

Others would have said this  
Some volume is *Incunabula*

7

*The Antidotarium of  
Nicolaus Praepositus* BOOKS. 1903.  
(Venice, 1471)

In fly-leaf of N. Jenson's Nicolaus Falcutius, Antidotarium  
From Robert Fletcher to W.O.

*This is Nicolaus Salernitanus not  
(Gualtius non Praelatus)*

Surgeon General's Office,  
U.S. Army Medical Museum and Library,  
Washington. CUS417/35.47  
November 20, 1903.

My dear Doctor Osler,

I am not able to say positively that the work of Nicolaus Praepositus of 1471 is the earliest dated printed medical book, but I have always been accustomed to so regard it. Sprengel gives no earlier date, although, curiously enough, he does not seem to have detected the error in the date of the first edition of Valescus that was printed as 1401, and has been sometimes quoted with that date, which is clearly a blunder for either 1491 or 1501.

I thank you for your kind interest in the matter of the portrait. It has not yet arrived, and I shall be glad to let you know when it can be seen and to hear your opinion as to the likeness.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT FLETCHER

*(Which one these is a  
manuscript of 1471 also  
by person)*