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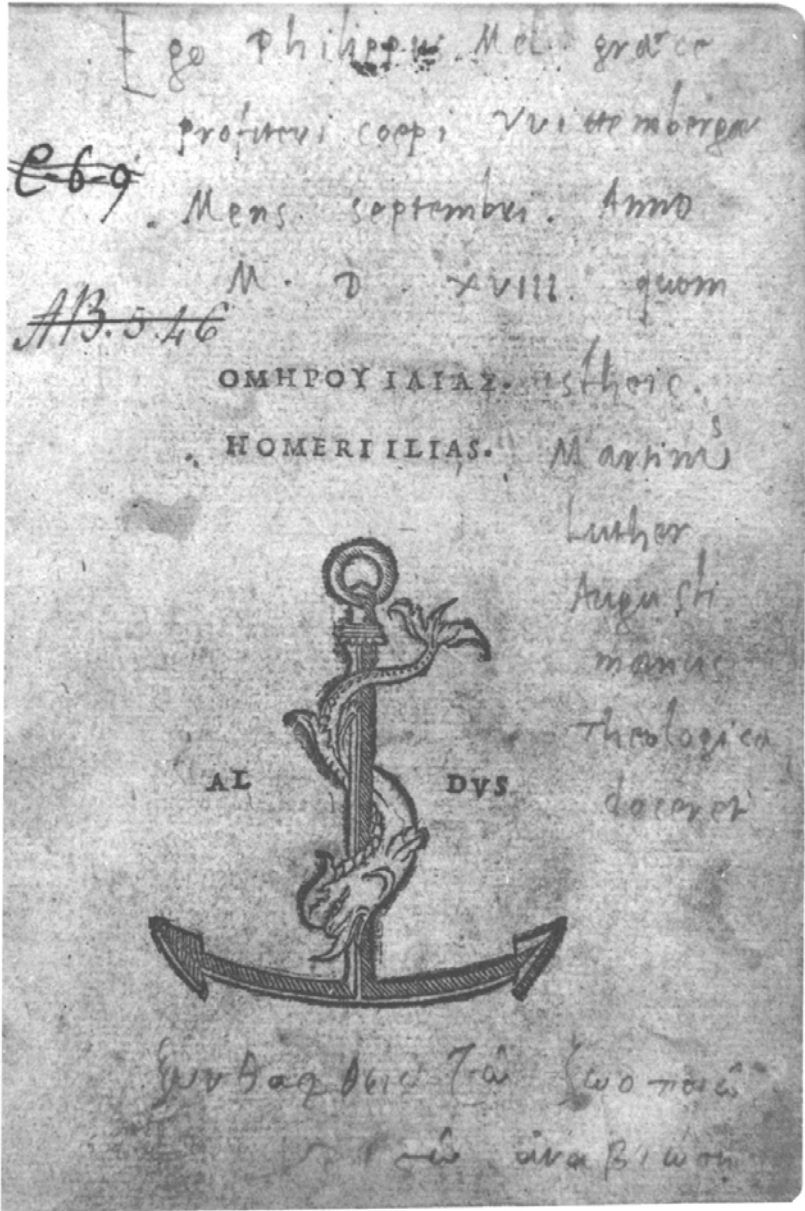
0521473470 - The Transformation of Natural Philosophy: The Case of Philip Melanchthon

Sachiko Kusakawa

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This book proposes that Philip Melanchthon was responsible for transforming traditional university natural philosophy into a specifically Lutheran one. Motivated by the desire to check civil disobedience and promote Lutheran orthodoxy, he created a natural philosophy based on Aristotle, Galen and Plato, incorporating contemporary findings of Copernicus and Vesalius. The fields of astrology, anatomy, botany and mathematics all constituted a natural philosophy in which Melanchthon wished to demonstrate God's Providential design in the physical world. Rather than dichotomizing or synthesizing the two distinct areas of 'science' and 'religion', Kusakawa advocates the need to look at 'natural philosophy' as a discipline quite different from either 'modern science' or 'religion': a contextual assessment of the implication of the Lutheran Reformation on university education, particularly on natural philosophy.



Title-page of Melanchthon's copy of the *Iliad*

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The series is published with the support of the Exxon Foundation.

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The case of Philip Melanchthon

SACHIKO KUSUKAWA

Christ's College, Cambridge



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For English translations of the Bible, I have used the ‘Authorized Version’ (1611).

For most primary and secondary sources, references are given by the name of the author and year of publication, followed by Roman numeral(s) indicating volume number(s) and Arabic number(s) specifying page or column number(s). Full titles are given in the Bibliography.

When quoting from printed primary sources, conventional and unconventional abbreviations have been expanded without indication. When quoting from manuscript sources, expansions of conventional and unconventional abbreviations have been indicated by italics. Within quotations and translations, square brackets [] denote my interpolations.

Unless otherwise stated in notes, all translations are mine. The following abbreviations have been used for frequently cited sources.

SIGLA

- CR* *Corpus reformatorum Philippi Melanthonis opera quae supersunt omnia*, ed. C. B. Bretschneider and H. E. Bindseil, 28 vols. (Halle, 1834–52; Brunswick, 1853–60); *Huldreich Zwinglis Sämtliche Werke*, ed. E. Egli *et al.*, 6–3, *Corpus Reformatorum*, vol. 93–3 (Zürich, 1983).
- Hartfelder* *Philipp Melanchthon als Praeceptor Germaniae*, by K. Hartfelder, *Monumenta Germaniae Paedagogica* 7 (Berlin, 1889).
- Lohr* *Latin Aristotle Commentaries II. Renaissance Authors*, ed. C. H. Lohr (Florence, 1988).
- LW* *Luther’s Works* (English translation), ed. J. Pelikan and H. T. Lehman, 55 vols. (St Louis, 1955–76).

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- MBW* *Melancthons Briefwechsel: kritische und kommentierte Gesamtausgabe, im Auftrag der Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften*, ed. H. Scheible (Stuttgart, 1977–).¹
- StA* *Melancthons Werke in Auswahl: Studienausgabe*, ed. R. Stupperich, 5 vols. (Gütersloh, 1963).
- Urkundenbuch* *Urkundenbuch der Universität Wittenberg, Teil 1. 1502–1611*, ed. W. Friedensburg (Magdeburg, 1926).
- VD* *Verzeichnis der im Deutschen Sprachbereich erschienenen Drucke des XVI. Jahrhunderts* (Stuttgart, 1983–).
- WA* *Dr Martin Luthers Werke, kritische Gesamtausgabe*, 63 vols. (Weimar, 1883–1987).
- WBr* *Dr Martin Luthers Briefwechsel*, 17 vols. (Weimar, 1930–83).

¹ With its detailed critical apparatus, cross-reference, commentary and exhaustive index incorporating biblical references, this modern edition promises to meet the long and acutely felt need for a modern critical edition of Melancthon's texts. For parts of Melancthon's correspondence, I have used the dating and the Latin text of this modern edition and consulted the German summary for my translations. At the time of going to press, vols. I–VI, xxii were available to me.

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