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The correspondence of M. Tullius Cicero

arranged according to its chronological order

Cicero, Marcus Tullius

Dublin, 1904

Vorwort

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PREFACE.

THE Second Edition of this volume was published just twenty years ago, and since that time many important works bearing on Cicero's Epistles have been issued. Chief among these have been the stately critical edition of the *Epistulae ad Familiares* by L. Mendelssohn (1893); Lehmann's *De Ciceronis Epistulis ad Atticum recensendis et emendandis* (1892); the critical edition of the whole Correspondence by C. F. W. Müller, a work of great learning (1896-1898); Lehmann's edition (1892) of Hofmann's *Ausgewählte Briefe*, lately revised by Sternkopf (1898), which contains full critical notes (as far as the selected letters are concerned) of the various manuscripts of the Σ class (see Introduction, pp. 107-112)*; and O. E. Schmidt's *Der Briefwechsel Ciceros von seinem Prokonsulat in Cilicien bis zu Caesars Ermordung* (1893). We trust that we may soon have from this distinguished scholar another volume of the same kind, dealing with the earlier period

* Whatever statements we have made as to the readings of these manuscripts are based on what has been told us by Lehmann in the two above-named works of that scholar.

of Cicero's Correspondence. The number of Dissertations, Monographs, Articles, and Notes touching on questions of criticism, elucidation, history, and antiquities, suggested by the Epistles is very great; and the stream shows little sign of losing its fulness. Besides the scholars we have named, the services done to Cicero's Correspondence by Gurlitt and Sternkopf are in the highest degree valuable; and, during the last few years, Professor J. S. Reid, of Cambridge, has written in *Hermathena* a series of most interesting and learned articles on the Epistles. To all these scholars we are deeply indebted, and here gladly acknowledge our obligations in a general way: in each passage where they have afforded especial assistance we have endeavoured to make special acknowledgment.

The order of the letters has, for the most part, been maintained as it stood in the Second Edition—not that scholars have not proved that order in some cases to be wrong*—but to make changes would have rendered references all through the succeeding volumes of our edition untrustworthy; and a table of the dates of the several letters, which is given at the end of this volume, will (it is hoped) preclude any serious misguidance.

* Thus Mr. Clement Smith, in the *Harvard Studies* (vol. vii., pp. 71–84), has proved that the order of the early letters in Att. iii. is 1, 3, 2, 5, 4, 6; not 3, 2, 4, 1, 5, 6, as we have given them. See Addenda to the Commentary, Note VI. In this connexion we wish to note our regret that, owing to ignorance of Sternkopf's valuable papers referred to in that Note, we adopted an erroneous reading in Att. iii. 4 (58). The passage should run as is indicated on p. 433, not as it is printed on p. 359. Attention must further be drawn to Mommsen's excellent suggestions indicated on p. *131, note, *memini* for *emi* (Comm. 33), and *montium* for *omnium* (ib. 30). We also wish to correct *sororis*, in Commentariolum Petitionis, § 9, into *sorum*, Mr. Hendrickson, of Chicago, having satisfactorily shown that this is the right reading; see p. 132*.

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The difficult question as to Metrical Prose in Cicero's Epistles, which has been raised by Prof. Henri Bornecque's work, *La Prose métrique dans la Correspondance de Cicéron* (Paris, 1898), we hope to discuss in a new edition of Volume II., which, we trust, will be published before the end of next year.

DUBLIN,

September, 1904.

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