

Latimer and Colet, all, like himself, deeply interested in promoting the new learning. More was his pupil, and Erasmus, who at this time came to Oxford to study Greek with him, became a life-long friend. There are in the letters of Erasmus many references to his teachers of this period. One is the well known and oft quoted, "In Colet I hear Plato himself. Who does not admire the perfect compass of science in Grocyn? What can be more acute, more profound or more refined than the judgement of Linacre?" We cannot but regret that Erasmus did not leave on record a character sketch of Linacre similar to those unrivalled descriptions in which he has immortalised More and Colet. To this group of remarkable men England owed the introduction of the new learning. At the instigation of and under the direction of Barbarus the three friends, Linacre, Grocyn and Latimer, undertook the