

the praises of languages, excellently examines why the most bitter enemy of men in general, and of the Church in particular, the wicked Genius, should have desired so often to prevent the spread of languages, and why the recalling to the light of day and acquiring the knowledge of tongues should prove a very unwelcome guest to the devil, since he knew quite well that the Gospel was revealed to the Church by the complete knowledge of languages, and was retained within her by the instrumentality of the same; how also in the time of the disciples of Christ the Greek and Latin languages were promulgated far and wide over the globe, and, before our times, Greece, being occupied by the Turks, the Greek language began to be dispersed and taught throughout the then known world by fugitives; and therefore as dear as is the revelation of the word and the truth, as dear as is the Gospel, so dear to us ought to be the study of languages, so dear the preservation of the same, since it is most certain that we will never with advantage retain the light of heavenly learning, except by their aid. And many other arguments he in the same book most beautifully advances to the commendation of languages, viz., that their loss has always been followed by darkness in the Church, that in the ages even of the most holy fathers errors crept in from inacquaintance with languages, and he adduces the expositions which were given