

C. JULIUS SOLINUS

MARY ELLA MILHAM

(University of New Brunswick)

<i>Fortuna.</i>	73
Bibliography.	77
Composite Edition.	78
Genuine Work	78
I. <i>Collectanea rerum memorabilium.</i>	
Commentaries.	
1. Johannes Camers.	
2. Mariangelus Accursius	
3. Johannes Oporinus (Book I, Ch. 1–12 only)	
4. Sebastianus Munsterus.	
5. Georgius Draudius.	
6. Johannes Jacobus Grasserus.	
Spurious Works	85
II. <i>Pontica.</i>	
III. <i>Norwegiana.</i>	

FORTUNA*

We have virtually no external evidence on who Solinus was or where and when he lived. His *Collectanea rerum memorabilium*, also called *De mirabilibus mundi* and *Polyhistor*, must itself yield, through its text and early manuscripts, most of our evidence about this elusive author of geography whose work is totally informed by the miraculous.

*I would like to thank Professor Cranz, many scholars and librarians in Europe and North America, and Marianne S. Goodfellow of Ottawa for their help with this article.

Mommsen's monumental study of Solinus was first published in 1864 and remains the standard work. He had at that time discovered about 175 manuscripts, some fragmentary, excerpted, and epitomized. To this list I have added about 125 more, but I would judge the total number of extant exemplars to be at least 350, very few of which have been investigated for the evidence they could add to medieval and Renaissance geographical learning from their dates, hands, proveniences, scribes, and owners.

In investigating the earliest manuscripts, beginning with the ninth century, Mommsen discovered three classes, described in his edition

of 1895 (pp lix ff.): Class I, which seemed to be free of important interpolation and to be descended from an archetype predating the sixth century (R = Vat. lat. 3342, C = Monte Cassino, 391, N = Copenhagen Gl. Kgl. S. 444 fol.; H = Vatican, Pal. lat. 1568); Class II, an offshoot from Class I with its own variants (L = Leiden, Voss. lat. Q 37; M = Paris, lat. 7230; G = Wolfenbüttel, Gud. lat. 163 4°; and B = Basel, F II 33); and Class III, containing major revisions of the text (S = St. Gall, 187; A = Engelberg, 67; and P = Paris, lat. 6810). From these and related early manuscripts and from the internal evidence of the text Mommsen decided that the *Collectanea* had perhaps been written by Solinus in the third century A.D., but that most of the early manuscripts were descended from an archetype of the mid-fifth century, because of a manuscript reference to Theodosius II. He then posited a revision by an imposter at the time of Isidore of Seville which ultimately provided the Class III variations. In the 1960s Hermann Walter produced evidence that the second version of the *Collectanea* was perhaps the work of Solinus himself.

The letter that prefaces the *Memorabilia* in the manuscripts of Mommsen's Classes II and III is involved in the problems of the date of recension of the text; on its authenticity see Mommsen and Walter (Bibliography, below). This letter Mommsen described as *Solinus Advento*, but the name of the recipient had been variously interpreted by the early commentators. The incipits and explicits of commentaries to the letter that have been found are given below, together with those for the commentary to the text of the *Memorabilia*.

Only internal evidence can give us any clues to Solinus himself, but he appears to have been Italian, perhaps from the city of Rome, since he begins his work with Rome's origins. Part of Mommsen's proof of the date of Solinus lay in his use by other late classical authors, especially in Apuleius' *Florida*, Ammianus Marcellinus, Martianus Capella, Priscian's translation of Dionysius Periegetes, and Isidore of Seville. In the fourth to eighth centuries Solinus was also used by such writers as Augustine, Jordanes, Verecundus, Aethicus, and Paulus Diaconus. In the seventh century the letters of Aldhelm of Malmesbury mention him, and in the eighth he is quoted by the Venerable Bede. The geographical spread of these early users of Solinus

prepares us for the widely separated areas from which our oldest manuscripts come. His popularity must have been established very soon after his own era, and he remained the chief Latin geographer to a millennium.

Our earliest extant manuscript is from the ninth century (Leiden, Voss. lat. Q 87); there is also a British excerpt, which may be either Solinian or Plinian. At any rate, Solinus was used extensively in the ninth century by the Irish monk Dicuil in his work of history and geography, as well as in the *De situ orbis* by the author known as *Anonymous Leidensis* from the present location of his manuscript (Leiden, Voss. lat. F 113). At the same time Solinus was known to Heirc of Auxerre and to Walafrid Strabo at St. Gall.

From the tenth century fifteen extant manuscripts attest Solinus' importance. Of these the St. Gall and Engelberg codices mentioned above remain where they were copied; Paris, lat. 7230 is from St. Denis; Paris, lat. 7230A is signed by one Waldiaudus Clericus; Vat. lat. 3342 was copied at Monte Cassino; and Oxford, Bodl. Auct. T.2.28 has been connected with Fleury.

Adam of Bremen's famous history and geography used Solinus in the eleventh century, as did the verse epitome composed by Theodoric of St. Trond and found in mss. Brussels 8891 and 10712–13. He was also used by Petrus Damianus. Of the twenty full manuscripts and excerpts that survived from that century, not all known to Mommsen, one is from the abbey of Nonantola (Rome, BN Sess. 17), one from the abbey of Saint-Mihiel (Saint-Mihiel, 42, lost in 1914), and one from the abbey of Bury St. Edmunds (Cambridge, Clare College, fragments), surely a brief summary of the medieval geographical distribution of Solinus. Another manuscript (Leiden, Voss. lat. Q 29) is signed in Greek by one Dodo.

The thirty-five extant manuscripts from the twelfth century must represent an apogee in the fame of Solinus, before his credibility was weakened by the widening dissemination of new geographical learning. In this century his influence is found in the world map of Henry of Mainz, and an abstract of his work made by Petrus Diaconus is preserved in Monte Cassino, 391. He was also translated into French by Simon de Boulogne, of Ghisnes, for Balduin of Flanders. Solinus' work was used by a wide variety of writers, who include William of Conches,

Gotfrid of Viterbo, William of Tyre, Henry of Huntingdon, Fulcher of Chartres, Alexander Neckam, Alain de Lille, and Guido de Bazoches.

The thirty-five twelfth-century manuscripts of Solinus include several Montpellier mss., one from Clairvaux (Montpellier 121). Although no complete commentary is known from that century, London, BL Cotton, Cleopatra D. I contains, on fol. 254, a lengthy marginal note on the "three floods." Two manuscripts of the twelfth century (Florence, Laur. S. Marco 209, and London, BL Egerton 818) later belonged to the library of Coluccio Salutati.

We have about forty extant manuscripts of Solinus from each of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries but as yet no survey of his use in literature, which must have been extensive. In the thirteenth century his work was preserved in the Hereford map and the Ebstorf map, both already outdated by new cartographic developments in Italy. In addition to Coluccio Salutati, several owners and scribes of the fourteenth century are known, and for the first time there is an extant Spanish manuscript (Paris, lat. 1702), written at Toledo and Cedillo. The codex El Escorial, g. III 5, which contains two copies, one having belonged to M. Dandulus and the other to P. Diego Hurtado de Mendoza, is of Italian origin. Finally, Basel F II 33 is of exceptional importance for so late a date, for Mommsen used it among his codices of Class II; it also contains many marginal notes and several marginal geographical diagrams.

The fifteenth century of course saw the explosion of manuscript copying in Italy, so it is not surprising that there are about one hundred extant manuscripts of Solinus from that century, about half of Italian provenience. But in this century Pomponius Mela, first disseminated by Petrarch, caught up with Solinus in popularity and was to supersede him in the following centuries (see CTC, V, 257–85). We have many Solinus manuscripts but to date no account of his use in the literature and learning of the Quattrocento, and we know surprisingly few scribes or owners of codices. Among scribes are Baldasar Rubeus of Genoa (London, BL Add. 17409), N. de Mezquez (Paris, lat. 6843), Gregorius Hyadertinus de Pasinis (Milan, Ambr. I 118 sup.), Willelmus de Predio (Harvard, fMs typ 1964), and Gerardus de Campis (Harvard, lat. 274).

With the coming of print to Italy, Solinus was

soon issued in the new medium, the *editio princeps* being produced by Nicholas Jenson at Venice in 1473 (HC 14877). There are at least eight more incunable editions, but there is no present inventory of printed versions, and I have not yet solved some of the problems in the eighty-five editions I have located. Solinus presents special bibliographical difficulties, partly because there are no previous studies and partly because after the fifteenth century he had lost preeminence to Mela and was seldom printed alone or as first author in a composite volume. Of the incunabula, one was printed at Parma by A. Portilia (HC 14878), others at Rome and Paris. An undated Milan edition, adjudged to be 1474 (HC 14873 = H 14875), with a preface by Bonino Mombrizio, contains the text that remained most popular in Italy. A 1498 Brescia edition by Jacobus Britannicus (HC 14884) was edited by Bartolino d'Atri from conjecture and earlier editions rather than manuscripts. Finally, in 1500 at Bologna (HC 14886), Filippo Beroaldo produced an emended text which had far less impact on future editions than its editor deserved.

The sixteenth century produced few new manuscripts of Solinus but at least fifty printed editions of the text as well as translations and some distinguished commentaries. In 1503 Mariangelo Accorso produced his *Diatribae* to Ausonius, Solinus, and Ovid, which combined textual criticism with more general commentary. Presumably in the same year, Josse Bade (Ascensius) produced an edition, first printed at Paris, which was reprinted several times at Paris and Speyer and at least once (1512) at Bade's own press. A 1510 Pesaro edition was edited by Alex. Gabordus Turcellanus. The most famous collection is the 1518 Aldine at Venice, presumably edited by Francesco Torresani and containing a number of geographical works, with Solinus second to Mela. This work was reprinted in its entirety by the heirs of Filippo Giunta at Florence and by Alessandro Paganino at Toscolano; Palau y Dulcet has recently introduced evidence that Paganino may have been the original editor rather than Torresani (see CTC, V, 264).

The next two decades saw editions of Solinus produced at Paris by Simon Colinaeus and Christian Wechel, at Lyons by Sebastianus Gryphius and the heirs of Simoneus Vincentius, and at Cologne by Eucharius Cervicornus, but the most interesting Solinus studies were at Basel. There editions with commentaries by

Sebastian Münster and Johannes Oporinus were printed by Michael Isingrinius, Henricus Petri, and Rupprecht Winter, but all of the Basel commentaries were printed anonymously.

Whereas Accorso's *Diatribae* at the opening of the sixteenth century was in part a commentary, the first full-scale commentary was that of Johannes Camers, printed by Singrenius at Vienna in 1520, the same year Singrenius first produced Camers' text of Solinus. These printings appear to represent the printer's attempts to appease Camers, who was incensed that Singrenius had printed the commentary to Mela of his former student, Joachimus Vadianus of St. Gall, in 1518 (see CTC, V, 265–69). The Swiss humanists were, however, unsatisfied with Camers' commentary and tried for more than twenty years to have Vadianus also comment upon Solinus, which he never did.

After 1550 the number of printed translations continued to increase, but two fine editions of the text also appeared: that of Elias Vinetus from now-lost Bordeaux manuscripts, printed in 1554 at Poitiers, and that of the young Jesuit Martinus Antonius Delrio, printed by Plantin at Antwerp in 1572 and reprinted by Henricus Stephanus in 1577. Sebastianus Henricpetrinus continued to print Mela and Solinus at Basel, but editions were becoming rare.

Solinus appears to have been translated first into French, since Simon de Ghisnes presumably prepared a translation for Baldwin de Flandres in the twelfth century, but there is no known source for the anonymous French excerpts printed in *Les merveilles du monde* in 1529. In the sixteenth century there were three translations into Italian, that of Nicodemo Tagli of Siena remaining only in manuscript, Florence, Ricc. 1617. In 1559 the translation of G. V. Belprato was printed at Venice, and in 1570, an anonymous *Delle cose maravigliose*. In the same century C. de las Casas produced a Spanish translation, printed at Seville in 1573, and the renowned Arthur Golding, whose work was known to Shakespeare, produced *The excellent and pleasant worke of Julius Solinus Polyhistor* in 1587. At the century's close, in 1600, J. van der Heyden produced the first translation of Solinus into German (see Translations below).

Among the famous sixteenth-century owners of Solinus manuscripts were Willibald Pirckheimer (London, BL Arundel 5), Janus Parrhasius (Naples, BN IV.D. 16), the duke

of Altemps, and Cardinal Sirleto (Vat. Barb. lat. 63).

About the end of the sixteenth century there was a collation of ms. Paris, lat. 6831 with the edition of Vinet by Jacques Bongars (Bern, W 35), and there are notes to Solinus by Isaac Casaubon in a Stephanus edition in Cambridge, Nn VI, 6.

The early seventeenth century brought a sudden revival of interest in Solinus. The commentaries of Draud and Grasser appeared in rapid succession in 1603 and 1604 respectively, and in 1629 the monumental study on Pliny and Solinus of Claude de Saumaise was published at Paris. More exhaustive than brilliant, it was Saumaise's *magnum opus* and is not yet completely superseded. It probably also launched the study of the Latin geographers at Leiden and helped to cause the celebrated Vossius/Gronovius feud over Mela a half-century later (see CTC, V, 261). Jacobus Gronovius also produced notes on Solinus, contained in Leiden, Gron. 90. Among distinguished owners of this period was Lindenbrogius (Copenhagen, Gl. Kgl. S. 443 fol.).

After Saumaise, the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries brought less than a dozen editions of Solinus, mostly from Holland and Germany. There are also extant notes by Francis Oudendorp (Leiden, Oud. 15) and anonymous annotations in a 1526 Junta edition in Leipzig, Rep. I.8.89. In 1777 Andreas Goezicus published his revision of Saumaise at Leipzig, and the final Solinus edition of the era was printed in 1784 at Zweibrücken. It is perhaps remarkable that an author who describes a race of men with but a single foot, which could be used for shade, and another that once enthroned a dog as king, should have proved so durable.

The nineteenth century brought the monumental work of Mommsen on the text and earliest tradition, which inspired a flurry of more specialized textual studies in the fifty years before World War I, especially in Germany and Italy. Since that time, interest in Solinus has usually centered around limited questions, often of geography or single sources or influences, except for Walter's reconsideration of the stemma in the late 1960s. Most of the manuscripts and large areas of the tradition have never been approached; I hope that in the future I can contribute much more to a tradition so important to the history of geography.

Mommsen also pointed out the existence of

two spurious works, one or the other being included in several Solinus manuscripts. One is a twenty-two-line poem in hexameters which deals with fishing and is known as the *Pontica*. It is rendered in far too sophisticated a poetic style to have been the work of the author of the *Marvels of the World*. Another very short prose work is appended to at least two Solinus manuscripts, Leiden, Voss. lat. Q 56, S. XV, and Copenhagen, Gl. Kgl. S. 443 fol., S. XIII. Mommsen called it *Norwegiania* from its opening word, *Norueghe*.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

I. EDITIONS

The text of Solinus has been printed more than eighty times, but there is as yet no inventory of these editions. I am working on such an inventory, but a difficulty arises because Solinus is almost never the first author in volumes containing several works. The most important editions since 1600 are as follows:

C. Salmasius, *Plinianae exercitationes in Caii Julii Solini Polyhistora. Item Caii Julii Solini Polyhistor ex veteribus libris emendatus*, 2 vols. (1st ed., Paris, 1629; rev. ed., Utrecht, 1689).

G. F. Muratori, *De situ orbis libri III, ad fidem Tauchnitziensis editionis. Caii Iulii Solini Polyhistor; ex recensione Ioannis Francisci Muratorii* (Turin, 1858).

T. Mommsen, *C. J. Solini Collectanea rerum memorabilium* (1st ed., Berlin, 1864; rev. ed. Berlin, 1895; 2d rev. ed. Berlin, 1958). This edition contains the *Pontica* and *Norwegiania*. The 1958 reprint has been used in this article for all textual locations.

II. TRANSLATIONS

Simon de Ghisnes for Balduin de Flandres, twelfth century (see Manitius, III, 731); Anonymous excerpts in *Les merveilles du monde* (1st ed., Lyons, 1529; 2d ed., Lyons, 1534), (see Baudrier, X, 67); Nicodemo Tagli di Siena, *Della diversa historia e parti del mondo*, ms. Flor., Riccard. 1617, sixteenth century; G. V. Belprato, *Solino delle cose maravigliose* (1st ed. Venice, 1557; 2d ed., Venice, 1559); Anonymous, *Delle cose maravigliose* (1st. ed., 1570; 2d ed., 1584). See Graesse, VI, 432; C. de las

Casas, *Iul. Solino. de las cosas maravillosas del mundo* (Seville, 1573); A. Golding, *The excellent and pleasant worke of Julius Solinus Polyhistor* (1st ed., London, 1587; 2d ed., London, 1590; facs. rpt., Gainesville, Fla., 1955); J. Heyden, *Solinus Zusammenlesung namhafter und gedenckwürdiger Sachen der Welt* (Freft, 1600). See Graesse, VI, 432; G. P. Ferrari, ms. Osimo, Biblioteca del Collegio, 35, s. XVII; H. H. Knight (probable author), *The Polyhistor of Solinus* (extracts); ms. Aberystwyth, National Library of Wales 2216, s. XIX; A. Agnant, *Caius Julius Solin. Polyhistor*, Bibliothèque latine-française, 2d ser., XXVII (Paris, 1847).

III. GENERAL WORKS

The following works contain bibliographies which are exhaustive for older publications:

F. Gisinger, in Pauly-Wissowa, XXI (1952), 2360–2412; Manitius, I, II, and III *passim*; Schanz and Hosius, III, 224–26 and *passim*, IV *passim*; Teuffel, Kroll, and Skutsch III, 178–80 and *passim*.

IV. SPECIALIZED REFERENCES

Recent and special scientific references include C. R. Beazley, *The Dawn of Modern Geography*, I (London, 1897), 246–73, 520–22; H. J. Bell, "A Solinus Manuscript from the Library of Coluccio Salutati," *Speculum*, IV (1929), 451–61; F.-J.-C.-J. Boquet, *Histoire de l'astronomie* (Paris, 1925), 138–39; E. H. Bunbury, *A History of Ancient Geography*, II, 2d ed. (New York, 1959), 675–79; C. Burchard, "Solin et les Esséniens," *Revue Biblique*, LXXIV (1967), 392–407; F. J. Carmody, "De bestiis and the Latin Physiologus," *Speculum*, XIII (1938), 153–59; H. Cichońka, "Ammien et Solin," *Meander*, XXX (1976), 336–52; W. Clausen, "Bede and the British Pearl," *Classical Journal*, XLII (1947), 277–80; J. Coppens, "Textes anciens relatifs aux documents du désert de Juda," *Ephemerides Theologicae Lovanienses*, XXXIII (1957), 508–9; J. Desanges, "L'Afrique sur la carte d'Ebstorf," in R. Chevallier, ed., *Colloque international sur la cartographie archéologie et histoire*, 1970 (Orléans and Tours, 1972), 33–35; H. Emonds, *Zweite Auflage im Altertum, Kultur-Geschicht. Stud. zur Überlieferung der antiken Literatur*, Klass.-Phil. Stud. XIV (Leipzig, 1941); G. B. A. Fletcher, "Ammianus

Marcellinus und Solinus," *Philologus*, LXXX (1936), 478; J. A. Guy, "A Lost Manuscript of Solinus," *Transactions of the Cambridge Bibliographical Society*, VI (Cambridge, 1972), 65–67; J. G. Hagers, *Geographischer Büchersaal*, I (Chemnitz, 1764), pt. 3, 159–212; pt. 4, 239–59; C. Huenemorder, "Hercyniae aves," *Rheinisches Museum* CX (1967), 371–84; I. D. Hyskell, "A Study of the Latinity of Solinus" (dissertation, University of Chicago, 1925); G. H. T. Kimble, *Geography in the Middle Ages* (New York, 1968); A. and M. Levi, "The Medieval Map of Rome in the Ambrosian Library's Manuscript of Solinus," *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, CXVIII (1974), 567–94; M. E. Milham, "The Renaissance Tradition of Solinus," *Acta conventus Neo-Latini Turonensis* (Paris, 1980), 205–8; Milham, "A Handlist of the manuscripts of C. Julius Solinus," *Scriptorium* XXXVII (1983, 1), 126–129; F. Pfister, "Nachrichten des Solinus über Alexander in der Historia de preliis," *Rheinisches Museum*, CXV (1972), 73–77; R. Revelli, "Figurazioni cartografiche dell'età imperiale in un codice ambrosiano di Solino del primo trecento," *Racc. di Scritti in onore di Felice Ramorino*, Pubbl. dell Univ. Catt. del Sacro Cuore, ser. 4, Sc. filol. VII (1927), 615–26; W. Richter, "Achlis," *Philologus* CIII (1959), 281–96; L. Roberts, "Origen and the Phoenix Too Frequent," *Classical Folia*, XXXII (1978), 78–89; C. Salemne, "Varia iologica," *Vichiana*, n.s., I (1972), 330–43; W. Schmid, "Beiträge aus der Thesaurus-Arbeit, Hispido," *Philologus*, LXXXI (1937), 463; P. C. Sestieri, "Le origini di Posidonia," *Archaeologia Classica*, II (1950), 180–86; L. Thorndike, *A History of Magic and Experimental Science*, I (New York, 1923), 326–31; H. F. Tozer and M. Cary, *A History of Ancient Geography* (New York, 1964), 364–66; B. L. Ullman, *The Humanism of Coluccio Salutati*, Medioevo e Umanesimo 4 (Padua, 1963), 153–54, 198–99, 251; H. C. Walter, *Die Collectanea rerum memorabilium des C. Julius Solinus*, *Hermes*, Einzelschrift XXII (Wiesbaden, 1969); Walter, "Julius Solinus und seine Vorlagen," *Classica et Medievalia*, XXIV (1961), 86–157; J. Winsor, "The Bibliography of Pomponius Mela, Solinus, Vadianus, and Apianus," *Narrative and Critical History of America*, II (Boston, [1886]), 180–86.

COMPOSITE EDITION

1557, Basileae (Basel): per Henrichum Petri. This edition contains the commentary of Camers and the anonymous (Oporinus) commentary to the first twelve chapters. Graesse, VI, 432; NUC. BL; BN; (InU).

GENUINE WORK

I. COLLECTANEA RERUM MEMORABILIA

COMMENTARIES

I. Johannes Camers

This voluminous commentary, dated 1520, attempts to give all parallel references from ancient literature and myth to Solinian places.

Dedication. (ed. of Vienna, 1520). Ioannes Camers ordinis minorum artium et sacrae Theologiae doctor praestantissimo ac doctissimo viro domino magistro Stephano Verbeucio Pannonio, incliti Hungariae regni maiestatis locum tenuenti, perpetuam felicitatem deprecatur et optat. [Inc.]: (fol. A2b) Miraberis forsitan, Stephane humanissime, Solinianos nuper a me aeditos Commentarios primo aspectu contuens, quod Camers tuus sacris ab ineunte aetate literis ac religione institutus, in senectam iam vergens, hosce labores professione ipsa mea multo inferiores hoc praesertim tempore suscepimus susceptosque et absolutos in manus tandem hominum tuo auspicio emitti sustinuerim. . . . Non pauci nostris quoque temporibus viri etiamnum Ecclesiastici, et apprime in sacris literis eruditi, politiora studia nedum amplexi sunt sed et illustrarunt [ed. illustrarum] quidem: Besarion Cardinalis, Campanus, Sipontinus, Ioannes Pannonius Novemecclesiensis [in the Yale copy corrected to Quinqueecclesiensis] terraneus tuus Praesules, Barbarus Hermolaus Plinii instaurator unicus et Patriarcha, qui Solini saepe utitur testimonio. Marcus Musurus Episcopus Hierapetrensis ac Archiepiscopus Monembasiensis novissime vita functus, cum quo (mentiar utinam) verendum est ne literae Graecae, quae cum eo repullulabant chaos iterum repetant consuetum. Huius (horresco repetens) extant plures ad me epistolae Graeco ingenio dignae amicitiae et charitatis plenissimae. . . . Non possum non meminisse saltem paucis Reverendissimi Domini Ioannis Turzonis Vratislaviensis praesulis ac principis illustrissimi, qui

licet divinis literis noctesque diesque incumbat succisisvis tamen horis Ciceronem . . . hunc ipsum Solinum nostrum, ac huius genus authores alios tractat, et re legit accurate. . . . Exposuit haec nobis tum fama volans, tum Caspar Ursinus Doctor et Poeta ac in utraque lingua plurimum eruditus, singulari praeditus comitate, quo cum mihi gratissima conversatio. Non absimilis in iisque studiis germano suo Reverendissimus Dominus Stanislaus Episcopus Olomutzensis, qui moram omnem periisse existimat, quae non sit bonis literis destinata. Non patitur epistolaris brevitas hac parte exponere, quanto affectu haec eadem studia complectatur et excolat Reverendissimus dominus Theodoricus Kaner sacrae Theologiae Doctor, Zaracoviensis ac Novaecivitatis Episcopus mihi ob professionem consimilem et eius paternam in me charitatem observandissimus. Is enim ut hos Solini Commentarios in lucem aederem praecipienti similis hortatus est quam saepissime. . . . Non defuerunt exemplaria vetustissima plura nobis. Verum tanto ea mendoriora reperimus, quanto fuerant ipsa vetusta magis. Hanc fuisse causam crediderim, cur Hermolaus Plynii Pomponii Senecae Quintiliani castigationibus Solinianas etiam non addiderit. Fateor huius quoque authoris Hermolaum loca aliquot primum restituisse, sed ab eo vix ex centum locum unum legimus restitutum. Nemo emunctae naris lector Solinum quandam a Beroaldo suo nitori restitutum fatebitur, qui nostras castigations cum illis diligenter contulerit [Expl.]: Escator [sic] inquit Plautus (*Amphitruo* I, 339) condignum donum qualis est qui donum dedit, immo sic condignum donum, qualis est quoi datum est. VALE felix semper ad vota, Viennae Pannoniae. VI. Calendas Februarii, anno post CHRISTI natalem. M.D.XX.

There follow eight short poems with the following titles [A5–A6b]: Theodoricus Kaner sacrae theologiae doctor, Zaracoviensis episcopus ac Novaecivitatibus electus antistites; M. Thomas Resch Viennensis ecclesiae Canonicus, sacrae theologiae licentiatus, Poeta laureatus; Caspar Ursinus, doctor et poeta; aliud eiusdem; Philippus Gundelius Pataviensis Lector; Alexandri Brassicani Constantini Philosophi Poetae et Oratoris Laureati in Enarrationes D. Camertis in Solinum Epigramma; Huldrichi Fabri Rheti Carmina pro nova Solini editione; Franciscus Lado Siculus Transylvanus ad Lectorem. These are followed by Lucas

Alantse Bibliopola Civis Viennensis, Studiosis Salutem [Inc.]: (fol. A7) Cum semper alias pro virili mea annixus sum, studiosi, uti optimos quoque authores cura impensisque meis vobis publicarem, tum praecipue hoc spero a me praestitum . . . / . . . [Expl.]: modo sciam hoc quicquid est meae operaे boni a vobis consultum iri. Valete et me amate. There follows (A7b—A8) Solini Vita per Joannem Camerterem aedita.

Commentary, Iulius Solinus Autio suo s.p.d. [Inc.]: (fol. [8]b) *Quoniam quidam.*] Conqueritur hac epistola Solinus quosdam impatientius potius quam studiosius opusculum nondum absolutum intercipere properasse . . . / . . . [Expl.]: *Eodem te locum habitum.*] Alter est, cui librum Solinus inscripsit, ab eo, ad quem epistolam hanc cum castigato opere destinavit, quod non advertunt, qui utramque epistolam ad Autium scriptam existimarunt.

Memorabilia. Ioannis Camertis ordinis Minorum, bonarum artium ac sacrae theologiae doctoris eximii, in Iulium Solinum enarrationes. [Inc.]: (p. 1) *Cum et aurium.*) Ex Horatii praecepto in arte Poetica dat amico suo bonarum artium studioso opusculi sui supremum examen. (I. 1) . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 336) *Ad nuncupationem suam congruere insularum qualitatem.* (56, 19). Supra dixerat. *De harum nominibus expectari magnum mirum reor, sed infra famam vocabuli* (ed. *vocabula*) *res est.* FINIS.

Following the commentary there is an index followed by an explanation: [Inc.]: (fol. CC3) Scio quosdam contracturos frontem, quod in iis Solinianis commentariis nostris tam frequenter Magnum Albertum coarguerim. Id autem ea ratione factum scient, ne scilicet quempiam pulchro alliectum nomine falsum pro vero vel contra . . . / . . . [Expl.]: Vellem Alberti sectatores tam gratum eis authorem in manus summerent, eumque tandem quacumque ratione ab erroribus vendicarent. Sed reor hoc laboriosius multo esse quam vel Iovi fulmen, vel Herculi clavam subtrahere.

Editions:

1520, Viennae Austriae (Vienna): per Joannem Singrenium. Panzer, IX, 43, 235; Graesse, VI, 431; NUC. BL; BN; (CtY; NNC; DLC; InU).

1557. See above, Composite Edition.

Bibliography:

See CTC, III, 54. Add to the Bibliography: L. Dienbauer, *Johannes Camers der Theologe*

und Humanist im Ordenskleid. Beiträge zur Erforschung der Gegenreformation und des Humanismus in Wien (Vienna, 1976).

2. Mariangelus Accursius

The *Diatribae* of Accursius are primarily criticisms and emendations of the texts, but so many notes and quotations from other authors are used that they serve more as commentary than textual criticism, as Accursius himself states. They are dated November 13, 1521 (on the *Diatribae*, see also CTC, IV, 201–2).

Dedication: (ed. of Rome, 1524). Mariangelus Accursius Ioanni Alberto et Humperto Germanis fratribus March. Brandenburg. [Inc.]: (fol. A2) [H]umani esse arbitror ingenii, praestantes animi Principes, ut quo quisque studio publice profutura literis mandare decreverit, eo sibi unum aut alterum constituat, quorum iudicio ea ipsa cognoscenda deferantur. . . . Aggressi itaque sumus in Ausonii poetae non incelebris aliorumque non nullorum codicibus errata plurima ruinasque celssissimas instaurare . . . / . . . [Expl.]: hoc fortasse minus arguendi sint, quod ab ipsis quoque orsis damnandos se atque errorem fatentur suum.

Commentary. Diatribae in C. Iul. Solini Polyhistora. [Inc.]: (fol. K6) [D]E Herculis sacello, Romae in Foro Boario, olim et muscis et canibus inaccesso. *Cum viscerationem sacrificii litaret, Myagrum Deum dicitur imprecatus.* Vetus lectio excusorum iampridem voluminum, quibusque recentiores isti corruptiores saepe numero deprehenduntur, aliquanto emendatius ita habent: *Cum viscerationem sacrificolis daret. Caetrum, ex plerisque manuscriptis, emendandum: Cum viscerationem sacrificolis daret, Myagrum deum dicitur imprecatus.* Quanquam non dissimulaverim, in codice uno Vaticanae bibliot. non *Myagrum*, sed *Myarchum* inveniri, muscarum principem compositione sane nec remota nec illegitima.

Nec multo post de natali Urbis Romae, Iove in Piscibus, Saturno, Venere, Marte, Mercurio in Scorpione, Sole in Tauro, Luna in Libra constitutis. Eadem quae Solinus, Sempronius quoque de divisione Italiae et origine Urbis memoriae tradidit. Iure vero male audiat uterque, si vel Tarrutium ducem quemlibet egregium sequutus, nulla matheseos ulteriore cura, siderum etiam primordia Urbi Romae inviderit. Constat enim ex Plin. Cic. Marciano. Ptol. caeterisque (1, 8–19) . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (fol. P2b) Neque

enim Canaria sola est accipienda, sed Fortunatarum quaelibet. Quod et de novissimis Solini verbis exprimitur. *Ideoque non penitus*, inquit, *ad nuncupationem sui congruere insularum qualitatem.* (56, 17–19).

Epilogue. [Inc.]: (fol. Q6) Testudo. [F]Abulam spondenti auream non fuit olim vitium inter amicos assem petere. . . . / . . . (fol. R1) Fando sibi iam olim auditum, Fabritium Varanum, Camertem antistitem (sua cuius, non alterius doctrina, Plinianum potuisse indicem, iam aeditum exscribi colligique pariter digladiantur) Commentationes in Ausonium poetam concinnasse. . . . Quasi vero Commentaria, non Castigationes ipsi conscripserimus. . . . Laurentii Vallensis libros de linguae latinae elegantia inventos olim in Germania comminiscuntur. Et quod essent literis iam fugientibus ac fatiscentibus, vix certis cognitum indicis, tamen cognitum Asconii Pediani opus esse. Pico Mirandulae in libris adversus astrologos vix quicquam inquiunt praeter stili curam esse. Eos namque titulo cuiusdam transalpini hominis cum Florentiae adhuc extarent, ubi in politiorem modum redegisset, suppressisse, omnique silentio involvisse. Quo in furto Fabrum Erasmumque deprehensum, reum deferunt. Iovianum etiam Pontanum quaedam Ciceronis volumina in Casinatis montis non incelebri bibliotheca comparsisse. . . . Hermolaum Barbarum, in Plinio castigando, tam frequenter ipsum ab eius anagnoste castigatum totque locis ab studiosa, qua frequentaretur, omni Veneta cohorte adiutum, ut vix tertiam sibi partem fuerit facturus reliquam, si vel saltem gratus in profitendo, per quos maxime profecerit, esse voluisset. Iam vero de Poltiano dicere, quid interest? . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (fol. R4) sic ut in fidem faciant, omnemque vitae fabulam absolvant. IDIB. NOVEMB. M.D.XXI/

Edition:

1524, Romae (Rome): in aed. Marcelli Argentei. With *diatribae* to Ausonius and Ovid. NUC (s.v. Accorso, Mariangelo). BL; BN; Vatican; (ICN).

Biography:

See CTC, IV, 202.

3. Johannes Oporinus

This commentary consists of notes upon words, grammatical forms, and parallel references in other Latin authors. It is undated but is probably from about 1542. There is no way of

judging the original length of the commentary, for there are two differing printed versions drawn from chapters I to XII of Book I.

The earlier version, printed anonymously, covers chapters I to VI and part of VII. It is undated, but the edition of Mela and Solinus in which it is found is probably from about 1542 (see Milham, "Oporinus, Olivarius and Pomponius Mela," *Basler Zeitschrift für Geschichte und Altertumskunde* LXXX [1980], 133–43). Oporinus is identified as its author by Conrad Gesner in *Bibliotheca Universalis* (Basel, 1545), 446, in which the printer is also identified as Winter (p. 568).

The second version of 1595 is also anonymous but is ascribed to a *vir quidam doctus*. This version omits the first part of chapter I, selects from the rest of the notes in the earlier version, and adds notes for chapters VII to XII. This seems to indicate that Oporinus' somewhat longer original notes, be they marginalia or manuscript, had passed to Petri's press and had been excerpted by Sebastian Petri in a different selection than Oporinus himself, or his brother-in-law Winter, had made about 1542.

a. Version of ca. 1542

Commentary (ed. of [Basel, ca. 1542]). Solinus Autio suo s. [Inc.]: (p. 206) Ut de ipso autore aliquid in medium proferamus, locus plane videtur exigere, in ipso adeo operis ipsius limine . . . / . . . [Expl.]: *Quae improbabimus* [sic.] Alibi legitur. *Quae probavimus*, quod magis placeat.

Memorabilia: In *Polyhistora Scholia*. [Inc.]: (p. 209) Hic admonendum videtur, exemplaria multum variare in Praefationis huius inscriptione, aliis quidem Autii nomen, cui librum nuncupavit, preferentibus, aliis plane omittentibus, solo Praefationis titulo apposito . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 251) (*Terminis*) v.c. terminos. (l. 127) Porro quae deinceps in sequentia capita videbantur annotanda, ad libri calcem reperies.

Editions:

[ca. 1542, Basel: Winter]. With the text of Mela. Adams M1061; Graesse, V, 104; NUC. Basel OB; BL; (NN; NNC).

Reprint of [ca. 1542, Basel: Winter] s.n.d.l. With the text of Mela. NUC. Basel OB; (NN; NNC).

1543, Basileae (Basel): apud Michaelem Isingrinium. With the text of Mela. (This edition carries the incipit of Oporinus, and selections

from his notes are interlarded through chapters I and II of what is otherwise Münster's commentary.) NUC. BL; BN; (NNH; InU).

1557. See above, Composite Edition.

b. Version of 1595

Commentary (ed. of Basel, 1595). Viri cuiusdam docti in Iulii Solini Polyhistorem [Inc.]: (p. 366) *Cum et aurum. Benevolentiam captat . . . / . . .* [Expl.]: (p. 398) *Inachus*. (7.10) *Fluvius in Graecia maximum*. (7.10) *Ludis quinquer* (7.14) *Strab. lib. 8. Boeotia Theb.* (7.21) *Plin. lib. 4. cap. 7. FINIS*.

Edition:

1595, Basileae (Basel): per Sebastianum Henricpetri. With the text of Mela. Graesse, VI, 432; BL; BN.

Biography:

See CTC, V, 276.

4. Sebastianus Munsterus

This extensive commentary gives much background material from a wide variety of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew sources, with special emphasis upon ancient history, customs, and scientific practice. Published anonymously in 1538, it is identified within the text as the work of Sebastianus Munsterus and contains many of his maps. Because the preface is unsigned and merely descriptive of the volume, Munsterus cannot be assumed as its author. In the edition of 1543, the commentary has the incipit of Oporinus (see above p. 80), and some of his commentary is interlarded through chapters I and II, but the incipit of Munsterus is found at I.13, and all of his text is given. The edition of 1543 also adds the letter to Autius, not printed in the 1538 edition.

a. Edition of 1538

Memorabilia (ed. of Basel, 1538). Enarratio capituli primi. [Inc.]: (p. 1) Voluit Iulius Solinus ea quae diffuse et sparsim per alios tradita erant de mirabilibus mundi, hic simul et compendiose perstringere, ut esset liber iste veluti optimo conspersus fermento, quod exiguum pastae portionem in magnam massam intumescere facit, idemque a tenui loquacitatis bractea longe abasset, quae praeter tenuitatem aut inanitatem ipsam aliud nihil habet . . . (p. 46) Et ego Munsterus hic Basileae agens . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 149) *Silurus vero piscis est magnus, non absimilis ei quem sturionem vocant, qui in Nilo*

Aegypti flumine frequens est, et in Danubio quoque nonnunquam inveniri perhibetur. (56.18) Polyhistoris Caii Iulii Solini una cum scholiis finis.

b. Edition of 1543

Commentary (ed. of Basel, 1543) *Iulus Solinus Autio suo s.* (fol. B6b) Ut de ipso autore aliquid in medium proferamus, locus plane videatur exigere, in ipso adeo operis ipsius limine . . . / . . . [Expl.]: [Eodem te locum habitum.] Alium esse, cui librum Solinus inscripsit, ab eo, ad quem epistolam hanc cum castigato opere destinavit, hinc manifeste colligitur, quod non animadvertunt qui utramque epistolam ad Autium scriptam existimant.

Editions:

1538, Basileae (Basel): apud Michaelm Isingrini et Henricum Petri. With the text of Mela. Graesse, VI, 431; K. H. Burmeister, *Sebastian Münster* (Wiesbaden, 1964), 171; NUC. BL; BN (DLC; MH; InU).

1543, Basileae (Basel): apud Michaelm Isingrini. With the text of Mela. Graesse, VI, 431; Burmeister, 173; NUC. BL; BN (NN; InU).

Biography:

See CTC, V, 275. Add to the Bibliography: K. H. Burmeister, "Johannes Campensis und Sebastian Münster. Ihre Stellung in der Geschichte der hebräischen Sprachstudien," *Ephemerides Theologicae Lovanienses*, XLVI (1970), 441–60; Th. Buhler, "Une description du Val de Lièpvre au XVI^e Siècle," *Société d'Histoire du Val de Lièpvre*, deuxième cahier (1964), 19–27; M. Françon, "Rabelais et Sébastien Münster, 1488–1552," (*Les Amis de Rabelais et de la Devinière* (1967), Nr. 6, 185; H. J. W. Horch, "Bibliographische Notizen zu den Ausgaben der 'Cosmographie' Sebastian Münsters in italienischer Sprache," *Gutenberg-Jahrbuch* (1976), 237–47; Horch, "Eine unbekannte Ausgabe von Sebastian Münsters 'Cosmographia Universalis,'" *Gutenberg-Jahrbuch* (1977), 160–65.

5. Georgius Draudius

This voluminous commentary was published in 1603 in three separate parts, all of which were printed and paid for by Saurius and Schönwetter respectively, but which may now be found in libraries in a single volume or in the individual parts.

a. Pars prima

Dedication (ed. of Frankfort, 1603). Antiqua nobilitate, virtute, ac sapientia conspicuis viris ac dominis Dn. Emmerico et Dn. Ioanni Adolpho a Carben in curiis ambarum civitatum Imperialis Castris Fridbergensis et Stadae inter Equestres Consulares Collegis amplissimis, et respective d. S. Castris Imperialis Aedilitio PP dignissimis, Dominis ac Maecenatibus suis, omni studio pietate et observantia colendis. [Inc.]: (fol. *2) Quoties veterum tam Graecorum quam Latinorum historicorum, geographicorum topographicorum monumenta revolvo, non possum non maiorum nostrorum in consignandis suorum gestis aliisve memoratu dignis supinae negligentiae ac torpori graviter succensere, itidemque alii mecum. . . . At sola Germania, tametsi ingeniorum feracitate nulli alii nationi cedat, quinetiam facile anteeat, feracitatis tamen suae fructus nulos aut sane perexiguos decerpit nemoque ex omnium numero extitit, neque hodie existit, qui de communi patria bene mereri, et gratiam quam iure naturae illi debet, rependere ex animo cogitet . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (fol. ****2b) Ad vos demum redeo, strenui ac nobilissimi viri, nihilque peto aliud, quam ut prodromum hunc atque has in C. Solinum usque annotationes, dum caetera maturerint benigne suscipiatis, meque solito favore (neque eum nunc primum hac scriptione aucupor quem scio iamdudum conciliatum) prosequamini. Hisce vestras stren. et ampliss. Nobilitates Deo ter Opt. Max. commendans. Vester stren. et ampliss. Datae in Mega Carben, ultimo Martii, Anno 1603. Nob. addictissimus M. Georgius Draudius, civis Frankofurtensis.

Preface: Solinus Autino salutem. Used as preface without commentary. (****3 and 3b)

Commentary: [Inc.]: (p. 2) *Romam* (I.1) Roma urbs quae totius propemodium orbis olim caput erat, post Evandri et Aeneae adventum hoc nomine primum dici coepit (I.1) . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 678) Marmor generat eximium, teste etiam Isid. lib. 15 (II.26).

b. Supplementum

Dedication: Admodum reverendo nobili et clarissimo viro D. Balthasari Wigando, J.U. Doctori, reverendissimi atque illustrissimi Principis Balthasaris, Abbatis Fuldensis Cancellario et Consiliario intimo, domino et Mecoenati suo observandiss. M. Georgius Draudius, P.M.C. [Inc.]: (fol. 2) Etsi perpetua planeque immu-

tabili naturae lege admodum reverende et clarissime Domine Cancellarie, ita comparatum sit, etsi vero superiori hyeme Commentationes hasce in C. Iulii Solini memorabilia subcisisvis illis ac pomeridianis fere horis absolvere decreveram, cum tamen materia amplior esset, quam ut tam brevi temporis spatio atque opera prope tumultuaria absolvi posset, ac subinde inciderent quaedam, quae ut Annotationibus meis insererentur, digna videbantur, proinde subsistendum omnino fuit et quae restabaut [sic], in aestatem differenda . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (fol. 4b) Illud dumtaxat etiam atque etiam rogans, ut animum meum, praestantiam tuam studiose reverentem, boni consulas, atque hoc loco tui compellationem pro humanitate tua dextra accipias. Vale, vir amplissime et me dilige. Data Megacarbae 20 Junii, Anno 1603.

After the dedication, there begins chapter XXXVI (Africa).

Commentary. [Inc.]: (p. 9) Maiores nostri, ut refert Orosius, totius terrae circulum Oceani limbo circumseptum triquetrae esse figurae statuere, eiusque tres partes, Africam, Asiam, et Europam . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 312) et quoniam Bellerophen Glauci filius montem hunc habitabilem reddidit, Chimaeram fingitur occidisse. Ignem eius accendi aqua, extingui vero terra aut foeno, Cnidius Ctesius tradit.

c. Pars tertia

Dedication. Amplissimo prudentissimo atque integerrimo viro Dn. Rolando Krugio, illustrissimi principis ac domini, Dn. Ludovici senioris, Hassiae Landgravii etc. in Comitatu Niedensi, praefecto vigilantissimo, Domino et fautori suo observando offert M. Georgius Draudius P.M.C. [Inc.]: (p. 2). Ad te quoque itur, humannissime vir, non qui nemini obtrudi possit, sed quod nemini magis volo. Quid enim? Ego te tacitus hic omittam . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 4) et hoc ipso tutum satis adversus omnium columnias omnes arbitrabor. Vale, vir amplissime, et me dilige. Datae in Megacarben, ipso Iacobi die, Anno 1603.

Commentary. [Inc.]: (p. 5) *Anacreon* (40. 6). Poeta Lyricus, ex Teio Ioniae civitate, ut scriptis ita et toto vitae genere supra modum lascivus . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 179) Vulgo Galii nautae eum Lepic de Tanariffe appellant. Caeterum Teneriffle [sic] ea creditur esse, quae a veteribus Nivaria dicitur (56.17).

There follow the *Centones*, pp. 180–276,

which is a separate work on marvels perhaps inspired by but not about Solinus.

Edition:

1603, Frankofurti (Frankfort a. M.): apud Ioannem Saurium, impensis Theobaldi Schönwetteri. NUC. (CU; CtY; MH).

Biography:

Georgius Draudius (Georg Draut) was born January 9, 1573, at Dauernheim in Hesse and died in 1635 at Butzbach, also in Hesse. He studied at Marburg, receiving the baccalaureate and title Magister in 1589. In 1590 he went to Frankfort (Main), where he became a corrector for the printer Nicholas Bassaeus. Later he was self-employed at Herborn for a few months but returned to Frankfort to work for Feyerabend. In 1599 he became a pastor, at Karben until 1614 and at Ortenburg 1614–25. In 1625 he returned to Dauernheim, but in 1635 the invasion of imperial troops drove him to Butzbach, where he died.

Works: He wrote *Theses physicae de mundo* (Marburg, 1591); the preface to Heilbrunner's *Schwenckfeldo-Calvinismus* (1598); *Bibliotheca exotica* (1610); and *Bibliotheca classica* and *Bibliotheca librorum Germanorum* (1611). He also translated into German and Latin two tracts of Botero (1602) and Agapetus' *Schedia Regia* (1615). He wrote scholia to Donatus (1605) and edited Hippolytus a Collibus' *Fürstliche Tischreden* (1617).

Bibliography: I. Franck, "Georg Draudius," *Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie*, V (Berlin, 1877), 383; Hoefer, XIV, 743–44; Jöcher, II, 212; Michaud, XI, 307–8; E. F. Neubauer, *Nachricht von den itzlebenden evangelisch-lutherischen und reformirten Theologen in und um Deutschland* (Zuellichau, 1743–46) pt. 2, vol. III, 213–21; J. C. Wolf, *Bibliotheca Hebraica* (Hamburg, 1715–33), I, 277.

6. Johannes Jacobus Grasserus

This lengthy commentary, dated 1604, was the last to appear before the definitive work of Salmasius a quarter-century later. It is marked by its credulity.

Dedication: (ed. of Geneva, 1605). Amplissimis et prudentissimis Dominis Consulibus, Tribunis, et toti Inclytæ Reipub. Basiliensis Senatui, Dominis et Mecaenatibus meis colendissimis. S.P. [Inc.]: (fol. *2) Patres Patriae,

Domini et Fautores mei observandissimi, accipite pro innata vestra humanitate C. Iulii Solini Polyhistorem quem hisce mensibus quibus horrendi ulceris curatione hic fui detentus, correcatum, et notis illustratum, suasu amicorum typis destinavi. . . . amoenissimam S. Clarae (quam clarissimus Iurisconsultus D. Antonius Ruefferus, intimus meus, Parnasum vocabat: illic enim et Hippocrene, et hortus irriguus, instarque sylvae arborum series) habitationem nobis donastis. . . . Debeo, et debent omnes, qui me amant, plurimum nobilissimo viro, D. Marco Offredo, illiusque filio, D. Paulo, ut et D. Colladoni, ac D. Boneto, medicis celeberrimis., amplissimo item ac clarissimo D. Iacobo Lectio, Iurisconsulto et Poetae Consulari. . . . C. Iulii Solini . . . Polyhistorem in manus sumpsi, et quantum per ingenii licuit maciem, ex optimis exemplaribus correxi, et notis illustravi. Iacebat utilissimus autor, nostris aliquandiu temporibus, et qui olim D. Hieronymo, D. Ambrosio, D. Augustino, Servio item et Prisciano, necnon recentiore seculo, Perotto, Calderino, Politiano, Barbaro, Parrhasio aliisque doctissimis viris, in deliciis fuit, parum lectus et tritus inter blattas, inglorius pene consenuit. . . . [Expl.]: (fol. *4b) Valete Patres, et Patria. Perscriptum Aurelianae Allobrogum, sexto Ascensionis Domini nostri Iesu Christi M.D.C.IV. Amplitudini et Magnificentiae vestrae addictissimus Ioh. Iacobus Grasserus Basil.

Preface. (fol. [X₆]) *C. Iulius Solinus Autio suo s.p.d.* Used as preface without commentary. Grasser considers chapter I as part of this letter (fols. X₆b, X₇). There follows a poem (fol. X₇) Cl. Viro Iacobo Grassero, Poetae Caesareo, signed Iac. Lectius.

Commentary. Iacobi Grasseri Poetae Caesarei In C. Iulii Solini ΠΟΛΥΙΣΤΩΡΑ Emendationes et Notae Lectori utilissimae. In caput primum. [Inc.]: (p. [2], misnumbered 4) a Halicarn. lib. I. Evander ex Palantio urbe Ar- radica, annis LX. ante res Troianas in haec Italiae loca navigavit (I.1) . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (p. 195) *deinde cum monstra illa putredine tabefacta sunt, omnia illic infici tetro odore, ideoque non penitus ad nuncupationem suam congruere insularum qualitatem.* (59.19) FINIS.

Editions:

1605, Aurelianae Allobrogum (Geneva): apud I. Arnoldum. Graesse, VI, 432; NUC. Leiden; BN; (CtY).

1609, Lugduni (Lyons): apud Claudium Lar-jot. With the text of Mela. Graesse, VI, 432. BN.

* 1621, Parisiis (Paris): J. Libert. Graesse, VI, 432. BN (lost).

1632, Parisiis (Paris): apud Ioann. Libert. Graesse, VI, 432. NUC. BL; Leiden; (CtY).

Biography:

Johannes Jacobus Grasserus (Johann Jacob Grasser) was born February 21, 1579, at Basel and died there March 21, 1627. He studied in France and for three years was a professor at Nîmes. In 1607 at Padua he received the titles of Count Palatine, Knight, and Roman citizen. He later made a journey to France and England, returning to Switzerland, where he ultimately became a pastor at Bennweil. He dedicated his Solinus (1605) and his *Schatzkammer* (1610) to the senate of Basel, for which he is said to have received fifty florins and to have been promised the first ecclesiastical post to become vacant. In 1613 he became pastor of St. Theodore's in Basel. At one time he was briefly employed by King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden.

Works: He wrote *Theses physicae de mundo* (Basel, 1600); *Italianische, Frantzösische und Englische Schatzkammer* (1610); *De antiquitatibus Nemausensibus dissertatio* (1617); *Christenliches Bedenken über gegenwärtigen Cometen* (1618); and *Schweizerisch Heldenbuch* and *Itinerarium Historicum-Politicum* (1624). He translated *Waldenser Chronik* (1623) and edited Statius' *Opera* (1609); Acontius' *Stratagemata Satanae* (1610); Michalo's *De moribus Tartarorum* and J. Lascicius' *De diis Sarmogitarum* (s.d.; 2d ed. in Herbut's *Chronicon*, 1615) and Gualterius Chabotius' notes to Horace (1615). There are unpublished letters preserved in the epistolary collection of the Öffentliche Bibliothek der Universität, Basel.

Bibliography: P. Freher, *Theatrum virorum erudit. clar.* (Nuremberg, 1688), 432; *Hist. Biogr. Lexicon der Schweiz*, III (Neuenburg, 1926), 638; Hoefer, XXI, 709; Jöcher, II, 1145; H. J. Leu, *Schweizer Lexicon* (Zurich, 1754), VII, 114, Suppl. II (Zurich, 1787), 589–92; Michaud, XVII, 375–76; H. Witte, *Diarium biographicum* (Danzig and Riga, 1688–91); Zedler, XI, 611–12.

SPURIOUS WORKS

II. PONTICA.

This twenty-three-line hexameter poem is considered too sophisticated to have been written by the author of the *Wonders of the World*. It is found in only a few mss. of Solinus and has no commentaries before 1600. It is discussed and edited in the edition of Solinus by Mommsen, pp. 233–35 (see Editions above) and in Pauly-Wissowa, XLIII, 26, “Pontica.”

III. NORWEGIANA.

This chapter on northern geography is found at the end of only two mss. of Solinus (Copenhagen: Gl. Kgl. S. 443 fol. and Leiden, Voss. lat. Q 56). It is discussed and edited in the 1895 edition of Solinus by Mommsen, p. 236 (see Editions above). There are no commentaries before 1600.