

**Dasypodius, Petrus** (G. **Hasenfratz**, also **Hasenfus**), b. ca. 1490, Frauenfeld, Thurgau, Switzerland, d. Feb. 28, 1559, Strasbourg, then Germany; humanist, school teacher and lexicographer.

Chaplain at Frauenfeld from 1525 to 1527, then appointed by Zwingli to the *Frauenmünsterschule* at Zürich (where C. → Gessner was one of his pupils), D. returned as schoolmaster to Frauenfeld in 1530. A follower of Zwingli, his position became difficult after the Battle of Kappel but improved with his appointment as head of the Latin school at the Carmelite Monastery in Strasbourg in 1533. From 1538 on, he was a professor of Classics at the newly founded *Gymnasium Argentinese* under the rectorate of J. Sturm. In 1540, D. became Canon, and in 1551 Dean of the *Thomasstift*.

For his Strasbourg pupils, who previously had been obliged to drink from the impure waters of the *sordidae gemmae*, D. composed the first humanistic, partly alphabetically, partly etymologically classified, Latin-German dictionary (1535), based on Classical Latin. Following J. L. → Vives' advice, he added a smaller German-Latin part in 1536. From 1537 on, D.'s *Dictionarium Latinogermanicum et vice-versa Germanicolatinum* became the most used and best known school dictionary and saw almost 30 editions before the end of the century. These editions reflect the diffusion of a standardized form of the German language in the southwest of Germany which it actually helped to promote through its wide circulation. There still does not exist any thorough study of the sources or history of the dictionary, which is characterized by its wealth of synonyms. J. Serranus published a shortened version for *tirones* in Nuremberg in 1539. In the Netherlands, Bohemia, and Poland, versions of the *Dictionarium* stood at the beginning of vernacular, human-

istic alphabetic lexicography. A *Dasypodius Catholicus* was printed in 1634 in Cologne and went to several editions (among others, one in Danzig). D. also published a cheap Greek-Latin lexicon for pupils in 1539.

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revised Dieter Cherubim*