3. THE LATIN TRANSLATION BY BARTHOLOMEW OF MESSINA
INTRODUCTION

Bartholomew’s Latin translation of the Essay, which survives in a single manuscript in Padua, Antoniana XVII 370, ff. 62r–64r, was published in a diplomatic edition by Kley 1936, 3–13, with a slight philological commentary (14–28). Because of its significance for the establishment of the Greek text (see above, Part I, Chapter 2.4), and in order to provide in one volume all the evidence regarding it, I am copying it here. As a diplomatic edition, Kley’s text reproduced exactly the wording, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation in the manuscript. Not having seen the manuscript myself, but also because of the nature of the slavishly literal translation, I have thought it best to print the text here as published by Kley except for the following features which are intended to enhance the usefulness of the Latin translation for the student of the Greek text of Theophrastus.

I have eliminated all periods from the text which, according to Kley, are to be found in the manuscript, because they are randomly and erroneously placed and hamper the reading of the text. I have, however, not introduced any punctuation or capitalization, but rather divided the text into my numbered aporiae of the original Greek and introduced Usener’s line numbers for easy reference. Finally, Most 1988c, who collated the manuscript against Kley’s edition, found a few mistaken transcriptions (p. 170n6), and I have accordingly incorporated his corrections into the text. None of this changes the text from being an exact copy of that in the manuscript.

The Latin text presented as such here is adequate for the purpose of providing evidence for the establishment of the Greek text. The Latin translation, however, may also deserve treatment in its own right and a proper edition, but for this it would be necessary to consult the Padua manuscript, something that could not have been undertaken in the present work. For the same reason, it would have been incautious to have added a Latin and Greek glossary without having first ascertained the readings in the manuscript and their status in the transmission of the text. But given the extremely literal nature of the translation, any Greek-Latin or Latin-Greek correspondence can be easily identified by