

Just before the Glorious Revolution

1. **[ANON]. PRINCE GEORGE'S LETTER TO THE KING ...** The Lord Churchill's Letter to the King. [No place, printer or date, i. e. London, 1688]. **£ 450**

Folio (35.8 x 22.3 cm); entirely uncut; one marginal spot, central fold with repaired tear.

One of two editions of this broadside published in the same year (the other edition prints the two letters in two columns) containing letters regarding the Popish threat coming from the Continent. The first letter transcribes the text of Prince George of Denmark to his father-in-law James II of England, hinting that he might give up his loyalty for Prince William of Orange who was soon to become King William I. Both Prince George's letter and Lord Churchill's express concern for the state of religion in England. The Lutheran Prince George addresses James II: 'your Majesty has always shown too uninterested a Sense of Religion, to doubt the just Effects of it in one whose Practices have, I hope, never given the World cause to censure his real Conviction of it ... how then can I longer disguise my just concern for that Religion'.

ESTC locates copies of this edition in the National Archives, at Oxford, in the British Library, the Huntington, at UCLA, and at the Library Company of Philadelphia.

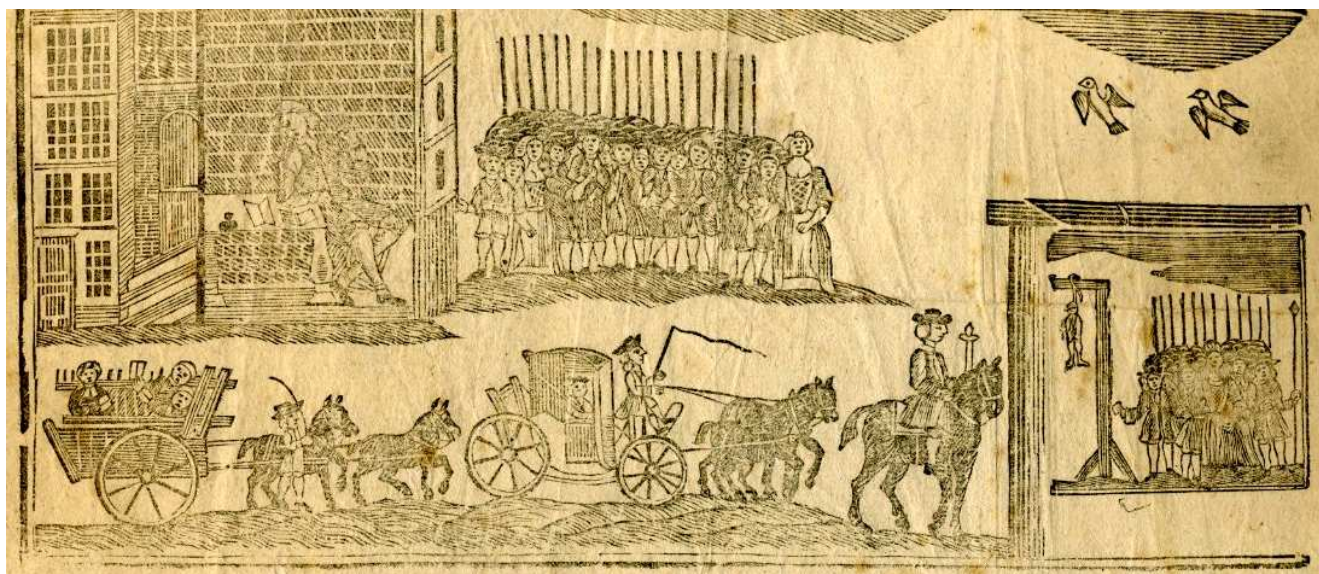


2. **[BAKERS' COMPANY]. THE OATH OF EVERY PERSON THAT IS ADMITTED A FREEMAN.** [London, c. 1770]. **£ 450**

Broadside (25 x 21 cm) with large etched coat-of-arms at head; a little spotted, edges untrimmed.

The oath required obedience to 'the Master, Wardens, And Commonality of Freemen, of the Mystery of Bakers, of the City of London and Suburbs thereof'. It lists rules and ordinances to be obeyed secrets to be kept and dues to be paid. 'So Help you God'.

Not in ESTC or in Goldsmiths' which lists only one other printed item relating to the Bakers' Company.



5 Hackman

3. **BRISTOW, John.** [FIRE ENGINE ADVERTISEMENT AND BILL]. A Perspective View of the part of the Ruins of the late dreadful Fire which happened in Cornhill, on March 25, 1748. [London, c. 1750]. **£ 585**

One oblong sheet (206 x 486 mm) with etching (plate size 172 x 425 mm); browned, repaired tears, previously folded, ink notes in the margins with offsetting.

This etching is advertising the services of the engineer John Bristow, in particular a 'floating engine' in nine different sizes, to be used as a fire-engine or for watering gardens. Here the etching is used as a bill although the image was also used to head an advertising broadside (see below). The dramatic image shows the fire in Cornhill of 25 March 1748, ruins and burning houses in the background, the foreground showing two fire-engines and men bringing water in buckets; the image surrounded by 21 devices of cities, institutions and fire insurance companies, to the left and right of the image are fire-fighters, each with a speech bubble containing the dialogue: 'Brave Engine, whose is it.' - 'Bristow's Ratcliff Highway'.

The back of the print is used as a manuscript bill, dated October, 12, 1787, relating to work carried out by John Bristow on the fire engine belonging to the combined city parishes of St. Michael, Queenhithe and Holy Trinity. The tally details that the valves on the barrels had to be replaced, charges for various screws and nuts and for polishing the barrels.

Bristow's engine-making works were located at Ratcliff Highway, London. - The Science Museum in London has an engraved trade card by the manufacturer and the British Museum holds this engraving used on the top of a typeset John Bristow broadside.

ESTC locates only the British Museum broadside.

4. [**CORPORATION OF HAVERFORDWEST**]. RENTALS, &C. BELONGING TO THE CORPORATION OF HAVERFORDWEST, and to the different undermentioned charities in trust. Ordered to be printed in the mayoralty of John James, Esq. - 1815. Haverfordwest, John Potter for Mayoralty of John James. **£ 285**

Large broadside (54 x 44cm); creased where folded but generally in very good condition.

This large printed sheet contains details of the rent received for Vawer's Charity, Tasker's Charity, Howard's Charity for the poor of Haverfordwest, a small town in central Wales. Further information is given to the public on the properties of the corporation with the names of the tenants and an account of the land tax, the rents for tolls of wool and flesh etc., and the amount of the tolls for the six cattle fairs held in 1815.

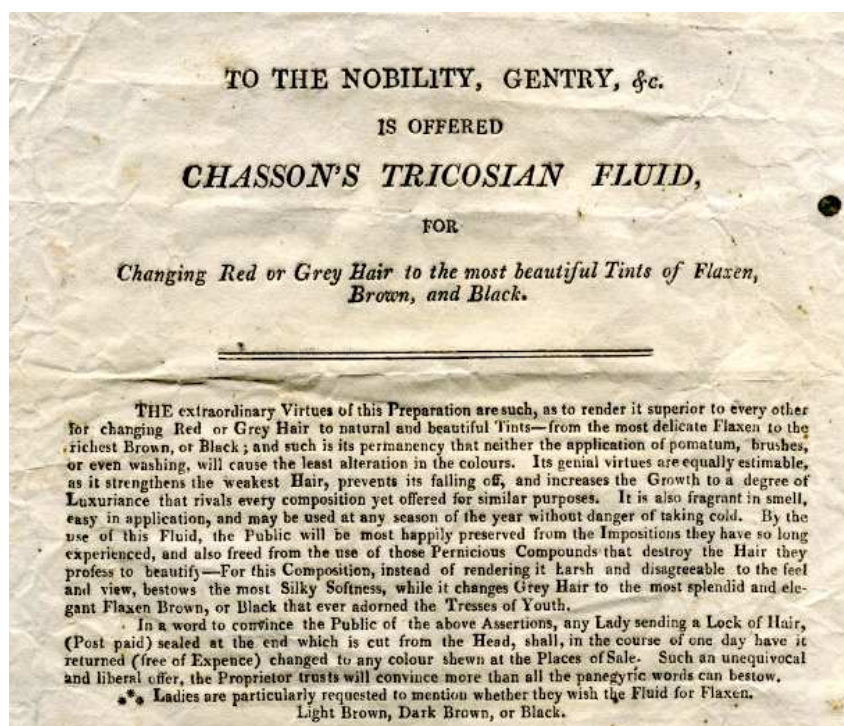
Not in OCLC or COPAC.

5. [HACKMAN, James]. THE LAST DYING WORDS AND CONFESSION, BIRTH, PARENTAGE, AND EDUCATION OF MR. JAMES HACKMAN, who was Try'd, Cast, and Condemn'd at the Session-House in the Old Bailey, on Friday 16th of April, 1779 for the wilful murder of Miss Martha Wray. London: printed by Bee, in Covent-Garden, 1779. £ 1,750

Large broadside (47 x 34cm) with woodcut across the top of the text showing Hackman in prison, a group of soldiers with pikes, a coach and cart carrying culprits to execution and finally the gallows with an executed man suspended, attended by soldiers with pikes; text in three columns, separated by black lines; loosely attached at the corners to a piece of card; lightly dusted, a little spotted, mainly in the margins.

James Hackman (1752-1779), entered the army at the age of nineteen. While on a recruiting party he was introduced to Lord Sandwich's house at Hichinbroke, and there he met and fell in love with Martha Ray, the daughter of a stay-maker from London. When about eighteen years old she became the mistress of John Montagu, fourth earl of Sandwich by whom she had several children, one of them Basil Montagu. She was an elegant woman and had a good voice; she was a favourite pupil of Giardini and there was a proposal that she should sing on stage. In 1776 Hackman left the army and prepared to take holy orders and took up a living in Norfolk. He continued his attentions to Martha Ray, despite her refusing his offer of marriage. In a fit of jealousy he shot her through the head, while she was visiting Covent Garden Theatre on 7 April 1779. She fell dead instantly and with another pistol Hackman attempted to kill himself. His attempt failing he was taken before Sir John Fielding and committed. On 16th he was tried before Blackstone, found guilty and sentenced to death. Hackman begged for and received Lord Sandwich's pardon. On 19th April Hackman was hanged at Tyburn. Boswell attended the trial, and was said to have ridden to Tyburn with Hackman in the mourning coach. It is true that he did attend the execution but denied and was embarrassed by the suggestion that he had attended Hackman on his way to it. The question whether Hackman's having had two pistols in his possession meant that he intended to shoot two people formed the subject of a violent altercation between Johnson and Beauclerk. (See Boswell iii, 383-4). The case became the subject of a popular novel when in 1780 Sir Herbert Croft produced *Love and Madness*, which went through numerous editions but which Johnson disapproved of for its mixture of fact and fiction. The case had attracted a great deal of interest at the time and ESTC records various broadsides, ballads and poems on the subject.

Not in ESTC. Not to be confused with a broadside of a similar title: *The last dying speech and confession, of the Rev. Mr. Hackman, executed at Tyburn, the 19th of April, 1779. for the wilful murder of Miss Ray.*



6. **[HAIR DYE].** TO THE NOBILITY, GENTRY, &C, IS OFFERED CHASSON'S TRICOSIAN FLUID, for Changing Red or Grey Hair to the most beautiful Tints of Flaxen, Brown and Black. [No place, printer or date, i. e. London, c. 1805]. £ 250

Broadside, folio (34 x 290.5 cm); uncut margins; central area with spot and small hole, creased.

Unfortunately we don't know the chemical composition of Chasson's Ticosian Fluid, which is praised in this rare hair dye advertisement broadside. It must have been quite potent as Mr. Golding, perfumer to her majesty and other retailers who sold that product, recommend to cover the face with Cold Cream 'as the dye will change whatever it touches'. The process of applying it is described in detail. As an innovative marketing gimmick the distributors offered the ladies to send a sample - a lock of hair - to the shops which sold the product. They 'in the course of one day have it returned (free of Expense) changed to any colour shewn at the Places of Sale. Such an unequivocal and liberal offer, the Proprietor trusts will convince more than all the panegyric words can bestow'.

7. **[LECTURES].** ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BROMLEY. LECTURES will be given in the School House, Byron Street on the following Evenings: [London], E. Taylor, printer, Wellington Terrace, St. Leonard's Road, [1865]. £ 150

Broadside (44.8 x 28.2 cm); a little-brown spotted, previously folded and with a few marginal tears along folds.

A wonderful mid-Victorian advertisement for public lectures given in the densely populated district in the East End of London, using large wooden bold types. The largely working-class men and women were invited to attend the Reverend W. Baird lecturing on *London Street Life. its Curiosities and Lessons*, Reverend B. Lambert's lecture titled *Fossil Words*, the Reverend Charles Rivington Holmes' description of *Life in a Man of War*. He was the vicar of St. Michael and All Angels and organised these popular lectures. His son, Sir Charles John Holmes (1868-1936), was the art critique, painter and director of the National Portrait Gallery and the National Gallery.



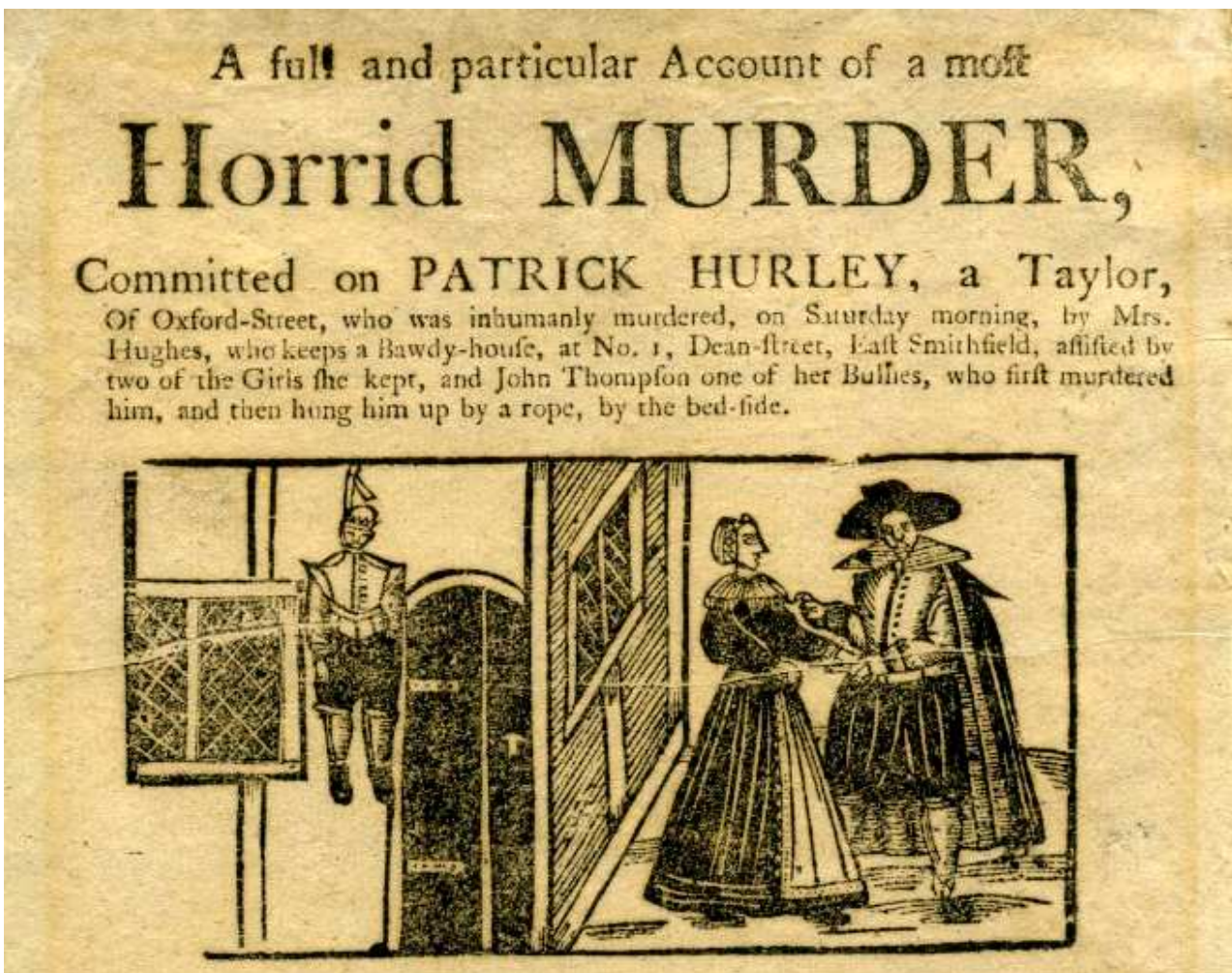
8 [Lying in Charity for Married Women]

Increase of Children a Nations' Strength

8. **[LYING IN CHARITY FOR MARRIED WOMEN]**. LARGE ENGRAVED TICKET with a fine pictorial and ornamental rococo border. London 11 April 1778. **£ 650**

Elaborately engraved ticket (16.5 x 20.8 cm) with scenes of a mother with babies, implements of agricultural labour and nautical equipment etc.; previously folded, a little toned.

Fine engraved ticket inviting the recipient to attend a dinner with the president, governors etc. of the Lying-in Charity for Married Women to be held on Wednesday 29th April, at the King's Arms Tavern, Cornhill. With a list of the stewards' names. The charity had been instituted in 1757 and became a raving success. 'The Lying-in Charity continued to expand through most of the century. For example in the 1760s the charity increased the number of deliveries it assisted twelvefold - from a yearly average of only 100 in the years 1757 to 1760, to a yearly average of 1,200 between 1760 and 1769. The Lying-in Charity's efficiency undoubtedly explains its growing popularity' (Jonathan Barry and Colin Jones, *Medicine and Charity before the Welfare State*, p. 91).



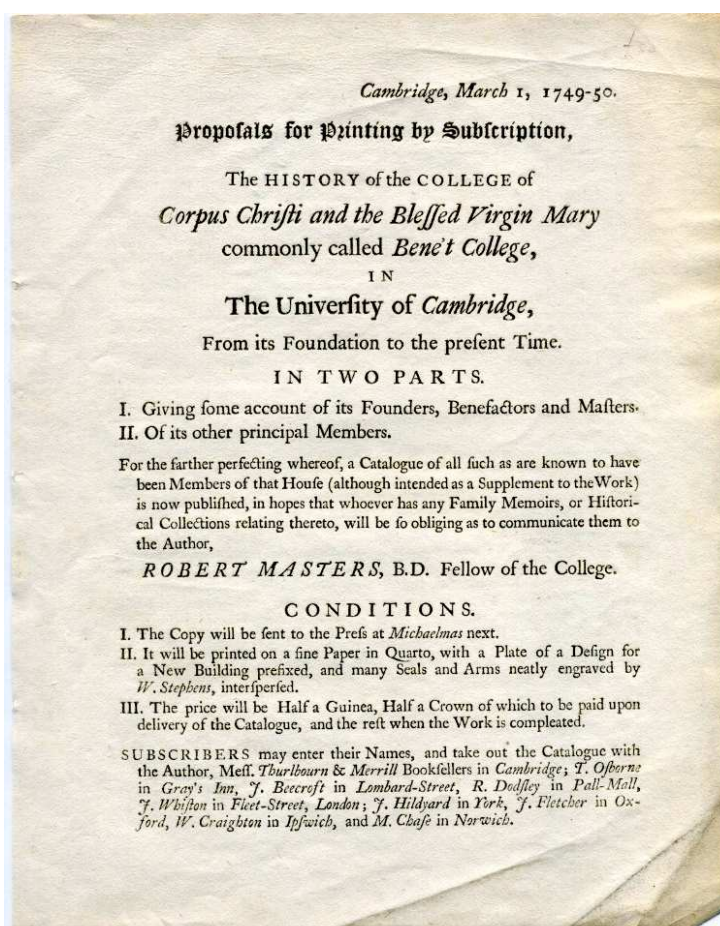
Murder in a Whore House

9. **[PROSTITUTION]**. A FULL AND PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF A MOST HORRID MURDER, committed on Patrick Hurley, a taylor, of Oxford-Street, who was inhumanly murdered, on Saturday morning, by Mrs Hughes, who keeps a bawdy-house, at No 1, Dean Street, East Smithfield, assisted by two of the Girls she kept, and John Thompson one of her bullies, who first murdered him, and then hung him up by a rope, by the bed-side. [No place, printer or date, London, c. 1888]. **£ 850**

FAKED BROADSIDE, PRODUCED FOR COLLECTORS. *Broadside (35 x 18 cm), large woodcut across the sheet, under the title, with two scenes in separate compartments; lightly tipped into a paper backing; traces of previous framing; a very good copy.*

Purporting to be an 18th-century sensationalist broadside it tells one story of prostitution and murder, for which the East End of London was notorious. Patrick Hurley was an Irishman, who in the absence of his wife and children in Ireland, started up a relationship with one of Mrs Hughes's girls. He went missing and was discovered hanging at the foot of a bed in Mrs Hughes's house. A fight had broken out between Hurley and the prostitute he had befriended; her colleagues joined in against him, tied him up and then beat him to death. At first they thought to throw the body down the privy but gave this idea up when they were informed that it was too full already. They then decided to stage a suicide by making it appear Hurley had hanged himself but in doing so they forgot to untie his hands. Neighbours in Dean Street, where the houses were only divided by thin partitions, hearing noises, looked through holes in the wall, saw what was going on and immediately raised the alarm. Mrs Hughes was sized by officers of the watch and conveyed to prison to await trial.

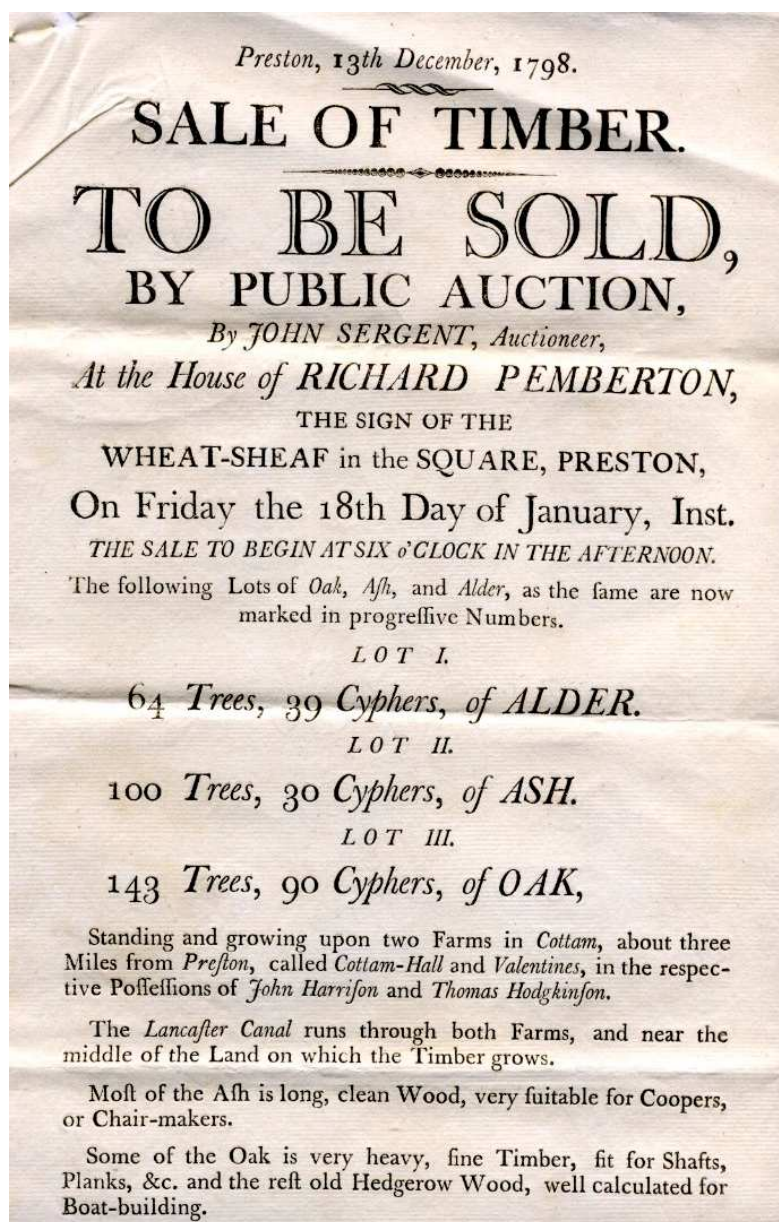
Not in ESTC; no reference on this case in the Old Bailey records (online). No other information on this incident has been traced, a fact which leads us to the conclusion, that this broadside, too perfect in its goriness and too straightforward in fulfilling what the collector of such broadsides would wish to find is actually a forgery of the late 1880s, when Jack the Ripper had titillated and focused the public on East End prostitution and crime. As well the East End address of the crime does and did not exist. The woodcut is probably a 17th-century Civil War related one; it shows a soldier with harness suspended and people talking to each other in a conspiratorial manner.



10. [PUBLISHING]. **MASTERS, Robert.** PROPOSALS FOR PRINTING BY SUBSCRIPTION, The History of the College of Corpus Christi and the Blessed Virgin Mary commonly called Bene't College in the University of Cambridge, From its Foundation to the present Time. Cambridge, [John Smith], for the Author, March 1, 1749-50. £ 225

Broadside, 4to (25.2 x 19.4 cm); margins a little spotted; otherwise fine.

Robert Master's two-volume *History of the College of Corpus Christi and the Blessed Virgin Mary* came out in 1753 and 1755 and is still the standard work on that particular Cambridge college. In 1749 the historian and antiquarian Robert Masters (1713–1798) 'printed a biographical list of the alumni of Corpus, and was led to compile a large *History of the College of Corpus Christi* (in two parts, 1753–5) which is the first published account of its kind of any college at Oxford or Cambridge. He had permission to inspect the archives and printed what by the standards of the time are well-edited documents together with a narrative history in which biographical material predominated. His interleaved and extra-illustrated copy at Corpus shows a painstaking concern. John Lamb, master of the college, continued and revised the history, bringing it down to 1831' (*Oxford DNB*).



Tree Auction and Benefits of the Canal System

11. **SERGENT, John [auctioneer].** PRESTON, 13TH DECEMBER, 1798. SALE OF TIMBER. TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, BY JOHN SERGENT, AUCTIONEER, at the house of Richard Pemberton, the sign of the Wheat-Sheaf in the Square, Preston, on Friday the 18th day of January, Inst. The sale to begin at six o'clock in the afternoon. The following lots of Oak, Ash, and Alder, as the same are now marked in progressive numbers Lot I. 64 Trees, 39 Cyphers, of Alder. Lot II 100 Tress, 30 Cyphers, of Ash. Lot III 143 Trees, 90 Cyphers, of Oak. Standing and growing upon two farms in Cottam, about three miles from, Preston, called Cottam-Hall and Valentines, in the

respective possessions of John Harrison and Thomas Hodgkinson. The Lancaster Canal runs through both farms, and near the middle of the land on which the timber grows. Most of the ash is long, clean wood, very suitable for coopers, or chair-makers. Some of the oak is very heavy, fine timber, fit for shafts, planks etc. and the old Hedgerow wood, well calculated for Boat-building. E. Sergent, printer, Preston. n.d. [1798]. £ 550

Folio broadside (33 x 21 cm); edges uncut, in fine condition; together with 4 contemporary manuscript leaves [incipit]: Preston 18th January 1799. Proposals and conditions for sale pursuant to a public advertisement of several lots of timber, followed by a record of the successive bids (with bidders' names) on all three lots and the name of the eventual purchaser with hammer price.

This fine group - auction broadside and manuscript notes - probably comes from the hands of the auctioneer himself, who has the same name as the printer and may be related. E. Sergent was a fairly prolific Preston printer, active at the end of the eighteenth century. The growing importance of canal navigation for trade is highlighted by the reference in the printed advertisement to the fact that the Lancaster Canal runs right through the land where the trees were standing, making them much easier to transport.

Not in ESTC.



The Duenna

12. **[SHERIDAN, Richard Brinsley]**. SABLE NIGHT. A new favourite Song Sung by Miss Brown in the Duena [sic]. [London, no printer, c. 1775]. £ 385

Broadside song sheet (22 x 11 cm), with one woodcut vignette at the end of the text; well-preserved.

The *Duena* in the title actually refers to what Lord Byron called 'the best opera ever written', *Duenna*, by Thomas Linley the elder and his son, Thomas Linley the younger (music) and the libretto by the elder composer's son-in-law Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Performed first at Convent Garden in 1775, it became the most successful English opera and was staged up to the 1840s. The quality of the songs and airs had largely contributed to its popularity. This song opens with the memorable line 'When Sable Night each drooping plant restoring'.

ESTC locates a single copy, at Harvard; not in OCLC.

Somerset Almshouse for Poor Widows

13. **[SOMERSET HOSPITAL FOR FIFTY POOR WIDOWS, FROXFIELD, WILTSHIRE.]** SOMERSET HOSPITAL, Sept. 17, 1785. [Marlborough? 1785]. £ 550

Broadside in 4to (21 x 17.5 cm); clean and fresh, two edges uncut.

SOMERSET HOSPITAL,

SEPT. 17, 1785.

AT a Meeting of the Trustees held this Day, it is ordered, That the Widows shall produce their Bibles and Prayer Books to the Trustees annually at the View Meetings; and that the Representatives of deceased Widows, and also Widows marrying or resigning their Houses, shall produce and deliver up to the Steward at the succeeding Pay Day next after the Death, Marriage or Resignation of such Widows, the Books belonging to their respective Houses for the Benefit of the succeeding Widow; and in Default of such Production or Delivery, or if it shall appear that any of the Widows shall have destroyed or damaged her Books, the Steward shall stop and retain so much of the Stipend, Salary or Allowance, made or payable to the respective Widows or their Representatives making such Default, as shall be sufficient to replace, and that the Steward shall therewith re-place such Books as shall be wanting.

This fine example of ephemeral printing contains an order that the bibles and prayer books issued to the poor widows be returned to the Steward on death, marriage or upon the widow leaving the House. Failing this the Steward 'shall stop and retain so much of the stipend, salary or allowance, made or payable to the respective widows or their representatives making such default, as shall be sufficient to replace, and that the Steward shall therewith re-place such Books as shall be wanting.'

The Somerset Hospital, or Almshouses for 50 poor widows was founded and endowed by Sarah Duchess of Somerset and Charles Duke of Somerset, initially for twelve poor widows in 1746. From 1772 to 1775 one range of seven almshouses was demolished and the Hospital was enlarged to a length of 37 bays. This enabled it to accommodate 50 widows and eligibility was extended from its original geographical catchment area to include widows from anywhere in England within 150 miles of London. It was one of the larger 18th-century institutions of its kind in England.

ESTC locates copies at McMaster University in the United States and in the British Library.

14. [THOMAS, Richard G.]. WILD FLOWER ALPHABET. To my little daughter Mary. [Hollingbourne near Maidstone in Kent], Eyhorne House, March, 1849. £ 185

Privately printed broadside (345 x 212 mm), on heavy paper; clean and fresh, five wormholes in the margins, one in the printed surface.

This unrecorded early Victorian broadside is beautifully printed in two columns and educates the little daughter Mary Julia Thomas about wild plants, from Arum with 'its berries so red, for many have eaten and died it is said', to Zostera, 'frequenter the shore, the sea-wrack that floats where the wild billows roar'.

Richard Thomas married Lousia de Vismi Goldsmid in 1839 in Hollingbourne. Mary was born in 1847; she could only have been 2 years old when this charming alphabet was printed for her.

15. **[TROTTSCLIFFE CHARITY SCHOOL]. RULES TO BE OBSERVED BY THE CHILDREN OF THE TROTTERSCLIFFE SCHOOL, AND BY THEIR PARENTS.** Maidstone, Hall and Son, [c. 1826]. **£ 225**

UNRECORDED BROADSIDE. *Folio (43 x 34 cm); a few folds and very light spots to the margins, otherwise clean and fresh.*

Set up by Paul Bairstow and Mary Godwin, the school was lead by a mistress, who had to send back home children who are not clean and neat. Truancy and ariving late at school and thus missing the morning prayer seems to have been a big problem in the village school. Many passages regulate how to discipline the children and prepare them for work in a a society which increasingly came under the influence of industrialization, which demands absolute punctuality. Trottscliffe, the small village near Maidstone in Kent with a variety of spellings of its name (sometimes even called called Trosley), was not spared by this trend of standardizing time in the 19th century.

16. **[TROTTSCLIFFE CHARITY SCHOOL]. SOME RULES & ORDERS FOR THE PERPETUAL ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A CHARITY SCHOOL,** In the Parish of Trotescliffe, to be called Mr. Paul Bairstow and Mrs. Mary Godwin's Charity School. Maidstone, A. Austen, [c. 1825]. **£ 225**

UNRECORDED BROADSIDE. *Folio (42.8 x 30.2 cm); a few folds, otherwise clean and fresh.*

Trottscliffe is a small village near Maidstone in Kent and has a variety of spellings; it is sometimes even called Trosley. Similarly, Paul Bairstow is called in one government paper Barristow, and in the village graveyard there is a 19th-century tombstone for one Mr. Bristow - probably of the same family. This charity school was for teaching fifteen boys and girls English and religion. 'The Master or Mistress [are] to have the Yearly Salary of Eight Pounds; and when it is a school mistress that is appointed, the Girls are to be taught the Use of the Needle' Mr. Bairstow and Mrs. Godwin had decided. Further regulations are on school visitations, dismissal of pupils for example for truancy exceeding twenty days in a quarter of a year.

