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Brief an [Jacob Bernays]

Pattison, Mark

Oxford, 11.11.1856 [Novemb[er] 11. 1856]

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Lincoln College Oxford.

Novemb. 11. 1856.

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My dear Sir

I think you may like to hear what was my success in Paris. I went first to the 'Bibliothèque Imperiale'. The only trace of the 'Scaligerana' wh. I could find there was a vol. of 7 leaves in 40, among the papers of 'Jean Bouhier, President au Parlement a Dijon', which contained extracts from the 'Scaligerana' in an order wh. was not that of the printed editions. at the end the date "1604", and these words, "Vassan, qui tunc fervebat, ex ipsius colloquiis excerptit, ego ex illius autographo."

The extractor, whoever he was, (~~not~~ ^{perhaps} not Bouhier) must have been very ignorant, or very careless. For example he has an extract which runs thus 'Thomas d'Acquin jacobin estoit docte, un peu pesant du temps de Charles-
"magne." In the original, from wh. he copied,

the words "du Camp de Charlemagne". By on the
next entry. He also has "Eusebe a vecu
130 ans apres J. C." . . . In the Magazine
I was more fortunate. It contains a MS. of
the 'Scaligerona' in the original order. I
was unable to ascertain, in the short time I
had, whose writing it was, as neither of the
libraries possess an autograph of Claudius
Serrarius with which to compare it. It comes
out of the Carmelite convent, and has been care-
fully gone through by P. D. Huot, who has added
headings on the margin to every article. Huot's
headings do not always correspond with those under
which the article is arranged in the printed
copies. I collated a few pages of the MS. with
the printed book. In ~~the~~ what I collated there was
nothing in the MS. that was not to be found in the
book. the passages were verbally correct. & nothing, in
the strongest passages, was shaded down in the printed

copy. I could not stay in Paris long enough to
collate the whole - but I have some hope of being
allowed the use of it over here - I do not however
anticipate, from what I saw, that anything will be
found there wh. is not in the printed text. . . I
am not satisfied that my enquiries in the Super.^e
were exhaustive. At the arrangements are at present, you
are entirely at the mercy of an inferior official,
who makes the 'recherches' for you, & who is im-
patient to get back to his own work, from which you
disturb him to do yours. Bunsen gave me a letter
to Hase. & I saw him - He was very polite, but could
not be of any use to me as he only goes to the
Library 2 days in the week. & then does not
appear in the public rooms. . . . I know (as yet)
only of two books in the Bodleian Lib.^y with MS.
notes of Scaliger's. 1. 'Iniciarii Grammatici Cas.
Libri Omnes. Basil. 1545.' in Title-page 'C. Pu-
teani legatum Illustris Viri Josephi Scaligeri
Sub. les. a Bard. F.' 2. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡ-
ΓΙΑΙ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ. fol. Paris.
1560. (Morel). . . The 'Josephus' is not in the

Library. . . . The letters of Scal. of which I
spoke to you are three in number, one in Latin,
& 2 in French. Two are in 'Kortum Frederic.

De Societate Attica Origine atque Institutione. Progr.
M. 40 Heidelberg. 1844. They are addressed to
Pet. Daniel. The 1st is in French, dated 'Basle
1^{er} Juillet 1574.' The 2^d in Latin, dated 'Tarfonii
viii Id. Cal. Jul.' . . . One, in French is in 'Müller
Prof. Analect. Berrenus. Partii. 2^a. p. 41.' addressed
to 'Monsieur Quous.' Daniel Avocat en la Court
de Parlement, demeurant chez M^{rs} Joby &c.'
it is referred to, not given, by Kortum. . . .

. . . I left Heidelberg on the 29th Oct., and bring
away the remembrance of a most pleasant two months.
of wh. the few hours spent with you were not the
least pleasant, or the least profitable. I have, at least,
learned my own weakness, & the vanity of my attempting
to make books. If I once get decently out of this affair,
I will never undertake any thing again. We do
not, here, know the difference between good & bad,
& bad does for us quite as well as the best.

very truly yours
W. Patterson.