

## APÈNDIX

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### POST-SCRIPTUM TO TWO TEXTS, ONE PROBLEM: THE AUTHORSHIP OF THE *ANTIDOTARIUM* AND *DE VENENIS* ATTRIBUTED TO ARNAU DE VILANOVA (Pages 75-94)

I have argued above that two works attributed to Arnau de Vilanova, the *Antidotarium* and *De venenis*, were assembled after his death by a disciple, Petrus Cellerarii, out of genuinely Arnaldian materials. I have also suggested that some of these materials were notes made by Arnau when he met Niccolò da Reggio at the court of Robert of Naples, ca. 1309, and saw some of the translations of classical medical works that Niccolò was at that moment beginning to make from Greek into Latin.<sup>1</sup> A further piece of evidence has now come to light that is consistent with this suggestion. Arnau's *Antidotarium* opens with the statement: «Lamentabatur Hypocras eo quod medicina scientiarum nobilissima propter indisciplinam utentium et vane iudicantium in effectu est pre cunctis scientiis sterilis facta».<sup>2</sup> This phrase includes a nearly verbatim quotation from Hippocrates' *De lege*, whose Latin translation —by Niccolò da Reggio— begins: «Medicina artium preclarissima propter indisciplinam utentium et iudicantium tales vane in defectu est utique magis omnibus artibus».<sup>3</sup> The text of *De lege* had apparently been unknown to medieval Europe before Niccolò rendered it into Latin, although citations and paraphrases of its content (probably derivative) do exist from the earlier period; it is perhaps because Arnau is the earliest medieval author who can be shown to have quoted its Latin translation that he himself was

1. *Two Texts, One Problem: The Authorship of the Antidotarium and De venenis Attributed to Arnau de Vilanova*, above 75-94.

2. *Antidotarium*, in *Opera Arnaldi*, Venetiis 1505, f. 283ra.

3. I quote the text as given in MS. Vat., Barb. lat. 179, f. 96vb.

sometimes mistakenly supposed to be its translator.<sup>4</sup> Now we can understand that Arnau's quotation of the opening of *De lege* is instead a further clear-cut testimony to his close contact with Niccolò da Reggio and therefore, indirectly, to the emergence of the *Antidotarium* out of Arnau's experiences at the court of Naples in the last years of his life.

4. For what is known about the history of *De lege* in the Middle Ages, see Pearl KIBRE, *Hippocrates Latinus*, New York 1985, 182-188.