

## THE LATINIZATIONS OF THE MODERN SURNAME.

Now that the history of Classical learning is being rewritten, a new mode of designating the scholars of a former age seems to be coming into fashion; the time-honoured names, by which they were so generally known to their learned contemporaries and to our own forefathers, are being as far as possible discarded, and replaced by others believed to represent the veritable form of their surnames in the various vernaculars. The new fashion has caught on so completely as to be followed at times even in the Latin notes in recent editions of classical texts; to be up-to-date, it appears, one should write 'emendavit Vettori,' or 'correxuit Turnèbe'—with little regard for the feelings and instincts of those illustrious humanists. One objection to this procedure is the uncertainty of its application; we adopt the vernacular name, when we happen to know it (or think we know it), and we keep to the learned name, if the vernacular one eludes us, as it so often does. To recover the vernacular one—where recovery is possible—is in many instances no easy matter; it may require learning of a very special kind, some familiarity with the languages and the name-systems of different countries, and at different periods, and no little knowledge of the bypaths of literary history. But in the end the name thus painfully recovered may be only an inference or plausible surmise, unless it can be proved to be more than that by the researches of some curious antiquary amid the dust of archives. And one cannot forget, that after all the Latin names of the scholars of the first two centuries of the modern period are the *nobis notiora*, and that they have a long record of use and tradition.

Our earlier authorities for the history and biography of Classical learning are apt to be silent on the subject of the vernacular names of the old scholars, as though it were of very little interest to them or their readers. The new interest in the question may perhaps have been somewhat quickened with us by the example of Voigt in Germany and of J. A. Symonds in England; the notion being this apparently, that we should speak of these men of the past, as though we had known them in the flesh, not by the names under which they lived, and wished to live, in the world of Letters, but by others more familiar at the time to the man in the street or, perhaps, the local notary—if that was generally the fact, which I venture to doubt. We are now expected, accordingly, to refer to the author of *Hermaphroditus* as Beccadelli, though in his own day, in the world in which he was a personage, he was Antonius Panormita, or, as his contemporary Vespasiano calls him in Italian, Antonio Panormita. Politian has been treated with more consideration. He became in Latin Politianus (Pōlitianus, from Mons Politianus, the learned name of his birth-place), and thence in Italian Poliziano; this last has remained too well established to be replaced in Voigt by the earlier Agnolo Montepulciano—which still survives as his name in Machiavelli. There are ominous signs, however, of our having to reconcile ourselves to a new appellative, now that our librarians have learnt that his family name was probably Ambrogini; I have seen his works put under that heading in a library catalogue, just as those of Voltaire have been entered before now under 'Arouet.'

### *Italian surnames.*

One naturally begins with these, because the Italian humanists were the first in the field of the New Learning. Without attempting any formal classification of Italian surnames, I suppose one may assume certain obvious distinctions, as sufficient at least for present purposes.

Latinized surnames of local origin present but little difficulty in the case of Italy, as the Latin place-names from which

they come are as a rule easily discoverable in the old geographical dictionaries. But in the form of certain of these names there is this to be noted, that an Italian or other place-name ending in *-a* may be turned into a Neolatin surname without change of termination, in the same way as in *Vespasiano's* Italian *Domenico of Capranica* is *Domenico Capranica*, and *George of Trebizond*, *Giorgio Trabizonda*; e.g.

*Nicolas of Cusa* (i.e. *Cues*): *Nicolaus Cusa*, in *Palmerius*; more usually in after times *Nicolaus Cusanus*.

*Giovanni della Casa*: *Ioannes Casa*.

*Picò della Mirandola*: *Picus Mirandula*; sometimes *Picus Mirandulanus*.

As for the countless Italian surnames ending in *-i*, some of these were patronymics, the genitives of baptismal names ending in *-us* or *-o*. *Vasari* tells us that the painter *Taddeo Bartoli* was the son of a certain *Bartolo*, and that *Lippi* stood for 'De Lippo,' the son of *Lippo* (i.e. *Filippo*). Others—though in many instances originally patronymics—were in actual use gentile names; and as such they were regarded as plurals. Thus 'Alberti' was short for 'degli Alberti,' in notarial Latin 'de Albertis,' of the Alberti family; 'Salutati' for 'de' Salutati'; and 'Pandolphini' for 'de Pandolphinis.' Both kinds of surnames were Latinized in exactly the same way.

With patronymics the usual practice in the 15th century was to Latinize them by direct reversion to the father's name, i.e. by turning the vernacular *-i* into *-us*. In the correspondence of *Leonardus Aretinus* (2 p. 172 *Mehus*) is a letter to *Colucius*, who had addressed him as *Leonardus 'Ceccus'*, his vernacular name being *Lionardo 'Cecchi'* or 'di Cecco.' This he strongly resents as a misleading and unclassical rendering of his second name; in spite of that, however, he was quite ready to follow the general practice in the case of others; he speaks, for instance, of *Jacopo di Agnolo* as '*Jacobus Angelus*'—not as '*Jacobus Angeli filius*,' as he should have done, if the rule laid down to *Colucius* was to be observed. So also *Perotti* was *Perottus* in contemporary Latin; and I suppose it was from this that there arose even in his own time (e.g. in *Vespasiano*) a new form of his surname, 'Perotto.'

The treatment of gentile names was equally simple. A 'de' *Salutati*, one of the *Salutati* family, was known as '*Salutatus*'—a form sanctioned by *Leonardus Aretinus*. Hence he came to be often called in Italian '*Salutato*,' which *Voigt* has canonized as normal. So also the famous *Nicola Nicoli* became in Latin *Nicolaus Nicolus* (e.g. in *Facius* and *Cortesius*), though the '*Nicoli*' was so distinctly recognized as a plural that the official Latin for it was '*de Nicolis*.' I subjoin a few more instances:

*Acciaiuoli*: *Acciaiolus*.

*Bellini*: *Bellinus*.

*Grimaldi*: *Grimaldus*.

*Landini*: *Landinus*. Hence the other form of the name, *Landino*.

*Orsini*: *Ursinus*. *Fulvius Ursinus*, not unfrequently became in contemporary correspondence '*Orsino*'—a form we may remember as occurring also in *Shakespeare*.

*Pinelli*: *Pinellus*. In his own time *J. V. Pinelli* was often called '*Pinello*.'

The name of the *Medici* house has a history of its own. It was in Italian '*de' Medici*,' and in official Latin '*de Medicis*.' But elegant Latinity created a new form, '*Medices*,' a third declension word; in contemporary Greek, too, the form was *Μεδίκης* (with *Μεδίκων* as a gen. pl.). This, however, is not the end of the story. '*Medices*' is constantly used as an indeclinable noun by Renaissance Latinists, e.g. by *Palmerius*, *Merula*, *Polydore Vergil*, and also the Aristotelian *Niphus*, who was proud of the licence to add '*Medices*' as a second surname after his own. In later Neolatin the current word was '*Mediceus*.'

To pass on to other artifices of Latinization of a more obviously mechanical order.

Names ending in *-a*. The ending remains as it was in a large number of surnames, e.g. in *Auria* (= *Doria*), *Columna* (= *Colonna*), *Gonzaga*, *Mantineia* (= *Mantegna*), *Spinula* (= *Spinola*), *Stroza*. But *Sforza* became either *Sphortia* or *Sphortias*, and occasionally *Sphorcus*—just as *L. Pignoria* is on the title-pages of his books '*Pignorius*.' The form '*Sphortias*' was, I suppose, due to a desire to give the word a Greek look, on the

analogy of Archias, Gorgias and the like. Other instances of the same affectation will be noted further on.

Names ending in *-e*. Many of these could be Latinized at once by reversion to the Latin original, a Gentile becoming thus 'Gentilis,' and a Mercuriale, 'Mercurialis.' Sigone, it may be observed, was in Latin Sigonius; and it was from that that the more usual Italian name 'Sigonio' was formed. That his vernacular name was Sigone (as it is, for instance, in Castelvetro) has been clearly shown by Rénouard (*Alde* pp. 166 and 238).

Names ending in *-i*. These, except in certain cases already considered, usually end in Neolatin in *-ius*; e.g.

Allacci: Allatius. Hence his other Italian name, Allatio or Allacio.

Beni: Benius.

Fazi (or Fazio): Facius.

Galluzzi: Gallutius.

Nicoli: Nicolius—the conventional later Latinization of the surname of Nicola Nicoli.

Patrizi: Patritius, or Patricius.

Pazzi (or de' Pazzi): Pactius, or Paccius.

Varchi: Varchius.

Vettori: Victorius—not 'Vectorius,' as one might have expected.

When, however, an *-i* name had another *-i-* as its antepenultimate, the latter was usually dropped. Benevieni thus became 'Benevenius,' and Palmieri, 'Palmerius,' in the same way as in an earlier period Alighieri was 'Aligerius.'

Names ending in *-io*. The normal Neolatin ending for them was *-ius*, so that Boccaccio became Boccatus; Masaccio, Masaccius. But Bentivolio was turned into Bentivolus, on the analogy, one may presume, of the Latin *benivolus*.

Names ending in *-o* preceded by a consonant other than *r*. The *-o* was then simply changed into *-us*, Bembo becoming Bembus; Filelfo, Philelphus; Giotto, Jottus; Nifo, Niphus; Tasso, Tassus. When the ending was *-ro*, however, the usual practice was to make the Latin name end in *-rius*, as in the following instances:—

Castelvetro: Castelvetrius. So Robortellus<sup>1</sup> in the preface to his Aeschylus. But with others Castelvetro was Castelvetrus, or even Castelvitreus.

Fracastoro: Fracastorius—from which he was sometimes re-Italianized into 'Fracastorio' (as in Castelvetro).

Navagero, or Navagiero: Navagerius (so in Pierius Valerianus), Navigerius, or Naugerius—this last being re-Italianized into Naugerio.

In some instances the vernacular name was too refractory to admit of a respectable Latin adaptation. The Aristotelian commentator L. Boccadiferro actually appears on his title-pages as Buccaferrea, or Buccaferreus, with a gen. Buccaferrei (!); it must have required some philosophy to acquiesce in such a barbarism. In the Renaissance period, accordingly, the difficulty was often got over by simply sacrificing the vernacular name, and putting a translation, or what might pass as a translation, in its place. Thus a Bevilacqua became 'Abstemius'; a Della Paglia, 'Palearius'; a Fortiguerra, 'Carteromachus.' In some instances the excuse for having recourse to translation does not seem equally legitimate. It was mere affectation of Classicism that made a Riccio call himself 'Crinitus,' and led Leonardus Aretinus to rename a Rossi (or de' Rossi) 'Ruffus.'

The affectation of Classicism did not always stop at surnames; it extended even to praenomens, which were sometimes with no little audacity of invention made to assume a pseudo-antique form. Thus it was that Valerianus of Belluno, who began life as Pietro or Piero, changed his baptismal name into 'Pierius.' Another Italian, Antonio della Paglia, masqueraded as 'Aonius' Palearius—he was eventually burnt, but not for that. Another, Majoragius or Majoraggio (if that was his real surname), turned his baptismal Antonio Maria into 'Marcus Antonius,' for which he was duly pilloried by Castelvetro. And the illustrious Cosma de' Medici, in Latin Cosmas Medices, by

<sup>1</sup> In an earlier book he had called himself Robertelius, which may perhaps presuppose a vernacular Robortelli. If so, Robortellus and Robortello will

be another instance of direct reversion to the Christian name of a father or ancestor (see p. 78).

the alteration of a letter became 'Cosmus' in Latin, and 'Cosmo' in Italian, thus divesting himself of his original association with Saint Cosmas, which was a great point in that semi-pagan age.

*Spanish and Portuguese surnames.*

Perhaps the first thing that strikes one in Spanish Latin is its retention in so many instances of the vernacular names in their native form without any pretence of giving them a Latin one. Names like Delrio and De la Cerda are to be seen in the title-pages of well-known scholars of Spanish origin.

A great many Spanish surnames are ordinary place-names turned into personal names. The full name of the illustrious Spanish Aristotelian was Genesius de Sepulveda; but he dropped the preposition, and became simply Genesius Sepulveda, the second name being then declined straight off like *musa*. Spanish Latinity abounds in names of the same type, e.g. Avila, Guevara, Spinosa (= de Espinosa), Stunica, Vergara, and the like. Sepulveda even uses old Latin place-names in this way, turning, for instance, a Juan de Cordova into 'Joannes Corduba.' But he went even further than that; for one can hardly doubt that the 'Sebastianus Leo' with whom he corresponded was in real life Sebastian de Leon, i.e. of the city of Leon. Not so long after his time, Ponce de Leon may be seen figuring on a title-page as 'Pontius Leo.'

Other surnames, however, of local signification, were modified in various ways to make them pass as Latin; e.g.

De Castro: Castrensis.

De Escobar: Scobarius (also Scobar, Scobar-is).

De Gouvea: Goveanus—not simply Govea, as one might have expected.

De Horozco: Oroscius.

De Resende: Resendius.

De Torres: Turrianus.

I may add that when a vernacular name could pass muster as a Latin nominative, it was used as that without hesitation. Thus Morales was in Latin 'Morales' (gen. -is) and Vives

'Vives' (gen. -is). Valles, however, became—in certainly one instance—'Vallesius.'

Spanish surnames ending in -ez (all originally patronymics, I understand) were regularly Latinized by direct substitution of -ius for the final -ez; e.g.

Gonzalez: Gonsalvus.

Núñez: Nonius or Nonnius—from the old name Nunno or Nuño.

Olivarez: Olivarius.

Sanchez: Sanctus.

Ximenez: Ximinius.

But a Gomez became 'Gomecius,' an Alvarez 'Alvarus.' And the Núñez, whom we remember as an editor of Phrynichus, elected to be known as 'Nunnesius.'

A few more names may be added here—just enough to show the principle or no-principle on which Latin surnames may have been constructed in the Peninsula:—

Abril: Aprileus.

Cabedo: Cabedius.

Estaço: Statius.

Fox: Foxius.

García: Garsia, or Garsias—the latter perhaps on the model of Archias, Prusias etc. So also Mexía was sometimes Latinized into 'Messias.'

Mariner: Marinerius.

Pereira: Pererius.

Teve: Tevius.

The only instance I have observed of direct translation is 'Dryander,' to represent the Spanish 'Encinas.'

### *French surnames.*

These are often so intractable that great liberties might have to be taken to give them a Latin look; the result being that it is sometimes hardly possible for us in this day to recognize the original name in its learned disguise. De Thou's Latinizations of contemporary names, though not without system, must have been from the first a perplexity to his



readers; and the generation that came after him had reason to be thankful for the interpretations inserted in the Index volume of 1634. I may observe that the French scholars of the 17th century seem to have been keenly interested in the question of the Latinized surname; there is a whole chapter on it in the *Huetiana*, and not a few notes and criticisms scattered up and down the *Menagiana*. Scaliger also had had quite definite views on the subject (*Scaligerana* p. 288 ed. 1740).

It must not be supposed, however, that the French Latinizations are always so abnormal as to leave the underlying vernacular name unrecognizable. Many of them are simply the vernacular name with the inflexional affix *-us* or *-ius*—no doubt often with the change of a letter or two in the body of the word.

With the affix *-us* :—

Du Bellay: Bellaius.

Du Billy: Billius.

Boulenger: Bulengerus.

Grouchy: Gruchius.

Herauld: Heraldus.

Hurault: Huraltus.

Muret: Muretus.

But Rigault was 'Rigaltius'; and Huet 'Huetius'—though he tells us himself that 'Huetus' would have been the more correct form for his surname.

With the affix *-ius* :—

Bongars: Bongarsius.

Du Cange: Cangius.

Cujas: Cuiacius.

Du Hamel: Hamelius.

Loisel: Oiselius.

Gu. Morel: Morelius. But Fr. Morel was 'Morellus.'

Petau: Petavius.

Rabelais: Rabelaeus; sometimes Rabelaeus.

Saumaise: Salmasius.

When the vernacular name ends in *-ier*, the *-i-* usually disappears in the Latin :—

Champier: Champerius.

Chartier: Charterius.

Dacier: Dacerius.

Fournier: Fornerius.

Le Paulmier: Palmerius. But the father of the famous Jacques le Paulmier called himself 'Palmarius,' as being more like Latin, I suppose.

Peletier: Peletarius.

There are, however, some few notable exceptions to the rule. Grolier became 'Grolierius,' Josias Mercier 'Mercerus,' and Segulier 'Segulierius'—instead of Grolierius, Mercerus and Seguerius, as analogy might lead one to expect.

A curious divergence of practice arose with French names ending in *-on*, which were Latinized sometimes as second, and sometimes as third declension words. Thus Brisson was usually 'Brissonius,' and Du Perron 'Perronius.' But Fronton du Duc was always, if I am not mistaken, 'Fronto Ducaeus.' Scaliger followed this latter mode of Latinization, calling Mamert Patisson, for instance, not Patissonius (as was usual) but 'Patisso'; even his English friend, Richard Thomson of Cambridge, was with him 'Thomso,' and Sir Henry Wotton in like manner 'Wotto.' With Beza also 'Hamulto' does duty for our Hamilton. Casaubon generally follows the same rule, though not in the case of his own name. The practice in fact was an affectation; and it soon went out in France.

It is to be observed that a French surname ending in *-é* or *-ée* became in normal Neolatin one ending in *-eus* or *-aeus*:—

Budé: Budeus (or Budaeus).

Finé: Fineus (or Finaeus).

Labbé: Labbaeus.

Naudé: Naudaeus.

Strebée: Strebaeus.

The Latin ending *-aeus*, however, sometimes corresponds to a vernacular *-eau*:—

Brodaeus: Brodeau.

Coteraeus: Cotereau (*Ménage*, *Anti-Baillet* 1 p. 256).

Susannaeus: Susaneau.

The foregoing are all instances of a more or less mechanical adaptation, and were made according to some sort of rule and precedent. But there are countless Latinizations in which the underlying French name is not so immediately recognizable.

Some of these were a revival of Latin originals ; e.g.

Carpentarius : Charpentier.

Christianus : Chrestien.

Clericus : Leclerc.

Faber : Lefebvre.

Gothofredus : Godefroy.

Olivarius : Olivier.

Stephanus<sup>1</sup> : Estienne.

Others were translations pure and simple ; e.g.

Castellanus : Duchastel. Baluze, writing in 1674, tells us that at that time Duchastel was often called Castellan or Chastellain, through a misunderstanding of the Latin name, the memory of the true vernacular having been lost. He might have added that a century before that, H. Estienne in one of his French writings had spoken of Duchastel as 'Castellan.'

Insulanus : de l'Isle (Delisle).

Macarius : L'Heureux.

Parvus : Petit. So with the famous printer, Jean Petit. But his example was not followed by Pierre or Samuel Petit in the next century.

Puteanus : Du Puy. A mistranslation, as Scaliger shows in the *Scaligerana*.

Regius : Le Roy.

Silvius : Du Bois.

Others were newly-coined words with a certain show of etymological affinity to the vernacular name ; e.g.

Castanaeus : Chasteigner.

Portaeus : Desportes.

Quercetanus : Duchesne.

Sudorius : Le Sueur.

Tilius : Du Tillet.

<sup>1</sup> Stephanus was very soon Anglicized into Stephens ; and it is as

Stephens that Henri Estienne is known in the pages of Bentley and Porson.

Casaubon began his literary life as 'Hortusbonus,' in lieu of which enemies fashioned a new name for him, 'Hortibonus,' through a misreading of the title-page of his Notes on Diogenes Laertius. I have seen a copy of the book, which he sent to Pinelli at the time, with an autograph dedication signed 'Is. Hortusbonus.'

Too many French Latin surnames, however, simply defy classification owing to the difficulty of explaining their form or structure. The most one can do with them in any brief statement is to recognize them as facts, without discussion. But a combination of pedantry and caprice will certainly account for no small proportion of them. The following are some few out of a very large number of possible instances:—

Brixius: De Brie (*Menagiana* 1 p. 132).

Colinaeus: De Colines.

Colomesius: Colomiés.

Ducaeus: Du Duc.

Foxius: Du Foix.

Iunius: Du Jon.

Memmius: De Mesme.

Paschasius: Pasquier.

Possinus: Poussines.

Ramus: De la Ramée.

Sammarthanus: De Sainte-Marthe.

Sangelasius: De Saint-Gelais.

Talaeus: Talon.

Thuanus: De Thou. Scaliger disapproved of the form (*Scaligerana* p. 289).

Tiraquellus: Tiraqueau.

Torinus: Tory.

Apart from any questions or difficulties that may arise in connexion with the foregoing specimens of the French Latinized surname, I think it may be as well to draw attention to two points of some historical interest.

1. The learned names were in some instances so generally accepted and familiar in France as to be freely used even in ordinary vernacular writings. Marot addressed Duchastel as 'Monsieur Castellanus' (*Menagiana* 4 p. 123); and Henri IV,

Scaliger, as 'Monsieur Scaliger,'—not as 'Monsieur de l'Escale.' Montaigne also speaks of 'Silvius' and 'Turnebus,' both of them fellow-countrymen and his contemporaries. As for foreign scholars, we find him constantly referring to them by their Latinized names, as was indeed the general custom with the educated classes in those days, and long after that. Even in our own time it is more usual in France to say 'Ramus' than 'De la Ramée.'

2. The Latinized being in some instances so much more widely known than the original surnames, new surnames adapted from the Latin came into general use, the older forms of the names passing out of memory. There are certainly some very noteworthy instances of this:—

Beza. His original name is said to have been De Besie (*Ménage*, *Anti-Baillet* 2 p. 114). This being Latinized into 'Beza,' he became henceforth Bèze or De Bèze in French even in his own day.

Calvin. There is good reason to think that he began life as Chauvin, and Latinized that, correctly enough, as 'Calvinus.' 'Calvin,' therefore, would seem to be a back-formation from the Latin.

Turnebus. His family name was De Tournebu, so called from a village in Normandy. He Latinized it himself into 'Turnēbus' (in Greek *Τούρνεβος*); not a few of his contemporaries, however, turned this into 'Turnēbus,' and starting from that fabricated a new French name for him, Turnèbe. So that he is now commonly known in France and elsewhere by a surname which is two removes from the truth.

#### *Dutch, Flemish, and German surnames.*

These are a perpetual difficulty to an outsider. I have had to rely to a considerable extent on such information as one finds in books like Bursian's *Geschichte*, Eckstein's *Nomenclator*, and Pökel's *Schriftsteller-Lexikon*, not without an uneasy feeling in my own mind that it is not always to be trusted.

Germany in the early days of the Renaissance resembled Spain in one respect; it was still not unusual for surnames to

retain their vernacular form even in Latin books—no doubt often with a baptismal name, or some other declinable word, prefixed, so as to bring the barbarous word into some semblance of construction. Instances may be seen in Reuclin's Correspondence passim. Reuclin himself was thus 'Ioannes Reuclin,' more rarely 'Reuclinus'; with those, however, who affected the new elegance the mode was to call him by his Greek pseudonym, 'Capnion.' But the fashion of the Latinized name soon made its way, and spread far and wide over Northern Europe; so much so that there are to this day not a few survivals of it in Germany—names like Cantor, Crusius, Curtius, Emperius<sup>1</sup>, Faber, Fabricius<sup>2</sup>, with others also of patronymic form like Alberti, Ernesti, Matthiae, Michaelis, Ulrici. One would wish to know how and when it was that the remote ancestors of those now bearing these surnames came to adopt them.

That pseudonyms should abound in these regions was but natural; the temptation was great to devise a new surname of Latin, or better still, of Greek origin, to take the place of an amorphous or ill-sounding native name. The pseudonyms are known, but that cannot always be said of the vernacular names they supplanted; these are often a matter of conjecture, about which a difference of opinion is quite possible. The following may perhaps serve as types of the more convincing identifications:—

Chimerinus: Winter.

Crato: Krafft.

Fortis: Stercke.

Grapheus: Schryver.

Iunius: De Jonge.

Luscinius: Nachtigall.

Oporinus: Herbst.

Virulus: Meniken (our 'mannikin'). Carolus Virulus, one of the early humanists in the Low Countries, was strictly Carolus Viruli, i.e. Charles Menkens (comp. Copinger, *Suppl. to Hain* 2, 1, p. 387-9)—the 'Virulus' in his case being a

<sup>1</sup> 'Emper' is the fiction of some recent English editors of texts.

<sup>2</sup> It will be remembered that there

was a 'Helvetius' even in France in the 18th cent.—the name being inherited from a German ancestor.

reversion of a kind common enough at the time in Italy (v. p. 78). In this respect, therefore, the name may be compared—if a digression be permissible—with that of the Louvain printer whom we are now required to call Thierry Martens. He began as Dirck Martens, 'Dirck son of Martin,' in Latin Theodoricus Martini (as he is in some of his earlier books); but after a time dropped the patronymic form of his second name and called himself Theodoricus Martinus. As for the Christian name Thierry, I must observe that it is not Flemish but French, and due, one may suppose, to the French-speaking Belgian literati.

To pass on to the ordinary mechanical artifice for Latinization, the addition of *-us* or *-ius* to the original name.

With the affix *-us* :—

Canter: Canterus.

Gesner: Gesnerus.

Hartung: Hartungus.

Hutten: Huttenus.

Schott: Schottus.

Volcmar (?): Volmārus, Volmārus; sometimes also Volmārius (all three to be found in Beza's Latin poems).

With the affix *-ius* :—

Froben: Frobenius (i.e. of Froben).

Goclen: Goclenius.

Groot: Grotius.

Giffen: Giphanius.

Löwenklau: Leunclavius.

Schryver: Scriverius.

Sturm: Sturmius.

'Holstenius,' however, which is so commonly equated with 'Holsten,' may very well have represented Holst or Holste, in the same way as 'Noltenius' was Nolte, and 'Menckenius' Mencke.

In some instances the affix *-ius* takes the place of a final *-e* in the native name :—

Graeve or Greffe: Graevius<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Bentley, who kept up a regular correspondence with him, always calls him by his Latin name even in his

English writings. He does the same with Gronovius (Gronow?), and also more often than not with Vossius.

Schoppe: Schoppius; afterwards (as a concession to the Italians) Scioppius—just as the Spanish scholar Chacón became in Italy Ciacconius.

The ending *-ius*, however, seems to correspond in some instances to a Flemish or German patronymic form in *-s*, the meaning of which was not yet forgotten. Thus Rubenius is the Latin for Rubens. And one can hardly doubt that Guilielmus, the name of the great Plautine scholar, represented 'Guilielmi,' or 'Wilhelms.' If 'Gevartius' stands for a Flemish 'Gevaerts,' it is clear that this mode of adaptation was not confined to derivatives from Christian names.

But Rutgers (our Rodgers) called himself Rutgersius—an ugly word to my thinking. One wonders what Scaliger would have said of it.

The following Latinizations are much too arbitrary to admit of classification:—

Buslidius, or Buslidianus: Busleyden.

Clenardus: Cleynaerts.

Crusius: Kraus.

Hunnaeus: Huens.

Longolius: Longueil.

Nannius: Nanninck.

Puteanus: de Put.

Rescius: Ressen.

And there are many others of the same fanciful order, more especially in the Low Countries. I observe that so learned a writer as M. F. Nève is evidently at a loss at times to recover even by conjecture the vernacular names of some of the earlier professors at Louvain.

### *English Surnames.*

Here one is on firmer ground, not only because the English surnames are already familiar to us, but also because the relation between them and their Latinizations is generally seen without effort, our Neolatin surnames being as a rule constructed on simple and fairly uniform lines; e.g.:

Latimer: Latimērus.

Selden: Seldenus.



Cheke : Checus.

Linacre : Linacrus.

Gray : Graius.

Sidney : Sidneius.

Gill : Gillius (so in Milton).

Jones : Ionesius (so in Milton).

Ussher : Usserius.

But Bale became 'Baleus,' Pace 'Paceus,' Price 'Pricaeus,' and Lowe (in Leland) 'Lovaeus.' Wolsey also was more often 'Wolsaeus' than 'Wolseius.'

The Latinized names in Bale's great series of English worthies are mostly of the above types—in marked contrast to those in Leland, who had a mania for the classical, forgetting that, if they were to be intelligible, the Latin names should not deviate too flagrantly from the vernaculars which they represented. Those in Polydore Vergil on the other hand are often singularly felicitous in their closeness to the native names, which is all the more surprising in one of foreign birth and education. The influence, however, of Italian habit is still discernible in some of his adaptations; he calls a Pole, of the family which produced Cardinal Pole, not 'Polus' but 'Pola'—in the same way as Dr John Dee became in Italian 'Dea'.<sup>1</sup> The point is of some interest, since it explains the name of one of the four Oxford men who in the middle of the 15th cent. went off to perfect themselves in the New Learning in Italian schools. The received view, that he was in English John Free, is to my mind right and reasonable<sup>2</sup>. It is known that he remained several years in Italy; and in Italy his name would naturally be Italianized into 'Frea,' and from that Latinized into 'Frea' or 'Phreas.' Leland recognizes both forms; but 'Phreas' may very well have been preferred as more classical, the Greek termination making it so like such antique names as Aeneas and Boreas. I mention this, because

<sup>1</sup> See Dennistoun, *Dukes of Urbino* 3 p. 247. Dennistoun failed to see that the Englishman 'Dea' he mentions as visiting Urbino was no other than Dee, whose relations with Comandino are well known.

<sup>2</sup> This paper was already in proof when the *Oxford Deeds of Balliol College*, the new volume of the Oxford Hist. Soc., reached me. 'Johannes Free' appears there in a deed dated 1456.

it appears from a note in Sir J. E. Sandys' *History*, that another, and (to my thinking) most improbable explanation has been quite recently suggested to account for this name of 'Phreas.'

Although our English Latinized surnames are as a rule fairly intelligible, there are, it must be admitted, some the relation of which to the vernacular is far from obvious:—

Caius: Keyes.

Dunaeus: Downes.

Iacchaeus: Jack.

Junius: Young.

Rossus: Rowse (in Leland).

Vitus: White (of Basingstoke).

There was also a certain 'Volusenus' in literature, who is known to have been a Scotchman; but he kept the secret of his Scotch name so carefully that to this day no man can really say what it was.

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Even such a brief and inadequate survey as this may suffice to show one thing, the large part accident and caprice have played for centuries in the Latinization of names. In the early days of the Renaissance, in writing to a friend, you might invent a Latin name for him, if he had not one already. 'Capnion' for Reuclin is said to have been the invention of Hermolaus Barbarus; and Erasmus addressed a Cambridge friend, Henry Bullock, as 'Bovillus'—regardless of the fact that there was a then living Frenchman, who was writing under that name. Then again, the name of the same man was not always a constant quantity; Casaubon was with some Hortibonus, with others Casaubonus, and with others Casaubo. So also when the same vernacular name was borne by several, the Latin for it was very far from being always the same; one Morel, for instance, was 'Morelius,' and another 'Morellus'; one Schryver, 'Grapheus,' and another 'Scriverius'; one Winter, 'Chimerinus,' and another (his contemporary) 'Guinterius.' And the exact converse of this is equally true—the same Latin word might do duty for very different vernacular surnames. 'Faber' might stand for Schmidt and Lefebvre; 'Junius' for Young, De Jonghe, and Du Jon; 'Palmerius' for Palmieri

and Le Paulmier; 'Olivarius' for Olivarez and Olivier; 'Foxius' for Fox and Du Foix; 'Puteanus' for Du Puy and De Put. The coincidence in these and similar instances is easily explained, as soon as one sees how learned names were constructed at different periods and in different countries.

The general conclusion—one so obvious that I hardly like putting it into words—is that one cannot be too cautious and circumspect in dealing with these learned names, and endeavouring to replace them by the supposed vernaculars. It is hazardous to assume that Arnaldus stood for 'Arnald,' or Holstenius for 'Holsten,' or Jordanus for 'Jordan,' or Mulinus for 'Mulin,' or Palmerius for 'Palmer'—though this sort of thing is sometimes done by editors and others, who ought to know better. And it is even more hazardous to retranslate a pseudonym by the discovery of some vernacular name that seems more or less like it in point of sense. In default of collateral evidence the identification is always a matter of conjecture.

I hope I may be permitted to add a concluding word or two as an expression of my own feeling—or prejudice, if any prefer that term—on the subject of these old Latinized surnames. It seems to me that the resuscitation of the vernacular names, real or supposed, of the scholars of past ages, is in a sense a distortion of history. The men themselves lived in a sort of Latin world; most of them habitually wrote in Latin, and for men who were always reading Latin; the names by which they were known in the great 'Republic of Letters' were either Latin or on Latin models, and these they have generally retained till quite recently. It is not the last word of wisdom to cast aside the older names in order to put in their place others, which some antiquary or archivist has been able to rescue from oblivion.

#### I. BYWATER.

<sup>1</sup> The real name of this Englishman was according to the *D.N.B.* Molyns or Molyneux. 'Mulin,' therefore, in Voigt<sup>3</sup> 2 p. 254 is a fiction.

I may add that John Free remains 'Frea' in Voigt—through his too literal following of his Latin or Italian authorities.