

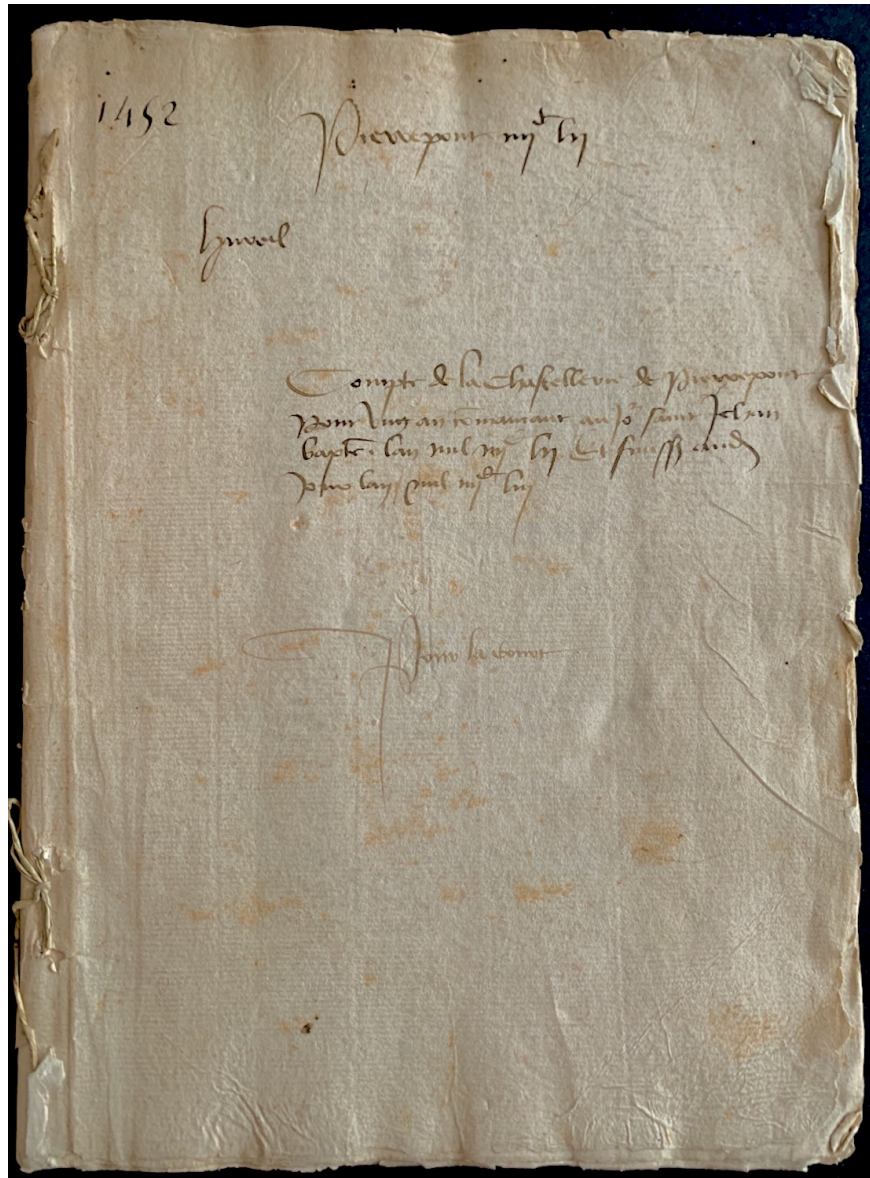
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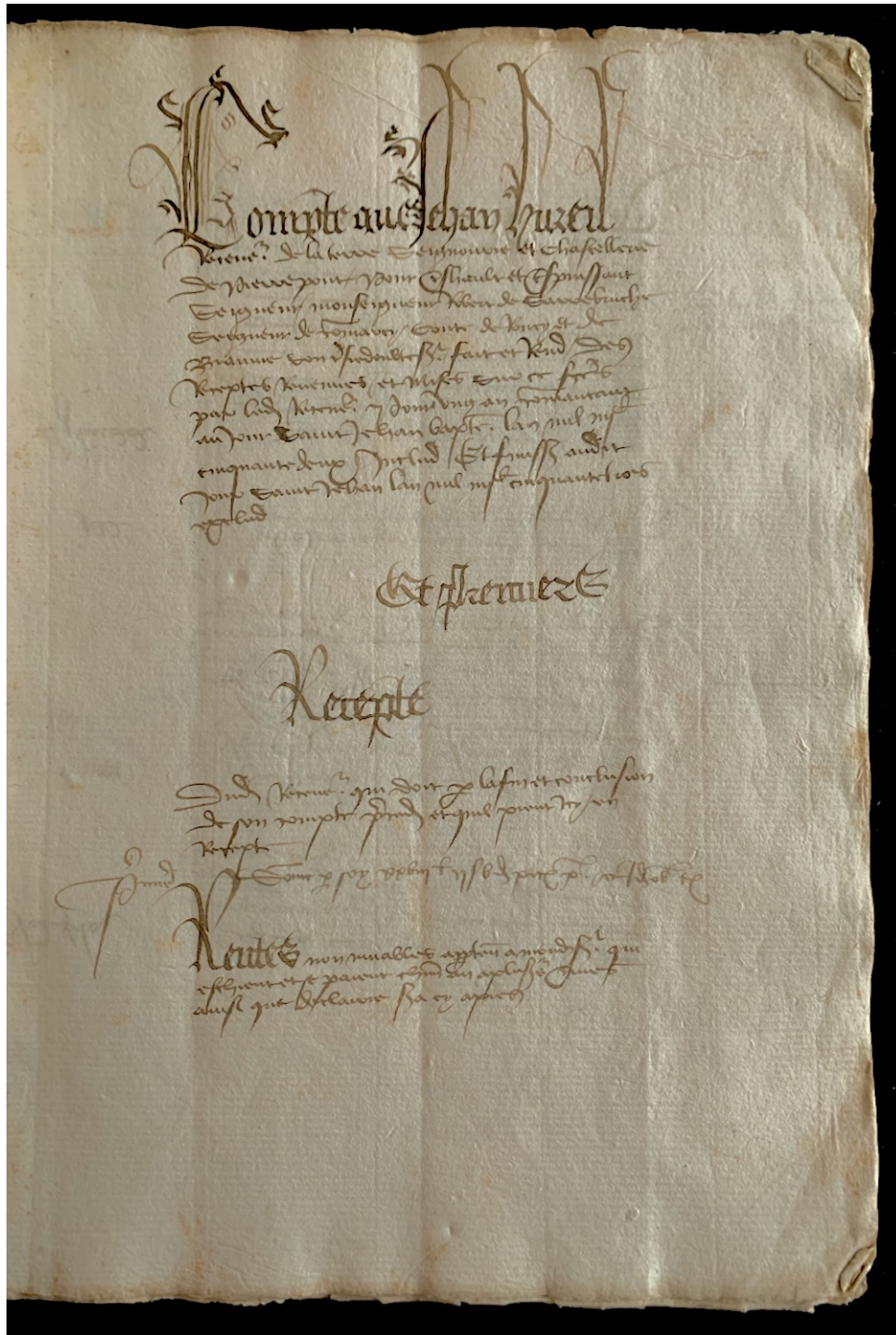
**Catalog #430: French Manuscripts- 1452 Estate Accounts & 1806
Commonplace Book**

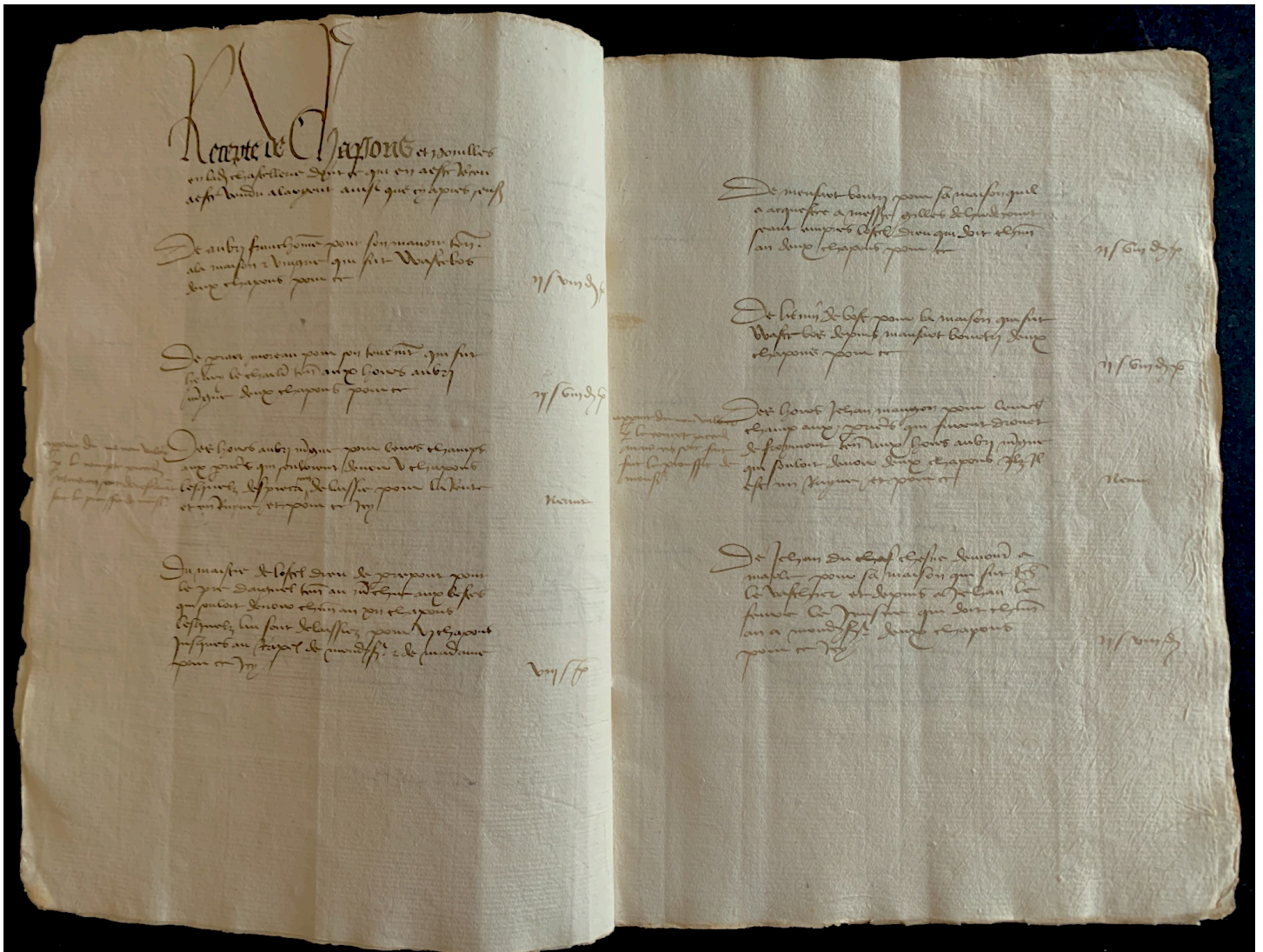
1] **1452 Handwritten French Annual Accounts of a Private Chateaux Chapel
Pierrepont.**



A document written in Middle French using a Gothic cursive script typical of mid-15th century administrative records. "Accounts of the Chapel (or Chaplaincy) of Pierrepont for the year ending on the day of Saint John the Baptist in the year 1452, [rendered] by Jehan Hureil for [the year] 1452".

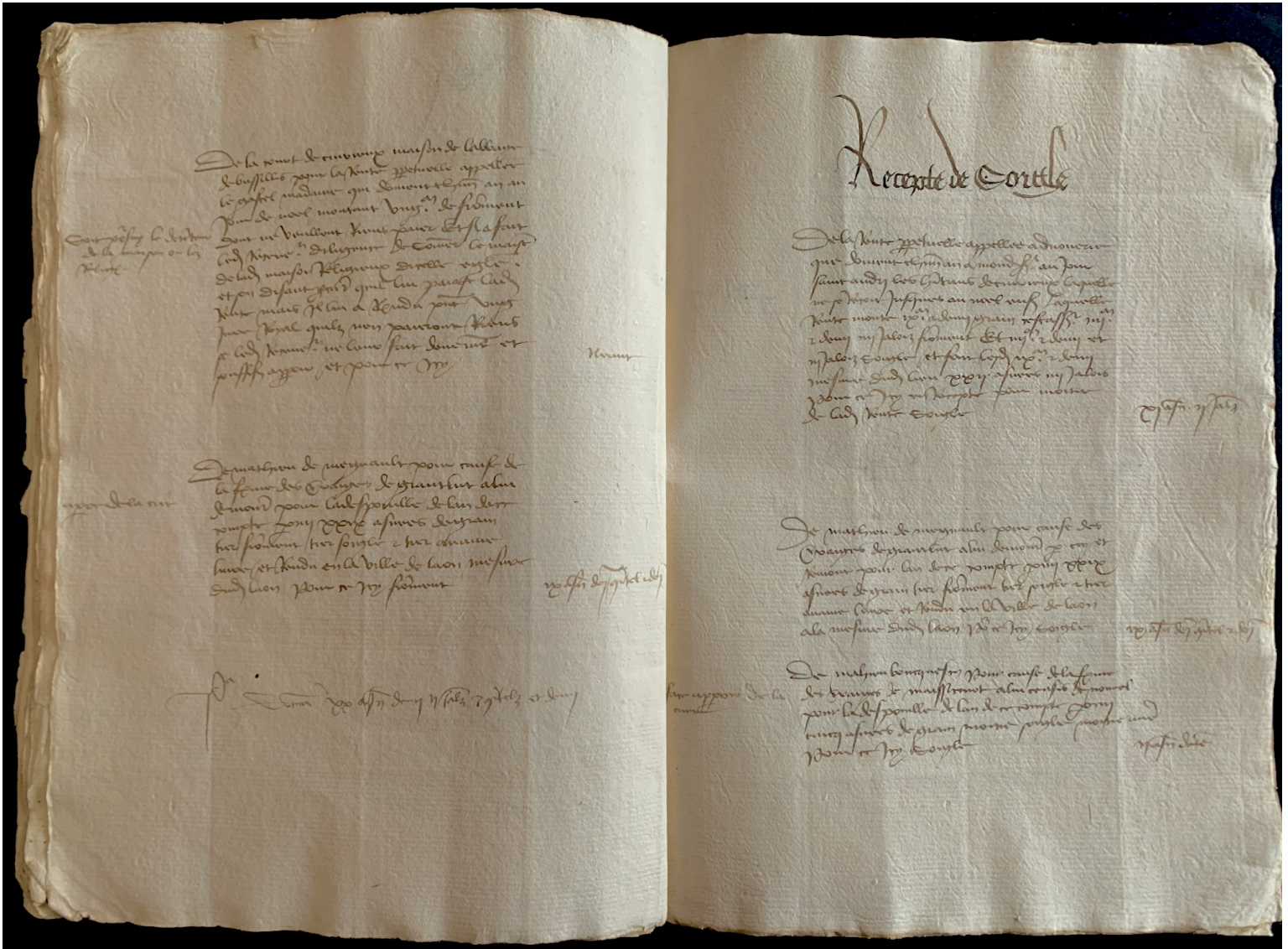
Pierrepont refers to several fortified sites and noble seats in Northern France. During the reign of Charles VII in 1452, these regions were undergoing significant administrative rebuilding after the Hundred Years' War. The text specifies the fiscal year ending on June 24 (the Feast of St. John the Baptist), which was a standard





"quarter day" used in medieval Europe for settling debts, paying rents, and closing accounts. The large, stylized mark at the bottom is a notarial signum. In 1452, legal officials used these unique hand-drawn flourishes instead of modern rubber stamps to prove a document's authenticity.

It is likely that these are the private religious or charitable accounts associated with a major estate or Château, the term "Chapellerie" refers to a chaplaincy— a specific endowment or religious foundation that supported a chapel and its priest. In 15th-century France, most major castles, like the nearby and famous Château de Pierrefonds (built by Louis of Orléans), maintained their own private chapels and religious staff. A "Chapellerie" was rarely an independent entity; it was usually an administrative branch of a noble household's estate.



These accounts would track the income from lands donated to the chapel and the expenses for its upkeep, detailing the revenues from land owned by the chapel (likely donated by the Lord of Pierrepont), the chaplain's salary, maintenance for the chapel building, and supplies like communion wine and candles.

Jehan Hureil (modernized as Jean Hurault) was most likely a member of an important family of French financiers and administrators who served the crown for centuries. The Hurault Family were legendary as high-ranking "officers of the king," specializing in military and financial management. Members of this family typically managed vast estates and châteaux like Cheverny, which they owned for over six centuries. In 1452, the Hurault family was deeply embedded in the administration of central France.

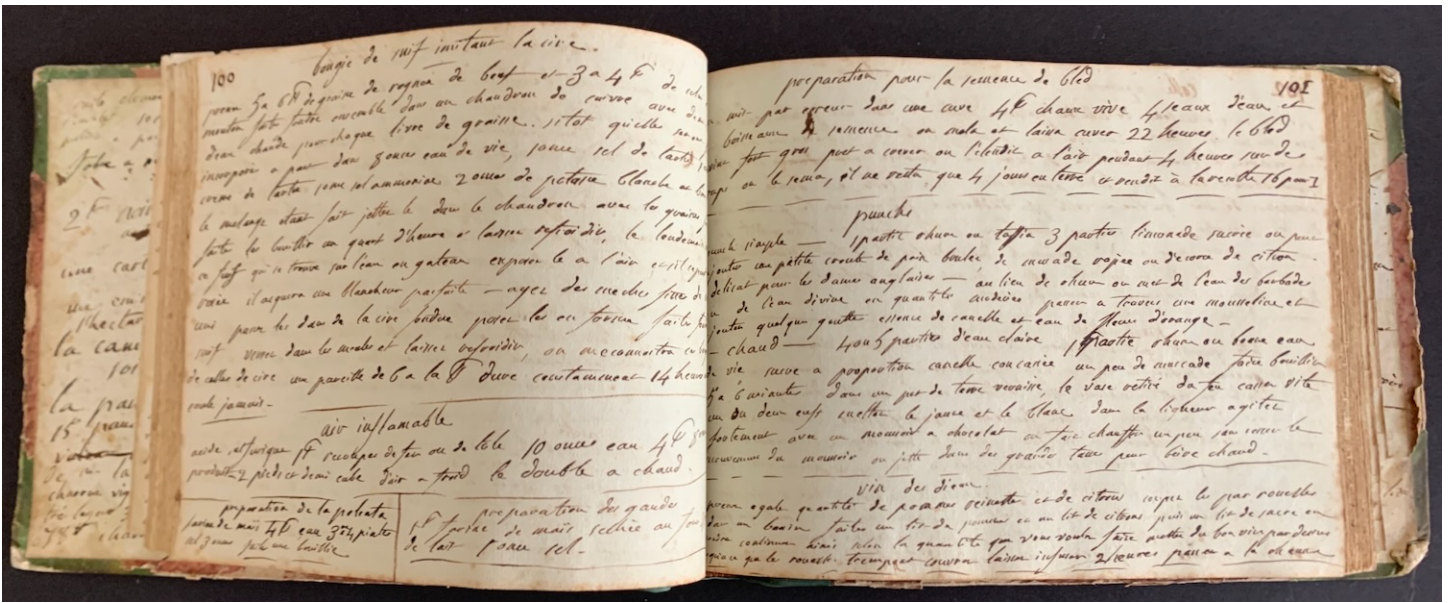
Self-wrappers measuring 9x12. 28 leaves + 6 blanks, paper with crossbow watermark. Some light wear, scattered foxing and soil. {57203} \$1,500

2] Recettes Diverses - 1806 French Handwritten “Various Recipes” Commonplace Book.

An interesting handwritten French “commonplace book” of recipes and receipts for a variety household uses. During the early 1800s it was common for households or professionals (like chefs or apothecaries) to keep personalized, handwritten collections of useful formulas.



Here is a sample of topics from the index found at the back- Analysis of soda by Mr. Kirwan; Alum manufacturing by Mr. Curandan; Flammable air; Asparagus, cooking; Artichokes, cook[ing]; Apricots, cook[ing]; Distillation apparatus for seawater used by Mr. Fourcroy; Acetate of potash bleached by animal charcoal; Acetate of morphine; Water ice Apparatus for freezing water; Alloy imitating gold; Ammoniacal liquid by Bozia; Aeroscope barometer economical; [Analysis] of limestone. And a bit further on- Rice cultivation of Cochin China;



Cinnabar by the wet method; Ammonium carbonate; Paste glue; Curry from India; Chinese paste glue; Composition to make fabrics waterproof; Cement for glass porcelain; Hydraulic lime; Fulminating charcoal; Soluble cream of tartar; Combustion of indigo; Chloride of lime; Shoe polish; Razor strop leather; Cherries in brandy; Cement for stones; Mouth glue; Chinese cement for porcelain; Preservation of beans; Artichoke cultivation; Distillation.

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