

church always showed a very friendly attitude toward Erasmus as did most of the secular leaders of the day. He was a man whose influence went according to the Catholic Encyclopedia, an article which is not particularly friendly to him, but whose influence and ~~recognize~~ recognition was as great as that of any scholar as that in all history. He had a tremendous influence which he secured purely as a result of his writings. He did not secure it as a result of his birth for he had no background this way. He ~~was~~ came as an illegitimate son connected with a family who were rather ashamed of this illegitimate son of a brother who was no longer with them and who tried to ship him out to a school for poor boys where he would receive a certain amount of education and then tried to put him into a monastery and get rid of him. But the young man was a brilliant man and a man who also had a good deal of practical sense as it proved. In addition to that a man of tremendous energy and industry. A man who worked at his studies and at his writings constantly and turned out a perfectly prodigious amount of work. Not only in writing creative literature of which he did a great deal but in careful comparison of manuscripts, ~~disecting ex~~ detecting exact words to get exactly the right type. All that sort of laborious tedious work of publishing ~~xxx~~ editions of ancient writings to try to get exactly the right term. He spent tremendous amount of time and effort at this sort of thing. There is a book called the "Cloister and the Hearth" which many think is the greatest historical novel in the English language. This book is supposed to be an account of Erasmus parents. According to the story in this book his father and his mother were to have been married but it was prevented by unexpected circumstances and the father was in Italy not knowing about the son and there became a monk and then brought back to his home land and found that the son had been born and was now a monk and could not recognize the wife. Well, that's the story. Whether that is true or not I don't know. But all through his life Erasmus was bothered by the fact that he