

reaffirmed the remarkable consistency of Montpellier H 82 and even suggested that it could be a direct descendent of the ancient *Code*¹¹².

Regarding the *Decretum*, I remain optimistic that true manuscripts of the second recension can and will be found. Scholars so far have focused their attention almost entirely on mixed-recension manuscripts. The guiding assumption, quite understandably, has been that manuscripts with readings closer to Gratian's formal sources and contents less than the second recension must necessarily hold precedence over fuller manuscripts whose readings differ from Gratian's formal sources. This study has suggested that precisely the opposite is true. The peculiarities of mixed-recension manuscripts – first-recension preservations and second-recension omissions – make them appear older than the second recension when in reality they must descend, in part, from completed manuscripts of the second recension. With scholarly attention redirected towards more complete manuscripts which closely approximate the second recension, it may be possible to isolate one or more examples which contain no errors on the seams between the two recensions. If a pure manuscript of the second recension can be found, it will greatly simplify the process of editing the second recension. If one cannot be found, it will be impossible to improve upon Krüger's approach to the *Code*. With any luck, it will soon be possible to clear up much of the remaining uncertainty regarding the early transmission of Gratian's *Decretum*.

APPENDIX List of Sigla

Aa	Admont, Stiftsbibliothek, 23 and 43.
Ab	Admont, Stiftsbibliothek, 35.
Ad	Admont, Stiftsbibliothek, 48.
Am	Amiens, Bibliothèque municipale, 354.
An	Antwerpen, Museum Plantin-Moretus, M 13.
Ao	Arras, Bibliothèque municipale, 27 (32).

112) „Of all the early manuscripts of the *Code* we examined, Montpellier H 82 is the one that seems to have been collated most closely with an ancient manuscript, if it was not indeed copied from one“; RADDING / CIARALLI, *Corpus* (as n. 11) p. 164.