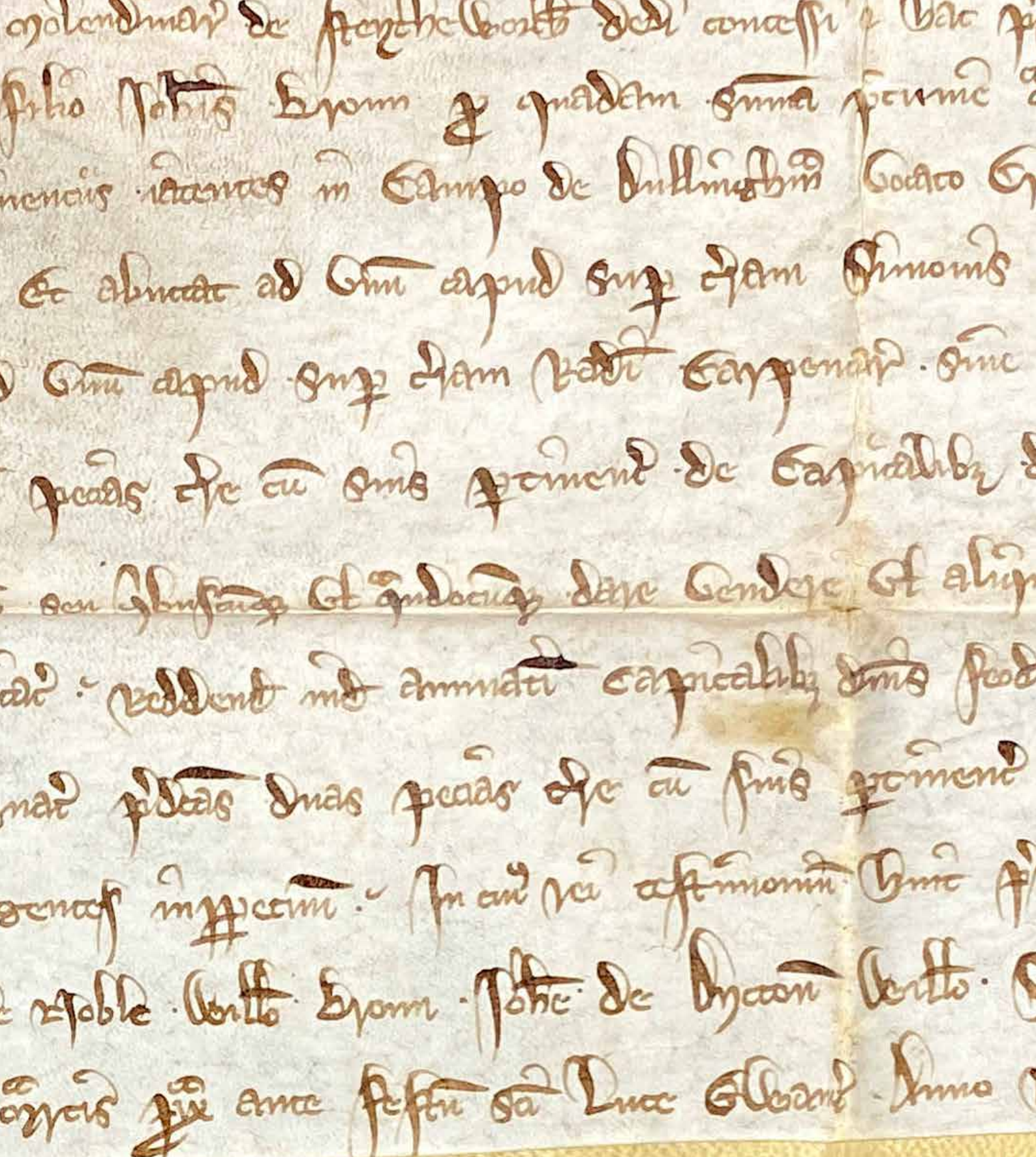


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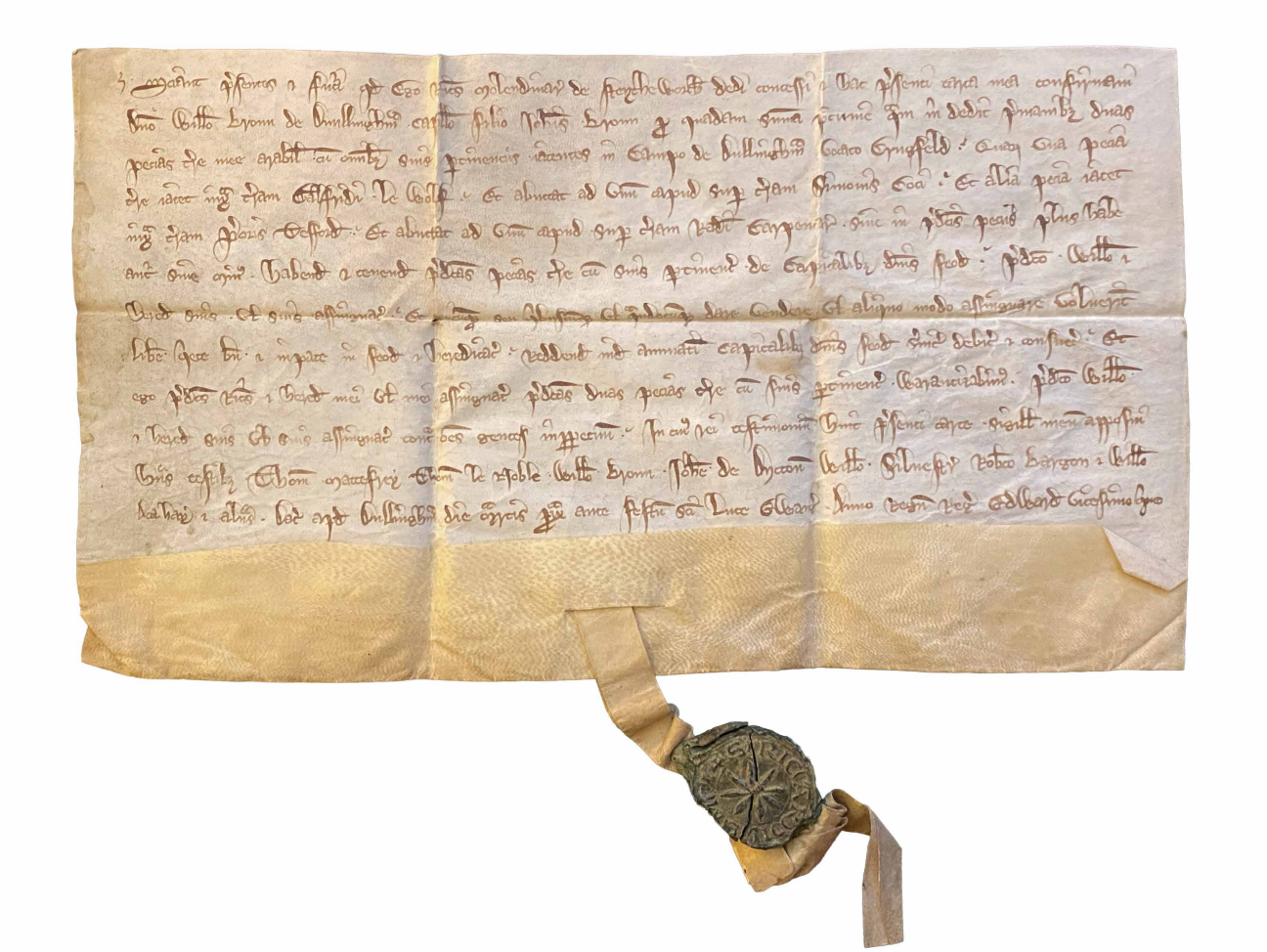
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THIRTEENTH CENTURY CAMBRIDGESHIRE GRANT



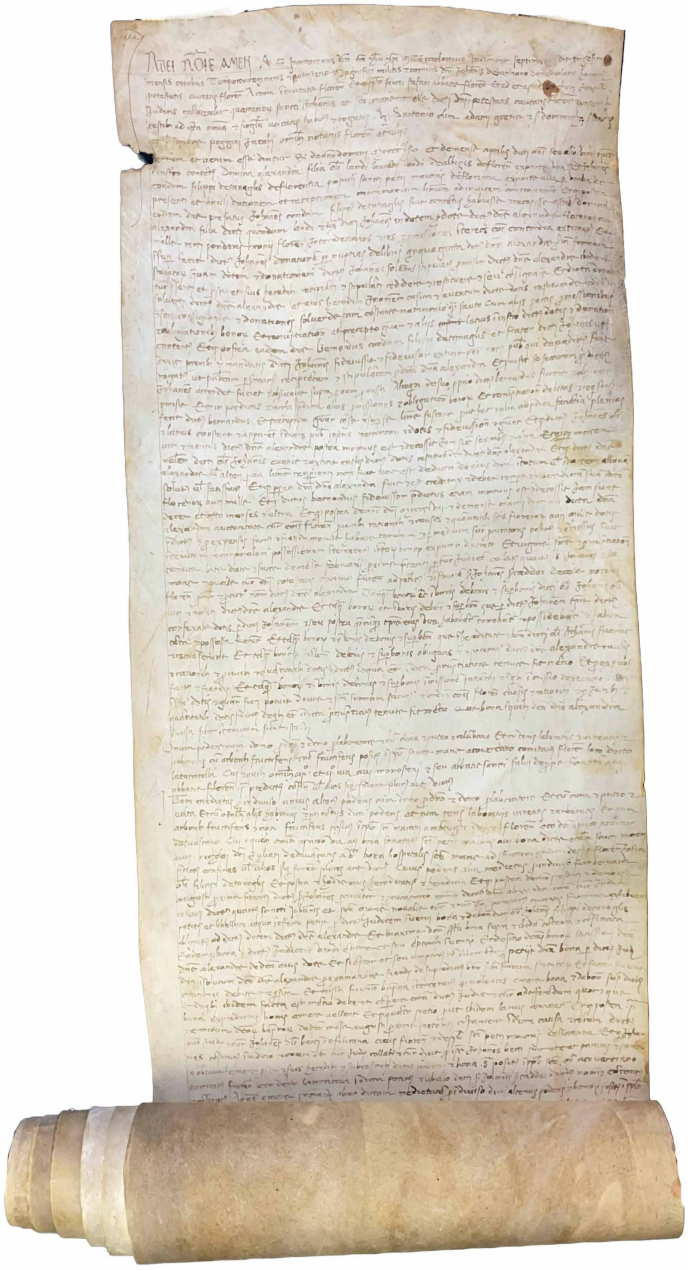
1. [CAMBRIDGESHIRE.] [Grant; Richard the miller of Stetchworth to Sir William Broun of Dullingham, chaplain, son of John Broun: two pieces of arable land in the field of Dullingham called Crugfeld, of which: 1. by the land of Geoffrey le Wolf, heading onto the land of Simon Doci; 2. by the land of the prior of Thetford, heading onto the land of Ralph the carpenter to hold of the chief lords by the accustomed services, with freedom of alienation.]

Dullingham, 15 October 1297. Grant, 12 lines in Latin, on single sheet of vellum (approx. 23.5 x 14cm) witnesses: Thomas Mattefrey, Thomas le Noble, William Broun, Thomas de Dytton, William Silvestre, Robert Bargon, William att Hay, green wax seal appended on a vellum tag, seal with slight chipping to extremities but sound, document with old folds, very good.

A thirteenth century grant relating to Dullingham in Cambridgeshire - the green wax seal bears a design of a flower of eight petals with legend "+ S' RICARDI FIL' MV".

£950

MARRIAGE OF FLORENTINE NOBILITY & DOWRY FINANCE



2. [FLORENCE.] [Exemplification of the arrangements for the marriage of Lady Alessandra, daughter of the late Landi Laurati de Albizis of Florence, and Giovanni son of the late Filippo de Canaglis of the parish of San Pietro Maggiore, Florence, and the subsequent legal proceedings leading to the sale of assets after his death to enable the repayment of her dowry; in the time of Giovanni de Barbiano, podesta of Florence, in the presence of two assistant judges of the quarters of San Giovanni and Santa Maria Novella and of three notaries of Florence:

Recites the marriage per verba de presenti, exchange of rings and receipt by Giovanni of a dowry of 1000 golden florins and his gift to her of 50 libri according to the marriage contract; arrangements for the guarantee of the dowry by Giovanni's brother Bernardo, April 1452; death of Giovanni more than six months ago, upon which arose the question of the restitution of the dowry, which was not done; death of Bernardo more than 18 months ago; in March 1457 Alexandra brought proceedings to recover her dowry and expenses; list of the property subject to the marriage contract: a farm, farmhouse, workshop, courtyard, well and dove-house, trees and fruit-trees at La Torricella in the parish of Santa Maria a Coverciano in the county of Florence, and the moiety of another farm at San Antonio del Vescovo in the parish of San Martino a Montughi near Florence, the other moiety of which belonged to Giovanni's brother Bernardo; order by the judge for the goods on the properties to be sold to raise the dowry; sale to Giovanni Berti de Filicana, citizen of Florence of the parish of San Pietro Maggiore, for 900 florins, with expenses of 55 libri and 13 soldi.]

Florence, 30 October 1458. Manuscript, ink on parchment, a roll of 3 conjoined (stitched) membranes (total dimensions approx. 27 x 211cm) notarial signs of Matteo son of the late Giovanni Blaxi of Falgano in Valle Sieve in the county of Florence & Jeronimo son of the late Giovanni Sercaddei of Colle, citizen of Florence, whose notarial sign is written at the edges of the junction between the three membranes of this document, verso endorsed "San Salvi" (1 km SSW of Santa Maria a Coverciano), in a very good state of preservation.

In Renaissance Florence it was customary amongst the nobility and the upper strata of merchants and bankers for wives to bring their husbands a substantial dowry, to be managed by the husband as a marital resource. However, as evidenced in the present substantial manuscript scroll, dowries often precipitated complicated legal proceedings which could on occasion lead to the restitution of the dowry, in particular on the death of the spouse, or due to instances of financial mismanagement.

The Albizzi family were one of the most prominent noble dynasties in Florence, known in particular for their opposition to the Medici. See: Thomas Kuehn, 'Property of Spouses in Law in Renaissance Florence' in: Patrimony and Law in Renaissance Italy (CUP, 2022) pp.73-99. Provenance: Sotheby's (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£3500



THREE NORFOLK CHARTERS – REIGN OF HENRY VII

3. [NORFOLK.] [Bundle of three charters relating to an acre of land in Bramerton in Norfolk, 1496-1500.] I. [Feoffment: Robert Wirmegey late of Kirby Bedon, Thomas Taillour of Bramerton and John Cory of Bramerton to Robert Webster of Bramerton, Robert Manne the younger of Bramerton and John Dussyng the younger of Bramerton: one acre of arable land in the fields of Bramerton.]

Bramerton, 17 June 1496. S: free land of the church of Bramerton; N: customary land of manor of Framlingham Piggot in tenure of John Cory; heading W: land of manor of Framlingham Piggot late in tenure of John Hogekyns; E: land late John Moor) in which (with John Webster of Kirby Bedon, deceased) they were enfeoffed by Nicholas Hoggekyns of Bramerton & John Man of Bramerton by a deed executed at Bramerton on 17 September 1489 the grantors appoint William Hood their attorney to deliver seisin; witnesses: William Dussyng, Robert Manne the elder, Thomas Cory, John Taillour, William Hawe.]

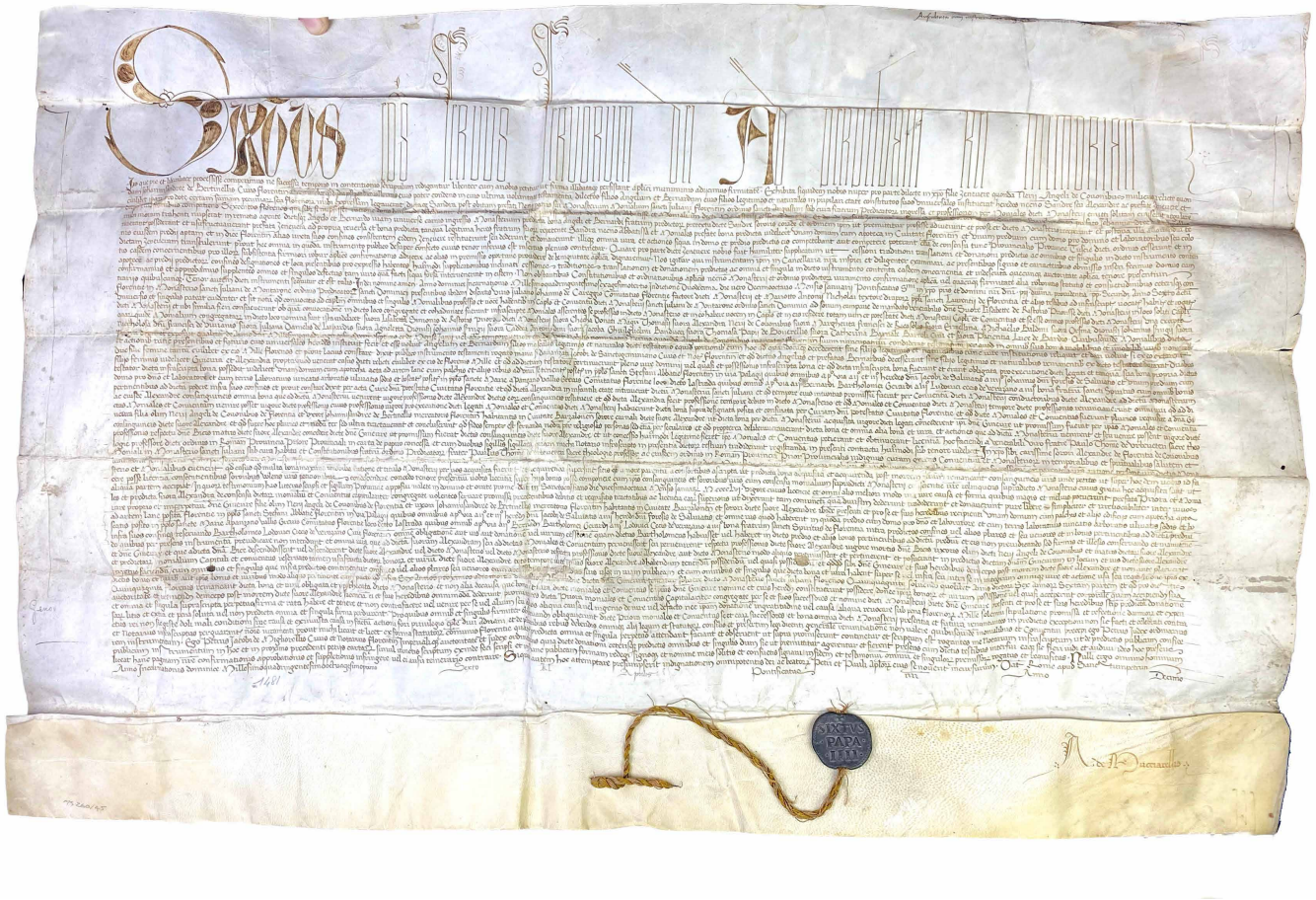
II. [Conveyance: Agnes Webster, widow and executrix of Robert Webster of Bramerton, Robert Manne the younger of Bramerton and John Dussyng the younger of Bramerton to Geoffrey Manne of Kirby Bedon.]

Bramerton, 10 January 1500. Land as I., which Robert Manne & John Dussyng (with Robert Webster, now dead) had by feoffment I; witnesses: William Dussyng, John Cory, John Taillour, William Manne, Thomas Taillour.

III. [Feoffment: Geoffrey Manne of Kirby Bedon to Robert Manne of Bramerton, Andrew Manne, chaplain and John Dussyng the younger of Bramerton.]

Bramerton, 31 January 1500. Land as II., which Geoffrey Manne had by the sale & grant of Agnes Webster; witnesses: William Dussyng, John Cory, John Taillour. Together 3 manuscripts joined by tie at left margin, ink on single sheets of parchment (each approx. 32 x 12cm) in Latin, some marginal crinkling & areas of light discolouration (not affecting legibility), six seals surviving in total, very good.

£450



PROPERTY & PIETY – FAMILY WEALTH OF FIFTEENTH CENTURY ITALIAN NUN

4. [SIXTUS IV.] [Papal bull exemplifying proceedings relating to the assets of Sister Alexandra of the convent of San Giuliano in Florence, recorded by the notary and judge ordinary Pietro Jacobi di Migliorelli at the request of her sister Ginevra, widow of Giovanni Andree de Bertinelli, citizen and merchant of Florence, living at Barcelona;

Recites that on 18 January 1464 in the convent of San Giuliano di Montarone in Florence, in the presence of Giuliano Giovanni de Careggio, factor of the monastery in the county of Florence, and Mariotto Antonio Nicholai, weaver of the parish of Laurence in Florence, all but one of the 13 professed nuns (who are named) assembled at the ringing of the bell on the order of the Prioress Sister Lisabetta Simonis de Ristoris, who set out how in June 1417 the late nobleman Neri Angeli de Cononi, merchant of Florence, made his nuncupative will leaving his assets to his two sons Angelo and Bernardo in equal portions; if they died without lawful sons, then he left 100 florins to his two daughters Ginevra and Alexandra, witnessed by Ser Dananzati Jacobi, citizen of San Gimignano, notary of Florence; that Angelo and Bernardo died without lawful sons;

Alexandra as a child entered the monastery of San Giuliano, and the convent promised her guardians that all the assets which came to them as a result of her profession would be restored to her family; she made a profession in due course, at which point the convent renounced her assets; her sister Ginevra married Giovanni Andree de Bertinelli in Barcelona, and frequently requested the assets as had been promised; after negotiation the nuns obtained a licence (which is transcribed) from Brother Paolo Thomas de Urbeveteri, professor of sacred theology, Dominican Prior Provincial, to alienate the property, given at San Cassiano, 28 January 1457 and examined by the notary; whereupon Sister Alexandra and the nuns, gathered in their chapter, irrevocably gave the property to her sister Ginevra, wife of Giovanni Andree de Bertinelli, merchant of Florence living at Barcelona, both being present, reserving the income from the property to Sister Alexandra during her lifetime; after the death of Sister Alexandra, Ginevra was to pay 50 florins to the monastery over the course of six years; the prioress and convent agreed to abide by the terms of the agreement under penalty of 1000 florins.



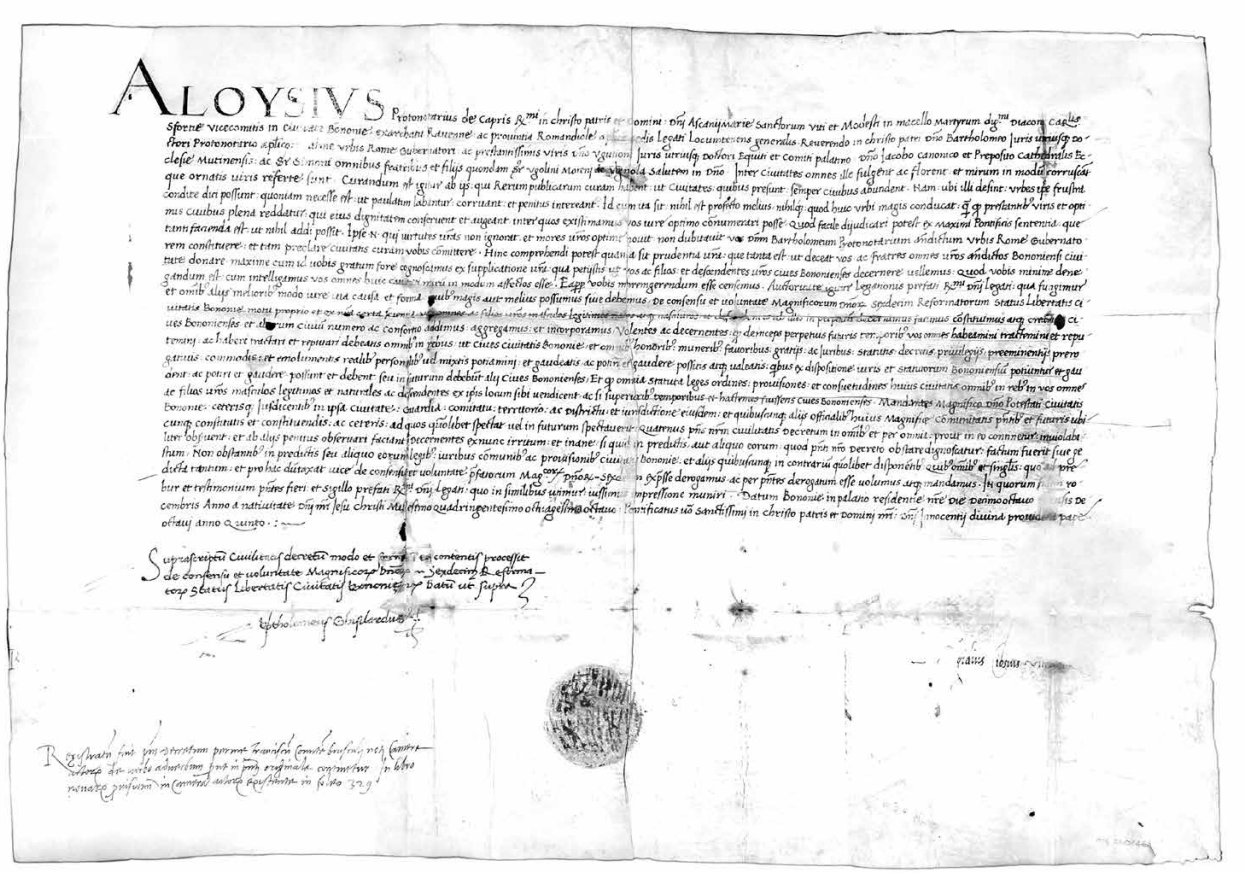
The property consisted of a house and wool storehouse (apoteca) in via del Palagio in the parish of Santo Stefano Abbazia in Florence, an estate (predium) for a master and workman with lands, vines and trees in Santa Maria at Pangano in the Val di Greve in the county of Florence; and any property which descended to Sister Alexandra from her mother Lady Bica.]

[Florence, 27 March 1481.] Manuscript in ink, on single sheet of parchment (approx. 76 x 50cm) 56 lines in Latin, old folds, clerical signatures of Giovanni de Salas, P[ietro] de Monte, B[enedetto] de Maffei, B[ernardo] Anconianus, A[ntonius] de Mucciarellis, M Palmierus, lead bull of Sixtus IV attached on silk threads, fraying in places, verso with seventeenth century manuscript docket title, in a very good state of preservation.

Dated Florence 27 March 1481, this large and finely-penned papal bull issued under Pope Sixtus IV (1414-1484) concerns the assets of a Dominican nun from a wealthy family, Sister Alexandra of the Dominican convent of San Giuliano in central Florence, founded in the fourteenth century. The document exemplifies legal proceedings concerning the return to her family of the ownership of the Florentine properties and businesses that she renounced on her profession as a nun. The text includes details of the nuns of the convent, Sister Alexandra's family, the inherited assets in Florence, including a wool warehouse, and the financial agreements made between the family and the convent. This is a substantial document offering a glimpse into the relationships between Italian nuns, their family members and the management of inherited property in a prosperous metropolitan Italian setting in the fifteenth century. Provenance: Sotheby's (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£6500





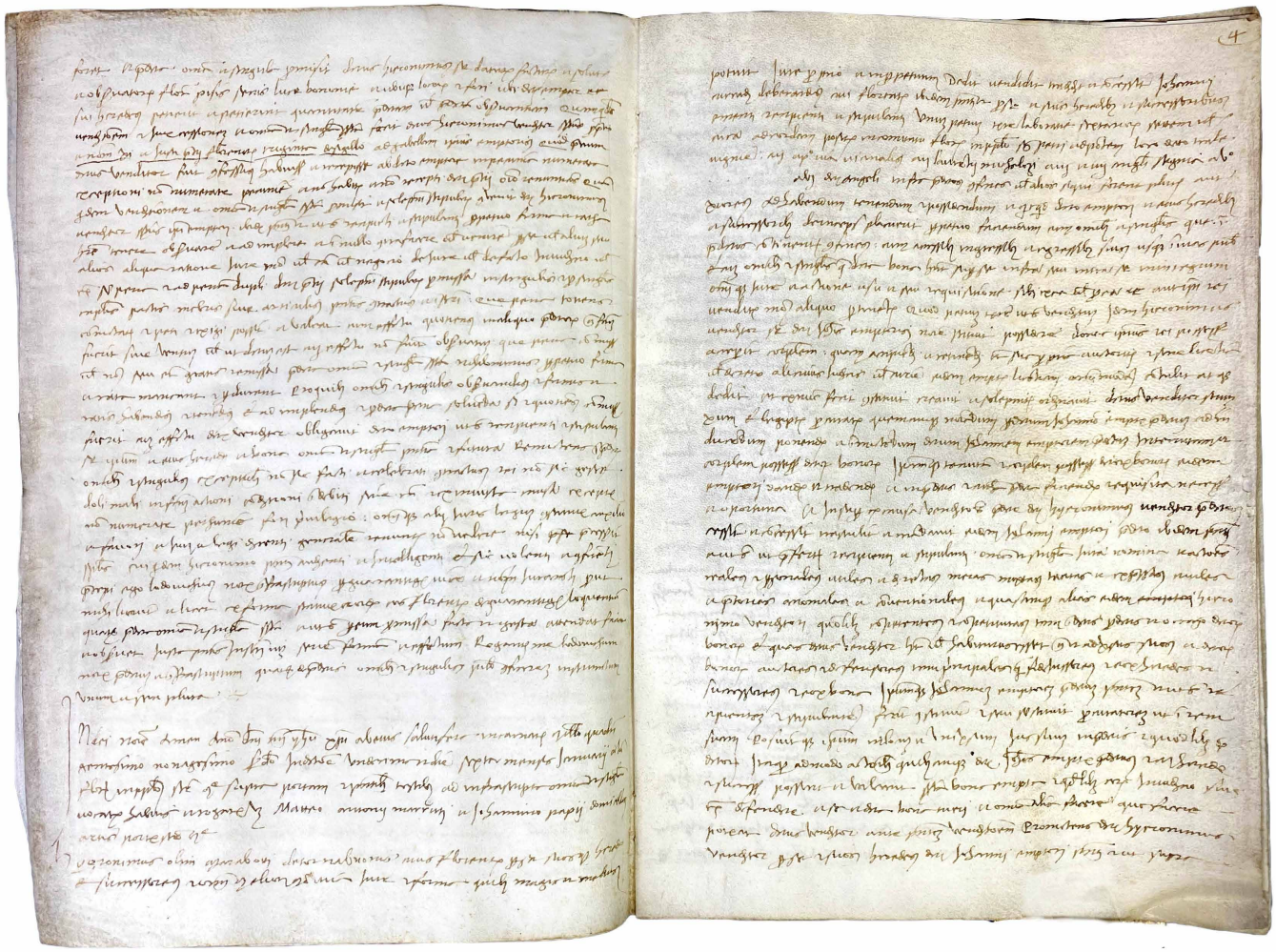
CITIZENSHIP IN RENAISSANCE BOLOGNA

5. [CAPRIS, Luigi de.] [Decree granting citizenship of the city of Bologna and its attendant benefits; Luigi de Capris, protonotary of Cardinal Ascanio Maria Sforza, cardinal-deacon of San Vito e Modesto in Macello, and lieutenant-general of Carlo Sforza Visconti in Bologna, apostolic legate in the exarchate of Ravenna and province of Romagna, to Bartolomeo, doctor of laws and apostolic protonotary, governor of Rome, Uguccione, doctor of laws, knight and comes palatinus, Jacobo canon and provost of the cathedral of Modena and Ser Simone, to the brothers and sons of the late Ser Ugolino Moreni, and their male heirs; order to the Podesta and other judges of the city.]

Given in our palace of residence at Bologna, 18 December 1488. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 53 x 36cm) 25 lines in Latin, subscription penned & signed by Bartholomeo Ghisilardi noting that the decree went forward with the consent & will of the Council of the Sixteen, registered on folio 329 by Francisco Comite Brusculi, notary of the chamber of acts, two patches of staining (not affecting legibility), red wax seal residue at foot, verso with some vellum strips added along old folds for strengthening, docket titles penned to verso.

Aloysius de Capris (d.1498) was active in the papal court and served as a locum tenens (lieutenant) during the Renaissance. From 1491 to his death he held the post of Bishop of Pesaro. This document, granting Bolognese citizenship to several listed noblemen, was issued in his capacity as protonotary of Cardinal Ascanio Maria Sforza (1455–1505). Bologna was an oligarchic republic between 1463 and 1506 under the dominance of the Bentivoglio family. Rather than holding a formal title, the nobleman Giovanni II Bentivoglio (1443-1508) ruled as the de facto lord and 'first citizen', balancing civic autonomy with the competing interests of the Papal States and foreign powers. Nominally, the city was governed by a civic council known as the Sedici (the Sixteen) and the Consiglio dei Nove (the Nine). The Bentivoglio family controlled these bodies through strategic alliances with prominent local mercantile and guild families. Although the city was in theory a part of the Papal States, Bologna negotiated a series of agreements (Capitula) that allowed it to govern itself. This period of independence was halted abruptly in October 1506 when the martial Pope Julius II (1443-1513) marched on the city, deposing and excommunicating the Bentivoglio family, and ushering in three centuries of direct papal rule. Provenance: Sothebys (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£1750



FIFTEENTH CENTURY FLORENTINE CONVEYANCING

6. [FLORENCE.] [Notarial exemplification of the texts of five charters conveying land in Florence to Giovanni son of the late Carrad DeBerardis, citizen of Florence, 1491-1500: grants by Filippo son of the late Matthias Filippi Decaris of land in the parish of San Petro in the county of Florence, 14 June 1491; by Girolamo son of the late Marabotti of land in the chapelry of San Mauro, 9 April 1492, and of land in the parish of San Paolino, 6 January 1493; by Masius otherwise Masottus son of Mariotto Masio of land in the parish of San Stefano, 15 November 1499 and by Simone son of the late Pietro of land in the parish of San Lorenzo in the county of Florence, 11 July 1500, all given in the parish of Santa Maria sopra Porta, Florence.]

[Florence, c.1500.] Manuscript, ink on paper, in Latin. Folio (approx. 21 x 30cm) [15 ¼]pages, stitched, last leaf with a few stains (text remaining legible), with the notarial signs of Lodovico son of the late Ser Cristoforo Menchi and Giovanni Gualberti son of the late Ser Antonio Salamoni, very good.

A European artistic and financial hub, Florence in the 1490s witnessed the banishment of the Medici in 1494 and the rise to power of Girolamo Savonarola (1452-1498). Penned in Latin c.1500, this manuscript exemplifies the texts of five charters dated between 1491 and 1500 conveying lands in Florence to Giovanni son of the late Carrad DeBerardis, citizen of Florence. For references to the scribe Lodovico son of the late Ser Cristoforo Menchi, see: Pubblicazioni degli archivio di stato, Strumenti CCVI, Archivio di Stato di Firenze, Fonti anagrafiche dei secoli XV-XVI, Notificazioni di atti di emancipazione (1422-1534), Ministero della Cultura, Direzione Generale Archivi, 2022. Provenance: Sothebys (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£750

PENNED IN SCOTS – REIGN OF JAMES IV



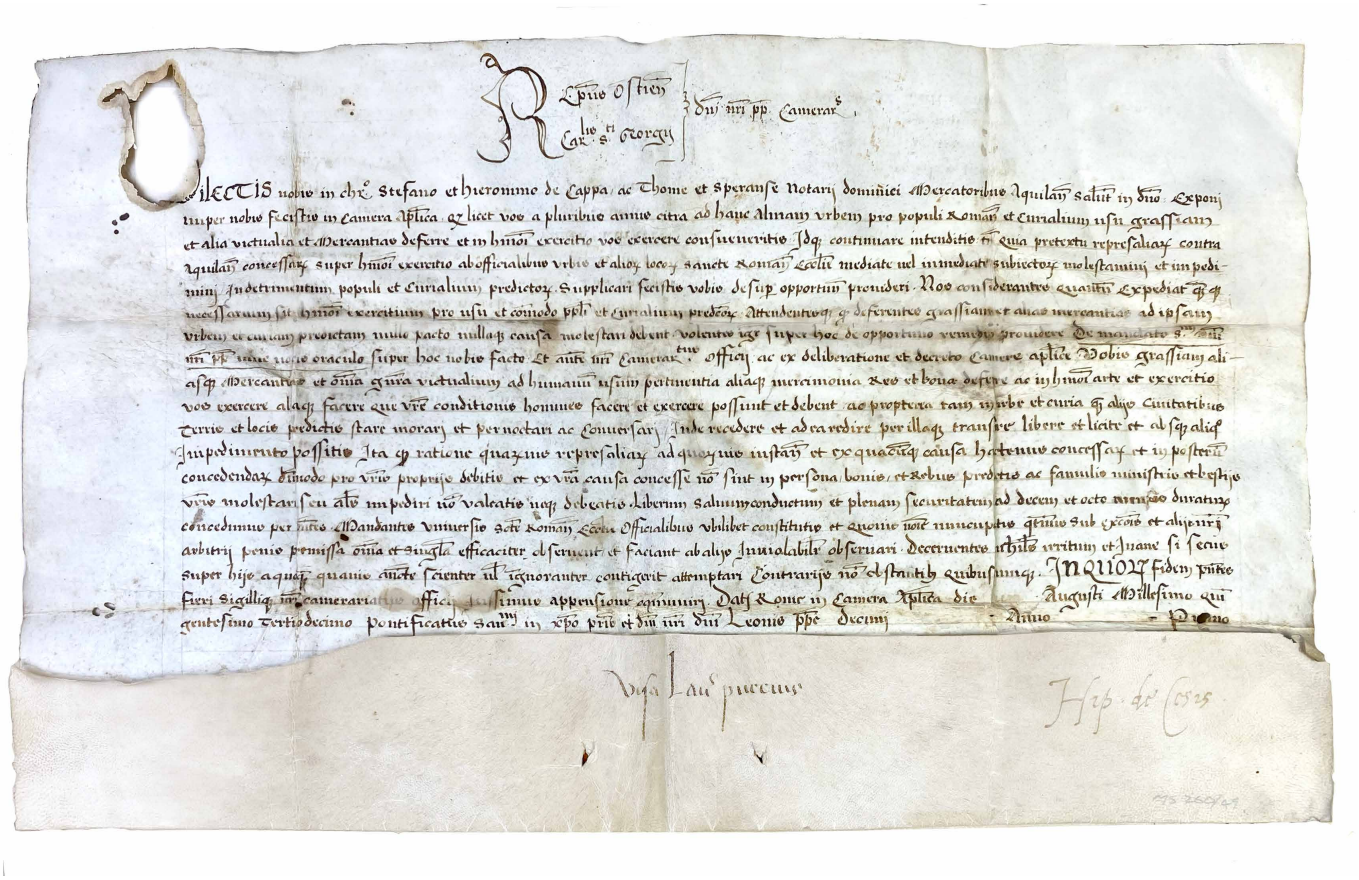
7. [SCOTLAND.] [Obligation to indemnify a purchaser against royal and other claims: Gilbert Middiltoun of that ilk to Adam Creichtoun of Ruthven (Ruthvennis), knight, and his wife Isabel Gray: I. all Gilbert's lands of the Estertoun of Middleton (Middiltoun) [in Laurencekirk] called The Husband Toune in the occupation of George Blabir, David Tannan, William Petty, Henry Stewinsone and Thomas Williamson. II. the half of the mains [demesnes] of Middiltoun 'quhilk I the said Gilbert with my awin gudes now occupiis and manures, begynnand at the est part of the said manys', reserving to Gilbert and his heirs the whole mansion and orchard of Middiltoun lying within the barony of Middiltoun and sheriffdom of Kincardine; sold by Gilbert 'for a certane soume of money thankfully contentit and pait' to Adam and Isabel and their heirs male, remainder to Adam's heirs male 'berand the surname and armes of Creichtoun'; Gilbert binds himself 'be thir present lettres and the faith and treuth in my body lelely and treulie' to warrant, relieve, acquit and defend Adam and Isabel from all wardships, reliefs, nonent[r]as [failure to appear in court] and other claims by the king or any other person against the lands or any part of them.]

Edinburgh, 20 August 1510. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of vellum (approx. 25 x 14.5cm) 21 lines in Scots, witnesses: James Menteith burgess of Stirling, William Creichtoun, Edward Creichtoun, Patrick Huntar, Master Alexander Dempstar, Alexander Young and Alexander Clerk, notary public, signed "Gylbert Myddyltwn of that ilk", brown & red wax seal (a lion rampant, legend: "S' Gilberti Myddylto"), old folds, very good.

Dated at Edinburgh 20 August 1510 this is an excellent example of an early sixteenth century document penned in Scots. Adam Crichton of Ruthven (d.1513) fell at Flodden Field. Gilbert Middleton is recorded as sheriff of Forfarshire in 1516. The large and well-preserved seal here is representative specifically of early bi-colour Scottish seals, distinctive for a central red wax impression of a matrix with a brown wax surround. Middleton's seal displays a fine lion rampant, echoing the royal Scottish arms.

£750





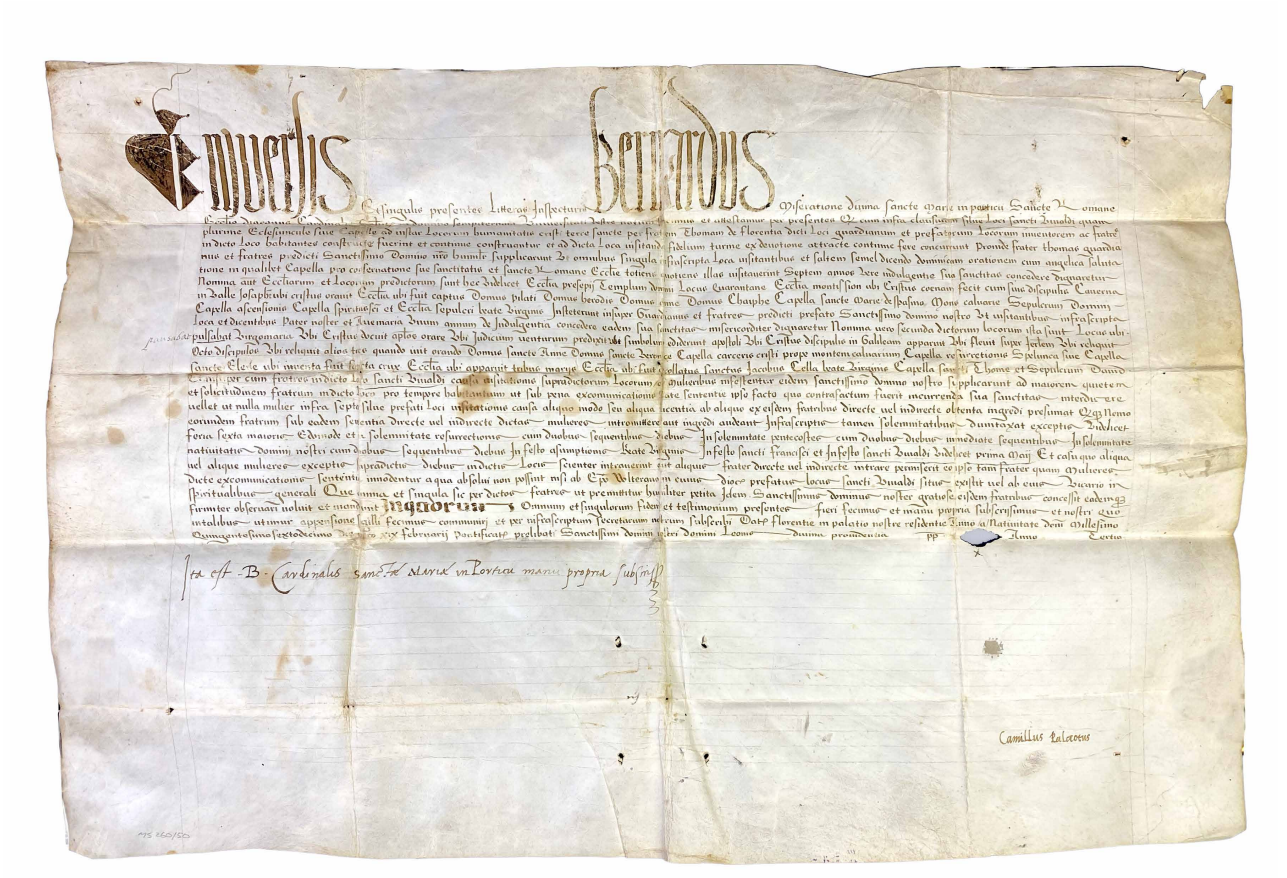
PAPAL SAFE CONDUCT FOR MERCHANTS SUPPLYING ROME

8. [RIARIO, Raffaele.] [Letters of safe conduct and licence to trade; to Stefano and Geronimo de Cappa, merchants of Aquilona, who have for many years been supplying foodstuffs and other merchandise to the people of Rome and the officials of the papal curia, and have recently been impeded in their trade by measures of the city officials, to the detriment of the people and curia; as a result of orders from the Pope, conveyed orally, the cardinal grants them permission and safe conduct to trade in Rome and other cities and places for the next 18 years, free of molestation of them, their servants or agents, belongings and animals, notwithstanding any regulations to the contrary; order to all officials of the Roman church, wheresoever stationed, to observe this order under pain of excommunication.]

Rome, given in the Apostolic Chamber, August 1513. Manuscript in ink, on single sheet of parchment (approx. 37 x 22cm) 19 lines in Latin, hole from ink burn around initial letter, signed at foot by Ippolito de Cesis (authorising) & Lorenzo Pucci (inspecting), seal & cords lost, blank verso with early manuscript docket title.

Raffaele Riario (1461-1521), Cardinal-Deacon of San Giorgio in Velabro, bishop of Ostia, papal chamberlain, granted this letter of safe conduct in Rome in August 1513 following oral instructions from Pope Leo X (1475-1521). It licenses Stefano and Geronimo de Cappa, merchants of Aquilona, to trade in foodstuffs and other produce in Rome and beyond for 18 years. Riario, one of the most powerful cardinals of the Renaissance era, commissioned the grand Palazzo della Cancelleria for his own use and is remembered as a collector of sculpture in particular, being the principal patron who invited Michelangelo (1475-1564) to Rome. The signatures penned at the foot of the document are those of two significant figures in the Roman Curia, Lorenzo Pucci (1458-1531) Cardinal-Bishop of Palestrina, a formidable administrator, and Ippolito de' Cesis (fl. c.1510-1530) an archdeacon, apostolic notary, and jurist. Provenance: Sotheby's (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£2500



FLORENTINE FRANCISCAN CHAPEL COMPLEX – MODEL OF JERUSALEM

9. [DOVIZI, Bernardo.] [Indulgence in favour of visitors to the Holy Mount of San Vivaldo: Letters of Bernardo [Dovizi of Bibbiena], cardinal-deacon of Santa Maria in Portico, confirming the papal grant to the warden and brothers of the Locus Sancti Vivaldi of an indulgence of seven years to the faithful visiting the Locus, where the Franciscan Brother Tomaso of Florence has constructed many little churches or chapels (plurime ecclesiuncule sive capelle), which are listed, and continues to do so. Because the place is overrun with female visitors, the brothers have further petitioned, for their greater quiet, that no woman be allowed entry, other than on major feast-days (listed, including the feast of St. Vivaldus on 1 May) by licence, under pain of excommunication both of the women and the brother directly or indirectly permitting their entry, from which they are to be absolved only by the bishop of Volterra (in whose diocese the Locus lies) or his vicar-general.]

Montaione, 19 February 1516. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 53.5 x 36cm) 25 lines in Latin, subscribed with autograph confirmation by Cardinal Bibbiena & signed by his secretary Camillo Paleotti, first line with calligraphic decoration, one negligible hole along old folds, verso with [17 th century] docket titles, sewing perforations at foot (cords & seal gone), light wear to margins, in a very good state of preservation.

Dated 19 February 1516, this indulgence granted for seven years to visitors of the Florentine Franciscan chapel complex of the Holy Mount of San Vivaldo was issued under the authority of and bears an autograph inscription by Bernardo Dovizi of Bibbiena (1470-1520), known as Cardinal Bibbiena. A close friend of the artist Raphael, he is remembered in particular as the writer of the Renaissance comedy *La Calandra*, first performed in Urbino around 1507.

An attempt at an exact topographical reproduction of Jerusalem, this series of chapels was erected at the beginning of the sixteenth century in woodland in Montaione in which a hermitage, *Locus Sancti Vivaldi*, and related church, had existed since at least the thirteenth century. Built under the direction of Tommaso of Florence, at full extent the development included 34 small chapels filled with devotional sculptures depicting the life of Christ in full-size cold-painted terracotta models. The Holy Mount became for centuries a destination as a substitute for pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

In addition to describing the complex, this document is of interest for mention of what may be an early example of "overtourism" – on account of the site being overrun with female visitors, it includes the stipulations that "the brothers have further petitioned, for their greater quiet, that no woman be allowed entry, other than on major feast-days (listed, including the feast of St. Vivaldus on 1 May) by licence, under pain of excommunication both of the women and the brother directly or indirectly permitting their entry."

Provenance: Sothebys (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£3500



TUSCAN JUVENILE PRIEST GRANTED PREBEND BY PAPAL BULL

10. [LEO X.] [Papal bull to the vicar-general of the bishop of Cortona; mandate to collate Francisco Battista di Barciolis, aged eight, perpetual chaplain in the church of Cortona, whose laudable virtues have been heard from trustworthy men and which ought to produce the same when he comes to manhood, to the canonry and prebend of the church of Cortona vacant by the resignation of his uncle Giovanni Zacharie de Barciolis; absolving him from any excommunication or ecclesiastical sentence, censure or penalty; permission to hold with any future preferments; order that having examined him and found him suitable, he be collated to the canonry and prebend, of which the annual value is 24 ducats of gold, according to the statutes of the Lateran Council, and place him in corporal possession in person or by his proctor in the choir and chapter-house of the same church; he may take oath by his proctor; indulgence to nullify the regulations for admitting persons under 14 to canonries and prebends, on condition that their accustomed burdens are maintained.]
Rome, given at St. Peter's, 9 March 1517. Manuscript in ink, on single sheet of parchment (approx. 49 x 30cm) 30 lines in Latin, initial line with elongated lettering, authorised by "A. de' Conti" on turn up, a few small holes along old folds, lead seal of Leo X attached on cords, blank verso with early manuscript docket title.

The practice of the ordination of juveniles to clerical positions in the Roman Catholic Church in medieval Italy was facilitated through the use of papal bulls, used to bypass the age restrictions stipulated by Canon Law. Typically wealthy families exercised their influence to secure lucrative stipends for young priests, the funds from the prebend being used to fund their education and training. This papal bull issued under Pope Leo X (1475-1521) was addressed to the vicar-general of the Bishop of Cortona in Tuscany, mandating him to collate Francisco Battista di Barciolis, aged eight, to the canonry and prebend of the church of Cortona, made vacant by the resignation of his uncle Giovanni Zacharie de Barciolis. The annual value of this prebend is noted as having been 24 ducats of gold. The lead seal of Leo X remains attached on the original cords. Provenance: Sotheby's (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.



£2500



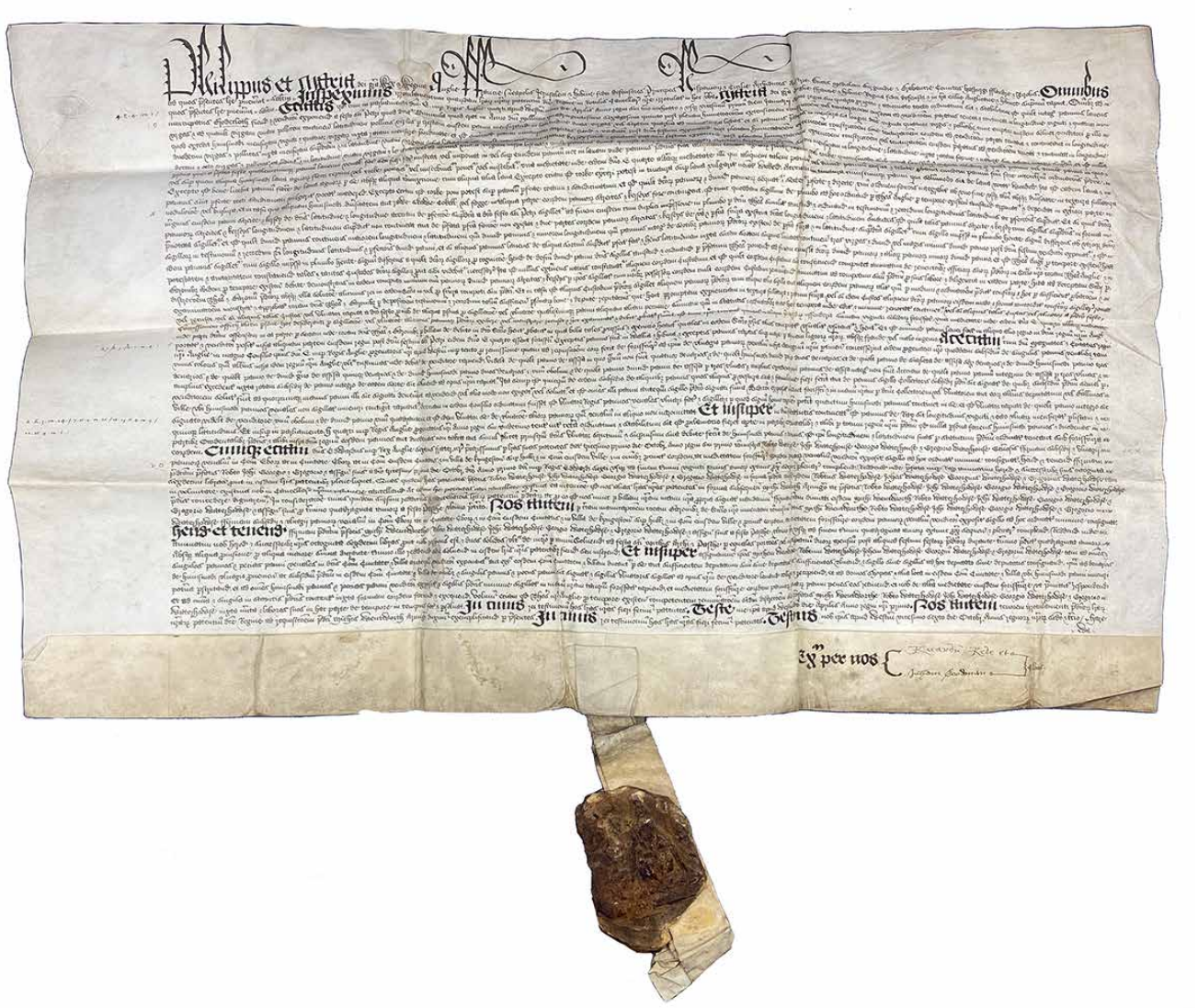
TUDOR SUFFOLK - REIGN OF HENRY VIII

11. [SUFFOLK.] Grant by feoffees in fulfilment of a will; William Cowper of Bradfield St George, Simon Grene of Whepstead, Thomas Wyffyn of Hawstead by Bury [St Edmunds] and Clement Ladyman of Little Whelnetham, at the request of William Wyffyn of Bury, smith, and Thomas Cowper of Hawstead, executors of William Wyffyn of Hawstead, to fulfill his last will, to John Lumkyn of Hawstead, yeoman, John Godard, Martin Gilly, Ralph Sparke of Hawstead, smith, John Cawston son of William Cawston of Lawshall and John Lumkyn son of William Lumkyn of Lawshall, to the use of John Lumkyn of Hawstead: all the lands and tenements called Pyes in the vill of Hawstead in Suffolk which formerly belonged to Thomas Pye which, with other pastures ... they had by the confirmation of Idenia Wyffyn of Hawstead, widow, Alan Legatt of Hawstead, Roger Makro of Bury, late of Hawstead, and John Dereson of Horningsheath by their charter given at Hawstead, 20 December 1512.]

Hawstead, 22 Jan 1529. Grant, 21 lines in Latin on single sheet of parchment (approx. 29.5 x 22cm) warranty by William Wyffyn of Bury, witnesses to livery of seisin: William Eglyn, clerk, John Sparke, smith, John Wyffen the elder, Giles Wyffyn, Thomas Cok, John Norse, John Symond; four red wax seals appended on vellum tags, seals with a few small chips to extremities, document with old folds.

Dating to 1529, this Suffolk document from the reign of king Henry VIII (1491-1547) bears four red wax seals, including a barrel [for Cowper] surmounted by a trefoil within an octagonal border, a crowned letter "T" and a crowned letter "R".

£450



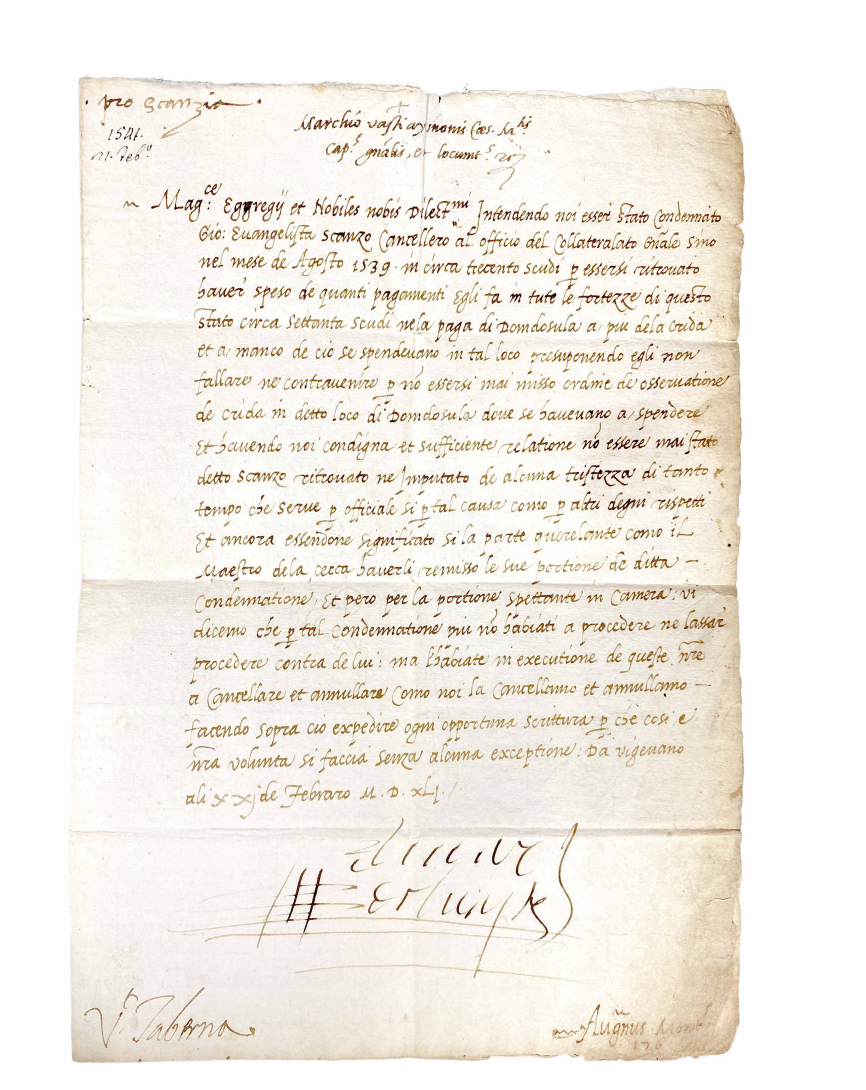
TUDOR TAXATION OF YORKSHIRE CLOTH MARKET

12. [ULNAGE.] [Exemplification of a grant of the farm of the subsidy and ulnage of cloth in Yorkshire for 40 years from Easter 1555 at £96 and 2s 0d of increase, 2 Apr 1554; The Crown to Michael Wentworth, Robert Waterhowse, John Waterhowse, George Waterhowse and Gregory Waterhowse the farm of the subsidy and ulnage of cloth offered for sale in Yorkshire and the cities of York and Kingston upon Hull, a moiety of the forfeitures for cloth put out for sale inadequately sealed.]

26 October 1555. Exemplification, manuscript, ink on single sheet of vellum (approx. 64 x 39cm) in Latin, examined by Richard Rede and John Goodman, clerks, fragment of the great seal of Mary appended on vellum tag, blank verso with some dustmarking, old folds.

This imposing document dated 26 October 1555 was issued during the reign of Mary Tudor (1516-1558). The ulnage of cloth was granted to officials to act on behalf of the monarch in the management of the market in cloth, specifically the affixing of lead seals to pieces of cloth that served as a guarantee of their measurement and value. The text here recites statutes relating to the ulnage of cloth between 1328 and 1464, and a similar grant to Robert Waterhowse, John Waterhowse, George Waterhowse and Gregory Waterhowse for 21 years at £96, 31 October 1547, which they have surrendered to be cancelled. The Waterhouse family were prominent in Tudor Halifax, with Gregory Waterhouse continuing as chief alnager in Yorkshire into the 1580s.

£950



MILAN UNDER CHARLES V – LEGAL CASE OVER MILITARY EMBEZZLEMENT

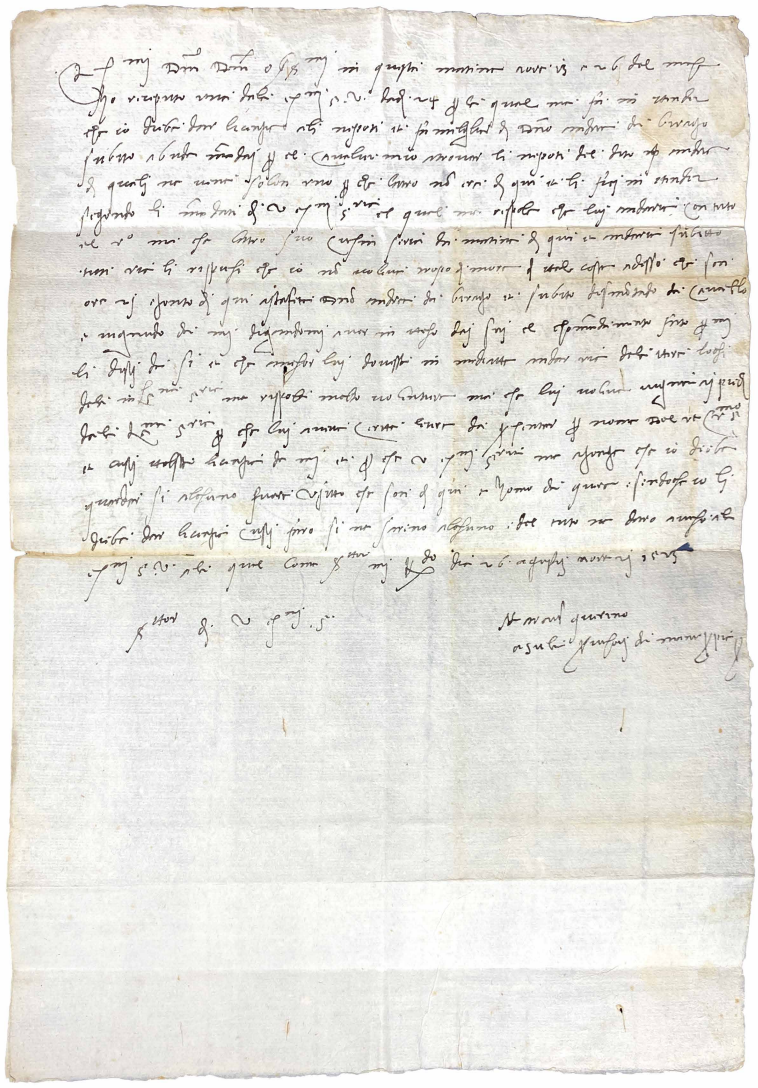
13. D'AVALOS, Alfonso. [Letter signed to the president and members of the Imperial Judicial Council of the State of Milan concerning Giovanni Scanziani.]
[Vigevano, 21 February 1541.] Letter signed, ink on paper, in Italian. Folio (28x19.5cm) [1] page on bifolium, manuscript address panel in Latin to verso of second leaf, well-preserved paper wafer seal attached on wax, uncut, old folds, very good.

Alfonso D'Avalos d'Aquino, marquis of Pescara and Vasto (1502-1546) served the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V (1500-1558) as a military leader and ambassador, latterly appointed Governor of Milan. Writing 21 February 1541, in this letter signed by him and penned by a secretary in a good example of cancelleresca corsiva, he addresses the president and members of the Imperial Judicial Council of Milan to order the annulment of all judicial procedures against Giovanni Evangelista Scanziani, chancellor of the Collaterato Generale, a body set up to manage the wages of the soldiers.

In August 1539 Scanziani had been charged with blackmail and embezzlement for taking 70 scudi from the funds destined for the wages of the soldiers of the fortress of Domodossola. He had been fined 300 scudi and dismissed from his position. D'Avalos explains that Scanziani followed all legal procedures correctly and his conduct had always been beyond reproach. He therefore orders that the charges be annulled and his name cleared.

£950





VENETIANS INTERROGATE FUGITIVE MERCENARY COMMANDER

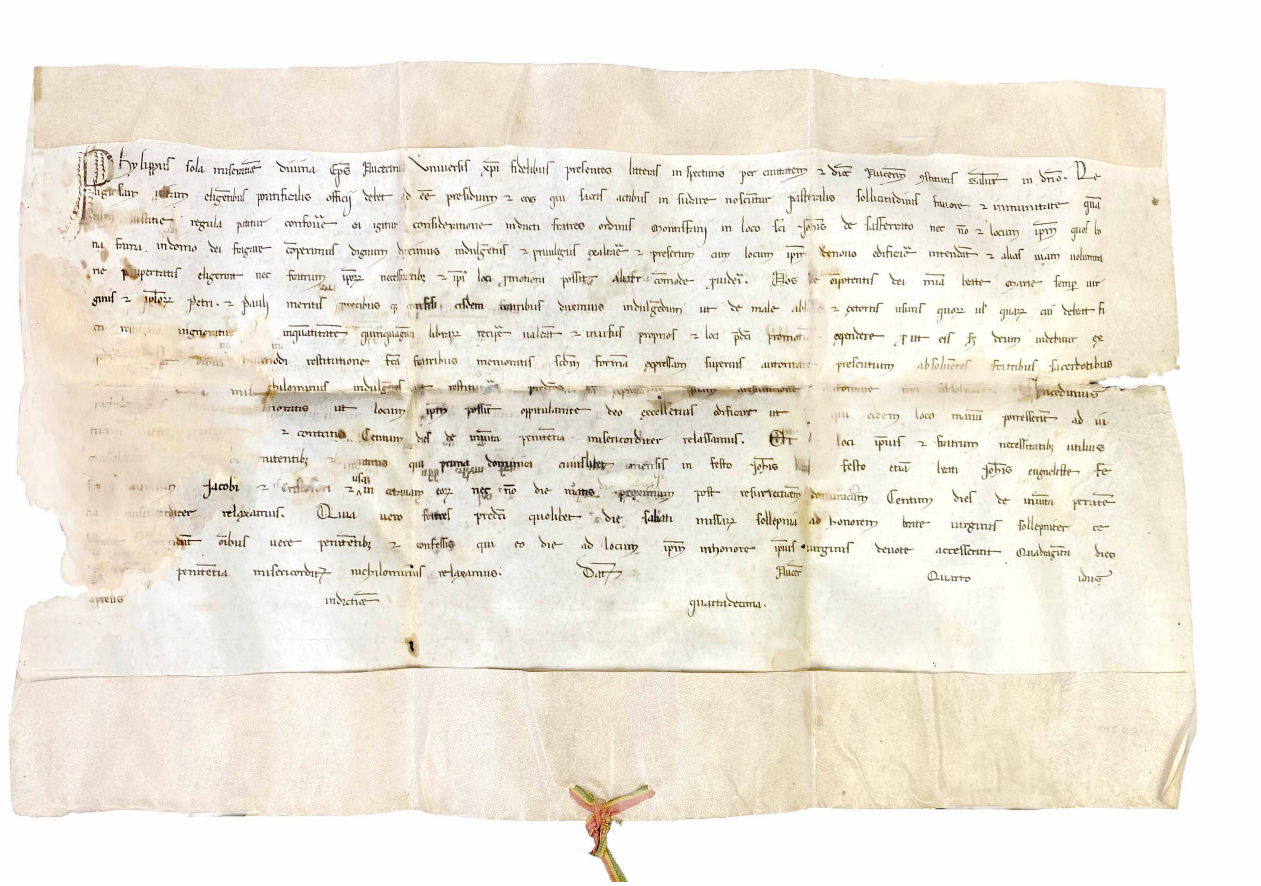
14. QUIRINO, M. [Autograph letter signed to the Council of Ten of the Republic of Venice concerning the questioning of the mercenary Andrea de Birago in the town of Asolo.]
Asolo, 26 August 1523. Autograph letter signed, ink on paper, in Venetian Italian. Folio (22 x 32cm), [1] page, manuscript address panel to verso, edges uncut, small tear along central fold (no loss of text), a few dust marks to verso, old folds, traces of wax seal, watermark, very good.

Dated 26 August 1523, this letter was sent by the senior official ("provisor") of the town of Asolo in the Veneto to the Council of Ten of the Republic of Venice, reporting on the questioning of the fugitive Milanese mercenary Andrea da Birago (c.1470-1528). In the first half of the sixteenth century Asolo became a literary and artistic court under the exiled queen of Cyprus Catherine Cornaro (1454-1510) and also a strategic Venetian stronghold against the French.

The Milanese Birago, as one of the rebels who joined the francophile party of Teodoro Trivulzio (1458-1531) against the Sforza, had been blacklisted and had his goods confiscated by Duke of Milan Francesco II Sforza (1495-1535). For over 20 years he served as a military commander under the French Crown, helping in their quest to conquer Lombardy. When the French lost control of Milan he was unable to return, finding temporary refuge in Asolo. Venice and the French, long sworn enemies, were for a brief window during the Four Years' War (1521-1526) in alliance, and it was within this context that Birago and his family were sojourning in Asolo in the hope - fulfilled one month later - that military activities might resume against the Sforza.

Quirino acknowledges the Council's orders, communicating their wishes to Birago and his family, and noting that he has sent one of his officials to contact them in relation to a permit. He describes the difficulty of locating those who are not in town. A conversation with Birago is reported in detail, explaining that the Council wishes to seek out all men of war in Asolo who come from out of town and verify their paperwork, with Birago replying that he is in possession of a passport given to him by the French king François I (1494-1547).

£950



INDULGENCE FOR SILVESTRINE MONKS IN SASSOFERRATO

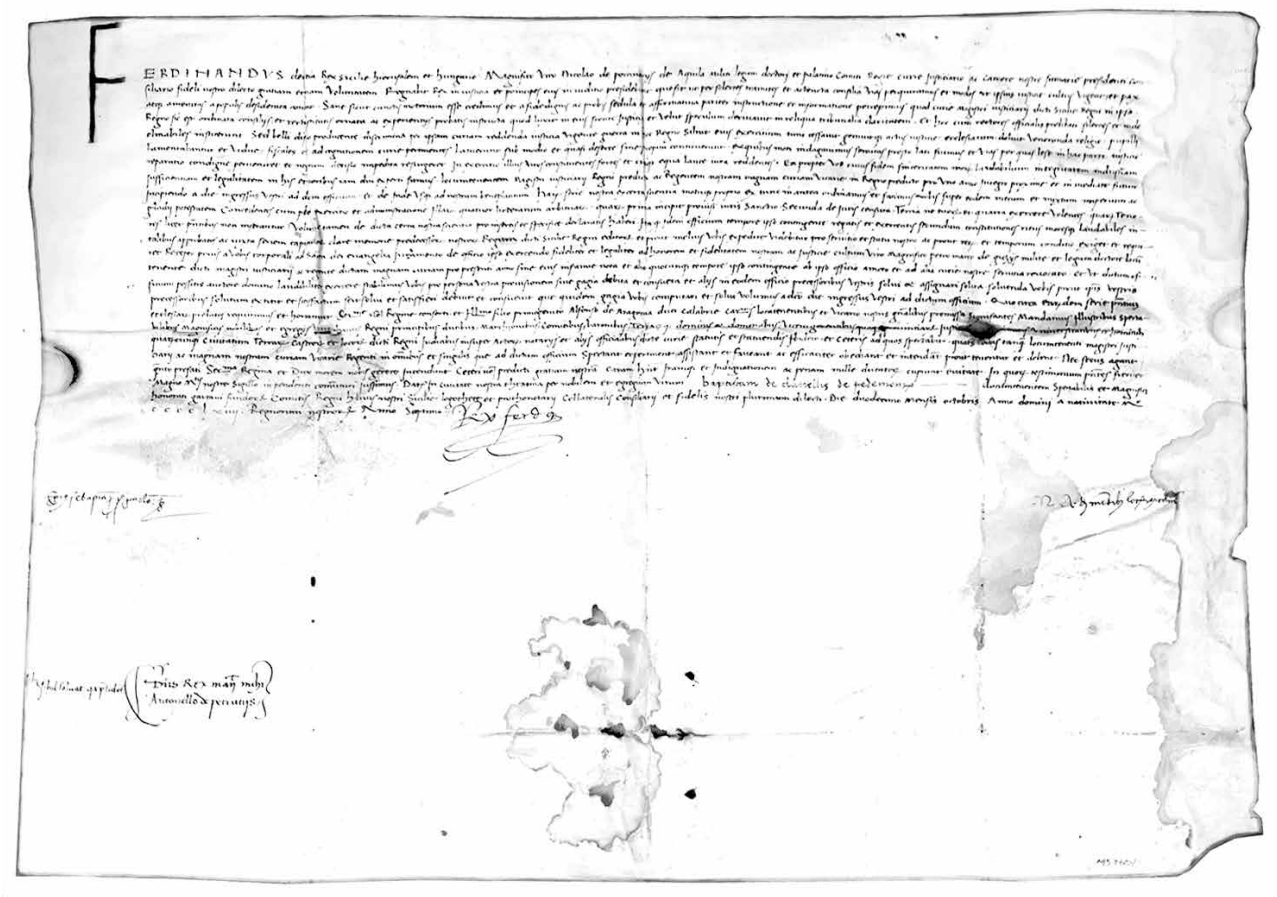
15. [ODERISI, Filippo.] Letters of absolution and indulgence, Filippo Oderisi, bishop of Nocera Umbra to the brothers of the order of Montefano at San Giovanni, Sassoferrato: authority to receive £50 to be spent on their own purposes and for the promotion of their church with absolution for any penalties for usury; an indulgence of 100 days for those visiting the church on the first Sunday of each month and other named feasts, and 40 days to those attending the mass in honour of the Blessed Virgin which the monks conduct every Saturday.

Given at Nocera Umbra, 10 April indiction 14 [1271]. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of parchment(approx. 43 x 27cm) 17 lines in Latin, initial calligraphic "P", some darkened patches of old staining at left margin & along old folds in places (text recoverable), a few small tears along old folds, seal wanting, remains of green, yellow & red silk cords, verso with seventeenth century docket title.

The Benedictine monk the Blessed Filippo Oderisi (d.1285) served as bishop of Nocera Umbra in Perugia between 1254 and 1285. This indulgence was issued under his authority in 1271 to the little-known monastery of the Silvestrine order located at Colle Cornacchiaro, near Sassoferrato in the vicinity of Ancona in the Marche. This congregation had been established by Saint Silvestro Guzzolini (1177-1267) founder of the Sylvestrines and is mentioned for the first time in a document of 1268. A general chapter of the order, attended by 66 monks, was celebrated there in 1326, and in 1371 it was exempted from the payment of tithes on the grounds of poverty. In 1653 the remaining three priests and two conversi were transferred to the nearby monastery of San Crocifisso. A rare and early document relating to the Silvestrines.

Provenance: Sothebys (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989. For a list of 27 documents relating to San Giovanni in Sassoferrato, see: Ugo Paoli, L' archivio storico del monastero di San Silvestro in Montefano di Fabriano, Rome, 1990, pp.204-209.

£2500



RENAISSANCE POWER POLITICS UNDER FERDINAND I OF NAPLES

16. [FERDINAND I of Naples.] [Four documents, each signed "Rex Ferd[inand]us" addressed to Nicolo de Porcinario of Aquila, doctor of laws, Count Palatine and royal chamberlain.]

[FERDINAND I of Naples.] [Letters of Ferdinand, king of Sicily, Jerusalem and Hungary; appointment of Dr Nicolo de Porcinari of Aquila, doctor of laws, count palatine, as lieutenant of the grand justiciar of the kingdom and regent of the great court of the Vicaria for one year, beginning on the day of his entry into the office, and afterwards at the king's pleasure; the former holder Pietro Marco de Gicziis, doctor of laws, having been removed on account of notorious infamy, and called back to other court service; given at our city of Chieti (civitas Theatina) in the presence of our beloved councillor Battista de Clavellis di Piemonte, logothete [chief minister and chancellor] and protonotary of the kingdom of Sicily.]
Chieti, 12 October 1464. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 53 x 36cm) 24 lines in Latin, signed by Ferdinand, registered in the Chancery, register 10, admitted to the position by his predecessor, 23 November 1464, by the order of the king to Antonello de Petrucci (he paid nothing because he was presiding); some old staining at right margin & to verso, small hole with loss of one word, stitching holes at foot (cords & seal lost) old folds. [TOGETHER WITH]

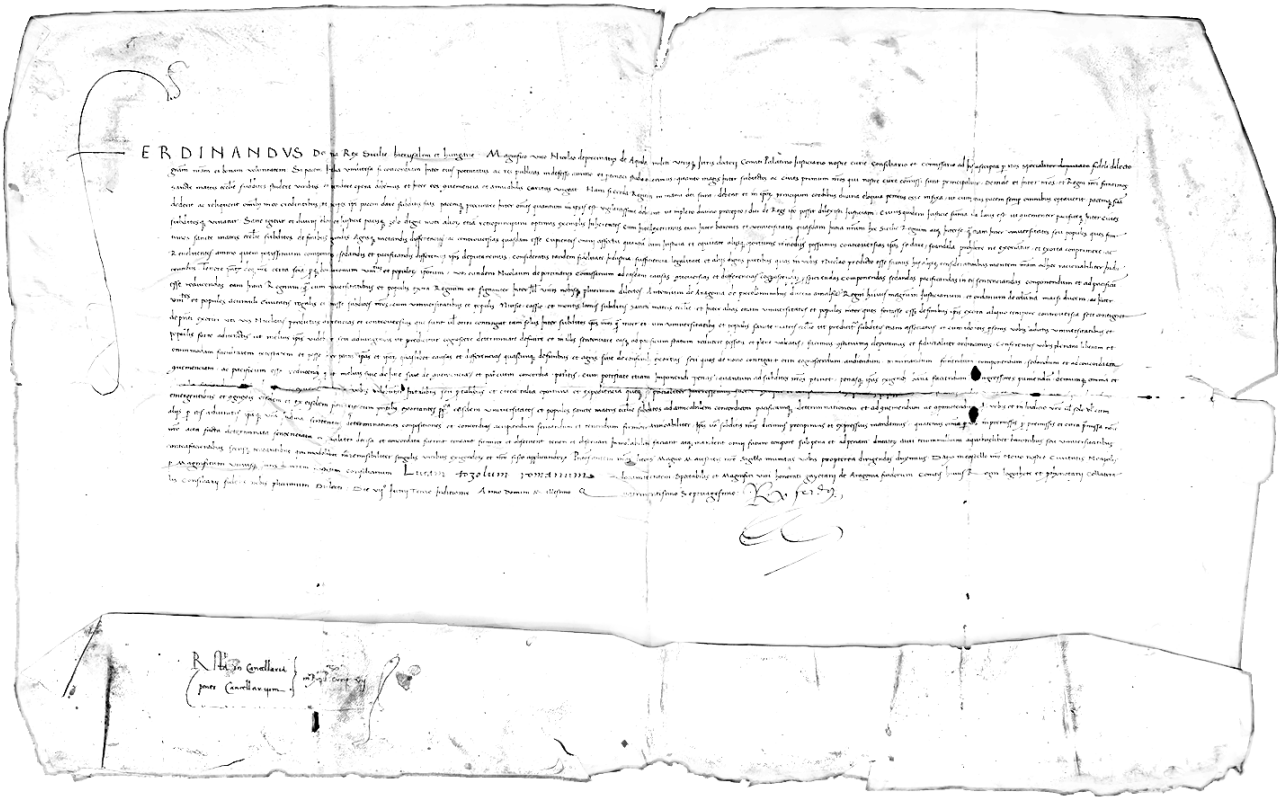
[FERDINAND I of Naples.] [Letters of Ferdinand, king of Sicily, Jerusalem and Hungary; appointment for the term of his life or good behaviour of Micucio de Porcinari of Aquila as consul for all merchants and people of the French, German and English nations in the province of Abruzzo, vacant by the resignation of Giovanni Durmont, with power to appoint deputies and to settle disputes; with instruction to Ferdinand's son Alfonso, duke of Calabria, to notify all officers in the province of the appointment; given at the new castle of Naples by our beloved councillor Onorato Caetani d'Aragona, count of Fondi, logothete [chief minister and chancellor] and protonotary of the kingdom of Sicily.]
Naples, 11 May 1469. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 58 x 43cm) 22 lines in Latin, signed by Ferdinand, registered in the Chancery, register of patents 30, by the order of the king to Antonello de Petrucci - he paid 12 tarenos [a coin weighing approximately 20 grains of gold]; old patch of staining at centre (not affecting legibility), several small holes (a few words lost at centre but sense of text recoverable), stitching holes at foot (cords & seal lost) old folds. [TOGETHER WITH]

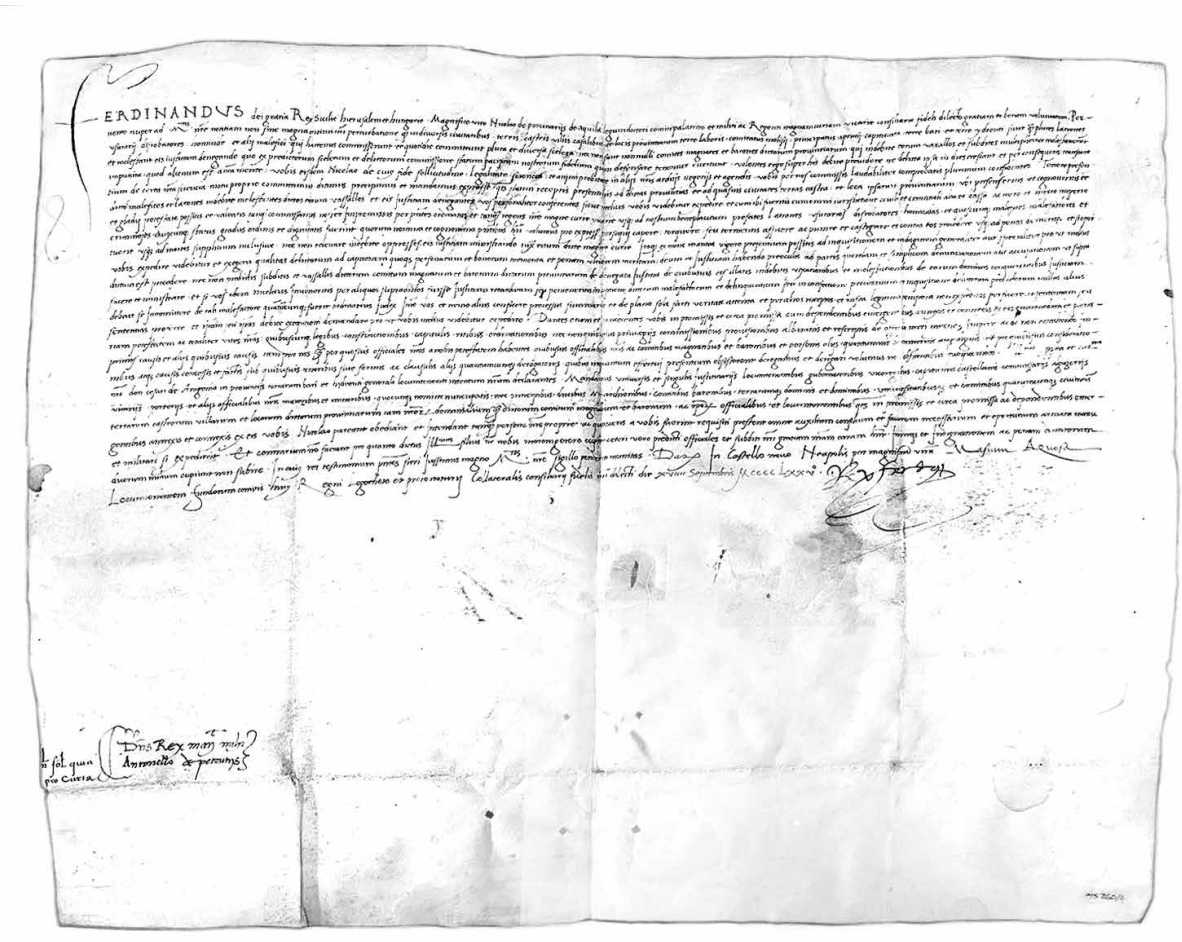


[FERDINAND I of Naples.] [Commission of Ferdinand, king of Sicily, Jerusalem and Hungary appointing Dr Nicolo de Porcinari of Aquila, doctor of laws, count palatine, justiciar of the king's conciliar court, his commissary with full power, either alone or with others, to settle the dispute between Antonio of Aragon de Piccolomini, duke of Amalfi and chief justice of the kingdom, and Giordano Colonna, duke of Marsi, and between our subjects the inhabitants of Accumoli, Cittareale and Leonessa and the people of Norcia, Cascia and Monteleone [di Spoleto], subjects of the church, concerning the boundaries between them, with power to impose penalties on the king's subjects and to punish transgressors; given at the new castle of Naples by our beloved councillor and doctor of laws Luca Tozulo romanum, lieutenant of Onorato Caetani d'Aragona, count of Fondi, logothete [chief minister and chancellor] and protonotary of the kingdom of Sicily.]

Naples, 7 June 1470. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 64 x 39cm) 21 lines in Latin, signed by Ferdinand, by the order of the king to Antonello de Petrucci (he paid nothing because for the court), registered in the Chancery, roll of privileges of court 7; some marginal fraying & old staining, in particular at foot of document with some tears along fold of turn up with a few areas of loss to vellum at extremities (not affecting text), a few small holes along old folds touching a few letters (sense recoverable), stitching holes at foot (cords & seal lost). [TOGETHER WITH]

[FERDINAND I of Naples.] [Commission of Ferdinand, king of Sicily, Jerusalem and Hungary appointing Dr Nicolo de Porcinari of Aquila, doctor of laws, count palatine and regent of the great court of the Vicaria, his commissary with sole power to investigate and punish wrongdoers in the Terra di Lavoro, the County of Molise, Principate of Abruzzo, Capitanata, the Terra di Bari and the Terra d'Otranto; recites that many thieves, usurers, robbers, murderers and other wrongdoers are active in these regions, and that many counts, magnates and barons of these provinces have molested their vassals and subjects, denying them justice; the king appoints Nicolo to visit the provinces in person and to act as the king's commissary with civil and criminal jurisdiction, and to arrest, torture, punish and chastise the criminals, of whatever rank they may be, with fitting punishments including sentence of death; notification to the king's [illegitimate] son Don Cesare di Aragona, lieutenant-general in the provinces of Bari and Otranto, and order to all officers great and small [listed] and all counts, barons, lords, ladies, to be obedient and answerable to him and if called upon to do so to provide assistance, including military force, if it should be necessary given at the new castle of Naples by Massimo Aquosa, lieutenant of [Onorato Caetani d'Aragona,] the count of Fondi, logothete [chief minister and chancellor] and protonotary of the kingdom of Sicily.]





A splendid quartet of documents, each signed by King Ferdinand I of Naples (1424-1494), dating between 1464 and 1475, all addressed to the prominent Renaissance canon lawyer, jurist and diplomat Nicolo de Porcinario of Aquila (1411-1481).

King Ferdinand I of Naples, known also as Ferrante, was one of the most influential Italian monarchs of the Renaissance era, combining cultivation of cultural learning in the arts and sciences with a brutal grip on power. He brought prosperity and stability to the kingdom of Naples through careful alliances with other Italian city states and European powers, drove back the Ottoman threat after the invasion of Otranto in 1480, and encouraged humanist scholars to his court, also introducing printing to Naples by inviting the German printer Sixtus Reissinger (1440-1505) to the city in 1471.

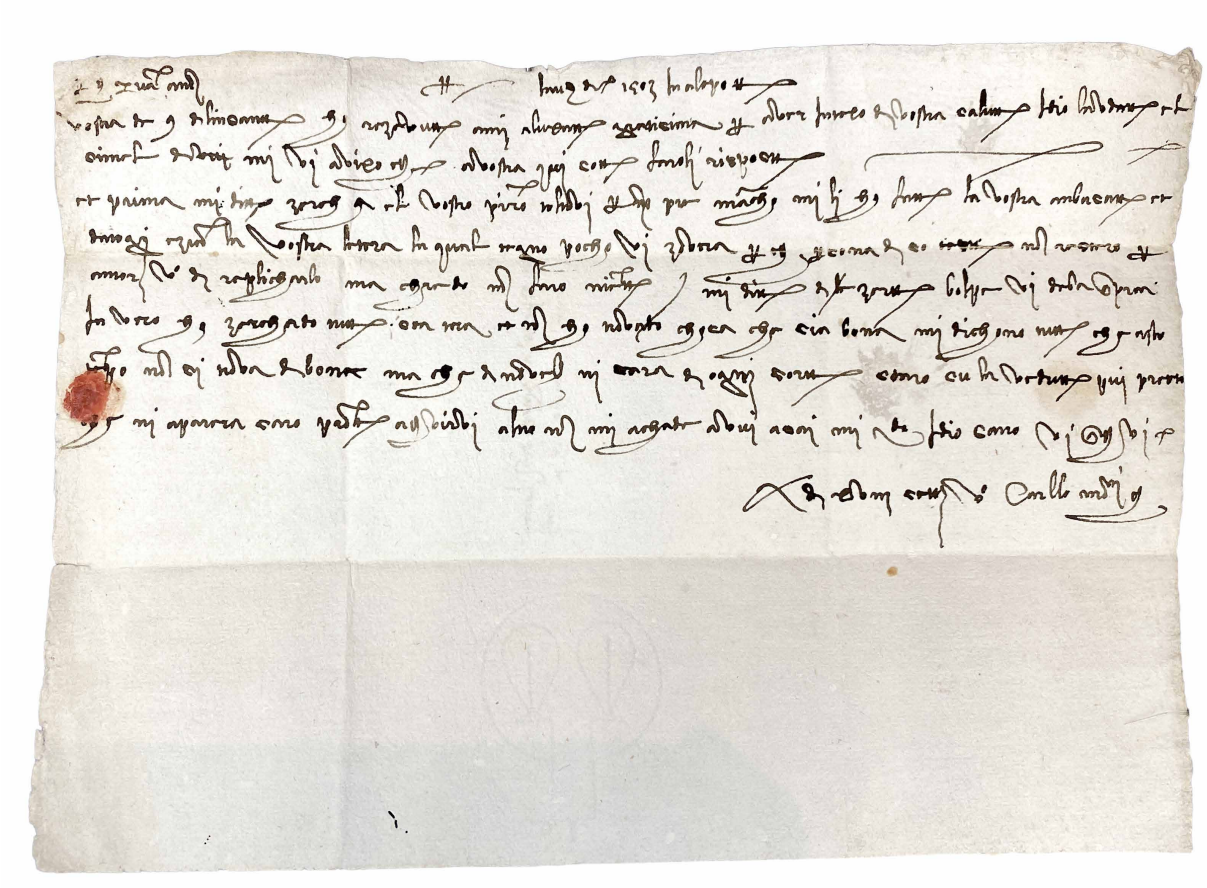
Niccolò otherwise Micuccio Porcinari was born in L'Aquila in the Abruzzo in central Italy. The Porcinari family, established since the time of King Robert, had long been garlanded with titles, Porcinari himself being appointed Count Palatine as early as 1440. Studying law in Siena he befriended the Renaissance humanist Enea Silvio Piccolomini (1405-1464), later Pope Pius II. Following stints holding the prestigious posts of podestà of Florence, and subsequently Siena, he returned to L'Aquila where he held the highest offices: chamberlain and member of the Five in the fifth two-month period of 1445; judge and bailiff in 1447. On December 18, 1448, the Pope appointed him Senator of Rome, Porcinari holding this office in late 1451 and in 1452. Dressed in fine brocade, he is recorded welcoming the emperor Frederick III upon his arrival in Rome to be crowned. Subsequently, in the Kingdom of Naples, Porcinari became a trusted man of the Aragonese royal house and was placed at the top of the financial and judicial administration, being appointed several times, from 1455 to 1476, as president of the Royal Chamber of the Sommaria, regent of the Great Court of the Vicaria and member of the Sacred Royal Council. His combination of academic learning with a reputation as a sadistic judicial inquisitor mirrored the temperament of his great patron Ferdinand.

The first document here, dated from Chieti in the Abruzzo 12 October 1464, appoints Porcinari as lieutenant of the grand justiciar of the kingdom and regent of the Supreme Court of the Vicaria, which incorporated the largest prison in Naples. Dated Naples 11 May 1469, the second document here appoints Porcinari as consul for all merchants of the French, German and English nations in the province of Abruzzo, then a highly strategic area under Aragonese control, wealthy on account of wool, saffron and textile production. The third document, dated from Naples 7 June 1470, appoints Porcinari with special powers to settle a dispute between Antonio Todeschini Piccolomini (1461–1493), later Duke of Amalfi, and Giordano Colonna 2nd Duke of Marsi concerning land rights contested between the inhabitants of Accumoli, Cittareale and Leonessa and the people of Norcia, Cascia and Monteleone. Escalating local conflicts over pasturing, grazing and wood rights threatened the fragile peace along border territories between the Papal States and Neapolitan lands. The fourth document, dated Naples 19 September 1475, also grants Porcinari special powers in this case commissioning him with sole power to investigate and punish wrongdoers in the Terra di Lavoro, the County of Molise, Principate of Abruzzo, Capitanata, the Terra di Bari and the Terra d'Otranto. He was to travel in person, being granted extraordinary powers to arrest, torture, punish and chastise the criminals, of any rank, with fitting punishments including sentence of death. Known for his unflinching inquisitorial vigour, this is exactly the sort of undertaking upon which Porcinari built his fearsome reputation.

Provenance: Sotheby's (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£9500





VENETIANS TRADING IN MAMLUK SULTANATE DURING PLAGUE

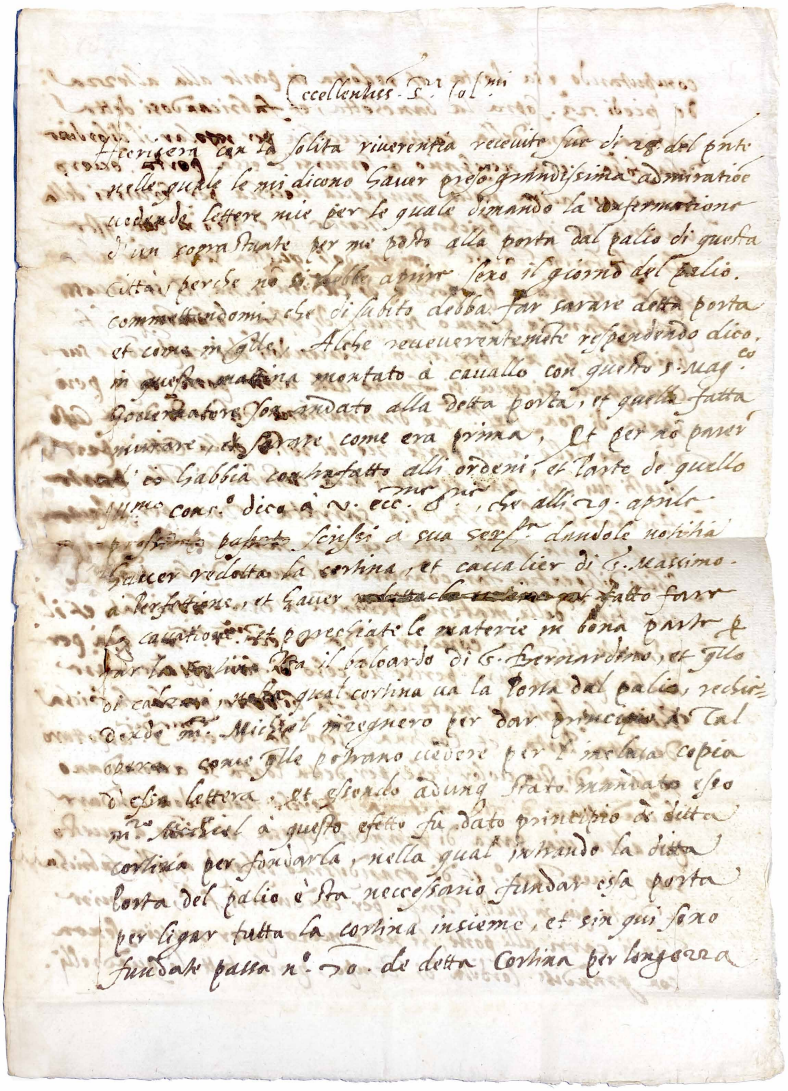
17. DE MAZI, Daniel. [Autograph letter signed to his brother and business partner Giovanni Battista Mazi concerning their mercantile affairs in Tripoli, the Venetian trade convoy and the ongoing plague outbreak in Aleppo and Damascus.]

Tripoli, 30 September 1503. Autograph letter signed, ink on thick, laid [Venetian?] paper, in Venetian Italian. Folio (21 x 32cm) verso penned with manuscript address panel, small embossed paper wafer seal attached with red wax, remains of original string tie, uncut, old folds, very good condition.

This letter was penned 30 September 1503 by the Venetian merchant Daniele de Mazi in Tripoli, now in the Lebanon, to his brother and business partner Giovan Battista de Mazi in Venice. The Venetian trading outpost of Tripoli was a significant commercial hub under Mamluk rule (1250-1517), serving as a port for the city of Aleppo. Venetian merchants had a difficult relationship with the Mamluk rulers who regulated their activities and often forced them to buy their merchandise at inflated prices. The Mamluk would soon lose power to the Ottomans, and only ten days after the date of this letter, on 10 October 1503, news would break of the first Portuguese ship loaded with spices arriving at Lisbon via the cape of Good Hope. A turning point in the history of Mediterranean trade, Venice then began to lose its absolute monopoly on spices from the Levant.

Daniel de Mazi updates his brother on their business affairs. All the stonework which he brought over from Venice has been sold and is being shipped to Flanders. He complains about the prohibitive prices of Syrian merchandise, leaving little scope for profit. The rumoured news of the arrival in town of Antonio Diedo may improve their predicament by the delivery of a trading licence. He warns his brother that if he decides to come over to Tripoli he should make sure that all goods are accompanied by the appropriate paperwork to pass through the strict customs regulations. He then details a large consignment of 400 crates of cotton he has in Aman (Hama) of which he has been able to sell only 170 as a result of having missed the last muda, the regular convoy of privately-owned mercantile vessels going twice a year from Venice to Flanders via the most important Mediterranean trading ports. He requests goods from Venice, including a finer variety of wheat called chorezuoli, wools of different sorts, fine Venetian cloth and silver cloth. The current outbreak of the plague is also mentioned, with reports of over 500 dying each day in Aleppo and over 400 in Damascus. He explains that, although they have been spared from the outbreak, it has led to fewer foreigners visiting Tripoli which has translated into significant financial losses. A rare example of an early sixteenth century letter evoking Venetian trade with the Levant.

£ 2500



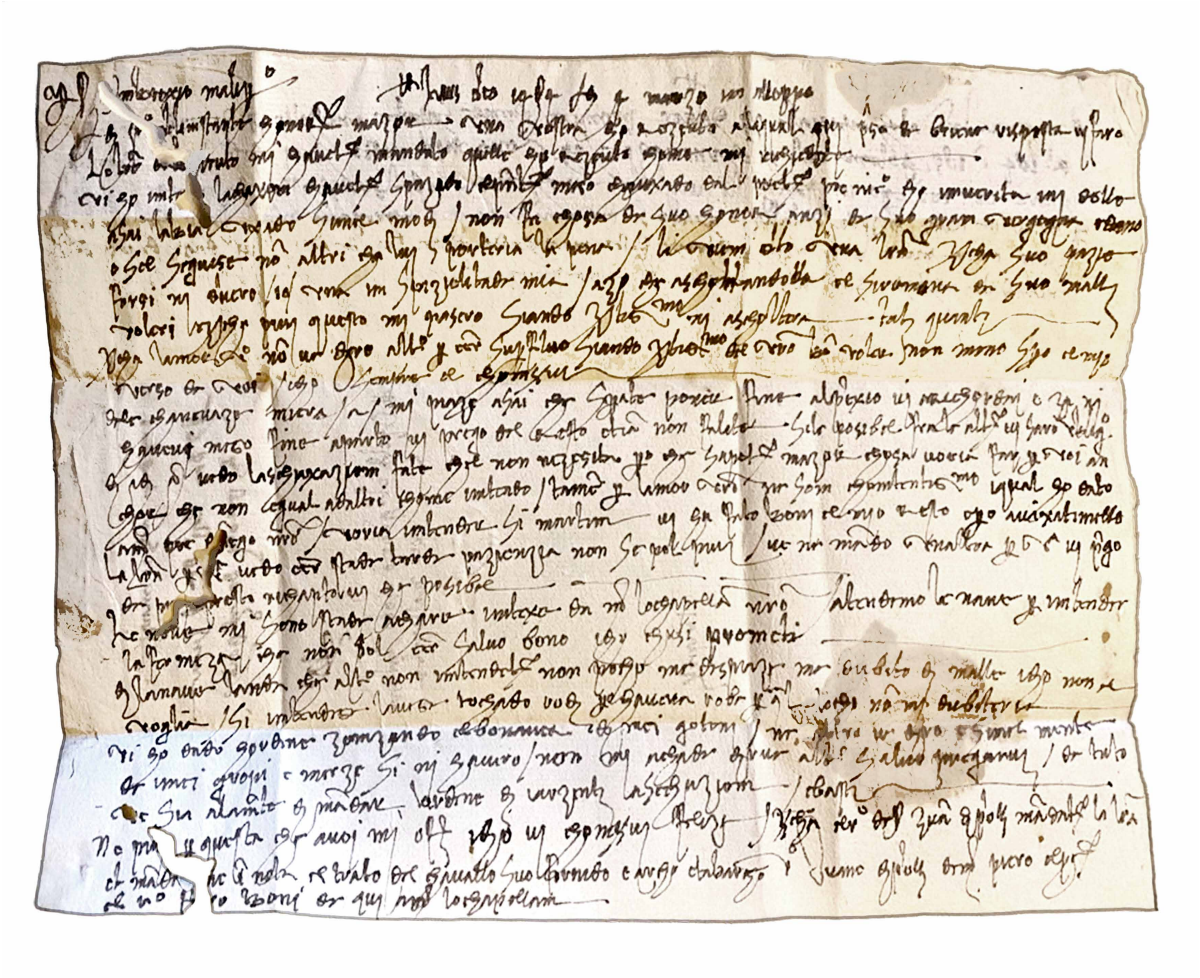
ITALIAN ARCHITECT'S LAST MASTERPIECE IN VERONA

18. MEMO, Giovan Francesco. [Autograph letter signed to the Council of Ten of the Republic of Venice concerning progress in the construction of architect Michele Sanmicheli's Porta del Palio in Verona.]
Verona, 30 July 1555. Autograph letter signed, ink on paper, in Italian. Folio (31x21cm) [3] pages on bifolium, verso of second leaf with manuscript address panel & fine embossed paper wafer seal (Lion of St Mark), some patches of ink burn affecting a few words (but sense of text recoverable), old folds, very good.

An exciting discovery, this letter concerns major building works in 1555 overseen by the celebrated architect Michele Sanmicheli (1484-1559) on one of the principal gatehouses in the walls of the city of Verona. In this letter addressed to the Council of Ten of the Republic of Venice the capitano of Verona Giovan Francesco Memo discusses the progress and new ideas for the construction of the Porta del Palio, one of Verona's landmarks and a famous military architectural masterpiece. This building project was part of the general efforts by the Republic of Venice to fortify Verona's defences. The design for this new massive gatehouse was assigned to the foremost Italian Renaissance military architect and engineer Michele Sanmicheli, with the construction works having begun in 1550 under his direct supervision. Still standing today, Porta del Palio is an impressive neoclassical monument, and a fine example of the architectural philosophy of the time of munire et ornare (protect and adorn). Before Sanmicheli's total rebuilding and enlargement, this small opening on the fortified wall, present since medieval times, had been a weak point in the walls, and was opened only once a year on the occasion of the Palio.

Memo details how under Sanmicheli's directions the plan was to reduce the thickness of the defensive wall between the bastions of St. Bernardino and Calzari by 70 measures and to reduce the height of the raised cavaliere (watch tower) by 23 feet, to then go on to rebuild a new wall on the outside of the old one. He explains that this would allow them to tidy up the messy banks of the moat, and recycle the materials easing pressure on Venetian coffers without compromising the overall level of fortification. Memo makes it clear that further work on the Porta del Palio itself is integral to the erection of these new walls and he requests the Council at least cover the cost of the transport of all this recycled material. Memo acknowledges the Council's original request to build a new cavaliere (watch-tower) raised above the walls between the two bastions, but instead he presents Sanmicheli's new proposal: to locate the watchtower structure directly above the Porta. He stresses that this will be cheaper yet equally effective in terms of defence. He adds that the architect has produced a model of the new design, already instructed the head of works using this model and that they are all standing ready to start once they have received permission to proceed from the Council.

£2500



VENETIAN MERCANTILE DIASPORA IN MAMLUK SYRIA

19. DE PRIOLI, Giovanni di Pietro. [Autograph letter signed from Aleppo to Ambrogio Malipiero, Venetian vice-consul at Tripoli, concerning mercantile matters including cargoes of cotton and hemp cloth, business accounts, personal recommendations for fellow merchants and comments on the capture of the ship Landa.]

Aleppo, 4 March 1484. Autograph letter signed, ink on laid paper, in Venetian Italian (mercantesca) Single sheet (16.7 x 22.6cm) [1 1/4] p., verso with manuscript address panel, small embossed paper wafer seal depicting a Christian cross within a shield, remains of original string tie, two small stains & wormhole touching a few words, otherwise very good.

This letter was penned in Aleppo 4 March 1484 by the Venetian merchant Giovanni de Prioli, son of Pietro, and addressed to Ambrogio Malipiero (d.1487), Venetian vice-consul at Tripoli. Both belonged to prominent Venetian patrician families closely involved in Mediterranean trade and diplomacy. By the later fifteenth century Aleppo had become one of the principal commercial centres of the eastern Mediterranean, serving as an entrepôt for cotton, silk, spices, and other Levantine goods destined for Europe. Tripoli, then under the Mamluk Sultanate, acted as the principal maritime outlet for Aleppo's commerce.

Prioli writes concerning orders for cotton and coarse hemp canvas cloth (*canevaze*), as well as monies owed which were expected to be settled through an agent named Martin, resident in Tripoli. He also comments upon contemporary commercial events, including the recent capture of the ship Landa, whose seizure he attributes solely to the great value of the merchandise on board. The vessel — built in Candia and owned by Piero Lando — had reportedly been intercepted by forces of Ferdinand I of Naples during the closing phase of the War of Ferrara (1482–1484). The ship was badly damaged and driven off course, at one stage believed lost off the coast of Africa, before eventually running aground near Ancona, its crew surviving.

Further details record the cost of hiring horses for transport, payment for which was to be settled through Malipiero's chaplain. Such consular chaplains in the Venetian Levant often functioned not merely as clergy but also as secretaries, notaries, and administrative intermediaries. Prioli provides a favourable recommendation for a merchant named Elias Pizzolla and encloses monies sent by Piero Bonifazio for delivery to the latter's wife.

A scarce example of fifteenth century correspondence from the Venetian mercantile diaspora in the late medieval Levant.

£1250


IOANNEM benemerentum, dignum, sufficientem et idoneum, ad dictum V. I Doctoratus

ROME LAW DEGREE – SIXTEENTH CENTURY PENMANSHIP

20. [UNIVERSITY OF ROME.] [Doctorate of canon and civil law awarded to Giovanni de Nardis of Aquila; reciting that Rome is the glorious mother of studies, the most celebrated for learning among all the cities of the world; in accordance with the edict of Pope Pius IV the candidate had taken an oath of his adherence to the Catholic faith, was presented for his degree by Mario Gabrielli before Michele Bonelli, Cardinal Alessandrino of Santa Maria sopra Minerva, deputy chancellor of the university, diligently examined in canon and civil law and approved by a group of seven learned doctors and advocates (named) and created and pronounced doctor by the cardinal.]

Rome, given at the university in the Rione of San Eustachio, 26 April 1568. Manuscript in ink, on single sheet of parchment (approx. 70 x 50cm) enlarged lettering of first line penned in gilt with blue foliate flourishes, 29 lines in Latin, with occasional use of gold lettering in the text, manuscript certification penned by Giovanni Battista de Rubeis, auditor of the Rota, & Cardinal Luigi Cornaro, printed (stamped) notarial sign of Curzio Sacconis de Sanctis, secretary of the college, signature of Mario Gabrielli, lower half of original tin skippet suspended on silk cords (wax seal & lid lost), a few small holes along old folds, 1 /4 lower right section of vellum turn-up torn away not affecting text, blank verso with negligible old marks, in a very good state of preservation.

An excellent and scarce example of a mid-sixteenth century doctorate issued by the University of Rome, this large certificate was granted to Giovanni de Nardis of Aquila, in canon and civil law, 26 April 1568. The signature of his promoter, consistorial advocate Mario Gabrielli, is penned at the foot. Headed with large gold capitals decorated with blue foliate flourishes, this document is noteworthy also as a masterful example of the type of scribal italic penmanship that flowered in metropolitan Italy during the second half of the sixteenth century, Rome being the epicentre of development of this calligraphic modernisation. The most significant contribution of Pope Pius IV (1499-1565) to the development of the University of Rome (then Studium Urbis, now Sapienza University of Rome) was his decision in 1562 to build a centralised university campus to raise the prestige of the institution. Architects Guidetto Guidetti (d.1564) and Pirro Ligorio (1512-1583) were commissioned to design the edifice. The original building, located in Piazza Sant'Eustachio, served as the university's central headquarters until 1935 and now houses the State Archives of Rome. Provenance: Sotheby's (London) Western Manuscripts & Miniatures, 20 June 1989.

£3500


IN NOMINE DOMINI AMEN

ENGLISH DEED PENNED IN REIGN OF MARY TUDOR

21. [SUSSEX.] [Lease for 41 years from 29 September 1559 at £1 6s 8d a year; George Flussher of Washington in Sussex, to his sister Agnes Flussher of Washington: house and land called Taylers or Bodes with the barn, stable and gardens; covenant by Agnes to maintain the buildings, being allowed sufficient timber on the land.]
26 January 1555. Manuscript lease, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 40 x 20cm) 16 lines in English, verso penned with names of witnesses: William Sone, Richard Benet, James Caplen, John Tyllye & Richard Emery of Washington, red wax seal impressed with capital letter "W", old folds, light wear to extremities.



Penned in Tudor English on 26 January 1555, this lease for land in Sussex dates from the short reign of Mary I (1516-1558) which ran from 1553 to 1558.

£450

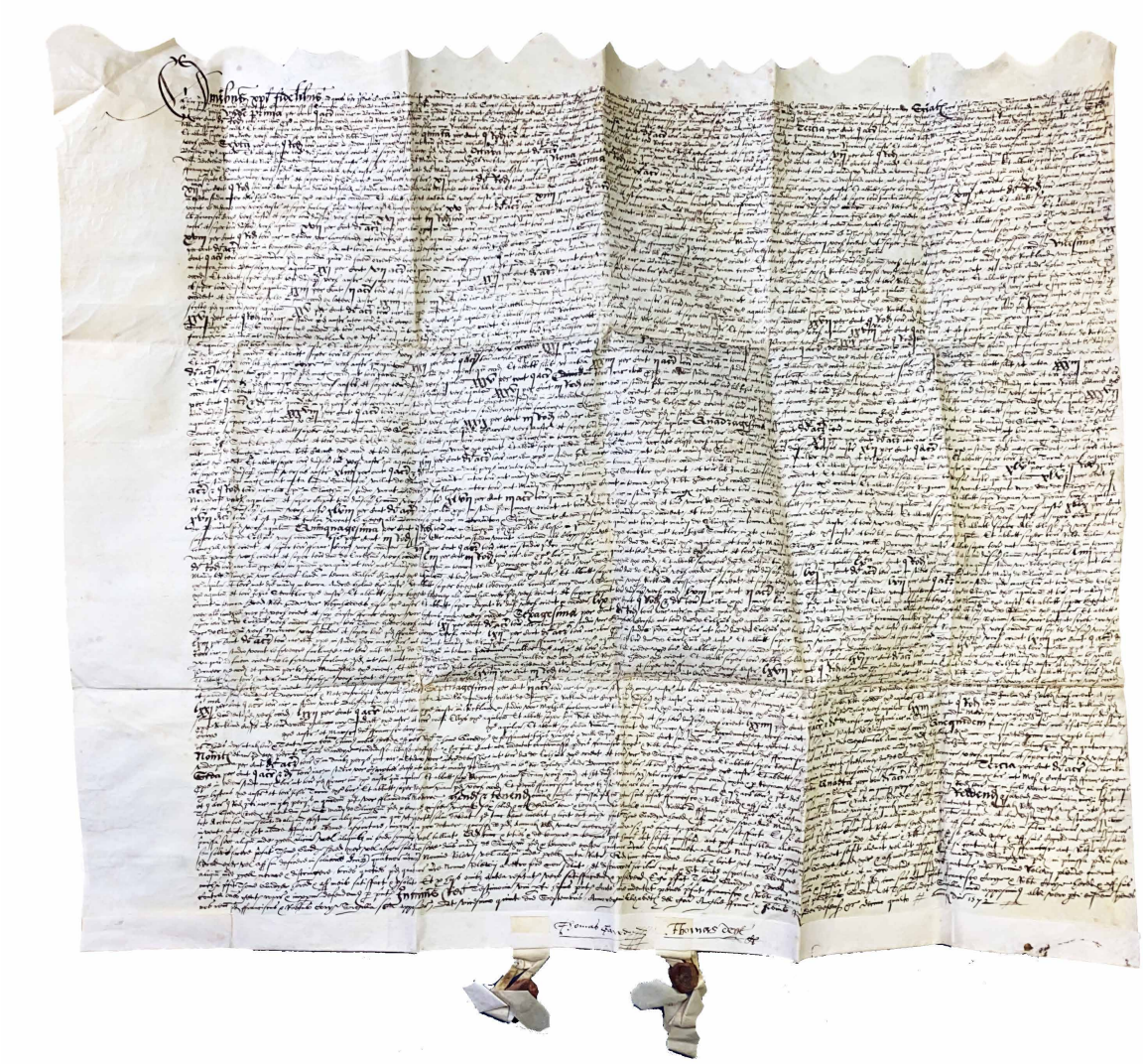
TUDOR ENGLISH PENNED IN REIGN OF HENRY VIII

22. [HAMPSHIRE.] [Lease for 40 years at £1 6s 8d; William Lawrans of Odiham in Hampshire to Robert Marchant: three crofts of land with three adjoining meadows called Fordelandes at The Bydden in South Warnborough [SE of Basingstoke] within the hundred of Holdshot in Hampshire (W, E: land late Thomas Felder of Greywell; N: land of Thomas Haydoke, esquire; S: the highway); William to acquit Robert of all the quitrents payable to the chief lords of the fee; Robert to be responsible for hedging and ditching.]
25 March 1533. Manuscript lease, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 24.5 x 18cm) 19 lines in English, initialled by clerk "SI", red wax seal impressed with capital letter "A", chipped at lower edge, verso with early docket title in English, light wear to extremities.



Penned in Tudor-era English on 25 March 1533 by a clerk who has initialled the document "SI" at the foot, this lease for land in Hampshire dates from the reign of King Henry VIII (1491-1547).

£450

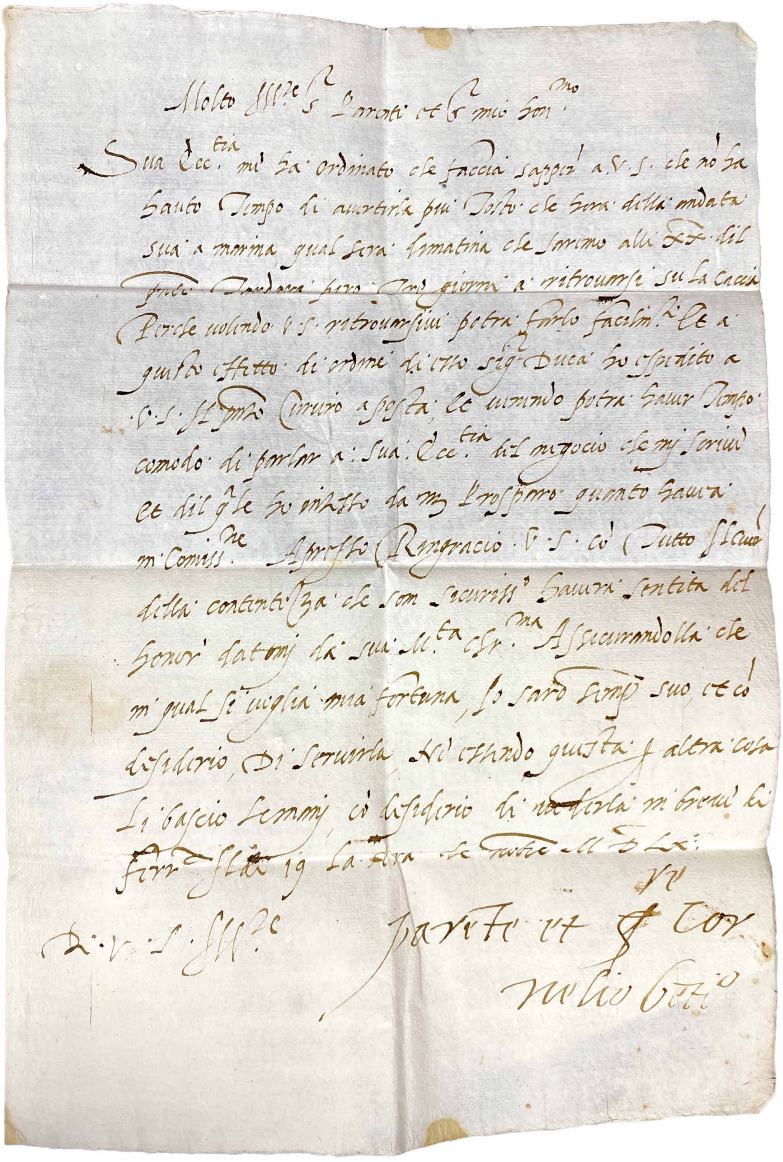


PROMINENT ELIZABETHAN JUDGE & NORFOLK LANDOWNER

23. [NORFOLK.] [Stock deed, manor of Surlingham: Thomas Gawdye of Claxton Hall in Norfolk, serjeant at law, lord of the manor of Surlingham, and Thomas Deye, to Francis Corye of Bramerton in Norfolk, yeoman, and his son and heir Robert Corye.]
25 September 1572. I. 77 acres of land, meadow & marsh, lately part of the manor of Surlingham, in Surlingham, Bramerton & Rockland [St. Mary] in 74 numbered pieces, each specified by acreage, location, tenure, tenant & abuttals which, with other lands and tenements, Gawdy & Deye lately had jointly, in trust for Gawdy, by the feoffment of John Younges & William Sponer, 21 September 1572. II. 3 acres in four pieces of land (specified), lately part of the manor of Surlingham Erlhams, abutting on the highway called Beggate Stretewey leading from Surlingham to Norwich, which Francis Corye holds in perpetual exchange for 3 acres of land and meadow in five pieces (specified), conveyed by Thomas Gawdy alone, to hold of Thomas Gawdy as lord of the manor of Surlingham by a quitrent of £1 6s 8d, a relief of 4 marks [£2 13s 4d] on death or alienation, witnesses to livery of seisin: John Corye, John Turnour, Richard Gryce, John Chamberlyne. Manuscript, ink on single sheet of parchment (approx. 75 x 62cm) in Latin, signed at foot Thomas Gawdye, Thomas Deye, with fragments of red wax seals appended on vellum tags, old folds, very good condition.

Dated 25 September 1572, this large Elizabethan indenture is a scarce example of what is known as a "stock deed". Penned at the foot is the signature of Sir Thomas Gawdy (d.1588) of Claxton in Norfolk and the Inner Temple, MP, justice of the court of Queen's Bench 1574-1588 (see: ODNB), and a prominent Norfolk grandee and landowner. The purpose of a stock deed was to commute certain aspects of villein tenure to customary freehold. Although no sum of money is recited in this charter, it can be assumed that Thomas Gawdy received a lump sum in exchange for freeing this 77 acre holding from all customary burdens apart from an annual quitrent and a relief set at a fixed amount. Gawdy had purchased the manor only four days before the date of this document, probably with a view to offering the favourable terms represented by this charter to as many of the villein tenants of the manor as could afford to accept them.

£450



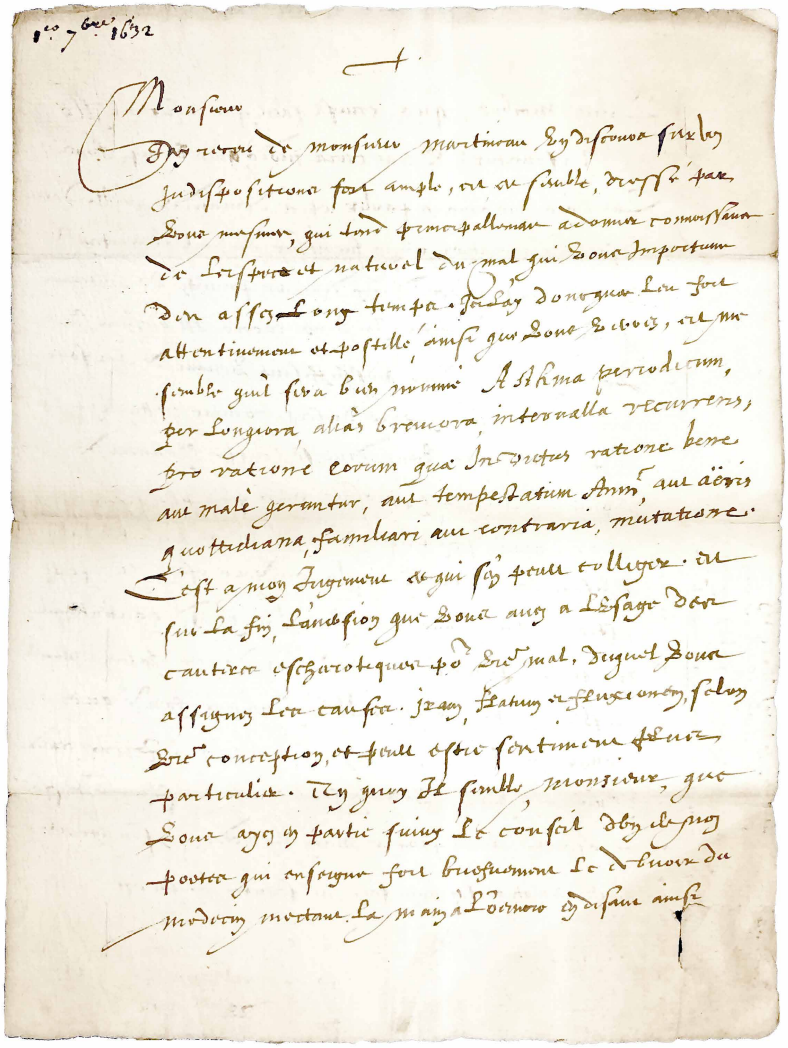
ITALIAN MERCENARY & SPY - KNIGHTED BY FRANCOIS II

24. BENTIVOGLIO, Cornelio. [Letter signed to Count Alfonso I Gonzaga, Count of Novellara.]
[Ferrara, 19 November 1560. Letter signed, ink on paper, in Italian. Folio (31x21cm) [1] page on bifolium, manuscript address panel penned on verso of second leaf (section of blank paper excised by sender for reuse, no loss of text) traces of red wax seal, uncut, old folds, very good.

This letter was sent from Ferrara in 1560 by Cornelio Bentivoglio Marquis of Gualtieri (1519-1585), addressed to Alfonso I Gonzaga Count of Novellara (1529-1589). One of the most famous generals of his era Bentivoglio was 41 at the time of writing and had just been appointed by the new Duke of Ferrara, Alfonso II d'Este (1533-1597), as his lieutenant general. His fame rested principally on his military genius and battlefield successes, however he found notoriety in youth for several serious crimes including the murder in 1542 of his cousin Galeotto Malatesta and his involvement in a plot in favour of the Turks. Leading the French army as a mercenary against the imperial forces of Charles V he spent two decades in conflict which included action in Scotland against the English.

In this letter, sent in great urgency at night, Bentivoglio informs the head of the state of Novellara, Count Alfonso I Gonzaga that the Duke of Ferrara will be leaving unexpectedly the following morning by sea and as a result it will be at least three days before he will be able to meet the Count for a hunting party where they will be able to confer. The positive outcome of Bentivoglio's commission with a Messer Prospero is then mentioned, and finally his delight, which he hopes the Count will share, in the honour he has just received from his "Christian Majesty", presumably a reference to having been invited to return to France to be given the order of Saint Michel by King Francois II (1544-1560). Several years later Bentivoglio would participate in the military campaign of Alfonso II d'Este against the Turks in Hungary which witnessed the death of Suleiman the Magnificent (1494-1566).

£950



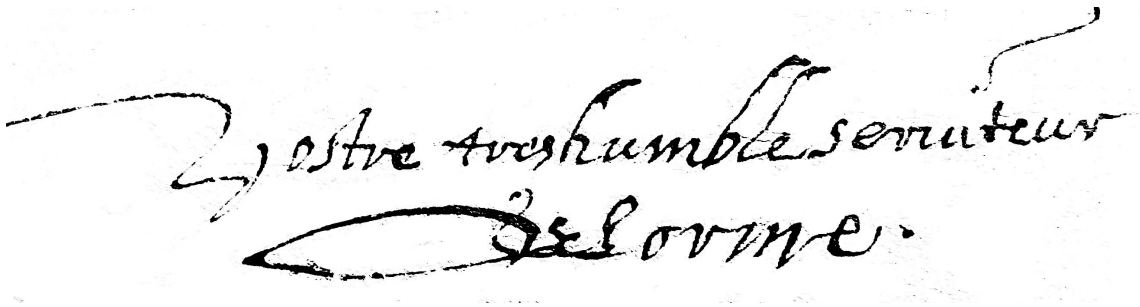
PROMINENT FRENCH PHYSICIAN - INVENTED PLAGUE DOCTOR'S COSTUME

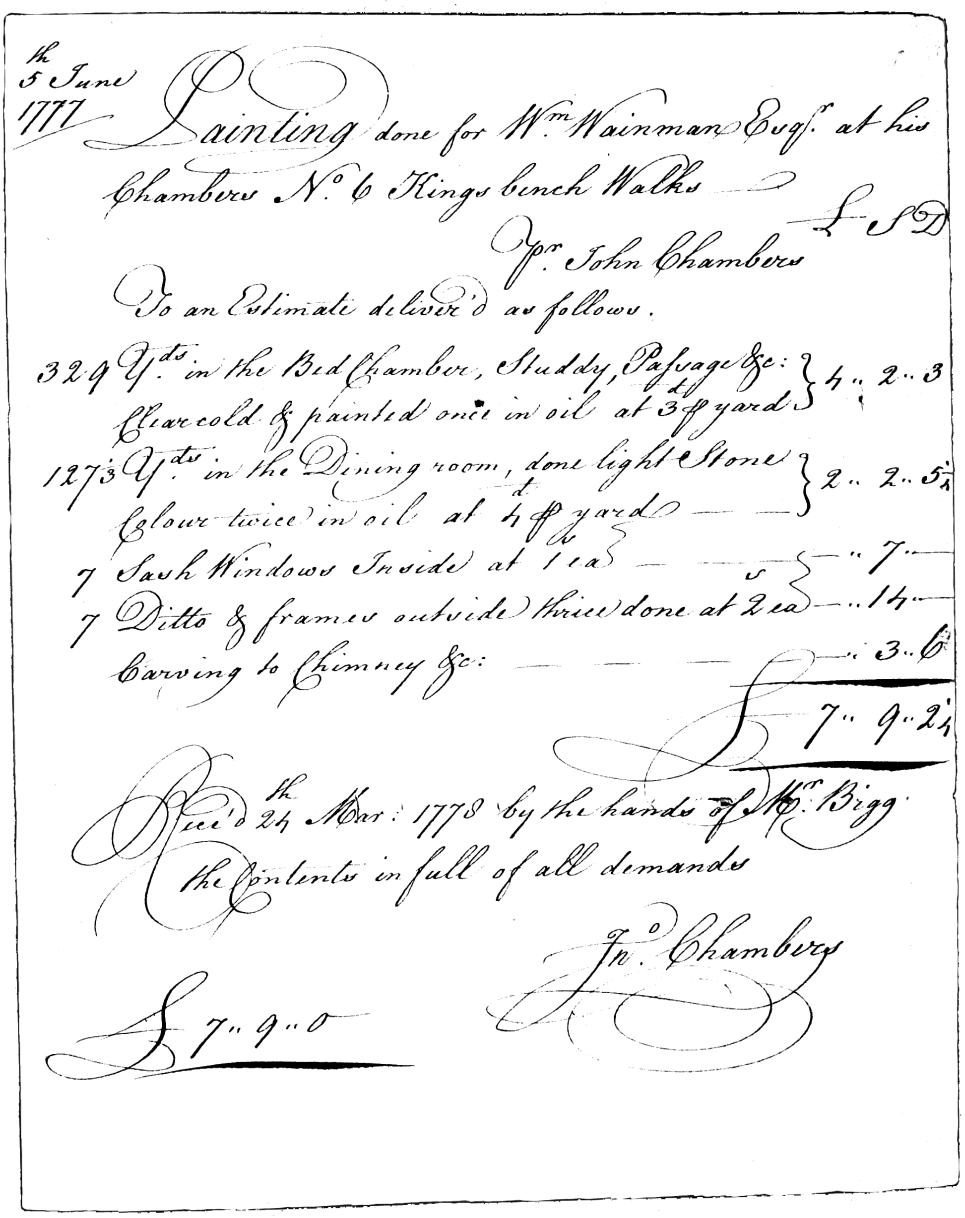
25. LORME, Charles de. [Autograph letter signed to "Monsieur le President Nicolay Conseilleur ... du Roy" offering medical opinions on the treatment of an asthmatic complaint.]
Mo[u]lins, 1 September 1632. Autograph letter signed. Small folio (19 x 25.5cm) [2] full pages in French, on bifolium, verso of second leaf with manuscript address panel in autograph & small [eighteenth century?] ink note summarising content, some light paper toning, a few tiny tears along old folds, tip of corner lost from blank second leaf (no text loss), paper uncut.

A rare example of an autograph letter signed by Charles de Lorme (1584-1678), one of the foremost French physicians of the seventeenth century. Writing 1 September 1632 from his home town of Moulins in central France to "Monsieur le President Nicolay Conseilleur ... du Roy" residing at Bourbon l'Archembault, a spa town promoted by de Lorme, the physician offers detailed medical advice on a long-running asthmatic complaint and other debilitations including flatulence, which the patient considers is due to the use of cauterising escharotics. De Lorme also discusses the medical benefits of thermal waters.

De Lorme graduated from Montpellier in 1607 where his father held a professorial chair in medicine. He went on to serve as principal physician to three French kings: Henry IV (1553-1610); Louis XIII (1601-1643), from 1629 also serving the king's brother Gaston, duke of Orléans (1608-1660); and Louis XIV (1638-1715). He is credited with inventing c.1619 the uniform of the plague doctor, the bird-like mask with herb-filled beak and glass eye coverings and waxed cloth coat intended to protect the wearer against infection by airborne diseases. As a practitioner of medicine he is remembered in particular for prescribing a Paracelsian preparation including antimony intended for the prolongation of life.

£1950



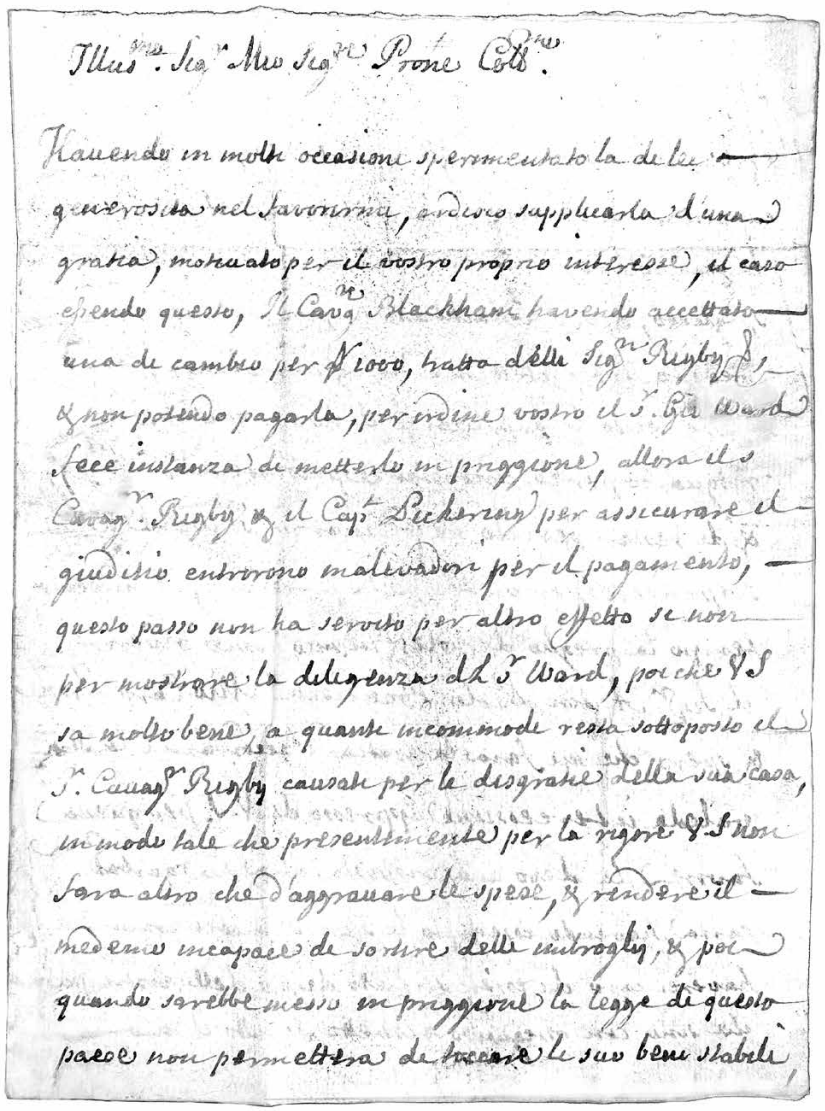


GEORGIAN HOUSE PAINTER'S BILL

26. [LONDON.] Painting done for Wm. Wainman Esq.r at his chambers no. 6 Kings Bench Walks ...
[London, 5 June 1777.] Invoice, single sheet (20 x 24cm) [1] page in manuscript, penned by Chambers and with his signature at foot, old folds, very good.

A rare example of a manuscript bill issued by a Georgian house painter, this document records painting work carried out by John Chambers for William Wainman Esq. at "no. 6 Kings Bench Walks" in the City of London in 1777. References to prices for the type and colour of paint used, the rooms painted, and details of work on window frames are included.

£250



Illus.ma S.r Mio S.gr Pron Col.mo

Hauendo in molte occasioni sperimentato la de lei
generosa nel fauorirmi, ardisco supplicarla d'una
gratia, mouendo per il vostro proprio interesse, il caso
e questo, Il Cau.r Blackham hauendo accettato
una de cambio per N.ro 1000, tratta dalli S.gri Rugby &
& non potendo pagarla, per ordine vostro il S.r Ward
fece instanza di metterlo in preggione, allora il S.r
Cau.r Rugby & il Cap.t Pickering per assicurare il
giudicio entrorno mallevadori per il pagamento,
questo passo non ha seruito per altro effetto se non
per mostrare la diligenza del S.r Ward, poiche V.S
sa molto bene a quante incommode resta sottoposto il
S.r Cau.r Rugby causate per le disgratie della sua casa,
in modo tale che presentemente per la ragne V.S non
sara altro che d'aggrauare le spese, & rendere il
medemo incapace de sortire delle mibroglij, & poi
quando sarebbe messo in preggione la legge di questo
paese non permettera de toccare le suo beni stabili,

LONDON TO LEGHORN: ANGLO-ITALIAN MERCANTILE LETTER

27. CROOKSHANKE, George. [Autograph letter signed to Rafaello del Vernaccia in Livorno, concerning mercantile finance.]
["Londra, 2d. Maggio 1700."] Autograph letter signed, in Italian. 4to (14.5 x 19.5cm) [2] pages on bifolium, verso of second leaf with manuscript address panel, small tear to second leaf from seal opening, old folds, very good.

Penned from London on 2 May 1700, the English merchant George Crookeshanke writes in Italian, to Rafaello del Vernaccia in the Tuscan port city of Livorno. The content concerns a legal dispute over loans involving several other English merchants, including Sir Alexander Rigby (c.1663-1717), the Levant merchant Sir Richard Blackham and the merchant banker Sir John Ward (c.1650-1726). Rigby had become embroiled in financial difficulties on account of the imprisonment of his business partner Plowman by the Grand Duke of Tuscany on charges of piracy.

£450

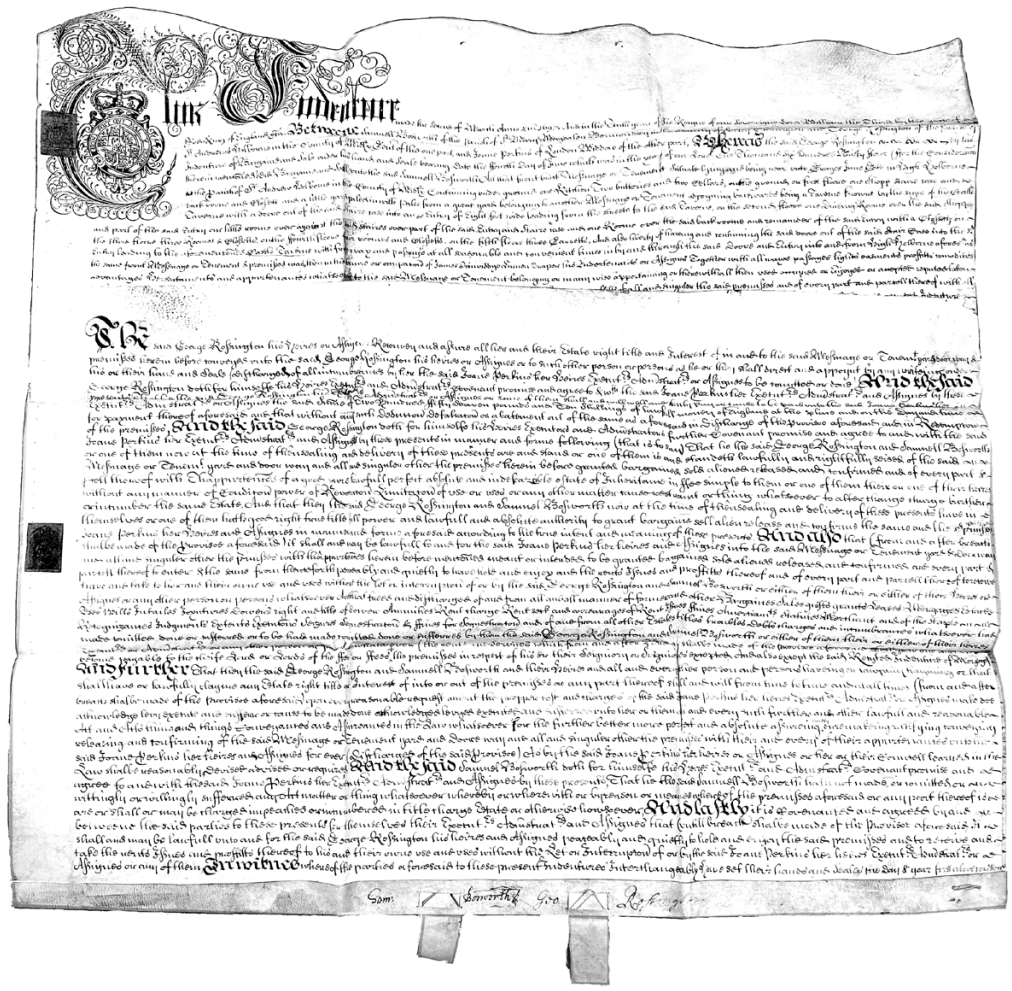


JOHN & MARY EVELYN AT DEPTFORD

28. [EVELYN, John.] [Re-settlement (covenant to levy a fine and suffer a recovery to permit sale by lease and release) and separation agreement; Charles Theyer of Coopers Hill in Brockworth, Gloucestershire, gent, and his wife Amphillis; John Evelyn of Deptford, esquire, and his wife Mary, Benjamin Doune, citizen and apothecary of London, and Henry Fox of St. Clement Dane, Middlesex, cordwainer; to Sir John Musters of Hornsey in Middlesex, knight and bt, and John Jekyll the elder, citizen and haberdasher of London, in trust: 1. Two capital messuages called Coopers and a messuage called Hampen in Brockworth, Gloucestershire, land in Upton St. Leonard in Gloucester and other property. 2. Messuage called Pincott and land in Upton St. Leonards, Gloucestershire. 3. Capital messuage or great brick house, stable, buildings and land, seven other messuages and yards and other property in Deptford and West Greenwich, formerly the property of Amphillis Musters and Elizabeth Middleton, settled with ultimate remainder to Charles and Amphillis Theyer in 1675.]
[London.] [1 &] 2 October 1685. Manuscript indenture, ink on 3 membranes of vellum (largest approx. 73 x 61cm) in English, outermost sheet with fine calligraphic printed heading "This indenture", innermost sheet signed by Charles Theyer, Amphillis Theyer, John Evelyn, Mary Evelyn & John Jekyll, six vellum tags, seals gone (some wax residues remaining), endorsed with signatures of witnesses Edward Hirst, Thomas Marriott, Edward Young, Joseph Henson, verso of outermost membrane with some dustiness, some wear along old folds & at extremities.

This substantial indenture bears the signatures of the diarist and writer John Evelyn (1620-1706), his wife Mary Evelyn (c.1635-1709), Charles Theyer (b.1651) of Coopers Hill, Brockworth, Gloucestershire, his wife Amphillis Theyer, and the politician and haberdasher John Jekyll (1611-1690). The Evelyns resided at the Sayes Court estate in Deptford between c.1647 and 1694, their signatures here being penned as trustees. The document appears to have been drawn up on account of the separation of Charles and Amphillis Theyer, the text noting the debts of Charles Theyer and desire to sell the Gloucestershire land for their payment, and settle land in Deptford and West Greenwich on Amphillis: "great differences, quarrels, debates and controversies betwixt the said Charles Theyer and Amphillis his wife since their intermarriage one with the other that they cannot quietly and comfortably live and cohabit together."

£1250



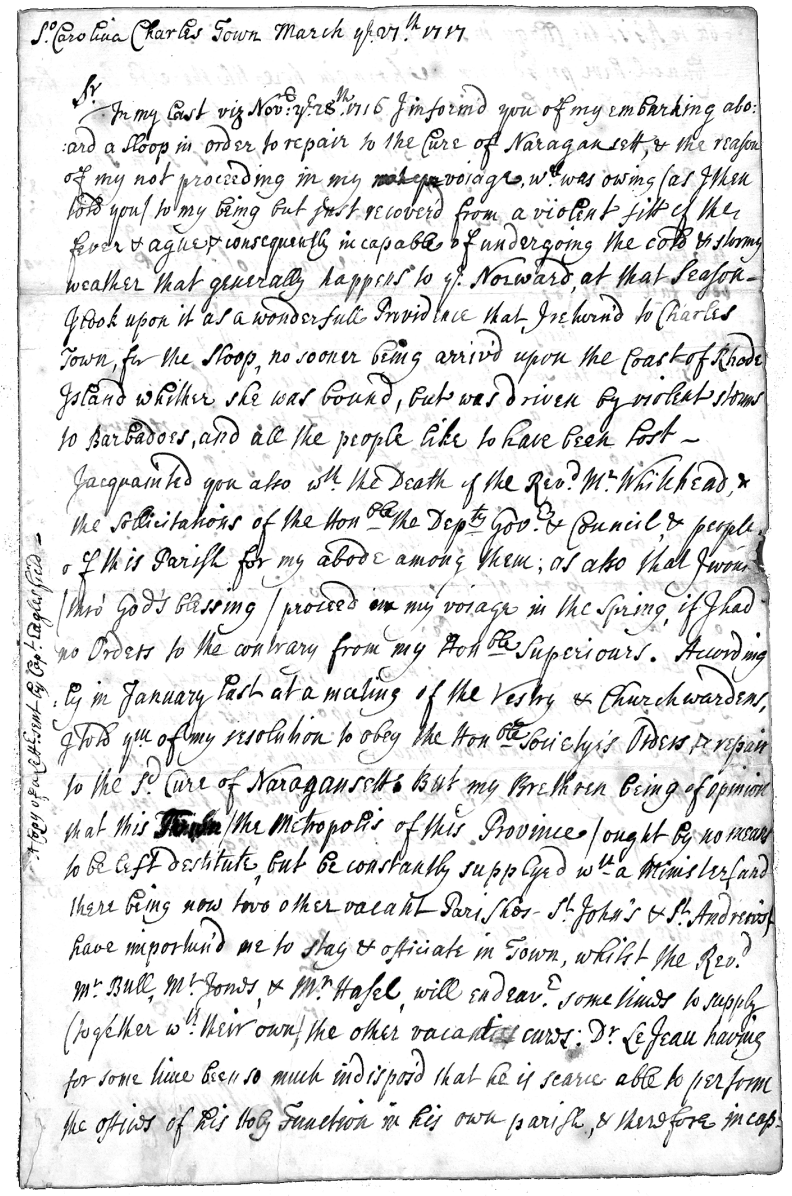
PEPYS'S LONDON – PHYSICIANS PLAYING THE PROPERTY MARKET

29. [HOLBORN.] Assignment of mortgage for £100 and further charge for £250 at 6%: Samuel Bosworth of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, surgeon with Dr George Rossington of St. Andrew Holborn, gentleman, to Joan Perkins of London, widow; a front brick messuage near Gray's Inn Gate in High Holborn, containing underground one kitchen, two butteries and two cellars; on the ground or first floor one shop, staircase, back room and closet, and a little yard impaled from a great yard belonging to a messuage adjoining backwards, being The Castle Tavern, with a door out of the staircase into an entry 8 feet wide leading from the street to the tavern; on the second floor a dining room over the shop and part of the entry, a little room over against the stairs over part of the entry and staircase, and one room over the back room and the remainder of the entry, with a closet; on the third floor three rooms and closets; on the fourth floor four rooms and closets; on the fifth floor three garrets; with a right of access from High Holborn, all in 1694 occupied by James Dinviddy, linen draper.

London, 2 March 1698. Manuscript, ink on two sheets of vellum (largest approx. 60 x 56cm) printed heading [xylographic?] "This indenture" incorporating royal arms, each sheet with blue embossed tax stamp, signed at foot by Bosworth & Rossington, vellum tags with some red wax residues from sealing, verso with contemporary manuscript docket title & endorsements including signatures of witnesses Henry Bedell, scrivener & his servants Thomas Sherwood & John Curryer, some light wear along old folds, very good.

Two physicians playing the property market in Pepys's London. George Rossington was educated at St. Albans School and admitted to Trinity College, Cambridge, at the age of 19 on 5 July 1682. Following admittance to Lincoln's Inn 4 April 1685, he was admitted extra-licentiate at the Royal College of Physicians 3 January 1696, practising at St Albans. Samuel Bosworth, surgeon, was of St. Olave Southwark. Dead by 3 February 1702 when his will was proved in PCC, he bequeathed to his grandson Bosworth Bowman his freehold estate at Loughborough and 'my silver box and instruments for surgery with all my books, Latin, Greek or English'.

£650



S.o Carolina Charles Town March y.e 07.th 1717

Sr

In my last viz Nov:r y.e 8.th 1716 I informd you of my embarking abo: :ard a Sloop in order to repair to the Cure of Naragansett, & the reason of my not proceeding in my voyage, w.ch was owing (as I then told you) to my being but just recovered from a violent fitt of the Feaver & ague, consequently incapable of undergoing the cold & stormy weather that generally happens to y.e Norward, at that Season. I look upon it as a wonderfull Providence that I returnd to Charles Town, for the Sloop, no sooner being arrivd upon the Coast of Rhode Island whither she was bound, but was driven by violent storms to Barbadoes, and all the people like to have been lost.

I acquainted you also w.th the death of the Revd Mr Whitehead, & the solicitations of the Hon.ble the Dep.ty Gov.r & Council, & people of this Parish for my abode among them; as also that (Iwou: (thro' Gods blessing) proceed on my voyage in the Spring, if I had no Orders to the contrary from my Hon.ble Superiours. Accordingly in January last at a meeting of the Vestry & Churchwardens, I told you of my resolution to obey the Hon.ble Society's Orders & repair to the S.d Cure of Naragansett. But my Brethren being of opinion that this Town (the Metropolis of this Province) ought by no means to be left destitute, but be constantly supplyed w.th a Minister, and there being now two other vacant Parishes S.t John's & S.t Andrew's have importun'd me to stay & officiate in Town, whilst the Revd Mr Bull, Mr Jones, & Mr Hasel, will endeav.r sometimes to supply (together w.th their own) the other vacant cures: Dr Le Jeau having for some time been so much indispos'd that he is scarce able to perform the duties of his Holy function in his own parish … if this Town should be left destitute of a minister, it might be very detrimental to the Church & the Dissenters have an opportunity to gain ground, which hitherto, God be thanked, they have not … If the Honble Society shall think it proper for me to repair to Naragansett, I shall very willingly obey …"

Guy did travel on to Narragansett, however he did not remain there long, returning to South Carolina where he ministered at the parish of St. Andrew's, in which post he remained from 1718 until his death in 1751.

£1250

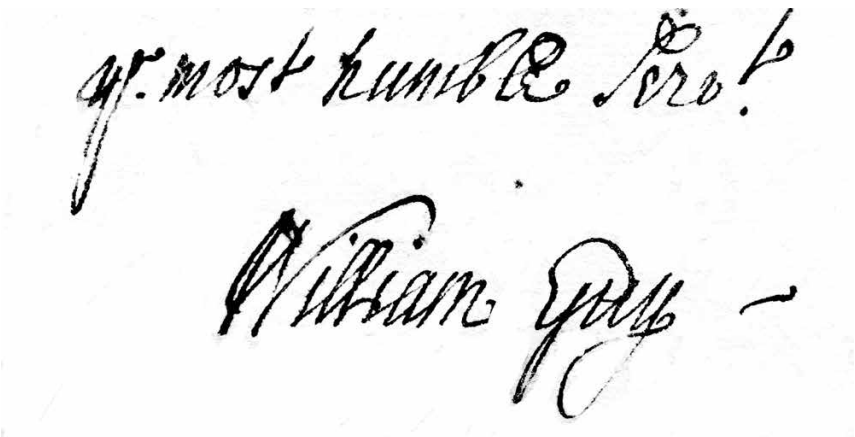
ANGLICAN MISSIONARY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

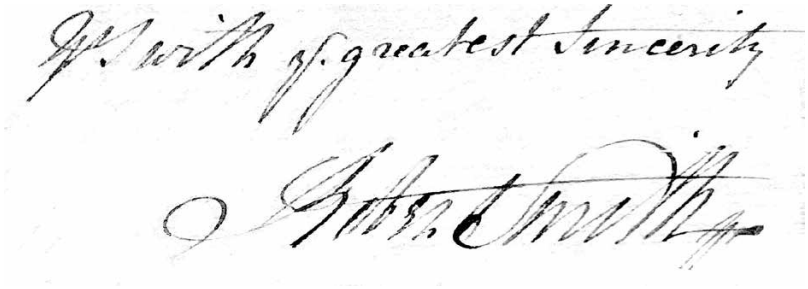
30. GUY, William. [Autograph letter signed, addressed to London, to the secretary of the Society for the propagation of the Gospel, reporting on the state of the Anglican ministry in South Carolina in the aftermath of the Yamasee War.]

"So.[uth] Carolina Charles Town", 17 March 1717. Autograph letter signed, ink on paper. Folio (20.5 x 32cm) [2] pages on bifolium, recto of second leaf with manuscript address panel, postal markings including Bishop mark "24/IV", some imperceptible strengthening along old folds, very good.

Rev. William Guy (d.1751) was sent to South Carolina as an Anglican missionary in 1713 by the Society for the propagation of the Gospel. He was forced to flee his first parish, St. Helena's, on account of the tumult caused by the Yamasee War, many frontier colonists being killed in the conflict which ran from 1715 to 1717. This autograph letter finds Guy reporting to his superiors in London from Charles Town (now Charleston), to where many colonists fled despite dwindling supplies of food:

"In my last … I inform'd you of my embarking aboard a sloop in order to repair to the Cure of Naragansett, & the reason of my not proceeding in my voiage was owing … to my being but just recover'd from a violent fitt of the fever & ague … I look upon it as a wonderfull providence that I return'd to Charles Town, for the sloop, no sooner being arriv'd upon the coast of Rhode Island whither she was bound, but was driven by a violent storm to Barbados, and all the people like to have been lost. I acquainted you also with the death of the Revd. Mr. Whitehead … My brethren being of opinion that this town, the metropolis of this province, ought by no means to be left destitute … and there being two other vacant parishes – St. John's & St. Andrew's, have importun'd me to stay and officiate in town, whilst the Rev.d Mr. Bull, Mr. Jones, & Mr. Hasel, will endeav.[ou]r sometimes to supply … the other vacant cures: Dr. Le Jeau having for some time been so much indispos'd that he is scarce able to perform the duties of his Holy function in his own parish … if this town should be left destitute of a minister, it might be very detrimental to the Church & the Dissenters have an opportunity to gain ground, which hitherto, God be thanked, they have not … If the Honble Society shall think it proper for me to repair to Naragansett, I shall very willingly obey …"





CHARLESTON RECTOR & SOUTH CAROLINA PATRIOT

31. SMITH, Robert. [Autograph letter signed, to [William] Mason, reporting his first impressions of Charles Town and his new life in America.]
Charles Town S.th Carolina, Jan[uar]y 15 1758. 4to (18.5 x 23.5cm) [3 1/2] pages on bifolium, small tear at centre of both leaves touching a few letters (not affecting sense of text), old folds, very good. [TOGETHER WITH]

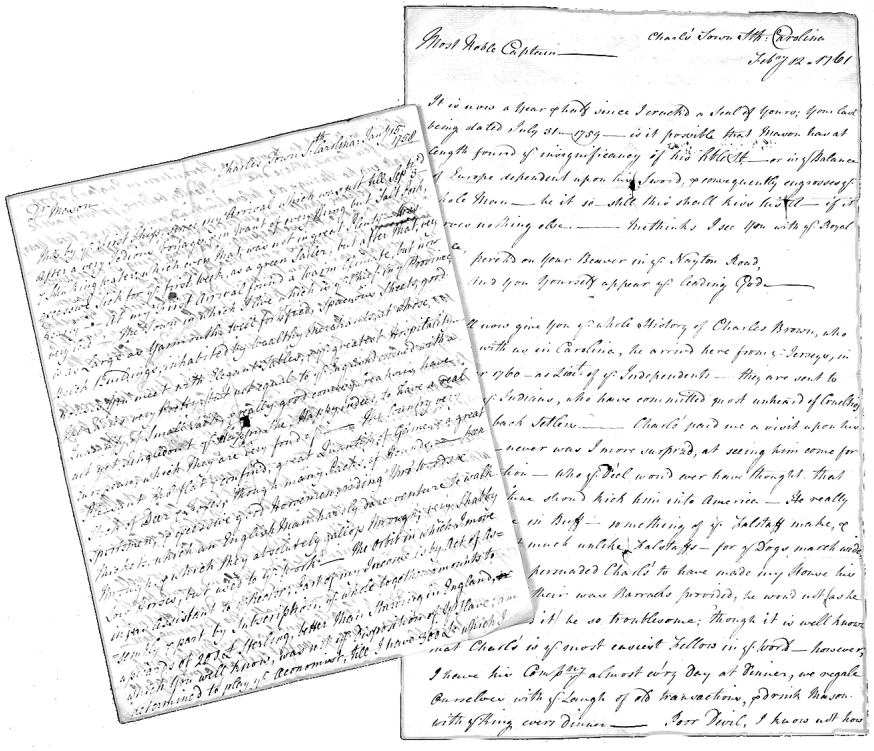
SMITH, Robert. [Autograph letter signed, addressed "Most Noble Captain", concerning Charles Brown's arrival in Carolina and forthcoming military service.]
Charles Town S.th Carolina, Feb[ruar]y 12. 1761. Folio (20.5 x 32.5cm) [2] pages, a few tiny tears along old folds touching a few letters (not affecting sense of text), address leaf gone, very good.

Soon after graduation from Cambridge (Gonville and Caius College) Norfolk-born Rev. Robert Smith (1732-1801) crossed the Atlantic. Arriving in 1757 in Charles Town (now Charleston), South Carolina, he served as assistant rector of St. Philip's, becoming rector in 1759. During the American War of Independence Smith sided with the Patriots, taking up arms to fight at the Battle of Sullivan's Island. A prominent member of Charleston society, in 1795 he was elected as the first bishop of South Carolina.

Dated 15 January 1758, the first of the two letters here penned by Smith includes his initial observations of Charleston: "the town in which I live which is the chief in the province, is as large as Yarmouth, well fortified, spacious streets, good brick buildings, is habited by wealthy merchants, at whose houses you meet with elegant tables, & the greatest hospitality. The ladies very pretty … There is but one thing at present, which I find disagreeable, the great confinement, and the excessive caution in regard to my behaviour; no assembly, no card-playing, (bad place for Deake), no this, no that, in short any thing bordering upon levity, to be guilty of, should be look'd upon as a monster – even shooting, they would peswade me is not altogether clever in my situation, but shoot I do, & shoot I will, which we have in great plenty, snipes, partridge & cocks – so talk they may, & talk to eternity; Bob wont care …"

The second letter here, dated 12 February 1761, reports on the arrival in Charleston of one of Smith's old friends: "I shall give you the whole history of Charles Brown, who is not with us in Carolina, he arrived here from the Jerseys, in December 1760, as Lieut. of the Independents – they are sent to humble the Indians, who have committed most unheard of cruelties upon our back settlers … who would ever have thought Dame Fortune should kick him into America – He really looks fierce in buff – something of the Falstaff … Poor devil, I know not how this fighting scheme will agree with him, he marches next month & after 60 miles - a wide wilderness presents itself ever after – Pine trees must be his only meditation and fear of being scalpt his only dread – an enemy destitute of all humanity continually alarming …"

£2750





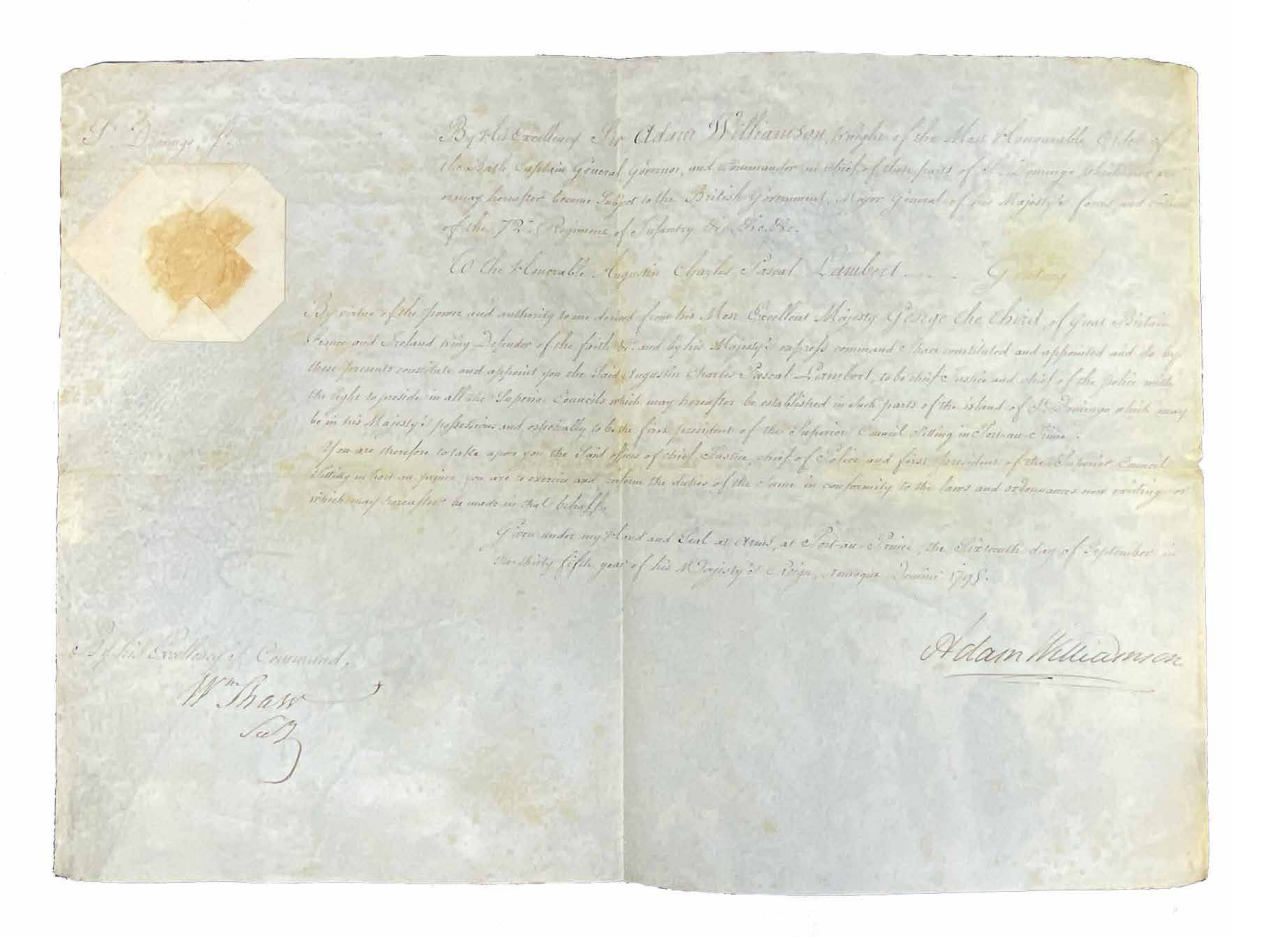
FRENCH FREEMASONRY IN LONDON – INFLUENCE ON WILLIAM BLAKE

32. [FREEMASONRY.] [Nous maitre, passe maitre et officiers del Loge de St. George de l'observance No. 53 certiffions que le Frere Francis Baes à servi differentes loges à notre connaissance ... en qualité de secretaire avec zêle et fidelité ...]
[Londres ... cinq Septembre 1788.] Certificate on paper (19 x 21cm) engraved heading (platemark approx 11.5 x 7.5cm) certificate (10 lines penned in French) signed off by Lambert de Lintot & [Abraam] de la Grange ("pour absence du maitre D[on] Mic[hel] Ghillini d'Asuni"), impression in red wax of the [seal of the lodge?], edges uncut, old folds, very good.

Evoking the esoteric world of French freemasonry in Georgian London, this manuscript certificate dated 5 September 1788 produced for "Francis Baes", records his secretarial work carried out with "zêle et fidelité" in the service of various French lodges in London, the document having been produced in support of his placing one of his children in the "Royal Cumberland Free Masons Charity School". Melchior François Baes, language master, of Castle Street, Leicester Fields, was sometime secretary to the Lodge of St. George de l'Observance No. 53 in London. The engraving here, a symbolic masonic diagram and emblem of the lodge, must be the work of celebrated masonic engraver [Pierre] Lambert de Lintot (1726-1798) of 5 Cobham Row, Cold Bath Fields, past master. De Lintot, a former French soldier and Jacobite agent, created the obscure Rite of Seven Degrees. Penned in de Lintot's hand, the document bears also his signature and that of A[braam de] la Grange. Lintot's esoteric engravings are thought to have influenced William Blake (1757-1827).

£450





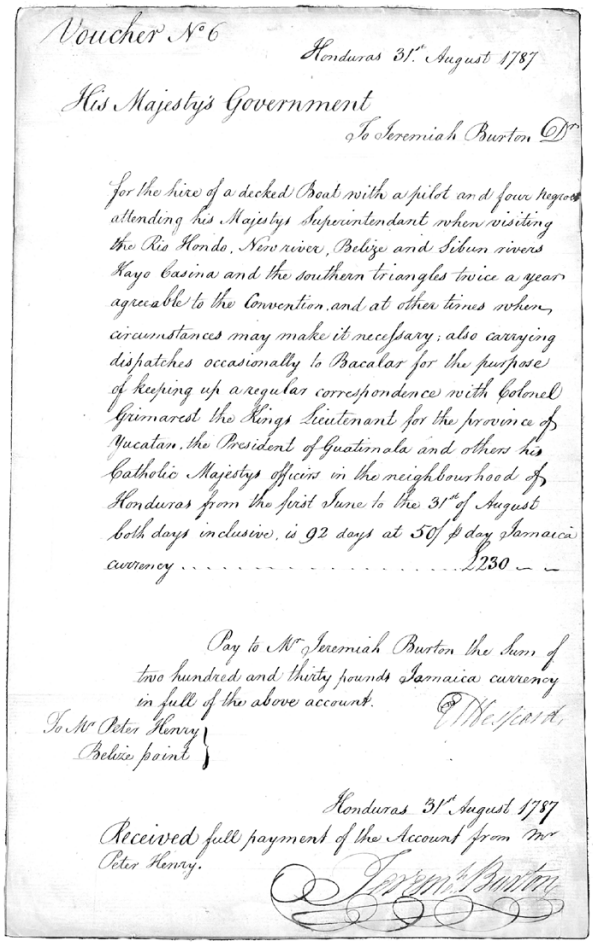
LAW & ORDER ON BRITISH ST. DOMINGO DURING HAITIAN REVOLUTION

33. [WILLIAMSON, Adam.] [Signed commission recording the appointment of Augustin Charles Pascal Lambert as "chief justice and chief of the police … in such parts of the island of St. Domingo" as are under British control.]
Port-au-Prince, [Saint Domingue.] 16 September 1795. Manuscript commission, ink on single sheet of vellum (approx. 36.5 x 26cm) 15 lines in English, signed at foot "Adam Williamson" & "Wm. Shaw" (secretary), embossed paper wafer seal bearing British Royal Arms, verso with related contemporary ink endorsements with second signature of Williamson, old central fold, very good.

A rare record of the doomed attempt at British administration of the Caribbean island colony of Saint Domingue during the Haitian Revolution, this vellum certificate records the appointment of Augustin Charles Pascal Lambert (1761-1833) as "chief justice and chief of the police … in such parts of the island of St. Domingo" as are under British control. The document bears the signature of the newly-appointed governor of the island Sir Adam Williamson (1733-1798), veteran of the American War and former governor of Jamaica. From 1793 a five year military occupation attempted to restore stability to the island. Despite the capture of Port-au-Prince in June 1794 subsequent depredations from guerilla warfare, slave uprisings, yellow fever, spiralling costs and insufficient numbers of troops made the whole effort of establishing law and order an exercise in futility. Williamson himself was recalled in October 1795, leaving the colony 14 March 1796.

£1250





Voucher N°6

Honduras 31st August 1787

His Majestys Government

To Jeremiah Burton Dr

for the hire of a decked Boat with a pilot and four negroes attending his Majestys Superintendant when visiting the Rio Hondo, New river, Belize and Sibun rivers Kayo Casina and the southern triangles twice a year agreeable to the Convention, and at other times when circumstances may make it necessary; also carrying dispatches occasionally to Bacalar for the purpose of keeping up a regular correspondence with Colonel Grimarest the Kings Lieutenant for the province of Yucatan, the President of Guatimala and others his Catholic Majestys officirs in the neighbourhood of Honduras from the first June to the 31st of August both days inclusive, is 92 days at 50/ p day Jamaica currency ..... £230 — —

Pay to Mr Jeremiah Burton the Sum of two hundred and thirty pounds Jamaica currency in full of the above account.

To Mr Peter Henry
Belize point

Honduras 31st August 1787

Received full payment of the Account from Mr Peter Henry.

Jerym.h Burton

COLONEL DESPARD IN HONDURAS - BACKSTORY OF AN IRISH REVOLUTIONARY

34. DESPARD, Edward. Voucher No. 6. Being so much paid Jeremiah Burton for the hire of a decked boat employed attending Colonel Despard on his visits to the different rivers, keys & c.; also for carrying dispatches to Bacalar, for the purpose of keeping up a regular correspondence with his Catholic Majestys officers in the neighbourhood of Honduras.

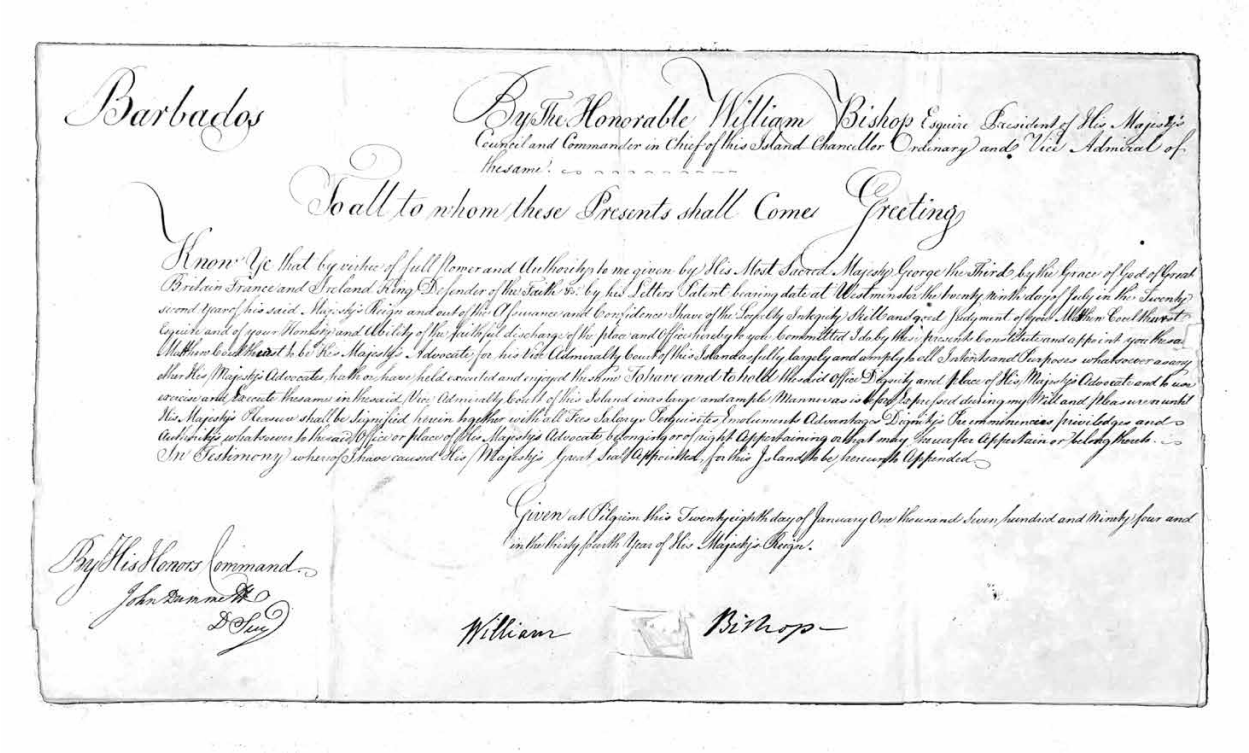
Honduras, 31 August 1787. Manuscript, ink on paper. Folio (20 x 32cm) [1] page penned on recto of first leaf of bifolium, signed by Despard ("EM Despard") & Jeremiah Burton at foot, verso of second leaf with contemporary manuscript docket title, a few negligible marginal dustmarks, very good.

A rare example of the signature of Colonel Despard (1751-1803) during his time in Honduras. An Irish officer in the service of the British Crown, Edward Marcus Despard fought alongside and befriended Nelson in the San Juan expedition in 1780 during the American War of Independence. His exceptional competence led to his appointment as superintendent of the British logging interests in Honduras (now Belize). This document records a payment to Jeremiah Burton for the "hire of a decked boat with a pilot and four negroes attending his Majesty's Superintendant when visiting the Rio Hondo, New river, Belize and Sibun rivers Kayo Casina and the southern triangles … also carrying dispatches occasionally to Bacalar for the purpose of keeping up a regular correspondence with Colonel Grimarest the Kings Lieutenant for the province of Yucatan, the President of Guatimala and others …"

During his tenure at Honduras Despard drew the ire of British officials when news reached London that he was distributing land by lotteries in which freed slaves and mixed race inhabitants had an even chance with the established slave-holding "Baymen". In 1790 he married Catherine, the daughter of a free black Jamaican woman and an Anglican clergyman, moving with her back to England. In the capital in the 1790s Despard joined the radical London Corresponding Society and became involved with Irish political activism. His imprisonment and subsequent execution in 1803, after being found guilty of high treason as the ringleader of a revolutionary conspiracy now known as the Despard plot, have contributed to his posthumous notoriety.

£950




Barbados

By The Honorable William Bishop Esquire President of His Majesty's Council and Commander in Chief of this Island Chancellor Ordinary and Vice Admiral of the same.

To all to whom these Presents shall Come Greeting

Know Ye that by virtue of full Power and Authority to me given by His Most Sacred Majesty George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c. by his Letters Patent bearing date at Westminster the twenty ninth day of July in the twenty second year of his said Majesty's Reign and out of the Confidence I have of the Loyalty Integrity Skill and good Judgment of you Matthew Coulthurst Esquire and of your Honesty and Ability for the faithful discharge of the place and Office hereby to you committed I do by these presents constitute and appoint you the said Matthew Coulthurst to be His Majesty's Advocate for his Vice Admiralty Court of this Island to fully largely and amply to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever as any other His Majesty's Advocate hath or have held exercised and enjoyed the same To have and to hold the said Office Dignity and Place of His Majesty's Advocate and to use exercise and execute the same in the said Vice Admiralty Court of this Island in as large and ample Manner as is usual or has been used during my Will and Pleasure unless His Majesty's Pleasure shall be signified herein together with all Fees Salaries Perquisites Emoluments Advantages Profits Privileges Pre-eminences Jurisdictions and Authorities whatsoever to the said Office or place of the Majesties Advocate belonging or of right Appertaining as fully and amply as I or any other Person or Persons have heretofore Enjoyed or Lawfully Should Enjoy the same In Testimony whereof I have caused His Majesty's Great Seal of Office to be hereunto affixed for this Island to be hereunto Appended.

Given at Pilgrim this Twenty eighth day of January One thousand Seven hundred and Ninety four and in the thirty fourth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

By His Honors Command
John Dummett
Secry

William Bishop

BARBADOS ADVOCATE AT VICE ADMIRALTY COURT

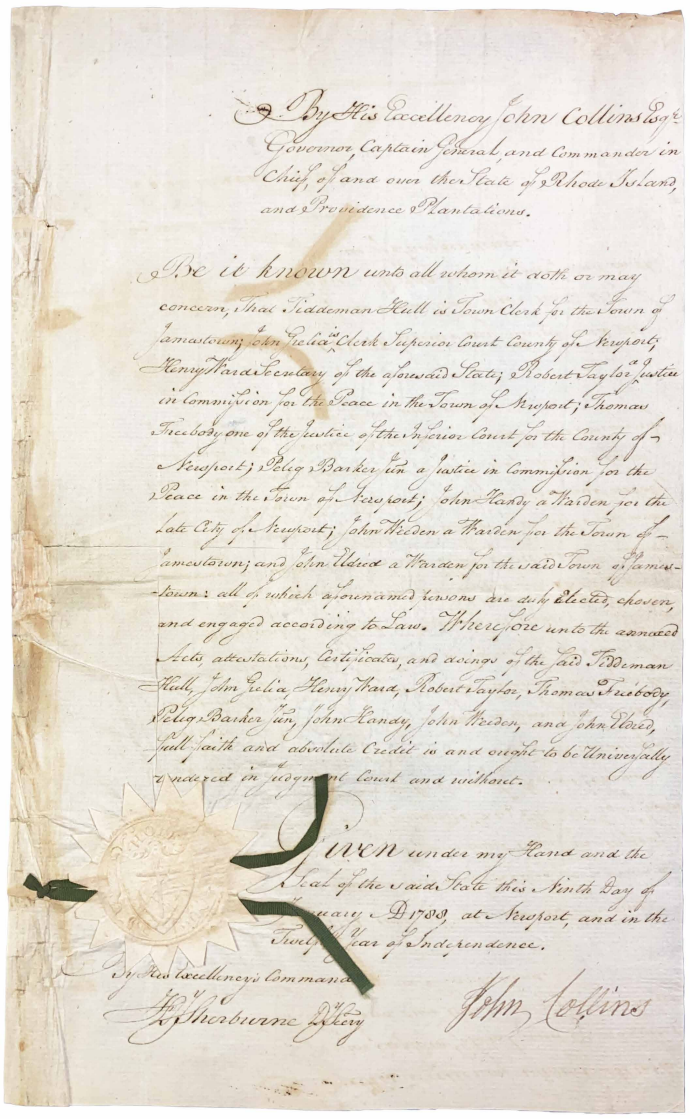
35. [BARBADOS.] [Commission issued by William Bishop Esq. as "president of His Majesty's Council and Commander in Chief" of Barbados, appointing Matthew Coulthurst Esq. "to be His Majesty's Advocate for his Vice Admiralty Court of this island …"]

Barbados. Pilgrim [House.] 28 January 1794. Manuscript commission, ink on paper, in English. Oblong folio (48 x 27cm) [1] page on bifolium, signed at foot "William Bishop", also "John Dummett" as secretary, verso of second leaf with further contemporary signed endorsement by Coulthurst, seal lost (small strip of silk ribbon remaining), light even toning, very good.

Issued in Barbados at the governor's mansion Pilgrim House on 28 January 1794, this manuscript commission bears the signature of the lawyer William Bishop Esq., then interim governor, "president of His Majesty's Council and Commander in Chief of this island Chancellor Ordinary and Vice Admiral of the same." The document records the appointment of Matthew Coulthurst Esq. (1757-1833) "to be His Majesty's Advocate for his Vice Admiralty Court of this island …" Coulthurst, a lawyer and owner of sugar plantations, later rose to the post of Attorney-general of Barbados, being appointed in 1823.

£750





By His Excellency John Collins Esq.
Governor, Captain General, and Commander in
Chief of and over the State of Rhode Island,
and Providence Plantations.

Be it known unto all whom it doth or may
concern, That Tiddeman Hull is Town Clerk for the Town of
Jamestown; John Grelia Clerk Superior Court County of Newport;
Henry Ward Secretary of the aforesaid State; Robert Taylor Justice
in Commission for the Peace in the Town of Newport; Thomas
Freebody one of the Justices of the Superior Court for the County of
Newport; Pelig Barker Jun. a Justice in Commission for the
Peace in the Town of Newport; John Handy a Warden for the
late City of Newport; John Weeden a Warden for the Town of
Jamestown; and John Eldred a Warden for the said Town of James-
town: all of which aforenamed persons are duly Elected, chosen,
and engaged according to Law. Wherefore unto the annexed
Acts attestations, Certificates, and doings of the said Tiddeman
Hull, John Grelia Henry Ward, Robert Taylor, Thomas Freebody
Pelig Barker Jun, John Handy, John Weeden, and John Eldred,
full faith and absolute Credit is and ought to be Universally
endeavored in judgment Court and without.

Given under my Hand and the
Seal of the said State this Ninth Day of
January A.D. 1789 at Newport, and in the
Twelfth Year of Independence.

By His Excellency's Command
Sherburne Helsey

John Collins

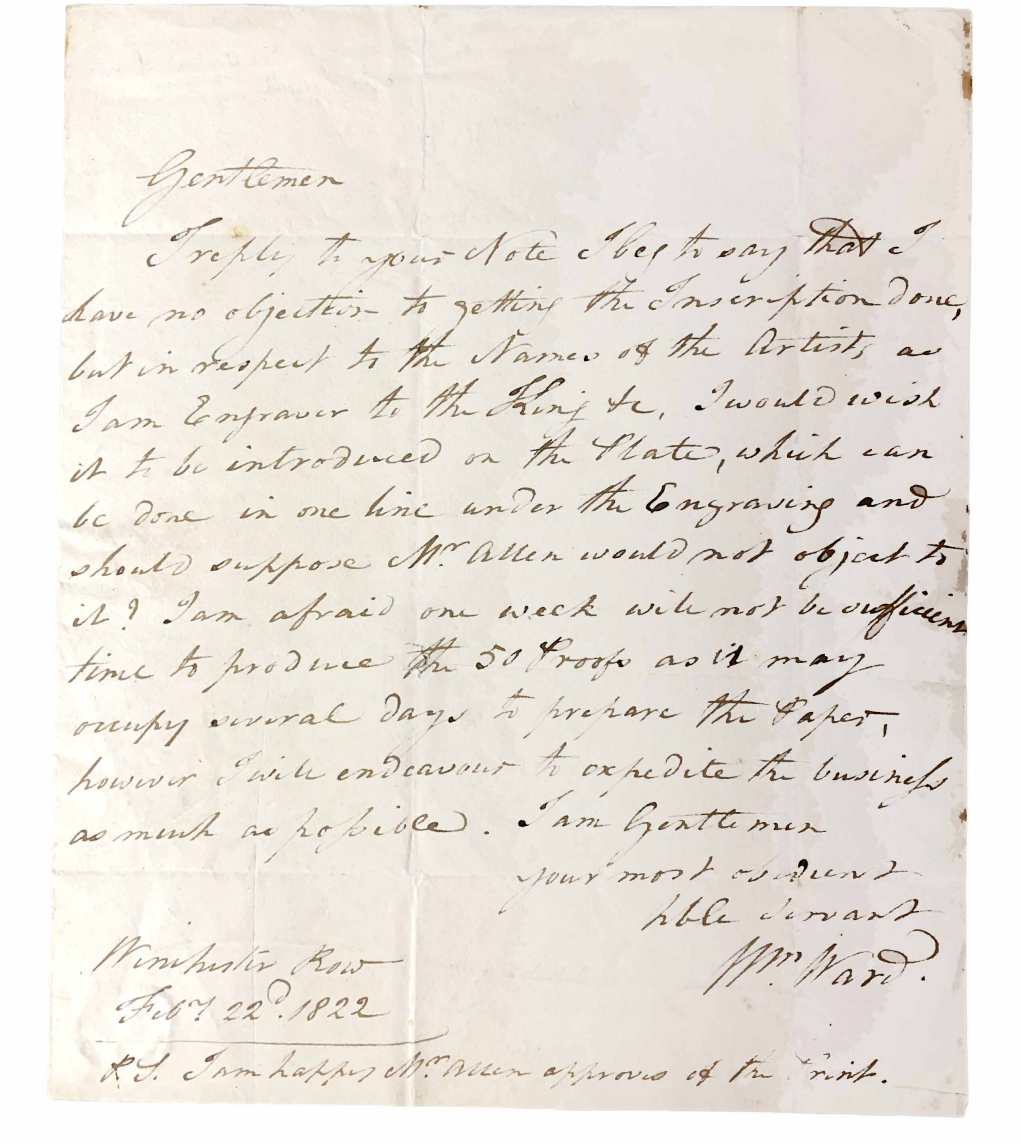
RHODE ISLAND GOVERNOR & FOUNDING FATHER

36. [COLLINS, John.] [Certificate signed as governor of Rhode Island confirming his confidence in documentation concerning "Tiddeman Hull, John Grelia, Henry Ward, Robert Taylor, Thomas Freebody, Pelig Barker Jun., John Handy, John Weeden, and John Eldred ..."]
[Newport, Rhode Island.] 9 January 1788. Certificate, ink on paper. Folio (18.5 x 30cm) [1] page on recto of single leaf, signed at foot "John Collins", embossed paper wafer seal with contemporary green silk ribbon, some light marginal paper toning, old folds, very good.

A fine example of the signature of Rhode Island governor John Collins (1717-1795) is penned at the foot of this legal certificate dated from Newport, 9 January 1788. Collins is classified as a Founding Father of the United States on account of his having signed the Articles of Confederation as a member of the Continental Congress, representing the legislature of Rhode Island. As a young man he was a close friend of Benjamin Franklin. The embossed paper wafer seal attached to the document bears the anchor emblem of the colony, with legend "hope" above.

£450




Gentlemen

I reply to your Note I beg to say that I have no objection to getting the Inscription done, but in respect to the Names of the Artists as I am Engraver to the King &c, I would wish it to be introduced on the Plate, which can be done in one line under the Engraving and should suppose Mr. Allen would not object to it? I am afraid one week will not be sufficient time to produce the 50 Proofs as it may occupy several days to prepare the Paper, however I will endeavour to expedite the business as much as possible. I am Gentlemen

your most obedient
hble Servant
Wm Ward.

Winchester Row
Feb.y 22d. 1822

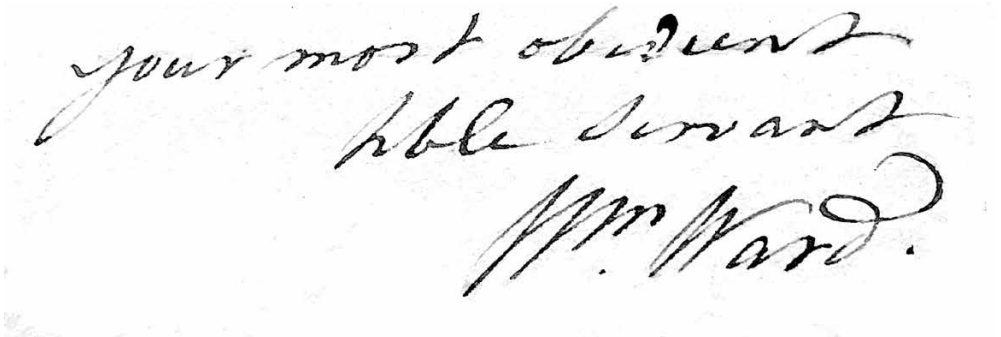
P.S. I am happy Mr. Allen approves of the Print.

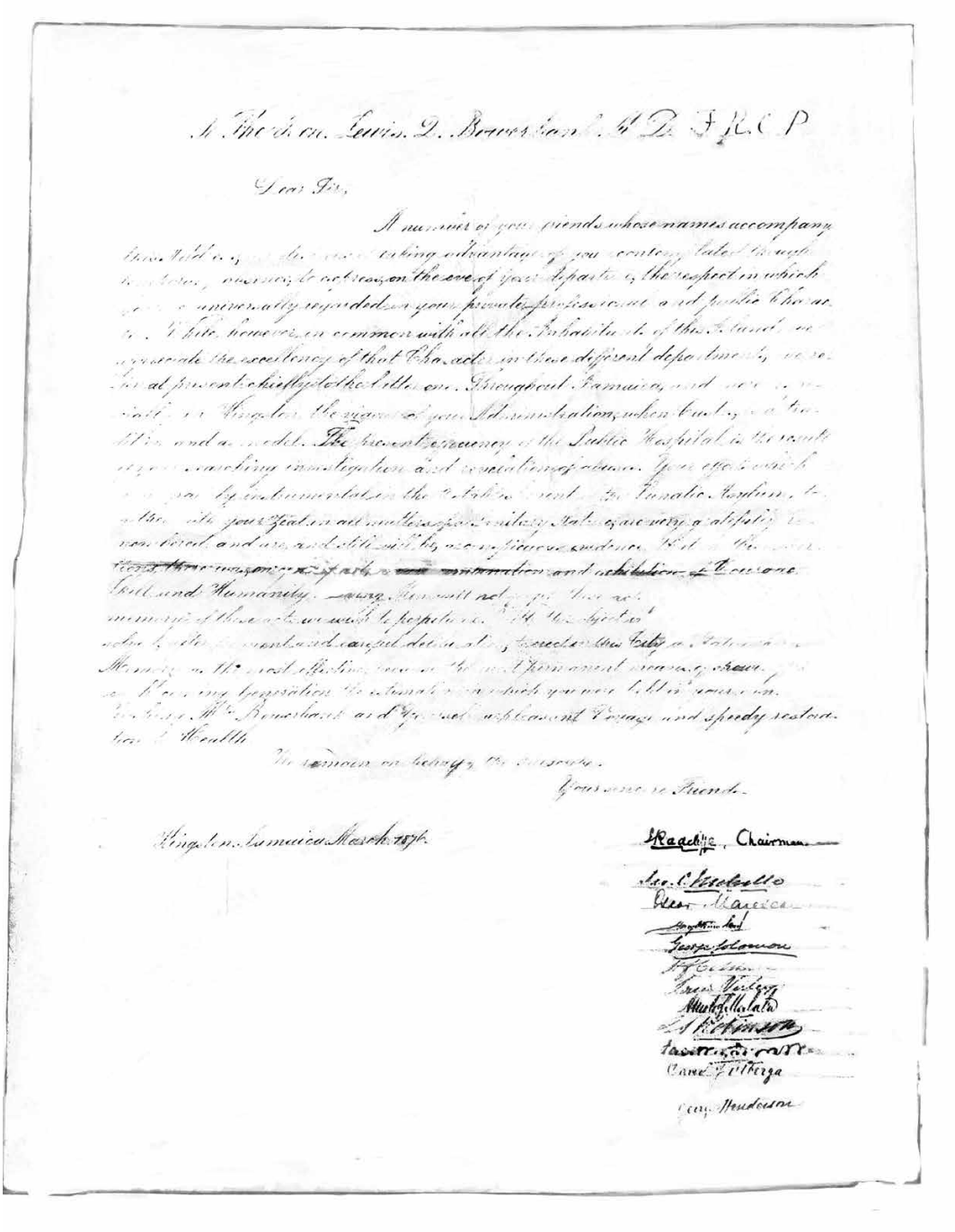
PRINT PUBLISHING IN REGENCY LONDON

37. WARD, William. [Autograph letter signed to Colnaghi & Co. advising on the progress of engraving work for a mezzotint portrait of William Yates Esq.]
[London.] Winchester Row, 22 February 1822. 4to (19 x 22.5cm) [1] page on bifolium, verso of second leaf with address panel penned to "Colnaghi & Co Cockspur Street [London]", postal stamps & markings, old folds, very good.

The leading mezzotint engraver William Ward (1762-1826) writes 22 February 1822 to Colnaghi & Co., then publishers of and dealers in fine prints, advising on the progress of a plate: "I have no objection to getting the inscription done, but in respect of the names of the artists as I am engraver to the King &c, I would wish it to be introduced on the plate … suppose Mr. Allen would not object to it … I am afraid one week will not be sufficient to produce the 50 proofs as it may occupy several days to prepare the paper …" The print in question was a mezzotint portrait of William Yates Esq. (1739-1813), cotton spinner and printer, produced after a painting by "Mr Allen", perhaps Sir William Allen (1782-1850), published 1 March 1822 by Colnaghi (see: BM 1868,0808.2144).

£350


your most obedient
hble Servant
Wm Ward.



PIONEER OF JAMAICAN HOSPITALS & SANITATION

38. [JAMAICA.] To the Hon. Lewis Q. Bowerbank M.D. F.R.C.P. Dear sir, a number of your friends whose names accompany this address are desirous … to express, on the eve of your departure, the respect in which you are so universally regarded …
Kingston, Jamaica, March 1876. Manuscript certificate, ink on single sheet of vellum (approx. 49 x 63cm) rolled as a scroll, 12 signatures at foot, light wear to extremities, a few negligible dust marks, very good.

This unique manuscript certificate was drawn up in Kingston, Jamaica, in March 1876, on the departure from the island of Dr. Lewis Quier Bowerbank (1814-1880), principally to express the gratitude of the signatories for the medical improvements which he had instigated, in particular in relation to hospital development: "throughout Jamaica, and more especially in Kingston, the vigour of your administration, when Custos, is a tradition and a model. The present efficiency of the Public Hospital is the result of your searching investigation … Your efforts which were mainly instrumental in the establishment of the Lunatic Asylum, together with your zeal in all matters of a sanitary nature, are very gratefully remembered …" The twelve signatories number prominent figures in Kingston society, including Oscar Marescaux (1825-1907), manager of the Colonial Bank in Jamaica.

£450


Edinburgh the Seventh Day of June
One thousand Seven hundred and thirty Eight Years.
The which Day. In presence of The Rt Hon.ble
Archibald Mc aulay Esq. Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh
George Haliburton, John Balfour, George Dunbar and Thomas Allan Bailies
of the said City James Colhoun Dean of Gild and the Gild Council The
Reverend Mr. John Pitcairn Parson at Burrough Castle in the
County of Suffolk in England Comparing is made Burgess and Gild brother
of this City in the most ample form and gave his Oath as use is Extracted furth of
the new Socked Gild-book of the City of Edr. by me George Home Clerk thereof witnesseth hereunto
unto my Sign and Subscription manuall Whereas the See the said City is hereunto Affixt

EDINBURGH BURGESS TICKET FOR A SUFFOLK PARSON

39. [SCOTTISH TRADE.] [Edinburgh burgess ticket issued to "the Reverend Mr. John Pitcairn parson of Burrough Castle in the county of Suffolk."]
Edinburgh, 7 June 1738. Burgess ticket, manuscript on single sheet of vellum (approx. 50.5 x 27cm) initial calligraphic heading heightened in gilt, embossed paper wafer seal attached at foot, old folds, contemporary manuscript docket title to verso, verso with some light dustiness, very good.

Dated 7 June 1738 this burgess ticket in manuscript for the city of Edinburgh was issued to Rev. John Pitcairne (1711-1753), rector of Burgh Castle in Suffolk between 1729 and 1753. Presumably of Scottish ancestry, Pitcairne received his MA from the University of St. Andrews. In Scotland burgess tickets were granted to merchants and other prominent members of society when they became burgesses, entitled to share in the "liberties privileges and immunities" of a burgh (chartered town). Being a burgess was a prerequisite for trading in many burghs and often allowed the purchase of seats in church, though it could also entail the payment of certain extra taxes. It may be that Rev. John Pitcairne had some mercantile interests in Edinburgh.

£350

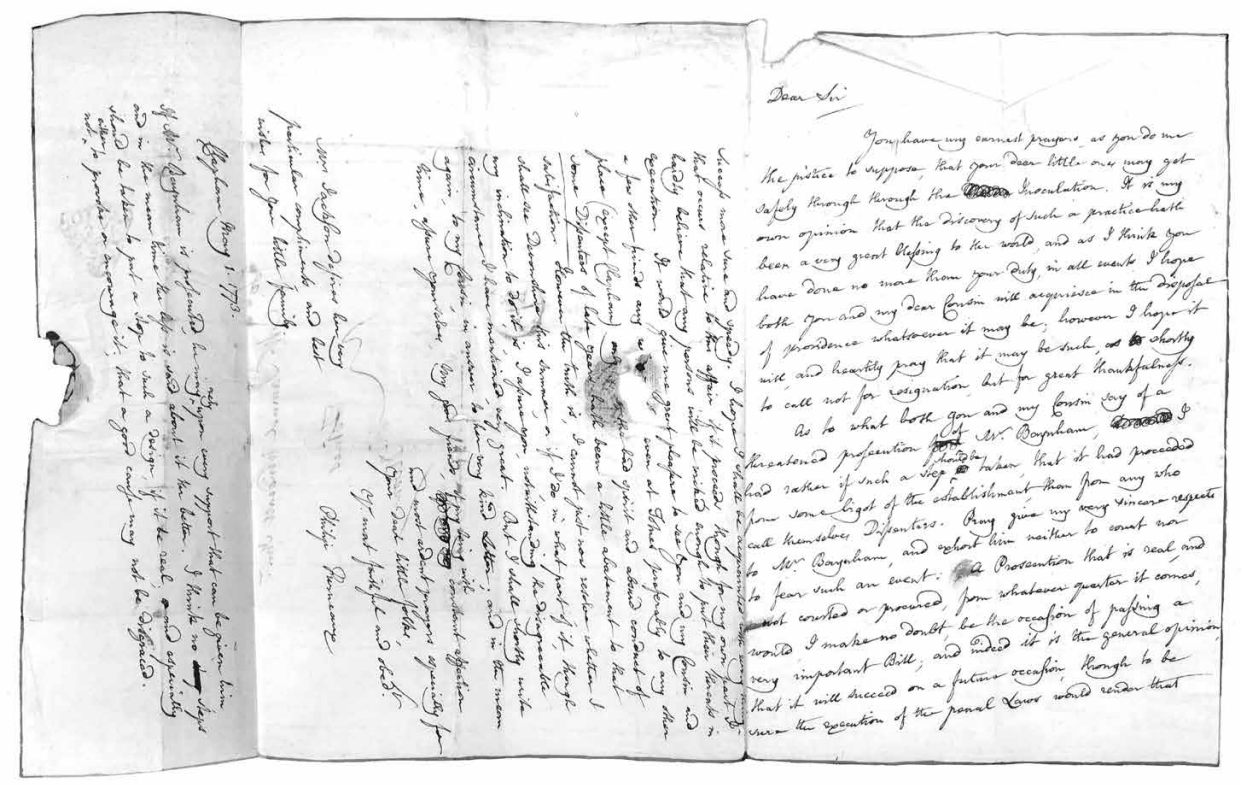


CLOTH-CUTTING MACHINE INVENTED BY YORKSHIRE CLOCKMAKER

40. [INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION.] [Assignment of shares by James Brown of Pately Bridge, York, clock and watchmaker, to Thomas Wilkinson of Manchester, Peter Leicester of Liverpool, and John Gouthwaite of Liverpool: "three equal undivided fourth parts or shares of and in thirty one parts out of thirty two parts" in his invention of and patent for "an engine machine or instrument for cutting all kinds of fustian and other goods made or consisting of cotton silk or woollen or any mixture ..."]
31 December 1792. Manuscript indenture, ink on paper. Large folio (34.5 x 48cm) [3]pages in English, foot of p.[3] with signatures of four parties & related red wax seals, contemporary ink and embossed tax stamps in the margin, a few negligible tears along old folds (no loss of text), very good.

Dating from the heyday of the Industrial Revolution, this indenture of 31 December 1792 records the sale by the clockmaker James Brown of Pateley Bridge, York, of shares in his new invention - an "engine machine or instrument for cutting all kinds of fustian and other goods made or consisting of cotton silk or woollen or any mixture ..." The purchase by three merchants, Thomas Wilkinson of Manchester, Peter Leicester of Liverpool, and John Gouthwaite of Liverpool of "three equal undivided fourth parts or shares of and in thirty one parts out of thirty two parts" is recorded in this lengthy document together with related financial details of their agreement. Brown's machine, incorporating different types of knives and rollers, required less labour to operate than existing cutting methods.

£650

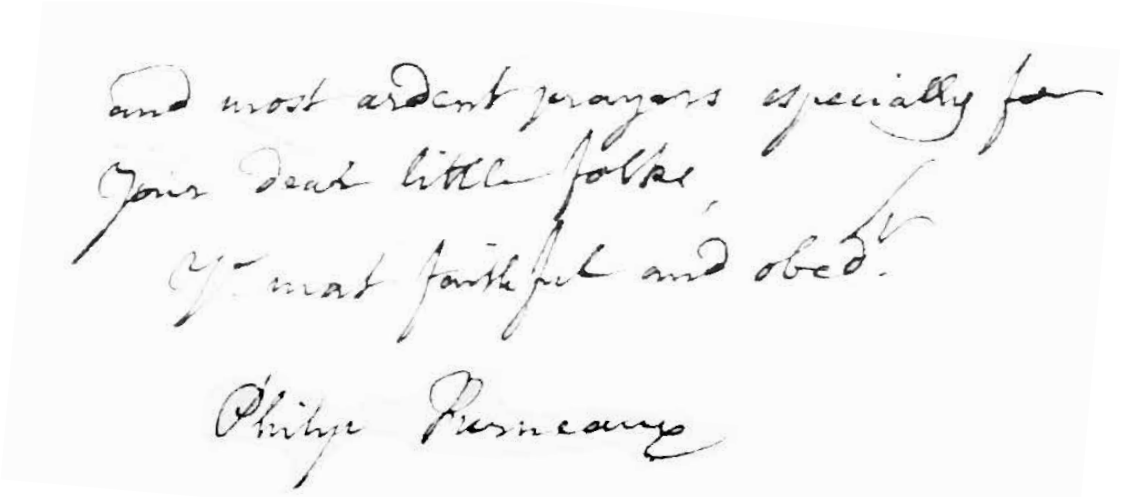


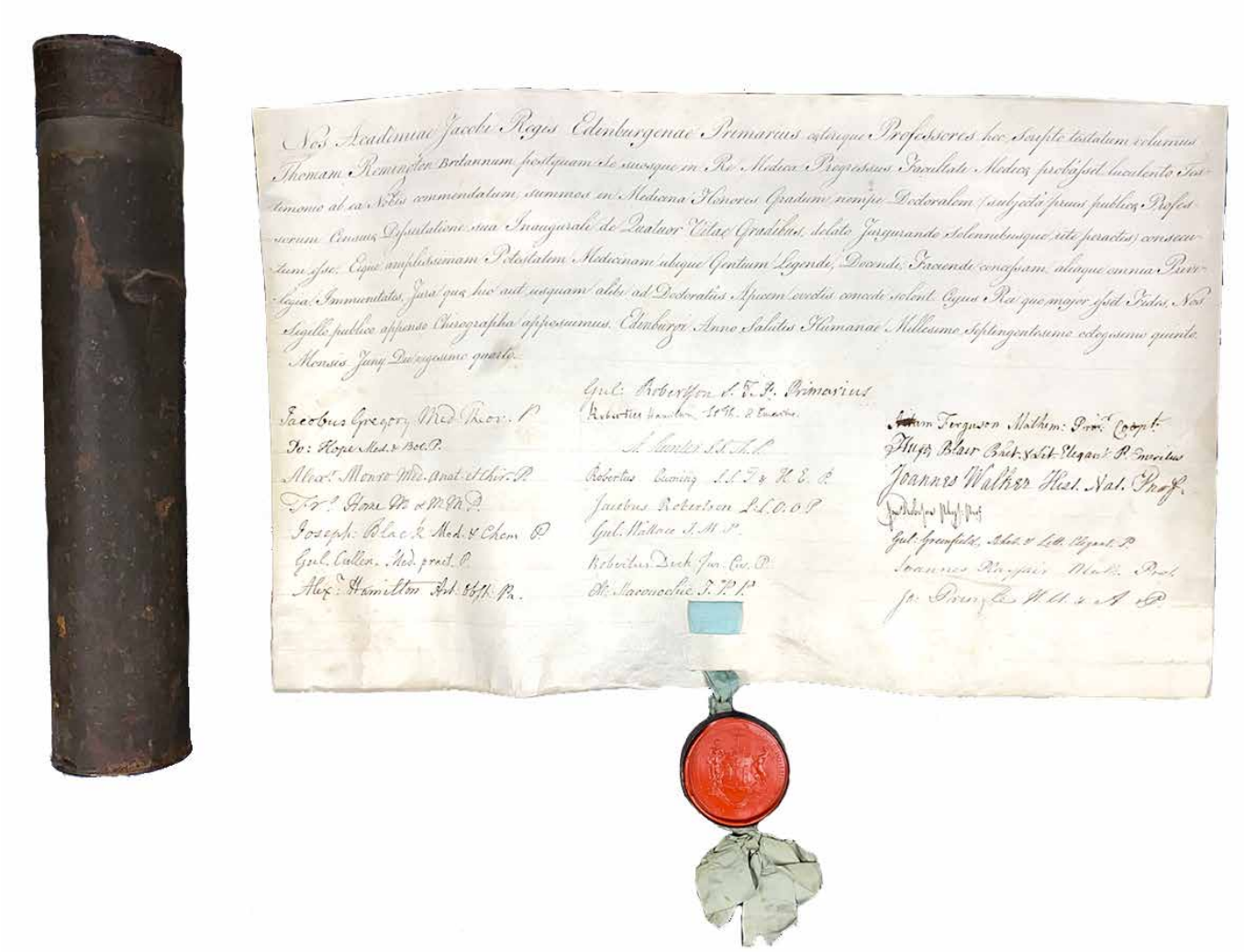
PROMINENT DISSENTING MINISTER –
AUTHOR OF AN ESSAY ON TOLERATION

41. FURNEAUX, Philip. [Autograph letter signed, to Samuel Windeatt junr., offering advice concerning the threat of prosecution of dissenting minister Mr. [Henry] Baynham of Totnes.]
Clapham, 1 May 1773. Autograph letter signed. 4to (15 x 23cm) [2] pages penned on bifolium, manuscript address panel to verso, two tears from seal opening (resulting in loss of one word but sense recoverable), small marginal tear to margin of first page (not touching text), old folds, very good.

A rare autograph letter penned by the prominent dissenting minister Philip Furneaux (1726-1783), written from Clapham 1 May 1773 during the year of publication of the work for which he is best known: *An essay on toleration: With a particular View to the late application of the Protestant dissenting ministers to Parliament, for amending, and rendering affectual, the act of the first of William and Mary, commonly called the Act of toleration* (London, 1773). The letter concerns exactly this subject – the rights of nonconformists, of which Furneaux was a leading champion. Writing to Samuel Windeatt Junr. in Totnes Furneaux offers advice on "a threatened prosecution of Mr. [Henry] Baynham", pastor of a dissenting congregation in Totnes: "I had rather if such a step should be taken, that it had proceeded from some bigot of the establishment than from any who call themselves Dissenters. Pray give my very sincere respects to Mr. Baynham, and exhort him neither to court not to fear such an event. A prosecution that is real, and not courted or procured, from whatever quarter it comes, would, I make no doubt, be the occasion of passing a very important Bill, and indeed it is the general opinion, that it will succeed on a future occasion, though to be under the execution of the penal laws would render that success more sure and speedy …" Mention is made also of plans for a visit to Devon and some family matters.

£550





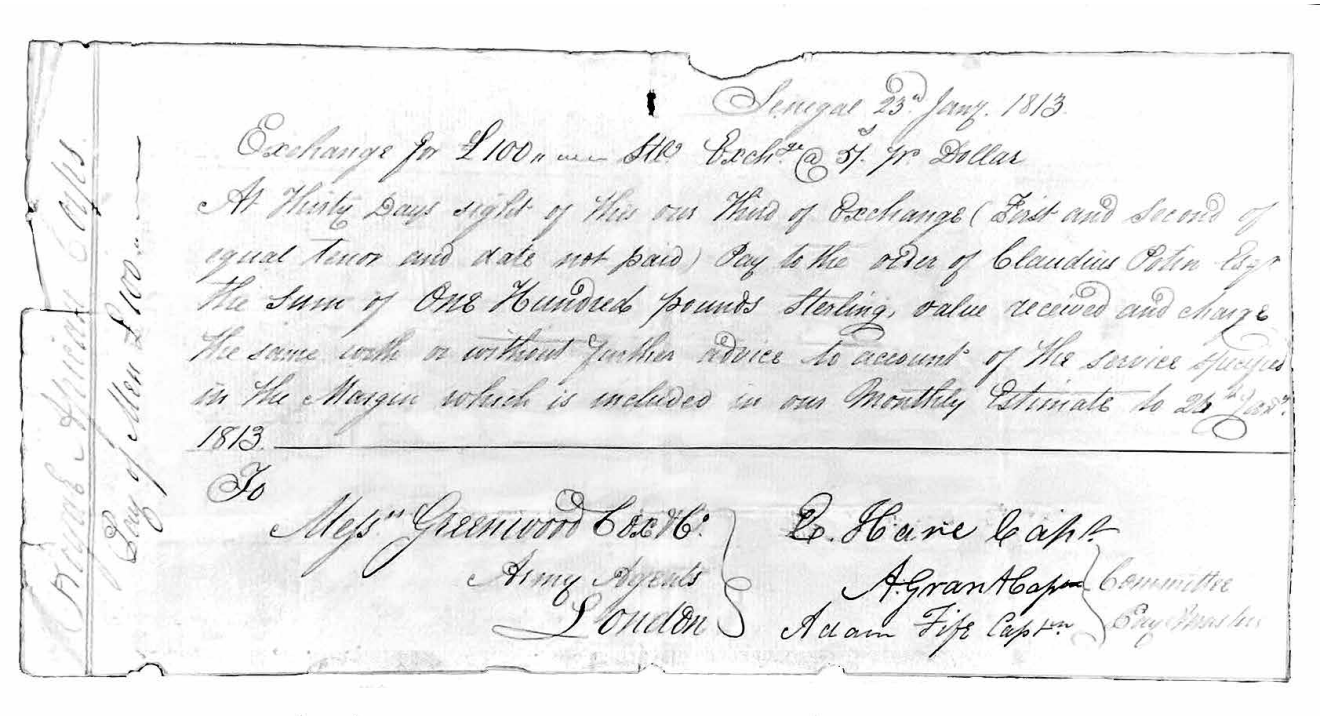
SCOTTISH ENLIGHTENMENT - EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL

42. [EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.] [Doctoral certificate in medicine issued to Thomas Remington.]

Edinburgh, 24 June 1785. Certificate, manuscript in ink on single sheet of vellum (approx. 50 x 31cm) in Latin, signatures of 22 professors & faculty members at foot, red wax armorial college seal in tin skippet appended on blue silk ribbon, very good; housed in a contemporary tin lidded tube as issued, some old patination to extremities, very good.

This doctoral certificate in medicine was issued in 1785 to Thomas Remington (d.1832). It evokes the heyday of the University of Edinburgh Medical School, renowned in the second half of the eighteenth century as the foremost medical teaching institution in the English-speaking world and one of the chief ornaments of the Scottish Enlightenment. Remington's doctoral thesis was published as *Tentamen medicum, inaugurale, de quatuor vitae gradibus* … (Edinburgh, 1785). This certificate is especially noteworthy for the twenty two signatures of Edinburgh professors and academics penned at the foot, an entire galaxy of eminent authorities, among them: James Gregory (1753-1821) physician and classicist; John Hope (1725-1786) physician and botanist; Alexander Monro secundus (1733-1817) anatomist and physician; Francis Home (1719-1813) physician and first professor of Materia Medica at the University of Edinburgh; Joseph Black (1728-1799) physician and chemist; William Cullen (1710-1790) physician and chemist; Alexander Hamilton (1739-1802) physician and obstetric surgeon; William Robertson (1721-1793) historian, cleric and Principal of Edinburgh University between 1762 and 1793; James Robertson (1714-1795) orientalist; Adam Ferguson (1723-1816) philosopher and historian; Hugh Blair (1718-1800) minister and rhetorician; John Walker (1731-1803) professor of natural history; John Robison (1739-1805) physicist and mathematician; John Playfair (1748-1819) mathematician and scientist.

£2500


Senegal 23d. Jany. 1813

Exchange for £100 Stg. Exch.e @ 5/. pr. Dollar

At Thirty Days sight of this our First of Exchange (First and Second of equal Tenor and date not paid) Pay to the Order of Claudius Potin Esqr. the Sum of One Hundred pounds Sterling, value received and charge the same with or without further advice to account of the Service specified in the Margin which is included in our Monthly Estimate to 25th Inst.

1813

To

Messrs. Greenwood Cox & Co.

Army Agents

London

E. Hare Capt.

A. Grant Capn.

Adam Fife Captn.

Committee

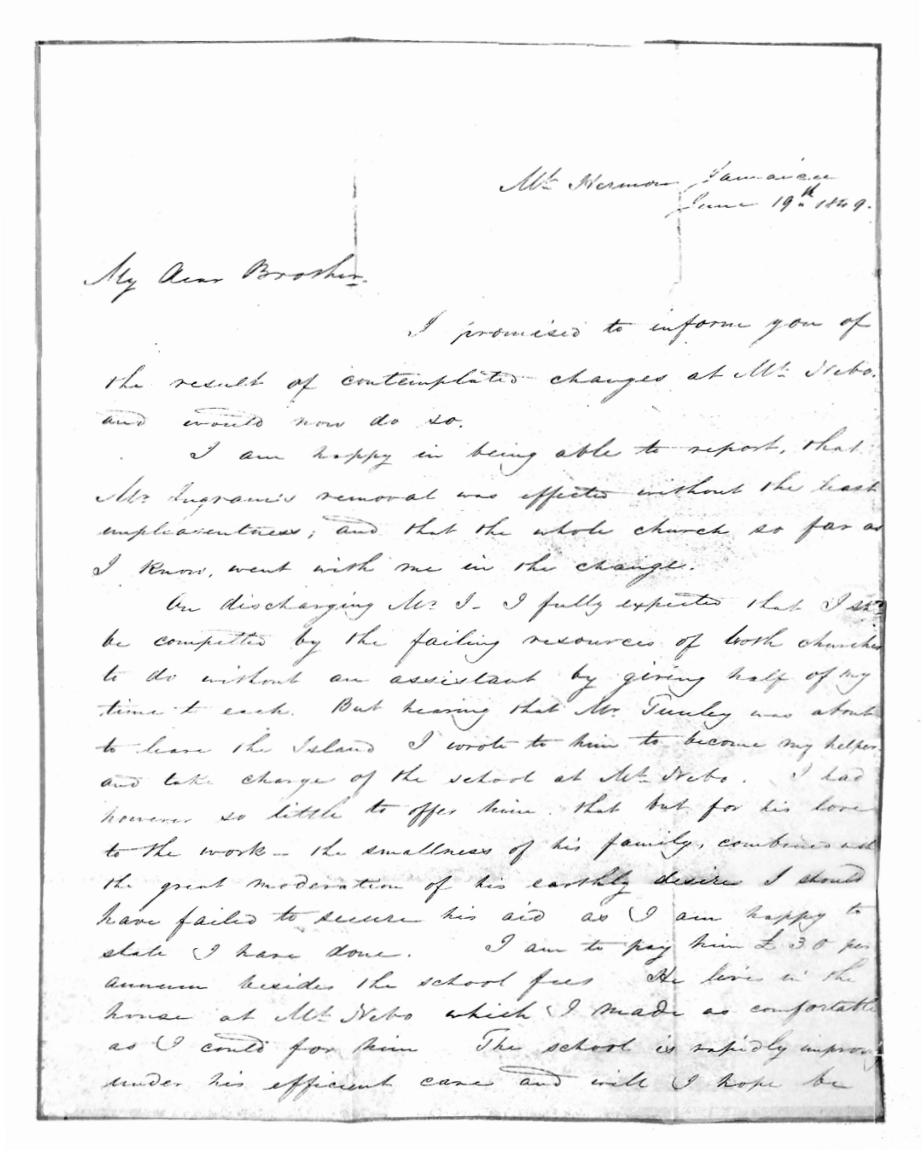
Pay Masters

ROYAL AFRICAN CORPS IN SENEGAL

43. [ROYAL AFRICAN CORPS.] [Bill of exchange on Messrs. Greenwood Cox & Co., army agents, London, for £100, to Claudius Potin, being reimbursement for pay to soldiers of the Royal African Corps in Senegal.]
Senegal, 23 July 1813. Manuscript bill of exchange, ink on single sheet of paper (approx. 26 x 13cm) signed off at foot by "E. Hare capt. A. Grant capt. Adam Fife captn." a few small marginal tears, old folds, very good.

The Royal African Corps, founded in 1804, had been raised originally as Fraser's Corps of Infantry in 1800 in order to defend the island of Goree in Senegal in West Africa, in particular against French depredation. This was a penal battalion consisting of deserters, condemned men from the prison hulks and some African soldiers, in particular freed slaves. Long an important hub of the slave trade, by the end of the eighteenth century Goree was a significant mercantile centre for trading soft commodities including peanuts and gum arabic.

£250



Mt Hermon Jamaica
June 19th 1849.

My dear Brother

I promised to inform you of the results of contemplated changes at Mt Nebo and would now do so.

I am happy in being able to report, that Mr Ingram's removal was effected without the least unpleasantness; and that the whole church so far as I know, went with me in the change.

On discharging Mr I. I fully expected that I should be compelled by the failing resources of both churches to do without an assistant by giving half of my time to each. But hearing that Mr Tunley was about to leave the Island I wrote to him to become my helper and take charge of the school at Mt Nebo. I had however so little to offer him that but for his love to the work – the smallness of his family, combined with the great moderation of his earthly desires I should have failed to secure his aid as I am happy to state I have done. I am to pay him £30 per annum besides the school fees. He lives in the house at Mt Nebo which I made as comfortable as I could for him. The school is rapidly improving under his efficient care and will I hope be

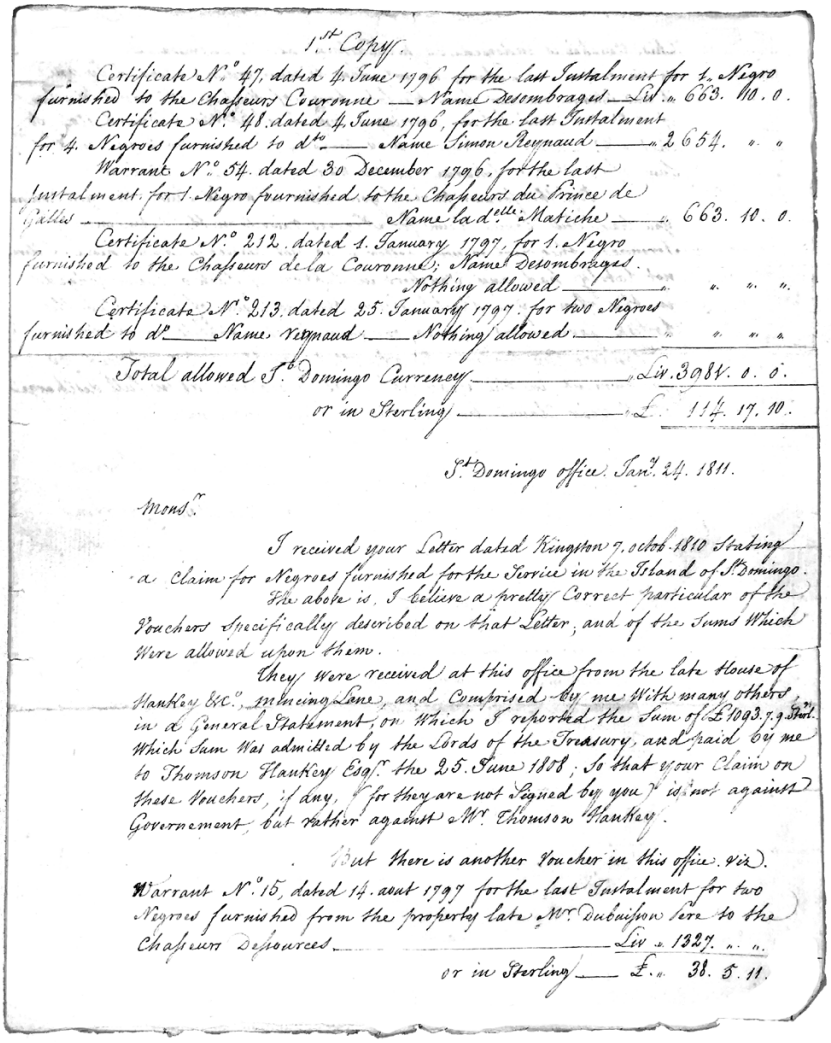
BAPTIST MISSIONARY WRITES FROM JAMAICA

44. HUME, James. [Autograph letter signed, to Revd. Joseph Angus, concerning the ministry of the Baptist missions at Mount Nebo and Mount Hermon, Jamaica.]

M[oun]t Hermon Jamaica, June 19th 1849. Autograph letter signed. 4to (20 x 25cm) [3] pages penned on bifolium, small marginal tear from seal opening touching a few letters, verso of second leaf with manuscript address panel & postal stamps & markings, old folds, very good.

Revd. James Hume writes from Jamaica 19 June 1849 to London, updating Revd. Joseph Angus, secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, with news of the progress of the Baptist churches at Mount Nebo and Mount Hermon. He notes the departure of "Mr. Ingram", the hiring of "Mr Tunley", details of the precarious financial situation, repairs and renovations to the chapels, and requests alterations to his subscriptions for missionary publications. Hume had been sent to Jamaica in 1843.

£350



1st Copy.

Certificate N° 47. dated 4. June 1796 for the last Instalment for 1. Negro furnished to the Chasseurs Couronne — Name Desomborages — Liv.s 663. 10. 0.

Certificate N° 48. dated 4. June 1796 for the last Instalment for 4. Negroes furnished to d° — Name Simon Reynaud — " 2654. " "

Warrant N° 54. dated 30 December 1796. for the last Instalment for 1. Negro furnished to the Chasseurs du Prince de Galles — Name Ladlle Matiche — " 663. 10. 0.

Certificate N° 212. dated 1. January 1797. for 1. Negro furnished to the Chasseurs de la Couronne. Name Desomborages. Nothing allowed — " " "

Certificate N° 213. dated 25. January 1797. for two Negroes furnished to d° — Name Reynaud — Nothing allowed — " " "

Total allowed St. Domingo Currency — Liv.3984. 0. 0.

or in Sterling — £ 114. 17. 10.

St. Domingo office. Jan.y 24. 1811.

Mons.r

I received your Letter dated Kingston 7. octob.r 1810 stating a claim for Negroes furnished for the Service in the Island of St. Domingo. The above is, I believe a pretty correct particular of the Vouchers specifically described on that Letter, and of the Sums which were allowed upon them.

They were received at this office from the late House of Hankey &c.o mincing Lane, and Comprised by me With many others in a General Statement, on which I reported the Sum of £1093.7.9 Sterl.g which Sum was admitted by the Lords of the Treasury, and paid by me to Thomson Hankey Esq.r the 25. June 1808; So that your Claim on these Vouchers, if any, for they are not Signed by you, is not against Government, but rather against Mr. Thomson Hankey.

But there is another Voucher in this office. viz.

Warrant N°. 15. dated 14. aout 1797 for the last Instalment for two Negroes furnished from the property late Mr. Dubuisson Sire to the Chasseurs Defources — Liv.s 1327. " "

or in Sterling — £ 38. 5. 11.

FRENCH PLANTATION OWNER CHASES BRITISH COMPANY FOR SLAVE PAYMENTS

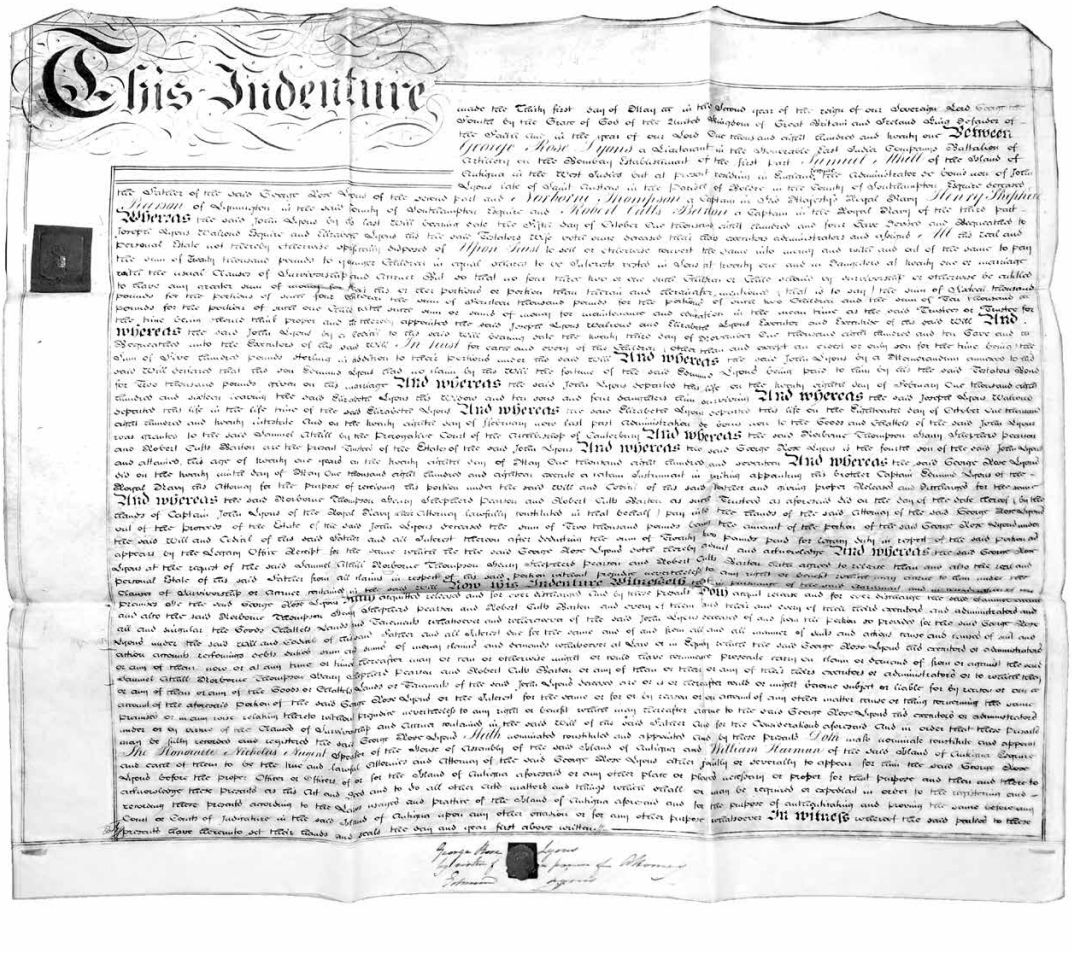
45. [SLAVE TRADE.] D'HEILLECOURT, Charles. [Autograph letter signed to P.J. Lecointe & Co. in London concerning his chasing of Thomson Hankey & Co. for repayment of monies disbursed by the British Government in payment for slaves supplied on the island of Saint-Domingue in 1796 & 1797.]

Kingston [Jamaica.] 1 May 1811. Autograph letter signed. 4to (19 x 24cm) [3]pages penned on bifolium, verso of second leaf with manuscript address panel ("Messrs. P.J. Lecointe & Co Merchts London") and related manuscript endorsements, old folds, small marginal tear from seal opening, very good.

Charles Francois De Baligand D'Heillecourt (d.1817), a French plantation owner from Lorraine, writes 1 May 1811 from Kingston, Jamaica, to the mercantile house of P.J. Lecointe in London, concerning his interests on the island of Saint-Domingue, specifically his chasing of payments from the London firm of Thomson Hankey & Co. for monies disbursed by the British Government in payment for slaves supplied on the island of Saint-Domingue in 1796 & 1797. D'Heillecourt's letter includes details of the relevant vouchers with amounts due and also a copy of the text of a letter sent to him by Matthew Martin (1748-1838), known as a natural historian and philanthropist but here writing in his capacity as an employee of the "St. Domingo Office" in London.

£450




This Indenture

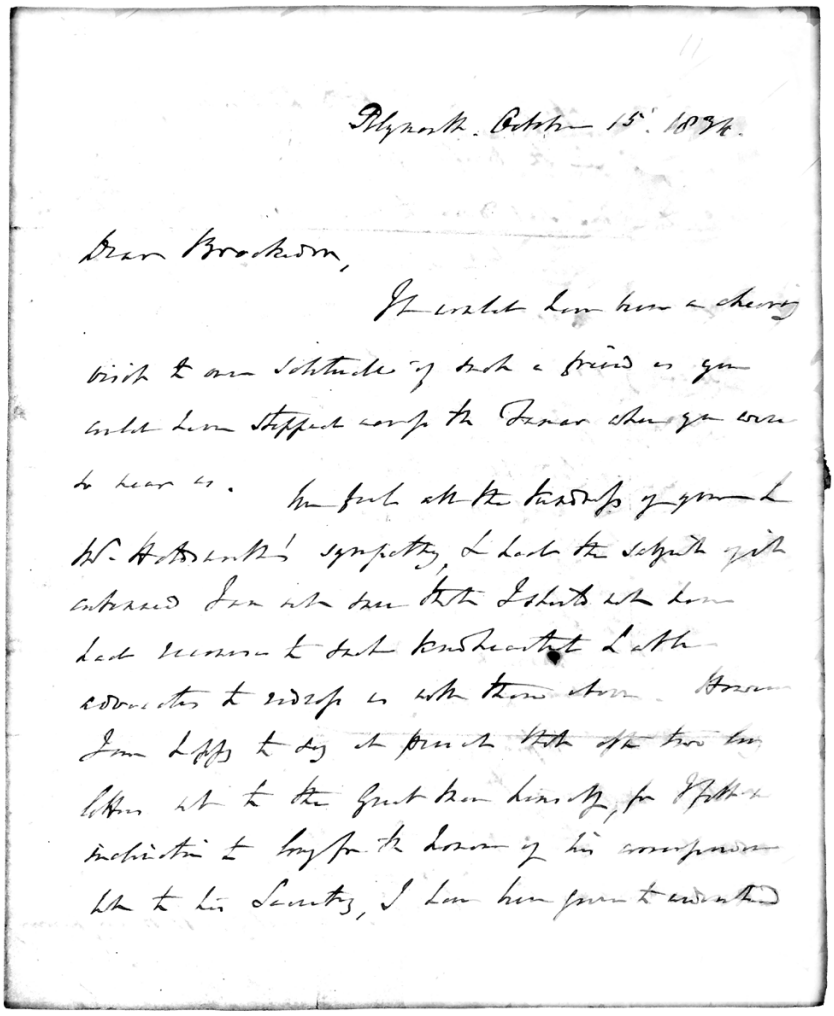
BEQUEST OF ESTATES IN ANTIGUA

46. [ANTIGUA.] [Release in respect of a portion under the will of John Lyons; George Rose Lyons, lieutenant in the East India Company's battalion of artillery on the Bombay Establishment, fourth son of John Lyons, to Samuel Athill of the Island of Antigua in the West Indies, esquire, now residing in England, administrator de bonis non of George Rose Lyons's father John Lyons of St. Austens in Boldre, Hampshire, esquire, and Norborne Thompson, captain RN, Henry Shepherd Pearson of Lymington in Hampshire, esquire, and Robert Cutts Barton, captain RN, trustees of the estate of John Lyons: £2000, charged in his father's estates in Antigua, to which George Rose Lyon is entitled under his father's will.]

[Lymington?] 3 May 1821. Manuscript indenture, ink on single sheet of vellum (approx. 72 x 60cm) in English, engraved heading "This indenture", ruled in red, contemporary blue embossed tax stamp in margin, signed at foot by Edmund Lyons (by power of attorney for George Rose Lyons), verso with signatures of witnesses B.[?] Brown, notary public, Lymington, Hampshire & clerk Charles Brown, with manuscript endorsements including recording in Antigua register Office 8 November 1821, verso with some negligible foxing, old folds, very good.

An owner of extensive sugar plantations in Antigua, the politician John Lyons (1760-1816) was father to eighteen children over the course of two marriages. George Rose Lyons (1796-1828) was one of five to enter the East India Company. This document, including details concerning the administration of the will and estates of John Lyons, bears the signature of another son, Edmund Lyons (1790-1858), naval officer and later an admiral and prominent diplomat.

£450



Plymouth. October 15th. 1834.

Dear Brockedon,

I should have been sheering with a sense of such a friend as you could have stopped even the Paper when you came to hear of. the fact of the kindness of your & Mr. Hobhouse's sympathy, & both the subjects with which I am both connected & which I should wish to discuss with you. However I am happy to say I have got the better of the first shock & am endeavouring for Mother's protection & happiness the dawn of his companion like to his Country, I am here going to work

RETURN TO TURKEY PLANNED BY PIONEERING TRAVELLER

47. ARUNDELL, Francis Vyvyan Jago. [Autograph letter signed, to the artist William Brockedon concerning Arundell's plans for an imminent return to Turkey and negotiations with publishers.]
Plymouth, 15 October 1834. Autograph letter signed. 4to (18.5 x 23cm) [4] pages on bifolium, verso of second leaf including address panel with related postal markings & remains of black wax seal, small tear from opening touching a few letters but not affecting sense, some light dusting along old folds, very good.

A rare autograph letter penned by the traveller and antiquary Francis Vyvyan Jago Arundell (1780-1846), here writing from Plymouth 15 October 1834 to the artist and inventor William Brockedon (1787-1854). In 1822 Arundell had been appointed chaplain to the British factory at Smyrna, later publishing two important accounts of his pioneering Levantine travels as A visit to the seven churches of Asia (1828) and Discoveries in Asia Minor (1834). Here Arundell outlines plans for a third trip to Turkey, also mentioning negotiations with publishers: "… I am now in a state of bewilderment as to the future course to be adopted. It is imperative for me to return to Turkey if only to arrange my affairs there … the difficulty is my poor afflicted wife. She cannot bear the idea of remaining alone in England, while I go to Smyrna, and to expose her to the miseries of a long voyage or journey … I suppose if must, a ship voyage by the steam packet to Malta … I wrote Arrowsmith some time ago, I should be very glad to hear from him about our projected map of Asia Minor … "

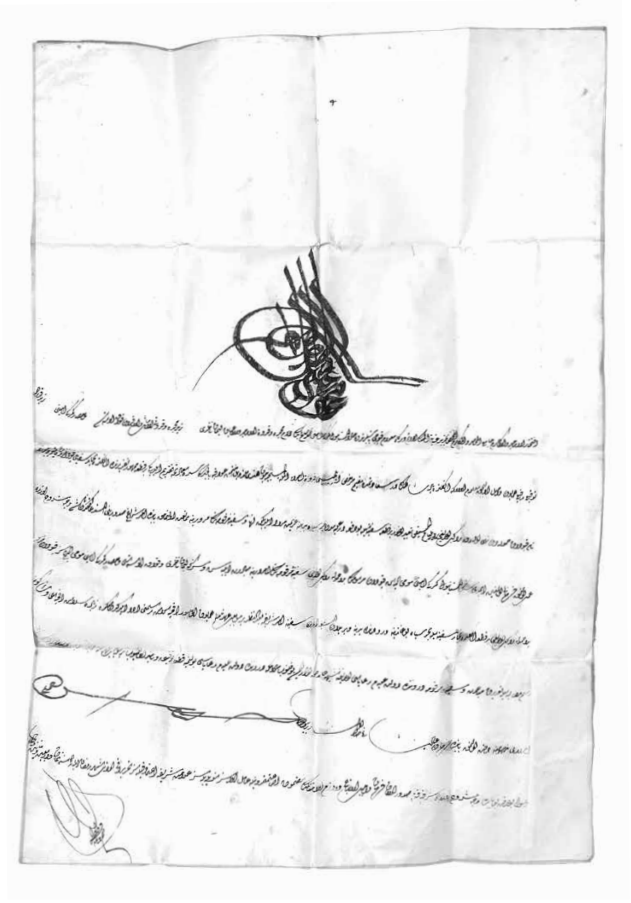
£450

OTTOMAN FIRMAN FOR ENGLISH MERCHANT SHIPPING IN THE GREEK ARCHIPELAGO

48. [LEVANT TRADE.] [Ottoman firman issued to the schooner Atalanta for sailing in the Greek Archipelago.]
[Constantinople, c.1840] Manuscript, ink on single sheet of thick laid paper (approx. 54 x 76cm) [1] page, 8 lines in Ottoman Turkish in black ink, 2 watermarks ("LAF" under eagle; crescent Moon), a few negligible dust marks, foxing to areas of blank verso, light wear along old folds, verso with contemporary ink annotations in Ottoman Turkish & English: "H. Millard-Atalanta / Archipelago", very good.

This scarce example of an Ottoman manuscript naval firman was issued for the ship Atalanta, a schooner of 112 tons, built in 1825 at Gravesend in Kent. A voyage in 1841/2 under the ownership of Elken & Co. from London to Corfu under master H. Millard is recorded in Lloyd's Register (see: Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping. From 1st July 1841 to the 30th June 1842, London, 1841, No. 1056).

£750

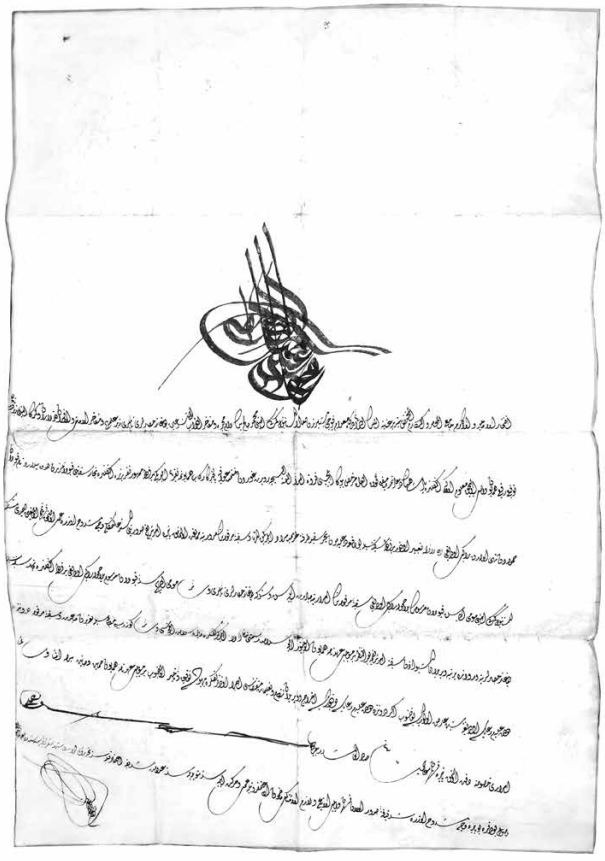


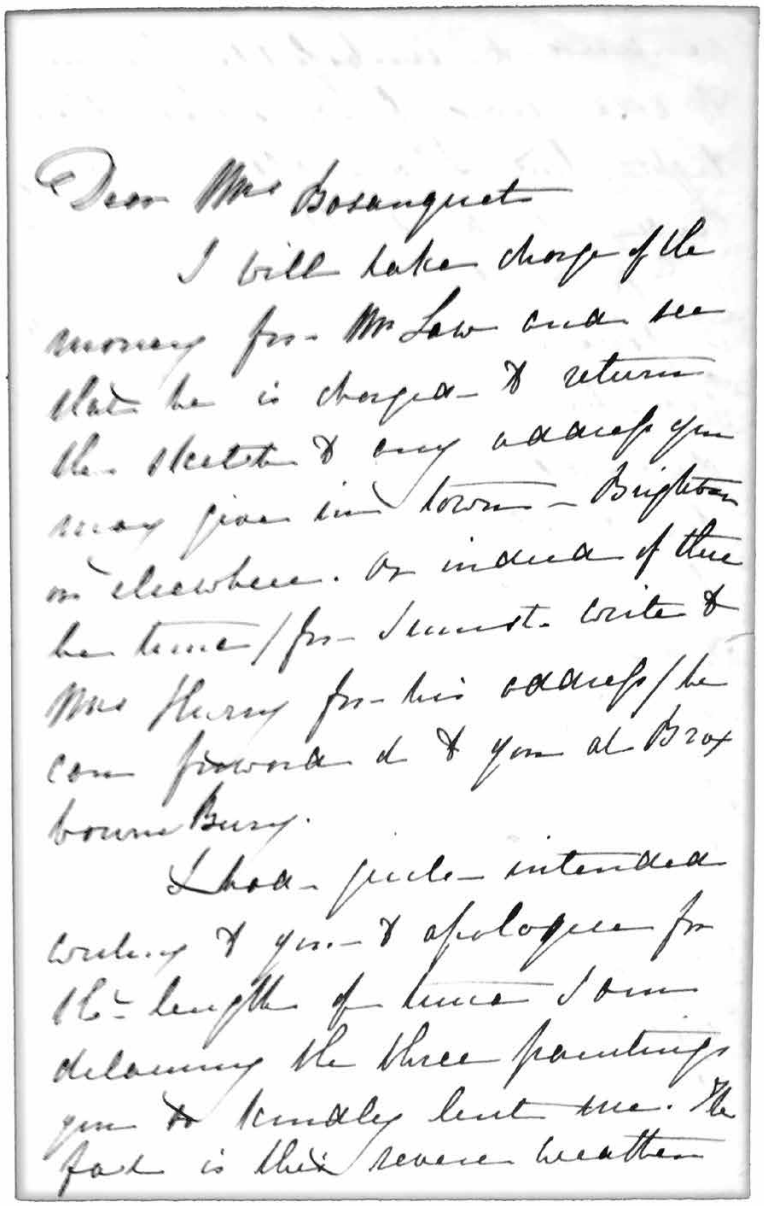
OTTOMAN FIRMAN FOR CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BULGARIA

49. [ABDÜLAZIZ.] [Ottoman firman addressed to Mehmet Akif Pasha, governor of the Vilayet of the Danube, and other officials, authorising the construction of a Catholic church in Varna, Bulgaria.]
[Constantinople, 14 September 1869.] Manuscript, ink on single sheet of thick laid paper (approx. 52 x 78cm) [1] page, 10 lines in Ottoman Turkish in black ink, watermarks including "Andrea Galvani Pordenone", negligible wear along old folds, verso with a few contemporary annotations, very good.

Issued at Constantinople 14 September 1869 in the name of Ottoman Sultan Abdülaziz (1830-1876) this Ottoman manuscript firman authorises the construction of a Catholic church in Varna, Bulgaria. Addressed to Mehmet Akif Pasha (1822-1893), governor of the Vilayet of the Danube and local officials in Varna, the firman was issued in response to requests from Christians in the locality. Varna's expansion in the second half of the nineteenth century was fuelled in part by the expansion of railway networks. Abdülaziz, a moderniser and the first Sultan to travel in western Europe, continued the Tanzimât social reforms to Ottoman society that had begun in 1839 which included efforts to improve the integration of non-Turks into Ottoman society. The Bulgarian Catholic Church, an Eastern-rite church in communion with Rome since 1859, was founded by members of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church who converted to Roman Catholicism in the 1850s. Other Ottoman firmans were granted to Bulgarian Christian denominations during this period. In February 1870 the Ottoman government issued a firman in the name of Sultan Abdülaziz to the Bulgarian Orthodox Church that established a Bulgarian Exarchate separate from control of the Greek Patriarchate of Constantinople.

£950





Dear Mrs Bosanquet

I will take charge of the money for Mr Law and see that he is charged & return the receipt & any address you may give me in town – Brighton or elsewhere. Or instead of this be time / for I must write & Mrs Henry for her address / he can forward it & you at Broxbourne Bury.

I had – pride – intended writing to you – & apologizing for the length of time I am detaining the three paintings you so kindly lent me. The fact is that I have been

PIONEER OF FEMALE EDUCATION PRAISES SCOTTISH SCHOOLING

50. ELLIS, Sarah. [Autograph letter signed, to Mrs. Bosanquet, concerning her recent visits to schools in Scotland, notably Stow's Training School at Glasgow, also the return of some pictures, progress with drawings and plans for a "soup society" for the poor.]
[Undated: c.1840?] Autograph letter signed. 8vo (11 x 17.5cm) [3 1/2] pages, very good.

A scarce example of an autograph letter penned by the prolific and influential writer, abolitionist, artist and pioneer of female education Sarah Stickney Ellis (1799-1872). Addressed to Mrs [Cecilia?] Bosanquet [of Broxbourne-Bury], Ellis begins by mentioning the return of paintings lent to her and her readiness to draw "when the frost is gone", advising that "one reason I have had less time to attend to drawing lately is that I have been … into Scotland my object being to look into some of the schools for which the country is so celebrated. You have doubtless heard of Stow's Training School at Glasgow. It is the most delightful exemplification of what popular education ought to be which can well be imagined. I wish you could see it as I think you could understand and appreciate the system …" Ellis herself established a school for young ladies, Rawdon House in Hertfordshire, to propagate her educational philosophy. Also mentioned here are plans for starting a "soup society" for the poor with her husband, the missionary William Ellis (1794-1872).

£450