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Adversaria

VOLUME 1

PETER PAUL DOBREE
EDITED BY JAMES SCHOLEFIELD



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EPISCOPO LINCOLNIENSI,

HOC

VIRI DESIDERATISSIMI

MONUMENTUM AERE PERENNUS

D. D.

EDITOR.

P R A E F A T I O.

MORTEM obiit Dobræus noster, in ipso floris ætate, die septimo calendas Octobres anno 1825. vir, si quis alius, post magnum illum Porsonum Græcarum literarum cultor diligentissimus, et non cathedrae modo successor Porsonianæ, sed ingenii et doctrinæ. Ipse aliquandiu Porsoni amicitia usus, plura quidem cum amico communia, illud vero dissimile habuit, quod pauca memoriæ, plurima, *velut fidis sodalibus, libris* commiserat. Meminerat sane, e magnis illis eruditio[n]is et scientiæ thesauris, quos mente nimium memori reposuerat Porsonus, quantum hac ipsa de causa periisset, quantulum superstes posteris esset traditum; unde fiebat ut, tempestive monitus, ipse quæ inter legendum adnotaverat, diligenter exscriberet; postea, si quid temere effudisset, correcturus; si quid obscurius, explicaturus. Et quidem fere omnia perlegerat, omnia fere notis vel plenius vel parcus illustraverat; adeo ut schedas ipsius uberrimas post mortem insipienti videretur Vir egregius in animo habuisse, modo vita superfuisset, pene universam omnium scriptorum seriem curis concinnare luculentis.

Quo minus tamen, præter unum et alterum (*Aristophanica* scilicet Porsoni, et ejudem *Photium*), nullum aliud opus ad exitum perduceret, duæ res in causa fuerunt: exiguum vitæ spatium, quod, Deo ita volente,

intra annos XLIII. absolvit; deinde, judicium subtile, limatum, et ob id ipsum parum sibi placens, nihil autem suffragio suo ita comprobaturum, ut in lucem prodire pateretur, quod non

Multa dies et multa litura coërcuit, et quod
Perfectum decies non castigavit ad unguem.

In iis igitur quæ in Oratores commentatus erat, in quos maximam curam et diligentiam impenderat; e quibus Demosthenem suum sperabamus fore ut ipse vivus prelo subjiceret;^a multa quidem docte, feliciter, peracute scripta, neque omnia tamen perfecta, inveniet Lector: quædam dubitantius, quædam forsitan festinatius prolata et postea vel correcta vel corrigenda; pleraque vero ita ex intimis doctrinæ penetralibus arcessita, ita criticæ artis prudentia examinata, confirmata, ornata, ut sine summo tum fructu tum delectatione vix legi possint.

Lacunas quasdam, quas reliquerat V. D. si modo una aut altera voce cancellis interjecta suppleri posse viderentur, supplevi; neque id propter, uti spero, gravius Lectori reprehendendus, neque si pauca quædam, alioquin sane ut leviora omittenda, non omiserim, quæ ut Auctorem verius exprimentia, et leporem ejus salesque in memoriam facile revocantia, amicis non ingrata fore putabam. Quæ autem vel ipse semel scripta postea repudiaverat, vel ab aliis omni ex parte occupata reperi, vel minus utilia futura judicavi, ea plerumque omnia omisi.

^a In Aristogitoneam priorem nonnulla adnotaverat vix tribus ante mensibus quam mortem obiit immaturam.

Me vero, quamvis talem sequi ducem in paucissimis quidem pœniteret, in nullis puderet, non tamen nunquam ab opinione ejus discedere, Lector est monendus. Ignoscat velim, si contrariam hic illic sententiam, summa brevitate conclusam, Auctoris paginæ subjece- rim: facilius ignoscet, si in aliis testem me præbuerim consentientem et confirmantem. In ceteris, ut quisque doctior est, sive judicio ejus omnino standum putet sive secus, Dobræi doctrinam, cognitionem, perspicacitatem non sine reverentia et desiderio suspiciet.

Paucas aliquot in Novi Testamenti libros obser- vationes suo loco dispositas invenire neminem, opinor, pigebit. Quin in fronte exemplaris sacri libri, unde notæ illæ de promtæ sunt, exscriperat Vir doctissimus, quasi perpetuam sibi admonitionem, quo ani- mi affectu limen illud sanctissimi Veritatis templi esset adeundum, Ἐὰν μὴ στραφῆτε, καὶ γένησθε ὡς τὰ παιδία, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθητε εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν. Τῶν τοιούτων ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν. (Matt. xviii. 3. xix. 14.) Et sane Librum illum librorum, quem vivus parcus quidem, sed in quibusdam, nisi fallor, feliciter interpretatus erat, ita moribundus unice amplectebatur, ut tunc esset *homo unius libri*, qui antea multorum et, ut ita dicam, omnium fuerat; non id scilicet temporis se perdidisse ratus quod divino volumini insumserat, sed id potius, quod majoribus sublatum rebus ad minores contulerat; in eo certe nobis imitandus, quod cum doctrina tam singulari tantam conjunxerit in θεόπνευστον γραφήν reverentiam.

Sepultus jacet, juxta Porsonum suum, in sacello Collegii S. S. Trinitatis, ubi eximiæ ejus virtutes,

x

PRÆFATI O.

in marmore commemoratæ, Juventutis Academicæ tum
 admirationi tum imitationi commendantur, hoc modo :

M. S.

VIRI REVERENDI PETRI PAULI DOBREE, A. M.
 EX INSULA GUERNSEY ORIUNDI,
 COLLEGII HUJUS S. S. TRINITATIS SOCII,
 ET GRÆCÆ LINGUÆ IN HAC ACADEMIA PROFESSORIS REGII.
 VIR ERAT PROBUS, CANDIDUS, SIMPLEX,
 A FASTU OMNI AC FUCO ALIENISSIMUS,
 SERMONE COMIS, ANIMO ÆQUABILIS AC LENIS,
 ITA TAMEN UT FACILE COMMOVERETUR,
 SI VEL PATRIÆ VEL SINGULORUM JURA IN DISCRIMEN PUTARET ADDUCI.
 AD HAS VIRTUTES ACCESSERUNT INGENIUM ACUTUM, JUDICIUM SANUM,
 INDEFESSA PRO VALETUDINE INDUSTRIA,
 MAGNA PHILOSOPHIÆ MORALIS AC THEOLOGIÆ,
 MAXIMA LITERARUM LATINARUM AC GRÆCARUM PERITIA,
 TANTA IN CORRUPTIS VETERUM AUTORUM LOCIS
 DETEGENDIS SAGACITAS, EMENDANDIS FELICITAS,
 UT PORSONI, CUJUS IN FAMILIARITATE INTIME ERAT VERSATUS,
 VESTIGIA VIX IMPARI GRESSU SEQUI VIDERETUR.
 IMMATURA MORTE PRÆREPTUS EST, A. D. M.DCCC.XXV. ÆTATIS XLIII.
 SOROR UNICA PONI CURAVIT.

Prodibit, Deo favente, intra annum proxime sequentem
 tomus alter, observationes Viri egregii complectens in
 Poëtas Græcos, in Inscriptiones, nec non paucas in
 Scriptores Romanos.

*Dabam Cantabrigiæ,
 Die 14to Cal. Decemb. 1831.*

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