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Twenty Years of Exhibits: A Rare Book Room Retrospective

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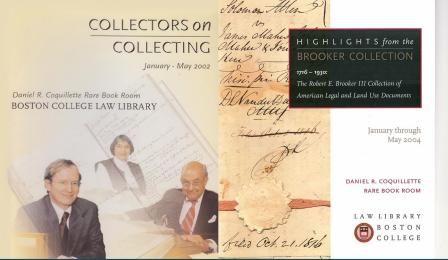
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KITTY PREYER AND HER BOOKS

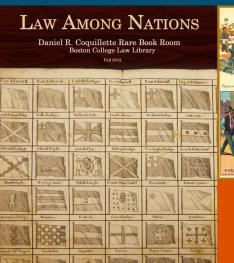


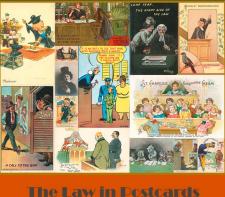
DANIEL R. COQUILLETTE RARE BOOK ROOM BOSTON COLLEGE LAW LIBRARY

TWENTY YEARS OF EXHIBITS: A RARE BOOK ROOM RETROSPECTIVE



Daniel R. Coquillette Rare Book Room Boston College Law Library Spring 2016





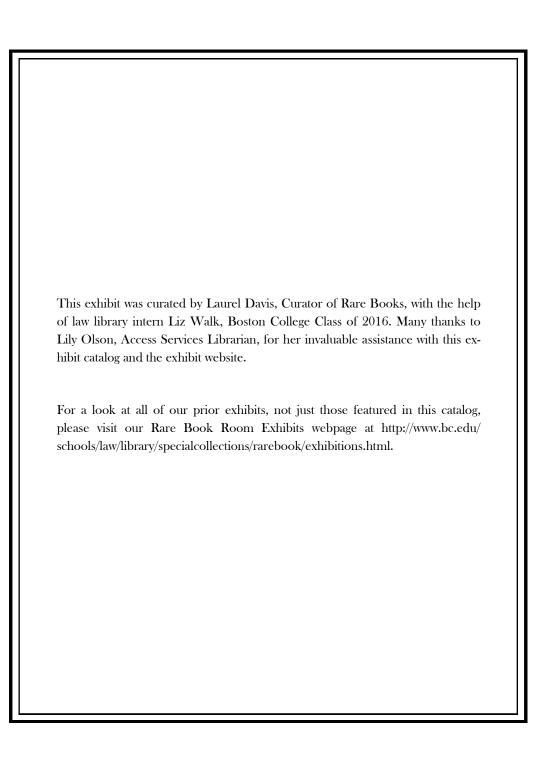


TWENTY YEARS OF EXHIBITS: A RARE BOOK ROOM RETROSPECTIVE

Boston College Law Library

Daniel R. Coquillette Rare Book Room

Spring 2016



TWENTY YEARS OF EXHIBITS: A RARE BOOK ROOM RETROSPECTIVE

The Boston College Law Library, as it currently stands, was completed in 1996 and dedicated in October of that year. Within its walls, tucked into a beautiful, climate-controlled space, was the Daniel R. Coquillette Rare Book Room. The Rare Book Room was dedicated a bit earlier than the library as a whole, with an inaugural exhibit and celebration on May 29, 1996.

The core of our beautiful collection, with its focus on recreating the libraries of real working lawyers in America and England, was donated over a span of years by our own Daniel R. Coquillette, J. Donald Monan, S.J., University Professor. Today, the collection is used in classes such as Professor Coquillette's Anglo-American Legal History course and Professor Mary Bilder's American Legal History course to provide students with a tangible means of examining the centuries-long relationship between lawyers and their books.

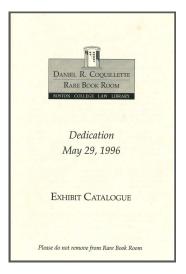
Through these courses and exhibits, students and other visitors are encouraged to think critically about what the physical object can tell us: how did lawyers engage with these texts? What can we learn from marginal notes and other annotations? What do the size and other physical characteristics of a given book tell us about its value and utility to practitioners? What does the provenance of a particular book tell us? Will there be a similar historical record for the practice tools and habits of 20th and 21st century lawyers?

As the twenty-year anniversary approaches, we could not pass up the opportunity to look back at the exhibits that have been housed in this beautiful space. This is only a small sampling of the exhibits (much less the books within them!) that have been on display since the dedication of the Rare Book Room. However, our hope is that this retrospective exhibit instills in visitors a sense of the

richness of our collection and of the hard work and collaborations that have made these exhibits possible over the past two decades.

Most of the book descriptions here are taken directly or adapted with a few changes from the original exhibit catalogs.



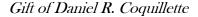


The first Rare Book Room exhibit was mounted for the 1996 dedication. It featured books that had been a part of the library collection and that had been moved into the Rare Book Room upon its completion; it also featured recent gifts from Professor Coquillette. One part of the exhibit focused on rare books related to the English civilians (early English specialists in Roman and civil law) and the Doctors' Commons used in Professor Coquillette's scholarship; the other part featured rare books used in the scholarship of BC Law professors.

John Cowell, The Interpreter of Words and Terms, Used Either in the Common or Statute Laws of This Realm. London, 1701.

The Interpreter is perhaps the most famous law dictionary in English legal history. It is believed that Cowell chose the dictionary device to explore civilian ideas because it seemed a non-inflammatory vehicle for expressing ideas. The book, however, created a massive outcry. Some of the definitions written by Cowell were deemed offensive, including "King", "Parliament", "Admirall", and

"Prerogative of the King". Common lawyers believed that Cowell was advocating that the King held absolute power and was above the law. Cowell, for example, seemed to imply that the two great writs for restricting ecclesiastical and conciliar court jurisdiction were no longer necessary. Ultimately, the book was suppressed and many copies were burned. Nevertheless, *The Interpreter* became extremely popular, going through more than twelve editions before 1727. In addition to creating a table of English kings and queens, an early owner of our copy wrote out words and definitions omitted in Cowell's work.





Institutiones Imperiales. Paris, 1507.

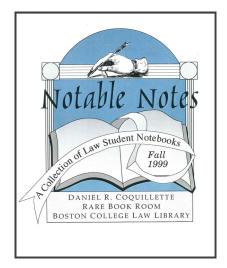
The most famous text of the Roman law—and thus of great significance to the English civilians—was actually an elementary law textbook ("institutiones") authorized by the Emperor Justinian (483-565). This beautiful edition of Justinian's *Institutes* is displayed open to an illustration showing bishops on the left and the ermine-cloaked civil authorities on the right. The ruler sits in the middle with the symbols of power—the sword in his right hand, indicating secular authority, and the orb in his left hand, indicating the world dominated by Christianity. The cross above the orb



indicates that the ruler in this picture is a Christian emperor—either the Holy Roman Emperor or perhaps even Justinian. The associated text describes the secular and religious power of the ruler.

Gift of Daniel R. Coquillette





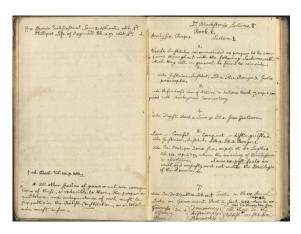
Notable Notes was on display in the fall of 1999 and featured a variety of law student notebooks from the Litchfield Law School, Harvard Law School, Boston University Law School, and many others. It was produced by Karen S. Beck, former Curator of Rare Books at the BC Law Library and now Manager of Historical and Special Collections at the Harvard Law School Library; Mary Sarah Bilder, Professor of Law; Sharon Hamby O'Connor, Professor Emeritus and former Director of the BC Law Library; Joan Shear, Legal Infor-

mation Librarian & Lecturer in Law; and Ann Fattori, now Application Administrator for IT Services at Boston College. Ann also created the catalog.

Anonymous, Lecture Notes from William Blackstone's Law Lectures at Oxford. Four volumes. Oxford, 1764-1766.

This lovely vellum-bound set of handwritten notes was compiled by one of Blackstone's students. In 1756, Blackstone anonymously published his *An Anal-*

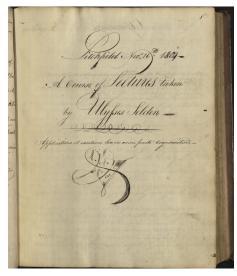
ysis of the Laws of England, which was an outline of his lectures. These notebooks show how closely Blackstone tracked that outline in class. He regularly provided citations to legal works that illustrated his point, and the student took careful note of these references.



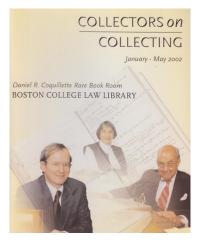
Ulysses Selden, *Litchfield Law School Notebooks*. Three volumes. Litchfield, CT, 1802-1809.

Founded by lawyer Tapping Reeve, the Litchfield Law School existed in a small one-room building from 1784 until it closed in 1833. Reeve and James Gould, who came on as an instructor in 1788, lectured on contracts, property, domestic relations, and more. Selden would have recopied the notes he took in class to create this fair copy, which he then had bound and probably regularly referenced as a practitioner.

Gift of Edward R. Leahy, BCLS '71



CABINET 3



Collectors on Collecting was on exhibit in the spring of 2002; it was curated by Karen Beck, Mary Bilder, and Ann Fattori. It featured loans from a variety of collectors of both legal and non-legal materials, including the late Morris Cohen, Dan Coquillette, Edward R. Leahy (BCLS '71), BU law professor David Seipp, and the collectors featured below. To learn more about the collectors who participated, visit the Collectors on Collecting exhibit webpage on our law library website.

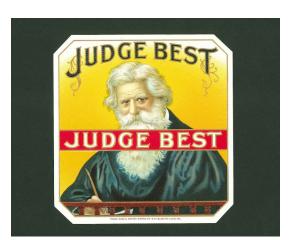
James Parker, Conductor Generalis, Or, The Office, Duty and Authority of Justices of the Peace. New York, 1788.

Discussing the importance of this book, Kitty Preyer explained that "[t]he office of justice of the Peace was central to the English system of justice and equally important in the American colonies. Such legal manuals as this one set out the duties of the justices and supplied forms necessary to their work such as those for recognizances and warrants. An important and popular genre, the manuals were based on English sources and included relevant local statutes. I was delighted to find this post-Revolution copy still in its 'frontier' binding."

Gift of Kathryn "Kitty" Prever

An Example of Cigar Art. Judge Best. American, circa 1880-1900.

Collector Michael H. Hoeflich explained that "Victorian America held the legal profession in high esteem. The image of a (fictitious or real) judge or lawyer called to mind qualities of wealth, sobriety, diligence, and learning. As such, images of lawyers and judges were commonly used in advertising luxury items for sale to men...The high status of the legal profession and the sale of cigars both reached their peaks in the late nineteenth century, making law-related cigar art quite common. Cigar box labels featuring glorious color and rich embossing were produced by chromolithography. 'Judge Best' invites the potential cigar smoker to try the cigar that he will most likely 'judge best' among all others."



Gift of Michael H. Hoeflich

Stewart Kyd, A Treatise on the Law of Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. Albany, 1800.

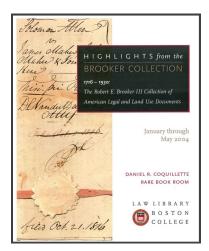
Kyd's treatise was quite different from the other major work on bills of exchange by Sir John Bayley. Where Bayley gave either bare black letter law, or black letter law along with notes to supporting case law, Kyd did a very good job of weaving together the statement of rules and principles with the rationales for the rules given in the decision. Professor Rogers notes that his copy includes notes on the rear flyleaf by a later owner, Daniel Ricketson, who listed the "law books used during my studentship" (including Blackstone, Kent, Comyn on Contracts, Sto-



ry on Bailments, etc.). Ricketson also writes that "these and other works were read in a desultory fashion and with little profit." Rogers points out that he evidently felt guilty about those words as soon as he had written them, for he added a caret inserting the word "consequently" before "with little profit" so that his lack of intellectual reward could be attributed to his "desultory" habits rather than the books themselves.

Description and generous loan from James S. Rogers, Professor of Law

CABINET 4



This exhibit featured highlights from a very special gift of documents and manuscripts generously donated to the law library by Robert E. Brooker III. The collection features approximately 2,500 documents and manuscripts, all currently being digitized. Focused primarily on New England and spanning two centuries, the Brooker Collection provides abundant opportunity for the study of early American land use and transfers, law and legal systems, town governance, family matters and daily life. The ex-

hibit was curated by Karen Beck and on display during the spring of 2004.

#0905 Jury Summons. Clinton County, New York, 1816.

This summons for jury service out of Clinton County, New York was issued in May 1816. The case involves a plea of trespass on the case brought by Robert Martin against William Beaumont, administrator of the estate of Samuel Beaumont.

Gift of Robert E. Brooker III

#1030 Acknowledgement of Debt. Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 1738.

In this document, the widow G. Elisabeth Harris acknowledges an obligation in the amount of 80 pounds to the executor of her deceased husband's estate. The collection includes at least six documents involving this family. Elisabeth never learned to write; she simply made an "x" besides the phrase "Elisabeth Harris her mark".

Gift of Robert E. Brooker III

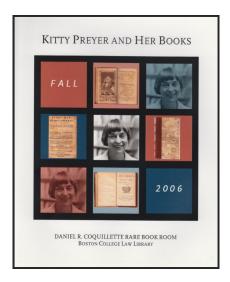
#2019 Indentured Servant Contract. Shawangunck, New York, 1797.

The town's Overseers of the Poor and one Nicholas Hoffman agreed that a pauper, Benjamin Evans, would be bound to Hoffman until age 21 in exchange for "meat drink apparel washing and lodging, and other things necessary and fit for such an apprentice." In exchange for his service, Hoffman promised to provide for young Benjamin such that the boy would not "become in any wise a Charge to the said Town Shawangunck."

Gift of Robert E. Brooker III



CABINET 5



In 2005, Kathryn Conway ("Kitty") Preyer bequeathed her magnificent collection of early English and American law books to the law library. A noted historian of American jurisprudence, Kitty was Professor of History at Wellesley College, where she taught American history from 1955 to 1990. This exhibit, on display in the fall of 2006, was curated by Karen Beck, with contributions by Bob Preyer, Filippa Anzalone, Mary Bilder, Morris Cohen, Dan Coquillette, and John Gordan. Ann Fattori designed the catalog.

Michael Dalton, *The Countrey Justice*. London, 1635.

Many local justices of the peace had to perform their duties in small villages, where there was not much legal training. Dalton wrote his work "for the better help of such Justices of Peace as have not been much conversant in the studie of the Lawes of this Realme." Kitty's gift included multiple editions of this title. This early English edition features a striking engraved title page.

Gift of Kathryn "Kitty" Preyer



Giles Jacob, Every Man His Own Lawyer, Or A Summary of the Laws of England in a New and Instructive Method. London, 1736.

In 2002, Kitty wrote that titles such as this "illustrate an appealing new genre in law publishing, the self-help manual. Jacob, a prolific compiler of practical works for lay readers, saw his publications as a way to preserve English liberty through a common understanding of the law." This is the first English edition; Kitty's bequest also included the first American edition. Jacob was one of the authors of legal texts who fascinated Kitty most.



Gift of Kathryn "Kitty" Preyer

Cesare Beccaria, An Essay on Crimes and Punishments. London, 1767.

One of the first titles that Kitty purchased as a collector, Beccaria's work was read by Washington, Adams, and Jefferson and influenced their thinking about crime and punishment in early America. Kitty owned early English, American and French editions. This is the first English edition.

Gift of Kathryn "Kitty" Preyer

THE DANIEL R. COQUILLETTE RAREBOOK ROOM

THE MICHAELH. HOEFLICH COLLECTION OF ROMAN LAW BOOKS - SPRING 2011

AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO THE EXHIBIT

In December 2009, Michael H. Agolin, Medich, John H. & John M. Kan Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Klassas School of Law, donated his fine collection of amiquarian and modern scholar in many areas of law and legal scholar in many areas of law and legal bibliography, including legal history, comparatuse law, ethics, contract, and the history of law book possible Agolin Contract of the Contrac

Dating from 1536, Professor Hoefikait; collection of nearly 500 distinctions of nearly 500 distinctions on Roman, civil, and canon law in Lain, German, French, and English. The collection is both broad and deep, reflecting his knowledge of and passion for Roman law.



us at the Boston College Law School and Law Library are profoundly grateful to Professor Hoefisch for his generous donation. This gift dovetals with our strong holdings in Anglo-American and early international law, and complements previous gifts in these areas by Daniel R. Coquillene and Kathur Kim' Prever.

The books on display in this room include a selection of the rare and antiquarian titles from Professor, Hoghkhig collection. The exhibit begins in the first wall cobinet (labeled Cabinet II) and continues clockwise around the room, ending with the large wooden horizontal exhibit case to the right of the entrance door.

The exhibition was curated by Karen Beck, Curator of Rare Books / Collection Development Librarian. It will be on view through early June 2011. Some of the This exhibit from the spring of 2011 was curated by Karen Beck and featured books from a generous donation by Michael H. Hoeflich, John H. & John M. Kane Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Kansas School of Law. Dating from 1536, Professor Hoeflich's collection of nearly 300 titles includes both seminal and lesser-known works on Roman, civil, and canon law in Latin, German, French, and English. The collection is broad and deep, reflecting his knowledge of and passion for Roman law, bibliography, and the bookmaker's art.

Cornelii van Bynkershoek, *Observationum Juris Romani Libri Quatuor*. Leiden, 1735.

The gift included many important texts on Roman law by preeminent European jurists from the 16th-19th centuries, including Jacques Cujas, Jacques Godefroy, and Arnold Vinnius. Van Bynkershoek's work was a standard text on Roman and civil law at Dutch universities for over a century.

Gift of Michael H. Hoeflich

Decretales Epistolae Summorum Pontificum a Gregorio Nono Pontifice Maximo Collectae. Paris, 1550.

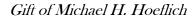
Professor Hoeflich's gift included important canon law books, as well as works

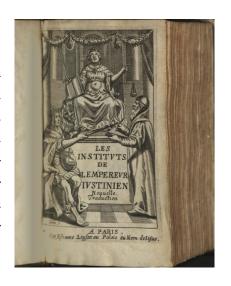
on Roman and civil law. This book represents an important component of the body of canon law known as the Corpus Iuris Canonici: it is a collection of the decretals or papal decisions promulgated under Pope Gregory IX in 1234.

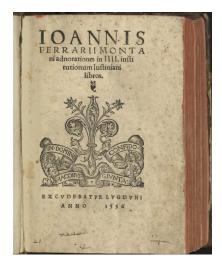
Gift of Michael H. Hoeflich

Les Instituts De L'Empereur Justinien. 2d ed. Paris, 1669.

The Institutes is a small textbook of Roman law designed for use by students; it is broken into three sections or "books": persons, things, and actions. Along with the Code (imperial legislation), the Digest (writings of Roman jurists), and the Novels (later imperial legislation), it is part of the great body of law known as the Corpus Iuris Civilis, the great achievement of the Emperor Justinian (483-565).



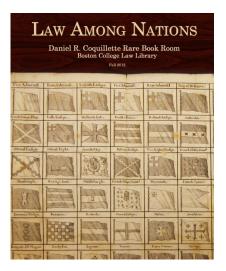




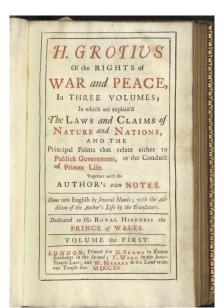
Johannes Ferrarius, *Ioannis Ferrarii Montani* Adnotationes in *IIII. Institutionum Iustiniani* Libros. Lyon, 1536.

This rare edition of The Institutes is among the oldest books in Professor Hoeflich's gift. The commentary in this edition is from German jurist, Johannes Ferrarius. Its ornamental title page features the name of the printer, Jacob Giunta.

Gift of Michael H. Hoeflich



Law Among Nations was curated by Laurel Davis, Legal Information Librarian & Lecturer in Law and Curator of Rare Books. Lily Olson, Access Services Librarian, created the catalog. It was on display during the fall of 2012 and examined the history of the literature on international law through our collection. The exhibit started with Roman law and the concept of *jus gentium*, moved to the medieval canonists, and then looked at the works of Francisco Suárez, Alberico Gentili, Hugo Grotius, Emer de Vattel, and many more.



Hugo Grotius, Of The Rights of War and Peace. London, 1715. Three volumes.

This is a beautiful edition of the most famous work from Dutch humanist Hugo Grotius (1583-1645). It was the first relatively comprehensive treatise on the law of nations, dealing with the laws of war and peacemaking and also treaty law and diplomatic law. The work had enormous influence on the ethical and legal thought of the 17th and 18th centuries. It is the source of Grotius's reputation as the "father of international law".

Gift of Daniel R. Coquillette

Christian Wolff, Jus Gentium Methodo Scientifica Pertractatum (Law of Nations Treated According to Scientific Method). Halle An Der Saale (Germany), 1749.

Wolff (1679-1754) was a German philosopher and deep believer in the importance of natural law, but he is notable, like Zouche and Bynkershoek, in his insistence on the importance of positive law in the law among nations.

Gift of Michael H. Hoeflich

Charles Molloy, De Jure Maritimo Et Navali (Treatise of Affairs Maritime and of Commerce). London, 1707.

Molloy's famous treatise, which went through many editions in multiple languages, was a standard work on international, commercial and maritime law, even eclipsing John Selden's *Mare Clausum* as the authority on workaday maritime matters, such as bills of exchange and insurance issues. A magnificent symbolic illustration precedes the title page.





CABINET 8



This 2013 exhibit was curated by Laurel Davis; the catalog was designed by Laurel Davis and Lily Olson, Access Services Librarian. It celebrated a spectacular gift of books by and about English lawyer, scientist, and philosopher Francis Bacon from our own Daniel R. Coquillette, J. Donald Monan, S.J., University Professor. The exhibit aimed to illustrate the depth and breadth of Francis Bacon's intellect and the richness of his bibliography. This is a very small sampling of the magnificent Bacon collection.

Francis Lord Verulam, Viscount S. Alban, The Historie of Life and Death. With Observations Naturall and Experimentall for the Prolonging of Life. London, 1638.

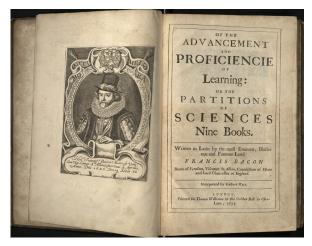
Bacon was long obsessed with immortality and viewed the achievement of the prolongation of life as one of the "true ends of knowledge." The captions to the illustrations in the four corners of the gorgeous half-title page are "Art can flay Nature's decay"; "Let time Looke on this booke"; "To death all..."; "At last fall."

Gift of Daniel R. Coquillette



Francis Bacon, Of the Advancement and Proficiencie of Learning: or The Partitions of Sciences Nine Books. London, 1674.

The first part of this work lays out Bacon's view of the value of knowledge; he insisted that knowledge was not dangerous or sacrilegious but rather useful and divine. The second part moves into the ways in which true



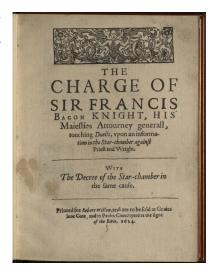
knowledge should be sought and secured, namely by devoting more money, personnel, and facilities (including libraries and good editions of books!) to contemporary education.

Gift of Daniel R. Coquillette

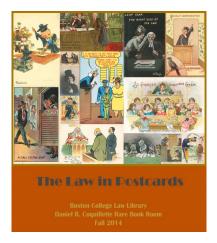
The Charge of Sir Francis Bacon Knight, His Majesties Attourney Generall, Touching Duells... London, 1614.

Bacon became attorney-general in 1613, and one of his first tasks was to abolish the practice of dueling. In this speech to Parliament, he proposed that offenders be prosecuted in the Star Chamber, arguing that "men of birth and quality will leave the practice when it begins to be vilified, and come so low as to barber-surgeons and butchers, and such base mechanical persons."

Gift of Daniel R. Coquillette



CABINET 9



The Law in Postcards exhibit was on display in the fall of 2014 and was curated by Laurel Davis, who created the catalog with assistance from Lily Olson. The exhibit featured highlights from a collection of legal postcards donated by Professor Michael H. Hoeflich. The cards were the basis of his book, *The Law in Postcards and Legal Ephemera 1890-1962* (The Lawbook Exchange, 2012). In the book, Professor Hoeflich pulls out certain themes and trends that manifest themselves in the collection—cards involving

animals, kids, holidays, love, money, advertising, and more. Here are a few of our favorites on love and divorce.



"I am holding my own counsel." Inter-Art Co, Southampton House, London; "Pastel" Series, No. 161. England.

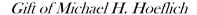
The theme of romantic love—or at least attraction—pops up frequently in the postcards. Many feature wordplay involving legal terms. Several suggest a relation-

ship between lawyer and client that would be much frowned upon under modern rules of professional responsibility!

Gift of Michael H. Hoeflich

"A £ 150 Snapshot." Illustrator: H. F[...]; The Sar Series-G.D. & D., London. Postmark 1920.

The flip side of love? In the law, divorce. Many cards in the collection address issues around the demise of a marriage. One recurring theme involves securing evidence in order to obtain a divorce. Until recently, most jurisdictions required some sort of fault—such as adultery—by one of the parties, leading to the hiring of private investigators to capture evidence of infidelity. This is still common in the United Kingdom where no-fault divorce is not recognized.





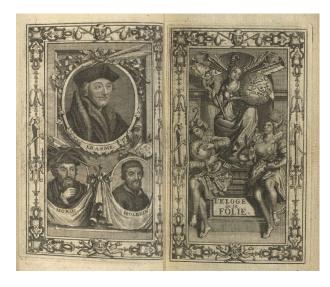
CABINET 10

The 2007 exhibit on our Saint Thomas More collection was curated by Karen Beck, former Curator of Rare Books, with assistance from then-law library fellow, Laurel Davis, BC Law Class of 2006. The More Collection was purchased by the law school in 1961 from the estate of Arthur Brown. It contains approximately 100 titles focused on the life and work of St. Thomas More, patron saint of lawyers.



Thomas More, *De Optimo Reip. Statu, Deque Noua Insula Utopia...* Basel, 1518.

This beautiful book is a very early edition of *Utopia*, More's 1515 novel in which the fictional traveler Raphael Hythloday describes the political arrangements of the imaginary island nation of Utopia. This edition features many engravings, including those shown here on the title page, which are taken from designs by Hans Holbein. Annotations by an early owner are sprinkled throughout the book and on the title page.



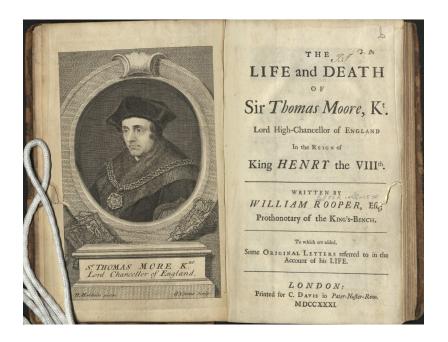
Desiderius Erasmus, L'Eloge de la Folie. Amsterdam, 1728.

Erasmus was a Dutch humanist and scholar and a close friend of More's. This beautifully bound copy of his most famous work, *In Praise of Folly*, is opened to two engravings which precede the title page. One shows three miniature portraits of Erasmus, More and the artist Hans Holbein. The other is a visual represen-

tation of Folly and the seven deadly sins. The book is replete with similarly magnificent engravings by Holbein.

William Roper, Life and Death of Sir Thomas More, KT. London, 1731.

Roper was More's son-in-law and his earliest biographer. This biography was written around 1555 but first published in 1626. Married to More's beloved eldest daughter, Margaret, Roper spent a great deal of time with More, living with his wife in the family home for more than sixteen years.



20 YEARS OF EXHIBITS: THE COMPLETE LIST

- ◆ Exploring Magna Carta (Spring 2015)
- The Law in Postcards (Fall 2014)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Spring 2014)
- Francis Bacon: Of Law, Science, & Philosophy (Fall 2013)
- The Michael H. Hoeflich Collection of Roman Law Books (Spring 2013)
- ♦ The Law Among Nations (Fall 2012)
- The Golden Age of Massachusetts Legal Publishing (Fall 2011)
- The Michael H. Hoeflich Collection of Roman Law Books (Spring 2011)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Fall 2010)
- The Correspondence of Lemuel Shaw (Virtual Exhibit)
- Books and Their Covers: Decorative Bindings, Beautiful Books (Spring 2010)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Fall 2009)
- Legal Ephemera in the Daniel R. Coquillette Rare Book Room (Virtual Exhibit)
- A Law Student Collects: Simon Greenleaf and Michael Morales (Spring 2009)
- "A Little Library": The Private Law Library of Frank Williams Oliver (Fall 2008)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Spring 2008)
- A Brief History of Anglo-American Case Reporting, 1272-1885 (Virtual Exhibit)

- The St. Thomas More Collection (Fall 2007)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Spring 2007)
- ♦ Kitty Preyer and Her Books (Fall 2006)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Spring 2005)
- The Brooker Collection of Legal and Land Use Documents (Spring 2004)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Fall 2003)
- Our Anglo-American Legal Heritage (Spring 2003)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Fall 2002)
- ♦ Collectors on Collecting (Spring 2002)
- Recent Additions to the Collection (Fall 2001)
- The History of the Casebook (Summer 2001)
- Notable Notes: A Collection of Law Student Notebooks (Fall 1999)
- Law & Order Made Amusing: A Selection of Law Books from the Collection of Morris L. Cohen (Spring 1998)

Links to all exhibits may be found on our Rare Book Room website.

