

f. 2v, blank;

ff. 3-6v, 4: 6 : : 5 3 5 ; 3 , (; 9 4 : 54 6) ; 4 : 9 ; : (4 ; , incipit, " Quattrino.
Quadrans, qui erat quarta pars Assis ... 300000, milioni. Centies millies millies. Trecenties
millies centena millia."

This text was printed under the title 99 : 9 5. 44 3 : 54 3 ,, : 3 in the 7; 9 : 9
6 6 9. 52 3 of Aldus Manutius the Younger, first printed by the Aldine Press in 1576 in Venice
(book 3, pp. 81-86 in that edition). The printed version includes a brief prefatory dedication to
Johannes Crato von Krafftheim (1519-1585), a German humanist and court physician. No such
preface precedes the text copied here. In other respects, the

99 : in Suetonius's account, would have cost 180,000 9), . Asides such as this suggest that this treatise could be used as a handy reference for readers of classical Latin texts, in which capacity the accompanying treatise on Roman numerals would have served a complementary purpose.

In conclusion, it may be useful to note that this does not look like a printer's copy (the presentation is very clean and there are no marginal notes or corrections) and, as mentioned above, there are other indications that suggest this was not copied from the printed editions. Both manuscript texts are slightly more elaborate than the print versions, and the print versions seem more likely to have subtracted these elaborations than a scribe would have been to add them. For example, in the first text where the manuscript identifies five earlier forms of the numeral used to signify 1000, the print edition has to approximate several with the type available; unless the scribe were independently knowledgeable of the history of the numeral M, it seems unlikely that he could have known how to transcribe some of the print approximations. (Also, the manuscript contains a diagram containing six earlier forms of the numeral that does not appear in the printed edition.) As mentioned above, the opening section of the second treatise makes reference in both manuscript and print versions to sums of 99 : found in classical books, but only the manuscript actually contains these references. Certainly the possibility that the texts preserved here are versions that predate the printed texts is an exciting one, and one that call for further investigation.

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