Vulgate

From the Latin *vulgata* 'spread among the multitude (*vulgaris*); the noun *editio* 'edition' is implied, so the form is feminine.

In textual criticism, a *vulgate* text means the text form that reached the widest distribution in a time, possibly long after the archetype, when a heightened interest in the text surged for one reason or another and many copies were made. When interest in a text is high, it is also likely that some people compare witnesses in order to arrive at the "best" text. Thus *vulgate* texts are often a kind of early text *edition*, or, to use a more negative formulation, the product of heavy *contamination*. Their text may supplant all other text forms and thus eradicate them. For an example cf. Trovato’s discussion of the transmission of Dante’s *Divina commedia* (2014, 299ff.).

With *cladistic* methods (if one groups any variants, instead of sticking to common errors) there is a great danger to arrive at a *vulgate* text instead of the *archetype* (cf. Trovato 2014, 138-144).

A *vulgate* reading is a *reading* present in a *vulgate*.

Reference


In other languages

DE: Vulgata
FR: vulgate
IT: vulgata

PR