Note to the Latin Text

This text follows Ari Wesseling’s excellent edition,¹ which is based on the 1492 printed edition of the Florentine Antonio Miscomini (Angeli Politiani Praelectio in Priora Aristotelis Analytica. Titulus Lamia); Wesseling has given it the siglum “A,” also used here. “A” was the only edition produced during Poliziano’s lifetime. Wesseling has presented a fairly full critical apparatus, having collated his text with six later editions; that apparatus is not reproduced here. The present text differs from Wesseling in some minor matters of punctuation and orthography. Of the latter, the most salient is the choice, represented in the present edition, to adopt a uniform and in most cases classifying orthography. Thus, for example, “intellego” is not sometimes “intellego” and sometimes “intelligo” (though this variation does indeed appear in A); “comoedia” is not sometimes “comoedia” and other times “comedia” (though this orthographical divergence, too, appears), and so on. The aim has been uniformity, readability, and consistency.

As Wesseling notes (xxxvii), there are three apparent typographical errors in A, which have been corrected silently in the present text. They are (numbers refer to the section numbers below):

9: fodicato] fodicabo A
42: perceptu] perceptus A
58: plurimi] plutimi A

In section 38, Wesseling’s “imbeccillam” has been corrected to “imbecillam” as, in 48, “imbecillitas” has been rendered “imbecillitas.” The present readings are supported in both cases by Op. (at Y iv[r] and Y v[r], respectively). In 57, the rare form “civitatium” has been

maintained, with Wesseling; it is attested in both A and Op. (at Y vi[r]). The form “simulacr—” (as opposed to “simulachr—”) is employed here (in 63, 64, and 65); A, and Wesseling, have “simulachr—”, whereas Op. is inconsistent.

Part of Poliziano’s brilliance lies in the manner in which he seamlessly combines, recombines, and rings changes both major and minor on the form and the content of his ancient sources. In this edition, quotations are indicated as such (within quotation marks) only when Poliziano draws attention to his quotation, whether explicitly or implicitly.