



# BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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Sir

Pay to Nathanael Shaw Jun. the Sum of One  
Thousand pounds money in Bills - p<sup>r</sup> order Govern<sup>r</sup>  
& Council of Safety, - to render his acct. - August 20 1776

John Lawrence Esq

Treasur<sup>r</sup>

£1000.

Heymour

C. Edwards

Com<sup>rs</sup>

## Payment to a Privateer

**Oliver Ellsworth, John Lawrence,  
Nathaniel Shaw, T[homas]. Seymour**  
*Holograph Revolutionary War  
Document Paying Privateer Nathaniel  
Shaw 1000 Pounds. 1776*

[Hartford?]: August 2, 1776

\$1800

Approximately 8¼" x 6½". Laid paper. Irregularly torn in right-hand margin, not appreciably affecting the document, old folds, near fine. An early naval document, issued less than a month after the Declaration of Independence, an order from Connecticut State Treasurer John Lawrence to pay Nathaniel Shaw 1000 Pounds, approved and signed by Oliver Ellsworth and Thomas Seymour for the Committee of Safety, and docketed and signed as received on the verso by William Leeds. This document probably represents a payment to Leeds, distributed to him by Shaw, for a captured naval prize.

Oliver Ellsworth helped draft the Constitution and was the third Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Thomas Seymour was the Lt. Colonel of the 1st Connecticut Regiment of Light Horse and a member of the Committee of Safety. Nathaniel Shaw was a merchant and privateer who was made Naval Agent by both the Continental Congress and the State of Connecticut during the American Revolutionary War, where his responsibility included distributing payments to other privateer captains. William Leeds was the Captain of the privateer *American Revenue*.

A nice and early Revolutionary War naval document.

[BTC#423392]

