

EDITORIAL:
THE SCHOLARLY AND CRITICAL EDITION (IN HISTORY OF
LOGIC) – HISTORIOGRAPHICAL REFLECTIONS ON ITS NATURE
AND PURPOSE, OR, HOW TO READ AND REVIEW A
SCHOLARLY AND CRITICAL EDITION*

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The editing of a critical/scholarly edition is one of the most difficult undertakings that can devolve on any historian of logic. Aside from the technical difficulties of selecting and authenticating, dating, collating and organizing texts, there is a responsibility to provide the logic community to an accurate written record of an author's work upon which to base its judgment of the contributions of the author and of the proper place of the author's work within the history of logic. Many, if not all, editorial projects having the goal of preparing the works of an author for publication in a critical/scholarly edition are team efforts. This collaborative effort allows experts with differing backgrounds and specializations and interests to cover all aspects and ramifications of an author's work; this approach can also, and perhaps even most importantly, help to ensure, through a competitive coöperation among the specialists, an objective balance in the presentation of the author's work insofar as that is possible.

It is not always clear to a reader or reviewer of a critical/scholarly edition that the edition is fair and impartial, or that the edition in hand serves to provide the "correct" interpretation of the author's work. In the

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