

Zwingliana

Beiträge zur Geschichte des Protestantismus
in der Schweiz und seiner Ausstrahlung

Band 43
2016

Jahrbuch des Zwinglivereins

Sonderdruck

T V Z

Theologischer Verlag Zürich

Zwingliana erscheint unter Mitwirkung des Instituts für Schweizerische
Reformationsgeschichte an der Theologischen Fakultät der Universität Zürich

Gedruckt mit Unterstützung der Schweizerischen Akademie der Geistes- und
Sozialwissenschaften

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www.zwingliana.ch

Satz: Christian Moser

Druck und Bindung: CPI, Ulm

ISSN 0254-4407

ISBN 978-3-290-17885-7

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Inhalt

Zusammenarbeit in St. Gallen: Christoph Schappeler und Joachim von Watt (Vadian) über das Gebet <i>Bernhard Stettler</i>	1
A variant copy of Konrad Gessner's "Bibliotheca Universalis" <i>Koichi Yukishima</i>	103
Eine unbekannte Schrift von Bernardino Ochino <i>Judith Steiniger</i>	125
Der Zürcher Arzt Georg Keller und seine Studienzeit in Lausanne (1549/50) <i>Kurt Jakob Rüetschi</i>	161
Reconceiving the Clerical Corps: How Heinrich Bullinger Resists the Expectations of Confessionalization <i>Jon Delmas Wood</i>	177
Zur Verteidigung des »Protestant Cause«: Die konfessionelle Diplomatie Englands und der eidgenössischen Orte Zürich und Bern 1655/56 <i>Sarah Rindlisbacher</i>	193
Eine nonkonformistische Bibliothek des 17. Jahrhunderts: Klandestine Literatur am Vorabend des Pietismus <i>Kaspar Bütikofer</i>	335
Vom Zürcher Straußenhandel zu Nietzsches Basler Straußiade: David Friedrich Strauß als Märtyrer <i>Daniela Kohler</i>	387

Ein reformierter Theologe in Siebenbürgen: István Tőkés 8. August 1916 – 15. Januar 2016 <i>Kurt Jakob Rüetschi</i>	411
Buchbesprechungen	419
Martin Heimbucher, Prophetische Auslegung, 2008 – <i>Pierrick Hildebrand</i>	
Heinrich Bullinger: Briefe von Juni bis September 1546, 2015 – <i>Amy Nelson Burnett</i>	
Benjamin M. Merkle, Defending the Trinity in the Reformed Palatinate, 2015 – <i>Luca Baschera</i>	
Shaping the Bible in the Reformation, hg. von Bruce Gordon und Matthew McLean, 2012 – <i>Jim West</i>	
Jan-Andrea Bernhard, Konsolidierung des reformierten Bekenntnisses im Reich der Stephanskronen, 2015 – <i>Ádám Hegyi</i>	
Jolanda Cécile Schärli, Auffällige Religiosität, 2012 – <i>Christian Metzenthin</i>	
Karl Barth: Predigten 1911, hg. von Eberhard Busch und Beate Busch-Blum, 2015 – <i>Frank Jehle</i>	
119. Jahresbericht des Zwinglivereins über das Jahr 2015	437
Personenregister	441

A variant copy of Konrad Gessner's “Bibliotheca Universalis”¹

Koichi Yukishima

Konrad Gessner (1516–1565) was among the most eminent humanists and naturalists in Switzerland in the 16th century. When he was 29 years old, he began to publish a series of bibliographies including the *Bibliotheca Universalis*, *Pandectarum*, *Partitiones theologicae*, and *Appendix* printed by Christoph Froschauer in Zurich. The series' first volume, *Bibliotheca Universalis* (Zurich: Christoph Froschauer, 1545), is especially considered as among his masterpieces and the great classics in the fields of bibliography and of library and information science. For his work on the *Bibliotheca Universalis*, Gessner is regarded by many as “the Father of Bibliography”².

Although many scholars have researched and referred to the *Bibliotheca Universalis* since the first half of the 20th century, attention has not been given to its variant state or cancellation. In this regard, the author found two variant copies among the 10 copies available to the author, which include five copies in Japan, a copy annotated by Gessner himself, three copies in the Zurich Central Library, and another copy in Basel University Library. This paper presents a report on the copy of the *Bibliotheca Universalis* that has not been identified as a variant, with a focus on this copy's

¹ This work was supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 25330401.

² J. Christian Bay, Conrad Gesner (1516–1565), the Father of Bibliography: An Appreciation, in: *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* 10 (1916), 53–86.

variant typesetting. In the field of bibliography, this study offers the significant contribution of clarifying what happened in the time of printing the *Bibliotheca Universalis*.

In the course of examining all of the available copies of the *Bibliotheca Universalis* to identify the variant copies, the five copies housed at the following libraries in Japan (call No. & provenance) were accessed first:

- 1 Hiroshima University of Economics Library, Hiroshima (026, Georg Sabinus's copy)
- 2 Keio University Library, Tokyo (141X@40@1)
- 3 National Diet Library, Tokyo (WA 42-27)
- 4 Meiji University Library, Tokyo (091.3/970/H, a copy of the Society of Writers to the Signet, Edinburgh)
- 5 Waseda University Library, Tokyo (F026-36, a copy of Tegernsee Abbey, Bavaria, and then Jenő Pásztélyi's copy)

The Waseda copy of the *Bibliotheca Universalis*

Bibliographical description of the Waseda copy (see Figure 1):

Gessner, Konrad. *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Tiguri: Apud Christophorum Froschouerum, 1545. folio.

Title, 1r (*1): BIBLIOTHECA | Vniuersalis, siue Catalogus omni=|um scrip-
torium locupletissimus, in tribus linguis, Latina, Graeca, & He=|braica: ex-
tantiam & non extantiu<m>, ueterum & recentiorum in hunc usq<ue> | diem,
doctorum & indoctorum, publicatorum & in Bibliothecis laten=|tium. Opus
nouum, & no<n> Bibliothecis tantum publicis priuatisue in=|stituendis neces-
sarium, sed studiosis omnibus cuiuscunq<ue> artis aut | scientiae ad studia
melius formanda utilissimum: authore | CONRADO GESNERO Tigurino
doctore medico. | [device: *Vischer*, Bibliographie, p. 544,³ Offizin Froschauer
6] | TIGVRI APVD CHRISTOPHORVM | *Froschouerum Mense Septembri*,
Anno | M. D. XLV.

Explicit: NN7v, line 8: FINIS.

Folio, *8, A⁶ B⁴, a-z⁶, ²A-²B⁶ C-Z Aa-Zz 2a-2z AA-MM⁶ NN⁸ [signed \$4 (*5, B3, NN5)]. 650 leaves, ff. [8], [10], 1-631, [1].

³ Manfred *Vischer*, Bibliographie der Zürcher Druckschriften des 15. und 16. Jahrhunderts, Baden-Baden 1991.

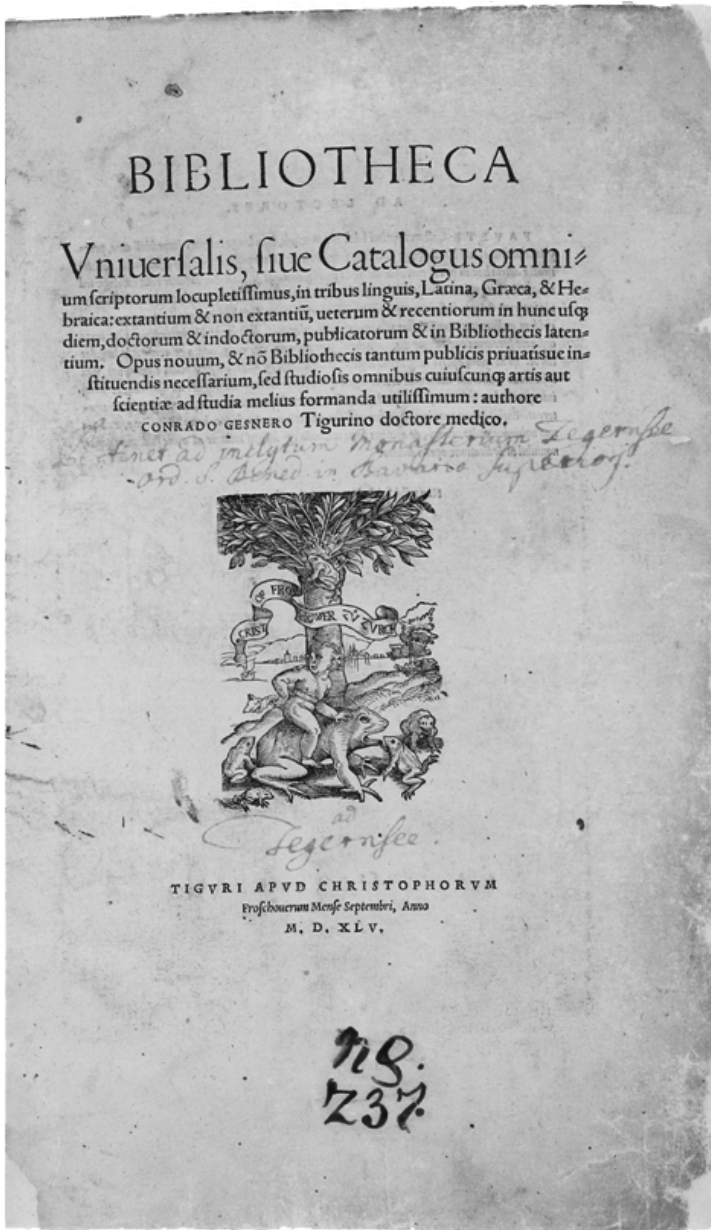


Fig. 1: Title page of the Waseda copy of *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Waseda University Library (Fo26-36).

Contents: *1r, title; *1v, AD LECTORES.; *2r, ILLVSTRI ET GENEROSO | VIRO D. LEONARDO BECKH A BECKENSTAIN, | S. Caesareae maiestatis consiliario clarissimo, CONRA=DVS GESNERVS medicus S.D.P.; *6v, line 10, Vale, meqe clientem tuum ita ut caepisti fo=uere perge. Tiguri, quae primaria Heluetiorum urbs est, anno Chri=stiano, 1545. Mense Iulio.; *7r, line 20, Haecante | operis ingressum habui, de quibus | Lectores admonerem. | *7v, PRAEMIA VIRTVTIS FELICIA CONSPICIS ARMA. | [woodcut of coat of arms, 192×139mm]; *8, blank; A1r, AD LECTOREM DE VSV | HVIVS INDICIS | (10 lines) | id quaque ex hoc Indice deprehandetur, Vale. | index in 3 cols.; B4r, line 12, FINIS.; B4v, blank; a1r, text; NN7v, line 8, FINIS. | EMENDANDVM. | (3 lines); NN8, blank.

a4r, text in 51 lines and headline, direction line and marginalia, 241 (251)×137 (157)mm, 93R, 93Gr; *3r, preliminary in 42 lines and headline and direction line, 240 (248)×140mm, 112R, 93Gr; A1r, index in 3 cols., each col. in 55 lines, 86R.

Reference: VD 16⁴, G 1698; *Vischer*, Bibliographie, C 350.

Copy: Waseda University Library, F026–36. 322×200mm, bound in wooden boards covered with contemporary blind stamped pig skin in the South German style. MS ownership and pressmark on *1r: ‘Pertinet ad inclytum Monasterium Tegernsee | ord. S. Bened. in Bavaria superiorj’ | ‘ad Tegernsee’ | ‘ng. | Z37.’ (Figure 1). Manuscript notes on the flyleaf verso (see Figure 2):

Iste author est accatholicus, | hinc tam diligenter scribit de Philipo | Melanc-
tone, et Martino Luthero &c. | licet etiam alios Scriptoros Catholicos | sua
laude non destituat, eorumqe | opera ac Elucubrationes adducat. | In hoc
tamen singularem laudem meretur, | quod. Bibliothecam universalem Li-
brorum | editorum congerere sit conatas; quantumvis | multas, qui in nostra
Bibliotheca sunt, | non habeat. Et, quod miror, de Erasmo | Roterodamo
[sinistra: ‘vidi Desider.’], vix non coaetaneo, altum | silentium tenet, cum
tamen tum tem | -poris iam plures libros ediderit, et adhuc | in pluribus
laboraverit edendis cetera.

Provenance: (MS on *1r) Order of Saint Benedict, Tegernsee, Bavaria; (stamp on a slip of paper pasted on NN7v) Dr. Pásztyéyi Jenő, könyvtárából, Szám: 1502. Waseda University Library bought the copy from Peter Tumarkin Fine Books, New York in July 1992.

The Waseda copy had been housed at Tegernsee Abbey in Bavaria, from the 16th to the 18th centuries. The manuscript notes on the flyleaf indicated that the library had kept its copy even after the Tridentine index of the Roman Catholic Church in 1564. The ab-

⁴ Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts: VD 16, 22 vols, Stuttgart 1983–1995.

Werts

Ille author est catholicus,
hinc tam diligenter scribit de Philippo
Melanctone, et Martino luthero &c.
licet etiam alios scriptores catholicos
sua laude non destituit, eorumque
opera ac elucidationes adducat.
In hoc tamen singularem laudem meretur,
quod Bibliothecam universalem librorum
editorum congerere sit conatus; quorum
multos, qui in nostra Bibliotheca sunt,
non habeat. Et, quod miror, de Erasmo
vid. Desider. Zolero dano, vix non costaneo, altum
silentium tenet, cum tamen tum tem-
poris iam plures libros ediderit, et adhuc
in pluribus laboraverit edendis &c.

Fig. 2: Manuscript notes on the flyleaf of the Waseda copy of *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Waseda University Library (F026-36).

bey regarded the *Bibliotheca Universalis* highly as it contained many records of Catholic authors together with Protestant ones.

At one point, the notes indicated that the scribe criticized Gessner for being deeply silent on Erasmus of Rotterdam as he could not find any item of the Dutch humanist in the book. Another reader of the *Bibliotheca Universalis* later noted “vidi Desider.” on the manuscript notes’ left margin and drew a slanted line over lines 11–15 of the notes. The latter reader pointed out that this note was necessary to aid the search for the item “Desiderius Erasmus”. The notes show how the *Bibliotheca Universalis* remained in use at the monastery in Southern Germany in the Counter Reformation⁵ period despite being banned by the Roman Catholic Church.

At the time of the secularization in 1803,⁶ most books and manuscripts housed at the abbey were sent to the Royal Library in Munich. However, this copy was not added to the collection of the Royal Library but was later owned by a Hungarian collector, Dr. Jenő Pásztélyi (1850–1918).

The typesetting of the other four copies of the *Bibliotheca Universalis* in Japan are the same as that in the Waseda’s. Any variant copy is unknown in Japan.

Subsequently, the author examined five other copies in the following libraries in Switzerland from 2013 to 2015:

- 1 Zurich Central Library (Dr M 3, Konrad Gessner’s own copy, onwards Copy A)
- 2 Zurich Central Library (IV O 2, Konrad Pellikan’s copy, onwards Copy B)
- 3 Zurich Central Library (IV O 4 & IV O 5, bound in 2, a copy of ‘Iacobus Silvius Ambianus In Medicina’ [= Jacques Dubois], onwards Copy C)
- 4 Zurich Central Library (5.12, Konrad Klausner’s copy, onwards Copy D)
- 5 Basel University Library (BL I 1, Basilius Amerbach II, onwards the Basel copy)

⁵ Alberto *Moreni*, La Bibliotheca Universalis di Konrad Gesner e gli Indici dei libri proibiti, in: *La Bibliofilia* 88 (1986), 131–150.

⁶ Josef *Hemmerle*, Die Benediktinerklöster in Bayern, Augsburg 1970 (Germania Benedictina 2), 300.

Gessner's own copy of the *Bibliotheca Universalis*
in Zurich Central Library (Copy A)

Copy A is the most important and interesting copy bibliographically among these five copies as Gessner himself wrote many of the manuscript notes regards corrections, revisions, and deletions in the text as well as rearrangements and additions of items throughout the book; this copy also probably retains the original paper size (350×215 mm). Gessner added other pieces of publication information in Copy A until the early 1550s.⁷ Extremely remarkable deletions are shown in the latter part of the item by Gessner himself in fol. 180v where he drew inclined lattice lines over the text and vertical lines for erasing several manuscripts notes on the left outer margin (see Figure 3). However, any variant typesetting of fol. 180v has been unknown.

Moreover, Gessner crossed out lines 4–30 of fol. 454v in the latter half of the item of "IOANNES filius Serapionis" in the following manner:⁸

5 Hi libri practicae seu breuiarij serapionis Basileae etiam nuper impressi sunt,
apud Henricum Petrum, 1543. in fol. duplo ferè chartarum numero, quàm prius
in Italia exiuerat: quamuis ultimus liber de antidotis non sit adiectus. Nam egre-
gius ille paraphrastes Albanus Torinus nouo titulo plausibilem Basilienſem, aeditionē
fecit, Iani Damasceni Decapolitani nomine inducto pro Ioan. Serapione, & ab initio
10 aphorismos etiam antehac Ioanni Damasceno inſcriptos adiecit, ut minus do-
lum olfaceret Lector, & ultimū librum de antidotis omisit: cacteros in medio miris
modis interpolauit: nam & tranſponit ordinem: & in illis libris, ubi Gerardi Cre-
monenſis translationem se relinquere fatetur, plurima mutat, & sues centones an-
nectit, ac pro barbaris saepe Gerardi uocabulis ipse affecta & obſoleta infarcit: in
15 illis uero, quos de integro bellula paraphraſi ſua uerit aut potius peruertit, uocabu-
lis immoratur, prolixus eſt de induſtri, & tanquam ſcholia pro tyronibus inſerat,
gratiam breuitatis quam aucupatus erat Serapion amittit. Sed nihil grauius di-
eam, quamis uehementer mihi diſplicet sucum emptoribus fieri, & absq(ue) fructu
naenias huiſmodi & brassicam biscoetam miseris Lectoribus obtrudi, Siquidem
& ipse diuersorum authorum opera esse hucusq(ue) ratus (nam ne supra quidē cum
20 de Iano & Ioanne Damasceno scriberem, aliter existimabam) utrūq(ue) mihi compa-
rare, 6 utriusq(ue) lectioni temporis nonnihil dare iam decreuerā, quod posthac mi-
nime sciam: malo enim Gerardi translationem integram, hominis utcuq(ue) Ara-
bicæ linguae peritu, & simplicem Serapioni ſententiam, quā Albani, qui ne Iota
quide eius linguae callet, paragraphſes inani ostentatione plenas, & undequaq(ue) con

⁷ Gessner added a manuscript note, 'et Basileae | apud Hen. Petri | 1551. ex eme·n·dati= | one ...' at the item Hali filius Abenragel Arabs, on fol. 298v of Copy A.

⁸ Line numbers by K. Yukishima.

25 sarcinatas. In epistola nuncpatoria scribit se nuper hoc opus in bilbiotheca qua
~~dam inuenisse: nimirum ut quis rem deprehenderet, ignorantia potius publicatae~~
~~prius aeditionis, quam astutia illiciendi emptores, fecisse quod fecit excusari posset.~~
~~Opinor autem etiam in Garoponto & Alexandro Iatro, & & alijs quibusdam, non~~
~~dissimilia machinatum esse: quare lectorē medicinae studiosum admoneo, si quid~~
30 ~~proficere uelit, libros Albani nomine insignitos ne magni faciat.~~

A slip sheet with 11 lines of printed text is pasted on the lower margin of fol. 454v and another one with 18 lines pasted on the lower margin of fol. 455r (see Figures 4 and 5). The 11 lines of the first slip correspond with lines 4–14 of fol. 454v in Copy B, whereas the 18 lines of the second are identified with lines 15–32 of fol. 454v in the same copy. Figure 6 shows lines 4–32 of fol. 454v in Copy B with the following sentences:⁹

5 Hi libri practicae seu breuiarij serapionis Basileae etiam nuper impressi sunt,
 apud Henricum Petrum, 1543. in fol. duplo ferè chartarum numero, quàm prius
 in Italia exiuerat: quamuis ultimus liber de antidotis non sit adiectus. Nam para=
 phrastes (ut se inscribere uoluit) Albanus Torinus nouo titulo plausibilem Basilien
 sem aeditionē fecit Iani Damasceni Decapolitani nomine inducro pro Ioanne se=
 10 rapione, & ab initio aphorismos etiam antehac Ioanni Damasceno inscriptos (ne=
scio quàm recte, in libello seorsim aedito) adiecit, ceteros in medio interpolauit: nam
 & ordinem transponit, & in illis libris, ubi Gerardi Cremonensis translationē se=
 linquere fatetur, plurima mutat. In epistola nuncpatoria scribit se nuper hoc opus
 in bilbiotheca quadam inuenisse, tanquam nesciuerit idem prius publicatū fuisse,
ac medicis omnibus notissimum.

15 Quod autē alius sit Ioannes siue Ianus, ut illis placet, Damascenus Theologus,
 & Ioan. filius Serapionis, quos multi confundunt & pro uno authore numerant,
 non difficile mihi probatu uidetur. Legimus enim Io. Damascenū fuisse theologū,
 & uixisse circiter annū à natiuitate Domini quadringentesimū: nec ullus ex ueteri
 20 bus & probatis authoribus inter medicos Io. Damascenū recenset, Io. Serapionis
 autem medicus fuit, & ut apparet ex initijs librorū eius, regione, lingua, & tempo=
 re, non Christianus, sed Mahometricae superstitionis cultor, ut reliqui opinor fere
 omnes medici Arabes: quorū hunc recentissimū exiitisse conijcio, cū plerasq;ue
 in scriptis suis alleget, ac inter alios filium Mesuei, qui si est Ioannes Mesaei filius
 25 quem claruisse diximus circa annum Domini, 1158 necesse est aut aequalē ei fuisse
 aut posteriorem quoq;ue Io. Serapionis filium. Sed potius uidico aequales quo=
 niam uterq;ue alterius scriptis allegatis utitur. De Io. Damasceno theologo uide Li=
 lium Gyraldum in uitis poëtarum dialogo 5. ubi diuersas sententias refert quo tem
 pore uixerit: maxime tamē probat testimoniū Io. Patriarchae Hierosolymitani, qui
 in uita eius Leonis imperatoris aetati eū adnumerat, qui imperauit circiter annum,
 30 742. Quod si etiam Io. Serapionis è Damasco natus fuerit, nō sequitur statim eun=
 dem esse Ioannem Damascenum simpliciter, cum & Mesuaei filius eiusdem origi=
 nis idem praenomen habuerit.

⁹ Underlines and line numbers by K. Yukishima.

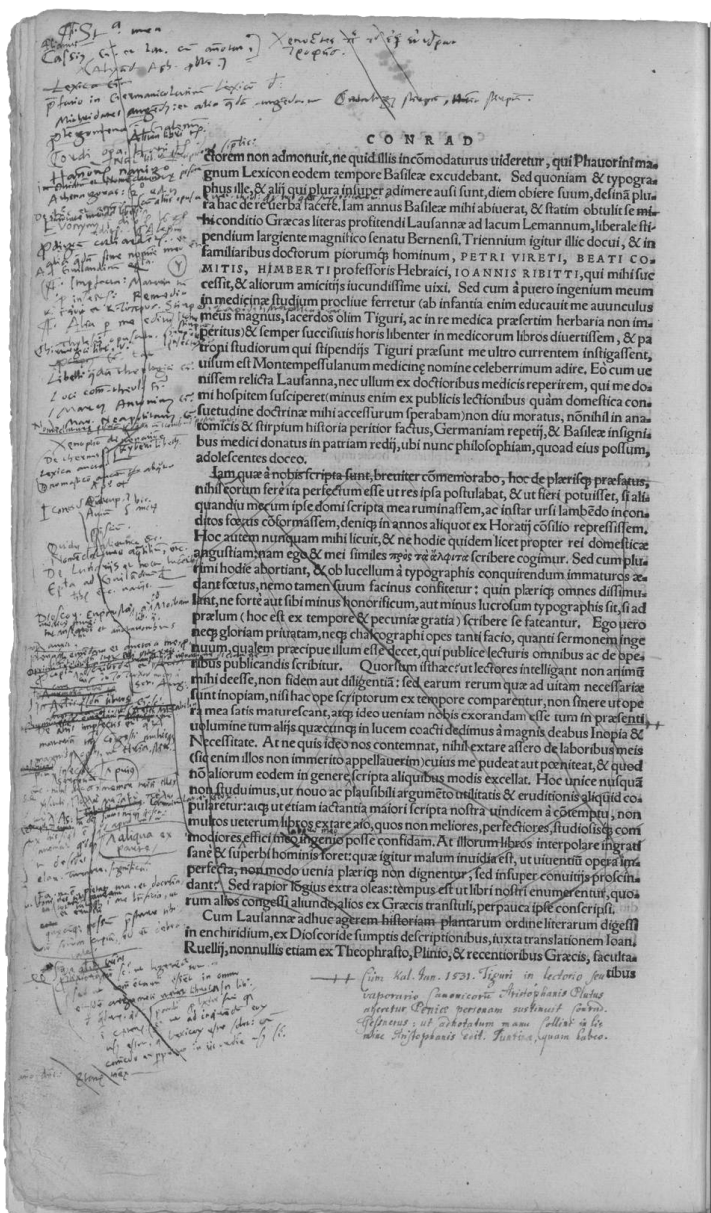
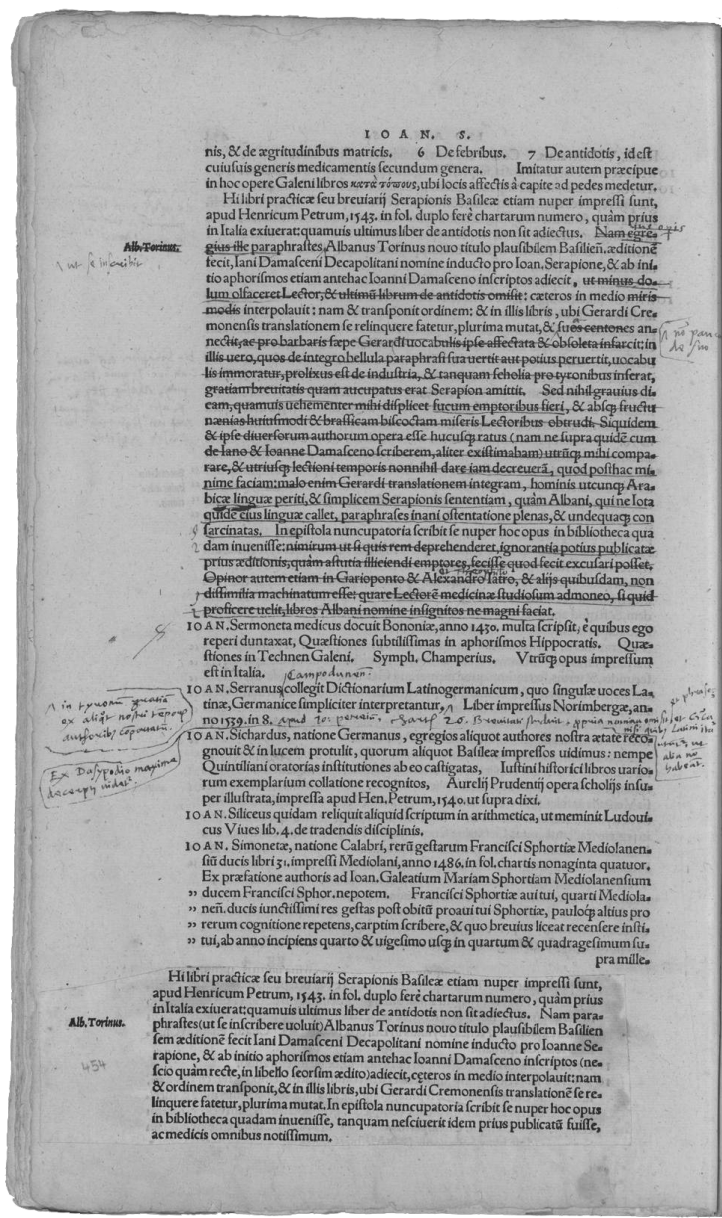


Fig. 3: Fol. 180v of Copy A of Bibliotheca Universalis. Zurich Central Library (DrM 3).



I O A N . 8 .

nis, & de agritudinibus matricis. 6 De febribus. 7 De antidotis, id est cuiusvis generis medicamenti secundum genera. Imitatur autem precipue in hoc opere Galeni libros *κερτα* & *πρωτοι*, ubi locis affectis à capite ad pedes medetur.

Hi libri practicæ seu breuiarij Serapionis Basileæ etiam nuper impressi sunt, apud Henricum Petrum, 1543. in fol. duplo ferè chartarum numero, quam prius in Italia exiuerat: quamuis ultimus liber de antidotis non sit adiectus. Nam *επιγραφή* the paraphrases, Albanus Torinus nouo titulo plausibiliter Basiliæ, aditione fecit, Iani Damasceni Decapolitani nomine inducto pro Ioan. Serapione, & ab initio aphorismos etiam antehac Ioanni Damasceno in scriptos adicit, ut minus *δοκίμιον* collaceret Lector, & *υλισμὸν* librum de antidotis omisit: ceteros in medio miris modis interpolauit: nam & transponit ordinem: & in illis libris, ubi Gerardi Cremonensis translationem se relinquere fateatur, plurima mutat, & suos sentones antehac pro barbaris sepe Gerardi uocabulis ipse affectata & obsoleta insarcit in illis uero, quos de integro bellula paraphrasi sua uertit aut potius peruertit, uocabit his immoratur, prolixus est de industria, & tanquam scholia pro tyronibus inferat, gratiam breuitatis quam aucupatus erat Serapion amittit. Sed nihil grauius de eam, quamuis uelementer mihi displicet, fucum emptoribus fieri, & ab ipso fructu nominis huiusmodi & basilicam biboclam miseris Lectoribus obtrudi. Siquidem & ipse dixerat auctorum opera esse huiusmodi rarus (nam ne supra quidè cum de Iano & Ioanne Damasceno scriberem, aliter existimabam) utriusq; mihi comparare, & utriusq; lectioni temporis nonnihil dare iam decreueram, quod posthac in fine faciam: malo enim Gerardi translationem integram, hominis utriusq; Arabicæ lingue periti, & simplicem Serapionis sententiam, quam Albanus, qui ne lora quidè eius lingue caller, paraphrases inani ostentatione plenas, & inde quædam sercinatas. In epistola nuncupatoria scribit se nuper hoc opus in bibliotheca quadam inuenisse: inuicem ut si quis rem deprehenderet, ignorantia potius publicatæ prius redtionis, quam astuta filitendi emptoræ, fecisse quod fecit excusari possent. Opinor autem etiam in Garioponto & Alexandro Iatro, & alijs quibusdam, non dissimilia machinatum esse: quare Lector & medicus studiosum admoneo, si quid proficere uelit, libros Albanus nomine insignitos ne magni faciat.

IOAN. Sermoneta medicus docuit Bononiæ, anno 1430. multa scripsit, & quibus ego reperi duntaxat, Quæstiones subtilissimas in aphorismos Hippocratis, Quæstiones in Technen Galeni, Symp. Chamberius, Vtriusq; opus impressum est in Italia. *Campodunum.*

IOAN. Serranus collegit Dictionarium Latino Germanicum, quo singule uoces Latine, Germanice simpliciter interpretantur, Liber impressus Norimbergæ, anno 1529. in 8. *apud Jo. Petrarum, & apud 20. B. veniens, & alibi, quia nonnulli ex his, qui in hunc modum scripsit, nonnulli sunt, qui in hunc modum scripsit.*

IOAN. Sichardus, natione Germanus, egregios aliquot auctores nostra ætate recognouit & in lucem protulit, quorum aliquot Basileæ impressos uisimus: nempe Quintilianii oratorias institutiones ab eo castigatas, Iustini historici libros uarios, rum exemplarium collatione recognitos, Aurelij Prudentij opera scholijis infusa, per illustrata, impressa apud Hen. Petrum, 1540. ut supra dixi.

IOAN. Siliceus quidam reliquit aliquid scriptum in arithmetica, ut meminit Ludouicus Viues lib. 4. de tradendis disciplinis.

IOAN. Simoneta, natione Calabri, rerū gestarum Francisci Sphortie Mediolanensis ducis libri 3. impressi Mediolani, anno 1486. in fol. chartarum nonaginta quatuor. Ex præfatione auctoris ad Ioan. Galeatum Mariam Sphortiam Mediolanensem, duces Francisci Sphor. nepotem. Francisci Sphortie autem tui, quarti Mediolanensis, ducis iunctissimi res gestas post obitū proauitui Sphortie, pauloq; altius pro rerum cognitione repetens, carptim scribere, & quo breuius liceat recensere in ista, tui, ab anno incipiens quarto & uigesimo usq; in quartum & quadragesimum supra mille.

Hi libri practicæ seu breuiarij Serapionis Basileæ etiam nuper impressi sunt, apud Henricum Petrum, 1543. in fol. duplo ferè chartarum numero, quam prius in Italia exiuerat: quamuis ultimus liber de antidotis non sit adiectus. Nam paraphrases (ut se inscribere uoluit) Albanus Torinus nouo titulo plausibiliter Basiliæ aditione fecit Iani Damasceni Decapolitani nomine inducto pro Ioanne Serapione, & ab initio aphorismos etiam antehac Ioanni Damasceno in scriptos (nescio quam recte, in libello seorsim adito) adiecit, ceteros in medio interpolauit: nam & ordinem transponit, & in illis libris, ubi Gerardi Cremonensis translatione se relinquere fateatur, plurima mutat. In epistola nuncupatoria scribit se nuper hoc opus in bibliotheca quadam inuenisse, tanquam nesciuertis idem prius publicatū fuisse, ac medicis omnibus notissimum.

Alb. Torinus.
in hunc modum

in hunc modum quod
ex alijs nesci
suscepit copiam.

Ex Diphysio maxima
decepto uideat.

no puen
in 1540

et puenit
in 1540

Alb. Torinus.

454

Fig. 4: Fol. 454v of Copy A of *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Zurich Central Library (DrM 3).

T O A N. S.

455

praemissimum & quadringentesimum Christiani natalis, quo anno acerfius ad eum me contuli, inde enim usque in ultimum uitae diem ab eodem gesta & copiosius & apertius explicabo, quod eis praefens semper coramque affuit. Praecipue uero bellum, quod sublatum ex humanis Philippo Maria materno proauo tuo in hac nostra cisalpinga Gallia fortiter gessit, &c. hoc inquam bellum & re maxime & memoria dignissimum, cui dum gereretur assidue interfui, paulo diligentius scribere operae pretium duxi. Equidem omnia in commentarios, & eo ordine quo gerebantur in dies, singula celeri stilo deproxi, si minus eleganter minusque ornate, at uera & incorrupta fide. Nihil enim a me scriptum est, quod uel non ipse uiderim, uel a locupletissimis testibus auctoribusque, uel etiam ab ipso Francisco, dum ille de se modestissime loquens aliquando praeteritorum temporum pericula, resque per omnem fortunam, non tam ab se quam ab alijs gestas, recenere, ac ceperim: quod alijs haudquaquam contigit, si qui fortassis reperiantur earundem rerum scriptores & eruditiores. Ex epilogis operis. His Commentarijs ab primo Alphonfi in Italiam aduentu, & ab anno Domini, 1424. usque ad annum 1466. non diu ui Francisci Sphortiae solum, sed omnium Italicorum populorum, regum, & rerum publicarum facta domitorisque continentur, tanta fide & religione literis prodita, ut nihil gratiae atque adulationi datum esse consistat.

IOAN. Sinapius, natione Germanus, illustriss. heroiæ, Hercules Ferrariae ductus con iugis hoc tempore medicus, quædam ex Luciano Latina fecit, quæ extant impressa.

IOAN. Sintheimius scripsit Commentarios Daunteriæ, ut testatur Beatus Rhena nus in uita Des. Erasmi.

IOAN. Sommerfeldt, natione Germanus, Cracouiae scripsit argumenta Latinae æditi onis epistoliarum Libanij. Vide in Libano.

IOANNES Soreth, natione Normannus, ordinis fratrum beate Mariæ semper uirgi T.M. 1470. nis de monte Carmeli, quintus & uicesimus Prior generalis, multa commendanda opuscula scripsit, de quibus extant subiecta:

Super sententias,	lib. 4.	Sermones uarij,	lib. 1.
In regulam ordinis sui,	lib. 1.	In eandem matris commentum,	lib. 1.
Constitutiones ordinis sui,	lib. 1.	Scripsit & alia complura.	

IOAN. Spangenbergius Her. deffianus, natione Germanus, uerbi diuini præco Northusæ, Pfalterij maiorem Mart. Lutheri per quaestiones explicauit: itidè & Po stillam Latinam. Vtriusque opus excusum est Francofordiæ in 8.

Eiusdem Margarita theologica, præcipuos locos doctrinæ Christianæ per quaestiones, breuiter ac ordine explicans. Liber scriptus ab auctore, 1540. & excu sus Basileæ apud V. uefbemerum in 8. chartis 22. anno 1544. omnibus uerbis min utris præcipue utilis. Accesserunt autem in hac æditiõne eorundem locorum con firmationes, ex orthodoxorum patrum lucubrationibus, per Ioan. Gassij passim Ioan. Gassij. suis locis insertæ. Ex præfatione Caspari Crucigeri. Bonam operæ nauauit Io. Spangenbergius, qui ut adiunxerat imperitorij studia, præcipua capita & partes doctrinæ ex locis communibus æditis à D. Philippo Melanchthone, contraxit in quaestiones, ut in promptu sit, unde petat studiosi quid de singulis respondendum sit. Ex præfatione Ioan. Gassij. Euiolupatrum quorundam lucubrationes, & ex ijs distinctiones has desumpsit, easque in hunc librum inspersit, quo uerbis min utris thesaurum habent numerum ad quamlibet uocum distinctionem. Index locorum & quaestionum huius libri in calce adiectus est.

IOANNIS Spangher Practica procedendi contra hæreticos, impressa cum Malleo maleficarum.

IOAN. Stabius achilicoribus. Quod autè alius sit Ioannes siue Ianus, ut illis placet, Damascenus Theologus, & Ioan. filius Serapionis, quos multi confundunt & pro uno auctore numerant, non difficile mihi probatu uideatur. Legimus enim Io. Damascenũ fuisse theologũ, & uixisse circiter annũ a natiuitate Domini quadringentesimũ: nec ullus ex ueteribus & probatis authoribus inter medicos Io. Damascenũ recenset, Io. Serapionis autem medicus fuit, & ut apparet ex insijs libronũ eius, & eorum, qui de eo scribere non Christianus, sed Mahometicæ superstitionis cultor, ut reliqui opinor fecerunt omnes medici Arabes: quorum hunc recentissimũ existisse conijcio, cũ plerique alios in scriptis suis alleget, ac inter alios filium Mesuæ, qui si est Ioannes Mesuæ filius quem claruisse diximus circa annum Domini, 1158. necesse est aut. æqualè ei fuisse aut posteriorem quoque Io. Serapionis filium. Sed potius iudico æquales fuisse, quoniam uterque alterius scriptis allegatis utitur. De Io. Damasceno theologo uide Liliũ Gyraldum in uitis poetarum dialogo 5. ubi diuersas sententias refert quo tempore uixerit: maxime tamẽ probat testimonij Io. Patriarchæ Hierosolymitani, qui in uita eius Leonis imperatoris ætati esse adnumerat, qui imperauit circiter annum, 742. Quod si etiam Io. Serapionis è Damasco natus fuerit, nõ sequitur statim eundem esse Ioannem Damascenum simpliciter, cum & Mesuæ filius eiusdem originis idem prænomen habuerit.

Fig. 5: Fol. 455r of Copy A of Bibliotheca Universalis. Zurich Central Library (DrM 3).

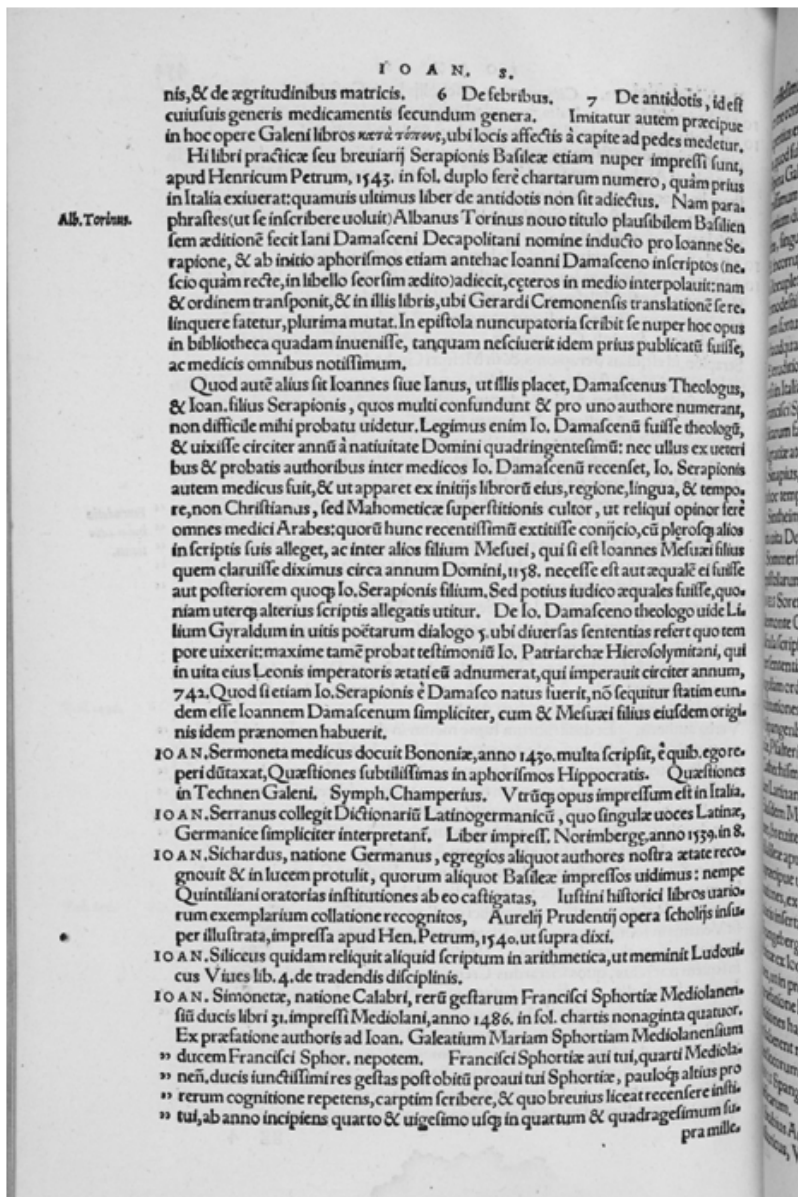


Fig. 6: Fol. 454v of Copy B of *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Zurich Central Library (IV O 2).

The comparison of above sentences between Copies A and B shows that Gessner reduced lines 4–30 of Copy A to lines 4–14 of Copy B with three additional sentences (lines 7, 9–10 and 13–14 underlined in Copy B's citation). He also added new sentences located in lines 15–32 including an explanation on Ioannes filius Serapionis (Ibn Sarābī) being different from Ioannes Serapion (Yaḥyā b. Sarāfyūn). When creating new sentences, Gessner referred to Giglio Giraldi's Dialogus V (i.e., *Historiae poetarum tam Graecorum quam Latiorum dialogi decem*) as mentioned to Iohannes Damascenus (see lines 26–27 of Copy B). He used the Basel edition of Giraldi's Dialogus published in 1545, which is listed in the preface of the *Bibliotheca Universalis* (*6v) as among his important resources for Greek poets.

As such, the comparison between the two copies clearly shows that fol. 454v was reprinted. Gessner immediately corrected lines 4–30 upon seeing the printed fol. 454v of Copy A and created new sentences for lines 4–32; printer, Christoph Froschauer, printed another copy. Moreover, fol. 454v was spliced into two sheets of slips, and Gessner pasted them each on the lower margins of fol. 454v and fol. 455r of Copy A.

The increase by two lines (the 31st and 32nd lines) of fol. 454v in Copy B compelled the printer to omit two lines from the next two items, "IOAN. Sermoneta medicus" and "IOAN. Serranus". The printer reduced four lines (the 34th from the 31st line) from the first item "IOAN. Sermoneta medicus" of Copy A to three lines (the 35th from the 33rd line) of Copy B without changing sentences (see Figure 6). Three lines (the 37th from the 35th line) of the latter item "IOAN. Serranus" of Copy A were decreased to two lines (the 37th from the 36th line) of Copy B in the same way. In short, Froschauer adjusted the sentences with seven lines in Copy A to the sentences with five lines in Copy B in the following composition skill:

Lines 31–37 of Copy A:¹⁰

- 31 IOAN. Sermoneta medicus docuit bononiae, anno 1430. mula scripsit; è quibus ego
32 reperit duntaxat, Wuaestiones subtilissimas in aphorismos Hippocratis. Quae=

¹⁰ Line numbers by K. Yukishima.

- 33 stiones in Technen Galeni. Sumph. Champerius. Vtru·m·q·ue opus impressum
 34 est in Italia.
 35 IOAN. Serranus collegit Dictionarium Latinogermanicum, quo singulae uoces La=
 36 tinae. Germanice simpliciter interpretantur. Liber impressus Norimbergae, an=
 37 no 1539. in 8.

Lines 33–37 of Copy B:¹¹

- 33 IOAN. Sermoneta medicus docuit Bononiae, anno 1430. multa scripsit è quibus ego re=
 34 peri du·m·taxat, Quaestiones subtilissimas in aphorismos Hippocratis. Quaestiones
 35 in Technen Galeni. Symph. Champerius. Vtru·m·q·ue opus impressum est in Italia.
 36 IOAN. Serranus collegit dictionariū Latinogermanicū, quo singulae uoces Latinae,
 37 Germanice simpliciter interpretant. Liber impress. Norimberge anno 1539. in 8.

When comparing all sentences of fol. 453r–454v of Copies A and B (bifolium of signatures 2g3–2g4), several other differences between the two copies become evident, e.g.:

	Copy A		Copy B
453r, line 44:	Gerson in cer= (Figure 7)		Gerson in cer (Figure 8)
453v, line 46:	sed alter qui= (Figure 9)		sed alter qui (Figure 10)
454r, line 5:	etiam in Chro (Figure 11)		etiam in Chro= (Figure 12)
454r, line 41:	Scotus impres (Figure 11)		Scotus impres= (Figure 12)
454r, line 47:	Oculorum, au (Figure 11)		Oculorum, au= (Figure 12)

Dimension of printed areas (headline + 52 lines + direction line, with marginalia):

	Copy A	Copy B
453r (2g3r):	237 (247)×137 (157)	240 (249)×138 (158)
453v (2g3v):	237 (246)×137 (157)	238 (247)×137 (157)
454r (2g4r):	237 (247)×137 (157)	240 (248)×138 (158)
454v (2g4v):	238 (246)×137 (158)	240 (248)×138 (158)

Although any variant of typesetting or cancellation in the *Bibliotheca Universalis* have never been reported, the aforesaid differences between Copies A and B indicate that the outer (2g3r/2g4v) and inner (2g3v/2g4r) formes of fol. 453–454 of Copy A were completely changed to the formes of Copy B. This means that Copy B is bibliographically an ideal copy, whereas, Copy A is a variant one. A bibliographer, Fredson Bowers, defines ‘ideal copy’ as “a book which is complete in all its leaves as it ultimately

¹¹ Line numbers by K. Yukishima.

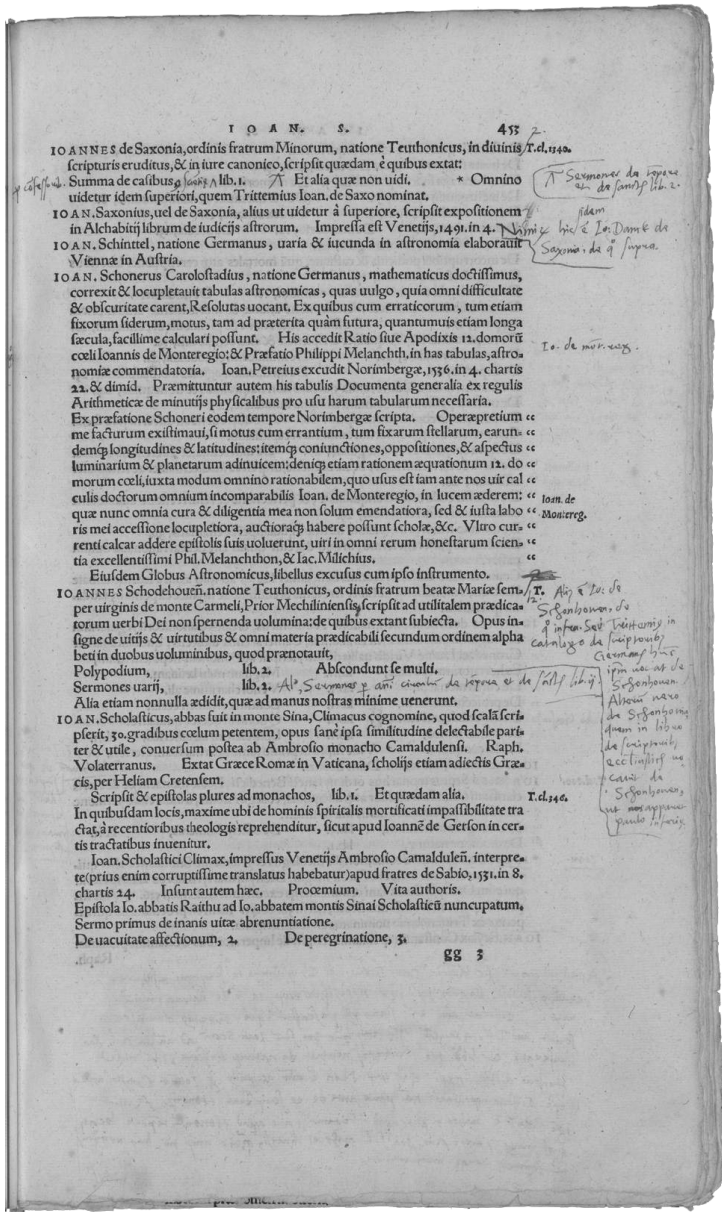


Fig. 7: Fol. 453r of Copy A of Bibliotheca Universalis. Zurich Central Library (DrM 3).

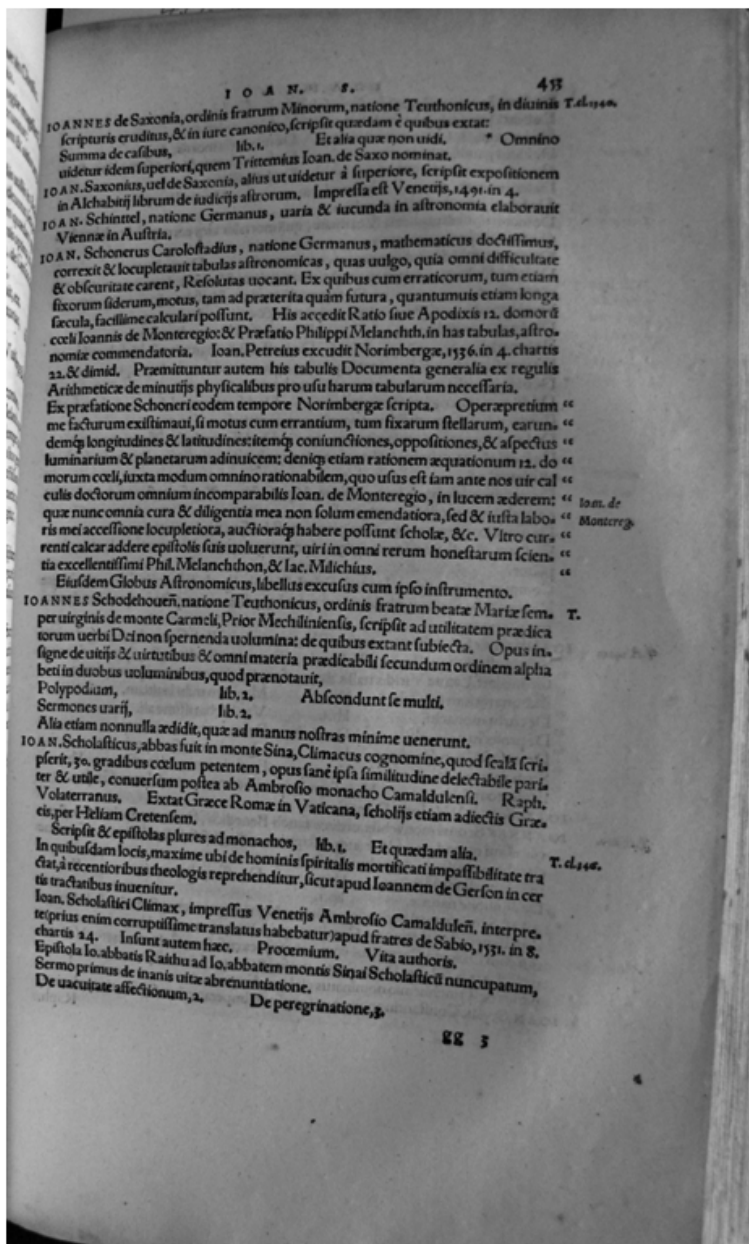


Fig. 8: Fol. 453r of Copy B of *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Zurich Central Library (IV O 2).

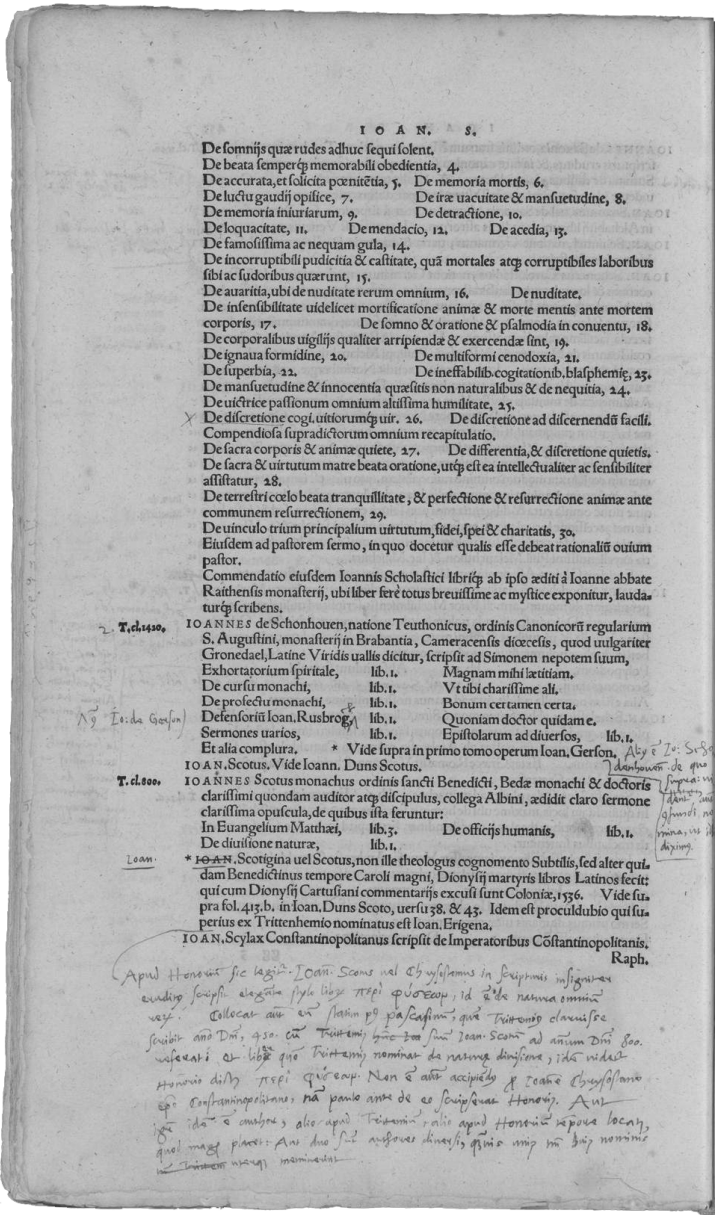


Fig. 9: Fol. 453v of Copy A of Bibliotheca Universalis. Zurich Central Library (DrM 3).

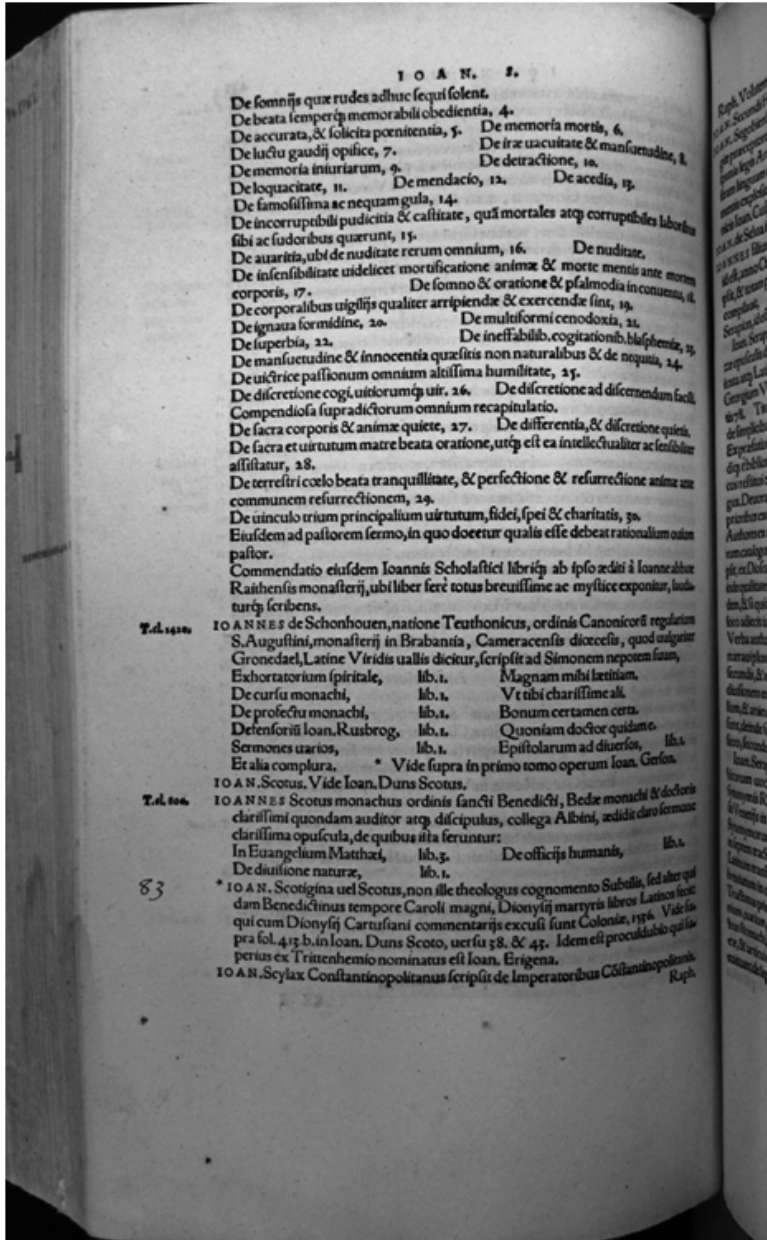


Fig. 10: Fol. 453v of Copy B of *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Zurich Central Library (IV O 2).

I O A N . S . 454

Raph. Volaterranus. Citatur etiam in scholis Ioan. Cuspiniani.

IOAN. Secundi Hagienfis Basia, impressa Lugduni apud Gryphū in 4. anno 1539.

IOAN. Segobienfis, homo Hispanus, moribus & doctrina illustris, summus theologiae praeceptor, doctrina æquans, &c. tempore Nicolai pont. max. uocatus ex Hispania legis Arabicæ magistrus, librum Mahumetis quem uocat Alchoram, in nostram linguam de nouo conuertit, & ineptias eius ueris ac uitis rationibus & argumentis explodit. Aeneas Syluius in Europa sua cap. 42. Citatur etiam in Chronico Ioan. Cuspiniani.

IOAN. de Selta iurisperitus, scripsit de beneficio, & de iureiurando.

IOANNES filius Serapionis, medicus celeberrimus, floruit tempore Isaach. Beemira, id est, anno Christi Millesimo septuagesimo: de simplicibus medicinis mira conscripsit, & totam practicam medicinæ compleuit. Antidotarium etiam celeberrimum compilauit. Symph. Champierus. * A Rasi in Continente citatur Bin Serapion, id est, filius Serapionis, & in Mesuæi Grabadin.

Ioan. Serapionis Arabis de simplicibus medicinis opus cum Auerrois & Rhazæ opusculis de iisdem, & libello de centauro minore, & dictionum Arabicarum iuxta atq. Latinarū indice. Volumen impressum Argentorati, 1531. in fol. apud Georgium V. Iricher: chartis 104. Serapionis autem opus seorsim constat chartis 78. Titulus operis, textui adhaerens huiusmodi est, Serapionis aggregatoris de simplicibus commentarij, Abrahamo Iudæo, & Symone Ianuensi interpretib. Ex præfatione Othonis Brunfelsij ad Lectorem. Typographus conquisitis unctisq. è bibliothecis, tum scriptis, tum impressis exemplaribus, innumeros penè locos reseruit curauit. Subijt eam prouinciam doctissimus uir Gerhardus Nouiomagus. De uorauimus & nos non nihil eius tedij, ut longe alios nunc habes quam in prioribus exemplaribus sunt lecti.

Authores ex quibus hoc opus Ioan. Serapion collegit, sunt circiter octoginta: eorum catalogus statim post indices collocatur. Collegit autem præcipue & decerpit, ex Dioscoride primum descriptiones simplicium pharmacorum ponens, deinde qualitates & facultates ex Galeno, deinde rursus ex Dioscoride uires eorundem, & si quid apud alios Arabes reperit quod illi duo non traderent, id quoq. suo loco adiecit iuxta ordinem alphabeti Arabici.

Verba authoris. Et diuisi librum hunc meum in duas partes: In prima quidem narraui plures ex subsistantijs medicinarum, & saporibus & uirtutibus primis, & secundis, & tertijs, secundum quod memorauit Galenus. In secunda uero posui diuisionem modorum Medicinarum trium generum, uidelicet plantarum, mineralium, & animalium: ac in horum singulis præposui ea quæ complexionis æqualis sunt, deinde subieci secundum quod excedunt in calido, & frigido, & humido, & sicco, secundum abugæ, id est, alphabetum Arabicum.

Ioan. Serapionis practica, dicta breuiarium. Eiusdem Synonyma, sive Arabicorum uocabulorum explicationes ordine alphabeti, quæ in paucis differunt à synonymis Rasis. Item liber de simplici medicina. Octavianus Scotus impressit Venetijs in fol. 1497. cum Ioan. Platearij practica & libro de simplici medicina. Synonymorum chartæ sunt duæ. Practicæ autem chartæ sunt 40. & diuiditur in septem tractatus, quos Gerardus Cremonensis Toleti ex Arabico sermone in Latinum transtulit. Ex præfatione in practicam. Incipiamus librum ab breuiarium in causis aggritudinū, & significationibus earum, & ipsarū curationib. Tractatus primus est de aggritudinibus capitis & neruorum. 2. Oculorum, aurium, narum, dentium, gular, pectoris, pulmonis, & cordis. 3. De aggritudinibus stomachi, de fluxibus: de aggritud. intestinorum. 4. Hepatis, renum, uesicæ, & articularum. 5. De aggritudinibus cutis: de pertinētibus ad spermæ & coitum: de lepra, fluxu sanguinis ex uulnere, de moribus uenenosis, & alijs exteris.

gg 4

*Dina magna uoluntaria
de alio quod Galien
manuscripta in
in Bibliotheca...*

*bin Serapion: qd aliam
ab hoc Ioanne F. Sera
pion, Mafq. lib
Rasi in conti. no pmo
ma in sequenti 402
Rasi in sequenti*

*Emendatio
huius editio
tionis.*

Fig. 11: Fol. 454r of Copy A of Bibliotheca Universalis. Zurich Central Library (DrM 3).

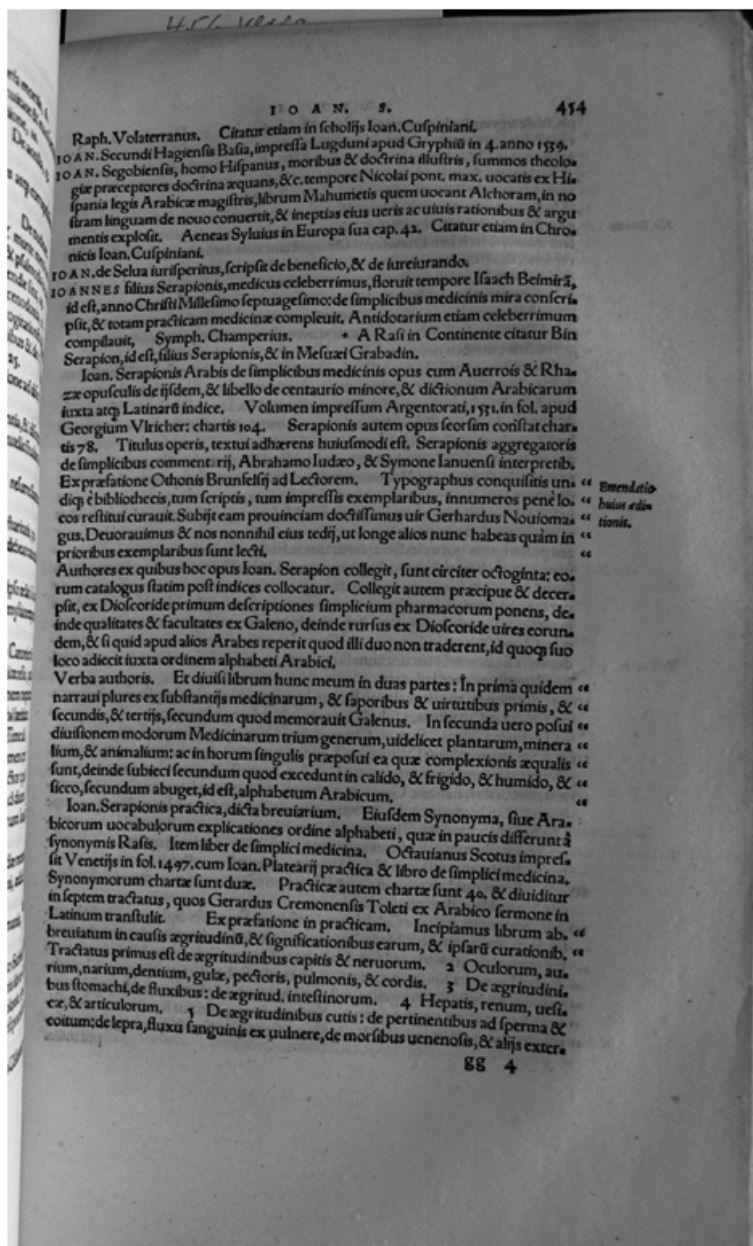


Fig. 12: Fol. 454r of Copy B of *Bibliotheca Universalis*. Zurich Central Library (IV O 2).

left the printer's shop on perfect condition and in the complete state that he considered to represent the final and most perfect state of the book"¹². He also defines the term 'variant state' as "alterations of all varieties made during the printing and before copies are placed on public sale"¹³, and then presents the following five major classes of variant *state*¹⁴:

1. Alterations which do not affect the makeup and which were made in the type-pages of a forme, whether intentionally or unintentionally, while it was printing.
2. The addition, substitution, or deletion of any matter which affects the makeup but which was done in the course of 'continuous printing' and before public sale.
3. Alterations to the text or to any other part of the book which are made for the purpose of correcting or perfecting the edition but which are not accompanied by substitution of a different title-page and thus cannot be regarded as actually constituting a re-issue of the original sheets of the book, even though public sale had begun.
4. Errors and 'corrections' made in imposing, machining, or binding the sheets.
5. Large-paper or fine-paper copies machined without removing the forms from the press after ordinary printing except for washing, normal press-correction, or adjustment of margins.

Copy B is an ideal copy for Gessner and Froschauer and Copy A corresponds to the third class of variant state. The fol. 453–454 of the other two copies of the Zurich Central Library (Copies C and D) show that Copy C is a variant similar with Copy A. Meanwhile, Copy D, the Basel copy and the five copies in Japan are ideal ones similar with Copy B.

The variant copy occurred as a result of the printer changing the formes of fol. 453–454 based on Gessner's corrections. From the viewpoint of bibliographical cancellation, a bifolium (a sheet of paper folded in two to make two leaves) of fol. 453–454 of Copy A is *cancellanda* (the plural of *cancellandum*), and that of fol. 453–454 of Copy B is *cancellantia* (the plural of *cancellans*).¹⁵ The-

¹² Fredson Bowers, *Principles of Bibliographical Description*, Winchester 1994, 113.

¹³ Bowers, *Principles*, 42.

¹⁴ Bowers, *Principles*, 46.

¹⁵ Bowers defines the term 'cancellans' as "*cancellans* replacing a *cancellandum*" Bowers, *Principles*, 243.

refore, it is necessary to describe the ideal collation of the *Bibliotheca Universalis* as follows:

Folio, *⁸, A⁶ B⁴, a-z⁶ ²A-²B⁶ C-Z Aa-Zz 2a-2f⁶ 2g⁶ (±2g3.4)
2h-2z⁶ AA-MM⁶ NN⁸

Although Gessner, indeed, wrote many simple corrections and additions throughout Copy A, Froschauer never revised the text. After completing the quire 2g, however, Froschauer accepted Gessner's own revision in fol. 454v (2g4), printed the aforesaid cancellantia, and then replaced them in the quire 2g. These facts have clarified a part of the printing process of the *Bibliotheca Universalis*. The reasons why Froschauer did not proofread simple errors but accepted only the complicated cancellation as well as why Gessner revised the latter part of the item of "IOANNES filius Serapionis" in fol. 454v are questions that must be addressed in future studies.

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Abstract: Until recently, no variant copy or cancellation of Konrad Gessner's "Bibliotheca Universalis" was known. The author examined five copies in Japan and four copies at the Zurich Central Library (Copies A, B, C and D), as well as one at Basel University Library, and discovered that variant copies do exist. Copy A was Gessner's own copy, to which he added numerous notes, especially on fol. 454v. As a result of comparison with Copy B (Konrad Pellikan's copy), it appears that Gessner corrected the text of lines 4-30 on this folio, shortened it to 11 lines, and added 18 new lines. The printer, Froschauer, recomposed four formes from fol. 453r to 454v, reprinted them and cancelled the former printed sheet of fol. 453r-454v. Copies B and D (Konrad Klauser's copy), the Basel copy, and the five copies in Japan are considered to be the ideal copies and Copies A and C (Jacques Dubois's copy) are regarded as variant copies. One part of the printing process of the "Bibliotheca Universalis" became clear with this discovery.

Keywords: Konrad Gessner; Bibliotheca Universalis; bibliography; history of the book; Zurich Central Library, Waseda University Library