

Edict 10.

Concerning apparitors of the president (members of his staff).
(De cohortalibus.)

Preface. The fraud practiced by provincial apparitors toward the fisc has been learned by us by experience.

c. 1. Since we have learned that they are also chiefly audacious in this, namely, that they indeed collect money due the fisc, but thereafter conceal themselves in sacred places, in this manner escaping the punishment of which those who are chastised are worthy, we ordain—as we have also written to the God-beloved bishops of the provinces—that if any of them flee to sacred enclosures, Your Excellency shall have authority to order them to leave the province and to stay in a place where you wish. When this order has been made, the God-beloved bishops must take them out of the sacred enclosures, having received the so-called letter of safety (logos) that they (the apparitors) will be safe in the places where they have been ordered to go, and where the public servants may take them without molestation. Your Excellency will, therefore, employ your mandates against the apparitors in that manner. We have threatened the God-beloved bishops and their clergymen, that if they do not eject them (the apparitors) from the province with the so-called letter of safety and take them, under that protection, to the places where they have been ordered, to live there the same as in the sacred places, they (the bishops and clergy) must indemnify the fisc out of their own property and not that of the churches, and run the risk of losing their priesthood.

Epilogue. Your Excellency, therefore, will carry this our will, declared by this pragmatic sanction, into force and effect.

Enacted before the death of Tribonian and about 545 A.D.

Note.

As to the right of asylum and letters of safety (logos), see C. 1.12, and headnote.

