



### THE YALE HOLIDAY CARD . . .

This winter we were pleased to receive the customary attractive, interesting, and law-related greeting card signed by Mike Widener, Rare Book Librarian at Yale Law School's Goldman Library. Like its predecessors, this year's card featured an interesting image on the front (see above) and an explanatory note inside:

This angelic woodcut is a tail-piece, a decoration marking the end of a book or chapter. It appears in a dissertation on the law of treaties and alliances by Arnold Gottfried Everts for a doctorate in law from the University of Erfurt, *Theses inaugurales ex jure publico de jure foederum sive alianciarum* (Erfurt: Limprecht, 1714). Everts was a legal official in the court of the Prince-Bishop of Eichstätt. It is one of thousands of 18th-century German legal dissertations in the Lillian Goldman Law Library's Rare Book Collection. Written in Latin on topics that are now arcane and obsolete, as legal texts they are largely ignored today. However, their typography and decoration are often quite lovely. This tail-piece is one of the most outstanding examples.