

perpurgasse stomachum, id quod tu iusseras. Denique lectam in ignem conice, si lubet: coniciam et meam *αυτόγραφον*, sed ita notatam vt nec a meipso legi queat. Quouis modo vlscere, modo ne 570 amicus esse desinas neue obticescas. Quanquam de Fabro plus satis; quaeretur aliud argumentum plausibilis. Rursum vale.

907. FROM THOMAS MORE.

Stapleton, *Vita Mori* (1588) p. 221.

⟨London?⟩

⟨1518?⟩

[A fragment from the same source as Ep. 845. It may be dated after Clement's settlement at Oxford; cf. Ep. 388. 173 n. Stapleton introduces it with these words: 'de quo ⟨Clemente⟩ sic in epistola ad Erasmum non excusa scribit.']

CLEMENS meus Oxonii profitetur auditorio tanto quanto non ante quisquam. Mirum est quam placeat ac deametur vniuersis. Quibus bonae literae propemodum sunt inuisae, tamen illum charum habent, audiunt ac paulatim mitescunt. Linacer, qui neminem, vt scis, temere probat, tamen illius epistolas sic effert atque admiratur vt 5 ego quoque, qui vnice homini faueo, propemodum tamen tam cumulatius laudibus ab illo viro congestis inuideam.

908. TO THOMAS MORE.

Farrago p. 316.

⟨Louvain.⟩

F. p. 422; HN: Lond. x. 19; LB. App. 17.

1 January ⟨1519⟩.

[1519, because of the interview with Pucci at Basle and the numerous illnesses. The dates added in H are clearly wrong.]

ERASMVS ROTERODAMVS THOMAE MORO SVO S. D.

Vt nusquam cessant sycophantae mei, vt nullum non mouent lapidem, quo noceant Erasmo! Persuaserant Coloniae vni atque alteri libellum illum impium et non vno incendio dignum a me conscriptum fuisse; persuasuri pluribus, ni praesens impudentissimam calumniam retudissem. Quod si quid huius suspicionis apud vos 5 quoque subortum est, vt solet in huiusmodi negociis per multos obambulare diuinatio, mitto ad te exemplar literarum mearum ad Paulum Bombasium; nam perlongum sit eadem pluribus scribere. Nihil pudet istos sycophantas, et nescio quomodo, quae falsissima sunt, libentius credit vulgus. Pridem erat in animo submonere 10 Pontificem summum vt huiusmodi licentiae indies magis ac magis

908. 3. impium . . . dignum E: ridiculum de Iulio coelis excluso H.

908. 3. libellum] The clue is given in H. For the *Iulius* and the significance of this letter see Ep. 502 introd.

4. praesens] On his way to or from

Basle; see pp. 312, 392.

7. literarum] Not extant; perhaps that of 18 Aug. (cf. Ep. 865. 1).

10. Pridem] Cf. Ep. 860. 23-6.

gliscenti finem imponeret; sed nondum incidit commoditas. Antonium Puccium oratorem tamen admonui Basileae, et recepit securaturum; nam illi quoque res non dissimulanda videbatur.

- 15 Cum tu duodecim angelatos mittis pro nouem, non video quid lucri facias. Video futurum vt fortunae secundus flatus te nobis auferat; sed hoc moderatius fero, quod tu interim felix es, qualiacunque nostra sunt fata. Vetus est amicis conualescentibus soteria mittere: at isthinc nec literae mittuntur, cum a tot morbis reuixerim.
- 20 De theologorum quorundam fucatisissimis technis perlongum sit scribere. Ex literis meis ad Roffensem fabulae partem intelliges; nam harum exemplar ad te mitto. Bene vale.

Cal. Ian. [Basileae, M.D.XV.]

909. TO THE READER.

Fam. Colloquiorum Formulae, tit. vº.

Louvain.

1 January 1519.

[The preface to a revised edition of the *Familiarium Colloquiorum Formulae*, Louvain, Th. Martens, 1 March 1519 (α); which was forced upon Erasmus by the appearance of Beatus Rhenanus' unauthorized edition, Basle, Froben, Nov. 1518, reprinted in Feb. 1519 (cf. Ep. 130. 92 n.). This preface also occurs in editions by Froben of May (β) and Oct. 1519 (γ): a copy in the Bodleian, Meerman subt. 346), and in an undated edition by Martens (δ) of c. Nov. 1519 (see BER². *Colloq.* i. pp. 59-69).

The careful examination of β and δ in BER². raises some curious problems. The considerable alteration of this preface in β , and the addition of a new section to the body of the work (pp. 83-6), suggest that Erasmus must have been cognizant of Froben's new edition (β); and confirmation for this view may be derived from the retention of the text of β in δ . It is remarkable, however, that γ reverts to the text of α for this preface, though following β in the fullness of its contents.]

ERASMVS ROTERODAMVS STVDIOSAE IVENTVTI S. D.

Non me clam est, optime lector, alienius esse: sed tamen quando non datus est opportunior locus, paucis admonendum putauit. Prodiit nuper libellus quidam Colloquiorum Familiarium, quem mihi tribuunt; et ediscitur a pueris meo nomine, vt audio. Qui etiamnum 5 si maxime is esset qui Latinae linguae castimoniam doceret, nolim

908. 13. tamen ante Puccium transtulit H. 20. quorundam add. F.
 23. Basileae, M.D.XV add. H. 909. TIT. STVDIOSAE IVENTVTI $\alpha\gamma$: CANDIDO
 LECTORI $\beta\delta$. 1. Non me . . . 2. putauit add. $\beta\delta$: om. $\alpha\gamma$. 3. nuper libellus
 quidam $\alpha\gamma$: quidam libellus $\beta\delta$. 4. etiamnum $\alpha\gamma$: om. $\beta\delta$. 5. esset
 $\alpha\gamma\delta$: est β .

908. 13. Puccium] See p. 379.

16. secundus flatus] More had been made a Privy Councillor c. July 1518, and perhaps earlier (Epp. 855. 38, 816. 5-6), and had since been engaged in important business of state; see Brewer ii. 4438, 4469, 4475. He had also been

appointed Master of Requests in 1518.

19. morbis] Cf. Epp. 844. 293 n., 867. 193 seq.

21. literis] Probably a continuation of Erasmus' appeal to English authority against Lee; cf. Epp. 886. 58 seq., 936. 31 n., 973.