

### D. McKEE WRIGHT'S FIRST BOOK

is that his works were authorities for the following century, no less certain that he has faded into the dimness common to much of the culture of the later middle ages.

Mayno achieved a high reputation as an advocate and orator, and was made a Count Palatine by the Emperor Maximilian. Louis XII of France gave him the Chateau of Piopera, and certain honours. He is notable in that he systematized clearly the opinions of commentators in jurisprudence, and also improved the recognition and reimbursement of lawyers and law teachers. He wrote several books, of which *De Actionibus*, first issued in 1483, was the earliest, and in itself a notable contribution to Roman law in its orderly methodising of the state of mediaeval knowledge on the subject. It was reprinted many times within the following century.

It was indicated on another page that there was a link between Alciati and Jason Mayno. As both were legal scholars of Pavia in the early sixteenth century, it is readily understandable that one of the earliest emblems of the former should have been devised for the latter. The symbols represented Hermes, a favourite figure with the emblematisers, and were used with the motto *Virtuti fortuna comes*. Alciati's tomb was sculptured with the same symbols, with the horns of plenty and the twined serpents.

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DAVID McKEE WRIGHT is one of the best known of New Zealand poets who first struck a characteristically New Zealand note in their work. A new edition of his works has just been published, but in preparing his selection, the editor consulted the material in the library. It was disappointing to find that no copy of Wright's earliest twenty-page booklet *Aorangi and other Verses*, Mills & Dick, Dun-