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The correspondence of M. Tullius Cicero

arranged according to its chronological order

Cicero, Marcus Tullius

Dublin, 1906

Vorwort

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PREFACE.

IN this Second Edition of the second volume of CICERO'S CORRESPONDENCE, we have endeavoured to avail ourselves of the considerable amount of work which has been done in this portion of Cicero's Letters during the last twenty years; but we are sensible how difficult it is to make sure that some, even important, contributions to the elucidation of the Correspondence have not escaped our notice. However, we have done our best, with the limited time at our disposal, to follow the literature of the subject. We have derived much advantage from several monographs, especially those by Sternkopf in *Hermes*, which have proved very helpful. We have added to the Introduction a chapter on 'The Egyptian Question,' in which we owe much to two articles by M. Bouché-Leclercq in the *Revue Historique*; and also a chapter on some points of epistolary style suggested by the learned and lucid work of M. Jules Lebreton, s.j. (*Études sur la langue et la grammaire de Cicéron*). We have omitted the chapter on the Harleian manuscripts, as they are sufficiently discussed in the Introduction to Vol. I³ (pp. 96-98). We have made some statistics (pp. lxvi, lxvii) as to the applicability of

the interesting and now famous Law of the Clause-endings set forth by Professor Th. Zielinski, of St. Petersburg, in his work *Das Clauselgesetz in Ciceros Reden* (1904), and have found it to hold good to a remarkable degree in many of the more formal letters written by Cicero himself, but in no appreciable degree in the letters of his correspondents.

The difficulty as regards the order of the letters is the same as that noticed in the third edition of the first volume (1904). The order of our original edition is retained, though that order has in some cases been proved to be wrong; because alteration of it would render the references all through the succeeding volumes of our edition untrustworthy. The table given on pp. 302-304 will (it is hoped) in a measure remedy this defect, and enable students to discover without difficulty the approximate chronological order of the several letters.

We desire to thank Mr. Gibbs of the University Press for many useful corrections.

DUBLIN,

May, 1906.

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