

Ende August 1532) erlaubt diese parallele Durchnummerierung von Brief und Regest das schnelle Nachschlagen im Regest von schwer verständlichen Briefstellen.

Ein an biographischen Informationen überreicher Personenindex und die üblichen Bibelstellen-, Schriften- (von der Antike bis zum 16. Jahrhundert reichend), Orts- und Sachregister beschließen den Band. Einmalig unter kritischen Editionen dieser Art ist die Versehung jeden einzelnen Stückes mit einem selbständig verfassten französischen Regest sowie die Mitberücksichtigung von französischen Begriffen im Sachregister – ein Ergebnis der Kooperation der Erlanger Forschungsstelle mit der Evangelischen Theologischen Fakultät Straßburgs bei der Herausgabe des Bandes. Dass sowohl Forscher als auch Laien von der hilfreichen Bearbeitung von Quellen profitieren werden, die im achten Band des Briefwechsels Bucers zusammengestellt sind, kann als Understatement gelten.

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*Heinrich Bullinger: Briefe des Jahres 1544, bearb. von Reinhard Bodenmann et al., Zürich: Theologischer Verlag Zürich, 2011 (Heinrich Bullinger Briefwechsel 14), 645 S. – ISBN 978-3-290-17565-8.*

One way to evaluate the significance of events in the eyes of contemporaries is to examine the correspondence written in the year these events occurred. By this standard, 1544 was a very important year indeed for Heinrich Bullinger. This volume contains 227 letters to or from the Zurich reformer, almost twice the number from each of the earlier years in that decade. This is not simply an accident of preservation but reflects Bullinger's more intense exchange of letters with old friends as well as with new correspondents, such as Wolfgang Musculus in Augsburg and Jan a Lasco in Emden, who would play an increasingly influential role in the Reformation. As with previous volumes of the series, not quite 80% of the letters were written to Bullinger. Although the vast majority of Bullinger's correspondents were in other parts of Switzerland and south Germany, letters sent from East Frisia, Lausitz, and Italy demonstrate that Bullinger had a growing international audience.

Two broad topics dominate the correspondence. On the political side, the war between Emperor Charles V and the French king Francis I caused significant concern not only because Swiss mercenaries were recruited to do the fighting but also because of fears that the victorious emperor might turn against the German Protestants and even the Swiss Confederation. This threat was the background to discussions with Ambrosius Blarer of Constance, first about obtaining a secret »war machine« developed by Blarer's cousin Konrad Zwick and later about the possibility of Constance's admission to the Confederation. Blarer also served as one of Bullinger's chief sources of news from the Empire.

The second topic, the Lord's Supper, arose in several different forms. In February Bullinger wrote a sharp letter to Oswald Myconius in Basel, criticizing him for deviating from »apostolic purity« in recent sermons on the Lord's Supper. The result was a noticeable cooling of relations between the two men that contributed to the new prominence of Myconius's colleague Johannes Gast among Bullinger's correspondents. Bullinger also wrote a short summary of his understanding of the sacrament for the Hungarian student Joseph Macarius, and in a lost letter to Musculus he criticized the latter's discussion of the sacrament in his commentary on Matthew, which prompted Musculus to defend his deviation from the Zurich position. The Bern Seckelmeister Eberhard von Rümlang kept Bullinger apprised of the divisions among Bern's pastors and sought his help against the »Bucerians« in that city. By the end of the year he could report that the Great Council had endorsed the Zwinglian position contained in the Bern disputation acts and the city's liturgical agenda. The most important development, though, was the publication of Luther's »Kurtz Bekenntnis«. It is striking how difficult it was for Bullinger to obtain Luther's book. Several of his correspondents reported that there was only one copy of the work in their city. Many of them gave him advice about how best to respond to Luther, and Martin Bucer made one more attempt to justify his efforts to bring about concord.

Bullinger's correspondence also sheds some light on his literary activities. He published two works directed against Johannes Cochlaeus, the first in March and the second in November. The

dedicatory epistle of the second treatise, written to Pfalzgraf Ottheinrich, is a short presentation of Bullinger's understanding of the church. Bullinger also supported the new edition of Zwingli's works, although others advised against its publication.

There is very little about either the Zurich church or Bullinger's personal affairs, though a few letters give a glimpse into sixteenth-century social networking. Bullinger told Blarer that Seckelmeister Hans Rudolf Lavater had heard that his son, a journeyman in Augsburg, had a life-threatening injury to his leg. Because Blarer had good friends in Augsburg, Bullinger asked him to do what he could to find out more about the situation and provide assistance as needed. Three weeks later Blarer forwarded to Bullinger a letter from the Augsburg »Ratsherr« who had assumed responsibility for the boy.

This is the first volume to be produced by the new editorial team headed by Reinhard Bodenmann. The change in leadership has not brought any deviation from the high standards set by earlier volumes. The introduction provides a useful sketch of Bullinger's most important correspondents and the topics that recur through the volume. The letter summaries are concise, while the annotations provide sufficient background without going into excessive detail. The editing of Bullinger's correspondence is clearly in good hands as it moves into the eventful second half of the 1540s.

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*Theodore Bibliander: De ratione communi omnium linguarum et literarum commentarius, ed. and translated with introduction by Hagit Amirav and Hans-Martin Kirn, with a foreword by Irena Backus, Genève: Droz, 2011 (Travaux d'Humanisme et Renaissance 475), LIV & 683 S. – ISBN 978-2-600-01490-8.*

Im Jahr 1548 wurde Biblianders lange geplantes Werk *De ratione communi omnium linguarum et literarum commentarius* [...] *Cui adnexa est compendiaria explicatio doctrinae recte beateque vivendi, et religionis omnium gentium atque populorum, quam argumentum hoc postulare videbatur* in der Offizin von Christoph Froschauer d.Ä. in Zürich gedruckt. Gut dreihundert Jahre später