A NOTE ON THE TEXT, THE FOOTNOTES, AND ERASMUS' REVISIONS

I have based this translation on the forthcoming Latin text I have prepared for the Amsterdam edition.¹ My Latin text is the first one derived from a complete collation of the thirty-six editions printed during Erasmus' lifetime (and of five major editions which appeared afterwards); it is also the first one which indicates Erasmus' additions and revisions and which fully incorporates the final stage of revision. For the Lister commentary, parts of which are by Erasmus, I have used the last edition revised by Erasmus (1532, Basel, Jerome Froben and Nikolaus Bischoff, B870).² The notes I give here are based on the work done for my fuller commentary on the Latin text for the Amsterdam edition. For Erasmus' defensive letter to Martin Dorp, I have relied on the text given by P. S. Allen.³ Whatever appears in italic type here is in Greek in the original. Whatever appears within single quotation marks is a proverb or a

¹. See the bibliography.
². "E" followed by three numbers refers to the Bibliotheca Belgica (see the bibliography). Occasionally I have corrected minor errors in the 1532 edition of the commentary from one or more of the ten earlier editions.
³. No. 337 in Opus epistolarum (see Erasmus, Ep., in the bibliography).
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well-known saying. The early editions, with a few trifling exceptions, contain no paragraphing; the paragraphing in the translation is my own.

After the first unauthorized edition (Paris, 1511, E838–9), Erasmus augmented and revised the Folly seven times:

1512, Paris, Jodicus Badius Asensianus (E841)
1514, Strassburg, Matthias Schürer (E843)
1515, Basel, Johann Froben (E846–7)
1516, Basel, Johann Froben (E848)
1521, Basel, Johann Froben (E860)
1522, Basel, Johann Froben (E862)
1532, Basel, Jerome Froben and Nikolaus Bischoff (E870)

The long additions to the text first appeared in 1514 and 1516: these I have indicated in the translation by enclosing the passages added in 1514 within single pointed brackets (⟨ ⟩) and by enclosing the additions of 1516 within double pointed brackets (≪ ⟩). The year dates in the running headlines at the top of each page indicate when that page as a whole or any parts of it first appeared. In the footnotes I have also identified a few of the shorter additions and revisions from editions other than those of 1514 and 1516.4

4. I have not indicated the generally insignificant revisions in the letter to Dorp. The five Italian editions of the Moria published during Erasmus' lifetime (April 1515, August 1515, 1520, and 1525 at Venice, and 1518 at Florence) are all derived from the Strassburg edition of October 1512 and hence contain neither the Lister commentary nor any of Erasmus' additions and revisions.