

## **A quick comparison of the early editions of Diaz de Luco's *Practica Criminalis Canonica* in the Harvard Law library.**

Bradford Verter

- ❖ Venetiis : Ex officina Erasmiana, apud Vincentium Vaugris, 1543. [first ed.]
- ❖ Lvgdvni: 1549 [last lifetime ed. – author died 1556]
- ❖ Venetiis, apud Dominicum, & Cornelium de Nicholinis, 1560. [first posthumous ed]
- ❖ Compluti: Apud Petrum Robles, & Franciscum Cormellas, 1565 [first annotated ed]
- ❖ Antverpiæ: Ex officina Arnoldi Coninx, 1593 [reprint of annotated ed]

The 1549 edition is a reprint of the 1543 edition, following the text exactly. The only difference is that the type is smaller (12mo, rather than small 8vo) and is printed on cheaper paper, and sports fewer decorative devices such as ornamented initial capitals and the like.

The 1560 reverses order of the prooemium and the author's letter to the reader, placing the latter first. It is altogether the most elegant and typographically attractive edition of the examples at Harvard. It is also more complete than the lifetime editions, with a great many additions to the text by the author. The posthumously published additions, set off throughout by square brackets, sometimes consist of only minor references to particular passages in the *Corpus Juris Canonica*. More often, however, they are very substantial indeed: the length of chapter 3, for example, is almost doubled.

The 1560 edition tends to abbreviate the Latin more severely than the earlier editions (e.g., "Dno" for "Domino"; "Reuernde pr dr in iure" for "Reuernde pater dicitur in iure," etc.). It also corrects some misspellings from the earlier editions, which had for "Ffvrtive" for "Fvrtive," for example.

In terms of establishing Diaz de Luco's original text, the 1560 is clearly the best edition, printing the author's final emendations. Later editions reprinted the text presented here either in whole (as the Venice edition of 1565) or in part (as the editions revised by Salzedo de Leon).

The 1565 edition, prepared by Ignacio Salzedo de Leon, is substantially altered. It adds guides to the reader (numbered summary points at the head of each chapter indexed to passages in the text marked 1, 2, 3...), occasional marginal notes, and endnotes (a, b, c...) with commentary). Salzedo de Leon incorporated the posthumous additions from the 1560 edition, dropping the

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brackets. As the title page note, he also expurgated what he identified as the many errors that vermiculated Diaz de Luco's text.

The first edition of the text edited by Salzedo de Leon includes material dropped in later reprints, including a letter from King Felipe (in Spanish), and dedicatory letters by the editor and the bookseller (both in Latin). The Antwerp edition of 1593 in the Harvard library reprints Salzedo de Leon's annotations, but not the introductory letters nor the prefatory material – the prooemium and the greeting to the reader – by Diaz de Luco.