all similar productions of the kind, and has always been regarded as a high authority in these matters" (Marvin). This was a popular and well-received work that went through several editions and issues into the nineteenth century.

Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 724-725. *English Short-Title Catalogue* R220926.

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**"The Complement of Sir W. Blackstone's *Commentaries*"
Bound With "A Work of Great Authority" for Special Pleaders**

29. Wooddeson, Richard [1745-1822].

Elements of Jurisprudence, Treated of in the Preliminary Part of a Course of Lectures on the Laws of England. London: Printed for T. Payne and Son, 1783. [iv], 118 pp.

[Bound with]

Heath, Sir Robert [1575-1649].

Cunningham, Timothy [d.1789], Editor.

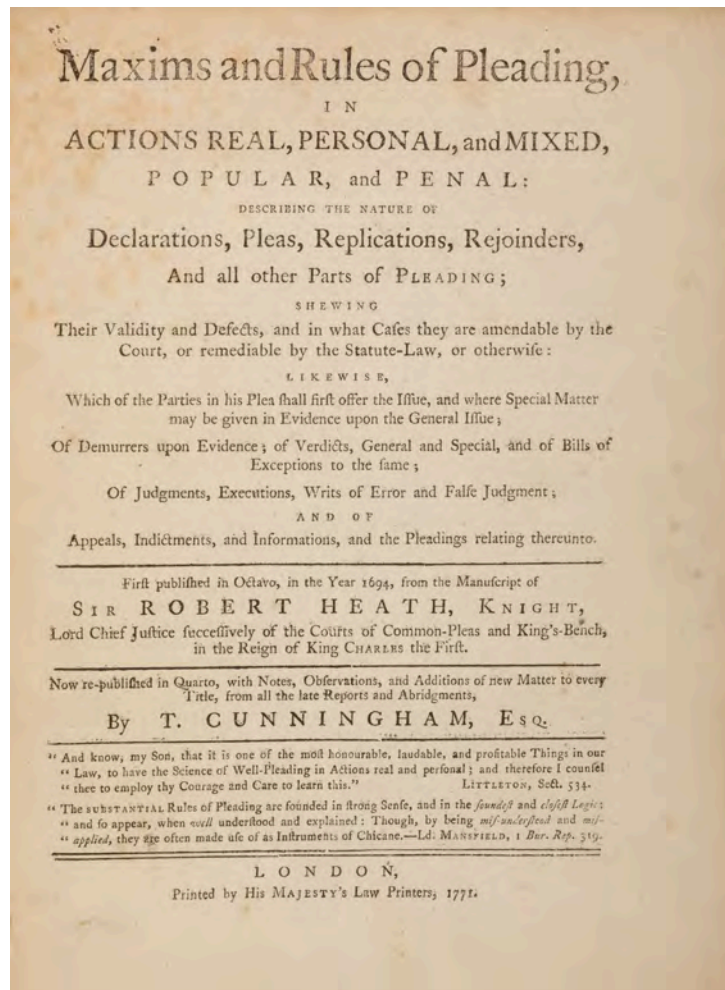
Maxims and Rules of Pleading, In Actions Real, Personal, and Mixed, Popular and Penal: Describing the Nature of Declarations, Pleas, Replications, Rejoinders, And All Other Parts of Pleading; Shewing Their Validity and Defects, And in What Cases They Are Amendable by the Court, Or Remediable by the Statute-Law, Or Otherwise: Likewise, Which of the Parties in His Plea Shall First Offer the Issue, And Where Special Matter May be Given in Evidence Upon the General Issue; Of Demurrers Upon Evidence; Of Verdicts, General and Special, And of Bills of Exceptions to the Same; Of Judgments, Executions, Writs of Error and False Judgment; And of Appeals, Indictments, And Informations, And the Pleadings Relating Thereunto. First Published in Octavo, in the Year 1694, From the Manuscript of Sir Robert Heath. Now Re-Published in Quarto, With Notes, Observations, And Additions of New Matter to Every Title, From All the Late Reports and Abridgments, By T. Cunningham, Esq. London: Printed by His Majesty's Law Printers, 1771. x, 252, [8] pp.

Quarto (10" x 8"). Contemporary calf, rebaked in period style, blind fillets to board, raised bands and retained existing lettering pieces to spine, hinges mended, some scuffing to boards, moderate rubbing to board edges, some wear to corners. Moderate toning, somewhat heavier in places, occasional faint dampspotting and foxing, crease to leaf Y of *Maxims* (pp. 161-162) and minor loss to headline of following leaf due to printer error, two early owner signatures to title page of *Elements*, one (possibly of Philadelphia lawyer William H. Tod [1772-1833]) struck through. A very good copy. \$2,000.

* *Elements*: first edition; *Maxims*: second and final edition, one of two issues from 1771. Wooddeson was elected a Vinerian Scholar in 1766, became a Vinerian Fellow in 1776 and was Vinerian Professor from 1777 to 1793. He was steeped in Blackstone's work, and he strove to supplement it. "Dr. Wooddeson's Lectures form, in a measure, the complement of Sir W. Blackstone's *Commentaries*, for he supplies some deficiencies in the production of his predecessor, and treats more in detail, some topics, but slightly noticed by him. Though of acknowledged merit, as to learning, method of arrangement, and accuracy of rules, they do not seem to have attained so great a reputation as their real worth entitles them to. In point of style, and beauty of narration, they follow the *Commentaries*, *haud non passibus aequis*" (Marvin). Holdsworth describes each chapter in detail and calls this work a very useful book on legal theory. This book had a second edition published in Dublin in 1792.

Our copy is accompanied by Heath's classic work on pleading. Marvin notes that "it is a work of great authority, and has been a guide to all special pleaders since its publication. Viner frequently cites it in his *Abridgment*". Marvin adds that Cunningham's editions are the best versions of this work.

Marvin, *Legal Bibliography* 745, 379. Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* XII:428f. *English Short-Title Catalogue* T32600, N34974.



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**An Impressive Collection of Year Books
With Contemporary Manuscript Annotations**

30. [Year Books].

Henry VI [1421-1471], King of England.

De Termino Michaelis Anno XXI. Regni Regis Henrici Sexti. [London: Imprinted...In fletestrete within Temple Barre at the signe of the hand [and] starre, by Richard Tottill, 1567]. lviii ff.

[Bound with]

[12 Year Books of Henry VI, Years 22-39]. [London: Richard Tottell, 1556-1567].

Folio (11" x 7-1/2"). Contemporary blind paneled calf, central blind arabesques with monogram "TW", holes for ties or catches at fore-edges, initials "CT" blind-stamped to front board, raised bands and blind fillets to spine, manuscript waste front pastedown. Light rubbing, shallow scuffing and minor worming to boards, moderate rubbing to extremities, spine ends and corners mended with calf, light creasing to spine, small hole to front joint near foot, rear joint starting at head, corners bumped, hinges cracked, pastedowns starting to loosen but secure, minor worming to rear pastedown, faint offsetting and light edgewear to front free endpaper, early annotations to its verso and to rear free endpaper and pastedown. Moderate toning to interior, light foxing and soiling in a few places, a few folded corners, small holes or clean tears to margins of a few leaves affecting text on two leaves without loss to legibility, negligible worming at fore-edge of last ten or so leaves, early and later annotations in ink and pencil in at least three hands to many leaves, 3-1/2" x 7-1/2" sheet with early manuscript text to both sides laid in. An impressive collection. \$8,500.

* Covers regnal years 21-22, 27-28 and 30-39 of Henry VI. It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the Year Books, the primary body of early English court reports. A cornerstone of the common law, they are also a primary source for our knowledge of law in medieval England and useful documents of contemporary English life, customs and manners. The origin of the Year Books is unknown. Some scholars believe they originated as collections of notes taken by law students in court for study. Holdsworth maintains they were made by lawyers for personal use. Though it is not known when the first manuscript volumes were compiled, the cases in all known examples are from the 1270s to 1535. Printed editions of the Year Books were first issued by William de Machlinia between 1481 and 1482.

Our volumes are from the so-called "quarto edition," a series of volumes issued by various printers from 1522 to 1619. The extensive manuscript annotations to our volume, primarily case and statutory citations, indicate detailed review by early readers and demonstrate the utility of the Year Books to legal scholars and practitioners.

Holdsworth, *A History of English Law* V:357-377. Beale, *A Bibliography of Early English Law Books* R153, R158, R164, R170, R175, R180, R186, R192, R199, R206, R212, R216, R221. *English Short-Title Catalogue* S111975, S111976, S101576, S112391, S118467, S112392, S112393, S112394, S112396, S112397, S118912, S112398, S112399.

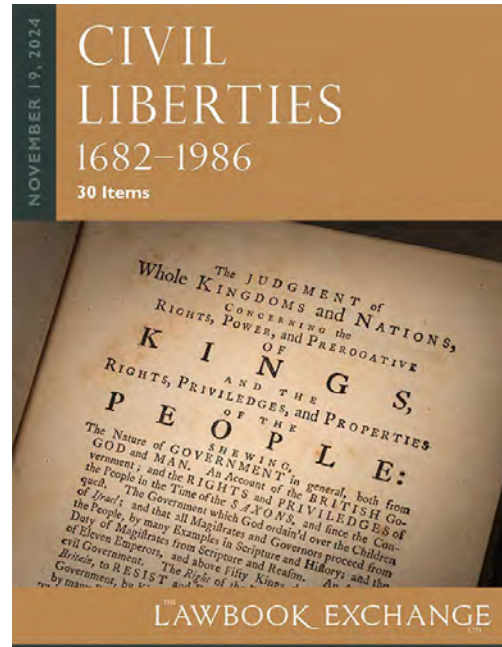
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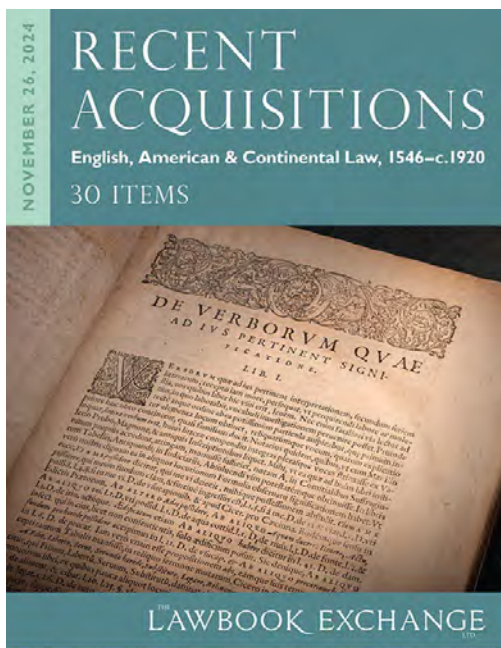
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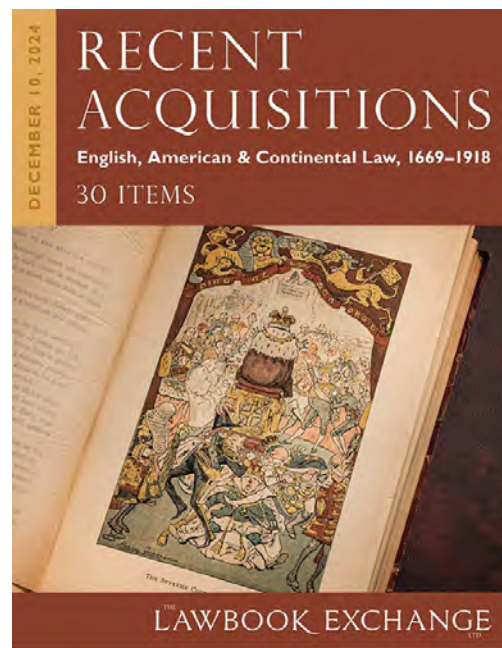
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