LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 60

Letters to His Friends

Cicero

Epistulae ad Familiares

Letters to His Friends

Part One: Books I–V

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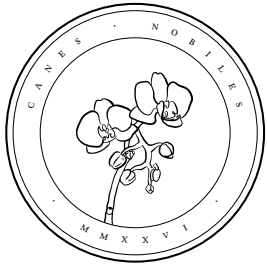
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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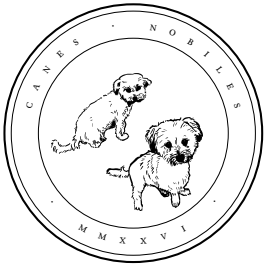

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BOOK I

I.1 · THE KING OF EGYPT

Cicero tells Lentulus, proconsul in Cilicia, that he can never repay what he owes him. The restoration of the Egyptian king goes badly: Hammonius, the king's envoy, works against them with money through the old creditors, and the senate pleads religion out of ill will. Pompey speaks for Lentulus, but the motions before the senate lean toward Pompey himself, whose friends press it. Cicero's own influence is weakened because men think he is obliging Pompey, and they would not be struggling if those who owed Lentulus most loyalty showed it.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul

Ego omni officio ac potius pietate erga te ceteris satis 1

I with-every duty and rather devotion toward you to-the-others enough

facio omnibus, mihi ipse numquam satis facio; tanta enim

do all to-me myself never enough do so-great for

magnitudo est tuorum erga me meritorum, ut, quod tu

the-greatness is of-your toward me services that because you

nisi perfecta re de me non conquiesti, ego quia

unless with-accomplished the-matter about me not rested I because

non idem in tua causa efficio, vitam mihi esse acerbam

not the-same in your cause accomplish life to-me to-be bitter

putem. In causa haec sunt: Hammonius, regis legatus,

I-think In the-cause these-things are Hammonius of-the-king the-envoy

aperte pecunia nos oppugnat; res agitur per eosdem

openly with-money us attacks the-matter is-conducted through the-same

creditores, per quos, cum tu aderas, agebatur; regis

creditors through whom when you were-present it-was-conducted of-the-king

causa si qui sunt qui velint, qui pauci sunt, omnes

the-cause if any are who wish who few are all

rem ad Pompeium deferri volunt, senatus religionis
the-matter to Pompey to-be-referred wish the-senate of-religion
calumniam non religione, sed malevolentia et illius regiae
the-pretext not from-religion but from-ill-will and of-that royal
largitionis invidia comprobat.
of-largess from-the-odium approves

2 Pompeium et hortari et orare et iam liberius accusare et
Pompey both to-exhort and to-beg and now more-freely to-accuse and
monere, ut magnam infamiam fugiat, non desistimus; sed
to-warn that great the-disgrace he-avoid not we-cease but
plane nec precibus nostris nec admonitionibus relinquit
plainly neither for-prayers our nor for-warnings he-leaves
locum, nam cum in sermone cotidiano tum in senatu
room for both in conversation daily and in the-senate
palam sic egit causam tuam, ut neque eloquentia
openly so he-pleaded the-cause your that neither with-eloquence
maiore quisquam nec gravitate nec studio nec contentione
greater anyone nor with-weight nor with-zeal nor with-effort
agere potuerit, cum summa testificatione tuorum in se
to-plead could-have with the-utmost testimony of-your to himself
officiorum et amoris erga te sui. Marcellinum tibi esse
of-services and of-love toward you his Marcellinus to-you to-be
iratum scis; is hac regia causa excepta ceteris in rebus
angry you-know he with-this royal with-cause excepted the-other in matters
se acerrimum tui defensorem fore ostendit. Quod
himself most-ardent of-you defender going-to-be shows What
dat, accipimus; quod instituit referre de religione
he-gives we-accept what he-has-undertaken to-refer about religion
et saepe iam retulit, ab eo deduci non potest.
and often already he-has-referred from it to-be-drawn-away not can

Res ante Idus acta sic est (nam haec Idibus 3
The-matter before the-Ides done thus is for these-things on-the-Ides
mane scripsi): Hortensi et mea et Luculli sententia
in-the-morning I-wrote of-Hortensius and my and of-Lucullus the-proposal
cedit religioni de exercitu; teneri enim res aliter non
yields to-religion about the-army to-be-held for the-matter otherwise not
potest; sed ex illo senatus consulto, quod te referente
can but from that of-the-senate decree which with-you proposing
factum est, tibi decernit, ut regem reducas, quod commodo
made was to-you it-decrees that the-king you-restore as with-convenience
rei p. facere possis, ut exercitum religio tollat, te
of-the-thing public to-do you-can so-that the-army religion remove you
auctorem senatus retineat. Crassus tris legatos decernit nec
as-author the-senate retain Crassus three envoys proposes nor
excludit Pompeium, censet enim etiam ex iis, qui cum
excludes Pompey he-proposes for even from those who with
imperio sint; Bibulus tris legatos ex iis, qui privati sunt.
command are Bibulus three envoys from those who private are
Huic adsentiuntur reliqui consulares praeter Servilium, qui
To-him agree the-remaining consulars except Servilius who
omnino reduci negat oportere, et Volcacium, qui Lupo
at-all to-be-restored says-not to-be-right and Volcacius who with-Lupus
referente Pompeio decernit, et Afranium, qui adsentitur
proposing to-Pompey decrees and Afranius who agrees
Volcacio. Quae res auget suspicionem Pompei voluntatis,
with-Volcacius Which thing increases the-suspicion of-Pompey of-wish
nam advertebatur Pompei familiaris adsentiri Volcacio.
for it-was-noticed of-Pompey the-friends to-agree with-Volcacius
Laboratur vehementer; inclinata res est. Libonis et
It-is-labored vehemently inclined the-matter is of-Libo and
Hypsaei non obscura concursatio et contentio omniumque
of-Hypsaeus not obscure the-running-about and striving and-of-all

Pompei familiarium studium in eam opinionem rem
of-Pompey of-friends the-zeal into that opinion the-matter
adduxerunt, ut Pompeius cupere videatur; cui qui
have-brought that Pompey to-desire seems to-whom those-who
nolunt, idem tibi, quod eum ornasti, non sunt amici;
do-not-wish the-same to-you because him you-honored not are friends
4 nos in causa auctoritatem eo minorem habemus, quod
we in the-cause influence by-so-much less have because
tibi debemus, gratiam autem nostram exstinguit hominum
to-you we-owe gratitude however our extinguishes of-men
suspicio, quod Pompeio se gratificari putant. Ut in
the-suspicion because to-Pompey themselves to-gratify they-think As in
rebus multo ante, quam profectus es, ab ipso rege et
matters much before than set-out you-have by himself the-king and
ab intimis ac domesticis Pompei clam exulceratis, deinde
by the-intimate and household-friends of-Pompey secretly exasperated then
palam a consularibus exagitatis et in summam invidiam
openly by the-consulars stirred-up and into the-greatest odium
adductis ita versamur. Nostram fidem omnes, amorem
brought so we-are-engaged Our loyalty all the-love
tui absentis praesentes tui cognoscent. Si esset in
of-you absent present your-people will-recognize If there-were in
iis fides, in quibus summa esse debebat, non laboraremus.
those loyalty in whom the-greatest to-be it-ought not we-would-labor

On the Ides of January the day went in wrangling between the consul Lentulus and the tribune Caninius. Next day Bibulus' motion for three envoys was divided and its part on religion carried; Hortensius' motion, that Lentulus restore the king without an army, was held off when the tribune Lupus claimed the right to divide first. Cicero dined with Pompey and found him sound for Lentulus, though he sees that Pompey's friends have long corrupted the whole affair, with the king and his counselors consenting. A weighty resolution of the senate on keeping force out of the matter was recorded despite the vetoes of Cato and Caninius.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul

Idibus Ianuariis in senatu nihil est confectum, propterea 1

On-the-Ides of-January in the-senate nothing was accomplished for-this-reason

quod dies magna ex parte consumptus est altercatione

that the-day great out-of part used-up was by-the-wrangling

Lentuli consulis et Canini tr. pl. Eo die

of-Lentulus the-consul and of-Caninius tribune of-the-plebs On-that day

nos quoque multa verba fecimus maximeque visi sumus

we also many words made and-most seemed we

senatum commemoratione tuae voluntatis erga illum ordinem

the-senate by-the-recollection of-your goodwill toward that order

permovere. Itaque postridie placuit ut breviter sententias

to-move And-so the-next-day it-was-resolved that briefly opinions

diceremus; videbatur enim reconciliata nobis voluntas esse

we-should-speak it-seemed for reconciled to-us the-goodwill to-be

senatus, quod cum dicendo tum singulis appellandis

of-the-senate which both in-speaking and individually in-being-called-on

rogandisque perspexeram. Itaque, cum sententia prima

and-in-being-asked I-had-perceived And-so when the-proposal first

Bibuli pronuntiata esset, ut tres legati regem reducerent,

of-Bibulus announced had-been that three envoys the-king should-restore

secunda Hortensi, ut tu sine exercitu reduceres, tertia
the-second of-Hortensius that you without an-army should-restore the-third
Volcaci, ut Pompeius reduceret, postulatum est, ut Bibuli
of-Volcacius that Pompey should-restore demanded it-was that of-Bibulus
sententia divideretur. Quatenus de religione dicebat, cui
the-proposal be-divided So-far-as about religion he-spoke which
quidem rei iam obsisti non poterat, Bibulo adsensum
indeed thing now to-be-resisted not could to-Bibulus agreed
est; de tribus legatis frequentes ierunt in alia omnia.
it-was about the-three envoys in-numbers they-went into other everything
2 Proxima erat Hortensi sententia, cum Lupus tr. pl.,
Next was of-Hortensius the-proposal when Lupus tribune of-the-plebs
quod ipse de Pompeio retulisset, intendere coepit ante
because he-himself about Pompey had-proposed to-insist began before
se oportere discessionem facere quam consules. Eius
himself it-was-right a-division to-make than the-consuls To-his
orationi vehementer ab omnibus reclamatum est, erat
speech vehemently by all shouted-against it-was it-was
enim et iniqua et nova. Consules neque concedebant
for both unfair and new The-consuls neither conceded
neque valde repugnabant, diem consumi volebant, id quod
nor greatly resisted the-day to-be-used-up they-wished that which
est factum; perspiciebant enim in Hortensi sententiam
was done they-perceived for into of-Hortensius the-proposal
multis partibus pluris ituros, quamquam aperte Volcacio
by-many parts more going-to-go although openly with-Volcacius
adsentirentur. Multi rogabantur, atque id ipsum consulibus
they-agreed Many were-asked and that itself with-the-consuls
non invitis, nam ei Bibuli sententiam valere cupierunt.
not unwilling for they of-Bibulus the-proposal to-prevail desired

Hac controversia usque ad noctem ducta senatus dimissus 3
With-this controversy right up-to night drawn-out the-senate dismissed
est. Ego eo die casu apud Pompeium cenavi nactusque
was I on-that day by-chance at Pompey's dined and-having-obtained
tempus hoc magis idoneum quam umquam antea, quod post
a-time this more suitable than ever before because after
tuum discessum is dies honestissimus nobis fuerat in senatu,
your departure that day most-honorable to-us had-been in the-senate
ita sum cum illo locutus, ut mihi viderer animum hominis
so I-have with him spoken that to-me I-seemed the-mind of-the-man
ab omni alia cogitatione ad tuam dignitatem tuendam
from every other thought to your dignity to-be-protected
traducere. Quem ego ipsum cum audio, prorsus eum libero
to-turn-over Whom I himself when I-hear entirely him I-free
omni suspicione cupiditatis; cum autem eius familiaris
from-every suspicion of-greed when however his friends
omnium ordinum video, perspicio, id quod iam omnibus est
of-all orders I-see I-perceive that which now to-all is
apertum, totam rem istam iam pridem a certis hominibus non
plain the-whole affair that now long-ago by certain men not
invito rege ipso consiliariisque eius esse corruptam.
with-unwilling the-king himself and-the-counselors his to-have-been corrupted
Haec scripsi a. d. xvi K. Februarias ante 4
These-things I-wrote on-the day sixteenth before-the-Kalends of-February before
lucem; eo die senatus erat futurus. Nos in senatu,
dawn on-that day the-senate was going-to-be We in the-senate
quem ad modum spero, dignitatem nostram, ut potest
in-what to manner I-hope dignity our as it-can
in tanta hominum perfidia et iniquitate, retinebimus;
in such-great of-men treachery and injustice will-retain
quod ad popularem rationem attinet, hoc videmur esse
as to the-popular course pertains this we-seem to-have

consecuti, ut ne quid agi cum populo aut salvis
attained that not anything to-be-done with the-people either with-safe
auspiciis aut salvis legibus aut denique sine vi posset.
auspices or with-safe laws or finally without force could
De his rebus pridie, quam haec scripsi, senatus
About these matters the-day-before than these-things I-wrote of-the-senate
auctoritas gravissima intercessit, cui quom Cato et
a-resolution most-weighty intervened to-which when Cato and
Caninius intercessissent, tamen est perscripta; eam ad te
Caninius had-interposed-a-veto still was written-out that to you
missam esse arbitror. De ceteris rebus quicquid erit
sent to-have-been I-think About the-other matters whatever will-be
actum, scribam ad te et, ut quam rectissime agantur
done I-will-write to you and that as most-rightly be-done
omnia mea cura, opera, diligentia, gratia providebo.
all-things with-my care effort diligence influence I-will-see-to

I.3 · FOR AULUS TREBONIUS

A recommendation. Aulus Trebonius, an old friend of Cicero's with large business in Lentulus' province, is commended with his freedmen, agents, and household, and Lentulus is asked to confirm what Titus Ampius decreed about his affairs.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul
1 A. Trebonio, qui in tua provincia magna negotia
Aulus Trebonius who in your province great business-affairs
et ampla et expedita habet, multos annos utor valde
both extensive and unencumbered has many years I-use very
familiariter. Is cum antea semper et suo splendore et
familiarly He both before always both by-his-own distinction and

nostra ceterorumque amicorum commendatione gratiosissimus
by-our and-of-the-other friends recommendation most-influential
in provincia fuit, tum hoc tempore propter tuum in
in the-province was and at-this time on-account-of your toward
me amorem nostramque necessitudinem vehementer confidit
me love and-our close-tie vehemently is-confident
his meis litteris se apud te gratiosum fore;
by-these my letters himself with you influential going-to-be
quae ne spes eum fallat, vehementer rogo te commendoque 2
which not hope him deceive vehemently I-ask you and-I-commend
tibi eius omnia negotia, libertos, procuratores, familiam,
to-you his all business-affairs freedmen agents household
in primisque ut, quae T. Ampius de eius re decrevit,
among and-the-first that what Titus Ampius about his affair decreed
ea comprobes omnibusque rebus eum ita tractes, ut
those-things you-approve and-in-all things him so you-treat that
intellegat meam commendationem non vulgarem fuisse.
he-understand my recommendation not common to-have-been

I.4 · THE MOTION OF VOLCACIUS

The senate stood well for Lentulus: Bibulus' motion was broken, and only Volcacius', for Pompey, was left, which the opponents drew out. Caninius and Cato said they would bring no law before the elections, and under the Pupian law the senate cannot sit before the first of February, nor through February until the embassies are settled. The religious scruple was brought in less to hinder Lentulus than to keep anyone from wanting to go to Alexandria for an army. Cicero can promise Lentulus everything but protection against force.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul

1 A. d. xvi K. Febr. cum in senatu pulcherrime

On-the day sixteenth before-the-Kalends of-February when in the-senate most-splendidly

staremus, quod iam illam sententiam Bibuli de tribus

we-stood because already that proposal of-Bibulus about the-three

legatis pridie eius diei fregeramus, unumque certamen

envoys on-the-day-before of-that day we-had-broken and-one contest

esset relictum sententia Volcaci, res ab adversariis nostris

was left the-proposal of-Volcacius the-matter by opponents our

extracta est variis calumniis; causam enim frequenti senatu

drawn-out was by-various pretexts the-cause for with-full senate

non magna varietate magnaque invidia eorum, qui a te

not with-great disagreement and-with-great odium of-those who from you

causam regiam alio traferebant, obtinebamus. Eo die

the-cause royal elsewhere were-transferring we-were-winning On-that day

acerbum habuimus Curionem, Bibulum multo iustiorem, paene

harsh we-had Curio Bibulus much juster almost

etiam amicum; Caninius et Cato negarunt se legem ullam

even friendly Caninius and Cato said-not themselves law any

ante comitia esse laturos. Senatus haberi ante K.

before the-elections to-be going-to-propose The-senate to-be-held before the-Kalends

Februarias per legem Pupiam, id quod scis, non potest neque

of-February by the-law Pupian that which you-know not can nor

mense Febr. toto nisi perfectis aut reiectis legationibus.

in-the-month of-February whole unless with-completed or rejected embassies

2 Haec tamen opinio est populi Romani, a tuis invidis

This still the-opinion is of-the-people Roman by your enviers

atque obtrectatoribus nomen inductum fictae religionis, non

and detractors the-name brought-in of-feigned religion not

tam ut te impediret, quam ut ne quis propter exercitus

so-much that you it-might-hinder as that not anyone on-account-of of-an-army

cupiditatem Alexandriam vellet ire. Dignitatis autem tuae
desire to-Alexandria wish to-go Of-dignity however your
nemo est quin existimet habitam esse rationem ab senatu;
no-one is but-that thinks taken to-be account by the-senate
nemo est enim, qui nesciat, quo minus discessio fieret, per
no-one is for who knows-not that not a-division be-made by
adversarios tuos esse factum; qui nunc populi nomine,
opponents your to-have-been done who now of-the-people in-the-name
re autem vera sceleratissimo tribunorum latrocinio si
in-fact however true by-the-most-criminal of-the-tribunes brigandage if
quae conabuntur agere, satis mi provisum est, ut ne quid
any-things they-will-attempt to-do enough to-me provided it-is that not anything
salvis auspiciis aut legibus aut etiam sine vi agere possent.
with-safe auspices or laws or even without force to-do they-could
Ego neque de meo studio neque de non nullorum 3
I neither about my zeal nor about not of-none
iniuria scribendum mihi esse arbitror; quid enim aut
the-injustice to-be-written to-me to-be I-think what for either
me ostentem, qui, si vitam pro tua dignitate profundam,
myself should-I-display who if life for your dignity I-pour-out
nullam partem videar meritorum tuorum adsecutus, aut
no part I-would-seem of-services your attained or
de aliorum iniuriis querar, quod sine summo dolore
about of-others injuries should-I-complain which without the-utmost grief
facere non possum? Ego tibi a vi, hac praesertim
to-do not I-can I to-you from force with-this especially
imbecillitate magistratuum, praestare nihil possum; vi
weakness of-the-magistrates to-guarantee nothing can force
excepta possum confirmare te et senatus et populi
excepted I-can to-assure you both of-the-senate and of-the-people
Romani summo studio amplitudinem tuam retenturum.
Roman with-the-utmost zeal greatness your going-to-retain

Cicero grieves that Lentulus is learning in his absence, as Cicero once did, how loyal men are. While they worked for the king's cause, Cato's wicked proclamation turned their care to fear. The cause may be snatched away or abandoned; there is a third course that Selicius approves, neither leaving the king to languish nor letting him pass to the man to whom he is thought already all but handed over. Lentulus' greatness lies in his own virtue, whatever treachery takes from him.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul

1 Tametsi mihi nihil fuit optatius quam ut primum abs te
Although to-me nothing was more-desired than that first by you
ipso, deinde a ceteris omnibus quam gratissimus erga te
yourself then by the-others all as most-grateful toward you
esse cognoscerer, tamen adficior summo dolore eius
to-be I-be-known still I-am-affected with-the-utmost grief of-that
modi tempora post tuam profectionem consecuta esse, ut
kind times after your departure followed to-have that
et meam et ceterorum erga te fidem et benevolentiam
both my and of-the-others toward you loyalty and goodwill
absens experirere; te videre et sentire eandem fidem esse
absent you-test you to-see and to-feel the-same loyalty to-be
hominum in tua dignitate, quam ego in mea salute sum
of-men in your dignity as I in my safety have
expertus, ex tuis litteris intellexi.
experienced from your letter I-understood

2 Nos cum maxime consilio, studio, labore, gratia de
We when most by-counsel by-zeal by-labor by-influence about
causa regia niteremur, subito exorta est nefaria Catonis
the-cause royal were-striving suddenly arose has the-wicked of-Cato
promulgatio, quae nostra studia impediret et animos a
proclamation which our efforts would-hinder and minds from

minore cura ad summum timorem traduceret; sed tamen,
lesser care to the-greatest fear transfer but still
in eius modi perturbatione rerum quamquam omnia sunt
in of-that kind confusion of-affairs although all-things are
metuenda, nihil magis quam perfidiam timemus et Catoni
to-be-feared nothing more than treachery we-fear and to-Cato
quidem, quoquo modo se res habet, profecto resistemus.
indeed in-whatever way itself the-matter has surely we-will-resist
De Alexandrina re causaque regia tantum habeo polliceri, 3
About the-Alexandrian matter and-the-cause royal so-much I-have to-promise
me tibi absenti tuisque praesentibus cumulate satis
myself to-you absent and-to-your-people present abundantly satisfaction
facturum, sed vereor, ne aut eripiatur causa regia nobis
going-to-make but I-fear lest either be-snatched the-cause royal from-us
aut deseratur; quorum utrum minus velim, non facile
or be-abandoned of-which which less I-would-wish not easily
possum existimare. Sed, si res coget, est quiddam
can I-judge But if the-matter compel there-is something
tertium, quod neque Selicio nec mihi displicebat, ut neque
third which neither to-Selicius nor to-me was-displeasing that neither
iacere regem pateremur nec nobis repugnantibus ad eum
to-lie the-king we-should-allow nor with-us resisting to him
deferri, ad quem prope iam delatum existimatur. A
to-be-transferred to whom almost already transferred it-is-thought By
nobis agentur omnia diligenter, ut neque, si quid
us will-be-done all-things diligently so-that neither if anything
obtineri poterit, non contendamus nec, si quid non
to-be-held could not we-strive nor if anything not
obtinuerimus, repulsi esse videamur;
we-have-held repulsed to-have-been we-seem

4 tuae sapientiae magnitudinisque animi est omnem
of-your wisdom and-of-greatness of-mind it-is all
amplitudinem et dignitatem tuam in virtute atque in rebus
greatness and dignity your in virtue and in deeds
gestis tuis atque in tua gravitate positam existimare; si quid
done your and in your gravity placed to-think if anything
ex iis rebus, quas tibi fortuna largita est, non nullorum
from those things which to-you fortune bestowed has not of-none
hominum perfidia detraxerit, id maiori illis fraudi quam
of-men the-treachery has-taken-away that to-greater to-them harm than
tibi futurum. A me nullum tempus praetermittitur de
to-you going-to-be By me no time is-passed-over about
tuis rebus et agendi et cogitandi; utor ad omnia Q.
your affairs both of-acting and of-thinking I-use for all-things Quintus
Selicio, neque enim prudentiorem quemquam ex tuis
Selicius nor for more-prudent anyone from your-friends
neque fide maiore esse iudico neque amantiorem tui.
nor with-loyalty greater to-be I-judge nor more-loving of-you

I.5B · POMPEY SHAKEN

Pompey, shouted down before the people while speaking for Milo and accused by Cato in the senate, seemed shaken, and has laid the Egyptian cause aside. Cicero hopes the king, seeing that Pompey cannot restore him, will go to Lentulus. Cato's other attacks can be resisted; among the consulars only Hortensius and Lucullus are Lentulus' friends, and he must keep a brave and great spirit.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul

Hic quae agantur quaeque acta sint, ea te et 1
Here what is-being-done and-what done has-been those-things you both
litteris multorum et nuntiis cognosse arbitror;
from-the-letters of-many and from-the-messengers to-have-learned I-think
quae autem posita sunt in coniectura quaeque videntur
what however placed are in conjecture and-what seem
fore, ea puto tibi a me scribi oportere. Postea
going-to-be those-things I-think to-you by me to-be-written ought After
quam Pompeius et apud populum a. d. viii Idus
that Pompey both before the-people on-the day eighth before-the-Ides
Februarias, quom pro Milone diceret, clamore convicioque
of-February when for Milo he-spoke by-clamor and-abuse
iactatus est in senatuque a Catone aspere et acerbe
tossed was in and-the-senate by Cato harshly and bitterly
inimicorum magno silentio est accusatus, visus est mihi
of-enemies with-great silence was accused seemed he-has to-me
vehementer esse perturbatus. Itaque Alexandrina causa, quae
vehemently to-be disturbed And-so the-Alexandrian cause which
nobis adhuc integra est (nihil enim tibi detraxit senatus
to-us so-far intact is nothing for from-you has-taken the-senate
nisi id, quod per eandem religionem dari alteri
except that which through the-same religion to-be-given to-another
non potest), videtur ab illo plane esse deposita.
not can seems by him plainly to-have-been laid-aside

Nunc id speramus idque molimur, ut rex, cum intellegat 2
Now this we-hope and-this we-labor that the-king when he-understands
sese, quod cogitabat, ut a Pompeio reducatur, adsequi
himself what he-was-intending that by Pompey he-be-restored to-attain
non posse et, nisi per te sit restitutus, desertum se
not to-be-able and unless through you he-be restored deserted himself

atque abiectum fore, proficiscatur ad te; quod sine
and cast-off going-to-be set-out to you which without
ulla dubitatione, si Pompeius paulum modo ostenderit
any doubt if Pompey a-little only shows
sibi placere, faciet; sed nosti hominis tarditatem
to-himself to-be-pleasing he-will-do but you-know of-the-man the-slowness
et taciturnitatem. Nos tamen nihil, quod ad eam rem
and taciturnity We still nothing which to that matter
pertineat, praetermittimus. Ceteris iniuriis, quae propositae
pertains pass-over The-other injuries which proposed
sunt a Catone, facile, ut spero, resistemus. Amicum ex
are by Cato easily as I-hope we-will-resist A-friend from
consularibus neminem tibi esse video praeter Hortensium
the-consulars none to-you to-be I-see except Hortensius
et Lucullum; ceteri sunt partim obscurius iniqui, partim
and Lucullus the-rest are partly more-obscurely unfair partly
non dissimulanter irati. Tu fac animo forti magnoque
not dissemblingly angry You see-to-it of-spirit brave and-great
sis speresque fore ut fracto impetu levissimi
you-be and-hope going-to-be that with-broken the-onset of-a-most-fickle
hominis tuam pristinam dignitatem et gloriam consequare.
man your former dignity and glory you-attain

Pollio, who took part in all of it, will report the news. Cicero is consoled by the hope that time will break the wickedness of Lentulus' enemies and betrayers, and by the memory of his own fall, which Lentulus' case resembles. He asks pardon if he did not fear what Lentulus never thought to fear, and promises him every service.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul

Quae gerantur, accipies ex Pollione, qui omnibus negotiis 1
What is-being-done you-will-receive from Pollio who in-all business-affairs
non interfuit solum, sed praefuit. Me in summo dolore, quem
not took-part only but presided Me in the-utmost grief which
in tuis rebus capio, maxime scilicet consolatur spes, quod
in your affairs I-feel most namely consoles hope because
valde suspicor fore ut infringatur hominum improbitas
strongly I-suspect going-to-be that be-broken of-men the-wickedness
et consiliis tuorum amicorum et ipsa die, quae
both by-the-counsels of-your friends and by-very the-day which
debilitat cogitationes et inimicorum et proditorum tuorum.
weakens the-thoughts both of-enemies and of-betrayers your
Facile secundo loco me consolatur recordatio meorum 2
Easily in-second place me consoles the-recollection of-my
temporum, quorum imaginem video in rebus tuis; nam
times of-which the-image I-see in affairs your for
etsi minore in re violatur tua dignitas quam mea
although lesser in matter is-violated your dignity than mine
adflictast, tamen est tanta similitudo, ut sperem te mihi
was-struck-down still is so-great a-similarity that I-hope you me
ignoscere, si ea non timuerim, quae ne tu quidem
to-pardon if those-things not I-have-feared which not you even

umquam timenda duxisti. Sed praesta te eum, qui mihi
ever to-be-feared considered But show yourself him who to-me
'a teneris,' ut Graeci dicunt, 'unguiculis' es cognitus;
from tender as the-Greeks say little-nails were known
inlustrabit, mihi crede, tuam amplitudinem hominum
will-make-illustrious to-me believe your greatness of-men
iniuria. A me omnia summa in te studia officiaque
the-injustice From me all the-greatest toward you zeal and-services
exspecta; non fallam opinionem tuam.
expect not I-will-deceive expectation your

I.7 · ADVICE ON EGYPT

Those who should most have helped Lentulus envied him, while Hortensius, Lucullus, and, among the magistrates, Racilius stood by him. Since no decree takes the king's restoration from him, Cicero and Pompey advise that, if he is sure of success, he settle the king at Ptolemais and take Alexandria with fleet and army, so that he restores him without a multitude; men will judge by the outcome, and if the course seems dangerous he may help the king with troops once the king has paid Lentulus' friends. Cicero adds what his own ruin taught him of the consulars' envy, thanks Lentulus for his congratulations on his daughter's betrothal to Crassipes, and urges him to train his son by his own example.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul
1 Legi tuas litteras, quibus ad me scribis gratum tibi esse,
I-have-read your letter in-which to me you-write pleasing to-you to-be
quod crebro certior per me fias de omnibus rebus
that often more-informed through me you-are-made about all matters
et meam erga te benevolentiam facile perspicias; quorum
and my toward you goodwill easily you-perceive of-which
alterum mihi, ut te plurimum diligam, facere necesse est, si
the-one to-me as you very-much I-love to-do necessary is if

volo is esse, quem tu me esse voluisti; alterum facio libenter,
I-wish him to-be whom you me to-be wished the-other I-do gladly
ut, quoniam intervallo locorum et temporum diiuncti
that since by-the-distance of-places and of-times separated
sumus, per litteras tecum quam saepissime conloquar. Quod
we-are through letters with-you as most-often I-converse But
si rarius fiet quam tu exspectabis, id erit causae,
if more-rarely it-happen than you will-expect that will-be of-cause
quod non eius generis meae litterae sunt, ut eas audeam
that not of-that kind my letters are that them I-dare
temere committere; quotiens mihi certorum hominum
rashly to-entrust as-often-as to-me of-reliable men
potestas erit, quibus recte dem, non praetermittam.
the-opportunity will-be to-whom properly I-may-give not I-will-pass-it-over
Quod scire vis, qua quisque in te fide sit et 2
As-to-what to-know you-wish with-what each toward you loyalty is and
voluntate, difficile dictu est de singulis; unum illud audeo,
goodwill difficult to-say it-is about individuals one thing I-dare
quod antea tibi saepe significavi, nunc quoque re
which before to-you often I-indicated now also with-the-matter
perspecta et cognita scribere, vehementer quosdam homines
examined and learned to-write vehemently certain men
et eos maxime, qui te et maxime debuerunt et plurimum
and those most who you both most ought and very-much
iuvare potuerunt, invidisse dignitati tuae, simillimamque
to-help could to-have-envied the-dignity your and-most-similar
in re dissimili tui temporis nunc et nostri quondam
in matter dissimilar of-your situation now and of-mine once
fuisse rationem, ut, quos tu rei publicae causa
to-have-been the-reckoning that those-whom you of-the-thing public for-the-sake
laeseras, palam te oppugnarent, quorum auctoritatem,
had-hurt openly you attacked those-whose authority

dignitatem voluntatemque defenderas, non tam memores
dignity and-will you-had-defended not so mindful
essent virtutis tuae quam laudis inimici. Quo quidem
were of-merit your as of-glory hostile At-which indeed
tempore, ut perscripsi ad te antea, cognovi Hortensium
time as I-wrote-fully to you before I-learned Hortensius
percupidum tui, studiosum Lucullum, ex magistratibus
very-eager for-you devoted Lucullus from the-magistrates
autem L. Racilium et fide et animo singulari; nam
however Lucius Racilius both in-loyalty and in-spirit singular for
nostra propugnatio ac defensio dignitatis tuae propter
our fighting-for and defense of-dignity your on-account-of
magnitudinem benefici tui fortasse plerisque offici maiorem
the-greatness of-kindness your perhaps to-most of-duty greater
auctoritatem habere videatur quam sententiae.
authority to-have may-seem than of-judgment

3 Praeterea quidem de consularibus nemini possum aut
Besides indeed about the-consulars to-none I-can either
studi erga te aut offici aut amici animi esse testis;
of-zeal toward you or of-service or of-friendly spirit to-be witness
etenim Pompeium, qui mecum saepissime non solum
for-indeed Pompey who with-me very-often not only
a me provocatus, sed etiam sua sponte de te
by me provoked but also of-his-own accord about you
communicare solet, scis temporibus illis non saepe in
to-share is-accustomed you-know at-times those not often in
senatu fuisse; cui quidem litterae tuae, quas proxime
the-senate to-have-been to-whom indeed letter your which most-recently
miseras, quod facile intellexerim, periucundae fuerunt. Mihi
you-had-sent as easily I-understood very-delightful was To-me
quidem humanitas tua vel summa potius sapientia non
indeed courtesy your or highest rather wisdom not

iucunda solum, sed etiam admirabilis visa est; virum enim
pleasing only but also admirable seemed has a-man for
excellentem et tibi tua praestanti in eum liberalitate
excellent and to-you by-your outstanding toward him liberality
devinctum non nihil suspicantem propter aliquorum
bound not nothing suspecting on-account-of of-some
opinionem suae cupiditatis te ab se abalienatum illa
the-opinion of-his greed you from himself alienated by-that
epistula retinuisti; qui mihi cum semper tuae laudi favere
letter you-retained who to-me while always to-your praise to-favor
visus est, etiam ipso suspiciosissimo tempore Caniniano,
seemed has even at-that-very most-suspicious time Caninian
tum vero lectis tuis litteris perspectus est a me toto
then indeed with-read your letter perceived was by me with-whole
animo de te ac de tuis ornamentis et commodis cogitare.
mind about you and about your honors and advantages to-think
Qua re ea, quae scribam, sic habeto, me cum illo 4
by-which thing those-things which I-write so hold me with him
re saepe communicata de illius ad te sententia
with-the-matter often shared about his to you opinion
atque auctoritate scribere: quoniam senatus consultum
and authority to-write since of-the-senate decree
nullum exstat, quo reductio regis Alexandrini tibi
none exists by-which the-restoration of-the-king Alexandrian from-you
adempta sit, eaque, quae de ea scripta est auctoritas,
taken-away has-been and-that which about it written was resolution
cui scis intercessum esse, ut ne quis omnino regem
which you-know vetoed to-have-been that not anyone at-all the-king
reduceret, tantam vim habet, ut magis iratorum hominum
should-restore such force has that rather of-angry men
studium quam constantis senatus consilium esse videatur,
the-zeal than of-a-steadfast senate the-counsel to-be it-seems

te perspicere posse, qui Ciliciam Cyprumque teneas, quid
you to-perceive to-be-able who Cilicia and-Cyprus hold what
efficere et quid consequi possis, et, si res facultatem
to-effect and what to-attain you-can and if the-matter the-opportunity
habitura videatur, ut Alexandream atque Aegyptum tenere
going-to-have seem that Alexandria and Egypt to-hold
possis, esse et tuae et nostri imperi dignitatis Ptolomaide
you-can to-be both of-your and of-our empire's of-dignity at-Ptolemais
aut aliquo propinquo loco rege conlocato te cum
or in-some neighboring place with-the-king settled you with
classe atque exercitu proficisci Alexandriam, ut, eam cum
the-fleet and army to-set-out to-Alexandria that it with
pace praesidiisque firmaris, Ptolomaeus redeat in regnum;
peace and-garrisons you-make-firm Ptolemy return into the-kingdom
ita fore ut et per te restituatur, quem ad modum
so going-to-be that both through you he-be-restored in-what to manner
senatus initio censuit, et sine multitudine reducatur,
the-senate at-the-beginning resolved and without a-multitude he-be-restored
quem ad modum homines religiosi Sibyllae placere dixerunt.
in-what to manner men religious to-the-Sibyl to-please have-said
5 Sed haec sententia sic et illi et nobis probabatur,
But this opinion so both to-him and to-us was-approved
ut ex eventu homines de tuo consilio existimaturos
that from the-outcome men about your counsel going-to-judge
videremus; si cecidisset ut volumus et optamus, omnis
we-saw if it-had-turned-out as we-wish and hope all
te et sapienter et fortiter, si aliquid esset offensum,
you both wisely and bravely if anything had-been stumbled
eosdem illos et cupide et temere fecisse dicturos. Qua
the-same those both greedily and rashly to-have-done going-to-say by-which
re, quid adsequi possis, non tam facile est nobis quam
thing what to-attain you-can not so easy is for-us as

tibi, cuius prope in conspectu Aegyptus est, iudicare; nos
for-you whose almost in view Egypt is to-judge we
quidem hoc sentimus, si exploratum tibi sit posse te
indeed this feel if ascertained to-you it-be to-be-able you
illius regni potiri, non esse cunctandum, si dubium
of-that kingdom to-gain-possession not to-be to-be-delayed if doubtful
sit, non esse conandum. Illud tibi adfirmo, si rem istam
it-be not to-be to-be-attempted This to-you I-affirm if the-matter that
ex sententia gesseris, fore ut absens a multis,
according-to wish you-carry-out going-to-be that absent by many
cum redieris, ab omnibus conlaudere; offensionem esse
when you-have-returned by all you-be-praised a-stumble to-be
periculosam propter interpositam auctoritatem religionemque
dangerous on-account-of the-interposed resolution and-religion
video. Sed ego te, ut ad certam laudem adhortor, sic a
I-see But I you as to certain praise I-exhort so from
dimicatione deterreo redeoque ad illud, quod initio
battle I-deter and-I-return to that which at-the-beginning
scripsi, totius facti tui iudicium non tam ex consilio
I-wrote of-the-whole deed of-your the-judgment not so-much from counsel
tuo quam ex eventu homines esse facturos.
your as from the-outcome men to-be going-to-make
Quod si haec ratio rei gerendae periculosa tibi esse 6
But if this method of-the-thing to-be-done dangerous to-you to-be
videbitur, placebat illud, ut, si rex amicis tuis, qui per
will-seem pleased that that if the-king to-friends your who through
provinciam atque imperium tuum pecunias ei credidissent,
province and command your money to-him had-lent
fidem suam praestitisset, et auxiliis eum tuis et copiis
faith his had-made-good and with-auxiliaries him your and with-forces
adiuvares; eam esse naturam et regionem provinciae tuae,
you-help that to-be the-nature and the-location of-province your

ut illius reditum vel adiuvando confirmares vel neglegendo
that his return either by-helping you-strengthen or by-neglecting
impedires. In hac ratione quid res, quid causa, quid
you-hinder In this plan what the-matter what the-cause what
tempus ferat, tu facillime optimeque perspicies; quid nobis
the-time allow you most-easily and-best will-perceive what to-us
placuisset, ex me potissimum putavi te scire oportere.
had-pleased from me above-all I-thought you to-know ought
7 Quod mihi de nostro statu, de Milonis familiaritate,
As-for-what to-me about our situation about of-Milo the-intimacy
de levitate et imbecillitate Clodi gratularis, minime
about the-fickleness and weakness of-Clodius you-congratulate least
miramur te tuis ut egregium artificem praeclaris operibus
we-wonder you in-your-own as an-excellent artist in-splendid works
laetari; quamquam est incredibilis hominum perversitas
to-rejoice although is incredible of-men the-perversity
(graviore enim verbo uti non libet), qui nos, quos favendo
heavier for word to-use not it-pleases who us whom by-favoring
in communi causa retinere potuerunt, invidendo abalienarunt;
in common cause to-retain they-could by-envying have-alienated
quorum malevolentissimis obtrectationibus nos scito de vetere
by-whose most-malevolent disparagements us know from old
illa nostra diuturnaque sententia prope iam esse depulsos,
that our and-long-held opinion almost now to-have-been dislodged
non nos quidem ut nostrae dignitatis simus obliti, sed ut
not we indeed that our dignity we-should-be forgetful but that
habeamus rationem aliquando etiam salutis. Poterat utrumque
we-should-have account at-some-time also of-safety Could both
praeclare, si esset fides, si gravitas in hominibus consularibus;
splendidly if there-were loyalty if gravity in men consular

sed tanta est in plerisque levitas, ut eos non tam constantia
but so-great is in most fickleness that them not so-much steadfastness
in re publica nostra delectet, quam splendor offendat.
in the-thing public our delights as splendor offends
Quod eo liberius ad te scribo, quia non solum 8
Which by-so-much more-freely to you I-write because not only
temporibus his, quae per te sum adeptus, sed iam
in-times these which through you I-have attained but already
olim nascenti prope nostrae laudi dignitatique favisti,
long-ago to-rising almost our praise and-dignity you-favored
simulque quod video non, ut antehac putabam, novitati
and-at-the-same-time because I-see not as heretofore I-thought to-newness
esse invisum meae; in te enim, homine omnium nobilissimo,
to-be hateful my in you for a-man of-all most-noble
similia invidorum vitia perspexi, quem tamen illi esse in
similar of-the-envious the-faults I-perceived whom still they to-be among
principibus facile sunt passi, evolare altius certe noluerunt.
the-leaders easily have allowed to-fly higher certainly they-would-not
Gaudeo tuam dissimilem fuisse fortunam; multum enim
I-rejoice your unlike to-have-been fortune much for
interest, utrum laus imminuatur, an salus deseratur; me
it-differs whether praise be-diminished or safety be-abandoned me
meae tamen ne nimis paeniteret, tua virtute perfectum
of-mine still lest too-much repent by-your virtue achieved
est; curasti enim, ut plus additum ad memoriam
it-was you-took-care for that more added to the-memory
nominis nostri quam demptum de fortuna videretur.
of-name our than taken from fortune should-seem
Te vero emoneo cum beneficiis tuis tum amore 9
You indeed I-admonish both by-kindnesses your and by-love
incitatus meo, ut omnem gloriam, ad quam a pueritia
spurred my that all glory to which from boyhood

inflammatus fuisti, omni cura atque industria consequare
inflamed you-have-been with-all care and industry you-attain
magnitudinemque animi tui, quam ego semper sum admiratus
and-the-greatness of-mind your which I always have admired
semperque amavi, ne umquam inflectas cuiusquam iniuria.
and-always loved not ever you-bend by-anyone's injury
Magna est hominum opinio de te, magna commendatio
Great is of-men the-opinion about you great the-recommendation
liberalitatis, magna memoria consulatus tui. Haec profecto
of-liberality great the-memory of-consulship your These-things surely
vides quanto expressiora quantoque inlustriora futura
you-see by-how-much more-distinct and-by-how-much more-illustrious going-to-be
sint, cum aliquantum ex provincia atque ex imperio
they-are when some from the-province and from command
laudis accesserit; quamquam te ita gerere volo quae per
of-praise has-been-added although you so to-conduct I-wish what through
exercitum atque imperium gerenda sunt, ut haec multo
army and command to-be-conducted is that these-things much
ante meditere, huc te pares, haec cogites, ad haec
before you-ponder hither yourself you-prepare these-things you-think-of at these-things
te exerceas sentiasque (id quod quia semper sperasti,
yourself you-exercise and-you-feel that which because always you-have-hoped
non dubito quin adeptus intellegas), te facillime posse
not I-doubt but-that having-attained you-understand you most-easily to-be-able
obtinere summum atque altissimum gradum civitatis. Quae
to-hold the-highest and loftiest rank of-the-state Which
quidem mea cohortatio ne tibi inanis aut sine causa
indeed my exhortation lest to-you empty or without cause
suscepta videatur, illa me ratio movit, ut te ex nostris
undertaken it-seem that me reason moved that you from our

eventis communibus admonendum putarem, ut considerares,
experiences common to-be-warned I-thought that you-consider
in omni reliqua vita quibus crederes, quos caveres.
in all remaining life whom you-should-trust whom you-should-beware
Quod scribis te velle scire, qui sit rei publicae 10
As-to-what you-write you to-wish to-know what be of-the-thing public
status, summa dissensio est, sed contentio dispar; nam,
the-condition the-greatest discord is but the-contest unequal for
qui plus opibus, armis, potentia valent, perfecisse tamen
those-who more in-resources in-arms in-power prevail to-have-achieved still
mihi videntur stultitia et inconstantia adversariorum, ut etiam
to-me seem by-the-folly and inconstancy of-the-adversaries that even
auctoritate iam plus valerent. Itaque perpaucis adversantibus
in-authority now more they-prevail And-so with-very-few opposing
omnia, quae ne per populum quidem sine seditione
all-things which not through the-people even without sedition
se adsequi arbitrabantur, per senatum consecuti sunt;
themselves to-attain they-thought through the-senate attained they-have
nam et stipendium Caesari decretum est et decem legati,
for both pay to-Caesar decreed was and ten envoys
et, ne lege Sempronia succederetur, facile perfectum est.
and lest by-law Sempronian be-be-succeeded easily accomplished it-was
Quod ego ad te brevius scribo, quia me status hic rei
Which I to you more-briefly write because me condition this of-the-thing
publicae non delectat; scribo tamen, ut te admoneam,
public not delights I-write still that you I-warn
quod ipse litteris omnibus a pueritia deditus experiendo
what I-myself to-letters all from boyhood devoted by-experiencing
tamen magis quam discendo cognovi, tu tuis rebus
still more than by-learning have-learned you with-your affairs

integris discas, neque salutis nostrae rationem habendam
intact may-learn neither of-safety our account to-be-had
nobis esse sine dignitate neque dignitatis sine salute.
for-us to-be without dignity nor of-dignity without safety

11 Quod mihi de filia et de Crassipede gratularis,
As-for-what to-me about my-daughter and about Crassipes you-congratulate
agnosco humanitatem tuam speroque et opto nobis
I-recognize courtesy your and-I-hope and wish to-us
hanc coniunctionem voluptati fore. Lentulum nostrum,
this union a-pleasure going-to-be Lentulus our
eximia spe summae virtutis adulescentem, cum ceteris
of-exceptional hope of-the-highest virtue a-young-man both in-the-other
artibus, quibus studuisti semper ipse, tum in primis
arts which you-have-studied always yourself and among the-first
imitatione tui fac erudias; nulla enim erit hac
in-imitation of-you see-to-it you-train none for will-be than-this
praestantior disciplina. Quem nos, et quia tuus et quia
more-excellent discipline Whom we both because yours and because
te dignus est filius et quia nos diligit semperque
of-you worthy he-is the-son and because us he-loves and-always
dilexit, in primis amamus carumque habemus.
has-loved among the-first we-love and-dear hold

Plaetorius will tell Lentulus what has been done. Power lies with their friends, and Cicero, as Lentulus advised, attaches himself to Pompey, whose wishes now seem to him right and true. The dignity of a consular senator is gone and peace is to be longed for. Pompey is Lentulus' friend and will give him what he wishes; Cicero cannot repay Lentulus' services even in thought.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Lentulo procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Lentulus proconsul
De omnibus rebus, quae ad te pertinent, quid actum, 1
About all matters which to you pertain what done
quid constitutum sit, quid Pompeius susceperit, optime
what resolved has-been what Pompey has-undertaken best
ex M. Plaetorio cognosces, qui non solum interfuit
from Marcus Plaetorius you-will-learn who not only took-part
iis rebus, sed etiam praefuit neque ullum officium
in-those matters but also presided nor any duty
erga te hominis amantissimi, prudentissimi, diligentissimi
toward you of-a-man most-loving most-prudent most-diligent
praetermisit. Ex eodem de toto statu rerum communium
has-be-passed-over From the-same about the-whole state of-affairs common
cognosces. Quae quales sint, non facile est scribere.
you-will-learn Which of-what-kind they-are not easy is to-write
Sunt quidem certe in amicorum nostrorum potestate,
They-are indeed certainly in of-friends our the-power
atque ita, ut nullam mutationem umquam hac hominum
and so that no change ever in-this of-men
aetate habitura res esse videatur.
generation going-to-have the-matter to-be seems

2 Ego quidem, ut debeo et ut tute mihi praecepisti
I indeed as I-ought and as you-yourself to-me instructed
et ut me pietas utilitasque cogit, me ad eius rationes
and as me devotion and-expediency compels myself to his policies
adiungo, quem tu in meis rationibus tibi esse adiungendum
attach whom you in my policies to-you to-be to-be-attached
putasti; sed te non praeterit, quam sit difficile sensum in
thought but you not escapes how it-is difficult a-view in
re publica, praesertim rectum et confirmatum, deponere.
the-thing public especially right and confirmed to-lay-aside
Verum tamen ipse me conformo ad eius voluntatem,
But still I-myself myself I-shape to his wish
a quo honeste dissentire non possum, neque id facio,
from whom honorably to-dissent not I-can nor that do-I
ut forsitan quibusdam videar, simulatione; tantum enim
as perhaps to-some I-may-seem with-pretense so-much for
animi inductio et me hercule amor erga Pompeium
of-mind the-inclination and so-help-me Hercules the-love toward Pompey
apud me valet, ut, quae illi utilia sunt, et quae ille
with me prevails that what to-him useful are and what he
vult, ea mihi omnia iam et recta et vera videantur;
wishes those-things to-me all now both right and true seem
neque, ut ego arbitror, errarent ne adversarii quidem
nor as I think would-they-err not the-adversaries even
eius, si, cum pares esse non possent, pugnare desisterent.
his if since equal to-be not they-could to-fight they-ceased
3 Me quidem etiam illa res consolatur, quod ego is sum, cui
Me indeed also that thing consoles that I he am to-whom
vel maxime concedant omnes, ut vel ea defendam, quae
even most should-concede all that either those-things I-defend which
Pompeius velit, vel taceam vel etiam, id quod mihi maxime
Pompey wishes or I-be-silent or even that which to-me most

libet, ad nostra me studia referam litterarum; quod profecto
pleases to our me studies I-bring-back of-letters which surely
faciam, si mihi per eiusdem amicitiam licebit. Quae
I-would-do if to-me through his friendship it-will-be-allowed what
enim proposita fuerat nobis, cum et honoribus amplissimis
for proposed had-been to-us when both offices most-ample
et laboribus maximis perfuncti essemus, dignitas in sententiis
and labors greatest discharged we-had dignity in opinions
dicendis, libertas in re publica capessenda, ea sublata
to-be-spoken freedom in the-thing public to-be-undertaken that taken-away
totast, nec mihi magis quam omnibus; nam aut adsentiendum
wholly-is nor from-me more than from-all for either to-be-agreed
est nulla cum gravitate paucis aut frustra dissentiendum.
is no with weight with-the-few or vainly to-be-dissented
Haec ego ad te ob eam causam maxime scribo, ut 4
These-things I to you on-account-of that cause most write that
iam de tua quoque ratione meditere. Commutata tota ratio
already about your also course you-ponder Changed the-whole system
est senatus, iudiciorum, rei totius publicae; otium nobis
is of-the-senate of-the-courts of-the-thing whole public peace for-us
exoptandum est, quod ii, qui potiuntur rerum, praestaturi
to-be-longed-for is which those who are-masters of-affairs going-to-furnish
videntur, si quidam homines patientius eorum potentiam
seem if certain men more-patiently their power
ferre potuerint; dignitatem quidem illam consularem
to-bear shall-have-been-able the-dignity indeed that consular
fortis et constantis senatoris nihil est quod cogitemus;
of-a-brave and steadfast senator nothing there-is which we-should-think-of
amissa culpa est eorum, qui a senatu et ordinem
lost the-fault is of-those who from the-senate both an-order
coniunctissimum et hominem clarissimum abalienarunt.
most-closely-joined and a-man most-illustrious have-alienated

5 Sed ut ad ea, quae coniunctiora rebus tuis sunt,
But that to those-things which more-closely-joined to-affairs your are
revertar, Pompeium tibi valde amicum esse cognovi, et
I-may-return Pompey to-you very friendly to-be I-have-learned and
eo tu consule, quantum ego perspicio, omnia, quae voles,
with-him you as-consul as-far-as I perceive all-things which you-wish
obtinebis, quibus in rebus me sibi ille adfixum habebit,
you-will-obtain which in matters me to-himself be fastened will-have
neque a me ulla res, quae ad te pertineat, neglegetur; neque
nor by me any thing which to you pertains will-be-neglected nor
enim verebor, ne sim ei molestus, cui iucundum erit
for will-I-fear lest I-be to-him troublesome to-whom pleasing it-will-be
etiam propter se ipsum, quom me esse gratum videbit.
even on-account-of himself self when me to-be grateful he-sees
6 Tu velim tibi ita persuadeas, nullam rem esse minimam,
You I-would-wish to-yourself so persuade no thing to-be least
quae ad te pertineat, quae mihi non carior sit quam meae res
which to you pertains which to-me not dearer be than my affairs
omnes; idque cum sentiam, sedulitate mihimet ipse satis facere
all and-this when I-feel in-assiduity myself self enough to-do
possum, re quidem ipsa ideo mihi non satis facio,
I-can in-fact indeed itself for-that-reason myself not satisfaction I-do
quod nullam partem tuorum meritorum non modo referenda,
because no part of-your services not only in-being-repaid
sed ne cogitanda quidem gratia consequi possum.
but not in-being-thought-of even with-thanks to-attain I-can
7 Rem te valde bene gessisse rumor erat; exspectabantur
The-matter you very well to-have-managed a-rumor was were-awaited
litterae tuae, de quibus eramus iam cum Pompeio locuti.
the-letters your about which we-had already with Pompey spoken
Quae si erunt allatae, nostrum studium exstabit in
Which if they-are brought our zeal will-stand-out in

conveniendis magistratibus et senatoribus, ceteraque, quae
being-met magistrates and senators and-the-rest which
ad te pertinebunt cum etiam plus contenderimus quam
to you will-pertain although even more we-strive than
possumus, minus tamen faciemus quam debemus.
we-can less still we-will-do than we-ought

I.9 · AN ACCOUNT OF HIS POLITICS

Lentulus has asked why Cicero is reconciled with Caesar and Appius and defended Vatinius. After his return Cicero kept to his old policy, attacking Vatinius and moving the Campanian land question, until Caesar complained of him at Luca and Pompey called in the pledge his brother had given; meanwhile the nobles who envied Cicero embraced his enemy Clodius. With Pompey leading the state and Caesar generous, Cicero follows Plato's rule never to use force against his country, and bends with the times as a sailor with the storm. He defended Vatinius to prick back at those nobles, and Crassus once Pompey had reconciled them. He sends word of his books, and advises Lentulus to hand over his province promptly and to soothe the tax-farmers.

M. Cicero s. d. Lentulo imp.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Lentulus imperator
Periucundae mihi fuerunt litterae tuae, quibus intellexi 1
Very-delightful to-me was letter your from-which I-understood
te perspicere meam in te pietatem; quid enim dicam
you to-perceive my toward you devotion why for should-I-say
benevolentiam, cum illud ipsum gravissimum et sanctissimum
goodwill when that very most-weighty and most-sacred
nomen pietatis levius mihi meritis erga me tuis esse
name of-devotion lighter to-me than-the-services toward me your to-be
videatur? Quod autem tibi grata mea erga te studia
seems As-for-what however to-you pleasing my toward you efforts

scribis esse, facis tu quidem abundantia quadam amoris,
you-write to-be you-do you indeed from-abundance a-certain of-love
ut etiam grata sint ea, quae praetermitti sine nefario
so-that even pleasing be those-things which to-be-passed-over without wicked
scelere non possunt. Tibi autem multo notior atque
crime not can To-you however much better-known and
inlustrior meus in te animus esset, si hoc tempore
more-illustrious my toward you mind would-be if at-this time
omni, quo diiuncti fuimus, et una et Romae fuissemus.
all in-which separated we-have-been both together and at-Rome we-had-been
2 Nam in eo ipso, quod te ostendis esse facturum quodque
For in that very which you show to-be going-to-do and-which
et in primis potes et ego a te vehementer exspecto, in
both among the-first you-can and I from you vehemently expect in
sententiis senatoriis et in omni actione atque administratione
opinions senatorial and in all action and administration
rei publicae floruissemus (de qua ostendam equidem
of-the-thing public we-would-have-flourished about which I-will-show for-my-part
paulo post qui sit meus sensus et status, et rescribam
a-little after what is my feeling and position and I-will-write-back
tibi ad ea, quae quaeris); sed certe et ego te
to-you to those-things which you-ask but certainly both I you
auctore amicissimo ac sapientissimo et tu me consiliario
as-adviser most-friendly and most-wise and you me as-counselor
fortasse non imperitissimo, fideli quidem et benevolo certe
perhaps not most-inexperienced loyal indeed and well-disposed certainly
usus esses. Quamquam tua quidem causa te esse
used you-would-have Although your indeed for-the-sake you to-be
imperatorem provinciamque bene gestis rebus cum exercitu
imperator and-the-province with-well managed affairs with army
victore obtinere, ut debeo, laetor; sed certe, qui tibi ex
victorious to-hold as I-ought I-rejoice but certainly what to-you from

me fructus debentur, eos uberiores et praesentiores praesens
me fruits are-owed those richer and more-immediate present
capere potuisses; in eis vero ulciscendis, quos tibi partim
to-reap you-could-have in those indeed to-be-punished whom to-you partly
inimicos esse intellegis propter tuam propugnationem
enemies to-be you-understand on-account-of your championing
salutis meae, partim invidere propter illius actionis
of-safety my partly to-envy on-account-of of-that action
amplitudinem et gloriam, mirificum me tibi comitem
the-greatness and glory wonderful myself to-you as-companion
praebuissem; quamquam ille perennis inimicus amicorum
I-would-have-offered although that perpetual enemy of-friends
suorum, qui tuis maximis beneficiis ornatus in te
his who by-your greatest kindnesses honored against you
potissimum fractam illam et debilitatam vim suam contulit,
above-all broken that and weakened force his brought
nostram vicem ultus est ipse sese. Ea est enim
our turn avenged has himself self Those-things he-has for
conatus, quibus patefactis nullam sibi in posterum non
attempted by-which laid-open no to-himself for the-future not
modo dignitatis sed ne libertatis quidem partem reliquit.
only of-dignity but not of-liberty even part he-has-left
Te autem etsi mallem in meis rebus expertum 3
You however although I-would-prefer in my affairs to-have-experienced
quam etiam in tuis, tamen in molestia gaudeo eam fidem
than also in your still in vexation I-rejoice that loyalty
cognosse hominum non ita magna mercede, quam ego
to-have-learned of-men not at-so great price as I
maximo dolore cognoram. De qua ratione tota iam
with-the-greatest grief had-learned About which course whole now

videtur mihi exponendi tempus dari, ut tibi rescribam
seems to-me of-expounding time to-be-given that to-you I-may-reply
ad ea, quae quaeris.
to those-things which you-ask

4 Certiorem te per litteras scribis esse factum me cum
More-informed you by letter you-write to-have-been made me with
Caesare et cum Appio esse in gratia teque id non
Caesar and with Appius to-be in favor and-you that not
reprehendere adscribis; Vatinium autem scire te velle
to-blame you-add Vatinius however to-know you to-wish
ostendis quibus rebus adductus defenderim et laudarim.
you-show by-what things induced I-defended and praised
Quod tibi ut planius exponam, altius paulo rationem
Which to-you that more-plainly I-may-explain more-deeply a-little the-reasoning
consiliorum meorum repetam necesse est. Ego me, Lentule,
of-counsels my I-recall necessary it-is I myself Lentulus
initio rerum atque actionum tuarum non solum
at-the-beginning of-the-affairs and actions your not only
meis sed etiam rei publicae restitutum putabam et,
to-my-own but also to-the-thing public restored thought and
quoniam tibi incredibilem quendam amorem et omnia in
since to-you incredible a-certain love and all toward
te ipsum summa ac singularia studia deberem, rei
you yourself the-greatest and singular efforts I-owed to-the-thing
publicae, quae te in me restituendo multum adiuvisset, eum
public which you in me restoring much had-helped that
certe me animum merito ipsius debere arbitrabar, quem
certainly myself spirit by-merit of-itself to-owe I-thought which
antea tantum modo communi officio civium, non aliquo
before only merely by-the-common duty of-citizens not by-some
erga me singulari beneficio debitum praestitissem. Hac
toward me singular kindness due I-had-shown With-this

me mente fuisse et senatus ex me te consule audivit
me mind to-have-been both the-senate from me you consul heard
et tu in nostris sermonibus conlocutionibusque vidisti.
and you in our talks and-conversations saw
Etsi iam primis temporibus illis multis rebus meus 5
Although already in-the-first times those by-many things my
offendebatur animus, cum te agente de reliqua nostra
was-offended mind when with-you acting about the-rest-of our
dignitate aut occulta non nullorum odia aut obscura in
dignity either the-hidden not of-none hatreds or obscure toward
me studia cernebam; nam neque de monimentis meis ab iis
me efforts I-discerned for neither about the-monuments my by those
adiutus es, a quibus debuisti, neque de vi nefaria,
helped you-were by whom you-ought nor about the-force wicked
qua cum fratre eram domo expulsus, neque hercule in
by-which with my-brother I-was from-home driven nor by-Hercules in
iis ipsis rebus, quae quamquam erant mihi propter rei
those very matters which although they-were to-me on-account-of of-the-estate
familiaris naufragia necessariae, tamen a me minimi
family the-shipwrecks necessary still by me of-least-account
putabantur, in meis damnis ex auctoritate senatus sarciendis
were-thought in my losses from the-authority of-the-senate to-be-repaired
eam voluntatem, quam exspectaram, praestiterunt. Quae cum
that goodwill which I-had-expected did-they-show Which when
viderem (neque erant obscura), non tamen tam acerba mihi
I-saw nor were-they obscure not still so bitter to-me
haec accidebant, quam erant illa grata, quae fecerant.
these-things happened as were those-things pleasing which they-had-done
Itaque, quamquam et Pompeio plurimum te quidem 6
And-so although both to-Pompey very-much you indeed
ipso praedicatore ac teste debebam et eum non solum
yourself as-proclaimer and witness I-owed and him not only

beneficio, sed amore etiam et perpetuo quodam iudicio meo
from-kindness but from-love also and perpetual a-certain judgment my
diligebam, tamen non reputans, quid ille vellet, in omnibus
I-loved still not considering what he wished in all
meis sententiis de re publica pristinis permanebam.
my opinions about the-thing public former I-remained
7 Ego sedente Cn. Pompeio, cum, ut laudaret P.
I with-sitting Gnaeus Pompey when that he-might-praise Publius
Sestium, introisset in urbem dixissetque testis Vatinius
Sestius he-had-entered into the-city and-had-said as-witness Vatinius
me fortuna et felicitate C. Caesaris commotum illi
me by-the-fortune and success of-Gaius Caesar moved to-him
amicum esse coepisse, dixi me M. Bibuli fortunam, quam
friendly to-be to-have-begun I-said I of-Marcus Bibulus the-fortune which
ille adflictam putaret, omnium triumphis victoriisque anteferre,
he struck-down thought of-all triumphs and-victories to-prefer
dixique eodem teste alio loco eosdem esse, qui
and-I-said with-the-same as-witness in-another place the-same to-be who
Bibulum exire domo prohibuissent et qui me coegissent;
Bibulus to-go-out from-home had-prevented and who me had-compelled
tota vero interrogatio mea nihil habuit nisi reprehensionem
whole indeed the-interrogation my nothing had except censure
illius tribunatus. In quo omnia dicta sunt libertate animoque
of-his tribunate In which all-things said were with-freedom and-spirit
maximo de vi, de auspiciis, de donatione regnorum,
greatest about force about auspices about the-granting of-kingdoms
neque vero hac in causa modo, sed constanter saepe in senatu.
nor indeed this in case only but steadily often in the-senate
8 Quin etiam Marcellino et Philippo consulibus Nonis
Nay even with-Marcellinus and Philippus as-consuls on-the-Nones
Aprilibus mihi est senatus adsensus, ut de agro Campano
of-April to-me has the-senate agreed that about the-land Campanian

frequenti senatu Idibus Maiis referretur. Num potui magis
with-full senate on-the-Ides of-May it-be-referred Could I more
in arcem illius causae invadere aut magis oblivisci temporum
into the-citadel of-that cause attack or more to-forget of-times
meorum, meminisse actionum? Hac a me sententia dicta
my to-remember of-actions With-this by me opinion spoken
magnus animorum motus est factus cum eorum, quorum
a-great of-minds stir was made both of-those of-whom
oportuit, tum illorum etiam, quorum numquam putaram.
it-was-right and of-those also of-whom never I-had-thought
Nam hoc senatus consulto in meam sententiam facto 9
For with-this of-the-senate decree according-to my opinion made
Pompeius cum mihi nihil ostendisset se esse offensum,
Pompey although to-me nothing he-had-shown himself to-be offended
in Sardiniam et in Africam profectus est eoque itinere
into Sardinia and into Africa set-out has and-on-that journey
Lucam ad Caesarem venit. Ibi multa de mea sententia
to-Luca to Caesar came There much about my opinion
questus est Caesar, quippe qui etiam Ravennae Crassum ante
complained has Caesar since who also at-Ravenna Crassus before
vidisset ab eoque in me esset incensus. Sane moleste
had-seen and-by him against me had-been incensed Quite with-annoyance
Pompeium id ferre constabat; quod ego cum audissem ex
Pompey that to-bear it-was-agreed which I when I-had-heard from
aliis, maxime ex meo fratre cognovi. Quem cum in Sardinia
others most from my brother I-learned Whom when in Sardinia
Pompeius paucis post diebus quam Luca discesserat
Pompey a-few after days than from-Luca he-had-departed
convenisset, 'te,' inquit, 'ipsum cupio; nihil opportunius
had-met you he-said yourself I-want nothing more-opportune
potuit accidere. Nisi cum Marco fratre diligenter egeris,
could happen Unless with Marcus your-brother diligently you-deal

dependendum tibi est, quod mihi pro illo spopondisti.'
to-be-paid by-you is what to-me for him you-pledged
Quid multa? questus est graviter; sua merita commemoravit;
What many complained he-has gravely his services he-recalled
quid egisset saepissime de actis Caesaris cum ipso meo
what he-had-done very-often about the-acts of-Caesar with himself my
fratre quidque sibi is de me recepisset, in memoriam
brother and-what to-himself he about me had-undertaken into memory
redegit seque, quae de mea salute egisset, voluntate
he-brought-back and-himself what about my safety he-had-done with-the-will
Caesaris egisse ipsum meum fratrem testatus est. Cuius
of-Caesar to-have-done himself my brother witnessed he-has Whose
causam dignitatemque mihi ut commendaret, rogavit ut
cause and-dignity to-me that he-should-commend he-asked that
eam ne oppugnarem, si nollem aut non possem tueri.
it not I-attack if I-wished-not or not could to-protect
10 Haec cum ad me frater pertulisset et cum tamen
These-things when to me my-brother had-reported and when still
Pompeius ad me cum mandatis Vibullium misisset, ut
Pompey to me with instructions Vibullius had-sent that
integrum mihi de causa Campana ad suum reditum
open to-me about the-cause Campanian to his return
reservarem, conlegi ipse me et cum ipsa quasi re publica
I-should-reserve I-collected myself me and with the-very as-it-were thing public
conlocutus sum, ut mihi tam multa pro se perpesso atque
conversed I-have that to-me so many-things for it having-suffered and
perfuncto concederet, ut officium meum memoremque in
having-discharged it-should-grant that duty my and-mindful toward
bene meritos animum fidemque fratris mei praestarem,
well deserving spirit and-the-loyalty of-brother my I-should-make-good
eumque, quem bonum civem semper habuisset, bonum virum
and-him whom a-good citizen always it-had-held a-good man

esse pateretur. In illis autem meis actionibus sententiisque
to-be it-should-allow In those however my actions and-opinions
omnibus, quae Pompeium videbantur offendere, certorum
all which Pompey seemed to-offend of-certain
hominum, quos iam debes suspicari, sermones referebantur
men whom now you-ought to-suspect talk was-reported
ad me, qui cum illa sentirent in re publica, quae
to me who although those-things they-felt in the-thing public which
ego agebam, semperque sensissent, me tamen non satis
I was-doing and-always had-felt me still not enough
facere Pompeio Caesaremque inimicissimum mihi futurum
to-satisfy Pompey and-Caesar most-hostile to-me going-to-be
gaudere se aiebant. Erat hoc mihi dolendum, sed
to-rejoice themselves they-said Was this to-me to-be-grieved-at but
multo illud magis, quod inimicum meum (meum autem?
much that more that enemy my mine however
immo vero legum, iudiciorum, oti, patriae, bonorum
nay indeed of-the-laws of-the-courts of-peace of-the-fatherland of-good-men
omnium) sic amplexabantur, sic in manibus habebant, sic
all so they-embraced so in hands they-held so
fovebant, sic me praesente osculabantur, non illi quidem
they-fondled so with-me present they-kissed not they indeed
ut mihi stomachum facerent, quem ego funditus perdidi,
that to-me vexation they-should-make which I utterly have-lost
sed certe ut facere se arbitrarentur. Hic ego, quantum
but certainly that to-make themselves they-should-think Here I as-far-as
humano consilio efficere potui, circumspectis rebus meis
by-human counsel to-effect I-could with-surveyed affairs my
omnibus rationibusque subductis summam feci cogitationum
all and-accounts reckoned the-sum made of-thoughts
mearum omnium; quam tibi, si potero, breviter exponam.
my all which to-you if I-can briefly I-will-set-forth

11 Ego si ab improbis et perditis civibus rem publicam
I if by wicked and abandoned citizens the-thing public
teneri viderem, sicut et Cinneis temporibus scimus et
to-be-held I-saw as both in-Cinna's times we-know and
non nullis aliis accidisse, non modo praemiis, quae apud
not to-none others to-have-happened not only by-rewards which with
me minimum valent, sed ne periculis quidem compulsus
me least prevail but not by-dangers even compelled
ullis, quibus tamen moventur etiam fortissimi viri, ad
any by-which still are-moved even the-bravest men to
eorum causam me adiungerem, ne si summa quidem
their cause myself would-I-attach not if the-greatest indeed
eorum in me merita constarent. Cum autem in re
their toward me services were-established Since however in the-thing
publica Cn. Pompeius princeps esset vir, is qui hanc
public Gnaeus Pompey the-leading-man was a-man he who this
potentiam et gloriam maximis in rem publicam
power and glory by-the-greatest toward the-thing public
meritis praestantissimisque rebus gestis esset consecutus,
services and-most-outstanding deeds done had attained
cuiusque ego dignitatis ab adulescentia fautor, in praetura
and-of-whose I dignity from youth a-promoter in my-praetorship
autem et in consulatu adiutor etiam exstitissem, cumque
however and in consulship a-helper also had-stood-out and-since
idem auctoritate et sententia per se, consiliis et studiis
the-same by-authority and opinion by himself by-counsels and efforts
tecum me adiuvisset meumque inimicum unum in civitate
with-you me had-helped and-my enemy sole in the-state
haberet inimicum, non putavi famam inconstantiae mihi
had-as enemy not I-thought the-reputation of-inconstancy by-me
pertimescendam, si quibusdam in sententiis paulum me
to-be-dreaded if certain in opinions a-little myself

inmutassem meamque voluntatem ad summi viri de
I-had-changed and-my goodwill to of-the-highest man about
meque optime meriti dignitatem adgregassem.
and-me best deserving the-dignity had-joined
In hac sententia complectendus erat mihi Caesar, ut vides, 12
In this view to-be-embraced was by-me Caesar as you-see
in coniuncta et causa et dignitate. Hic multum valuit
in joined both cause and dignity Here much prevailed
cum vetus amicitia, quam tu non ignoras mihi et Quinto
both old friendship which you not are-ignorant to-me and to-Quintus
fratri cum Caesare fuisse, tum humanitas eius ac
my-brother with Caesar to-have-been and courtesy his and
liberalitas brevi tempore et litteris et officiis perspecta
liberality in-short time both by-letters and by-services perceived
nobis et cognita. Vehementer etiam res ipsa publica me
by-us and known Vehemently also the-thing itself public me
movit, quae mihi videbatur contentionem, praesertim maximis
moved which to-me seemed contention especially with-greatest
rebus a Caesare gestis, cum illis viris nolle fieri
deeds by Caesar done with those men not-to-wish to-be-made
et, ne fieret, vehementer recusare. Gravissime autem me
and lest it-be-made vehemently to-refuse Most-weightily however me
in hac mente impulit et Pompei fides, quam de me
in this mind impelled both of-Pompey the-pledge which about me
Caesari dederat, et fratris mei, quam Pompeio. Erant
to-Caesar he-had-given and of-brother my which to-Pompey There-were
praeterea haec animadvertenda in civitate, quae sunt
besides these-things to-be-noticed in the-state which are
apud Platonem nostrum scripta divinitus, quales in re
in Plato our written divinely of-what-kind in the-thing
publica principes essent, talis reliquos solere esse
public the-leading-men are of-such-kind the-rest to-be-accustomed to-be

civis. Tenebam memoria nobis consulibus ea fundamenta
citizens I-held in-memory with-us consuls those foundations
iacta iam ex K. Ianuariis confirmandi senatus, ut
laid already from the-Kalends of-January for-strengthening the-senate that
neminem mirari oporteret Nonis Decembr. tantum vel
no-one to-wonder it-should on-the-Nones of-December so-much either
animi fuisse in illo ordine vel auctoritatis, idemque
of-spirit to-have-been in that order or of-authority and-the-same
memineram nobis privatis usque ad Caesarem et Bibulum
I-remembered with-us private-men right-up to Caesar and Bibulus
consules, cum sententiae nostrae magnum in senatu pondus
as-consuls when opinions our great in the-senate weight
haberent, unum fere sensum fuisse bonorum omnium.
had one almost feeling to-have-been of-good-men all
13 Postea, cum tu Hispaniam citeriorem cum imperio obtineres
Afterward when you Spain Hither with command were-holding
neque res publica consules haberet, sed mercatores
nor the-thing public consuls had but traders
provinciarum et seditionum servos ac ministros, iecit quidam
of-provinces and of-seditions slaves and agents threw a-certain
casus caput meum quasi certaminis causa in mediam
chance head my as-if of-the-contest for-the-sake into the-middle-of
contentionem dissensionemque civilem. Quo in discrimine cum
contention and-dissension civil which in crisis when
mirificus senatus, incredibilis Italiae totius, singularis omnium
wonderful of-the-senate incredible of-Italy whole singular of-all
bonorum consensus in me tuendo exstitisset, non dicam,
good-men agreement in me protecting had-stood-out not I-will-say
quid acciderit (multorum est enim et varia culpa), tantum
what happened of-many it-is for also varied the-blame only
dicam brevi, non mihi exercitum sed duces defuisse. In
I-will-say in-short not to-me an-army but leaders to-have-been-lacking In

quo ut iam sit in iis culpa, qui me non defenderunt,
which granting already there-be in those blame who me not defended
non minor est in iis, qui reliquerunt, et, si accusandi
not less is in those who abandoned and if to-be-accused
sunt, si qui pertimuerunt, magis etiam reprehendendi, si
they-are if any were-terrified more even to-be-censured if
qui se timere simularunt. Illud quidem certe nostrum
any themselves to-fear pretended That indeed certainly our
consilium iure laudandum est, qui meos civis et a me
counsel rightly to-be-praised is who my citizens both by me
conservatos et me servare cupientis spoliatos ducibus servis
preserved and me to-save desiring despoiled of-leaders to-slaves
armatis obici noluerim declararique maluerim, quanta vis
armed to-be-exposed did-not-wish and-to-be-declared preferred how-great force
esse potuisset in consensu bonorum, si iis pro me stante
to-be could-have in the-agreement of-good-men if to-them for me standing
pugnare licuisset, cum adflictum excitare potuissent;
to-fight it-had-been-allowed since struck-down to-raise-up they-could
quorum quidem animum tu non perspexisti solum, cum
whose indeed spirit you not perceived only when
de me ageres, sed etiam confirmasti atque tenuisti.
about me you-acted but also strengthened and held
Qua in causa (non modo non negabo, sed etiam semper et 14
Which in cause not only not will-I-deny but also always both
meminero et praedicabo libenter) usus es quibusdam
I-will-remember and I-will-proclaim gladly you-found you-have certain
nobilissimis hominibus fortioribus in me restituendo, quam
most-noble men braver in me restoring than
fuerant idem in tenendo. Qua in sententia si constare
they-had-been the-same in holding Which in opinion if to-be-consistent
voluissent, suam auctoritatem simul cum salute mea
they-had-wished their authority together with safety my

reciperassent. Recreatis enim bonis viris consulatu tuo
they-would-have-recovered Restored for with-good men by-consulship your
et constantissimis atque optimis actionibus tuis excitatis,
and by-most-steadfast and best actions your stirred-up
Cn. Pompeio praesertim ad causam adiuncto, cum
with-Gnaeus Pompey especially to the-cause joined when
etiam Caesar rebus maximis gestis singularibus ornatus
even Caesar with-deeds greatest done singular honored
et novis honoribus ac iudiciis senatus ad auctoritatem
and with-new honors and judgments of-the-senate to the-authority
eius ordinis adiungeretur, nulli improbo civi locus ad
of-that order were-joined to-no wicked citizen room for
rem publicam violandam esse potuisset.
the-thing public to-be-violated to-be could-have
15 Sed attende, quaeso, quae sint consecuta. Primum illa
But attend I-ask what have followed First that
furia muliebrium religionum, qui non pluris fecerat Bonam
fury of-women's religions who not more had-made the-Good
deam quam tris sorores, impunitatem est illorum sententiis
Goddess than three sisters impunity has by-their votes
adsecutus, qui, cum tr. pl. poenas a seditioso
attained who when the-tribune of-the-plebs punishment from a-seditious
civi per bonos viros iudicio persequi vellet, exemplum
citizen through good men by-trial to-pursue wished the-example
praeclarissimum in posterum vindicandae seditionis de
most-splendid for the-future to-be-punished of-sedition from
re publica sustulerunt, idemque postea non meum
the-thing public removed and-the-same afterward not my
monumentum (non enim illae manubiae meae, sed operis
monument not for those spoils mine but of-the-work
locatio mea fuerat), monumentum vero senatus hostili
the-contract mine had-been monument indeed of-the-senate with-a-hostile

nomine et cruentis inustum litteris esse passi sunt. Qui me
name and bloody branded letters to-be allowed have Which me
homines quod salvum esse voluerunt, est mihi gratissimum;
men in-that safe to-be they-wished is to-me most-pleasing
sed vellem non solum salutis meae quem ad modum
but I-would-wish not only of-safety my in-what to manner
medici, sed ut aliptae etiam virium et coloris rationem
physicians but as trainers also of-strength and of-color account
habere voluissent. Nunc, ut Apelles Veneris caput et summa
to-have they-had-wished Now as Apelles of-Venus the-head and top
pectoris politissima arte perfecit, reliquam partem corporis
of-the-breast with-most-polished art completed the-remaining part of-the-body
incohatam reliquit, sic quidam homines in capite meo solum
begun left so certain men on head my alone
elaborarunt, reliquum corpus imperfectum ac rude reliquerunt.
labored the-rest body unfinished and rough left
In quo ego spem fefelli non modo invidorum, sed etiam 16
In which I the-hope deceived not only of-the-envious but also
inimicorum meorum, qui de uno acerrimo et fortissimo viro
of-enemies my who about one most-spirited and bravest man
meoque iudicio omnium magnitudine animi et constantia
and-in-my judgment of-all in-greatness of-mind and steadfastness
praestantissimo, Q. Metello L. f., quondam falsam
most-outstanding Quintus Metellus of-Lucius son once a-false
opinionem acceperunt, quem post reditum dictitant fracto
opinion received whom after his-return they-keep-saying with-broken
animo et demisso fuisse (est vero probandum, qui
spirit and downcast to-have-been it-is indeed to-be-approved that-one-who
et summa voluntate cesserit et egregia animi alacritate
both with-greatest willingness withdrew and with-outstanding of-spirit eagerness
afuerit neque sane redire curarit, eum ob id ipsum fractum
was-absent nor at-all to-return cared him for that itself broken

fuisse, in quo cum omnis homines tum M. illum Scaurum,
to-have-been in which while all men and Marcus that Scaurus
singularem virum, constantia et gravitate superasset!) —
a-singular man in-steadfastness and gravity he-had-surpassed
sed, quod de illo acceperant aut etiam suspicabantur, de
but what about him they-had-heard or even suspected about
me idem cogitabant, abiectiore animo me futurum, cum
me the-same they-thought with-more-downcast spirit me going-to-be when
res publica maiorem etiam mihi animum, quam umquam
the-thing public greater even to-me spirit than ever
habuissem, daret, cum declarasset se non potuisse me
I-had-had gave when it-had-declared itself not to-have-been-able me
uno civi carere, cumque Metellum unius tr. pl.
one citizen to-lack and-when Metellus of-one tribune of-the-plebs
rogatio, me universa res publica duce senatu, comitante
the-bill me the-whole thing public with-leader the-senate with-attending
Italia, promulgantibus omnibus magistratibus, te ferente
Italy with-promulgating all magistrates with-you proposing
consule, comitiis centuriatis, cunctis ordinibus hominibus
as-consul at-the-assembly of-centuries with-all orders men
incumbentibus, omnibus denique suis viribus reciperavisset.
pressing-on all finally with-its strength had-recovered

17 Neque vero ego mihi postea quicquam adsumpsi neque
Nor indeed I to-myself afterward anything have-assumed nor
hodie adsumo, quod quemquam malevolentissimum iure
today do-I-assume which anyone most-malevolent rightly
possit offendere; tantum enitor, ut neque amicis neque etiam
could offend only I-strive that neither to-friends nor even
alienioribus opera, consilio, labore desim. Hic meae vitae
to-more-distant-ones with-effort with-counsel with-labor I-fail This of-my life
cursus offendit eos fortasse, qui splendorem et speciem
course offends them perhaps who the-splendor and appearance

huius vitae intuentur, sollicitudinem autem et laborem
of-this life look-at the-anxiety however and labor
perspicere non possunt; illud vero non obscure queruntur,
to-perceive not can that indeed not obscurely they-complain
in meis sententiis, quibus ornem Caesarem, quasi desciscere
in my opinions by-which I-honor Caesar as-if to-desert
me a pristina causa. Ego autem cum illa sequor, quae
me from former cause I however both those-things I-follow which
paulo ante proposui, tum hoc non in postremis, de
a-little before I-set-out and this not among the-last about
quo coeperam exponere. Non offendes eundem bonorum
which I-had-begun to-explain Not you-will-find the-same of-good-men
sensum, Lentule, quem reliquisti, qui confirmatus consulatu
the-feeling Lentulus which you-left which strengthened by-consulship
nostro, non numquam postea interruptus, adflictus ante te
our not never afterward interrupted struck-down before you
consulem, recreatus abs te totus est nunc ab iis, a quibus
consul restored by you whole is now by those by whom
tuendus fuerat, derelictus; idque non solum fronte atque
to-be-protected it-had-been abandoned and-this not only by-brow and
vultu, quibus simulatio facillime sustinetur, declarant ii,
face by-which pretense most-easily is-sustained declare those
qui tum nostro illo statu optimates nominabantur, sed
who then in-our that state best-men were-named but
etiam sensu saepe iam tabellaque docuerunt.
also by-feeling often already and-by-ballot have-shown
Itaque tota iam sapientium civium, qualem me et 18
And-so the-whole now of-wise citizens such-as me both
esse et numerari volo, et sententia et voluntas mutata
to-be and to-be-counted I-wish both opinion and will changed
esse debet. Id enim iubet idem ille Plato, quem ego
to-be ought This for commands same that Plato whom I

vehementer auctorem sequor, tantum contendere in re
vehemently as-authority follow so-much to-strive in the-thing
publica, quantum probare tuis civibus possis; vim neque
public as-much-as to-approve to-your citizens you-can force neither
parenti nec patriae adferre oportere. Atque hanc quidem
to-parent nor to-fatherland to-bring ought And this indeed
ille causam sibi ait non attingendae rei publicae
he cause to-himself says not of-touching the-thing public
fuisse, quod, cum offendisset populum Atheniensem prope
to-have-been that when he-had-found the-people Athenian almost
iam desipientem senectute, cumque eum nec persuadendo
already doting with-old-age and-when it neither by-persuading
nec cogendo regi posse vidisset, cum persuaderi posse
nor by-compelling to-be-ruled could he-had-seen since to-be-persuaded could
diffideret, cogi fas esse non arbitraretur. Mea ratio
he-distrusted to-be-compelled right to-be not he-thought My reason
fuit alia, quod neque desipiente populo nec integra re
was other because neither with-doting people nor with-intact matter
mihi ad consulendum, capesseremne rem publicam,
to-me to for-deliberating whether-I-should-undertake the-thing public
implicatus tenebar, sed laetatus tamen sum, quod mihi
entangled I-was-held but rejoiced still I-have that to-me
liceret in eadem causa et mihi utilia et cuivis bono
it-was-allowed in the-same cause both to-me useful and to-any good-man
recta defendere. Huc accessit commemoranda quaedam et
right to-defend To-this was-added to-be-recalled a-certain and
divina Caesaris in me fratremque meum liberalitas; qui
divine of-Caesar toward me and-brother my liberality who
mihi, quascumque res gereret, tuendus esset, nunc in
by-me whatever things he-did to-be-protected would-be now in
tanta felicitate tantisque victoriis, etiam si in nos non
such-great success and-such-great victories even if toward us not

is esset, qui est, tamen ornandus videretur. Sic enim te
he were who is still to-be-honored would-seem So for you
existimare velim, cum a vobis meae salutis auctoribus
to-think I-would-wish since from you of-my safety authors
discesserim, neminem esse, cuius officiis me tam esse
I-departed no-one to-be by-whose services me so to-be
devinctum non solum confitear, sed etiam gaudeam.
bound not only would-I-confess but also would-I-rejoice
Quod quoniam tibi exposui, facilia sunt ea, quae 19
Which since to-you I-have-set-out easy are those-things which
a me de Vatinio et de Crasso requiris. Nam de
from me about Vatinius and about Crassus you-ask For about
Appio quod scribis sicuti de Caesare te non reprehendere,
Appius as you-write just-as about Caesar you not to-blame
gaudeo tibi consilium probari meum. De Vatinio autem
I-rejoice to-you the-counsel to-be-approved my About Vatinius however
primum reditus intercesserat in gratiam per Pompeium,
first a-return had-intervened into favor through Pompey
statim ut ille praetor est factus, cum quidem ego eius
immediately when he praetor was made although indeed I his
petitionem gravissimis in senatu sententiis oppugnassem,
candidacy with-most-weighty in the-senate speeches had-attacked
neque tam illius laedendi causa quam defendendi
nor so-much of-him to-be-hurt for-the-sake as to-be-defended
atque ornandi Catonis; post autem Caesaris, ut illum
and to-be-honored of-Cato afterward however of-Caesar that him
defenderem, mira contentio est consecuta. Cur autem
I-should-defend a-wonderful effort has followed Why however
laudarim, peto a te, ut id a me neve in hoc reo
I-praised I-ask of you that that from me neither in this defendant
neve in aliis requiras, ne tibi ego idem reponam, cum
nor in others you-ask lest to-you I the-same may-return when

veneris. Tametsi possum vel absenti: recordare enim,
you-have-come Although I-can even to-you-absent recall for
quibus laudationem ex ultimis terris miseris; nec hoc
for-whom a-eulogy from the-farthest lands you-sent nor this
pertimueris, nam a me ipso laudantur et laudabuntur
should-you-fear for by me myself they-are-praised and will-be-praised
idem. Sed tamen defendendi Vatini fuit etiam ille stimulus,
the-same But still of-defending Vatinius was also that goad
de quo in iudicio, quom illum defenderem, dixi me facere
about which in court when him I-was-defending I-said I to-be-doing
quiddam, quod in Eunucho parasitus suaderet militi:
something which in the-Eunuch the-parasite advised the-soldier

'Ubi nominabit Phaedriam, tu Pamphilam
When she-names Phaedria you Pamphila
continuo; si quando illa dicet: "Phaedriam
at-once if ever she says Phaedria
intromittamus comissatum," Pamphilam
let-us-bring-in for-reveling Pamphila
cantatum provocemus; si laudabit haec
to-sing let-us-call-forth if she-praises this-woman
illius formam, tu huius contra; denique
his good-looks you this-girl's in-turn finally
par pro pari referto, quod eam mordeat.'
like for like pay-back that her may-sting

Sic petivi a iudicibus, ut, quoniam quidam nobiles homines
So I-asked of the-judges that since certain noble men
et de me optime meriti nimis amarent inimicum meum
and of me best deserving too-much loved enemy my
meque inspectante saepe eum in senatu modo severe
and-with-me looking-on often him in the-senate now gravely

seducerent, modo familiariter atque hilare amplexarentur,
took-aside now familiarly and cheerfully embraced
quoniamque illi haberent suum Publium, darent mihi
and-since they had their Publius they-should-give to-me
ipsi alium Publium, in quo possem illorum animos
myself another Publius in whom I-might their minds
mediocriter lacessitus leviter repungere; neque solum dixi,
moderately provoked lightly to-prick-back nor only did-I-say-it
sed etiam saepe facio deis hominibusque adprobantibus.
but also often I-do-it with-gods and-men approving
Habes de Vatinio; cognosce de Crasso. Ego, cum mihi cum 20
You-have about Vatinius learn about Crassus I since to-me with
illo magna iam gratia esset, quod eius omnis gravissimas
him great already favor was because his all most-grievous
iniurias communis concordiae causa voluntaria quadam
injuries of-common concord for-the-sake by-voluntary a-certain
oblivione contrieram, repentinam eius defensionem Gabini,
forgetfulness I-had-rubbed-out sudden his defense of-Gabinius
quem proximis superioribus diebus acerrime oppugnasset,
whom on-the-nearest preceding days most-sharply he-had-attacked
tamen, si sine ulla mea contumelia suscepisset, tulissem;
still if without any my insult he-had-undertaken I-would-have-borne
sed, cum me disputantem, non lacessentem laesisset, exarsi
but when me arguing not provoking he-had-hurt I-blazed-up
non solum praesenti, credo, iracundia (nam ea tam vehemens
not only from-present I-believe anger for that so vehement
fortasse non fuisset), sed, cum inclusum illud odium
perhaps not would-have-been but when shut-up that hatred
multarum eius in me iniuriarum, quod ego effudisse
of-many his toward me injuries which I to-have-poured-out
me omne arbitrabar, residuum tamen insciente me
me all I-thought remaining still with-unknowing me

fuisset, omne repente apparuit. Quo quidem tempore ipso
had-been all suddenly appeared At-which indeed time itself
quidam homines et eidem illi, quos saepe significo neque
certain men and the-same those whom often I-indicate nor
appello, cum se maximum fructum cepisse dicerent
name when themselves the-greatest fruit to-have-reaped they-said
ex libertate mea meque tum denique sibi esse visum
from freedom my and-me then at-last to-them to-be seemed
rei publicae, qualis fuissem, restitutum, cumque ea
to-the-thing public such-as I-had-been restored and-when that
contentio mihi magnum etiam foris fructum tulisset, gaudere
contest to-me great also outside fruit had-borne to-rejoice
se dicebant mihi et illum inimicum et eos, qui in
themselves they-said to-me both him enemy and those who in
eadem causa essent, numquam amicos futuros. Quorum
the-same cause were never friends going-to-be Whose
iniqui sermones cum ad me per homines honestissimos
unfair talk when to me through men most-honorable
perferrentur, cumque Pompeius ita contendisset ut nihil
was-reported and-when Pompey so had-striven as nothing
umquam magis, ut cum Crasso redirem in gratiam,
ever more that with Crassus I-should-return into favor
Caesarque per litteras maxima se molestia ex illa
and-Caesar through letters with-the-greatest himself annoyance from that
contentione adfectum ostenderet, habui non temporum
contest affected showed I-had not of-times
solum rationem meorum, sed etiam naturae, Crassusque,
only account of-my but also of-nature and-Crassus
ut quasi testata populo Romano esset nostra gratia,
that as-if witnessed to-the-people Roman should-be our reconciliation
paene a meis laribus in provinciam est profectus; nam,
almost from my household-gods into his-province has set-out for

cum mihi condixisset, cenavit apud me in mei generi
when to-me he-had-agreed-to-dine he-dined at me in of-my son-in-law
Crassipedis hortis. Quam ob rem eius causam, quod
of-Crassipes gardens Which on-account-of thing his cause which
te scribis audisse, magna illius commendatione susceptam
you write to-have-heard with-great his recommendation undertaken
defendi in senatu, sicut mea fides postulabat.
I-defended in the-senate as my good-faith demanded
Accepisti, quibus rebus adductus quamque rem causamque 21
You-have-heard by-what things induced and-what thing and-cause
defenderim, quique meus in re publica sit pro mea
I-defended and-what my in the-thing public be for my
parte capessenda status. De quo sic velim statuas, me
part to-be-taken position About which so I-would-wish you-determine me
haec eadem sensurum fuisse, si mihi integra omnia
these same going-to-feel to-have-been if to-me unencumbered all-things
ac libera fuissent; nam neque pugnandum arbitrarer contra
and free had-been for neither to-be-fought I-would-think against
tantas opes neque delendum, etiam si id fieri posset,
such-great power nor to-be-destroyed even if it to-be-done could
summorum civium principatum neque permanendum in
of-the-highest citizens the-leadership nor to-be-persisted in
una sententia conversis rebus ac bonorum voluntatibus
one opinion with-changed circumstances and of-good-men with-wishes
mutatis, sed temporibus adsentiendum. Numquam enim in
altered but with-the-times to-be-agreed Never for in
praestantibus in re publica gubernanda viris laudata
outstanding in the-thing public to-be-steered men praised
est in una sententia perpetua permansio, sed, ut in
has-been in one opinion perpetual persistence but as in
navigando tempestati obsequi artis est, etiam si portum
sailing with-the-storm to-comply of-art it-is even if the-harbor

tenere non queas, cum vero id possis mutata velificatione
to-hold not you-can when indeed that you-can with-changed sailing
adsequi, stultum est eum tenere cum periculo cursum, quem
to-attain foolish it-is that to-hold with danger course which
coeperis, potius quam eo commutato quo velis tamen
you-have-begun rather than with-that changed where you-wish still
pervenire, sic, cum omnibus nobis in administranda re
to-arrive so since for-all us in administering the-thing
publica propositum esse debeat, id quod a me saepissime
public proposed to-be ought that which by me very-often
dictum est, cum dignitate otium, non idem semper
said has-been with dignity leisure not the-same always
dicere, sed idem semper spectare debemus. Quam ob
to-say but the-same always to-look-to we-ought Which on-account-of
rem, ut paulo ante posui, si essent omnia mihi solutissima,
thing as a-little before I-set-down if were all-things to-me most-unrestricted
tamen in re publica non alius essem atque nunc sum;
still in the-thing public not other would-I-be than now I-am
cum vero in hunc sensum et alliciar beneficiis hominum
when indeed into this feeling both I-am-enticed by-kindnesses of-men
et compellar iniuriis, facile patior ea me de re
and I-am-driven by-injuries easily I-allow those-things me about the-thing
publica sentire ac dicere, quae maxime cum mihi tum etiam
public to-feel and to-say which most both for-me and also
rei publicae rationibus putem conducere; apertius autem
of-the-thing public to-the-interests I-think to-conduce more-openly however
haec ego ac saepius, quod et Quintus, frater meus,
these-things I and more-often because both Quintus brother my
legatus est Caesaris et nullum meum minimum dictum,
legate is of-Caesar and no my least word
non modo factum, pro Caesare intercessit, quod ille non
not only deed for Caesar has-intervened which he not

ita inlustri gratia exceperit, ut ego eum mihi devinctum
with-so illustrious gratitude received that I him to-me bound
putarem. Itaque eius omni et gratia, quae summa est, et
thought And-so his all both influence which highest is and
opibus, quas intellegis esse maximas, sic fruor ut meis nec
resources which you-understand to-be greatest so I-enjoy as my-own nor
mihi aliter potuisse videor hominum perditorum de
to-me otherwise to-have-been-able I-seem of-men abandoned against
me consilia frangere, nisi cum praesidiis iis, quae semper
me the-plots to-break unless with the-protections those which always
habui, nunc etiam potentium benevolentiam coniunxissem.
I-had now also of-the-powerful the-goodwill I-had-joined
His ego consiliis, si te praesentem habuissem, ut opinio 22
These I counsels if you present I-had-had as opinion
mea fert, essem usus eisdem; novi enim temperantiam
my brings used I-would-have the-same I-know for the-temperance
et moderationem naturae tuae, novi animum cum mihi
and moderation of-nature your I-know your-mind both to-me
amicissimum tum nulla in ceteros malevolentia suffusum
most-friendly and with-no toward others malevolence suffused
contraque cum magnum et excelsum tum etiam
and-on-the-contrary both great and lofty and also
apertum et simplicem. Vidi ego quosdam in te
open and simple I-have-seen I certain-men toward you
talis, qualis tu eosdem in me videre potuisti; quae me
such as you the-same toward me to-see could which me
moverunt, movissent eadem te profecto. Sed, quocumque
moved would-have-moved the-same you surely But at-whatever
tempore mihi potestas praesentis tui fuerit, tu eris
time to-me the-opportunity of-present of-you has-been you will-be
omnium moderator consiliorum meorum, tibi erit eidem,
of-all the-director of-counsels my to-you will-be the-same

cui salus mea fuit, etiam dignitas curae; me quidem
to-whom safety my was also dignity a-care me indeed
certe tuarum actionum, sententiarum, voluntatum, rerum
certainly of-your actions opinions wishes affairs
denique omnium socium comitemque habebis, neque mihi
finally all partner and-companion you-will-have nor to-me
in omni vita res tam erit ulla proposita, quam ut cotidie
in all life thing so will-be any proposed as that daily
vehementius te de me optime meritum esse laetere.
more-vehemently you about me best deserved to-have you-rejoice

23 Quod rogas, ut mea tibi scripta mittam, quae post
As-for-what you-ask that my to-you writings I-send which after
discessum tuum scripserim, sunt orationes quaedam,
departure your I-have-written they-are speeches certain
quas Menocrito dabo, neque ita multae, ne pertimescas.
which to-Menocritus I-will-give nor so many lest you-be-alarmed
Scripsi etiam (nam animum ab orationibus diiungo fere
I-have-written also for my-mind from speeches I-detach almost
referoque ad mansuetiores Musas, quae me maxime sicut
and-I-bring-it-back to the-gentler Muses which me most as
iam a prima adulescentia delectarunt) — scripsi igitur
already from first youth delighted I-wrote therefore
Aristotelio more, quem ad modum quidem volui, tris libros
in-the-Aristotelian manner in-what to manner indeed I-wished three books
in disputatione ac dialogo ‘de oratore,’ quos arbitror Lentulo
in disputation and dialogue on the-orator which I-think to-Lentulus
tuo fore non inutilis; abhorrent enim a communibus
your going-to-be not useless they-differ for from the-common
praeceptis atque omnem antiquorum et Aristoteliam et
precepts and all of-the-ancients both Aristotelian and
Isocratiam rationem oratoriam complectuntur. Scripsi etiam
Isocratean system oratorical they-embrace I-wrote also

versibus tris libros ‘de temporibus meis’; quos iam pridem
in-verses three books about times my which now long-ago
ad te misissem, si esse edendos putassem; sunt enim
to you I-would-have-sent if to-be to-be-published I-had-thought they-are for
testes et erunt sempiterni meritorum erga me tuorum
witnesses and will-be everlasting of-services toward me your
meaeque pietatis, sed, quia verebar non eos, qui se laesos
and-of-my devotion but because I-feared not those who themselves hurt
arbitrarentur (etenim id feci parce et molliter), sed eos,
thought for-indeed that I-did sparingly and gently but those
quos erat infinitum bene de me meritos omnis nominare.
whom it-was endless well of me deserving all to-name
Quos tamen ipsos libros, si quem, cui recte committam,
Which still very books if anyone to-whom properly I-may-entrust
invenero, curabo ad te perferendos. Atque istam
I-find I-will-take-care to you to-be-delivered And that
quidem partem vitae consuetudinisque nostrae totam ad te
indeed part of-life and-of-habit our whole to you
defero; quantum litteris, quantum studiis, veteribus nostris
I-hand-over as-much-as by-letters as-much-as by-studies old our
delectationibus, consequi poterimus, id omne ad arbitrium
by-delights to-attain we-shall-be-able that all to the-judgment
tuum, qui haec semper amasti, libentissime conferemus.
your who these-things always have-loved most-gladly we-will-bring
Quae ad me de tuis rebus domesticis scribis quaeque mihi 24
What to me about your affairs domestic you-write and-what to-me
commendas, ea tantae mihi curae sunt, ut me
you-commend those-things of-such-great to-me care are that myself
nolim admoneri, rogari vero sine magno dolore
I-would-not-wish to-be-reminded to-be-asked indeed without great grief
vix possim. Quod de Quinti fratris negotio scribis,
hardly I-can As-for-what about of-Quintus my-brother business you-write

te priore aestate, quod morbo impeditus in Ciliciam
you in-the-former summer because by-illness prevented into Cilicia
non transieris, conficere non potuisse, nunc autem omnia
not you-crossed to-finish not to-have-been-able now however all-things
facturum, ut conficias, id scito esse eius modi, ut
going-to-do that you-may-finish that know to-be of-that kind that
frater meus vere existimet adiuncto isto fundo patrimonium
brother my truly thinks with-joined that farm the-patrimony
fore suum per te constitutum. Tu me de tuis
going-to-be his through you established You me about your
rebus omnibus et de Lentuli tui nostrique studiis et
affairs all and about of-Lentulus your and-ours studies and
exercitationibus velim quam familiarissime certiorem et
exercises I-would-wish as most-familiarly informed and
quam saepissime facias existimesque neminem cuiquam
as most-often you-make and-think no-one to-anyone
neque cariorem neque iucundiorem umquam fuisse quam
either dearer or more-pleasing ever to-have-been than
te mihi, idque me non modo ut tu sentias, sed ut omnes
you to-me and-that I not only that you may-feel but that all
gentes, etiam ut posteritas omnis intellegat esse facturum.
nations also that posterity all may-understand to-be going-to-do
25 Appius in sermonibus antea dictitabat, postea dixit etiam
Appius in conversations before kept-saying afterward said also
in senatu palam sese, si licitum esset legem curiatam ferre,
in the-senate openly himself if allowed it-were a-law curiate to-carry
sortiturum esse cum conlega provinciam; si curiata lex non
going-to-draw-lots to-be with his-colleague a-province if curiate law not
esset, se paraturum cum conlega tibique successurum;
there-were himself going-to-arrange with his-colleague and-you going-to-succeed
legemque curiatam consuli ferri opus esse, necesse non
and-the-law curiate for-a-consul to-be-carried needful to-be necessary not

esse; se, quoniam ex senatus consulto provinciam haberet,
to-be himself since by of-the-senate decree a-province he-had
lege Cornelia imperium habiturum, quoad in urbem
by-the-law Cornelian command going-to-have until into the-city
introisset. Ego, quid ad te tuorum quisque necessariorum
he-had-entered I what to you of-yours each of-friends
scribat, nescio; varias esse opiniones intellego. Sunt, qui
writes know-not various to-be opinions I-understand There-are who
putant posse te non decedere, quod sine lege curiata tibi
think to-be-able you not to-withdraw because without law curiate to-you
succedatur; sunt etiam, qui, si decedas, a te relinqui
one-succeeds there-are also who if you-withdraw by you to-be-left
posse, qui provinciae praesit. Mihi non tam de iure
to-be-able one-who over-the-province be-in-charge To-me not so about the-law
certum est (quamquam ne id quidem valde dubium est)
certain it-is although not that even very doubtful is
quam illud, ad tuam summam amplitudinem, dignitatem,
as that to your highest greatness dignity
libertatem, qua te scio libentissime frui solere, pertinere
freedom which you I-know most-gladly to-enjoy to-be-wont to-pertain
te sine ulla mora provinciam successori concedere,
you without any delay the-province to-your-successor to-yield
praesertim cum sine suspicione tuae cupiditatis non possis
especially since without suspicion of-your greed not you-can
illius cupiditatem refutare. Ego utrumque meum puto esse,
his greed refute I both my I-think to-be
et quid sentiam ostendere et quod feceris defendere.
both what I-feel to-show and what you-have-done to-defend
Scripta iam epistula superiore accepi tuas litteras de 26
Written already the-letter above I-received your letter about
publicanis, in quibus aequitatem tuam non potui non
the-tax-farmers in which the-fairness your not I-could not

probare; felicitate a quid vellem consequi potuisses,
approve with-good-fortune ah what I-would-wish to-attain you-could-have
ne eius ordinis, quem semper ornasti, rem aut
not of-that order which always you-have-honored the-interest or
voluntatem offenderes. Equidem non desinam tua decreta
the-wish you-offend For-my-part not I-will-cease your decrees
defendere, sed nosti consuetudinem hominum; scis,
to-defend but you-know the-custom of-men you-know
quam graviter inimici ipsi illi Q. Scaevolae fuerint.
how gravely hostile they to-that Quintus Scaevola were
Tibi tamen sum auctor, ut, si quibus rebus possis, eum
To-you still I-am the-adviser that if by-any means you-can that
tibi ordinem aut reconcilies aut mitiges. Id etsi difficile
to-you order either you-reconcile or you-soften That although difficult
est, tamen mihi videtur esse prudentiae tuae.
is still to-me seems to-be of-prudence your

I.10 · TO VALERIUS THE JURIST

A joking note to Lucius Valerius, who is called a lawyer for these times, when audacity passes for wisdom. Cicero has thanked Lentulus for him, and urges him to come home, where he will count among many, rather than stay where he alone seems wise; travelers report that he is proud or insolent. He should not go to Apulia, where like Ulysses he would recognize no one.

M. Cicero s. d. L. Valerio iurisconsulto.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Lucius Valerius jurisconsult
1 Cur enim tibi hoc non gratificer nescio, praesertim
Why for to-you this not should-I-gratify I-know-not especially
cum his temporibus audacia pro sapientia liceat
since in-these times audacity for wisdom it-is-allowed

uti. Lentulo nostro egi per litteras tuo nomine
to-use to-Lentulus our I-gave by letter in-your name
gratias diligenter. Sed tu velim desinas iam nostris
thanks diligently But you I-would-wish should-stop now our
litteris uti et nos aliquando revisas et ibi malis
letters to-use and us sometime revisit and there prefer
esse, ubi aliquo numero sis, quam istic, ubi solus
to-be where in-some number you-are than there where alone
sapere videare. Quamquam, qui istinc veniunt,
to-be-wise you-seem Although those-who from-there come
partim te superbum esse dicunt, quod nihil respondeas,
partly you proud to-be say because nothing you-answer
partim contumeliosum, quod male respondeas. Sed
partly insulting because badly you-answer But
iam cupio tecum coram iocari; qua re fac
now I-desire with-you face-to-face to-joke by-which thing see-to-it
ut quam primum venias neque in Apuliam tuam
that as first you-come nor into Apulia your
accedas, ut possimus salvum venisse gaudere; nam
you-go that we-may safe to-have-come rejoice for
illo si veneris, tu, ut Ulixes, cognosces tuorum
there if you-come you like Ulysses will-recognize of-your-people
neminem.
no-one

BOOK II

II.1 · TO CURIO, ON LETTERS

Curio has charged Cicero with neglecting to write, which pleases Cicero as a sign of his love: Cicero has sent a letter by everyone who might reach him, and had two or three short ones in return. He has missed Curio's company and rejoices in his success, and urges him to come home ready to bear the great expectation he has raised, remembering that he owes his rise to the counsels Cicero gave him as a boy.

M. Cicero s. d. Curioni.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Curio

Quamquam me nomine neglegentiae suspectum tibi esse 1

Although me on-the-ground of-negligence suspected to-you to-be

doleo, tamen non tam mihi molestum fuit accusari abs

I-grieve still not so to-me troublesome was to-be-accused by

te officium meum quam iucundum requiri, praesertim

you duty my as pleasing to-be-sought-for especially

quom, in quo accusabar, culpa vacarem, in quo autem

since in what I-was-accused of-blame I-was-free in what however

desiderare te significabas meas litteras, prae te ferres

to-miss you indicated my letters before you you-displayed

perspectum mihi quidem, sed tamen dulcem et optatum

well-known to-me indeed but still sweet and desired

amorem tuum. Equidem neminem praetermisi, quem quidem

love your For-my-part no-one have-passed-over whom indeed

ad te perventurum putarem, cui litteras non dederim;

to you going-to-reach I-thought to-whom a-letter not I-gave

etenim quis est tam in scribendo impiger quam ego? a

for-indeed who is so in writing tireless as I from

te vero bis terve summum et eas perbrevis accepi.

you indeed twice or-thrice at-most and those very-short I-have-received

Qua re, si iniquus es in me iudex, condemnabo
By-which thing if unfair you-are in me as-judge I-will-condemn
eodem ego te crimine; sin me id facere noles,
on-the-same I you charge but-if me that to-do you-will-not-wish
te mihi aequum praebere debebis. Sed de litteris
yourself to-me fair to-show you-will-owe But about letters
hactenus; non enim vereor ne non scribendo te expleam,
so-far not for I-fear lest not by-writing you I-satisfy
praesertim si in eo genere studium meum non aspernabere.
especially if in that kind zeal my not you-spurn

2 Ego te afuisse tam diu a nobis et dolui, quod carui
I you to-have-been-away so long from us both grieved because I-lacked
fructu iucundissimae consuetudinis, et laetor, quod absens
the-fruit of-most-delightful intimacy and rejoice because absent
omnia cum maxima dignitate es consecutus quodque in
all-things with greatest dignity you-have attained and-because in
omnibus tuis rebus meis optatis fortuna respondit. Breve
all your affairs to-my wishes fortune has-answered Short
est, quod me tibi praecipere meus incredibilis in te
is what me to-you to-instruct my incredible toward you
amor cogit. Tanta est exspectatio vel animi vel ingeni
love compels So-great is the-expectation either of-spirit or of-talent
tui, ut ego te obsecrare obtestarique non dubitem, sic ad
your that I you to-beseech and-to-adjure not hesitate so to
nos conformatus revertare, ut, quam exspectationem tui
us shaped you-return that what expectation of-you
concitasti, hanc sustinere ac tueri possis; et, quoniam
you-have-roused this to-sustain and to-protect you-can and since
meam tuorum erga me meritorum memoriam nulla umquam
my of-your toward me of-services memory no ever
delebit oblivio, te rogo ut memineris, quantaecumque
will-blot-out forgetfulness you I-ask that you-remember however-great

tibi accessiones fient et fortunae et dignitatis, eas te
to-you increases will-be-made both of-fortune and of-dignity those you
non potuisse consequi, nisi meis puer olim fidelissimis
not to-have-been-able to-attain unless to-my as-a-boy once most-faithful
atque amantissimis consiliis paruisses. Qua re hoc
and most-loving counsels you-had-obeyed By-which thing with-this
animo in nos esse debebis, ut, aetas nostra iam
spirit toward us to-be you-will-owe that age our already
ingravescens in amore atque in adulescentia tua conquiescat.
growing-heavy in the-love and in the-youth your may-rest

II.2 · CURIO'S FATHER

On the death of Curio's father, Cicero has lost a witness of his love for the son. The father would have surpassed every man's fortune had he lived to see Curio return. Their friendship needs no witness; the gods prosper Curio's inheritance, and Cicero will be to him what he was to his father.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Curioni.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Curio
Gravi teste privatus sum amoris summi erga te mei 1
Of-a-weighty witness deprived I-am of-love highest toward you my
patre tuo, clarissimo viro. Qui cum suis laudibus tum
by-father your a-most-illustrious man Who both by-his-own praises and
vero te filio superasset omnium fortunam, si ei
indeed by-you his-son would-have-surpassed of-all the-fortune if to-him
contigisset ut te ante videret, quam a vita discederet.
it-had-befallen that you before he-should-see than from life he-departed
Sed spero nostram amicitiam non egere testibus. Tibi
But I-hope our friendship not to-need witnesses To-you

patrimonium dei fortunent; me certe habebis, cui
the-patrimony the-gods may-prosper me certainly you-will-have to-whom
et carus aeque sis et iucundus ac fuisti patri.
both dear equally you-be and pleasing as you-were to-your-father

II.3 · AGAINST THE GAMES

Rupa was ready to announce games in Curio's name, but neither Cicero nor Curio's other friends wished anything done in his absence that he could not undo. Curio returns at a time when his gifts of nature, study, and fortune will win him more than games, which no one admires and everyone is sick of. Cicero saves his full argument for Curio's arrival; much is expected of him.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Curioni.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Curio
1 Rupae studium non defuit declarandorum munerum tuo
To-Rupa zeal not was-lacking to-be-announced of-games in-your
nomine, sed nec mihi placuit nec cuiquam tuorum
name but neither to-me it-pleased nor to-any of-your-friends
quicquam te absente fieri, quod tibi, cum venisses,
anything with-you absent to-be-done which for-you when you-had-come
non esset integrum. Meam quidem sententiam aut scribam
not would-be open My indeed opinion either I-will-write
ad te postea pluribus aut, ne ad eam meditere, imparatum
to you afterward in-more-words or lest to it you-prepare unprepared
te offendam coramque contra istam rationem meam dicam,
you I-will-meet and-face-to-face against that plan my-own I-will-speak
ut aut te ad meam sententiam adducam aut certe
so-that either you to my opinion I-bring or certainly
testatum apud animum tuum relinquam, quid senserim,
witnessed with mind your I-leave what I-felt

ut, si quando, quod nolim, displicere tibi tuum
so-that if ever which I-would-not-wish to-displease to-you your
consilium coeperit, possis meum recordari. Brevi tamen sic
plan begins you-can mine recall Briefly still so
habeto, in eum statum temporum tuum reditum incidere,
hold into that state of-times your return to-fall
ut iis bonis, quae tibi natura, studio, fortuna data
that by-those good-things which to-you by-nature by-study by-fortune given
sunt, facilius omnia, quae sunt amplissima in re publica,
are more-easily all-things which are most-ample in the-thing public
consequi possis quam muneribus. Quorum neque facultatem
to-attain you-can than by-games Of-which neither the-ability
quisquam admiratur (est enim copiarum, non virtutis),
anyone admires it-is for of-means not of-virtue
neque quisquam est quin satietate iam defessus sit.
nor anyone is but-that with-surfeit already wearied is
Sed aliter atque ostenderam facio, qui ingrediar ad 2
But otherwise than I-had-indicated I-do who proceed to
explicandam rationem sententiae meae; qua re omnem
to-be-unfolded the-reasoning of-opinion my by-which thing all
hanc disputationem in adventum tuum differo. Summa scito
this discussion to arrival your I-defer In-sum know
te in exspectatione esse eaque a te exspectari, quae a
you in expectation to-be and-those-things from you to-be-expected which from
summa virtute summoque ingenio exspectanda sunt. Ad quae
the-highest virtue and-highest talent to-be-expected are For which
si es, ut debes, paratus, quod ita esse confido, plurimis
if you-are as you-ought prepared which so to-be I-trust with-very-many
maximisque muneribus et nos amicos et civis tuos universos
and-greatest gifts both us friends and citizens your all

et rem publicam adficies. Illud cognosces profecto,
and the-thing public you-will-endow This you-will-learn surely
mihi te neque cariorem neque iucundiorem esse quemquam.
to-me you neither dearer nor more-pleasing to-be anyone

II.4 · THE KINDS OF LETTERS

Letters exist to tell the absent what they need to know, but Curio has others for his family news and Cicero has none. Of the two other kinds, the jesting and the grave, he cannot jest when no citizen can laugh, and he can write gravely only about the state, where he dares not say what he feels and will not say what he does not. So he closes as he always does, urging Curio to meet the great expectation he has roused.

Cicero s. d. C. Curioni.
Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Curio
1 Epistularum genera multa esse non ignoras, sed unum
Of-letters the-kinds many to-be not you-are-unaware but one
illud certissimum, cuius causa inventa res ipsa est, ut
that most-certain for-whose sake invented the-thing itself was that
certiores faceremus absentis, si quid esset, quod eos scire
more-informed we-should-make the-absent if anything were which them to-know
aut nostra aut ipsorum interesset. Huius generis litteras a
either our or their-own concerned Of-this kind a-letter from
me profecto non exspectas; tuarum enim rerum domesticos
me surely not you-expect of-your for affairs domestic
habes et scriptores et nuntios, in meis autem rebus nihil
you-have both writers and messengers in my however affairs nothing
est sane novi. Reliqua sunt epistularum genera duo, quae
is at-all new Remaining are of-letters kinds two which
me magno opere delectant, unum familiare et iocosum,
me in-great measure delight one familiar and jesting

alterum severum et grave. Utro me minus deceat uti, non
the-other serious and grave Which me less befits to-use not
intellego. Iocerne tecum per litteras? Civem mehercule non
I-understand Should-I-jest with-you by letter A-citizen by-Hercules not
puto esse, qui temporibus his ridere possit. An gravius
I-think there-is who in-times these to-laugh could Or more-grave
aliquid scribam? Quid est quod possit graviter a Cicerone
something should-I-write What is which can gravely by Cicero
scribi ad Curionem nisi de re publica? Atqui in hoc
to-be-written to Curio unless about the-thing public And in this
genere haec mea causa est, ut neque ea, quae sentio,
kind this my case is that neither those-things which I-feel
audeam neque ea, quae non sentio, velim scribere.
I-dare nor those-things which not I-feel I-wish to-write
Quam ob rem, quoniam mihi nullum scribendi 2
Which on-account-of thing since to-me no of-writing
argumentum relictum est, utar ea clausula, qua soleo,
subject left has-been I-will-use that close which I-am-wont
teque ad studium summae laudis cohortabor. Est enim
and-you to zeal of-the-highest praise I-will-exhort There-is for
tibi gravis adversaria constituta et parata incredibilis
to-you a-weighty adversary set-up and prepared incredible
quaedam exspectatio; quam tu una re facillime vinces, si
a-certain expectation which you by-one thing most-easily will-conquer if
hoc statueris, quarum laudum gloriam adamaris, quibus
this you-determine of-what praises the-glory you-have-loved-dearly by-what
artibus eae laudes comparantur, in iis esse laborandum. In
arts those praises are-acquired in those to-be to-be-labored In
hanc sententiam scriberem plura, nisi te tua sponte satis
this sense I-would-write more unless you by-your-own accord enough

incitatum esse confiderem; et hoc, quicquid attigi, non
spurred to-be I-trusted and this whatever I-have-touched not
feci inflammandi tui causa, sed testificandi amoris mei.
I-did of-inflaming of-you for-the-sake but of-attesting of-love my

II.5 · AN EXPECTATION TO MEET

Cicero dares not describe in a letter how things stand. Curio is lucky to be away and to have his praise set on a high and lighted place before allies and citizens. Cicero fears only that when he returns there will be nothing left to care for, so far has everything decayed; whatever his hopes for the state, he should prepare to be the man who restores its old dignity and freedom.

Cicero s. d. C. Curioni.
Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Curio

1 Haec negotia quo modo se habeant, ne epistula quidem
These affairs in-what way themselves they-have not in-a-letter even
narrare audeo. Tibi, etsi, ubicumque es, ut scripsi ad te
to-relate dare-I To-you although wherever you-are as I-wrote to you
ante, in eadem es navi, tamen, quod abes, gratulor,
before in the-same you-are ship still because you-are-away I-congratulate
vel quia non vides ea quae nos, vel quod excelso et
either because not you-see those-things which we or because on-a-lofty and
inlustri loco sita est laus tua in plurimorum et sociorum
illustrious place set is praise your in of-very-many both of-allies
et civium conspectu, quae ad nos nec obscuro nec vario
and of-citizens the-view which to us neither in-obscure nor in-various
sermone, sed et clarissima et una omnium voce perfertur.
talk but both most-clear and with-one of-all voice is-carried

Unum illud nescio, gratulerne tibi an timeam, quod 2
One that I-know-not whether-I-should-congratulate you or fear that
mirabilis est exspectatio reditus tui, non quo verear ne tua
wonderful is the-expectation of-return your not that I-fear lest your
virtus opinioni hominum non respondeat, sed me hercule
virtue to-the-opinion of-men not correspond but so-help-me Hercules
ne, cum veneris, non habeas iam, quod cures; ita
lest when you-have-come not you-may-have now what you-may-care-for so
sunt omnia debilitata et iam prope exstincta. Sed haec
are all-things weakened and already almost extinguished But these-things
ipsa nescio rectene sint litteris commissa; qua re
themselves I-know-not whether-rightly be to-a-letter entrusted by-which thing
cetera cognosces ex aliis. Tu tamen, sive habes aliquam spem
the-rest you-will-learn from others You still whether you-have some hope
de re publica sive desperas, ea para, meditare, cogita,
about the-thing public or despair those-things prepare ponder think
quae esse in eo civi ac viro debent, qui sit rem publicam
which to-be in that citizen and man ought who is the-thing public
adflictam et oppressam miseris temporibus ac perditis
stricken and oppressed in-wretched times and with-abandoned
moribus in veterem dignitatem et libertatem vindicaturus.
morals into old dignity and freedom going-to-claim

Hearing that Curio is on his way from Asia, Cicero sends this letter by Milo's friend Villius. Curio's services to him embolden him to ask the greatest favor: his support for Milo's candidacy for the consulship, on which Cicero has staked all his effort. They have the good men, the people, the young, and their own canvassing; they need a leader and helmsman, and none could match Curio. Cicero will owe him more than to Milo himself.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Curioni.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Curio

1 Nondum erat auditum te ad Italiam adventare, cum
Not-yet had-it-been heard you to Italy to-be-approaching when
Sex. Villium, Milonis mei familiarem, cum his ad te litteris
Sextus Villius of-Milo my friend with this to you letter
misi. Sed tamen, cum adpropinquare tuus adventus putaretur,
I-sent But still since to-be-approaching your arrival was-thought
et te iam ex Asia Romam versus profectum esse constaret,
and you already from Asia to-Rome toward set-out to-have it-was-agreed
magnitudo rei fecit, ut non vereremur ne nimis cito
the-greatness of-the-matter made that not we-should-fear lest too soon
mitteremus, cum has quam primum ad te perferri litteras
we-should-send since this as first to you to-be-delivered letter
magno opere vellemus. Ego, si mea in te essent officia
in-great measure we-wished I if my toward you were services
solum, Curio, tanta, quanta magis a te ipso praedicari quam
only Curio so-great as-great-as rather by you yourself to-be-proclaimed than
a me ponderari solent, verecundius a te, si quae magna
by me to-be-weighed they-are-wont more-modestly from you if any great
res mihi petenda esset, contenderem; grave est enim homini
thing by-me to-be-sought were I-would-strive grievous it-is for for-a-man
pudenti petere aliquid magnum ab eo, de quo se bene
modest to-seek something great from him of whom himself well

meritum putet, ne id, quod petat, exigere magis quam rogare
deserved he-thinks lest that which he-seeks to-exact rather than to-ask
et in mercedis potius quam benefici loco numerare videatur.
and in of-reward rather than of-kindness the-place to-count he-seem
Sed, quia tua in me vel nota omnibus vel ipsa novitate 2
But because your toward me either known to-all or by-very the-novelty
meorum temporum clarissima et maxima beneficia exstiterunt,
of-my times most-illustrious and greatest kindnesses have-stood-out
estque animi ingenui, cui multum debeas, eidem plurimum
and-it-is of-mind ingenuous to-whom much you-owe to-the-same very-much
velle debere, non dubitavi id a te per litteras petere, quod
to-wish to-owe not I-hesitated that from you by letter to-ask which
mihi omnium esset maximum maximeque necessarium. Neque
to-me of-all was greatest and-most necessary Nor
enim sum veritus ne sustinere tua in me vel innumerabilia
for am-I afraid lest to-sustain your toward me even innumerable
non possem, cum praesertim confiderem nullam esse gratiam
not I-could since especially I-trusted no to-be favor
tuam, quam non vel capere animus meus in accipiendo
your which not either to-receive mind my in accepting
vel in remunerando cumulare atque inlustrare posset.
or in repaying to-heap-up and to-make-illustrious could
Ego omnia mea studia, omnem operam, curam, industriam, 3
I all my efforts all work care industry
cogitationem, mentem denique omnem in Milonis consulatu
thought mind finally all on of-Milo the-consulship
fixi et locavi statuique in eo me non offici solum
have-fixed and placed and-I-have-decided in it myself not of-duty only
fructum sed etiam pietatis laudem debere quaerere; neque
the-fruit but also of-devotion the-praise ought to-seek nor
vero cuiquam salutem ac fortunas suas tantae curae
indeed to-anyone safety and fortunes his of-such-great care

fuisse umquam puto, quantae mihi sit honos eius, in quo
to-have-been ever I-think of-as-great to-me is the-honor his in whom
omnia mea posita esse decrevi. Huic te unum tanto
all my placed to-be I-have-decided To-this you alone of-such-great
adiumento esse, si volueris, posse intellego, ut nihil sit
help to-be if you-wish to-be-able I-understand that nothing be
praeterea nobis requirendum. Habemus haec omnia, bonorum
besides by-us to-be-sought We-have these all of-good-men
studium conciliatum ex tribunatu propter nostram, ut
the-zeal won from his-tribunate on-account-of our as
spero te intellegere, causam, vulgi ac multitudinis
I-hope you to-understand cause of-the-commons and of-the-multitude
propter magnificentiam munerum liberalitatemque naturae,
on-account-of the-magnificence of-games and-the-liberality of-nature
iuventutis et gratiosorum in suffragiis studia propter ipsius
of-the-youth and of-the-influential in votes the-zeal on-account-of his-own
excellentem in eo genere vel gratiam vel diligentiam, nostram
outstanding in that kind either influence or diligence our
suffragationem, si minus potentem, at probatam tamen et
canvassing if less powerful but approved still and
iustam et debitam et propterea fortasse etiam gratiosam.
just and due and therefore perhaps also influential

4 Dux nobis et auctor opus est et eorum ventorum, quos
A-leader for-us and an-author need is and of-those winds which
proposui, moderator quidam et quasi gubernator. Qui si
I-have-set-out director a-certain and as-it-were helmsman Who if
ex omnibus unus optandus esset, quem tecum conferre
from all one to-be-wished-for were whom with-you to-compare
possemus non haberemus. Quam ob rem, si me
we-could not we-would-have Which on-account-of thing if me
memorem, si gratum, si bonum virum vel ex hoc ipso,
mindful if grateful if a-good man even from this very

quod tam vehementer de Milone laborem, existimare potes,
that so vehemently about Milo I-labor to-judge you-can
si dignum denique tuis beneficiis iudicas, hoc a te peto,
if worthy finally of-your kindnesses you-judge this from you I-ask
ut subvenias huic meae sollicitudini et huic meae laudi vel,
that you-help this my anxiety and this my praise or
ut verius dicam, prope saluti tuum studium dices. De
that more-truly I-may-say almost safety your zeal you-will-devote About
ipso T. Annio tantum tibi polliceor, te maioris animi,
himself Titus Annius so-much to-you I-promise you of-greater spirit
gravitatis, constantiae benevolentiaeque erga te, si complecti
gravity steadfastness and-goodwill toward you if to-embrace
hominem volueris, habiturum esse neminem; mihi vero
the-man you-wish going-to-have to-be no-one to-me indeed
tantum decoris, tantum dignitatis adiunxeris, ut eundem te
so-much grace so-much dignity you-will-add that the-same you
facile adgnoscam fuisse in laude mea, qui fueris in salute.
easily I-recognize to-have-been in praise my who you-were in safety
Ego ni te videre scirem, qua mente haec scriberem, 5
I unless you to-see I-knew with-what mind these-things I-write
quantum offici sustinerem, quanto opere mihi esset in hac
how-much of-duty I-sustain how-much in-measure by-me it-was in this
petitione Milonis omni non modo contentione, sed etiam
candidacy of-Milo with-all not only effort but even
dimicatione elaborandum, plura scriberem; nunc tibi omnem
fighting to-be-labored more I-would-write now to-you all
rem atque causam meque totum commendo atque trado.
the-matter and cause and-myself whole I-commend and hand-over
Unum hoc sic habeto, si a te hanc rem impetraro, me
One this so hold if from you this thing I-obtain me
paene plus tibi quam ipsi Miloni debiturum; non enim
almost more to-you than to-Milo himself going-to-owe not for

mihi tam mea salus cara fuit, in qua praecipue sum ab
to-me so my safety dear was in which especially I-have by
illo adiutus, quam pietas erit in referenda gratia iucunda;
him been-helped as devotion will-be in repaying gratitude pleasing
eam autem unius tuo studio me adsequi posse confido.
that however of-one-alone your zeal me to-attain to-be-able I-trust

II.7 · TO CURIO AS TRIBUNE

Cicero, imperator in Cilicia, congratulates Curio late on his tribunate and urges him to steer by his own judgment, since no one can advise him better than himself. Curio has brought his tribunate into the very crisis of affairs. Cicero will report his summer's campaign to the senate in one letter and has written of Curio's priesthood. He begs him, as tribune, to allow nothing new to be decreed that would lengthen his year in the province.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. C. Curioni tr. pl.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Gaius Curio tribune of-the-plebs
1 Sera gratulatio reprehendi non solet, praesertim si nulla
Late congratulation to-be-blamed not is-wont especially if no
neglegentia praetermissa est; longe enim absum, audio
by-negligence passed-over it-has-been far for I-am-away I-hear
sero; sed tibi et gratulor et, ut sempiternae laudi tibi
late but you both I-congratulate and that of-everlasting praise to-you
sit iste tribunatus, exopto teque hortor, ut omnia gubernes
be that tribunate I-desire and-you I-exhort that all-things you-steer
et moderere prudentia tua, ne te auferant aliorum consilia.
and control by-prudence your lest you carry-away of-others the-counsels
Nemo est qui tibi sapientius suadere possit te ipso;
No-one is who to-you more-wisely to-advise can than-you yourself
numquam labere, si te audies. Non scribo hoc temere;
never will-you-slip if yourself you-hear Not I-write this rashly

cui scribam, video; novi animum, novi consilium tuum;
to-whom I-write I-see I-know mind I-know counsel your
non vereor ne quid timide, ne quid stulte facias, si
not I-fear lest anything timidly lest anything foolishly you-do if
ea defendes, quae ipse recta esse senties.
those-things you-defend which yourself right to-be you-feel
Quod in rei publicae tempus non incideris, sed veneris 2
That into of-the-thing public a-time not you-have-fallen but come
(iudicio enim tuo, non casu in ipsum discrimen rerum
by-judgment for your not by-chance into the-very crisis of-affairs
contulisti tribunatum tuum), profecto vides; quanta vis
you-have-brought tribunate your surely you-see how-great the-force
in re publica temporum sit, quanta varietas rerum, quam
in the-thing public of-times is how-great the-variety of-affairs how
incerti exitus, quam flexibiles hominum voluntates, quid
uncertain the-outcomes how pliable of-men the-wills what
insidiarum, quid vanitatis in vita, non dubito quin cogites.
of-snares what of-vanity in life not I-doubt but-that you-think-of
Sed, amabo te, cura et cogita, Curio, — nihil novi, sed
But I-will-love you take-care and think Curio nothing new but
illud idem, quod initio scripsi: tecum loquere, te
that same which at-the-beginning I-wrote with-yourself talk yourself
adhibe in consilium, te audi, tibi obtempera. Alteri qui
call into counsel yourself hear yourself obey Another who
melius consilium dare possit quam tu, non facile inveniri
better counsel to-give can than you not easily to-be-found
potest; tibi vero ipsi certe nemo melius dabit. Dii
can to-you indeed yourself certainly no-one better will-give Gods
immortales! cur ego absum vel spectator laudum tuarum
immortal why I am-I-away either as-spectator of-praises your
vel particeps vel socius vel minister consiliorum? tametsi
or as-sharer or as-ally or as-assistant of-counsels although

hoc minime tibi deest; sed tamen efficeret magnitudo
this least to-you is-lacking but still would-bring-about the-greatness
et vis amoris mei, consilio te ut possem iuvare.
and force of-love my with-counsel you that I-could help
3 Scribam ad te plura alias; paucis enim diebus eram
I-will-write to you more another-time in-a-few for days I-was
missurus domesticos tabellarios, ut, quoniam sane feliciter
going-to-send household letter-carriers that since very happily
et ex mea sententia rem publicam gessimus,
and according-to my opinion the-thing public we-have-managed
unis litteris totius aestatis res gestas ad senatum
in-one letter of-the-whole summer the-deeds done to the-senate
perscriberem. De sacerdotio tuo quantam curam adhibuerim
I-might-write-out About priesthood your how-much care I-have-applied
quamque difficili in re atque causa, cognosces ex iis
and-how difficult in matter and cause you-will-learn from that
litteris, quas Thrasoni, liberto tuo, dedi.
letter which to-Thraso freedman your I-gave
4 Te, mi Curio, pro tua incredibili in me benevolentia meaque
You my Curio by your incredible toward me goodwill and-my
item in te singulari rogo atque oro, ne patiare quicquam
likewise toward you singular I-ask and beg not you-allow anything
mihi ad hanc provincialem molestiam temporis prorogari.
for-me to this provincial annoyance of-time to-be-extended
Praesens tecum egi, cum te tr. pl. isto anno fore
Present with-you I-dealt when you tribune of-the-plebs in-that year going-to-be
non putarem, itemque petivi saepe per litteras, sed tum quasi
not I-thought and-likewise I-sought often by letter but then as-if
a senatuore, nobilissimo tamen adulescente et gratiosissimo,
from a-senator most-noble still young-man and most-influential
nunc a tr. pl. et a Curione tribuno, non
now from a-tribune of-the-plebs and from Curio the-tribune not

ut decernatur aliquid novi, quod solet esse difficilius, sed
that be-decreed anything new which is-wont to-be more-difficult but
ut ne quid novi decernatur, ut et senati consultum
that not anything new be-decreed that both of-the-senate the-decree
et leges defendas, eaque mihi condicio maneat, qua
and the-laws you-defend and-that to-me the-condition remain on-which
profectus sum. Hoc te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
set-out I-have This you vehemently again and again I-ask

II.8 · WHAT CAELIUS SHOULD WRITE

Caelius has been sending gladiator pairings, postponed bail-days, and gossip. Cicero, who thinks him the shrewdest of politicians, wants instead his forecast of what shape the state will take, since others will report the present. After days of talk with Pompey he judges him an outstanding citizen, ready for whatever comes, and tells Caelius to give himself to him. He writes from Athens, and asks above all that his term in the province not be extended.

M. Cicero procos. s. d. M. Caelio.
Marcus Cicero proconsul greeting says to-Marcus Caelius
Quid? tu me hoc tibi mandasse existimas, ut mihi 1
What you me this to-you to-have-commissioned think that to-me
gladiatorum compositiones, ut vadimonia dilata et Chresti
of-gladiators the-pairings that bail-days postponed and of-Chrestus
compilationem mitteres et ea, quae nobis, cum Romae
the-plundering you-should-send and those-things which to-us when at-Rome
sumus, narrare nemo audeat? Vide, quantum tibi meo
we-are to-relate no-one would-dare See how-much to-you by-my
iudicio tribuam (nec me hercule iniuria; πολιτικώτερον
judgment I-grant nor so-help-me Hercules wrongly more-politic
enim te adhuc neminem cognovi). Ne illa quidem
for than-you so-far no-one have-I-known Not those-things even

curo mihi scribas, quae maximis in rebus rei
do-I-care-that to-me you-write which the-greatest in matters of-the-thing
publicae geruntur cotidie, nisi quid ad me ipsum pertinebit;
public are-done daily unless anything to me myself will-pertain
scribent alii, multi nuntiabunt, perferet multa etiam ipse
will-write others many will-report will-carry many-things even itself
rumor. Qua re ego nec praeterita nec praesentia abs te,
rumor By-which thing I neither past nor present-things from you
sed ut ab homine longe in posterum prospiciente futura
but as from a-man far into the-future looking-forward future-things
exspecto, ut, ex tuis litteris cum formam rei publicae
I-expect that from your letters when the-shape of-the-thing public
viderim, quale aedificium futurum sit scire possim.
I-have-seen of-what-sort the-building going-to-be is to-know I-can

2 Neque tamen adhuc habeo quod te accusem; neque
Nor still so-far have-I anything-for-which you I-should-accuse nor
enim fuit quod tu plus providere posses quam quivis
for there-was what you more to-foresee could than any
nostrum in primisque ego, qui cum Pompeio compluris
of-us among and-the-first I who with Pompey several
dies nullis in aliis nisi de re publica sermonibus
days no in other except about the-thing public conversations
versatus sum; quae nec possunt scribi nec scribenda
have been-engaged which neither can to-be-written nor to-be-written
sunt; tantum habeto, civem egregium esse Pompeium et
are only hold a-citizen outstanding to-be Pompey and
ad omnia, quae providenda sunt in re publica, et
for all-things which to-be-foreseen are in the-thing public both
animo et consilio paratum. Qua re da te homini;
in-spirit and in-counsel prepared By-which thing give yourself to-the-man

complectetur, mihi crede. Iam idem illi et boni et
he-will-embrace to-me believe Now the-same to-him both good and
mali cives videntur, qui nobis videri solent.
bad citizens seem who to-us to-seem are-wont
Ego cum Athenis decem ipsos dies fuissem multumque 3
I when at-Athens ten whole days I-had-been and-much
mecum Gallus noster Caninius, proficiscebar inde pridie
with-me Gallus our Caninius was-setting-out thence on-the-day-before
Nonas Quintilis, cum hoc ad te litterarum dedi. Tibi
the-Nones of-Quintilis when this to you of-letter I-gave To-you
cum omnia mea commendatissima esse cupio tum nihil
while all my-affairs most-commended to-be I-desire so nothing
magis quam ne tempus nobis provinciae prorogetur; in eo
more than lest the-time for-me of-the-province be-extended in that
mihi sunt omnia. Quod quando et quo modo et per
to-me are all-things Which when and in-what way and through
quos agendum sit, tu optime constitues.
whom to-be-done it-is you best will-determine

II.9 · CAELIUS AEDILE

Cicero congratulates Caelius, late because news reaches his province so slowly, on his election as curule aedile, and thanks him for winning it so as to give them a man they can always laugh at. He quotes the comedians to show his joy, so great he nearly lost his wits, and says that in laughing at the man he has nearly become him. He loves Caelius, whom fortune has given him to enlarge his dignity and to avenge him on enemies and enviers alike.

M. Cicero procos. s. d. M. Caelio aedili cur.
Marcus Cicero proconsul greeting says to-Marcus Caelius aedile curule
designato.
designate

1 Primum tibi, ut debeo, gratulor laetorque cum praesenti tum
First you as I-ought I-congratulate and-I-rejoice both on-present and
etiam sperata tua dignitate, serius non neglegentia mea, sed
also on-hoped-for your dignity later not by-negligence my but
ignoratione rerum omnium; in iis enim sum locis, quo et
by-ignorance of-affairs all in those for I-am places to-which both
propter longinquitatem et propter latrocinia tardissime
on-account-of the-remoteness and on-account-of brigandage most-slowly
omnia perferuntur. Et cum gratulor tum vero quibus
all-things are-carried And while I-congratulate so indeed with-what
verbis tibi gratias agam non reperio, quod ita factus
words to-you thanks I-should-give not I-find that so made
sis, ut dederis nobis, quem ad modum scripseras ad
you-were that you-have-given us in-what to manner you-had-written to
me, quem semper ridere possemus. Itaque, cum primum
me whom always to-laugh-at we-could And-so when first
audivi, ego ille ipse factus sum (scis quem dicam)
I-heard I that very-one made have-become you-know whom I-mean
egique omnis illos adulescentis, quos ille iactitat.
and-I-played all those young-men whom he boasts-of

Difficile est loqui; te autem contemplans absentem et 2
Difficult it-is to-speak you however contemplating absent and
quasi tecum coram loquerer:
as-if with-you face-to-face I-were-talking

'Non edepol, quantam rem egeris
Not by-Pollux how-great a-thing you-have-done
neque quantum facinus feceris;
nor how-great a-deed you-have-done

quod quia praeter opinionem mihi acciderat, referebam me
which because beyond expectation to-me had-happened I-turned-back myself
ad illud:
to that

'Incredibile hoc factu obicitur';
Incredible this to-be-done is-set-before-me

repente vero 'incessi omnibus laetitiis laetus.' In quo cum
suddenly indeed I-went-about with-all joys joyful In which when
obiurgarer, quod nimio gaudio paene desiperem, ita
I-was-chided because from-excessive joy almost I-was-losing-my-wits thus
me defendebam:
myself I-was-defending

'Ego voluptatem animi nimiam—.'
I pleasure of-mind excessive

Quid quaeris? dum illum rideo, paene sum factus ille. 3
What do-you-ask while him I-laugh-at almost I-have become he
Sed haec pluribus multaque alia et de te et ad
But these-things in-more-words and-many other-things both about you and to

te, quom primum ero aliquid nactus oti. Te vero,
you when first I-shall-have some obtained of-leisure You indeed
mi Rufe, diligo, quem mihi fortuna dedit amplificatorem
my Rufus I-love whom to-me fortune has-given as-enlarger
dignitatis meae, ultorem non modo inimicorum sed etiam
of-dignity my as-avenger not only of-enemies but also
invidorum meorum, ut eos partim scelerum suorum,
of-enviers my so-that them partly of-crimes their
partim etiam ineptiarum paeniteret.
partly also of-follies should-repent

II.10 · THE SIEGE OF PINDENISSUM

Cicero has received no letter from Caelius since his election. Caelius wished him a little war, enough for a laurel, but feared the Parthians: Cicero led his army to Amanus as Cassius drove the enemy back from Antioch, harried the Amanians, was hailed imperator at Issus, where Alexander beat Darius, and has been besieging Pindenissum for twenty-five days. He asks Caelius to see that a successor is sent, or at least that his term is not extended.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Caelio aedili curuli
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Caelius aedile curule
designato.
designate
1 Tu vide, quam ad me litterae non perferantur; non enim
You see how to me letters not are-delivered not for
possum adduci ut abs te, postea quam aedilis es
can-I to-be-brought that from you after that aedile you-were
factus, nullas putem datas, praesertim cum esset tanta
made none I-should-think given especially since was so-great
res tantae gratulationis, de te, quia quod sperabam,
a-matter of-such-great congratulation about you because what I-was-hoping

de Hillo (balbus enim sum), quod non putaram. Atqui
about Hillus a-stammerer for I-am because not I-had-thought And
sic habeto, nullam me epistulam accepisse tuam post
so hold none me letter to-have-received your after
comitia ista praeclara, quae me laetitia extulerunt; ex
the-elections those splendid which me with-joy carried-away from
quo vereor ne idem eveniat in meas litteras. Equidem
which I-fear lest the-same happen to my letters For-my-part
numquam domum misi unam epistulam quin esset ad
never home sent one letter but-that there-was to
te altera, nec mihi est te iucundius quicquam nec
you another nor to-me is than-you more-pleasing anything nor
carius. Sed (balbi non sumus) ad rem redeamus.
dearer But stammerers not we-are to the-matter let-us-return
Ut optasti, ita est; velles enim, ais, tantum modo ut 2
As you-wished so it-is you-would-wish for you-say only just that
haberem negoti, quod esset ad laureolam satis, Parthos
I-should-have of-business which might-be for a-little-laurel enough the-Parthians
times, quia diffidis copiis nostris. Ergo ita accidit; nam
you-fear because you-distrust forces our Therefore so it-happened for
Parthico bello nuntiato locorum quibusdam angustiis et
with-Parthian war announced of-the-places certain on-narrows and
natura montium fretus ad Amanum exercitum adduxi
the-nature of-the-mountains relying to Amanus the-army I-led
satis probe ornatum auxiliis et quadam auctoritate apud
enough well furnished with-auxiliaries and a-certain authority among
eos, qui me non norant, nominis nostri; multum est enim
those who me not knew of-name our much it-is for
in his locis: 'Hicine est ille, qui urbem? quem senatus?'
in these places this-one is he who the-city whom the-senate
nosti cetera. Cum venissem ad Amanum, qui mons
you-know the-rest When I-had-come to Amanus which mountain

mihi cum Bibulo communis est divisus aquarum divertiis,
to-me with Bibulus common is divided of-waters by-the-partings
Cassius noster, quod mihi magnae voluptati fuit, feliciter ab
Cassius our which to-me of-great pleasure was successfully from
Antiochea hostem reiecerat, Bibulus provinciam acceperat.
Antioch the-enemy had-driven-back Bibulus the-province had-received
3 Interea cum meis copiis omnibus vexavi Amaniensis, hostis
Meanwhile with my forces all I-harried the-Amanians enemies
sempiternos; multi occisi, capti, reliqui dissipati; castella
everlasting many killed captured the-rest scattered forts
munita improviso adventu capta et incensa. Ita victoria iusta
fortified by-unexpected arrival taken and burned So after-victory regular
imperator appellatus apud Issum, quo in loco, saepe ut ex
imperator hailed at Issus which in place often as from
te audivi, Clitarchus tibi narravit Dareum ab Alexandro
you I-have-heard Clitarchus to-you told Darius by Alexander
esse superatum, abduxi exercitum ad infestissimam Ciliciae
to-have-been overcome I-led-away the-army to the-most-hostile of-Cilicia
partem. Ibi quintum et vicesimum iam diem aggeribus,
part There the-fifth and twentieth now day with-mounds
viniis, turribus oppugnabam oppidum munitissimum,
with-sheds with-towers I-was-besieging a-town most-fortified
Pindenissum, tantis opibus tantoque negotio, ut mihi
Pindenissum with-such-great resources and-such-great trouble that to-me
ad summam gloriam nihil desit nisi nomen oppidi.
for the-highest glory nothing is-lacking except the-name of-the-town
4 Quod si, ut spero, cepero, tum vero litteras publice
But if as I-hope I-take-it then indeed a-letter officially
mittam; haec ad te in praesenti scripsi, ut sperares
I-will-send these-things to you for the-present I-have-written that you-might-hope
te adsequi id, quod optasses. Sed ut redeam ad
you to-attain that which you-had-wished But that I-may-return to

Parthos, haec aestas habuit hunc exitum satis felicem;
the-Parthians this summer had this outcome fairly happy
ea, quae sequitur, magno est in timore. Qua re, mi
that which follows in-great is in fear By-which thing my
Rufe, vigila, primum ut mihi succedatur; sin id erit,
Rufus be-watchful first that for-me a-successor-be-sent but-if that will-be
ut scribis et ut ego arbitror, spissius, illud, quod facile
as you-write and as I think more-slowly that which easy
est, ne quid mihi temporis prorogetur. De re publica
is lest anything to-me of-time be-extended About the-thing public
ex tuis litteris, ut antea tibi scripsi, cum praesentia
from your letters as before to-you I-wrote both present-things
tum etiam futura magis exspecto. Qua re, ut ad me
and also future-things more I-expect By-which thing that to me
omnia quam diligentissime perscribas, te vehementer rogo.
all-things as most-diligently you-write-fully you vehemently I-ask

II.11 · THE PANTHERS

Cicero is anxious about what will be decreed for the provinces. He longs for the city and is sick of his province, which is beneath him and threatened by war. The panthers Caelius wants for his games are being hunted, but they are scarce, and they complain, it is said, that in Cicero's province snares are set for no one but them; Patiscus is helping. He writes on the Megalensia, mindful of Caelius' aedileship.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Caelio aedili curuli.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Caelius aedile curule
Putaresne umquam accidere posse, ut mihi verba 1
Would-you-have-thought ever to-happen to-be-able that to-me words
dessent, neque solum ista vestra oratoria, sed haec etiam
should-fail nor only those your oratorical but these even

levia nostratia? Desunt autem propter hanc causam, quod
light homespun They-fail however on-account-of this cause that
mirifice sum sollicitus, quidnam de provinciis decernatur.
wonderfully I-am anxious what about the-provinces be-decreed
Mirum me desiderium tenet urbis, incredibile meorum
A-wonderful me longing holds for-the-city incredible for-my-people
atque in primis tui, satietas autem provinciae, vel quia
and among the-first for-you a-surfeit however of-the-province either because
videmur eam famam consecuti, ut non tam accessio
we-seem that fame to-have-attained that not so-much increase
quaerenda quam fortuna metuenda sit, vel quia totum
to-be-sought as fortune to-be-feared be or because the-whole
negotium non est dignum viribus nostris, qui maiora onera
business not is worthy of-strength our who greater burdens
in re publica sustinere et possim et soleam, vel quia
in the-thing public to-sustain both can and am-wont or because
belli magni timor impendet, quod videmur effugere, si ad
of-war great fear threatens which we-seem to-escape if at
constitutam diem decedemus.
the-appointed day we-withdraw

2 De pantheris per eos, qui venari solent, agitur
About panthers through those who to-hunt are-wont it-is-being-done
mandatu meo diligenter; sed mira paucitas est, et
by-commission my diligently but wonderful a-scarcity there-is and
eas, quae sunt, valde aiunt queri, quod nihil cuiquam
those which are greatly they-say to-complain that nothing for-anyone
insidiarum in mea provincia nisi sibi fiat. Itaque
of-snares in my province except for-themselves be-made And-so
constituisse dicuntur in Cariam ex nostra provincia
to-have-resolved they-are-said into Caria from our province
decedere. Sed tamen sedulo fit et in primis a
to-withdraw But still assiduously it-is-done and among the-first by

Patisco. Quicquid erit, tibi erit, sed quid esset
Patiscus Whatever there-will-be for-you will-be but what there-would-be
plane nesciebamus. Mihi me hercule magnae curae
plainly we-did-not-know To-me so-help-me Hercules of-great care
est aedilitas tua; ipse dies me admonebat; scripsi enim
is aedileship your the-very day me was-reminding I-wrote for
haec ipsis Megalensibus. Tu velim ad me de
these-things on-the-very Megalensia You I-would-wish to me about
omni rei publicae statu quam diligentissime perscribas;
all of-the-thing public state as most-diligently you-write-fully
ea enim certissima putabo, quae ex te cognoro.
those-things for most-certain I-will-think which from you I-learn

II.12 · THE CITY, MY RUFUS

Cicero has heard of the city's turbulent assemblies but has no letter from Caelius, and asks for one to meet him on his return. Caelius' Diogenes has left with Philo for Adiatorix. Cicero urges him to cultivate the city and live in its light: all service abroad is obscure, and one stroll in Rome outweighs the whole province. He hopes he has earned praise for integrity; a triumph he would celebrate gloriously enough, but he would not then be kept so long from what he holds dearest.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Caelio aedili curuli.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Caelius aedile curule
Sollicitus equidem eram de rebus urbanis; ita tumultuosae 1
Anxious for-my-part I-was about affairs city so turbulent
contiones, ita molestae Quinquatrus adferebantur (nam
assemblies so troublesome Quinquatrus were-reported for
citeriora nondum audiebamus); sed tamen nihil me magis
nearer-things not-yet we-were-hearing but still nothing me more
sollicitabat quam in iis molestiis non me, si quae
was-troubling than in those annoyances not me if any-things

ridenda essent, ridere tecum; sunt enim multa, sed
to-be-laughed-at were to-laugh with-you there-are for many but
ea non audeo scribere. Illud moleste fero, nihil me
those not I-dare to-write That with-annoyance I-bear nothing me
adhuc his de rebus habere tuarum litterarum. Qua re
so-far these about things to-have of-your letter By-which thing
etsi, cum tu haec leges, ego iam annuum munus
although when you these-things will-read I already yearly office
confecero, tamen obviae mihi velim sint tuae litterae,
shall-have-finished still to-meet me I-would-wish be your letter
quae me erudiant de omni re publica, ne hospes
which me may-instruct about all the-thing public lest a-stranger
plane veniam. Hoc melius quam tu facere nemo potest.
plainly I-come This better than you to-do no-one can

2 Diogenes tuus, homo modestus, a me cum Philone
Diogenes your a-man modest from me with Philo
Pessinunte discessit. Iter habebant ad Adiatorigem,
from-Pessinus departed Journey they-had to Adiatorix
quamquam omnia nec benigna nec copiosa cognorant.
although all-things neither kind nor plentiful they-had-learned
Urbem, urbem, mi Rufe, cole et in ista luce vive;
The-city the-city my Rufus cultivate and in that light live
omnis peregrinatio, quod ego ab adulescentia iudicavi,
all travel-abroad which I from youth judged
obscura et sordidast iis, quorum industria Romae potest
obscure and mean-is for-those whose industry at-Rome can
inlustris esse. Quod cum probe scirem, utinam in sententia
illustrious to-be Which since well I-knew would-that in the-opinion
permansissem! cum una me hercule ambulatiuncula atque
I-had-remained with one so-help-me Hercules little-stroll and
uno sermone nostro omnis fructus provinciae non confero.
one conversation our all the-fruit of-the-province not I-compare

Spero me integritatis laudem consecutum; non erat minor 3
I-hope I of-integrity the-praise to-have-attained not was less
ex contemnenda quam est ex conservata provincia. 'Spem
from despised than is from preserved the-province Hope
triumphi?' inquis. Satis gloriose triumpharem; non essem
of-triumph you-say enough gloriously I-would-triumph not I-would-be
quidem tam diu in desiderio rerum mihi carissimarum.
indeed so long in longing of-things to-me dearest
Sed, ut spero, propediem te videbo; tu mihi obviam mitte
But as I-hope soon you I-will-see you to-me to-meet send
epistulas te dignas.
letters of-you worthy

II.13 · APPIUS AND CURIO

Caelius' counsel matches what Cicero had resolved. Cicero loves Appius, reconciled with him and bound to him by Pompey, Brutus, and their college of augurs; their ways of governing a province differ, but he has done nothing against him and now offers himself for his defense against Dolabella's rashness. He rejoices at the city's lethargy and says he alone foresaw that Curio would defend Caesar. His jurisdiction done, he will set out for Cilicia on the Nones of May and then leave, as the senate decreed, to see Caelius as aedile.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Caelio aedili curuli.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Caelius aedile curule
Raras tuas quidem (fortasse enim non perferuntur), sed 1
Rare your indeed perhaps for not they-are-delivered but
suavis accipio litteras; vel quas proxime acceperam, quam
sweet I-receive letters as that-which most-recently I-had-received how
prudentis, quam multi et offici et consili! Etsi omnia
prudent how full both of-service and of-counsel Although all-things

sic constitueram mihi agenda, ut tu admonebas, tamen
so I-had-resolved to-me to-be-done as you advised still
confirmantur nostra consilia, cum sentimus prudentibus
are-strengthened our counsels when we-feel to-the-prudent
fideliterque suadentibus idem videri.
and-faithfully advising the-same to-seem

2 Ego Appium, ut saepe tecum locutus sum, valde diligo
I Appius as often with-you I-have spoken greatly love
meque ab eo diligi statim coeptum esse, ut simultatem
and-me by him to-be-loved at-once begun to-have as-soon-as our-quarrel
deposuimus, sensi; nam et honorificus in me cos. fuit
we-laid-aside I-felt for both honorable toward me as-consul he-was
et suavis amicus et studiosus studiorum etiam meorum; mea
and pleasant as-friend and devoted to-pursuits even my my
vero officia ei non defuisse tu es testis, quoi iam
indeed services to-him not to-have-been-lacking you are witness to-whom now
κωμικὸς μάρτυς, ut opinor, accedit Phania, et me hercule
comic witness as I-think is-added Phania and so-help-me Hercules
etiam pluris eum feci, quod te amari ab eo sensi.
even more him I-have-made because you to-be-loved by him I-felt
Iam me Pompei totum esse scis; Brutum a me amari
Now me of-Pompey wholly to-be you-know Brutus by me to-be-loved
intellegis. Quid est causae cur mihi non in optatis sit
you-understand What is of-cause why to-me not among wishes should-be
complecti hominem florentem aetate, opibus, honoribus,
to-embrace a-man flourishing in-age in-wealth in-honors
ingenio, liberis, propinquis, adfinibus, amicis, conlegam meum
in-talent in-children in-relatives in-connections in-friends colleague my
praesertim et in ipsa collegi laude et scientia studiosum
especially and in the-very of-the-college glory and lore devoted
mei? Haec eo pluribus scripsi, quod non nihil
of-me These-things for-that-reason in-more-words I-wrote because not nothing

significabant tuae litterae subdubitare, qua essem erga
indicated your letter to-be-in-some-doubt with-what I-was toward
illum voluntate. Credo te audisse aliquid. Falsum est, mihi
him goodwill I-believe you to-have-heard something False it-is to-me
crede, si quid audisti. Genus institutorum et rationum
believe if anything you-have-heard The-kind of-principles and of-methods
mearum dissimilitudinem non nullam habet cum illius
my unlikeness not none has with his
administratione provinciae; ex eo quidam suspicati fortasse
administration of-the-province from that certain-people suspected perhaps
sunt animorum contentione, non opinionum dissensione
have of-tempers by-a-clash not of-opinions by-a-disagreement
me ab eo discrepare; nihil autem feci umquam neque
me from him to-differ nothing however have-I-done ever nor
dixi, quod contra illius existimationem esse vellem, post
said which against his reputation to-be I-would-wish after
hoc negotium autem et temeritatem nostri Dolabellae
this business however and the-rashness of-our Dolabella
deprecatorem me pro illius periculo praebeo.
as-intercessor myself for his danger I-offer
Erat in eadem epistula 'veternus civitatis.' Gaudebam sane 3
There-was in the-same letter the-lethargy of-the-state I-rejoiced indeed
et congelasse nostrum amicum laetabar otio. Extrema
and to-have-congealed our friend I-was-glad at-the-leisure The-last
pagella pupugit me tuo chirographo. Quid ais? Caesarem
little-page pricked me in-your handwriting What do-you-say Caesar
nunc defendit Curio? quis hoc putaret praeter me?
now defends Curio who this would-have-thought except me
nam, ita vivam, putavi. Di immortales, quam ego risum
for so may-I-live I-thought Gods immortal how I the-laughter
nostrum desidero! Mihi erat in animo, quoniam iuris
our miss To-me it-was in mind since of-jurisdiction

dictionem confeceram, civitates locupletaram, publicanis
the-business I-had-finished the-states I-had-enriched for-the-tax-farmers
etiam superioris lustri reliqua sine sociorum ulla
even of-the-former five-year-period the-arrears without of-the-allies any
querela conservaram, privatis, summis infimis, fueram
complaint I-had-preserved to-private-persons highest lowest I-had-been
iucundus, proficisci in Ciliciam Nonis Mais et, cum prima
pleasing to-set-out into Cilicia on-the-Nones of-May and when the-first
aestiva attigissem militemque conlocassem, decedere ex
summer-quarters I-had-touched and-the-soldiery had-stationed to-withdraw by
senatus consulto. Cupio te aedilem videre, miroque
of-the-senate decree I-desire you as-aedile to-see and-with-wonderful
desiderio me urbs adficit et omnes mei tuque in primis.
longing me the-city affects and all my and-you among the-first

II.14 · FOR MARCUS FADIUS

A recommendation of Marcus Fadius, a man of high talent, learning, and singular modesty, whose business Caelius is to take up as if it were Cicero's own; Cicero jokes that a man must commit a murder to get the help of great advocates like Caelius, but admits no excuse here. He longs for news from Rome, and above all what Caelius is doing, since winter has brought him nothing.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Caelio aedili curuli.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Caelius aedile curule
1 M. Fadio, viro optimo et homine doctissimo,
Marcus Fadius a-man excellent and a-man most-learned
familiarissime utor mirificeque eum diligo cum propter
most-familiarly I-use and-wonderfully him I-love both on-account-of
summum ingenium eius summamque doctrinam tum
highest talent his and-highest learning and

propter singularem modestiam. Eius negotium sic velim
on-account-of singular modesty His business so I-would-wish
suscipias, ut si esset res mea. Novi ego vos magnos
you-undertake as if it-were the-matter mine I-know I you great
patronos; hominem occidat oportet, qui vestra opera uti
patrons a-man should-kill it-is-necessary who your help to-use
velit. Sed in hoc homine nullam accipio excusationem.
wishes But in this man no do-I-accept excuse
Omnia relinques, si me amabis, cum tua opera Fadius uti
All-things you-will-leave if me you-will-love when your help Fadius to-use
volet. Ego res Romanas vehementer exspecto et desidero
wishes I Roman affairs vehemently await and long-for
in primisque quid agas scire cupio; nam iam diu
among and-the-first what you-are-doing to-know I-desire for now long
propter hiemis magnitudinem nihil novi ad nos adferebatur.
on-account-of of-winter the-severity nothing new to us was-brought

Caelius managed the thanksgiving well with Curio, and the rival of both, angry as he was, agreed with the man who had praised Cicero's deeds in divine terms. Cicero is glad Caelius praises and loves Dolabella, now his son-in-law, though he had written to Appius in another sense. He is troubled for the state, favors Curio, and would die for Pompey. He has left his young quaestor Coelius in charge of the province, since leaving his brother would have kept him there in effect; he hopes the Etesian winds will not delay his return.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Caelio aedili curuli.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Caelius aedile curule

1 Non potuit accuratius agi nec prudentius quam
Not could more-carefully to-be-done nor more-prudently than
est actum a te cum Curione de supplicatione, et
it-was done by you with Curio about the-thanksgiving and
hercule confecta res ex sententia mea est cum
by-Hercules accomplished the-matter according-to wish my has-been both
celeritate, tum quod is, qui erat iratus, competitor tuus et
by-the-speed and because he who was angry rival your and
idem meus, adsensus est ei, qui ornavit res nostras
also mine agreed has with-him who honored affairs our
divinis laudibus. Qua re scito me sperare ea, quae
with-divine praises By-which thing know me to-hope those-things which
sequuntur; ad quae tu te para.
follow for which you yourself prepare

2 Dolabellam a te gaudeo primum laudari, deinde etiam
Dolabella by you I-rejoice first to-be-praised then also
amari; nam ea, quae speras Tulliae meae prudentia
to-be-loved for those-things which you-hope by-Tullia's my prudence
temperari posse, scio cui tuae epistulae respondeant.
to-be-tempered to-be-able I-know to-which your letter may-answer

Quid, si meam legas, quam ego tum ex tuis litteris misi
What if mine you-read which I then from your letter sent
ad Appium? Sed quid agas? sic vivitur. Quod actum
to Appius But what are-you-to-do so one-lives What done
est, di adprobent. Spero fore iucundum generum
has-been the-gods may-approve I-hope going-to-be pleasing a-son-in-law
nobis, multumque in eo tua nos humanitas adiuvabit.
to-us and-much in it your us courtesy will-help
Res publica me valde sollicitat. Faveo Curioni, Caesarem 3
The-thing public me greatly troubles I-favor Curio Caesar
honestum esse cupio, pro Pompeio emori possum; sed
honorable to-be I-desire for Pompey to-die I-can but
tamen ipsa re publica nihil mihi est carius, in qua
still than-the-very thing public nothing to-me is dearer in which
tu non valde te iactas; districtus enim mihi videris
you not greatly yourself bestir distracted for to-me you-seem
esse, quod et bonus civis et bonus amicus es.
to-be because both a-good citizen and a-good friend you-are
Ego de provincia decedens quaestorem Coelium praeposui 4
I from the-province withdrawing the-quaestor Coelius put-in-charge
provinciae. ‘Puerum?’ inquis. At quaestorem, at nobilem
of-the-province A-boy you-say But a-quaestor but a-noble
adulescentem, at omnium fere exemplo. Neque erat
young-man but of-all almost by-the-example Nor was-there
superiore honore usus, quem praeficerem. Pomptinus
higher office having-used whom I-could-put-in-charge Pomptinus
multo ante discesserat; a Quinto fratre impetrari non
much before had-departed from Quintus my-brother to-be-obtained not
poterat; quem tamen si reliquissem, dicerent iniqui non
could whom still if I-had-left would-say the-unfair not
me plane post annum, ut senatus voluisset, de provincia
me plainly after a-year as the-senate had-wished from the-province

decessisse, quoniam alterum me reliquissem. Fortasse etiam
to-have-withdrawn since another self I-had-left Perhaps even
illud adderent, senatum eos voluisse provinciis praeesse,
that they-would-add the-senate those to-have-wished over-the-provinces to-preside
qui antea non praefuissent, fratrem meum triennium Asiae
who before not had-presided brother my for-three-years over-Asia
praefuisse. Denique nunc sollicitus non sum; si fratrem
to-have-presided Finally now anxious not am-I if brother
reliquissem, omnia timerem. Postremo non tam mea
I-had-left all-things I-would-fear Lastly not so-much of-my-own
sponte quam potentissimorum duorum exemplo, qui omnis
accord as of-the-most-powerful two by-the-example who all
Cassios Antoniosque complexi sunt, hominem adulescentem
the-Cassii and-Antonii have embraced a-man young
non tam allicere volui quam alienare nolui. Hoc tu
not so-much to-attract I-wished as to-alienate I-did-not-wish This you
meum consilium laudes necessest, mutari enim non potest.
my counsel should-praise necessary-it-is to-be-changed for not it-can
5 De Ocella parum ad me plane scripseras et in actis
About Ocella too-little to me plainly you-had-written and in the-gazette
non erat. Tuae res gestae ita notae sunt, ut trans montem
not it-was Your deeds done so known are that across the-mountain
Taurum etiam de Matrinio sit auditum. Ego, nisi quid
Taurus even about Matrinius it-has-been heard I unless anything
me etesiae morabuntur, celeriter, ut spero, vos videbo.
me the-Etesian-winds delay quickly as I-hope you-all I-shall-see

Caelius' letter would have grieved him had not reason and long despair hardened him. Caelius suspects he will desert to the losing side, but Cicero has always shunned civil war. He longs to withdraw from the insolence about him, burdened by his lictors and his title of imperator; he stays on his estates, and if he sails it would be for peace. His only aim is that men may know he preferred peace and shunned civil arms. His son's future rests on the state's, and Dolabella, whom Caelius asks him to look after, is already his anxious care. After a jest about a bordered toga for Oppius, he promises nothing rash and asks Caelius to protect him and his children.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Caelio.

Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Caelius

Magno dolore me adfecissent tuae litterae, nisi iam 1

With-great grief me would-have-affected your letter unless already

et ratio ipsa depulisset omnis molestias et diuturna

both reason itself had-driven-off all vexations and by-long

desperatione rerum obduruisset animus ad dolorem novum.

despair of-affairs had-grown-hard my-mind to grief new

Sed tamen, qua re acciderit ut ex meis superioribus

But still by-which thing it-happened that from my former

litteris id suspicarere, quod scribis, nescio; quid enim

letters that you-should-suspect which you-write I-know-not what for

in illis fuit praeter querelam temporum? quae non meum

in them was except complaint of-the-times which not my

animum magis sollicitum habent quam tuum. Nam non eam

mind more anxious hold than yours For not that

cognovi aciem ingeni tui, quod ipse videam, te id ut

have-I-known keenness of-talent your what I-myself see you that so-that

non putem videre; illud miror, adduci potuisse te, qui

not I-think to-see that I-wonder to-be-brought to-have-been-able you who

me penitus nosse deberes, ut existimares aut me tam
me thoroughly to-know ought so-that you-should-think either me so
improvidum, qui ab excitata fortuna ad inclinatam et prope
improvident who from roused fortune to declining and almost
iacentem desciscerem, aut tam inconstantem, ut conlectam
prostrate should-desert or so inconstant that the-gathered
gratiam florentissimi hominis effunderem a meque ipse
favor of-a-most-flourishing man I-should-pour-out from and-me myself
deficerem et, quod initio semperque fugi, civili
should-fall-away and what from-the-beginning and-always I-have-shunned in-civil
bello interessem. Quod est igitur meum 'triste consilium'?
war should-take-part What is then my gloomy plan
2 Ut discederem fortasse in aliquas solitudines. Nosti
That I-should-withdraw perhaps into some wildernesses You-know
enim non modo stomachi mei, cuius tu similem quondam
for not only of-the-stomach my of-which you the-like once
habebas, sed etiam oculorum in hominum insolentium
had but also of-the-eyes in of-men insolent
indignitate fastidium. Accedit etiam molesta haec pompa
the-unworthiness the-disgust There-is-added also troublesome this procession
lictorum meorum nomenque imperi, quo appellor. Eo si
of-lictors my and-the-name of-imperator by-which I-am-called Of-that if
onere carerem, quamvis parvis Italiae latebris contentus
burden I-were-free however small of-Italy with-hiding-places content
essem; sed incurrit haec nostra laurus non solum in oculos,
would-I-be but rushes this our laurel not only into the-eyes
sed iam etiam in voculas malevolorum. Quod cum ita
but now also into the-little-voices of-the-malevolent Which since so
esset, nil tamen umquam de profectione nisi vobis
it-was nothing still ever about departure unless with-you
approbantibus cogitavi. Sed mea praediola tibi nota
approving have-I-thought-of But my little-estates to-you known

sunt; in his mihi necesse est esse, ne amicis molestus sim.
are in these for-me necessary it-is to-be lest to-friends troublesome I-be
Quod autem in maritimis facillime sum, moveo non nullis
That however in maritime-places most-easily I-am I-arouse not to-none
suspicionem velle me navigare; quod tamen fortasse non
suspicion to-wish me to-sail which still perhaps not
nollem, si possem ad otium; nam ad bellum quidem
would-I-be-unwilling if I-could to peace for to war indeed
qui convenit? praesertim contra eum, cui spero me satis
how is-fitting especially against him to-whom I-hope I enough
fecisse, ab eo, cui iam satis fieri nullo modo potest.
to-have-done from him to-whom already enough to-be-done in-no way can
Deinde sententiam meam tu facillime perspicere potuisti iam 3
Then opinion my you most-easily to-perceive could already
ab illo tempore, cum in Cumanum mihi obviam venisti. Non
from that time when to my-Cuman-villa to-me to-meet you-came Not
enim te celavi sermonem T. Ampi; vidisti, quam
for from-you I-concealed the-conversation of-Titus Ampius you-saw how
abhorrerem ab urbe relinquenda, cum audissem; nonne tibi
I-shrank from the-city to-be-left when I-had-heard did-not to-you
adfirmavi quidvis me potius perpessurum quam ex Italia
I-affirm anything-whatever me rather going-to-endure than from Italy
ad bellum civile exiturum? Quid ergo accidit, cur consilium
to war civil going-to-go-out What therefore has-happened why my-plan
mutarem? nonne omnia potius, ut in sententia permanerem?
I-should-change has-not everything rather that in my-opinion I-should-remain
Credas hoc mihi velim, quod puto te existimare, me
You-would-believe this from-me I-would-wish which I-think you to-think me
ex his miseriis nihil aliud quaerere nisi ut homines aliquando
from these miseries nothing else to-seek except that men sometime
intellegant me nihil maluisse quam pacem, ea desperata
understand me nothing to-have-preferred than peace with-that despaired-of

nihil tam fugisse quam arma civilia. Huius me constantiae
nothing so to-have-shunned as arms civil Of-this me steadfastness
puto fore ut numquam paeniteat. Etenim memini in
I-think going-to-be that never it-repent For-indeed I-remember in
hoc genere gloriari solitum esse familiarem nostrum,
this kind to-boast wont to-have-been friend our
Q. Hortensium, quod numquam bello civili interfuisset;
Quintus Hortensius that never in-war civil he-had-taken-part
hoc nostra laus erit inlustrior, quod illi tribuebatur
this our praise will-be more-illustrious because to-him was-attributed
ignaviae, de nobis id existimari posse non arbitror.
to-cowardice about us that to-be-thought to-be-able not I-think
4 Nec me ista terrent, quae mihi a te ad timorem fidissime
Nor me those-things terrify which to-me by you for fear most-faithfully
atque amantissime proponuntur. Nulla est enim acerbitas,
and most-lovingly are-set-out No is for bitterness
quae non omnibus hac orbis terrarum perturbatione
which not over-all in-this of-the-circle of-lands upheaval
impendere videatur; quam quidem ego a re publica
to-impend seems which indeed I from the-thing public
meis privatis et domesticis incommodis libentissime vel
with-my private and domestic disadvantages most-gladly even
istis ipsis, quae tu me mones ut caveam, redemissem.
with-those very which you me warn that I-beware would-have-bought-off
5 Filio meo, quem tibi carum esse gaudeo, si erit ulla
For-son my whom to-you dear to-be I-rejoice if there-will-be any
res publica, satis amplum patrimonium relinquam in
thing public sufficiently ample a-patrimony I-will-leave in
memoria nominis mei; sin autem nulla erit, nihil
the-memory of-name my but-if however none there-will-be nothing
accidet ei separatim a reliquis civibus. Nam quod
will-happen to-him separately from the-other citizens For as-to-what

rogas ut respiciam generum meum, adulescentem optimum
you-ask that I-look-to son-in-law my a-young-man excellent
mihique carissimum, an dubitas, qui scias quanti cum
and-to-me most-dear do you-doubt who know how-much both
illum tum vero Tulliam meam faciam, quin ea me
him and indeed Tullia my I-value but-that that me
cura vehementissime sollicitet, et eo magis, quod
care most-vehemently troubles and by-so-much more because
in communibus miseriis hac tamen oblectabar specula,
in common miseries by-this still I-was-delighted little-hope
Dolabellam meum vel potius nostrum fore ab iis
Dolabella my or rather our going-to-be from those
molestiis, quas liberalitate sua contraxerat, liberum? Velim
troubles which by-liberality his he-had-incurred free I-would-wish
quaeras, quos ille dies sustinuerit, in urbe dum fuit, quam
you-ask what he days sustained in the-city while he-was how
acerbos sibi, quam mihimet ipse socero non honestos.
bitter for-himself how for-me myself his-father-in-law not honorable
Itaque neque ego hunc Hispaniensem casum exspecto, de 6
And-so neither I this Spanish outcome await about
quo mihi exploratum est ita esse, ut tu scribis, neque
which to-me ascertained it-is so to-be as you write nor
quicquam astute cogito. Si quando erit civitas, erit
anything craftily do-I-plan If ever there-will-be a-state there-will-be
profecto nobis locus; sin autem non erit, in easdem
surely for-us a-place but-if however not there-will-be into the-same
solitudines tu ipse, ut arbitror, venies, in quibus nos
wildernesses you yourself as I-think will-come in which us
consedisse audies. Sed ego fortasse vaticinor et haec
to-have-settled you-will-hear But I perhaps prophesy and these-things
omnia meliores habebunt exitus. Recordor enim desperationes
all better will-have outcomes I-recall for the-despairs

eorum, qui senes erant adulescente me. Eos ego fortasse nunc
of-those who old were with-young me Them I perhaps now
imitor et utor aetatis vitio. Velim ita sit; sed tamen—.
imitate and use of-age the-failing I-would-wish so it-be but still
7 Togam praetextam texi Oppio puto te audisse; nam
A-toga bordered to-be-woven for-Oppius I-think you to-have-heard for
Curtius noster dibaphum cogitat, sed eum infector moratur.
Curtius our double-dyed thinks-of but him the-dyer delays
Hoc aspersi, ut scires me tamen in stomacho solere
This I-sprinkled-in that you-might-know me still in vexation to-be-wont
ridere. De re Dolabellae quod scripsi, suadeo videas,
to-laugh About the-affair of-Dolabella which I-wrote I-advise you-see-to-it
tamquam si tua res agatur. Extremum illud erit: Nos
just-as if your matter be-at-stake The-last that will-be We
nihil turbulenter, nihil temere faciemus; te tamen oramus,
nothing turbulently nothing rashly will-do you still we-beg
quibuscumque erimus in terris, ut nos liberosque nostros
in-whatever we-shall-be in lands that us and-children our
ita tueare, ut amicitia nostra et tua fides postulabit.
so you-protect as friendship our and your loyalty will-demand

II.17 · TO THE PROQUAESTOR SALLUSTIUS

Answering Sallustius point by point: Cicero has heard of no successor, will leave on the day now that the Parthian fear is past, and may visit Rhodes for the boys. Rendering no accounts, as Bibulus lets Sallustius do, hardly agrees with the Julian law, which Bibulus ignores but Sallustius should observe. Cicero withdrew the garrisons from Apamea because no one but Sallustius doubted whether the Parthians had crossed. No one will touch a farthing of his booty but the city quaestors, and he has nothing to lend. Bibulus, to whom Sallustius asks to be commended, has been ill-disposed toward Cicero and petty, calling Ariobarzanes only the king's son, but Cicero has written to him.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. Canini Sallustio proq.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Caninius Sallustius proquaestor
Litteras a te mihi stator tuus reddidit Tarsi a. d. 1
A-letter from you to-me orderly your delivered at-Tarsus on-the day
xvi K. Sextilis. His ego ordine, ut videris
sixteenth before-the-Kalends of-Sextilis To-this I in-order as you-seem
velle, respondebo. De successore meo nihil audivi neque
to-wish will-reply About successor my nothing have-I-heard nor
quemquam fore arbitror. Quin ad diem decedam,
anyone going-to-be I-think That on the-day I-should-withdraw
nulla causa est, praesertim sublato metu Parthico.
no reason there-is especially with-removed the-fear Parthian
Commoraturum me nusquam sane arbitror; Rhodum
Going-to-stay me nowhere at-all I-think Rhodes
Ciceronum causa puerorum accessurum puto, neque id
of-the-Ciceros for-the-sake the-boys going-to-visit I-think nor that
tamen certum. Ad urbem volo quam primum venire; sed
still certain To the-city I-wish as first to-come but
tamen iter meum rei publicae et rerum urbanarum
still journey my of-the-thing public and of-affairs city
ratio gubernabit. Successor tuus non potest ita maturare,
the-reckoning will-govern Successor your not can so make-haste
ullo modo ut tu me in Asia possis convenire.
in-any way that you me in Asia can meet
De rationibus referendis non erat incommodum 2
About accounts to-be-rendered not it-would-be disadvantageous
te nullas referre, quam tibi scribis a Bibulo fieri
you none to-render which to-you you-write by Bibulus to-be-made
potestatem; sed id vix mihi videris per legem Iuliam
the-opportunity but that hardly to-me you-seem by the-law Julian

facere posse, quam Bibulus certa quadam ratione non
to-do to-be-able which Bibulus by-certain a-certain reckoning not
servat, tibi magno opere servandam censeo.
observes by-you in-great measure to-be-observed I-think

3 Quod scribis Apamea praesidium deduci non
As-to-what you-write from-Apamea the-garrison to-be-withdrawn not
oportuisse, videbam item ceteros existimare molesteque
to-have-been-right I-saw likewise the-others to-think and-with-annoyance
ferebam de ea re minus commodos sermones malevolorum
I-bore about that matter less favorable talk of-the-malevolent
fuisse. Parthi transierint necne praeter te video dubitare
to-have-been the-Parthians have-crossed or-not except you I-see to-doubt
neminem. Itaque omnia praesidia, quae magna et firma
no-one And-so all garrisons which great and strong
paraveram, commotus hominum non dubio sermone dimisi.
I-had-prepared moved of-men by-not doubtful talk I-dismissed

4 Rationes mei quaestoris nec verum fuit me tibi mittere,
The-accounts of-my quaestor neither right was-it me to-you to-send
nec tamen erant confectae; eas nos Apameae deponere
nor still were-they completed them we at-Apamea to-deposit
cogitabamus. De praeda mea praeter quaestores urbanos,
thought About booty my except the-quaestors city
id est populum Romanum, terruncium nec attigit nec
that is the-people Roman a-farthing neither has-touched nor
tacturus est quisquam. Laudiceae me praedes accepturum
going-to-touch is anyone At-Laodicea me sureties going-to-receive
arbitror omnis pecuniae publicae, ut et mihi et populo
I-think for-all money public that both for-me and for-the-people
cautum sit sine vecturae periculo. Quod scribis ad me
security be without of-transport danger As-to-what you-write to me
de drachmum ccciↃↃↃ, nihil est quod in isto
about drachmas a-hundred-thousand nothing there-is which in that

genere cuiquam possim commodare; omnis enim pecunia
kind to-anyone I-could accommodate all for money
ita tractatur, ut praeda a praefectis, quae autem mihi
so is-handled that the-booty by the-prefects that however to-me
attributa est, a quaestore curetur.
assigned is by the-quaestor be-administered
Quod quaeris, quid existimem de legionibus quae 5
As-to-what you-ask what I-think about the-legions which
decretae sunt in Syriam, antea dubitabam venturaene
decreed are into Syria before I-was-doubting whether-going-to-come
essent; nunc mihi non est dubium quin, si antea auditum
they-were now to-me not is doubtful but-that if before heard
erit otium esse in Syria, venturae non sint; Marium
it-will-be peace to-be in Syria going-to-come not they-are Marius
quidem successorem tarde video esse venturum, propterea
indeed the-successor late I-see to-be going-to-come for-this-reason
quod senatus ita decrevit, ut cum legionibus iret.
that the-senate so decreed that with the-legions he-should-go
Uni epistulae respondi; venio ad alteram. Petis a me, 6
To-one letter I-have-replied I-come to the-other You-ask of me
ut Bibulo te quam diligentissime commendem. In quo
that to-Bibulus you as most-diligently I-commend In which
mihi voluntas non dest, sed locus esse videtur tecum
to-me the-will not is-lacking but room to-be seems with-you
expostulandi. Solus enim tu ex omnibus, qui cum Bibulo
of-expostulating Alone for you of all who with Bibulus
sunt, certiorem me numquam fecisti, quam valde Bibuli
are more-informed me never made how strongly of-Bibulus
voluntas a me sine causa abhorreret. Permulti enim ad
the-will from me without cause was-averse Very-many for to
me detulerunt, quom magnus Antiochiae metus esset et
me reported when great at-Antioch fear was and

magna spes in me atque in exercitu meo, solitum dicere
great hope in me and in army my to-have-been-wont to-say
quidvis se perpeti malle quam videri eguisse auxilio
anything himself to-endure to-prefer than to-seem to-have-needed help
meo; quod ego officio quaestorio te adductum reticere de
my which I by-duty quaestorial you induced to-keep-silent about
praetore tuo non moleste ferebam, quamquam, quem ad
praetor your not with-annoyance did-I-bear although in-what to
modum tractarere, audiebam. Ille autem, cum ad Thermum
manner you-were-treated I-heard He however when to Thermus
de Parthico bello scriberet, ad me litteram numquam
about the-Parthian war he-wrote to me a-letter never
misit, ad quem intellegebat eius belli periculum pertinere;
sent to whom he-understood of-that war the-danger to-pertain
tantum de auguratu fili sui scripsit ad me; in quo ego
only about the-augurate of-son his he-wrote to me in which I
misericordia commotus, et quod semper amicissimus Bibulo
by-pity moved and because always most-friendly to-Bibulus
fui, dedi operam ut ei quam humanissime scriberem.
I-was I-gave effort that to-him as most-courteously I-should-write
7 Ille si in omnis est malevolus, quod numquam existimavi,
He if toward all is malevolent which never have-I-thought
minus offendor in me; sin autem a me est alienior,
less am-I-offended in me but-if however from me he-is more-estranged
nihil tibi meae litterae proderunt; nam, ad senatum quas
nothing to-you my letter will-help for to the-senate what
Bibulus litteras misit, in iis, quod mihi cum illo erat
Bibulus letter sent in it what to-me with him was
commune, sibi soli attribuit: se ait curasse ut
common to-himself alone he-attributed himself he-says to-have-taken-care that
cum quaestu populi pecunia permutaretur; quod autem
with profit of-the-people the-money be-exchanged what however

meum erat proprium, ut alariis Transpadanis uti
my was own that the-auxiliary-horse Transpadane to-use
negarem, id etiam populo se remisisse scribit; quod
I-refused that also to-the-people himself to-have-remitted he-writes what
vero illius erat solius, id mecum communicat: 'equitibus
indeed his was alone that with-me he-shares with-the-horse
auxiliariis,' inquit, 'cum amplius frumenti postularemus.'
auxiliary he-says when more of-grain we-demanded
Illud vero pusilli animi et ipsa malevolentia ieiuni atque
That indeed of-petty mind and itself in-malevolence hungry and
inanis, quod Ariobarzanem, quia senatus per me regem
empty that Ariobarzanes because the-senate through me king
appellavit mihique commendavit, iste in litteris non regem,
named and-to-me commended he in his-letter not king
sed regis Ariobarzanis filium appellat. Hoc animo qui
but of-king Ariobarzanes son calls With-this mind those-who
sunt, deteriores fiunt rogati. Sed tibi morem gessi; litteras
are worse become when-asked But to-you compliance I-showed a-letter
ad eum scripsi, quas cum acceperis, facies quod voles.
to him I-wrote which when you-receive you-will-do what you-wish

Cicero is glad his services to Rhodo and Thermus' people please him. He advises Thermus, leaving his province, not to put his legates over his young quaestor, a noble with three brothers likely to be tribunes in turn; times will be turbulent, and if the quaestor does well Thermus shares the credit, if badly the fault is the quaestor's alone. Thermus should avoid enmities and think of his peace in years to come.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. Q. Thermo propr.

Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Quintus Thermus propraetor

1 Officium meum erga Rhodonem ceteraque mea studia, quae

Duty my toward Rhodo and-the-other my efforts which

tibi ac tuis praestiti, tibi, homini gratissimo, grata esse

to-you and to-yours I-have-shown to-you a-man most-grateful pleasing to-be

vehementer gaudeo, mihique scito in dies maiori curae

vehemently I-rejoice and-to-me know into days for-greater care

esse dignitatem tuam; quae quidem a te ipso integritate

to-be dignity your which indeed by you yourself by-integrity

et clementia tua sic amplificata est, ut nihil addi

and clemency your so amplified has-been that nothing to-be-added

posse videatur.

to-be-able it-seems

2 Sed mihi magis magisque cotidie de rationibus tuis cogitanti

But to-me more and-more daily about plans your thinking

placet illud meum consilium, quod initio Aristoni nostro,

pleases that my counsel which at-the-beginning to-Ariston our

ut ad me venit, ostendi, gravis te suscepturum inimicitias,

when to me he-came I-showed grave you going-to-undertake enmities

si adulescens potens et nobilis a te ignominia adfectus

if a-young-man powerful and noble by you with-disgrace affected

esset. Et hercule sine dubio erit ignominia; habes enim

were And by-Hercules without doubt it-will-be a-disgrace you-have for

neminem honoris gradu superiorem; ille autem, ut omittam
no-one of-office in-rank superior he however that I-may-omit
nobilitatem, hoc ipso vincit viros optimos hominesque
nobility by-this very surpasses men excellent and-men
innocentissimos, legatos tuos, quod et quaestor est et
most-innocent legates your that both quaestor he-is and
quaestor tuus. Nocere tibi iratum neminem posse perspicio,
quaestor yours To-harm you angry no-one to-be-able I-perceive
sed tamen tris fratres summo loco natos, promptos, non
but still three brothers in-the-highest place born ready not
indisertos, te nolo habere iratos, iure praesertim; quos
ineloquent you I-do-not-wish to-have angry rightly especially whom
video deinceps tribunos pl. per triennium fore.
I-see in-succession tribunes of-the-plebs for three-years going-to-be
Tempora autem rei publicae qualia futura sint, quis 3
The-times however of-the-thing public of-what-kind going-to-be are who
scit? mihi quidem turbulenta videntur fore. Cur ego te
knows to-me indeed turbulent they-seem going-to-be Why I you
velim incidere in terrores tribunicios, praesertim cum sine
would-wish to-fall into terrors tribunician especially since without
cuiusquam reprehensione quaestoriis legatis quaestorem possis
anyone's reproach to-quaestorian legates the-quaestor you-can
anteferre? Qui si dignum se maioribus suis praebuerit, ut
prefer Who if worthy himself of-ancestors his shows as
spero et opto, tua laus ex aliqua parte fuerit; sin quid
I-hope and wish your praise in some part will-have-been but-if anything
offenderit, sibi totum, nihil tibi offenderit. Quae
he-stumbles to-himself wholly nothing to-you he-will-have-stumbled What
mihi veniebant in mentem, quae ad te pertinere arbitrabar,
to-me came into mind which to you to-pertain I-thought
quod in Ciliciam proficiscebar, existimavi me ad te oportere
because into Cilicia I-was-setting-out I-thought me to you ought

scribere; tu quod egeris, id velim di adprobent; sed, si
to-write you what you-do that I-would-wish the-gods approve but if
me audies, vitabis inimicitias et posteritatis otio consules.
me you-hear you-will-avoid enmities and for-posterity's leisure you-will-consult

II.19 · TO HIS QUAESTOR COELIUS

Cicero rejoiced that the lot gave him Coelius as quaestor, hoping for a long time together in the province, and fears he may leave before Coelius arrives. Coelius' courteous letter reached him in camp, saying neither whence nor when it was sent, so Cicero sends orderlies and lictors with a letter asking him to come to Cilicia at once. Coelius' cousin Curius and his kinsman Vergilius have commended him, and Cicero will honor him and his ancestors.

M. Tullius M. f. M. n. Cicero imp. s.
Marcus Tullius of-Marcus son of-Marcus grandson Cicero imperator greeting
d. C. Coelio L. f. C. n. Caldo q.
says to-Gaius Coelius of-Lucius son of-Gaius grandson Caldus quaestor
1 Cum optatissimum nuntium accepissem te mihi quaestorem
When most-desired news I-had-received you to-me as-quaestor
obtigisse, eo iucundiorem mihi eam sortem sperabam
to-have-fallen-by-lot by-so-much more-pleasing to-me that lot I-was-hoping
fore, quo diutius in provincia mecum fuisses; magni
going-to-be by-how-much longer in the-province with-me you-had-been of-great
enim videbatur interesse ad eam necessitudinem, quam nobis
for it-seemed to-matter to that close-tie which to-us
sors tribuisset, consuetudinem quoque accedere. Postea, quom
the-lot had-assigned familiar-intercourse also to-be-added Afterward when
mihi nihil neque a te ipso neque ab ullo alio de adventu
to-me nothing neither by you yourself nor by any other about arrival
tuo scriberetur, verebar ne ita caderet, quod etiam
your was-written I-was-fearing lest so it-should-fall-out which even

nunc vereor, ne, ante quam tu in provinciam venisses, ego
now I-fear lest before than you into the-province had-come I
de provincia decederem. Accepi autem a te missas litteras
from the-province should-withdraw I-received however from you sent a-letter
in Cilicia, cum essem in castris, a. d. x K.
in Cilicia when I-was in camp on-the day tenth before-the-Kalends
Quintilis scriptas humanissime, quibus facile et officium
of-Quintilis written most-courteously from-which easily both the-duty
et ingenium tuum perspici posset, sed neque unde nec
and talent your to-be-perceived could but neither whence nor
quo die datae essent aut quo tempore te exspectarem
on-what day given it-had-been or at-what time you I-should-expect
significabant, nec is, qui attulerat, a te acceperat, ut ex
did-it-indicate nor he who had-brought-it from you had-received-it that from
eo scirem, quo ex loco aut quo tempore essent datae.
him I-might-know what from place or at-what time it-had-been given
Quae cum essent incerta, existimavi tamen faciundum esse ut 2
Which since they-were uncertain I-thought still to-be-done it-was that
ad te statores meos et lictores cum litteris mitterem. Quas si
to you orderlies my and lictors with a-letter I-should-send Which if
satis opportuno tempore accepisti, gratissimum mihi
at-a-sufficiently opportune time you-have-received most-pleasing to-me
feceris, si ad me in Ciliciam quam primum veneris.
you-will-have-done if to me into Cilicia as first you-come
Nam, quod ad me Curius, consobrinus tuus, mihi, ut scis,
For as-to-what to me Curius cousin your to-me as you-know
maxime necessarius, quod item C. Vergilius, propinquus
most closely-connected what likewise Gaius Vergilius relative
tuus, familiarissimus noster, de te accuratissime scripsit,
your most-intimate our about you most-carefully wrote
valet id quidem apud me multum, sicuti debet hominum
avails that indeed with me much as it-ought of-men

amicissimorum diligens commendatio, sed tuae litterae de tua
most-friendly diligent commendation but your letter about your
praesertim dignitate et de nostra coniunctione maximi sunt
especially dignity and about our union of-greatest are
apud me ponderis. Mihi quaestor optatior obtingere nemo
with me weight To-me a-quaestor more-desired to-fall-by-lot no-one
potuit. Quam ob rem, quaecumque a me ornamenta
could Which on-account-of thing whatever from me honors
ad te proficiscentur, ut omnes intellegant a me habitam
to you will-proceed that all may-understand by me taken
esse rationem tuae maiorumque tuorum dignitatis. Sed
to-have-been account of-your and-of-ancestors your dignity But
id facilius consequar, si ad me in Ciliciam veneris; quod ego
that more-easily I-shall-attain if to me into Cilicia you-come which I
et mea et rei publicae et maxime tua interesse arbitror.
both mine and of-the-thing public and most yours to-concern think

BOOK III

III.1 · TO APPIUS, ON PHANIA

Phania, Appius' freedman, can tell him how the state stands as well as the state itself could. Appius is very dear to Cicero, who will make up with services for the long break in their intimacy, and will call Minerva not only Pallas but Appias. Cilix, another freedman, has become his intimate in two days. Cicero commends the jurist Lucius Valerius.

Cicero Appio imp. s. d.
Cicero to-Appius imperator greeting says

Si ipsa res p. tibi narrare posset, quo modo sese 1
If itself the-thing public to-you to-tell could in-what way itself
haberet, non facilius ex ea cognoscere posses quam ex
it-had not more-easily from it to-learn could-you than from
liberto tuo Phania; ita est homo non modo prudens, verum
freedman your Phania so is the-man not only prudent but
etiam, quod iuvet; curiosus. Quapropter ille tibi omnia
also which may-help inquisitive Wherefore he to-you all-things
explanabit; id enim mihi et ad brevitatem est aptius et
will-explain that for to-me both for brevity is more-suitable and
ad reliquas res providentius. De mea autem benevolentia
for the-other things more-provident About my however goodwill
erga te etsi potes ex eodem Phania cognoscere, tamen
toward you although you-can from the-same Phania learn still
videntur etiam aliquae meae partes; sic enim tibi persuade,
seem also some my parts so for yourself persuade
carissimum te mihi esse cum propter multas suavitates
most-dear you to-me to-be both on-account-of the-many sweetnesses
ingeni, offici, humanitatis tuae, tum quod ex tuis litteris
of-talent of-service of-courtesy your and because from your letter

et ex multorum sermonibus intellego omnia, quae a me
and from of-many the-talk I-understand all-things which from me
profecta sunt in te, tibi accidisse gratissima. Quod
proceeded have toward you to-you to-have-happened most-pleasing Which
cum ita sit, perficiam profecto, ut longi temporis usuram,
since so it-is I-will-bring-about surely that of-long time the-use
qua caruimus intermissa nostra consuetudine, et gratia et
which we-have-lacked with-interrupted our intimacy both by-favor and
crebritate et magnitudine officiorum meorum sarciam, idque
by-frequency and by-greatness of-services my I-repair and-that
me, quoniam tu ita vis, puto non invita Minerva esse
I since you so wish I-think not with-unwilling Minerva to-be
facturum; quam quidem ego, si forte de tuis sumpsero,
going-to-do whom indeed I if by-chance from your-things I-take
non solum Παλλάδα, sed etiam Ἀππιάδα nominabo.
not only Pallas but also Appias will-name

2 Cilix, libertus tuus, antea mihi minus fuit notus; sed, ut
Cilix freedman your before to-me less was known but when
mihi reddidit a te litteras plenas et amoris et offici,
to-me he-delivered from you a-letter full both of-love and of-service
mirifice ipse suo sermone subsecutus est humanitatem
wonderfully he by-his-own talk followed-up has the-courtesy
litterarum tuarum. Iucunda mihi eius oratio fuit, cum de
of-letter your Pleasant to-me his speech was when about
animo tuo, de sermonibus, quos de me haberes cotidie,
mind your about the-conversations which about me you-had daily
mihi narraret; quid quaeris? biduo factus est mihi
to-me he-told why do-you-ask in-two-days made he-was to-me
familiaris, ita tamen, ut Phaniam valde sim desideraturus.
intimate so still that Phania greatly I-am going-to-miss
Quem cum Romam remittes, quod, ut putabamus, celeriter
Whom when to-Rome you-send-back which as we-thought quickly

eras facturus, omnibus ei de rebus, quas agi,
you-were going-to-do all to-him about affairs which to-be-done
quas curari a me voles, mandata des velim.
which to-be-looked-after by me you-wish instructions you-give I-would-wish
L. Valerium iureconsultum valde tibi commendo, sed 3
Lucius Valerius the-jurisconsult greatly to-you I-commend but
ita etiam, si non est iure consultus; melius enim ei
so even if not he-is in-law skilled better for for-him
cavere volo quam ipse aliis solet. Valde hominem
to-take-precautions I-wish than he for-others is-wont Greatly the-man
diligo; est ex meis domesticis atque intimis familiaribus.
I-love he-is from my household and intimate friends
Omnino tibi agit gratias, sed idem scribit meas litteras
Altogether to-you he-gives thanks but also he-writes my letter
maximum apud te pondus habituras. Id eum ne fallat,
greatest with you weight going-to-have That him lest it-deceive
etiam atque etiam rogo. Vale.
again and again I-ask Farewell

III.2 · A PROVINCE TO TAKE OVER

Sent against his will to a province, Cicero is consoled that he succeeds Appius, the friendliest of predecessors. He begs Appius, by their union and his courtesy, to hand it over as unencumbered as he can, since that will make Cicero's year easier; the matter speaks for itself, and Appius will take lasting pleasure in having served him.

M. Cicero procos. s. d. Appio Pulchro imp.
Marcus Cicero proconsul greeting says to-Appius Pulcher imperator
Cum et contra voluntatem meam et praeter opinionem 1
When both against will my and beyond expectation
accidisset, ut mihi cum imperio in provinciam proficisci
it-had-happened that for-me with command into a-province to-set-out

necesse esset, in multis et variis molestiis cogitationibusque
necessary it-was in many and various vexations and-thoughts
meis haec una consolatio occurrebat, quod neque tibi
my this one consolation occurred that neither to-you
amicior, quam ego sum, quisquam posset succedere neque
more-friendly than I am anyone could succeed nor
ego ab ullo provinciam accipere, qui mallet eam quam
I from any a-province receive who would-prefer it as
maxime mihi aptam explicatamque tradere. Quod si tu
most to-me suited and-unencumbered to-hand-over But if you
quoque eandem de mea voluntate erga te spem habes, ea
also the-same about my goodwill toward you hope have that
te profecto numquam fallet. A te maximo opere pro nostra
you surely never will-deceive Of you in-greatest measure for our
summa coniunctione tuaque singulari humanitate etiam atque
highest union and-your singular courtesy again and
etiam quaeso et peto ut, quibuscumque rebus poteris (poteris
again I-beg and ask that by-whatever means you-can you-can
autem plurimis), prospicias et consulas rationibus meis.
however by-very-many you-foresee and consult for-interests my
2 Vides ex senatus consulto provinciam esse habendam. Si
You-see from of-the-senate decree the-province to-be to-be-held If
eam, quod eius facere potueris, quam expeditissimam mihi
it as-far-as of-it to-do you-can as most-unencumbered to-me
tradideris, facilior erit mihi quasi decursus mei temporis.
you-hand-over easier will-be for-me as-it-were the-course of-my time
Quid in eo genere efficere possis, tui consili est; ego
What in that kind to-effect you-can of-your counsel is I
te, quod tibi veniet in mentem mea interesse, valde rogo.
you what to-you will-come into mind to-me to-matter greatly ask
Pluribus verbis ad te scriberem, si aut tua humanitas
In-more words to you I-would-write if either your courtesy

longiorem orationem exspectaret aut id fieri nostra
a-longer speech expected or that to-be-done our
amicitia pateretur aut res verba desideraret ac non pro
friendship allowed or the-matter words required and not for
se ipsa loqueretur. Hoc velim tibi persuadeas, si
itself on-its-own spoke This I-would-wish yourself you-persuade if
rationibus meis provisum a te esse intellexero, magnam
for-interests my provided by you to-have-been I-understand great
te ex eo et perpetuam voluptatem esse capturum. Vale.
you from that and lasting pleasure to-be going-to-take Farewell

III.3 · FROM BRUNDISIUM

At Brundisium Appius' legate Fabius met Cicero with Appius' wish for more troops, which the whole senate shared; the consul Sulpicius refused a levy, and Cicero was told to set out at once. He asks Appius to do what a friendly predecessor can for a successor. Fabius says Appius discharged no soldiers after all; if so, Cicero asks him not to diminish his small forces. He waits at Brundisium for his legate Pomptinus and will sail when he comes.

Cicero s. d. Appio Pulchro.
Cicero greeting says to-Appius Pulcher
A. d. xi K. Iun. Brundisium cum venissem, 1
On-the day eleventh before-the-Kalends of-June to-Brundisium when I-had-come
Q. Fabius Vergilianus, legatus tuus, mihi praesto fuit
Quintus Fabius Vergilianus legate your to-me at-hand was
eaque me ex tuis mandatis monuit, quae non mihi, ad
and-those-things me from your instructions he-reminded which not to-me to
quem pertinebant, sed universo senatui venerant in mentem,
whom they-pertained but to-the-whole senate had-come into mind
praesidio firmiore opus esse ad istam provinciam; censebant
protection firmer need to-be for that province they-were-proposing

enim omnes fere, ut in Italia supplementum meis et Bibuli
for all almost that in Italy a-supplement for-my and of-Bibulus
legionibus scriberetur. Id cum Sulpicius consul passurum
legions be-enrolled That when Sulpicius the-consul going-to-allow
se negaret, multa nos quidem questi sumus, sed tantus
himself said-not many-things we indeed complained have but so-great
consensus senatus fuit ut mature proficisceremur, parendum
the-agreement of-the-senate was that early we-should-set-out to-be-obeyed
ut fuerit, itaque fecimus. Nunc, quod a te petii litteris
that it-was and-so we-did Now what from you I-asked in-the-letter
iis, quas Romae tabellariis tuis dedi, velim tibi curae sit
that which at-Rome to-letter-carriers your I-gave I-would-wish to-you a-care it-be
ut, quae successori coniunctissimo et amicissimo commodare
that what to-a-successor most-closely-joined and most-friendly accommodate
potest is, qui provinciam tradit, ut ea pro nostra
can he who the-province hands-over that those-things for our
consociatissima voluntate cura ac diligentia tua complectare,
most-allied goodwill with-care and diligence your you-embrace
ut omnes intellegant nec me benevolentiori cuiquam
that all may-understand neither me to-more-well-disposed anyone
succedere nec te amiciori potuisse provinciam tradere.
to-succeed nor you to-more-friendly to-have-been-able the-province to-hand-over

2 Ex iis litteris, quarum ad me exemplum misisti, quas in
From that letter of-which to me a-copy you-sent which in
senatu recitari voluisti, sic intellexeram, permultos a te
the-senate to-be-read-aloud you-wished so I-had-understood very-many by you
milites esse dimissos; sed mihi Fabius idem demonstravit
soldiers to-have-been discharged but to-me Fabius the-same showed
te id cogitasse facere, sed, cum ipse a te discederet,
you that to-have-intended to-do but when he-himself from you departed
integrum militum numerum fuisse. Id si ita est, pergratum
the-intact of-soldiers number to-have-been That if so it-is most-pleasing

mihi feceris, si istas exiguas copias, quas habuisti,
to-me you-will-have-done if those small forces which you-have-had
quam minime imminueris. Qua de re senatus consulta
as least you-diminish which about matter of-the-senate decrees
quae facta sunt, ad te missa esse arbitror. Equidem
which made were to you sent to-have-been I-think For-my-part
pro eo, quanti te facio, quicquid feceris, approbabo, sed te
for that how-much you I-value whatever you-do I-will-approve but you
quoque confido ea facturum, quae mihi intelleges
also I-trust those-things going-to-do which to-me you-will-understand
maxime esse accommodata. Ego C. Pomptinum, legatum
most to-be suited I Gaius Pomptinus legate
meum, Brundisi exspectabam eumque ante K. Iun.
my at-Brundisium was-awaiting and-him before the-Kalends of-June
Brundisium venturum arbitrabar. Qui cum venerit, quae
to-Brundisium going-to-come I-thought Who when he-has-come which
primum navigandi nobis facultas data erit, utemur.
first of-sailing for-us opportunity given will-be we-will-use

III.4 · WAITING FOR CLODIUS

At Brundisium Cicero learns that Appius has sent Lucius Clodius to speak with him, and awaits him. Fabius, Flaccus, and Octavius have shown him how much Appius values him, and so does the augural book Appius sent. Cicero values Appius' kin, Pompey and Brutus, and their college; he is pleased that Appius stayed in order to meet him.

Cicero s. d. Ap. Pulchro.

Cicero greeting says to-Appius Pulcher

1 Pridie Nonas Iunias, cum essem Brundisi, litteras tuas
On-the-day-before the-Nones of-June when I-was at-Brundisium letter your
accepi, quibus erat scriptum te L. Clodio mandasse,
I-received in-which it-was written you to-Lucius Clodius to-have-entrusted
quae illum mecum loqui velles. Eum sane exspectabam, ut
what him with-me to-speak you-wished Him indeed I-was-awaiting that
ea, quae a te adferret, quam primum cognoscerem.
those-things which from you he-might-bring as first I-might-learn
Meum studium erga te et officium tametsi multis iam
My zeal toward you and duty although by-many already
rebus spero tibi esse cognitum, tamen in iis maxime
things I-hope to-you to-be known still in those most
declarabo, quibus plurimum significare potuero tuam mihi
I-will-declare in-which most to-signify I-can your to-me
existimationem et dignitatem carissimam esse. Mihi et
reputation and dignity most-dear to-be To-me both
Q. Fabius Vergilianus et C. Flaccus L. f. et
Quintus Fabius Vergilianus and Gaius Flaccus of-Lucius son and
diligentissime M. Octavius Cn. f. demonstravit me a
most-diligently Marcus Octavius of-Gnaeus son showed me by
te plurimi fieri; quod egomet multis argumentis iam
you most to-be-valued which I-myself by-many proofs already
antea iudicaram maximeque illo libro augurali, quem ad
before had-judged and-most by-that book augural which to
me amantissime scriptum suavissimum misisti. Mea in
me most-lovingly written most-delightful you-sent My toward
te omnia summa necessitudinis officia constabunt.
you all highest of-close-tie duties will-stand-firm

Nam cum te ipsum, ex quo tempore tu me diligere coepisti, 2
For both you yourself from which time you me to-love began
cotidie pluris feci, tum accesserunt etiam coniunctiones
daily more have-I-valued and were-added also the-connections
necessariorum tuorum (duo enim duarum aetatum plurimi
of-relatives your two for of-two ages very-much
facio, Cn. Pompeium, filiae tuae socerum, et M.
I-value Gnaeus Pompey of-daughter your father-in-law and Marcus
Brutum, generum tuum), conlegique coniunctio praesertim
Brutus son-in-law your and-of-the-college the-tie especially
tam honorifice a te approbata non mediocre vinculum mihi
so honorably by you approved not a-moderate bond to-me
quidem attulisse videtur ad voluntates nostras copulandas.
indeed to-have-brought seems for wishes our to-be-coupled
Sed et, si Clodium convenero, ex illius sermone ad te
But both if Clodius I-meet from his talk to you
scribam plura et ipse operam dabo te ut quam primum
I-will-write more and myself effort will-give you that as first
videam. Quod scribis tibi manendi causam eam fuisse,
I-see As-to-what you-write to-you of-staying the-reason that to-have-been
ut me convenires, id mihi, ne mentiar, est gratum.
that me you-might-meet that to-me lest I-lie is pleasing

At Tralles, Lucilius brought Appius' letter, and Cicero thanks him for preparing the province to make his reckoning easier. He explains his change of route: Phania asked him to come by sea, but Clodius at Corcyra said Appius would be at Laodicea, and Appius then changed his plan. Cicero will be at Laodicea at the end of July and at Iconium about the Ides of August, and wants to see Appius before he leaves. Scaevola, whom Appius asked to govern in the interval, spent three days with Cicero at Ephesus and said nothing of it.

Cicero s. d. Appio Pulchro.

Cicero greeting says to-Appius Pulcher

1 Trallis veni a. d. vi K. Sext. Ibi mihi praesto
To-Tralles I-came on-the day sixth before-the-Kalends of-Sextilis There to-me at-hand
fuit L. Lucilius cum litteris mandatisque tuis; quo
was Lucius Lucilius with letter and-instructions your than-whom
quidem hominem neminem potuisti nec mihi amiciorem nec,
indeed a-man no-one could-you either to-me more-friendly nor
ut arbitror, ad ea cognoscenda, quae scire volebam,
as I-think for those-things to-be-learned which to-know I-wished
aptiorem prudentioremve mittere. Ego autem et tuas litteras
more-suited or-more-prudent send I however both your letter
legi libenter et audivi Lucilium diligenter. Nunc, quoniam et
read gladly and heard Lucilius diligently Now since both
tu ita sentis (scribis enim, quae de nostris officiis ego ad te
you so feel you-write for what about our services I to you
scripserim, etsi tibi iucunda fuerint, tamen, quoniam ex
have-written although to-you pleasing they-were still since from
alto repetita sint, non necessaria te putasse), et re vera
deep fetched they-are not necessary you to-have-thought and in-fact true
confirmata amicitia et perspecta fide commemoratio officiorum
with-confirmed friendship and perceived loyalty the-recalling of-services

supervacanea est, eam partem orationis praetermittam, tibi
superfluous is that part of-speech I-will-pass-over to-you
tamen agam, ut debeo, gratias; animadverti enim et didici
still I-will-give as I-ought thanks I-noticed for and learned
ex tuis litteris te omnibus in rebus habuisse rationem, ut
from your letter you all in matters to-have-had regard that
mihi consuleres restitueresque et parares quodam modo
for-me you-should-consult and-restore and prepare in-a-certain way
omnia, quo mea ratio facilior et solutior esse posset.
all-things whereby my reckoning easier and freer to-be could
Hoc tuum officium cum mihi gratissimum esse dicam, 2
This your service when to-me most-pleasing to-be I-say
sequitur illud, ut te existimare velim mihi magnae
follows that that you to-think I-would-wish to-me of-great
curae fore atque esse iam, primum ut ipse tu tuique
care going-to-be and to-be already first that yourself you and-yours
omnes, deinde ut etiam reliqui scire possint me tibi esse
all then that also the-rest to-know can me to-you to-be
amicissimum. Quod quibus adhuc non satis est perspectum,
most-friendly Which to-whom so-far not enough is perceived
ii mihi nolle magis nos hoc animo esse quam non
they to-me to-be-unwilling more us this mind to-be than not
intellegere videntur; sed profecto intellegent, neque enim
to-understand seem but surely they-will-understand nor for
obscuris personis nec parvis in causis res agetur.
with-obscure persons nor small in cases the-matter will-be-conducted
Sed haec fieri melius quam dici aut scribi volo.
But these-things to-be-done better than to-be-said or written I-wish
Quod itinerum meorum ratio te non nullam in 3
As-to-what of-journeys my the-plan you not none into
dubitationem videtur adducere, visurusne me sis in
doubt seems to-lead whether-going-to-see me you-are in

provincia, ea res sic se habet: Brundisi cum loquerer
the-province that matter so itself has At-Brundisium when I-was-speaking
cum Phania, liberto tuo, veni in eum sermonem, ut dicerem
with Phania freedman your I-came into that talk that I-said
me libenter ad eam partem provinciae primum esse venturum,
I gladly to that part of-the-province first to-be going-to-come
quo te maxime velle arbitrarer. Tunc mihi ille dixit, quod
where you most to-wish I-thought Then to-me he said because
classe tu velles decedere, per fore accommodatum tibi, si
by-fleet you wished to-withdraw very going-to-be suitable to-you if
ad illam maritimam partem provinciae navibus accessissem.
to that maritime part of-the-province by-ships I-had-come
Dixi me esse facturum itaque fecissem, nisi mi L.
I-said I to-be going-to-do and-so I-would-have-done unless to-me Lucius
Clodius noster Corcyrae dixisset minime id esse faciendum;
Clodius our at-Corcyra had-said by-no-means that to-be to-be-done
te Laudiceae fore ad meum adventum. Erat id mihi
you at-Laodicea going-to-be for my arrival It-was that for-me
multo brevius multoque commodius, cum praesertim te ita
much shorter and-much more-convenient since especially you so
malle arbitrarer. Tua ratio postea est commutata.
to-prefer I-thought Your plan afterward was changed
4 Nunc quid fieri possit, tu facillime statues; ego tibi
Now what to-be-done can you most-easily will-determine I to-you
meum consilium exponam: Pr. K. Sextilis puto
my plan will-set-out On-the-day-before the-Kalends of-Sextilis I-think
me Laudiceae fore. Perpaucos dies, dum pecunia accipitur,
me at-Laodicea going-to-be Very-few days while the-money is-received
quae mihi ex publica permutatione debetur, commorabor.
which to-me from the-public exchange is-owed I-will-stay
Deinde iter faciam ad exercitum, ut circiter Id. Sext.
Then journey I-will-make to the-army that about the-Ides of-Sextilis

putem me ad Iconium fore. Sed, si quid nunc me fallit in
I-think me at Iconium going-to-be But if anything now me deceives in
scribendo (procul enim aberam ab re ipsa et a locis),
writing far for I-was-away from the-matter itself and from the-places
simul ac progredi coepero, quam celerrime potero et quam
as-soon as to-advance I-begin as most-quickly I-can and as
creberrimis litteris faciam ut tibi nota sit omnis ratio
most-frequent letters I-will-bring-about that to-you known be the-whole reckoning
dierum atque itinerum meorum. Oneris tibi imponere nec
of-days and of-journeys my Of-burden on-you to-impose neither
audeo quicquam nec debeo; sed, quod commodo tuo fieri
dare-I anything nor ought-I but what with-convenience your to-be-done
possit, utriusque nostrum magni interest ut te videam ante
can of-each of-us greatly it-concerns that you I-see before
quam decedas. Quam facultatem si quis casus eripuerit, mea
than you-withdraw Which opportunity if any chance snatch-away my
tamen in te omnia officia constabunt non secus ac si te
still toward you all services will-stand-firm not otherwise than if you
vidissem; tibi de nostris rebus nihil sum ante mandaturus
I-had-seen to-you about our affairs nothing am-I before going-to-entrust
per litteras quam desperaro coram me tecum agere posse.
by letter than I-have-despaired face-to-face me with-you to-deal to-be-able
Quod te a Scaevola petisse dicis, ut, dum tu abesses, 5
As-to-what you from Scaevola to-have-asked you-say that while you were-away
ante adventum meum provinciae praeesset, eum ego Ephesi
before arrival my over-the-province he-should-preside him I at-Ephesus
vidi fuitque mecum familiariter triduum illud, quod ego
saw and-he-was with-me familiarly three-days that which I
Ephesi commoratus sum, nec ex eo quicquam audivi, quod
at-Ephesus stayed I-have nor from him anything did-I-hear which

sibi a te mandatum diceret. Ac sane vellem potuisset
to-him by you commissioned he-said And truly I-would-wish he-had-been-able
obsequi voluntati tuae; non enim arbitror noluisse.
to-comply with-wish your not for I-think him-to-have-been-unwilling

III.6 · A MEETING SHUNNED

Cicero changed his route twice to suit Appius, first to Side at Phania's word, then straight to Laodicea at Clodius'; Appius, instead of waiting, went where Cicero could not follow within the thirty days the law allows, as if shunning him. Malicious men say he held court at Tarsus as if no successor were coming; Cicero was not moved, but three full cohorts are missing and Appius has sent no word. He sends Decimus Antonius to receive the cohorts, and gives his dates so that Appius may choose where to meet.

M. Cicero s. d. Appio Pulchro.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Appius Pulcher
1 Cum meum factum cum tuo comparo, etsi non magis mihi
When my deed with yours I-compare although not more myself
faveo in nostra amicitia tuenda quam tibi, tamen multo
do-I-favor in our friendship to-be-protected than you still much
magis meo facto delector quam tuo. Ego enim Brundisi
more in-my deed I-delight than in-yours I for at-Brundisium
quaesivi ex Phania, cuius mihi videbar et fidelitatem erga te
asked of Phania whose to-me I-seemed both the-faithfulness toward you
perspexisse et nosse locum, quem apud te is teneret, quam in
to-have-perceived and to-know the-place which with you he held what into
partem provinciae maxime putaret te velle ut in succedendo
part of-the-province most he-thought you to-wish that in succeeding
primum venirem. Cum ille mihi respondisset nihil me tibi
first I-should-come When he to-me had-replied nothing me to-you

gratius facere posse quam si ad Sidam navigassem, etsi
more-pleasing to-do to-be-able than if to Side I-had-sailed although
minus dignitatis habebat ille adventus et ad multas res
less of-dignity had that arrival and for many things
mihi minus erat aptus, tamen ita me dixi esse facturum.
to-me less was suitable still so me I-said to-be going-to-do
Idem ego cum L. Clodium Corcyrae convenissem, 2
The-same I when Lucius Clodius at-Corcyra I-had-met
hominem ita tibi coniunctum, ut mihi, cum illo cum
a-man so to-you joined that to-me with him when
loquerer, tecum loqui viderer, dixi ei me ita facturum esse,
I-spoke with-you to-speak I-seemed I-said to-him I so going-to-do to-be
ut in eam partem, quam Phania rogasset, primum venirem.
that into that part which Phania had-asked first I-would-come
Tunc ille, mihi cum gratias egisset, magno opere a me
Then he to-me when thanks he-had-given in-great measure from me
petivit ut Laudiceam protinus irem; te in prima
asked that to-Laodicea straightway I-should-go you in the-near-edge-of
provincia velle esse, ut quam primum decederes; quin,
the-province to-wish to-be that as first you-might-withdraw nay
nisi ego successor essem, quem tu cuperes videre, te antea,
unless I the-successor were whom you desired to-see you before
quam tibi successum esset, decessurum fuisse; quod
than to-you succeeded it-had-been going-to-withdraw to-have-been which
quidem erat consentaneum cum iis litteris, quas ego Romae
indeed was consistent with that letter which I at-Rome
acceperam, ex quibus perspexisse mihi videbar, quam
had-received from which to-have-perceived to-me I-seemed how
festinares decedere. Respondi Clodio me ita esse facturum
you-were-hastening to-withdraw I-replied to-Clodius me so to-be going-to-do
ac multo quidem libentius quam si illud esset faciendum,
and much indeed more-gladly than if that were to-be-done

quod promiseram Phaniae. Itaque et consilium mutavi et ad
which I-had-promised to-Phania And-so both my-plan I-changed and to
te statim mea manu scriptas litteras misi; quas quidem ex
you at-once with-my hand written a-letter I-sent which indeed from
tuis litteris intellexi satis mature ad te esse perlatas.
your letter I-understood sufficiently in-time to you to-have-been delivered
3 Hoc ego meo facto valde delector; nihil enim potuit
In-this I my deed greatly delight nothing for could
fieri amantius. Considera nunc vicissim tuum. Non modo
to-be-done more-lovingly Consider now in-turn yours Not only
ibi non fuisti, ubi me quam primum videre posses,
there not were-you where me as first to-see you-could
sed eo discessisti, quo ego te ne persequi quidem
but thither you-departed where I you not to-follow even
possem triginta diebus, qui tibi ad decedendum lege,
could in-the-thirty days which to-you for withdrawing by-the-law
ut opinor, Cornelia constituti essent, ut tuum factum,
as I-think Cornelian appointed had-been so-that your deed
qui quo animo inter nos simus ignorent, alieni
to-those-who with-what mind between us we-are know-not of-a-stranger
hominis, ut levissime dicam, et fugientis congressum,
man that most-lightly I-may-say and of-one-shunning meeting
meum vero coniunctissimi et amicissimi esse videatur.
mine indeed of-one-most-closely-joined and most-friendly to-be seems
4 Ac mihi tamen, ante quam in provinciam veni, redditae
And to-me still before than into the-province I-came delivered
sunt a te litterae, quibus etsi te Tarsum proficisci
was from you a-letter in-which although you to-Tarsus to-be-setting-out
demonstrabas, tamen mihi non dubiam spem mei conveniendi
you-indicated still to-me not doubtful hope of-me to-be-met
adferebas, cum interea, credo equidem, malevoli homines (late
you-brought while meanwhile I-believe for-my-part malevolent men widely

enim patet hoc vitium et est in multis), sed tamen probabilem
for spreads this vice and it-is in many but still a-probable
materiem nacti sermonis ignari meae constantiae conabantur
material having-got of-talk ignorant of-my constancy were-trying
alienare a te voluntatem meam; qui te forum Tarsi agere,
to-alienate from you the-goodwill my who you court at-Tarsus to-hold
statuere multa, decernere, iudicare dicerent, cum posses
to-decide many-things to-decree to-judge said when you-could
iam suspicari tibi esse successum, quae ne ab iis quidem
already to-suspect to-you to-be succeeded which not by those even
fieri solerent, qui brevi tempore sibi succedi putarent.
to-be-done are-wont who in-short time themselves to-be-succeeded think
Horum ego sermone non movebar, quin etiam, credas 5
Of-these I by-talk not I-was-moved nay even you-would-believe
mi velim, si quid tu ageres, levari me putabam
me I-would-wish if anything you did to-be-relieved me I-thought
molestia et ex annua provincia, quae mihi longa videretur,
of-vexation and from a-yearly province which to-me long seemed
prope iam undecim mensuum provinciam factam esse
almost now of-eleven months a-province made to-be
gaudebam, si absenti mihi unius mensis labor detractus
I-rejoiced if from-absent me of-one month the-labor taken-away
esset; illud, vere dicam, me movet, in tanta militum
had-been this truly I-will-say me moves in such-great of-soldiers
paucitate abesse tris cohortis, quae sint plenissimae, nec
scarcity to-be-missing three cohorts which are fullest nor
me scire ubi sint; molestissime autem fero, quod te ubi
me to-know where they-are most-annoyingly however I-bear that you where
visurus sim nescio; eoque ad te tardius scripsi,
going-to-see I-am I-know-not and-for-that-reason to you more-slowly I-wrote
quod cotidie te ipsum exspectabam, cum interea ne litteras
because daily you yourself I-was-expecting while meanwhile not letter

quidem ullas accepi, quae me docerent, quid ageres
even any have-I-received which me might-tell what you-were-doing
aut ubi te visurus essem. Itaque virum fortem mihique in
or where you going-to-see I-was And-so a-man brave and-to-me among
primis probatum, D. Antonium, praefectum evocatorum,
the-first approved Decimus Antonius prefect of-the-re-enlisted
misi ad te, cui, si tibi videretur, cohortis traderes,
I-sent to you to-whom if to-you it-seemed the-cohorts you-might-hand-over
ut, dum tempus anni esset idoneum, aliquid negoti gerere
that while the-time of-year was suitable some business to-carry-on
possem; in quo, tuo consilio ut me sperarem esse usurum,
I-could in which your counsel that I should-hope to-be going-to-use
et amicitia nostra et litterae tuae fecerant, quod ne nunc
both friendship our and letter your had-made which not now
quidem despero. Sed plane, quando aut ubi te visurus
even do-I-despair-of But plainly when or where you going-to-see
sim, nisi ad me scripseris, ne suspicari quidem possum.
I-am unless to me you-write not to-suspect even can-I
6 Ego, ut me tibi amicissimum esse et aequi et iniqui
I that me to-you most-friendly to-be both the-fair and the-unfair
intellegant, curabo; de tuo in me animo iniquis
understand will-take-care about your toward me mind to-the-unfair
secus existimandi videris non nihil loci dedisse. Id si
otherwise of-thinking you-seem not nothing of-room to-have-given That if
correxeris, mihi valde gratum erit. Et ut habere rationem
you-correct to-me very pleasing it-will-be And that to-have reckoning
possis, quo loco me salva lege Cornelia convenias, ego in
you-can in-what place me with-safe the-law Cornelian you-may-meet I into
provinciam veni pridie K. Sextilis, iter in Ciliciam
the-province came on-the-day-before the-Kalends of-Sextilis journey into Cilicia
facio per Cappadociam, castra movi ab Iconio pridie
I-make through Cappadocia camp I-moved from Iconium on-the-day-before

K. Septembris. Nunc tu et ex diebus et ex ratione
the-Kalends of-September Now you both from the-days and from the-reckoning
itineris, si putabis me esse conveniendum, constitues,
of-the-journey if you-think me to-be to-be-met you-will-determine
quo loco id commodissime fieri possit et quo die.
in-what place that most-conveniently to-be-done can and on-what day

III.7 · APPIUSNESS AND LENTULUSNESS

Appius complains that Cicero hindered the Appians' building and their levy; Cicero answers that he only forbade the tax before hearing the case, and that their envoys brought Appius' summer letter after midwinter. Told that Appius was coming to Iconium, he sent Varro and Lepta to meet him, but Appius had already passed the camp. Appius asked why Cicero did not come out to meet an Appius as Lentulus met Ampius: Cicero has never thought Appiusness or Lentulusness worth more than virtue, and counts himself Appius' equal. He will remain his friend, quoting Homer on those who will honor him.

Cicero s. d. Appio Pulchro.
Cicero greeting says to-Appius Pulcher
Pluribus verbis ad te scribam, cum plus oti nactus 1
In-more words to you I-will-write when more of-leisure obtained
ero; haec scripsi subito, cum Bruti pueri Laudiceae me
I-shall-have this I-wrote hastily when of-Brutus the-slaves at-Laodicea me
convenissent et se Romam properare dixissent. Itaque
had-met and themselves to-Rome to-be-hurrying had-said And-so
nullas iis praeterquam ad te et ad Brutum dedi litteras.
none to-them except to you and to Brutus I-gave letters
Legati Appiani mihi volumen a te plenum querelae 2
The-envoys of-Appia to-me a-roll from you full of-complaint
iniquissimae reddiderunt, quod eorum aedificationem litteris
most-unfair delivered that their building by-letter

meis impedissem. Eadem autem epistula petebas ut eos
my I-had-hindered In-the-same however letter you-asked that them
quam primum, ne in hiemem inciderent, ad facultatem
as first lest into winter they-should-fall for the-opportunity
aedificandi liberarem, et simul peracute querebare,
of-building I-should-free and at-the-same-time very-sharply you-complained
quod eos tributa exigere vetarem prius quam ego
that them taxes to-exact I-was-forbidding before than I
re cognita permisissem; genus enim quoddam
with-the-matter learned had-permitted a-kind for a-certain
fuisse impediendi, cum ego cognoscere non possem, nisi
to-have-been of-hindering since I to-investigate not could unless
cum ad hiemem me ex Cilicia recepissem.
when for winter myself from Cilicia I-had-withdrawn

3 Ad omnia accipe et cognosce aequitatem expostulationis
To all-things receive and learn the-fairness of-expostulation
tuae. Primum, cum ad me aditum esset ab iis, qui
your First when to me approach had-been-made by those who
dicerent a se intolerabilia tributa exigi, quid habuit
said from themselves intolerable taxes to-be-exacted what had-it
iniquitatis me scribere, ne facerent, ante quam ego rem
of-unfairness me to-write lest they-should-do before than I the-matter
causamque cognossem? Non poteram, credo, ante hiemem;
and-cause had-learned Not I-could I-suppose before winter
sic enim scribis. Quasi vero ad cognoscendum ego ad illos,
so for you-write As-if indeed for investigating I to them
non illi ad me venire debuerint. 'Tam longe?' inquis. Quid?
not they to me to-come ought So far you-say What
cum dabas iis litteras, per quas mecum agebas, ne eos
when you-gave to-them a-letter by which with-me you-dealt lest them
impedirem, quo minus ante hiemem aedificarent, non eos
I-should-binder whereby less before winter they-should-build not them

ad me venturos arbitrabare? Tametsi id quidem fecerunt
to me going-to-come you-thought Although that indeed they-did
ridicule; quas enim litteras adferebant, ut opus aestate
absurdly what for letter they-brought that the-work in-summer
facere possent, eas mihi post brumam reddiderunt.
to-do they-could it to-me after the-winter-solstice they-delivered
Sed scito et multo pluris esse, qui de tributis recusent,
But know both much more to-be who about the-taxes refuse
quam qui exigi velint, et me tamen, quod te velle
than who to-be-exacted wish and me still what you to-wish
existimem, esse facturum. De Appianis hactenus.
I-think to-be going-to-do About the-Appians so-far

A Pausania, Lentuli liberto, accenso meo, audivi, cum 4
From Pausanias of-Lentulus freedman orderly my I-heard when
diceret te secum esse questum, quod tibi obviam non
he-said you with-him to-have complained that to-you to-meet not
prodissem. Scilicet contempsi te, nec potest fieri me
I-had-come-forward Doubtless I-despised you nor can to-be-done me
quicquam superbius! Cum puer tuus ad me secunda fere
anything more-arrogant When slave your to me at-the-second about
vigilia venisset isque te ante lucem Iconium mihi venturum
watch had-come and-he you before dawn to-Iconium to-me going-to-come
nuntiasset, incertumque, utra via, cum essent duae, altera
had-announced and-uncertain by-which road since there-were two the-one
Varronem, tuum familiarissimum, altera Q. Leptam,
Varro your most-intimate the-other Quintus Lepta
praefectum fabrum meum, tibi obviam misi. Mandavi
prefect of-engineers my to-you to-meet I-sent I-instructed
utrique eorum, ut ante ad me excurrerent, ut tibi obviam
each of-them that before to me they-should-run-out that to-you to-meet
prodire possem. Currens Lepta venit mihique nuntiavit
to-come-forward I-could Running Lepta came and-to-me announced

te iam castra praetergressum esse. Confestim Iconium
you already the-camp passed-by to-have At-once to-Iconium
veni. Cetera iam tibi nota sunt. An ego tibi obviam non
I-came The-rest now to-you known are Or I to-you to-meet not
prodirem, primum Ap. Claudio, deinde imperatori,
would-come-forward first to-Appius Claudius then to-an-imperator
deinde more maiorum, deinde, quod caput est, amico,
then by-the-custom of-the-ancestors then what the-head is to-a-friend
cum in isto genere multo etiam ambitiosius facere soleam,
when in that kind much even more-ambitiously to-do I-am-wont
quam honos meus et dignitas postulat? Sed haec hactenus.
than honor my and dignity demands But these-things so-far
5 Illud idem Pausania dicebat te dixisse: 'Quidni? Appius
That the-same Pausanias said you to-have-said Why-not Appius
Lentulo, Lentulus Ampio processit obviam, Cicero Appio
to-Lentulus Lentulus to-Ampius went-forward to-meet Cicero to-Appius
noluit? 'Quaeso, etiamne tu has ineptias, homo mea
would-not I-ask even you these follies a-man in-my
sententia summa prudentia, multa etiam doctrina, plurimo
opinion of-the-highest prudence of-much also learning of-greatest
rerum usu, addo urbanitatem, quae est virtus, ut Stoici
of-affairs experience I-add urbanity which is a-virtue as the-Stoics
rectissime putant? ullam Appietatem aut Lentulitatem valere
most-rightly think any Appiusness or Lentulusness to-prevail
apud me plus quam ornamenta virtutis existimas? Cum
with me more than the-ornaments of-virtue do-you-think When
ea consecutus nondum eram, quae sunt hominum
those-things attained not-yet I-had which are of-men
opinionibus amplissima, tamen ista vestra nomina numquam
in-the-opinions most-ample still those your names never
sum admiratus; viros eos, qui ea vobis reliquissent,
have-I admired the-men those who them to-you had-left

magnos arbitrabar. Postea vero quam ita et cepi et
great I-thought After indeed that so both I-took and
gessi maxima imperia, ut mihi nihil neque ad honorem
carried-out the-greatest commands that to-me nothing either for honor
neque ad gloriam adquirendum putarem, superiorem quidem
or for glory to-be-acquired I-thought superior indeed
numquam, sed parem vobis me speravi esse factum. Nec
never but equal to-you me I-hoped to-have-been made Nor
mehercule aliter vidi existimare vel Cn. Pompeium,
by-Hercules otherwise have-I-seen to-think either Gnaeus Pompey
quem omnibus, qui umquam fuerunt, vel P. Lentulum,
whom to-all who ever have-been or Publius Lentulus
quem mihi ipsi antepono; tu si aliter existimas, nihil
whom to-me myself I-prefer you if otherwise you-think nothing
errabis, si paulo diligentius, ut, quid sit εὐγένεια, quid
will-you-err if a-little more-diligently that what be good-birth what
sit nobilitas, intellegas, Athenodorus, Sandonis filius,
be nobility you-may-understand Athenodorus of-Sando son
quid de his rebus dicat, attenderis.
what about these matters says you-attend-to
Sed ut ad rem redeam, me tibi non amicum modo, verum 6
But that to the-matter I-may-return me to-you not a-friend only but
etiam amicissimum existimes velim. Profecto omnibus officiis
also most-friendly you-think I-would-wish Surely by-all services
meis efficiam, ut ita esse vere possis iudicare. Tu autem
my I-will-bring-about that so to-be truly you-can judge You however

si id agis, ut minus mea causa, dum ego absim, debere
if that you-aim-at that less for-my sake while I am-away to-owe
videaris, quam ego tua laborarim, libero te ista cura;
you-may-seem than I for-yours labored I-free you from-that care

πάρ' ἔμοιγε καὶ ἄλλοι,
with me also others
οἵ κέ με τιμήσουσι, μάλιστα δὲ μητίετα Ζεύς.
who would me will-honor most and counselor Zeus

Si autem natura es φιλαίτιος, illud non perficies,
If however by-nature you-are fault-finding that not you-will-accomplish
quo minus tua causa velim; hoc adsequere, ut, quam
whereby less for-your sake I-may-wish this you-will-attain that which
in partem tu accipias, minus laborem. Haec ad te scripsi
into part you take-it less I-may-care These-things to you I-wrote
liberius fretus conscientia offici mei benevolentiaeque, quam
more-freely relying-on the-consciousness of-duty my and-of-goodwill which
a me certo iudicio susceptam, quoad tu voles, conservabo.
by me by-a-certain judgment undertaken as-long-as you wish I-will-preserve

III.8 · THE EMBASSIES

Appius has written of things said against him in the province. Cicero replies that he never showed hostility by look or silence, and praised him often from the tribunal. He reduced the expense of embassies sent to Rome to praise Appius only because the bankrupt states asked it, and copied one clause of his edict from Appius' at the tax-farmers' request. Appius held his own assizes at Tarsus on the days of Cicero's at Apamea, Synnada and Philomelium, yet Cicero defended him absent. He asks Appius to keep his term from being extended, and reports that he set out for Amanus on the Nones of October; he thinks there were no Parthians, only Arabs in Parthian dress, now said to have gone home.

Cicero s. d. Appio Pulchro.

Cicero greeting says to-Appius Pulcher

Etsi, quantum ex tuis litteris intellegere potui, videbam 1

Although as-far-as from your letter to-understand I-could I-saw

te hanc epistulam, cum ad urbem esses, esse lecturum

you this letter when near the-city you-were to-be going-to-read

refrigerato iam levissimo sermone hominum provincialium,

with-cooled already very-trivial talk of-men provincial

tamen, cum tu tam multis verbis ad me de improborum

still since you in-so many words to me about of-the-wicked

oratione scripsisses, faciendum mihi putavi ut tuis litteris

the-speech had-written to-be-done by-me I-thought that to-your letter

brevi responderem.

briefly I-should-reply

Sed prima duo capita epistulae tuae tacita mihi quodam 2

But the-first two heads of-letter your in-silence by-me in-a-certain

modo relinquenda sunt; nihil enim habent, quod definitum sit

way to-be-left are nothing for they-have which defined be

aut certum, nisi me vultu et taciturnitate significasse tibi

or certain except me by-look and by-silence to-have-indicated to-you

non esse amicum, idque, pro tribunali cum aliquid ageretur,

not to-be friendly and-that before the-tribunal when something was-being-done

et non nullis in conviviis intellegi potuisse. Hoc totum

and not none in banquets to-be-understood to-have-been-able This all

nihil esse possum intellegere; sed, cum sit nihil, ne quid

nothing to-be I-can understand but since it-be nothing not anything

dicatur quidem intellego; illud quidem scio, meos multos et

is-said even I-understand that indeed I-know my many and

inlustris et ex superiore et ex aequo loco sermones habitos

illustrious both from higher and from equal place speeches held

cum tua summa laude et cum magna significatione nostrae

with your highest praise and with great indication of-our

familiaritatis ad te vere potuisse deferri. Nam quod
intimacy to you truly to-have-been-able to-be-reported For as
ad legatos attinet, quid a me fieri potuit aut elegantius
to the-envoys pertains what by me to-be-done could either more-elegantly
aut iustius quam ut sumptus egentissimarum civitatum
or more-justly than that the-expenses of-the-neediest states
minuerem sine ulla imminutione dignitatis tuae, praesertim
I-should-reduce without any diminution of-dignity your especially
ipsis civitatibus postulantibus? nam mihi totum genus
with-the-very states demanding for to-me the-whole kind
legationum tuo nomine proficiscentium notum non erat.
of-embassies in-your name setting-out known not was
Apameae cum essem, multarum civitatum principes ad
At-Apamea when I-was of-many states the-leading-men to
me detulerunt sumptus decerni legatis nimis magnos, cum
me reported expenses to-be-decreed for-envoys too great since
solvendo civitates non essent. Hic ego multa simul cogitavi.
able-to-pay the-states not were Here I many-things at-once considered
3 Primum te, hominem non solum sapientem, verum etiam,
First you a-man not only wise but also
ut nunc loquimur, urbanum, non arbitrabar genere isto
as now we-speak urbane not I-thought with-kind that
legationum delectari, idque me arbitror Synnadis pro
of-embassies to-be-delighted and-that me I-think at-Synnada before
tribunali multis verbis disputavisse, primum Ap. Claudium
the-tribunal with-many words to-have-argued first Appius Claudius
senatui populoque Romano non Midaeensium testimonio
to-the-senate and-people Roman not by-the-Midaeans' testimony
(in ea enim civitate mentio facta est), sed sua sponte
in that for state mention made was but of-his-own accord
esse laudatum; deinde me ista vidisse accidere multis,
to-be praised then me that to-have-seen to-happen to-many

ut eorum causa legationes Romam venirent, sed iis
that for-their sake embassies to-Rome should-come but to-those
legationibus non meminisse ullum tempus laudandi aut
embassies not to-remember any time of-praising or
locum dari; studia mihi eorum placere, quod in te
place to-be-given the-zeal to-me of-them to-please that toward you
bene merito grati essent, consilium totum videri minime
well deserving grateful they-were the-plan whole to-seem least
necessarium; si autem vellent declarare in eo officium suum,
necessary if however they-wished to-declare in that duty their
laudaturum me, si qui suo sumptu functus esset officio,
going-to-praise me if any at-his-own expense discharged had the-duty
concessurum, si legitimo, non permissurum, si infinito.
going-to-allow if at-legitimate not going-to-permit if at-unlimited
Quid enim reprehendi potest? nisi quod addis visum esse
What for to-be-blamed can except that you-add seemed to-have
quibusdam edictum meum quasi consulto ad istas legationes
to-some edict my as-if on-purpose for those embassies
impediendas esse accommodatum. Iam non tantum mihi
to-be-hindered to-be adapted Now not so-much to-me
videntur iniuriam facere ii, qui haec disputant, quam
seem injury to-do those who these-things argue as
si cuius aures ad hanc disputationem patent.
if of-anyone the-ears to this argument lie-open
Romae composui edictum; nihil addidi, nisi quod publicani 4
At-Rome I-composed the-edict nothing I-added except what the-tax-farmers
me rogarunt, cum Samum ad me venissent, ut de tuo
me asked when to-Samos to me they-had-come that from your
edicto totidem verbis transferrem in meum. Diligentissime
edict in-just-as-many words I-should-transfer into mine Most-diligently
scriptum caput est, quod pertinet ad minuendos sumptus
written the-head is which pertains to to-be-reduced expenses

civitatum. Quo in capite sunt quaedam nova salutaria
of-the-states Which in head there-are certain new-things salutary
civitatibus, quibus ego magno opere delector; hoc vero,
for-the-states with-which I in-great measure am-delighted this indeed
ex quo suspicio nata est me exquisisse aliquid in
from which suspicion arisen has me to-have-sought-out something in
quo te offenderem, tralaticium est. Neque enim eram tam
which you I-might-offend traditional is Nor for was-I so
desipiens, ut privatae rei causa legari putarem,
foolish that of-private matter for-the-sake to-be-sent-as-envoys I-should-think
qui et tibi non privato et pro re non privata sua,
those-who both to-you not private and for a-matter not private their
sed publica, non in privato, sed in publico orbis terrae
but public not in private but in public of-the-circle of-lands
consilio, id est in senatu, ut gratias agerent, mittebantur;
counsel that is in the-senate that thanks they-might-give were-sent
neque, cum edixi ne quis iniussu meo proficisceretur,
nor when I-proclaimed lest anyone without-order my should-set-out
exclusi eos, qui me in castra et qui trans Taurum
did-I-exclude those who me into camp and who across the-Taurus
persequi non possent. Nam id est maxime in tuis litteris
to-follow not could For that is most in your letter
inridendum. Quid enim erat, quod me persequerentur
to-be-laughed-at Why for was-there that me they-should-follow
in castra Taurumve transirent, cum ego Laudicea usque
into camp or-the-Taurus cross when I from-Laodicea right-up
ad Iconium iter ita fecerim, ut me omnium illarum
to Iconium the-journey so made that me of-all those
dioecesium, quae cis Taurum sunt, omniumque earum
districts which this-side the-Taurus are and-of-all those
civitatum magistratus legationesque convenirent?
states the-magistrates and-envoys met

nisi forte postea coeperunt legare quam ego Taurum 5
unless perhaps later they-began to-send-envoys than I the-Taurus
transgressus sum; quod certe non ita est. Cum enim
crossed have which certainly not so is When for
Laudiceae, cum Apameae, cum Synnadis, cum Philomeli,
at-Laodicea when at-Apamea when at-Synnada when at-Philomelium
cum Iconi essem, quibus in oppidis omnibus commoratus
when at-Iconium I-was which in towns all stayed
sum, omnes iam istius generis legationes erant constitutae.
I-have all already of-that kind embassies were settled
Atque hoc tamen te scire volo, me de isto sumptu
And this still you to-know I-wish me about that expense
legationum aut minuendo aut remittendo decrevisse nil
of-embassies either to-be-reduced or to-be-remitted to-have-decreed nothing
nisi quod principes civitatum a me postulassent, ne in
except what the-leading-men of-the-states from me had-demanded lest into
venditionem tributorum et illam acerbissimam exactionem,
the-sale of-the-taxes and that most-bitter levy
quam tu non ignoras, capitum atque ostiorum inducerentur
which you not are-unaware-of of-heads and of-doors be-brought-in
sumptus minime necessarii. Ego autem, cum hoc suscepissem
expenses least necessary I however since this I-had-undertaken
non solum iustitia, sed etiam misericordia adductus, ut
not only by-justice but also by-pity induced that
levarem miseriis perditas civitates et perditas maxime
I-might-relieve from-miseries ruined states and ruined most
per magistratus suos, non potui in illo sumptu non
through magistrates their not I-could in that expense not
necessario neglegens esse. Tu, si istius modi sermones ad te
necessary negligent to-be You if of-that kind talk to you
delati de me sunt, non debuisti credere; si autem hoc
reported about me have-been not ought-you to-believe if however in-this

genere delectaris, ut, quae tibi in mentem veniant, aliis
kind you-delight that what to-you into mind come to-others
attribuas, genus sermonis inducis in amicitiam minime
you-attribute a-kind of-talk you-bring-in into friendship least
liberale. Ego, si in provincia de tua fama detrahere
liberal I if in the-province about your reputation to-detract
umquam cogitassem, non generum tuum libertum Brundisi
ever I-had-thought not son-in-law your freedman at-Brundisium
neque ad praefectum fabrum Corcyrae, quem in locum me
nor to the-prefect of-engineers at-Corcyra which into place me
venire velles, rettulissem. Qua re potes doctissimis
to-come you-wished would-I-have-referred By-which thing you-can with-most-learned
hominibus auctoribus, quorum sunt de amicitia gerenda
men as-authorities of-whom there-are about friendship to-be-conducted
praeclarissime scripti libri, genus hoc totum orationis tollere:
most-splendidly written books kind this whole of-speech remove
'Disputabant, ego contra disserebam; dicebant, ego negabam.'
They-argued I against was-discussing they-said I denied
6 An mihi de te nihil esse dictum umquam putas?
Or to-me about you nothing to-have-been said ever do-you-think
ne hoc quidem, quod, cum me Laudiceam venire voluisses,
not this even that when me to-Laodicea to-come you-had-wished
Taurum ipse transisti? quod isdem diebus meus conventus
the-Taurus yourself crossed that on-the-same days my assize
erat Apameae, Synnade, Philomeli, tuus Tarsi? Non dicam
was at-Apamea at-Synnada at-Philomelium yours at-Tarsus Not I-will-say
plura, ne, in quo te obiurgem, id ipsum videar imitari;
more lest in what you I-should-rebuke that very I-should-seem to-imitate
illud dicam ut sentio: Si ista, quae alios loqui dicis,
that I-will-say as I-feel If those-things which others to-speak you-say
ipse sentis, tua summa culpa est; sin autem alii tecum
yourself feel yours the-highest fault is but-if however others with-you

haec loquuntur, tua tamen, quod audis, culpa non nulla
these-things speak yours still because you-listen the-fault not none
est. Mea ratio in tota amicitia nostra constans et gravis
is My reckoning in whole friendship our steadfast and grave
reperietur. Quod si qui me astutiorem fingit, quid potest esse
will-be-found But if any me more-crafty imagines what can to-be
callidius quam, cum te absentem semper defenderem, cum
more-cunning than when you absent always I-defended when
praesertim mihi usu venturum non arbitrarer, ut ego
especially to-me in-experience going-to-come not I-thought that I
quoque a te absens defendendus essem, nunc committere,
also by you absent to-be-defended should-be now to-bring-about
ut tu iure optimo me absentem deserere posses?
that you by-right best me absent to-abandon could
Unum genus excipio sermonis, in quo persaepe aliquid 7
One kind I-except of-talk in which very-often something
dicitur, quod te putem nolle dici, si aut legatorum
is-said which you I-think to-be-unwilling to-be-said if either of-legates
tuorum quoipiam aut praefectorum aut tribunorum militum
your to-any or of-prefects or of-tribunes of-soldiers
male dicitur; quod tamen ipsum non mehercule adhuc
ill it-is-spoken which still itself not by-Hercules so-far
accidit, me audiente ut aut gravius diceretur aut in
has-happened with-me hearing that either more-heavily it-be-said or against
pluris, quam mecum Corcyrae Clodius est locutus, cum in
more than with-me at-Corcyra Clodius has spoken when in
eo genere maxime quereretur te aliorum improbitate minus
that kind most he-complained you of-others by-the-wickedness less
felicem fuisse. Hos ego sermones, quod et multi sunt
fortunate to-have-been These I talk because both many they-are
et tuam existimationem, ut ego sentio, non offendunt,
and your reputation as I feel not they-offend

lacessivi numquam, sed non valde repressi. Si quis
I-have-provoked never but not greatly I-have-repressed If anyone
est qui neminem bona fide in gratiam putet redire
there-is who no-one in-good faith into favor thinks to-return
posse, non nostram is perfidiam coarguit, sed indicat suam,
to-be-able not our he treachery proves but reveals his-own
simulque non de me is peius quam de te existimat;
and-at-the-same-time not about me he worse than about you thinks
sin autem quem mea instituta in provincia non delectant
but-if however anyone-whom my principles in the-province not delight
et quadam dissimilitudine institutorum meorum ac tuorum
and by-a-certain dissimilarity of-principles my and your
laedi se putat, cum uterque nostrum recte fecerit, sed non
to-be-hurt himself thinks since each of-us rightly has-done but not
idem uterque secutus sit, hunc ego amicum habere non curo.
the-same each followed has him I as-friend to-have not I-care
8 Liberalitas tua ut hominis nobilissimi latius in provincia
Liberality your as of-a-man most-noble more-widely in the-province
patuit; nostra si angustior est (etsi de tua prolixa
spread ours if narrower is although from your ample
beneficaque natura limavit aliquid posterior annus propter
and-beneficent nature has-filed something the-later year on-account-of
quandam tristitiam temporum), non debent mirari homines,
a-certain gloom of-the-times not ought to-wonder men
cum et natura semper ad largiendum ex alieno fuerim
since both by-nature always for giving from another's I-have-been
restrictior et temporibus, quibus alii moventur, isdem ego
more-restricted and by-the-times by-which others are-moved by-the-same I
movear, 'med esse acerbum sibi, uti sim dulcis mihi.'
am-moved me to-be harsh to-themselves that I-may-be sweet to-me

De rebus urbanis quod me certiorem fecisti, cum per 9
About affairs city that me more-informed you-made both by
se mihi gratum fuit, tum quod significasti tibi omnia
itself to-me pleasing was and because you-indicated to-you all
mea mandata curae fore. In quibus unum illud te
my instructions a-care going-to-be In which one that you
praecipue rogo ut cures, ne quid mihi ad hoc negoti
especially I-ask that you-take-care lest anything to-me to this of-business
aut oneris accedat aut temporis, Hortensiumque, nostrum
or of-burden be-added or of-time and-Hortensius our
conlegam et familiarem, roges ut, si umquam mea causa
colleague and friend you-ask that if ever for-my sake
quicquam aut sensit aut fecit, de hac quoque sententia
anything either he-felt or did from this also opinion
bima decedat, qua mihi nihil potest esse inimicius.
two-year he-withdraw than-which to-me nothing can to-be more-hostile
De nostris rebus quod scire vis, Tarso Nonis 10
About our affairs as-to-what to-know you-wish from-Tarsus on-the-Nones
Octobribus ad Amanum versus profecti sumus; haec
of-October to Amanus toward set-out we-have these-things
scripsi postridie eius diei, cum castra haberem in agro
I-wrote on-the-day-after of-that day when camp I-had in the-territory
Mopsuhestiae. Si quid egero, scribam ad te neque domum
of-Mopsuhestia If anything I-do I-will-write to you nor home
umquam ad me litteras mittam, quin adiungam eas, quas
ever to me a-letter will-I-send but-that I-add that which
tibi reddi velim. De Parthis quod quaeris,
to-you to-be-delivered I-would-wish About the-Parthians as-to-what you-ask
fuisse nullos puto; Arabes qui fuerunt admixto Parthico
to-have-been none I-think the-Arabs who were with-mixed Parthian
ornatu, dicuntur omnes revertisse; hostem esse in Syria
dress are-said all to-have-returned the-enemy to-be in Syria

negant ullum. Tu velim ad me quam saepissime et de
they-say-not any You I-would-wish to me as most-often both about
tuis rebus scribas et de meis et de omni rei publicae
your affairs write and about mine and about all of-the-thing public
statu; de quo sum sollicitus eo magis, quod ex tuis
state about which I-am anxious by-so-much more because from your
litteris cognovi Pompeium nostrum in Hispaniam iturum.
letter I-learned Pompey our into Spain going-to-go

III.9 · APPIUS HIMSELF AGAIN

At last a letter worthy of Appius: the sight of Rome has restored his old urbanity, and Cicero learns that many in the province wished them apart, and that at Rome Appius has learned how loyal Cicero was. Cicero rejoices in the near certainty of Appius' triumph and asks to hear of it at once. He would have the rest of Appius' augural books and must repay him in writing, and asks him to work for a thanksgiving, explaining why his own dispatch was late.

Cicero Appio Pulchro s.
Cicero to-Appius Pulcher greeting
1 Vix tandem legi litteras dignas Ap. Claudio, plenas
Scarcely at-last have-I-read a-letter worthy of-Appius Claudius full
humanitatis, offici, diligentiae. Aspectus videlicet urbis tibi
of-courtesy of-service of-diligence The-sight evidently of-the-city to-you
tuam pristinam urbanitatem reddidit; nam quas ex itinere
your former urbanity has-restored for what from the-road
ante quam ex Asia egressus es ad me litteras misisti,
before than from Asia departed you-have to me letters you-sent
unas de legatis a me prohibitis proficisci, alteras de
the-one about the-envoys by me prevented to-set-out the-other about
Appianorum aedificatione impedita, legi perinvitus; itaque
of-the-Appians the-building hindered I-read most-unwillingly and-so

conscientia meae constantis erga te voluntatis rescripsi
in-the-consciousness of-my steadfast toward you goodwill I-wrote-back
tibi subiratus. Iis vero litteris lectis, quas Philotimo,
to-you somewhat-angry That indeed letter read which to-Philotimus
liberto meo, dedisti, cognovi intellexique in provincia multos
freedman my you-gave I-learned and-understood in the-province many
fuisse, qui nos, quo animo inter nos sumus, esse
to-have-been who us in-which mind between ourselves we-are to-be
nollent, ad urbem vero ut accesseris vel potius ut
did-not-wish to the-city indeed as you-approached or rather as
primum tuos videris, cognosse te ex iis, qua in te
first yours you-saw to-have-learned you from them with-what toward you
absentem fide, qua in omnibus officiis tuendis erga
absent loyalty with-what in all duties to-be-maintained toward
te observantia et constantia fuissem. Itaque quanti illud
you observance and constancy I-had-been And-so how-much that
me aestimare putas, quod est in tuis litteris scriptum,
me to-value do-you-think which is in your letter written
si quid inciderit, quod ad meam dignitatem pertineat,
if anything happen which to my dignity pertain
etsi vix fieri possit, tamen te parem mihi gratiam
although hardly to-be-done can still you equal to-me favor
relaturum? Tu vero facile facies; nihil est enim quod
going-to-return You indeed easily will-do nothing there-is for which
studio et benevolentia vel amore potius effici non possit.
by-zeal and goodwill or by-love rather to-be-effected not can
Ego, etsi ipse ita iudicabam et fiebam crebro a meis 2
I although myself so judged and was-made often by my-friends
per litteras certior, tamen maximam laetitiam cepi ex
by letter informed still the-greatest joy I-took from
tuis litteris de spe minime dubia et plane explorata
your letter about the-hope least doubtful and plainly ascertained

triumphi tui, neque vero ob eam causam, quo ipse
of-triumph your nor indeed on-account-of that cause that I-myself
facilius consequerer (nam id quidem ’Επικούρειον est), sed
more-easily might-attain for that indeed Epicurean is but
mehercule quod tua dignitas atque amplitudo mihi est ipsa
by-Hercules because your dignity and greatness to-me is itself
cara per se. Qua re, quoniam pluris tu habes quam
dear by itself By-which thing since more you have than
ceteri, quos scias in hanc provinciam proficisci, quod
the-rest whom you-know into this province to-be-setting-out because
te adeunt fere omnes, si quid velis, gratissimum mihi
you approach almost all if anything you-wish most-pleasing to-me
feceris, si ad me, simulatque adeptus eris quod
you-will-have-done if to me as-soon-as attained you-shall-have what
et tu confidis et ego opto, litteras miseris. ‘Longi
both you are-confident and I wish a-letter you-send Of-the-long
subselli,’ ut noster Pompeius appellat, iudicatio et mora
bench as our Pompey calls-it the-adjudication and delay
si quem tibi item unum alterumve diem abstulerit (quid
if anyone to-you likewise one or-another day take-away what
enim potest amplius?), tua tamen dignitas suum locum
for can more your still dignity its-own place
obtinebit; sed, si me diligis, si a me diligi vis, ad
will-hold but if me you-love if by me to-be-loved you-wish to
me litteras, ut quam primum laetitia adficiar, mittito.
me a-letter that as first with-joy I-may-be-affected send

3 Et velim, reliquum quod est promissi ac muneris
And I-would-wish the-remainder which is of-the-promise and of-the-gift
tui, mihi persolvas. Cum ipsam cognitionem iuris auguri
your to-me you-pay-in-full Both the-very knowledge of-law augural
consequi cupio tum mehercule tuis incredibiliter studiis
to-attain I-desire and by-Hercules by-your incredibly zeal

erga me muneribusque delector. Quod autem a me tale
toward me and-gifts I-am-delighted As-to-what however from me such
quiddam desideras, sane mihi considerandum est, quonam
something you-desire indeed by-me to-be-considered it-is with-what
te remunerer potissimum genere. Nam profecto non est
you I-may-repay above-all kind For surely not it-is
meum, qui in scribendo, ut soles admirari, tantum
mine who in writing as you-are-wont to-admire so-much
industriae ponam, committere ut neglegens in scribendo
of-industry expend to-allow that negligent in writing
fuisse videar, praesertim cum id non modo neglegentis,
to-have-been I-seem especially since that not only of-a-negligent
sed etiam ingrati animi crimen futurum sit.
but even of-an-ungrateful mind the-charge going-to-be is
Verum haec videbimus. Illud, quod polliceris, velim 4
But these-things we-shall-see That which you-promise I-would-wish
pro tua fide diligentiaque et pro nostra non instituta,
for your loyalty and-diligence and for our not newly-instituted
sed iam inveterata amicitia cures, enitare, ut supplicatio
but already long-established friendship you-take-care you-strive that a-thanksgiving
nobis quam honorificentissime quam primumque decernatur.
to-us as most-honorably and-as first be-decreed
Omnino serius misi litteras quam vellem (in quo cum
Altogether later I-sent a-letter than I-would-wish in which both
difficultas navigandi fuit odiosa, tum in ipsum discessum
the-difficulty of-sailing was odious and into the-very departure
senatus incidisse credo meas litteras), sed id feci adductus
of-the-senate to-have-fallen I-believe my letter but that I-did induced
auctoritate et consilio tuo idque a me recte factum puto,
by-the-authority and counsel your and-that by me rightly done I-think
quod non statim, ut appellatus imperator sim, sed aliis
that not at-once as hailed imperator I-was but with-other

rebus additis aestivisque confectis litteras miserim.
matters added and-summer-campaigns completed a-letter I-sent
Haec igitur tibi erunt curae, quem ad modum ostendis,
These-things therefore to-you will-be for-care in-what to manner you-show
meque totum et mea et meos commendatos habebis.
and-me whole and my-affairs and my-people commended you-will-have

III.10 · APPIUS ACCUSED

Appius' enemies have prosecuted him and cost him his triumph. Cicero promises to defend his standing in the province with every service, and reports that Pomptinus, already boarding ship at Ephesus, went back to Laodicea for him. He wonders that the young man whom he twice defended on capital charges should attack Appius, and rebuts Appius' suspicion that he hindered the embassies sent to praise him: he only proposed that their expenses keep to the Cornelian law. No craft could have led him to spurn a friendship bound by studies, by their college of augurs, and by Pompey, the father-in-law of Appius' daughter, to whom Cicero owes everything. He hopes soon to hear Appius is censor.

Cicero Appio Pulchro s.
Cicero to-Appius Pulcher greeting
1 Cum est ad nos adlatum de temeritate eorum, qui
When it-was to us reported about the-rashness of-those who
tibi negotium facesserent, etsi graviter primo nuntio
to-you trouble were-making although gravely at-the-first news
commotus sum, quod nihil tam praeter opinionem meam
moved I-was because nothing so beyond expectation my
accidere potuit, tamen, ut me conlegi, cetera mi facillima
happen could still as myself I-collected the-rest to-me most-easy
videbantur, quod et in te ipso maximam spem et in
seemed because both in you yourself greatest hope and in
tuis magnam habebam, multaque mihi veniebant in
your-friends great I-had and-many-things to-me came into

mentem, quam ob rem istum laborem tibi etiam
mind which on-account-of thing that labor to-you even
honori putarem fore; illud plane moleste tuli, quod
for-honor I-thought going-to-be that plainly with-annoyance I-bore that
certissimum et iustissimum triumphum hoc invidorum
most-certain and most-just triumph by-this of-the-envious
consilio esse tibi ereptum videbam. Quod tu si tanti
plan to-have-been from-you snatched I-saw Which you if at-so-much
facies, quanti ego semper iudicavi faciendum esse,
you-will-value at-as-much-as I always judged to-be-valued to-be
facies sapienter et ages victor ex inimicorum dolore
you-will-do wisely and you-will-hold victor from of-enemies grief
triumphum iustissimum. Ego enim plane video fore nervis,
a-triumph most-just I for plainly see going-to-be by-sinews
opibus, sapientia tua, vehementer ut inimicos tuos paeniteat
by-resources by-wisdom your vehemently that enemies your repent
intemperantiae suae. De me tibi sic contestans omnis deos
of-intemperance their About me to-you so calling-to-witness all the-gods
promitto atque confirmo, me pro tua dignitate (malo enim
I-promise and affirm me for your dignity I-prefer for
dicere quam 'pro salute') in hac provincia, cui tu praefuisti,
to-say than for safety in this province over-which you presided
rogando deprecatoris, laborando propinqui, auctoritate cari
by-asking of-an-intercessor by-laboring of-a-relative by-authority of-a-dear
hominis, ut spero, apud civitates, gravitate imperatoris
man as I-hope with the-states by-gravity of-an-imperator
suscepturum officia atque partis. Omnia volo a me et
going-to-undertake the-duties and parts All-things I-wish from me both
postules et exspectes; vincam meis officiis cogitationes tuas.
you-demand and expect I-will-surpass by-my services the-thoughts your

2 Q. Servilius perbrevis mihi a te litteras reddidit, quae
Quintus Servilius a-very-short to-me from you letter delivered which
mihi tamen nimis longae visae sunt; iniuriam enim mihi
to-me still too long seemed were injury for to-me
fieri putabam, cum rogabar. Nollem accidisset tempus,
to-be-done I-thought when I-was-asked I-would-not-wish had-happened a-time
in quo perspicere posses, quanti te, quanti Pompeium,
in which to-perceive you-could how-much you how-much Pompey
quem unum ex omnibus facio, ut debeo, plurimi, quanti
whom alone of all I-value as I-ought most how-much
Brutum facerem (quamquam in consuetudine cotidiana
Brutus I-valued although in intercourse daily
perspexisses, sicuti perspicies); sed, quoniam accidit,
you-would-have-perceived as you-will-perceive but since it-has-happened
si quid a me praetermissum erit, commissum facinus
if anything by me passed-over shall-have-been committed a-crime
et admissum dedecus confitebor.
and admitted a-disgrace I-will-confess

3 Pomptinus, qui a te tractatus est praestanti ac singulari
Pomptinus who by you treated was with-outstanding and singular
fide, cuius tui benefici sum ego testis, praestat tibi memoriam
loyalty of-which your kindness am I witness shows to-you the-memory
benevolentiamque, quam debet. Qui cum maximis suis rebus
and-goodwill which he-owes Who when by-greatest his affairs
coactus a me invitissimo decessisset, tamen, ut vidit interesse
compelled from me most-unwilling had-departed still as he-saw to-matter
tua, conscendens iam navem Epheso Laudiceam revertit.
to-you boarding already a-ship from-Ephesus to-Laodicea returned
Talia te cum studia videam habiturum esse innumerabilia,
Such you since zeal I-see going-to-have to-be innumerable
plane dubitare non possum quin tibi amplitudo ista
plainly to-doubt not I-can but-that to-you greatness that

sollicitudo futura sit; si vero efficis ut censores creentur,
a-care going-to-be be if indeed you-bring-about that censors be-created
et si ita gesseris censuram, ut et debes et potes, non tibi
and if so you-conduct the-censorship as both you-ought and can not to-you
solum, sed tuis omnibus video in perpetuum summo te
only but to-yours all I-see into perpetuity for-the-greatest you
praesidio futurum. Illud pugna et enitere, ne quid nobis
protection going-to-be This fight and strive lest anything to-us
temporis prorogetur, ut, cum hic tibi satis fecerimus, istic
of-time be-extended so-that when here to-you enough we-have-done there
quoque nostram in te benevolentiam navare possimus.
also our toward you goodwill to-display we-may-be-able
Quae de hominum atque ordinum omnium erga te studiis 4
What about of-men and of-orders all toward you zeal
scribis ad me, minime mihi miranda et maxime iucunda
you-write to me least to-me to-be-wondered-at and most pleasing
acciderunt, eademque ad me perscripta sunt a familiaribus
have-happened and-the-same to me written-fully were by friends
meis. Itaque capio magnam voluptatem, cum tibi, cuius
my And-so I-take great pleasure both to-you whose
mihi amicitia non solum ampla sed etiam iucunda est,
to-me friendship not only ample but also pleasant is
ea tribui, quae debeantur, tum vero remanere etiam
those-things to-be-granted which are-owed and indeed to-remain even
nunc in civitate nostra studia prope omnium consensu
now in state our zeal with-almost of-all agreement
erga fortis et industrios viros, quae mihi ipsi una semper
toward brave and industrious men which to-me myself alone always
tributa merces est laborum et vigiliarum mearum.
granted reward has-been of-labors and vigils my

5 Illud vero mihi permirum accidit, tantam temeritatem
That indeed to-me very-wonderful happened such-great rashness
fuisse in eo adulescente, cuius ego salutem in
to-have-been in that young-man whose I safety in
duobus capitis iudiciis summa contentione defendi, ut
two capital trials with-greatest effort defended that
tuis inimicitiis suscipiendis oblivisceretur prope omnium
your enmities in-being-undertaken he-forgot almost of-all
fortunarum ac rationum suarum, praesertim cum tu omnibus
fortunes and plans his especially since you with-all
vel ornamentis vel praesidiis redundares, ipsi, ut levissime
either honors or protections abounded to-himself that most-lightly
dicam, multa dessent. Cuius sermo stultus et puerilis erat
I-may-say many-things lacked Whose talk foolish and childish had
iam ante ad me a M. Caelio, familiari nostro, perscriptus;
already before to me by Marcus Caelius friend our been-written-fully
de quo item sermone multa scripta sunt abs te. Ego
about which likewise talk many-things written were by you I
autem citius cum eo, qui tuas inimicitias suscepisset, veterem
however sooner with him who your enmities had-undertaken an-old
coniunctionem diremissem quam novam conciliassem; neque
union would-have-broken than a-new would-have-formed nor
enim de meo erga te studio dubitare debes, neque id
for about my toward you zeal to-doubt ought-you nor that
est obscurum cuiquam in provincia nec Romae fuit.
is obscure to-anyone in the-province nor at-Rome has-it-been

6 Sed tamen significatur in tuis litteris suspicio quaedam
But still is-indicated in your letter a-suspicion certain
et dubitatio tua, de qua alienum tempus est mihi
and a-doubt your about which inappropriate the-time is for-me
tecum expostulandi, purgandi autem mei necessarium. Ubi
with-you to-expostulate to-clear however myself necessary When

enim ego cuiquam legationi fui impedimento, quo minus
for I to-any embassy was a-hindrance whereby less
Romam ad laudem tuam mitteretur? aut in quo potui, si
to-Rome for praise your it-be-sent or in what could-I if
te palam odissem, minus quod tibi obesset facere,
you openly I-hated less what to-you might-be-in-the-way do
si clam, magis aperte inimicus esse? Quod si essem ea
if secretly more openly hostile to-be But if I-were of-that
perfidia, qua sunt ii, qui in nos haec conferunt,
treachery of-which are those who on us these-things lay
tamen ea stultitia certe non fuissem, ut aut in
still of-that folly certainly not I-would-have-been that either in
obscuro odio apertas inimicitias aut, in quo tibi nihil
hidden hatred open enmities or in what to-you nothing
nocerem, summam ostenderem voluntatem nocendi. Ad me
I-could-harm the-greatest I-should-show will of-harming To me
adire quosdam memini, nimirum ex Epicteto, qui
to-have-approached certain-men I-remember doubtless from Epictetus who
dicerent nimis magnos sumptus legatis decerni. Quibus
said too great expenses for-envoys to-be-decreed To-whom
ego non tam imperavi quam censui sumptus legatis quam
I not so-much ordered as proposed the-expenses for-envoys as
maxime ad legem Corneliam decernendos; atque in eo
most according-to the-law Cornelian to-be-decreed and in that
ipso me non perseverasse testes sunt rationes civitatum, in
very me not to-have-persisted witnesses are the-accounts of-the-states in
quibus, quantum quaeque voluit, legatis tuis datum induxit.
which how-much each wished to-envoys your given entered
Te autem quibus mendaciis homines levissimi onerarunt! non 7
You however with-what lies men most-frivolous have-loaded not
modo sublatos sumptus, sed etiam a procuratoribus eorum,
only taken-away the-expenses but even from the-agents of-those

qui iam profecti essent, repetitos et ablatos, eamque
who already set-out had demanded-back and taken-away and-that
causam multis omnino non eundi fuisse. Quererer tecum
the-cause for-many altogether not of-going to-have-been I-would-complain with-you
atque expostularem, ni, ut supra scripsi, purgare me tibi hoc
and expostulate unless as above I-wrote to-clear me to-you at-this
tuo tempore quam accusare te mallem idque putarem esse
your time than to-accuse you I-preferred and-that I-thought to-be
rectius. Itaque nihil de te, quod credideris, de me, quam
more-right And-so nothing about you which you-have-believed about me which
ob rem non debueris credere, pauca dicam. Nam si
on-account-of thing not you-ought to-believe a-few-things will-I-say For if
me virum bonum, si dignum iis studiis eaque doctrina,
me a-man good if worthy of-those studies and-that learning
cui me a pueritia dedi, si satis magni animi, non
to-which myself from boyhood I-gave if of-sufficiently great spirit not
minimi consili in maximis rebus perspectum habes, nihil
of-the-least counsel in greatest matters perceived you-hold nothing
in me non modo perfidiosum et insidiosum et fallax in
in me not only treacherous and insidious and deceitful in
amicitia, sed ne humile quidem aut ieiunum debes agnoscere.
friendship but not mean even or poor ought-you to-recognize
8 Sin autem me astutum et occultum libet fingere, quid
But-if however me crafty and secret it-pleases to-imagine what
est quod minus cadere in eius modi naturam possit quam
is which less fall into of-this kind a-nature could than
aut florentissimi hominis aspernari benevolentiam aut eius
either of-a-most-flourishing man to-spurn the-goodwill or his
existimationem oppugnare in provincia, cuius laudem domi
reputation to-attack in the-province whose praise at-home
defenderis, aut in ea re animum ostendere inimicum,
you-had-defended or in that matter a-mind to-show hostile

in qua nihil obsis, aut id eligere ad perfidiam,
in which nothing you-are-in-the-way or that to-choose for treachery
quod ad indicandum odium apertissimum sit, ad nocendum
which for revealing hatred most-open be for harming
levissimum? Quid erat autem cur ego in te tam
most-trivial What was however why I toward you so
implacabilis essem, cum te ex fratre meo ne tunc quidem,
implacable should-be when you from brother my not then even
cum tibi prope necesse esset eas agere partis, inimicum
when to-you almost necessary it-was those to-play parts hostile
mihi fuisse cognossem? Cum vero reditum nostrum in
to-me to-have-been I-had-learned When indeed return our into
gratiam uterque expetisset, quid in consulatu tuo frustra
favor each had-sought what in consulship your vainly
mecum egisti, quod me aut facere aut sentire voluisses?
with-me did-you-treat which me either to-do or to-feel you-wished
quid mihi mandasti, cum te Puteolos prosequerer, in quo
what to-me did-you-entrust when you to-Puteoli I-escorted in which
non exspectationem tuam diligentia mea vicerim?
not the-expectation your by-diligence my I-surpassed
Quod si id est maxime astuti, omnia ad suam utilitatem 9
But if that is most of-the-crafty all-things to his-own advantage
referre, quid mihi tandem erat utilius, quid commodis
to-refer what to-me pray was more-advantageous what to-interests
meis aptius quam hominis nobilissimi atque honoratissimi
my more-suited than of-a-man most-noble and most-honored
coniunctio, cuius opes, ingenium, liberi, adfines, propinqui
the-union whose resources talent children connections relatives
mihi magno vel ornamento vel praesidio esse possent? quae
to-me for-great either distinction or protection to-be could which
tamen ego omnia in expetenda amicitia tua non astutia
still I all in seeking friendship your not from-craftiness

quadam, sed aliqua potius sapientia secutus sum. Quid? illa
a-certain but some rather wisdom followed have What those
vincula, quibus quidem libentissime astringor, quanta sunt,
bonds by-which indeed most-gladly I-am-bound how-great are
studiorum similitudo, suavitas consuetudinis, delectatio vitae
of-studies the-likeness the-sweetness of-intercourse the-delight of-life
atque victus, sermonis societas, litterae interiores! Atque haec
and of-living of-conversation the-sharing letters more-intimate And these
domestica; quid illa tandem popularia, reditus inlustris in
private what those pray public a-return illustrious into
gratiam, in quo ne per imprudentiam quidem errari potest
favor in which not through inadvertence even err can-one
sine suspicione perfidiae, amplissimi sacerdoti collegium,
without suspicion of-treachery of-the-most-ample priesthood the-college
in quo non modo amicitiam violari apud maiores
in which not only friendship to-be-violated among ancestors
nostros fas non erat, sed ne coptari quidem sacerdotem
our right not was but not to-be-co-opted even a-priest
licebat, qui cuiquam ex collegio esset inimicus?
it-was-allowed who to-any from the-college was hostile
10 Quae ut omittam tam multa atque tanta, quis umquam tanti
Which that I-may-omit so many and so-great who ever so-much
quemquam fecit aut facere potuit aut debuit quanti ego Cn.
anyone valued or to-value could or ought as-much-as I Gnaeus
Pompeium, socerum tuae filiae? Etenim si merita valent,
Pompey the-father-in-law of-your daughter For-indeed if services avail
patriam, liberos, salutem, dignitatem, memet ipsum mihi per
fatherland children safety dignity me myself to-me through
illum restitutum puto, si consuetudinis iucunditas, quae fuit
him restored I-think if of-intercourse the-pleasantness what was
umquam amicitia consularium in nostra civitate coniunctior?
ever friendship of-consulars in our state more-closely-joined

si illa amoris atque offici signa, quid mihi ille non commisit,
if those of-love and of-service signs what to-me he not entrusted
quid non mecum communicavit, quid de se in senatu,
what not with-me shared what about himself in the-senate
cum ipse abesset, per quemquam agi maluit, quibus
when he-himself was-away through anyone to-be-done preferred by-what
ille me rebus non ornatissimum voluit amplissime, qua
he me things not most-honored wished most-amply with-what
denique ille facilitate, qua humanitate tulit contentionem
finally he good-nature with-what courtesy bore effort
meam pro Milone adversantem interdum actionibus suis,
my for Milo opposing sometimes actions his
quo studio providit, ne quae me illius temporis invidia
with-what zeal he-provided lest any me of-that time odium
attingeret, cum me consilio, cum auctoritate, cum armis
should-touch when me with-counsel with authority with arms
denique texit suis? Quibus quidem temporibus haec in eo
finally he-shielded his In-which indeed times this in him
gravitas, haec animi altitudo fuit, non modo ut Phrygi alicui
gravity this of-mind loftiness was not only that a-Phrygian some
aut Lycaoni, quod tu in legatis fecisti, sed ne summorum
or a-Lycaonian which you in the-envoys did but not of-the-highest
quidem hominum malevolis de me sermonibus crederet.
even men to-the-malevolent about me talk would-he-believe
Huius igitur filius cum sit gener tuus, cumque, praeter
Of-this-man then the-son since he-is son-in-law your and-since besides
hanc coniunctionem adfinitatis quam sis Cn. Pompeio
this union of-connection how you-are to-Gnaeus Pompey
carus quamque iucundus, intellegam, quo tandem animo
dear and-how pleasant I-understand with-what pray mind
in te esse debeo? cum praesertim eas ad me litteras
toward you to-be ought-I since especially that to me letter

is miserit, quibus, etiam si tibi, cui sum amicissimus,
he has-sent by-which even if to-you to-whom I-am most-friendly
hostis essem, placarer tamen totumque me ad eius
an-enemy I-were I-would-be-appeased still and-whole myself to of-that
viri ita de me meriti voluntatem nutumque converterem.
man so of me deserving the-will and-nod I-would-turn
11 Sed haec hactenus; pluribus enim etiam fortasse verbis,
But these-things so-far in-more for even perhaps words
quam necesse fuit, scripta sunt. Nunc ea, quae a me
than necessary it-was written are Now those-things which by me
profecta quaeque instituta sunt, cognosce. *** Atque
undertaken and-which instituted have-been learn (lacuna) And
haec agimus et agemus magis pro dignitate quam
these-things we-do and will-do more for dignity than
pro periculo tuo. Te enim, ut spero, propediem censorem
for danger your You for as I-hope soon censor
audiemus, cuius magistratus officia, quae sunt maximi animi
we-shall-hear of-whose magistracy the-duties which are of-greatest spirit
summique consili, tibi diligentius et accuratius quam
and-of-highest counsel by-you more-diligently and more-carefully than
haec, quae nos de te agimus, cogitanda esse censeo.
these-things which we about you do to-be-considered to-be I-think

In camp on the Pyramus, Cicero receives two letters from Appius. He rejoices at Appius' acquittal of treason, kisses the letter, and wonders at his enemies' perversity; a charge of bribery against such a career would only have raised his laughter. He is glad Appius was defended by the state itself and that Appius praises the loyalty of Pompey and Brutus. Appius' sketch of public affairs encourages him, and he will expect Appius' speeches in place of the augural books. His earlier letter was not angry, only a friend's complaint, and if it was not eloquent it was not Cicero's.

Cicero Appio Pulchro ut spero, censori s. d.
Cicero to-Appius Pulcher as I-hope censor greeting says
Cum essem in castris ad fluvium Pyramum, redditae mihi 1
When I-was in camp at the-river Pyramus delivered to-me
sunt uno tempore a te epistulae duae, quas ad me Q.
were at-one time from you letters two which to me Quintus
Servilius Tarso miserat. Earum in altera dies erat ascripta
Servilius from-Tarsus had-sent Of-them on the-one the-date was added
Nonarum Aprilium, in altera, quae mihi recentior videbatur,
of-the-Nones of-April on the-other which to-me more-recent seemed
dies non erat. Respondebo igitur superiori prius, in qua scribis
a-date not was I-will-reply therefore to-the-earlier first in which you-write
ad me de absolutione maiestatis. De qua etsi permulto
to me about the-acquittal of-treason About which although very-much
ante certior factus eram litteris, nuntiis, fama denique
before more-informed made I-had-been by-letters by-messengers by-rumor finally
ipsa (nihil enim fuit clarius; non quo quisquam aliter
itself nothing for was more-public not that anyone otherwise
putasset, sed nihil de insignibus ad laudem viris obscure
had-thought but nothing about distinguished for praise men obscurely
nuntiari solet), tamen eadem illa laetiora fecerunt
to-be-reported is-wont still the-same those-things more-joyful made

mihi tuae litterae, non solum quia planius loquebantur
for-me your letter not only because more-plainly it-spoke
et uberius quam vulgi sermo, sed etiam quia magis
and more-fully than the-common talk but also because more
videbar tibi gratulari, cum de te ex te ipso audiebam.
I-seemed you to-congratulate when about you from you yourself I-heard
2 Complexus igitur sum cogitatione te absentem, epistulam
embraced therefore I-have in-thought you absent the-letter
vero osculatus etiam ipse mihi gratulatus sum; quae enim
indeed having-kissed even myself to-me congratulated I-have what for
a cuncto populo, a senatu, a iudicibus ingenio, industriae,
by the-whole people by the-senate by the-judges to-talent to-industry
virtuti tribuuntur, quia mihi ipse adsentor fortasse, cum
to-virtue are-attributed because to-myself myself I-flatter perhaps since
ea esse in me fingo, mihi quoque ipsi tribui puto.
those-things to-be in me I-imagine to-me also myself to-be-attributed I-think
Nec tam gloriosum exitum tui iudici exstitisse, sed tam
Nor so glorious an-outcome of-your trial to-have-stood-out but so
pravam inimicorum tuorum mentem fuisse mirabar. 'De
perverse of-enemies your the-mind to-have-been I-wondered About
ambitu vero quid interest,' inquies, 'an de maiestate?' Ad
bribery indeed what difference-is-there you-will-say or about treason To
rem nihil; alterum enim non attigisti, alteram auxisti.
the-matter nothing the-one for not you-touched the-other you-increased
Verum tamen est maiestas, etsi Sulla voluit, ne in
But still there-is treason although Sulla wished lest against
quemvis impune declamari liceret; ambitus vero ita
anyone with-impunity declamation-be-made it-be-allowed bribery indeed so
apertam vim habet, ut aut accusetur improbe aut defendatur.
open force has that either it-is-accused wickedly or defended
Quid enim? facta necne facta largitio, ignorari potest?
What for done or-not done bribery to-be-unknown can

tuorum autem honorum cursus cui suspectus umquam fuit?
of-your however honors the-course to-whom suspected ever was-it
Me miserum, qui non adfuerim! quos ego risus excitassem!
Me wretched who not was-present what I laughter would-have-roused
Sed de maiestatis iudicio duo mihi illa ex tuis 3
But about of-treason the-trial two to-me those-things from your
litteris iucundissima fuerunt, unum, quod te ab ipsa re
letter most-delightful were the-one that you by the-very thing
publica defensum scribis, quae quidem etiam in summa
public defended you-write which indeed even in the-greatest
bonorum et fortium civium copia tueri talis viros
of-good and brave citizens abundance to-protect such men
deberet, nunc vero eo magis, quod tanta penuria
ought now indeed by-so-much more because such-great scarcity
est in omni vel honoris vel aetatis gradu, ut tam
there-is in every either of-office or of-age grade that so
orba civitas talis tutores complecti debeat; alterum, quod
bereaved a-state such guardians to-embrace ought the-other that
Pompei et Bruti fidem benevolentiamque mirifice laudas.
of-Pompey and of-Brutus the-loyalty and-goodwill wonderfully you-praise
Laetor virtute et officio quom tuorum necessariorum,
I-rejoice in-the-virtue and duty both of-your connections
meorum amicissimorum, tum alterius omnium saeculorum
my most-friendly both of-the-one of-all ages
et gentium principis, alterius iam pridem iuventutis,
and nations the-leading-man of-the-other already long-since of-youth
celeriter, ut spero, civitatis. De mercennariis testibus a
quickly as I-hope of-the-state About the-hired witnesses by
suis civitatibus notandis nisi iam factum aliquid est
their states to-be-branded unless already done anything has-been
per Flaccum, fiet a me, cum per Asiam decedam.
through Flaccus it-will-be-done by me when through Asia I-withdraw

4 Nunc ad alteram epistulam venio. Quod ad me quasi
Now to the-other letter I-come As-to-what to me as-it-were
formam communium temporum et totius rei publicae
the-shape of-common times and of-the-whole thing public
misisti expressam, prudentia litterarum tuarum valde mihi
you-sent expressed by-the-prudence of-letter your very to-me
est grata; video enim et pericula leviora, quam timebam,
is pleasing I-see for both the-dangers lighter than I-feared
et maiora praesidia, siquidem, ut scribis, omnes vires
and greater the-protections if-indeed as you-write all the-forces
civitatis se ad Pompei ductum applicaverunt; tuumque
of-the-state themselves to of-Pompey the-leadership have-attached and-your
simul promptum animum et alacrem perspexi ad
at-the-same-time ready mind and eager I-perceived for
defendendam rem publicam mirificamque cepi voluptatem
defending the-thing public and-wonderful I-took pleasure
ex hac tua diligentia, quod in summis tuis occupationibus
from this your diligence that in the-greatest your occupations
mihi tamen rei publicae statum per te notum
to-me still of-the-thing public the-state through you known
esse voluisti. Nam auguralis libros ad commune utriusque
to-be you-wished For the-augural books for the-common of-each
nostrum otium serva. Ego enim, a te cum tua promissa
of-us leisure keep I for from you when your promises
per litteras flagitabam, ad urbem te otiosissimum esse
by letter I-demanded at the-city you most-at-leisure to-be
arbitrabar; nunc tamen, ut ipse polliceris, pro
I-thought now still as you-yourself promise instead-of
auguralibus libris orationes tuas confectas omnis exspectabo.
the-augural books speeches your finished all I-will-expect

D. Tullius, cui mandata ad me dedisti, non convenerat 5
Decimus Tullius to-whom instructions for me you-gave not had-met
me; nec erat iam quisquam mecum tuorum praeter omnis
me nor was-there now anyone with-me of-yours except all
meos, qui sunt omnes tui. 'Stomachosiores' meas litteras
mine who are all yours More-irritable my letter
quas dicas esse, non intellego. Bis ad te scripsi me purgans
which you-say to-be not I-understand Twice to you I-wrote me clearing
diligenter, te leviter accusans in eo, quod de me cito
diligently you lightly accusing in that which about me quickly
credidisses. Quod genus querelae mihi quidem videbatur esse
you-had-believed Which kind of-complaint to-me indeed seemed to-be
amici; sin tibi displicet, non utar eo posthac. Sed si,
of-a-friend but-if to-you it-displeases not I-will-use it hereafter But if
ut scribis, eae litterae non fuerunt 'disertae,' scito meas non
as you-write that letter not was eloquent know mine not
fuisse. Ut enim Aristarchus Homeri versum negat, quem
to-have-been For as Aristarchus of-Homer a-verse denies which
non probat, sic tu (libet enim mihi iocari), quod disertum
not he-approves so you it-pleases for me to-jest what eloquent
non erit, ne putaris meum. Vale et in censura, si iam
not will-be not think mine Farewell and in the-censorship if already
es censor, ut spero, de proavo multum cogitato tuo.
you-are censor as I-hope about great-grandfather much think your

Cicero congratulates Appius on his acquittal of bribery, and marvels that malice dared to attack him even behind the secret ballot. He turns, hesitating, to himself: while he was away his family arranged a match for Tullia, at a time that could not have been worse for Appius. He hopes it turns out well, and is consoled by Appius' good sense and courtesy. Had he been present he would have approved the match but done nothing about its timing against Appius' wishes; the news reached him at Side, and the new connection makes him only more careful to show his love.

Cicero Appio Pulchro s.

Cicero to-Appius Pulcher greeting

1 Gratulabor tibi prius; ita enim rerum ordo postulat;
I-will-congratulate you first so for of-things the-order demands
deinde ad me convertar. Ego vero vehementer gratulor
then to myself I-will-turn I indeed vehemently congratulate
de iudicio ambitus, neque id, quod nemini dubium fuit,
on the-trial for-bribery nor that which to-no-one doubtful was
absolutum esse te, sed illud, quod, quo melior
acquitted to-have-been you but that that by-how-much better
civis, quo vir clarior, quo fortior amicus
a-citizen by-how-much a-man more-illustrious by-how-much braver a-friend
es, quoque plura virtutis, industriae ornamenta in te
you-are and-by-how-much more of-virtue of-industry ornaments in you
sunt, eo mirandum est magis nullam ne in tabellae
are by-so-much to-be-wondered-at it-is more no not in of-the-ballot
quidem latebra fuisse absconditam malevolentiam,
even the-hiding-place to-have-been hidden malevolence
quae te impugnare auderet. Non horum temporum, non
which you to-attack dared Not of-these times not

horum hominum atque morum negotium! nihil iam sum
of-these men and manners a-business nothing already have-I
pridem admiratus magis.
long-since admired more
De me autem suscipe paulisper meas partis et eum te esse 2
About me however undertake for-a-little my part and him you to-be
finge, qui sum ego. Si facile inveneris, quid dicas, noli
imagine who am I If easily you-find what you-may-say do-not
ignoscere haesitationi meae. Ego vero velim mihi Tulliaeque
pardon the-hesitation my I indeed would-wish for-me and-for-Tullia
meae, sicut tu amicissime et suavissime optas, prospere
my as you most-friendly and most-sweetly wish prosperously
evenire ea, quae me insciente facta sunt a meis;
to-turn-out those-things which me not-knowing done were by my-people
sed ita cecidisse, ut agerentur eo tempore! Spero
but so to-have-fallen-out that they-were-done at-that time I-hope
omnino cum aliqua felicitate et opto, verum tamen plus
altogether with some good-fortune and wish but still more
me in hac spe tua sapientia et humanitas consolatur quam
me in this hope your wisdom and courtesy consoles than
opportunitas temporis. Itaque, quem ad modum expediam
the-opportuneness of-the-time And-so in-what to manner I-may-find
exitum huius institutae orationis, non reperio; neque enim
the-outcome of-this begun speech not I-find nor for
tristius dicere quicquam debeo ea de re, quam tu ipse
more-sadly to-say anything ought-I that about matter which you yourself
ominibus optimis prosequeris, neque non me tamen mordet
with-omens best attend nor not me still stings
aliquid. In quo unum non vereor, ne tu parum perspicias
something In which one-thing not I-fear lest you too-little perceive
ea, quae gesta sunt, ab aliis esse gesta; quibus
those-things which done were by others to-have-been done to-whom

ego ita mandaram, ut, cum tam longe afuturus essem,
I so had-commissioned that since so far going-to-be-away I-was
ad me ne referrent; agerent, quod probassent.
to me not they-should-refer they-should-do what they-had-approved
3 In hoc autem mihi illud occurrit: 'Quid tu igitur, si
In this however to-me that occurs What you then if
adfuisses?' Rem probassem, de tempore nihil
you-had-been-present The-thing I-would-have-approved about the-time nothing
te invito, nihil sine consilio egissem tuo. Vides
with-you unwilling nothing without counsel would-I-have-done your You-see
sudare me iam dudum laborantem, quo modo ea
to-sweat me now long laboring in-what way those-things
tuear, quae mihi tuenda sunt, et te non offendam.
I-may-protect which by-me to-be-protected are and you not I-may-offend
Leva me igitur hoc onere; numquam enim mihi videor
Relieve me then of-this burden never for to-me do-I-seem
tractasse causam difficiliorem. Sic habeto tamen: Nisi iam
to-have-handled a-cause more-difficult So hold still Unless already
tunc omnia negotia cum summa tua dignitate diligentissime
then all business with highest your dignity most-diligently
confecissem, tametsi nihil videbatur ad meum erga te
I-had-finished although nothing seemed to my toward you
pristinum studium addi posse, tamen hac mihi
former zeal to-be-added to-be-able still with-this to-me
adfinitate nuntiata non maiore equidem studio, sed acrius,
connection announced not with-greater for-my-part zeal but more-keenly
apertius, significantius dignitatem tuam defendissem.
more-openly more-expressively dignity your I-would-have-defended
4 Decedenti mihi et iam imperio annuo terminato ante
To-withdrawing me and already with-command yearly ended before
d. iii Nonas Sext., cum ad Sidam navi accederem
the-day third Nones of-Sextilis when to Side by-ship I-was-approaching

et mecum Q. Servilius esset, litterae a meis
and with-me Quintus Servilius was a-letter from my-people
sunt redditae. Dixi statim Servilio (etenim videbatur esse
was delivered I-told at-once Servilius for-indeed he-seemed to-be
commotus), ut omnia a me maiora exspectaret. Quid
moved that all-things from me greater he-might-expect What
multa? benevolentior tibi quam fui nilo sum factus,
many more-well-disposed to-you than I-was by-nothing have-I become
diligentior ad declarandam benevolentiam multo. Nam, ut
more-diligent for declaring goodwill by-much For as
vetus nostra simultas antea stimulabat me ut caverem ne
old our quarrel before spurred me that I-should-beware lest
cui suspicionem ficte reconciliatae gratiae darem, sic
to-anyone suspicion feignedly reconciled of-favor I-should-give so
adfinitas nova curam mihi adfert cavendi ne quid de
connection new care to-me brings of-being-on-guard lest anything from
summo meo erga te amore detractum esse videatur.
highest my toward you love taken-away to-have-been it-may-seem

III.13 · FRIENDSHIP ITSELF

As if foreseeing that he would one day need Appius' zeal, Cicero served his honor when his deeds were debated; Appius has repaid more than he received, with his authority, his speech, and his vote, and with his effort, his counsel, and his visits to Cicero's friends. Cicero takes their friendship itself as its fruit, partners in public life and in their studies. He hopes Appius understands that the new connection has added to his zeal, and writes briefly and modestly to one he hopes is already censor, a master of morals.

Cicero Appio Pulchro s.

Cicero to-Appius Pulcher greeting

1 Quasi divinarem tali in officio fore mihi aliquando
As-if I-divined such in duty going-to-be by-me sometime
expetendum studium tuum, sic, cum de tuis rebus gestis
to-be-sought-for zeal your so when about your deeds done
agebatur, inserviebam honori tuo; dicam tamen vere:
it-was-discussed I-served honor your I-will-say still truly
Plus quam acceperas reddidisti. Quis enim ad me non
More than you-had-received you-have-returned Who for to me not
perscripsit te non solum auctoritate orationis, sententia tua,
wrote-fully you not only by-authority of-speech by-vote your
quibus ego a tali viro contentus eram, sed etiam opera,
with-which I from such a-man content was but also by-effort
consilio, domum veniendo, conveniendis meis nullum onus
by-counsel home by-coming by-to-be-visited my-friends no burden
offici cuiquam reliquum fecisse? Haec mihi ampliora multo
of-duty to-anyone remaining to-have-made These-things to-me greater much
sunt quam illa ipsa, propter quae haec laborantur.
are than those very-things on-account-of which these-things are-labored-for
Insignia enim virtutis multi etiam sine virtute adsecuti
The-insignia for of-virtue many even without virtue attained
sunt, talium virorum tanta studia adsequi sola virtus potest.
have of-such men so-great zeal to-attain alone virtue can
2 Itaque mihi propono fructum amicitiae nostrae ipsam
And-so to-myself I-set-out as-fruit of-friendship our itself
amicitiam, qua nihil est uberius, praesertim in iis studiis,
friendship than-which nothing is more-fruitful especially in those studies
quibus uterque nostrum devinctus est. Nam tibi me profiteor
by-which each of-us bound is For to-you me I-declare
et in re publica socium, de qua idem sentimus, et
both in the-thing public a-partner about which the-same we-feel and

in cotidiana vita coniunctum, quam his artibus studiisque
in daily life joined which by-these arts and-studies
colimus. Vellem ita fortuna tulisset, ut, quanti ego omnis
we-cultivate I-would-wish so fortune had-brought that how-much I all
tuos facio, tanti tu meos facere posses, quod tamen ipsum
yours value so-much you mine to-value could which still itself
nescio qua permotus animi divinatione non despero. Sed
I-know-not by-what moved of-mind divination not I-despair But
hoc nihil ad te; nostrum est onus. Illud velim sic habeas,
this nothing to you our is the-burden That I-would-wish so you-hold
quod intelleges hac re novata additum potius aliquid
which you-will-understand with-this matter renewed added rather something
ad meum erga te studium, quo nihil videbatur addi
to my toward you zeal than-which nothing seemed to-be-added
posse, quam quicquam esse detractum. Cum haec
to-be-able than anything to-have-been taken-away When these-things
scribebam, censorem iam te esse sperabam. Eo brevior
I-was-writing censor already you to-be I-hoped By-so-much shorter
est epistula et ut adversus magistrum morum modestior.
is the-letter and as toward a-master of-morals more-modest

BOOK IV

IV.1 · TO SERVIUS SULPICIUS

Trebatius reports that Servius, having missed him near the city, wishes to confer. Cicero wishes they could have talked while the state stood and brought it some help: Servius was the defender of peace, and Cicero, late, alone, and seemingly inexperienced in the cause, fell among men mad for war. The world is ablaze with war and the city left to plunder. If Servius thinks it useful, Cicero will come nearer, and whatever they decide together all men will approve.

M. Cicero s. d. Ser. Sulpicio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Servius Sulpicius

C. Trebatius, familiaris meus, ad me scripsit te ex se 1

Gaius Trebatius friend my to me wrote you from him

quaesisse, quibus in locis essem, molesteque te ferre, quod

to-have-asked what in places I-was and-with-annoyance you to-bear that

me propter valetudinem tuam, cum ad urbem accessissem,

me on-account-of health your when to the-city I-had-approached

non vidisses, et hoc tempore velle te mecum, si propius

not you-had-seen and at-this time to-wish you with-me if nearer

accessissem, de officio utriusque nostrum communicare.

I-approached about the-duty of-each of-us to-confer

Utinam, Servi, salvis rebus (sic enim est dicendum)

Would-that Servius with-safe affairs so for it-is to-be-said

conloqui potuissemus inter nos! profecto aliquid opis

to-converse we-had-been-able among ourselves surely some help

occidenti rei publicae tulissemus. Cognoram enim iam

to-the-falling thing public we-would-have-brought I-had-learned for already

absens te haec mala multo ante providentem defensorem

absent you these evils much before foreseeing the-defender

pacis et in consulatu tuo et post consulatum fuisse;

of-peace both in consulship your and after consulship to-have-been

ego autem, cum consilium tuum probarem et idem ipse
I however although counsel your I-approved and the-same myself
sentirem, nihil proficiebam; sero enim veneram, solus eram,
felt nothing I-accomplished late for I-had-come alone I-was
rudis esse videbar in causa, incideram in hominum
inexperienced to-be I-seemed in the-cause I-had-fallen into of-men
pugnandi cupidorum insanias. Nunc, quoniam nihil iam
of-fighting eager madnesses Now since nothing now
videmur opitulari posse rei publicae, si quid est, in
we-seem to-help to-be-able the-thing public if anything is in
quo nobismet ipsis consulere possimus, non ut aliquid ex
which for-ourselves ourselves to-consult we-can not that something from
pristino statu nostro retineamus, sed ut quam honestissime
former state our we-may-retain but that as most-honorably
lugeamus, nemo est omnium, quicum potius mihi quam
we-may-mourn no-one there-is of-all with-whom rather by-me than
tecum communicandum putem; nec enim clarissimorum
with-you to-be-conferred I-think nor for of-most-illustrious
virorum, quorum similes esse debemus, exempla neque
men whom like to-be we-ought the-examples nor
doctissimorum, quos semper coluisti, praecepta te
of-the-most-learned whom always you-have-cultivated the-precepts you
fugiunt. Atque ipse antea ad te scripsissem te frustra in
escape And I-myself before to you would-have-written you vainly into
senatum sive potius in conventum senatorum esse venturum,
the-senate or rather into the-gathering of-senators to-be going-to-come
ni veritus essem ne eius animum offenderem, qui a me, ut
unless feared I-had lest his mind I-should-offend who of me that
te imitarer, petebat. Cui quidem ego, cum me rogaret
you I-should-imitate asked To-whom indeed I when me he-asked

ut adessem in senatu, eadem omnia, quae a te de
that I-should-be-present in the-senate the-same all-things which by you about
pace et de Hispaniis dicta sunt, ostendi me esse dicturum.
peace and about the-Spains said were showed me to-be going-to-say
Res vides quo modo se habeat, orbem terrarum 2
The-situation you-see in-what way itself it-has the-world of-lands
imperiis distributis ardere bello, urbem sine legibus,
with-commands distributed to-blaze with-war the-city without laws
sine iudiciis, sine iure, sine fide relictam direptioni et
without courts without justice without credit left to-plunder and
incendiis. Itaque mihi venire in mentem nihil potest, non
to-fires And-so to-me to-come into mind nothing can not
modo quod sperem, sed vix iam quod audeam optare.
only which I-may-hope but scarcely now which I-dare to-wish
Sin autem tibi, homini prudentissimo, videtur utile esse
But-if however to-you a-man most-prudent it-seems useful to-be
nos conloqui, quamquam longius etiam cogitabam ab urbe
us to-confer although farther even I-was-thinking from the-city
discedere, cuius iam etiam nomen invitus audio, tamen
to-withdraw of-which now even the-name unwillingly I-hear still
propius accedam, Trebatioque mandavi ut, si quid tu
nearer I-will-approach and-Trebatius I-instructed that if anything you
eum velles ad me mittere, ne recusaret, idque ut facias
him wished to me to-send not he-should-refuse and-that that you-do
velim aut, si quem tuorum fidelium voles, ad me
I-would-wish or if anyone of-your faithful you-wish to me
mittas, ne aut tibi exire ex urbe necesse sit aut mihi
you-send lest either for-you to-go-out from the-city necessary be or for-me
accedere. Ego tantum tibi tribuo, quantum mihi fortasse
to-approach I so-much to-you grant as-much-as to-myself perhaps

adrogo, ut exploratum habeam, quicquid nos communi
I-claim that ascertained I-hold whatever we by-common
sententia statuerimus, id omnis homines probaturos. Vale.
opinion determine that all men going-to-approve Farewell

IV.2 · WHAT IS RIGHT

At his Cuman villa Cicero receives Servius' letter, sent by Philotimus, who did not come himself; Servius' wife Postumia and his son urge a meeting there. Cicero cannot advise so wise a man: if they seek what is right, it is clear, and nothing is expedient that is not honorable. Both erred in seeking concord and Caesar's favor for peace. To approve what is done is base, to take part dangerous; it remains to depart, and only where and how is hard to decide. If Servius has already settled on a course apart from Cicero's, he should spare himself the journey; otherwise Cicero will wait for him.

M. Cicero s. d. Ser. Sulpicio.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Servius Sulpicius
1 A. d. iii K. Maias cum essem in Cumano,
On-the day third before-the-Kalends of-May when I-was at my-Cuman-villa
accepi tuas litteras; quibus lectis cognovi non satis
I-received your letter which read I-learned not sufficiently
prudenter fecisse Philotimum, qui, cum abs te mandata
prudently to-have-acted Philotimus who when from you instructions
haberet, ut scribis, de omnibus rebus, ipse ad me non
he-had as you-write about all matters himself to me not
venisset, litteras tuas misisset, quas intellexi breviores
had-come letter your had-sent which I-understood shorter
fuisse, quod eum perlaturum putasses. Sed tamen,
to-have-been because him going-to-deliver you-had-thought But still
postquam tuas litteras legi, Postumia tua me convenit
after your letter I-read Postumia your me met

et Servius noster. His placuit ut tu in Cumanum
and Servius our To-them it-pleased that you into my-Cuman-villa
venires, quod etiam mecum ut ad te scriberem egerunt.
should-come which also with-me that to you I-should-write they-urged
Quod meum consilium exquiris, id est tale, ut capere 2
As-to-what my counsel you-seek-out it is such that to-take
facilius ipse possim quam alteri dare. Quid enim est
more-easily myself I-could than to-another to-give What for is-there
quod audeam suadere tibi, homini summa auctoritate
which I-may-dare to-advise you a-man of-highest authority
summaque prudentia? Si quid rectissimum sit quaerimus,
and-highest prudence If what most-right be we-ask
perspicuum est, si quid maxime expediat, obscurum; sin
clear it-is if what most be-expedient obscure but-if
ii sumus, qui profecto esse debemus, ut nihil arbitremur
those we-are who surely to-be we-ought that nothing we-think
expedire nisi quod rectum honestumque sit, non potest
to-be-expedient unless what right and-honorable be not can
esse dubium, quid faciendum nobis sit.
to-be doubtful what to-be-done by-us be
Quod existimas meam causam coniunctam esse cum tua, 3
As-to-what you-think my cause joined to-be with yours
certe similis in utroque nostrum, cum optime sentiremus,
certainly similar in each of-us when best we-felt
error fuit. Nam omnia utriusque consilia ad concordiam
error was For all of-each counsels to concord
spectaverunt; qua quom ipsi Caesari nihil esset utilius,
looked than-which since himself to-Caesar nothing was more-useful
gratiam quoque nos inire ab eo defendenda pace
favor also we to-enter-into with him by-to-be-defended peace
arbitrabamur. Quantum nos fefellerit et quem in locum
thought How-much us it-deceived and which into place

res deducta sit, vides. Neque solum ea perspicis,
the-thing brought has-been you-see Nor only those-things do-you-perceive
quae geruntur quaeque iam gesta sunt, sed etiam qui cursus
which are-done and-which already done have-been but also what the-course
rerum, qui exitus futurus sit. Ergo aut probare oportet
of-affairs what the-outcome going-to-be be Therefore either to-approve ought-one
ea, quae fiunt, aut interesse, etiam si non probes;
those-things which are-done or to-take-part even if not you-approve
quorum altera mihi turpis, altera etiam periculosa ratio videtur.
of-which the-one to-me base the-other also dangerous course seems
4 Restat, ut discedendum putem; in quo reliqua videtur esse
It-remains that to-be-departed I-think in which the-remaining seems to-be
deliberatio, quod consilium in discessu, quae loca sequamur.
deliberation what plan in departure what places we-should-follow
Omnino cum miserior res numquam accidit tum ne
Altogether as more-wretched thing never happened so not
deliberatio quidem difficilior; nihil enim constitui potest,
deliberation even more-difficult nothing for to-be-determined can
quod non incurrat in magnam aliquam difficultatem. Tu, si
which not runs into great some difficulty You if
videbitur, ita censeo facias, ut, si habes iam statutum, quid
it-seems so I-advise you-do that if you-have already determined what
tibi agendum putes, in quo non sit coniunctum consilium
by-you to-be-done you-think in which not be joined counsel
tuum cum meo, supersedeas hoc labore itineris. Sin autem
your with mine you-spare this labor of-the-journey But-if however
est quod mecum communicare velis, ego te exspectabo; tu,
there-is what with-me to-confer you-wish I you will-await you
quod tuo commodo fiat, quam primum velim venias,
what with-your convenience be-done as first I-would-wish you-come
sicut intellexi et Servio et Postumiae placere. Vale.
as I-have-understood both to-Servius and to-Postumia to-please Farewell

Servius is said to be tormented by the common miseries. Cicero, though grieved as much as any man, is consoled by his own counsels, since he foresaw the storm, as Servius did in his consulship, warning that whoever next seized the state by arms would be far more intolerable than those before him. Caesar and all citizens think Servius' integrity shines when other lights are out. Their old studies are the one rest left them; Cicero has turned to philosophy, and Servius' son excels in it.

M. Cicero s. d. Ser. Sulpicio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Servius Sulpicius

Vehementer te esse sollicitum et in communibus miseriis 1

Vehemently you to-be anxious and in common miseries

praecipuo quodam dolore angi multi ad nos cotidie

with-a-special certain grief to-be-tormented many to us daily

deferunt. Quod quamquam minime miror et meum quodam

report Which although least I-wonder-at and my in-a-certain

modo agnosco, doleo tamen te sapientia praeditum prope

way I-recognize I-grieve still you with-wisdom endowed almost

singulari non tuis bonis delectari potius quam alienis malis

singular not in-your-own goods to-delight rather than of-others evils

laborare. Me quidem, etsi nemini concedo, qui maiorem ex

to-labor Me indeed although to-no-one I-yield who greater from

pernicie et peste rei publicae molestiam traxerit, tamen

the-ruin and plague of-the-thing public vexation has-drawn still

multa iam consolantur maximeque conscientia consiliorum

many-things already console and-most the-consciousness of-counsels

meorum. Multo enim ante tamquam ex aliqua specula

my Much for before as-if from some watch-tower

prospexi tempestatem futuram, neque id solum mea

I-foresaw the-storm going-to-be nor that only of-my-own

sponte, sed multo etiam magis monente et denuntiante te.

accord but much even more with-warning and denouncing you

Etsi enim afui magnam partem consulatus tui, tamen
Although for I-was-away for-great part of-consulship your still
et absens cognoscebam, quae esset tua in hoc pestifero bello
both absent I-learned what was your in this pestilent war
cavendo et praedicendo sententia, et ipse adfui
to-be-guarded-against and to-be-foretold opinion and myself was-present
primis temporibus tui consulatus, cum accuratissime
at-the-first times of-your consulship when most-carefully
monuisti senatum conlectis omnibus bellis civilibus, ut
you-warned the-senate with-collected all wars civil that
et illa timerent, quae meminissent, et scirent, cum
both those-things they-should-fear which they-remembered and should-know since
superiores nullo tali exemplo antea in re publica cognito
the-earlier with-no such example before in the-thing public known
tam crudeles fuissent, quicumque postea rem publicam
so cruel had-been whoever afterward the-thing public
oppressisset armis, multo intolerabiliorem futurum. Nam,
should-have-oppressed with-arms much more-intolerable going-to-be For
quod exemplo fit, id etiam iure fieri putant, ipsi
what by-precedent is-done that also by-right to-be-done they-think themselves
aliquid atque adeo multa addunt et adferunt de suo.
something and even many-things they-add and contribute from their-own

2 Qua re meminisse debes eos, qui auctoritatem et
By-which thing to-remember you-ought those who the-authority and
consilium tuum non sint secuti, sua stultitia occidisse,
counsel your not have followed by-their-own folly to-have-perished
cum tua prudentia salvi esse potuissent. Dices: 'Quid me
when by-your prudence safe to-be they-could-have You-will-say What me
ista res consolatur in tantis tenebris et quasi parietinis
that thing consoles in such-great darkness and as-it-were ruins
rei publicae?' Est omnino vix consolabilis dolor;
of-the-thing public It-is altogether scarcely consolable the-grief

tanta est omnium rerum amissio et desperatio reciperandi;
so-great is of-all things the-loss and the-despair of-recovering
sed tamen et Caesar ipse ita de te iudicat et omnes
but still both Caesar himself so about you judges and all
cives sic existimant, quasi lumen aliquod exstinctis
citizens so think as-if a-light some with-extinguished
ceteris elucere sanctitatem et prudentiam et dignitatem
the-others to-shine-out the-integrity and prudence and dignity
tuam. Haec tibi ad levandas molestias magna esse
your These-things to-you for to-be-relieved vexations great to-be
debent. Quod autem a tuis abes, id eo levius
ought That however from yours you-are-away that by-so-much more-lightly
ferendum est, quod eodem tempore a multis et magnis
to-be-borne is because at-the-same time from many and great
molestiis abes; quas ad te omnis perscriberem, nisi
vexations you-are-away which to you all I-would-write-fully unless
vererer ne ea cognosceres absens, quae quia non vides,
I-feared lest them you-should-learn absent which because not you-see
mihi videris meliore esse condicione quam nos, qui videmus.
to-me you-seem in-a-better to-be condition than we who see
Hactenus existimo nostram consolationem recte adhibitam 3
So-far I-think our consolation rightly applied
esse, quoad certior ab homine amicissimo fieres
to-have-been while more-informed by a-man most-friendly you-were-made
iis de rebus, quibus levari possent molestiae tuae.
those about things by-which to-be-relieved could vexations your
Reliqua sunt in te ipso neque mihi ignota nec minima
The-remaining are in you yourself nor to-me unknown nor least
solacia, ut quidem ego sentio, multo maxima; quae ego
consolations as indeed I feel by-much greatest which I
experiens cotidie sic probo, ut ea mihi salutem adferre
experiencing daily so approve that they to-me safety to-bring

videantur. Te autem ab initio aetatis memoria teneo
seem You however from the-beginning of-age in-memory I-hold
summe omnium doctrinarum studiosum fuisse omniaque,
most of-all learning devoted to-have-been and-all-things
quae a sapientissimis ad bene vivendum tradita essent,
which by the-wisest for well living handed-down had-been
summo studio curaque didicisse; quae quidem vel optimis
with-highest zeal and-care to-have-learned which indeed even in-the-best
rebus et usui et delectationi esse possent, his vero
circumstances both for-use and for-delight to-be could in-these indeed
temporibus habemus aliud nihil, in quo adquiescamus.
times we-have other nothing in which we-may-rest
Nihil faciam insolenter neque te tali vel scientia vel
Nothing will-I-do arrogantly nor you with-such either knowledge or
natura praeditum hortabor, ut ad eas te referas artis,
nature endowed will-I-exhort that to those yourself you-bring-back arts
quibus a primis temporibus aetatis studium tuum dedisti;
to-which from the-first times of-age zeal your you-gave
4 tantum dicam, quod te spero approbaturum, me, postea
only I-will-say what you I-hope going-to-approve me after
quam illi arti, cui studueram, nihil esse loci neque
that for-that art to-which I-had-devoted-myself none to-be of-room either
in curia neque in foro viderem, omnem meam curam
in the-senate-house or in the-forum I-saw all my care
atque operam ad philosophiam contulisse. Tuae scientiae
and effort to philosophy to-have-brought To-your knowledge
excellenti ac singulari non multo plus quam nostrae relictum
excellent and singular not much more than to-ours left
est loci. Qua re non equidem te moneo, sed mihi
is of-room By-which thing not for-my-part you do-I-advise but myself
ita persuasi, te quoque in isdem versari rebus, quae
so I-have-persuaded you also in the-same to-be-engaged things which

etiam si minus prodessent, animum tamen a sollicitudine
even if less they-profited the-mind still from anxiety
abducerent. Servius quidem tuus in omnibus ingenuis artibus
would-draw-away Servius indeed your in all liberal arts
in primisque in hac, in qua ego me scripsi adquiescere,
among and-the-first in this in which I myself have-written to-rest
ita versatur, ut excellat; a me vero sic diligitur, ut tibi uni
so is-engaged that he-excels by me indeed so he-is-loved that to-you alone
concedam, praeterea nemini; mihique ab eo gratia refertur,
I-yield besides to-no-one and-to-me by him gratitude is-returned
in quo ille existimat, quod facile appareat, cum me colat
in which he thinks which easily appear since me he-cultivates
et observet, tibi quoque in eo se facere gratissimum.
and observes to-you also in that himself to-do most-pleasing

IV.4 · THE PARDON OF MARCELLUS

Cicero accepts Servius' excuse for sending duplicate letters, but not his plea of poverty of speech. Servius' acceptance of Achaea was wise, and he is happier abroad, where he may write what grieves him. In the senate Caesar, after blaming Marcellus' bitterness and praising Servius, granted the senate's plea for Marcellus, a day so fair that the state seemed to revive. Cicero, who had resolved on lasting silence, thanked Caesar at length, and fears he has lost his honorable leisure; philosophy is his relief. Servius' son consults with him, and they advise Servius to do what Caesar seems to wish.

M. Cicero s. d. Ser. Sulpicio.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Servius Sulpicius
Accipio excusationem tuam, qua usus es, cur saepius ad 1
I-accept excuse your which used you-have why more-often to
me litteras uno exemplo dedisses, sed accipio ex ea parte,
me a-letter in-one copy you-had-given but I-accept-it in that part

quatenus aut neglegentia aut improbitate eorum, qui epistulas
so-far-as either by-the-negligence or dishonesty of-those who the-letters
accipiant, fieri scribis ne ad nos perferantur; illam partem
receive to-happen you-write lest to us they-be-delivered that part
excusationis, qua te scribis 'orationis paupertate' (sic
of-the-excuse in-which you you-write of-speech by-poverty so
enim appellas) isdem verbis epistulas saepius mittere, nec
for you-call-it in-the-same words letters more-often to-send neither
nosco nec probo, et ego ipse, quem tu per iocum (sic
do-I-recognize nor approve and I myself whom you in jest so
enim accipio) 'divitias orationis' habere dicis, me non esse
for I-take-it riches of-speech to-have you-say me not to-be
verborum admodum inopem agnosco (εἰρωνεύεσθαι enim
of-words quite poor I-acknowledge to-feign-modesty for
non necesse est), sed tamen idem (nec hoc εἰρωνευόμενος)
not necessary it-is but still the-same not this feigning-modesty
facile cedo tuorum scriptorum subtilitati et elegantiae.
easily I-yield of-your writings to-the-subtlety and elegance

2 Consilium tuum, quo te usum scribis hoc Achaicum
The-plan your which you having-used you-write this Achaean
negotium non recusavisse, cum semper probavissem, tum
business not to-have-refused while always I-had-approved so
multo magis probavi lectis tuis proximis litteris; omnes
much more I-approved with-read your latest letter all
enim causae, quas commemoras, iustissimae sunt tuaque et
for the-reasons which you-mention most-just are and-of-your both
auctoritate et prudentia dignissimae. Quod aliter cecidisse
authority and prudence most-worthy That otherwise to-have-turned-out
rem existimas atque opinatus sis, id tibi nullo modo
the-matter you-think than supposed you-had that with-you in-no way
adsentior; sed quia tanta perturbatio et confusio est rerum,
do-I-agree but because so-great disturbance and confusion is of-affairs

ita perculsa et prostrata foedissimo bello iacent omnia, ut
so struck and laid-low by-a-most-foul war lie all-things that
is cuique locus, ubi ipse sit, et sibi quisque miserrimus
that to-each place where himself he-is and to-himself each most-wretched
esse videatur, propterea et tui consili paenitet te, et nos,
to-be seems therefore both of-your plan repents you and we
qui domi sumus, tibi beati videmur, at contra nobis non
who at-home are to-you happy seem but on-the-contrary to-us not
tu quidem vacuus molestiis, sed prae nobis beatus. Atque
you indeed free of-vexations but compared-to us happy And
hoc ipso melior est tua quam nostra condicio, quod tu, quid
by-this very better is your than our condition that you what
doleat, scribere audes, nos ne id quidem tuto possumus,
grieves to-write dare we not that even safely can
nec id victoris vitio, quo nihil moderatius, sed
nor that of-the-victor through-the-fault than-whom nothing more-moderate but
ipsius victoriae, quae civilibus bellis semper est insolens.
itself of-victory which in-civil wars always is insolent
Uno te vicimus, quod de Marcelli, conlegae tui, 3
In-one-thing you we-have-surpassed that about of-Marcellus of-colleague your
salute paulo ante quam tu cognovimus, etiam me hercule
the-safety a-little before than you we-learned also so-help-me Hercules
quod, quem ad modum ea res ageretur, vidimus. Nam sic
because in-what to manner that thing was-done we-saw For so
fac existimes, post has miserias, id est postquam armis
make-sure you-think after these miseries that is after with-arms
disceptari coeptum sit de iure publico, nihil esse
to-be-disputed begun it-has about right public nothing to-have-been
actum aliud cum dignitate. Nam et ipse Caesar accusata
done else with dignity For both himself Caesar with-accused
'acerbitate' Marcelli (sic enim appellabat) laudataque
the-bitterness of-Marcellus so for he-called-it and-having-praised

honorificentissime et aequitate tua et prudentia repente
most-honorably both fairness your and prudence suddenly
praeter spem dixit se senatui roganti de Marcello
beyond hope said himself to-the-senate asking about Marcellus
ne ominis quidem causa negaturum. Fecerat autem hoc
not of-the-omen even for-the-sake going-to-refuse Had-done however this
senatus, ut, cum a L. Pisone mentio esset facta de M.
the-senate that when by Lucius Piso mention had-been made about Marcus
Marcello et C. Marcellus se ad Caesaris pedes abiecisset,
Marcellus and Gaius Marcellus himself at of-Caesar the-feet had-thrown
cunctus consurgeret et ad Caesarem supplex accederet. Noli
the-whole should-rise and to Caesar as-suppliant approach Do-not
quaerere; ita mihi pulcher hic dies visus est, ut speciem
ask so to-me beautiful this day seemed has that an-appearance
aliquam viderer videre quasi reviviscentis rei publicae.
some I-seemed to-see as-if of-reviving of-the-thing public

4 Itaque, cum omnes ante me rogati gratias Caesari egissent
And-so when all before me asked thanks to-Caesar had-given
praeter Volcacium (is enim, si eo loco esset, negavit se
except Volcacius he for if in-that place he-were said-not himself
facturum fuisse), ego rogatus mutavi meum consilium.
going-to-do to-have-been I being-asked changed my plan
Nam statueram non me hercule inertia, sed desiderio
For I-had-determined not so-help-me Hercules from-inertia but from-longing
pristinae dignitatis in perpetuum tacere. Fregit hoc
of-former dignity into perpetuity to-be-silent Broke this
meum consilium et Caesaris magnitudo animi et senatus
my plan both of-Caesar the-greatness of-mind and of-the-senate
officium; itaque pluribus verbis egi Caesari gratias, meque
the-dutifulness and-so in-more words I-gave to-Caesar thanks and-myself
metuo ne etiam in ceteris rebus honesto otio privarim,
I-fear lest also in other matters of-honorable leisure I-have-deprived

quod erat unum solacium in malis. Sed tamen, quoniam
which was the-one consolation in evils But still since
effugi eius offensionem, qui fortasse arbitraretur me hanc
I-have-escaped his offense who perhaps would-think me this
rem publicam non putare, si perpetuo tacerem, modice
thing public not to-consider if perpetually I-were-silent moderately
hoc faciam aut etiam intra modum, ut et illius voluntati
this I-will-do or even within measure that both his will
et meis studiis serviam. Nam, etsi a prima aetate
and my studies I-may-serve For although from first age
me omnis ars et doctrina liberalis et maxime philosophia
me every art and learning liberal and most philosophy
delectavit, tamen hoc studium cotidie ingravescit, credo,
has-delighted still this study daily grows-heavier I-believe
et aetatis maturitate ad prudentiam et iis temporum
both of-age by-the-ripeness toward wisdom and by-those of-the-times
vitiis, ut nulla res alia levare animum molestiis possit.
faults that no thing other to-relieve the-mind from-vexations can
A quo studio te abduci negotiis intellego ex tuis 5
From which study you to-be-drawn-away by-business I-understand from your
litteris, sed tamen aliquid iam noctes te adiuvabunt. Servius
letter but still somewhat now the-nights you will-help Servius
tuus vel potius noster summa me observantia colit; cuius ego
your or rather our with-highest me attentiveness cultivates in-whom I
cum omni probitate summaque virtute tum studiis doctrinaque
both by-all uprightness and-highest virtue and by-studies and-learning
delector. Is mecum saepe de tua mansione aut decessione
am-delighted He with-me often about your staying or departure
communicat. Adhuc in hac sum sententia, nihil ut faciamus
confers So-far in this I-am opinion nothing that we-do
nisi quod maxime Caesar velle videatur. Res sunt eius
except what most Caesar to-wish seems The-affairs are of-that

modi, ut, si Romae sis, nihil praeter tuos delectare possit.
kind that if at-Rome you-be nothing except yours to-delight could
De reliquis nihil melius ipso est Caesare, cetera sunt eius
About the-rest nothing better than-himself is Caesar the-rest are of-that
modi, ut, si alterum utrum necesse sit, audire ea malis
kind that if one-or the-other necessary be to-hear them you-would-prefer
quam videre. Hoc nostrum consilium nobis minime iucundum
than to-see This our counsel to-us least pleasing
est, qui te videre cupimus, sed consulimus tibi. Vale.
is who you to-see desire but we-consult for-you Farewell

IV.5 · SERVIUS ON THE DEATH OF TULLIA

Servius writes on the death of Tullia. Why grieve so, when fortune has already taken country, honor, and office? What could life have offered her now: a husband worthy of her, children to rejoice in? Sailing from Aegina to Megara he saw Aegina, Megara, the Piraeus, and Corinth lying in ruins, and asked whether one little woman's life should move them so. She lived while the state lived and saw her father praetor, consul, and augur. Cicero should take his own counsel, which he gives others; time will soften the grief, and he should forestall it by wisdom.

Servius Ciceroni s.
Servius to-Cicero greeting
1 Postea quam mihi renuntiatum est de obitu Tulliae,
After that to-me reported it-was about the-death of-Tullia
filiae tuae, sane quam pro eo ac debui, graviter molesteque
daughter your truly as for that as I-ought gravely and-with-vexation
tuli communemque eam calamitatem existimavi; qui, si istic
I-bore-it and-common that calamity I-thought who if there
adfuissem, neque tibi defuissem coramque meum
I-had-been-present neither to-you would-I-have-been-lacking and-face-to-face my

dolorem tibi declarassem. Etsi genus hoc consolationis
grief to-you I-would-have-declared Although kind this of-consolation
miserum atque acerbum est, propterea quia, per quos ea
wretched and bitter is for-this-reason because through whom it
confieri debet, propinquos ac familiaris, ii ipsi pari
to-be-accomplished ought relatives and friends they themselves with-equal
molestia adficiuntur neque sine lacrimis multis id conari
vexation are-affected nor without tears many it to-attempt
possunt, uti magis ipsi videantur aliorum consolatione
can so-that more they-themselves seem of-others consolation
indigere quam aliis posse suum officium praestare, tamen,
to-need than to-others to-be-able their duty to-render still
quae in praesentia in mentem mihi venerunt, decrevi
what-things at the-present into mind to-me came I-decided
brevi ad te perscribere, non quo ea te fugere existimem,
briefly to you to-write-fully not that they you to-escape I-think
sed quod forsitan dolore impeditus minus ea perspicias.
but because perhaps by-grief hindered less them you-perceive
Quid est quod tanto opere te commoveat tuus dolor 2
What is that with-so-great measure you should-move your grief
intestinus? Cogita, quem ad modum adhuc fortuna nobiscum
inward Consider in-what to manner so-far fortune with-us
egerit; ea nobis erepta esse, quae hominibus non
has-dealt those-things from-us snatched to-have-been which to-men not
minus quam liberi cara esse debent, patriam, honestatem,
less than children dear to-be ought fatherland honor
dignitatem, honores omnis. Hoc uno incommodo addito
dignity offices all With-this one disadvantage added
quid ad dolorem adiungi potuit? aut qui non in illis
what to grief to-be-joined could or what not in those

rebus exercitatus animus callere iam debet atque omnia
matters exercised mind to-be-callous now ought and all-things
minoris existimare? An illius vicem, cedo, doles?
of-less-account to-reckon Or her lot I-ask do-you-grieve
3 Quotiens in eam cogitationem necesse est et tu veneris et
How-often into that reflection necessary it-is both you have-come and
nos saepe incidimus, hisce temporibus non pessime cum iis
we often fall in-these times not worst with those
esse actum, quibus sine dolore licitum est mortem
to-have-been dealt to-whom without grief allowed it-has-been death
cum vita commutare! Quid autem fuit quod illam hoc
with life to-exchange What however was-there which her at-this
tempore ad vivendum magno opere invitare posset? quae res,
time to living in-great measure to-invite could what thing
quae spes, quod animi solacium? ut cum aliquo adulescente
what hope what of-mind consolation that with some young-man
primario coniuncta aetatem gereret? Licitum est tibi,
leading joined her-life she-should-pass Allowed it-was to-you
credo, pro tua dignitate ex hac iuventute generum
I-suppose according-to your dignity from this youth a-son-in-law
deligere, cuius fidei liberos tuos te tuto committere
to-choose whose to-the-faith children your you safely to-entrust
putares. An ut ea liberos ex sese pareret, quos cum
you-would-think Or that she children from herself might-bear whom when
florentis videret laetaretur, qui rem a parente traditam
flourishing she-saw she-might-rejoice who the-property from the-parent handed-down
per se tenere possent, honores ordinatim petituri
by themselves to-hold could offices in-order going-to-seek
essent in re publica, in amicorum negotiis libertate sua
were in the-thing public in of-friends business freedom their
usuri? Quid horum fuit quod non priusquam datum
going-to-use What of-these was-there which not before given

est ademptum sit? At vero malum est liberos amittere.
it-was taken-away was But indeed an-evil it-is children to-lose
Malum; nisi hoc peius sit, haec sufferre et perpeti.
An-evil unless this worse be these-things to-bear and to-endure
Quae res mihi non mediocrem consolationem attulit, volo 4
Which thing to-me not moderate consolation brought I-wish
tibi commemorare, si forte eadem res tibi dolorem minuere
to-you to-relate if perhaps the-same thing your grief to-lessen
possit. Ex Asia rediens cum ab Aegina Megaram versus
can From Asia returning when from Aegina to-Megara toward
navigarem, coepi regiones circumcirca prospicere. Post me erat
I-was-sailing I-began the-regions round-about to-view Behind me was
Aegina, ante me Megara, dextra Piraeus, sinistra Corinthus,
Aegina before me Megara on-the-right the-Piraeus on-the-left Corinth
quae oppida quodam tempore florentissima fuerunt, nunc
which towns at-a-certain time most-flourishing were now
prostrata et diruta ante oculos iacent. Coepi egomet
laid-low and demolished before the-eyes lie I-began I-myself
mecum sic cogitare: 'Hem! nos homunculi indignamur,
with-myself so to-think Ha we little-men are-indignant
si quis nostrum interiit aut occisus est, quorum vita
if any of-us has-perished or killed has-been whose life
brevior esse debet, cum uno loco tot oppidum cadavera
shorter to-be ought when in-one place so-many of-towns corpses
proiecta iacent? Visne tu te, Servi, cohibere et meminisse
cast-out lie Will you yourself Servius to-restrain and to-remember
hominem te esse natum?' Crede mihi, cogitatione ea
a-man you to-have-been born Believe me by-reflection that
non mediocriter sum confirmatus. Hoc idem, si tibi videtur,
not moderately have-I been-strengthened This same if to-you it-seems
fac ante oculos tibi proponas. Modo uno tempore
make-sure before eyes to-yourself you-set Just at-one time

tot viri clarissimi interierunt, de imperio populi
so-many men most-illustrious have-perished from the-empire of-the-people
Romani tanta deminutio facta est, omnes provinciae
Roman so-great a-diminution made has-been all provinces
conquassatae sunt; in unius mulierculae animula si iactura
shaken have-been for of-one little-woman the-little-soul if the-loss
facta est, tanto opere commoveris? Quae si hoc
made has-been with-so-great measure are-you-moved Who if at-this
tempore non diem suum obisset, paucis post annis tamen
time not day her had-met in-a-few after years still
ei moriendum fuit, quoniam homo nata fuerat.
for-her to-be-died it-was since a-human-being born she-had-been
Etiam tu ab hisce rebus animum ac cogitationem
Also you from these things mind and thought
tuam avoca atque ea potius reminiscere, quae digna
your call-away and those-things rather remember which worthy
tua persona sunt, illam, quam diu ei opus fuerit,
of-your character are her as long-as for-her need it-was
vixisse, una cum re publica fuisse, te, patrem
to-have-lived together with the-thing public to-have-been you father
suum, praetorem, consulem, augurem vidisse, adulescentibus
her praetor consul augur to-have-seen to-young-men
primariis nuptam fuisse, omnibus bonis prope perfunctam
leading married to-have-been all good-things almost enjoyed
esse, cum res publica occideret vita excessisse. Quid
to-have when the-thing public was-perishing from-life to-have-departed What
est quod tu aut illa cum fortuna hoc nomine queri
is-there which you or she with fortune on-this account to-complain
possitis? Denique noli te oblivisci Ciceronem esse et eum,
can Finally do-not yourself forget Cicero to-be and him
qui aliis consueris praecipere et dare consilium, neque
who to-others you-have-been-wont to-instruct and to-give counsel nor

imitare malos medicos, qui in alienis morbis profitentur
imitate bad physicians who in others' diseases profess
tenere se medicinae scientiam, ipsi se curare non
to-hold themselves of-medicine the-knowledge themselves themselves to-cure not
possunt, sed potius, quae aliis tute praecipere soles,
can but rather what to-others you-yourself to-instruct are-wont
ea tute tibi subiace atque apud animum propone.
those-things you-yourself to-yourself apply and before your-mind set
Nullus dolor est, quem non longinquitas temporis minuat 6
No grief is which not the-length of-time lessens
ac molliat. Hoc te exspectare tempus tibi turpe est ac
and softens This you to-await the-time for-you disgraceful is and
non ei rei sapientia tua te occurrere. Quod si qui etiam
not to-that thing by-wisdom your you to-forestall But if any even
inferis sensus est, qui illius in te amor fuit pietasque
in-the-dead feeling is what her toward you love was and-devotion
in omnis suos, hoc certe illa te facere non vult.
toward all hers this certainly she you to-do not wishes
Da hoc illi mortuae, da ceteris amicis ac familiaribus,
Give this to-her dead give to-the-other friends and intimates
qui tuo dolore maerent, da patriae, ut, si qua in
who at-your grief mourn give to-the-fatherland that if any in
re opus sit, opera et consilio tuo uti possit. Denique,
matter need be help and counsel your to-use it-can Finally
quoniam in eam fortunam devenimus, ut etiam huic rei
since into that fortune we-have-come that also to-this thing
nobis serviendum sit, noli committere ut quisquam te
by-us to-be-served it-be do-not allow that anyone you
putet non tam filiam quam rei publicae tempora
think not so-much a-daughter as of-the-thing public the-times
et aliorum victoriam lugere. Plura me ad te de hac re
and of-others the-victory to-mourn More me to you about this matter

scribere pudet, ne videar prudentiae tuae diffidere. Qua
to-write shames lest I-seem prudence your to-distrust By-which
re, si hoc unum proposuero, finem faciam scribendi:
thing if this one I-set-forth an-end I-will-make of-writing
Vidimus aliquotiens secundam pulcherrime te ferre fortunam
We-have-seen several-times favorable most-splendidly you to-bear fortune
magnamque ex ea re te laudem apisci; fac aliquando
and-great from that thing you praise to-win make-sure sometime
intellegamus adversam quoque te aeque ferre posse neque
we-understand adverse also you equally to-bear to-be-able nor
id maius, quam debeat, tibi onus videri, ne ex omnibus
that greater than it-ought to-you a-burden to-seem lest of all
virtutibus haec una tibi videatur deesse. Quod ad me
virtues this one to-you seem to-be-lacking As to me
attinet, cum te tranquilliorem animo esse cognoro, de iis
pertains when you calmer in-mind to-be I-learn about those
rebus, quae hic geruntur, quemadmodumque se provincia
things which here are-done and-in-what-way itself the-province
habeat, certiorem faciam. Vale.
has more-informed I-will-make-you Farewell

IV.6 · CICERO ANSWERS SERVIUS

Servius' letter has calmed him a little, and his son has shown every kindness. Cicero is ashamed not to bear his loss as Servius thinks he should, but Maximus, Paullus, Galus, and Cato, who lost sons, had public dignity to console them. Cicero, his honors lost, had one consolation, and it has been taken: once home received him from the state; now he cannot flee from home to the state. He longs for Servius' company and for counsel on how to live under one man's will, not acting but resting by his leave.

M. Cicero s. d. Ser. Sulpicio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Servius Sulpicius

Ego vero, Servi, vellem, ut scribis, in meo gravissimo casu 1

I indeed Servius would-wish as you-write in my most-grievous misfortune

adfuisses; quantum enim praesens me adiuvare potueris

you-had-been-present how-much for present me to-help you-could-have

et consolando et prope aeque dolendo, facile ex eo intellego,

both by-consoling and almost equally by-grieving easily from this I-understand

quod litteris lectis aliquantum adquievi. Nam et ea

that with-letter read somewhat I-was-calmed For both those-things

scripsisti, quae levare luctum possent, et in me consolando

you-wrote which to-relieve mourning could and in me consoling

non mediocrem ipse animi dolorem adhibuisti. Servius tamen

not moderate yourself of-mind grief you-applied Servius still

tuus omnibus officiis, quae illi tempori tribui potuerunt,

your by-all services which to-that time to-be-given could

declaravit et quanti ipse me faceret et quam suum talem

showed both how-much he-himself me valued and how his such

erga me animum tibi gratum putaret fore. Cuius officia

toward me mind to-you pleasing he-thought going-to-be Whose services

iucundiora scilicet saepe mihi fuerunt, numquam tamen

more-pleasant indeed often to-me have-been never still

gratiora. Me autem non oratio tua solum et societas paene

more-welcome Me however not speech your only and fellowship almost

aegritudinis, sed etiam auctoritas consolatur; turpe enim

of-sorrow but also authority consoles base for

esse existimo me non ita ferre casum meum, ut tu tali

to-be I-think me not so to-bear misfortune my as you with-such

sapientia praeditus ferendum putas. Sed opprimor interdum

wisdom endowed to-be-borne think But I-am-overwhelmed sometimes

et vix resisto dolori, quod ea me solacia deficiunt, quae

and scarcely resist grief because those me consolations fail which

ceteris, quorum mihi exempla propono, simili in fortuna non
to-others whose to-me examples I-set-before similar in fortune not
defuerunt. Nam et Q. Maximus, qui filium consularem,
were-lacking For both Quintus Maximus who a-son consular
clarum virum et magnis rebus gestis, amisit, et L.
an-illustrious man and with-great deeds done lost and Lucius
Paullus, qui duo septem diebus, et vester Galus et M.
Paullus who two in-seven days and your Galus and Marcus
Cato, qui summo ingenio, summa virtute filium perdidit,
Cato who of-highest talent of-highest virtue a-son lost
iis temporibus fuerunt, ut eorum luctum ipsorum dignitas
in-those times were that their mourning their-own dignity
consolaretur ea, quam ex re publica consequebantur;
consoled that which from the-thing public they-were-attaining
2 mihi autem amissis ornamentis iis, quae ipse commemoras,
to-me however with-lost honors those which yourself you-mention
quaeque eram maximis laboribus adeptus, unum manebat
and-which I-had with-greatest labors attained one remained
illud solacium, quod ereptum est. Non amicorum
that consolation which taken-away has-been Not of-friends
negotiis, non rei publicae procuratione impediebantur
by-the-business not of-the-thing public by-the-administration were-hindered
cogitationes meae, nihil in foro agere libebat, aspicere
thoughts my nothing in the-forum to-do pleased to-look-at
curiam non poteram, existimabam, id quod erat, omnis
the-senate-house not I-could I-thought that which was all
me et industriae meae fructus et fortunae perdidisse. Sed,
me both of-industry my the-fruits and of-fortune to-have-lost But
cum cogitarem haec mihi tecum et cum quibusdam esse
when I-reflected these-things to-me with-you and with certain-others to-be
communia, et cum frangerem iam ipse me cogeremque
common and when I-broke already myself myself and-forced

illa ferre toleranter, habebam quo confugerem, ubi
those-things to-bear patiently I-had whither I-might-flee where
conquiescerem, cuius in sermone et suavitate omnis curas
I-might-rest whose in conversation and sweetness all cares
doloresque deponerem. Nunc autem hoc tam gravi vulnere
and-griefs I-might-lay-down Now however by-this so grievous wound
etiam illa, quae consanuisse videbantur, recrudescunt;
even those-things which to-have-healed seemed are-reopening
non enim, ut tum me a re publica maestum domus
not for as then me from the-thing public sad home
excipiebat, quae levaret, sic nunc domo maerens ad
received which might-relieve so now from-home grieving to
rem publicam confugere possum, ut in eius bonis
the-thing public to-flee can-I that in its good-things
adquiescam. Itaque et domo absum et foro, quod
I-may-rest And-so both from-home I-am-away and from-the-forum because
nec eum dolorem, quem de re publica capio, domus
neither that grief which from the-thing public I-take home
iam consolari potest nec domesticum res publica.
now to-console can nor domestic-grief the-thing public
Quo magis te exspecto teque videre quam primum 3
By-which more you I-await and-you to-see as first
cupio; maius mihi solacium adferre ratio nulla potest
I-desire greater to-me consolation to-bring reason none can
quam coniunctio consuetudinis sermonumque nostrorum;
than the-union of-intercourse and-of-conversations our
quamquam sperabam tuum adventum (sic enim audiebam)
although I-hoped your arrival so for I-heard
appropinquare. Ego autem cum multis de causis te exopto
to-be-approaching I however both many for reasons you I-long
quam primum videre, tum etiam ut ante commentemur
as first to-see and also that beforehand we-may-consider

inter nos, qua ratione nobis traducendum sit hoc tempus,
between ourselves by-what method by-us to-be-passed be this time
quod est totum ad unius voluntatem accommodandum et
which is wholly to of-one-man the-will to-be-adapted both
prudentis et liberalis et, ut perspexisse videor, nec a me
prudent and liberal and as to-have-perceived I-seem neither from me
alieni et tibi amicissimi. Quod cum ita sit, magnae tamen
estranged and to-you most-friendly Which since so it-is of-great still
est deliberationis, quae ratio sit ineunda nobis non agendi
is deliberation what course be to-be-entered for-us not of-doing
aliquid, sed illius concessu et beneficio quiescendi. Vale.
something but by-his permission and favor of-resting Farewell

IV.7 · TO MARCELLUS, TO COME HOME

Cicero urges Marcellus, living abroad since the defeat, to return. Both foresaw the war and distrusted its conduct; they were beaten by arms, not by counsel. Marcellus chose a middle course between renewing the war and submitting, but it has its limit, since nothing is lacking for his restoration but his own will. Since the victor's power reaches the whole world, it is better to be at home without danger than abroad with it. His property must be protected from robbers, and his brother Gaius begs him with tears.

M. Cicero s. d. M. Marcello.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Marcus Marcellus
1 Etsi eo te adhuc consilio usum intellego, ut id
Although that you so-far counsel having-used I-understand that it
reprehendere non audeam, non quin ab eo ipse dissentiam,
to-blame not I-dare not that from it I-myself dissent
sed quod ea te sapientia esse iudicem, ut meum
but because of-that you wisdom to-be I-judge that my

consilium non anteponam tuo, tamen et amicitiae nostrae
counsel not I-put-before yours still both of-friendship our
vetustas et tua summa erga me benevolentia, quae mihi
the-age and your highest toward me goodwill which to-me
iam a pueritia tua cognita est, me hortata est ut
already from boyhood your known has-been me urged has that
ea scriberem ad te, quae et saluti tuae conducere
those-things I-should-write to you which both to-safety your to-conduce
arbitrarer et non aliena esse ducerem a dignitate.
I-thought and not foreign to-be I-considered from dignity
Ego eum te esse, qui horum malorum initia multo ante 2
I him you to-be who of-these evils the-beginnings much before
videris, consulatum magnificentissime atque optime gesseris,
saw the-consulship most-magnificently and best managed
praeclare memini; sed idem etiam illa vidi, neque te
splendidly remember but the-same also those-things I-saw neither you
consilium civilis belli ita gerendi nec copias Cn. Pompei
the-plan of-the-civil war so to-be-waged nor the-forces of-Gnaeus Pompey
nec genus exercitus probare semperque summe diffidere; qua
nor the-kind of-army to-approve and-always very-much to-distrust which
in sententia me quoque fuisse memoria tenere te arbitror.
in opinion me also to-have-been in-memory to-hold you I-think
Itaque neque tu multum interfuisti rebus gerendis et ego
And-so neither you much took-part in-things to-be-done and I
id semper egi, ne interessem; non enim iis rebus
that always aimed lest I-should-take-part not for with-those things
pugnabamus, quibus valere poteramus, consilio, auctoritate,
we-were-fighting by-which to-prevail we-could by-counsel by-authority
causa, quae erant in nobis superiora, sed lacertis et viribus,
by-cause which were in us superior but with-arms and strength
quibus pares non eramus. Victi sumus igitur aut, si
in-which equal not we-were Conquered we-have-been therefore or if

vinci dignitas non potest, fracti certe et abiecti. In
to-be-conquered dignity not can broken certainly and cast-down In
quo tuum consilium nemo potest non maxime laudare, quod
which your counsel no-one can not most to-praise that
cum spe vincendi simul abiecisti certandi etiam
with hope of-conquering at-the-same-time you-threw-away of-contending also
cupiditatem ostendistique sapientem et bonum civem initia
the-desire and-you-showed the-wise and good citizen the-beginnings
belli civilis invitum suscipere, extrema libenter non persequi.
of-war civil unwilling to-undertake the-end gladly not to-pursue
3 Qui non idem consilium quod tu secuti sunt, eos video in
Who not the-same counsel as you followed have them I-see into
duo genera esse distractos; aut enim renovare bellum conati
two kinds to-be divided either for to-renew the-war attempted
sunt, ii qui se in Africam contulerunt, aut quem ad
have those who themselves into Africa took or in-what to
modum nos victori sese crediderunt. Medium quoddam
manner we to-the-victor themselves have-entrusted Intermediate a-certain
tuum consilium fuit, qui hoc fortasse humilis animi duceres,
your counsel was who this perhaps of-mean spirit you-considered
illud pertinacis. Fateor a plerisque vel dicam ab omnibus
that of-obstinate I-admit by most or I-will-say by all
sapiens tuum consilium, a multis etiam magni ac fortis
wise your counsel by many even of-great and brave
animi iudicatum; sed habet ista ratio, ut mihi quidem videtur,
spirit judged but has that course as to-me indeed it-seems
quendam modum, praesertim cum nihil tibi deesse arbitrer
a-certain limit especially since nothing to-you to-be-lacking I-think
ad tuas fortunas omnis obtinendas praeter voluntatem. Sic
for your fortunes all to-be-kept except will So
enim intellexi, nihil aliud esse quod dubitationem adferret
for I-understood nothing else to-be which hesitation brought

ei, penes quem est potestas, nisi quod vereretur ne
to-him in-the-hands-of whom is the-power except that be-feared lest
tu illud beneficium omnino non putares. De quo quid
you that kindness at-all not should-think-it About which what
sentiam, nihil attinet dicere, cum appareat, ipse quid fecerim.
I-feel nothing it-matters to-say since it-appears himself what I-have-done
Sed tamen, si iam ita constituisses, ut abesse perpetuo 4
But still if already so you-had-resolved that to-be-away perpetually
malles quam ea, quae nolles, videre, tamen
you-preferred than those-things which you-did-not-wish to-see still
id cogitare deberes, ubicumque esses, te fore in eius
that to-think you-ought wherever you-were you going-to-be in of-his
ipsius, quem fugeres, potestate. Qui si facile passurus esset
very whom you-fled the-power Who if easily going-to-allow were
te carentem patria et fortunis tuis quiete et libere vivere,
you lacking fatherland and fortunes your quietly and freely to-live
cogitandum tibi tamen esset Romaene et domi
to-be-considered by-you still it-would-be whether-at-Rome and at-home
tuae, cuicuimodi res esset, an Mitylenis aut Rhodi
your whatever-kind the-situation were or at-Mitylene or at-Rhodes
malles vivere. Sed cum ita late pateat eius potestas,
you-would-prefer to-live But since so widely extends his power
quem veremur, ut terrarum orbem complexa sit, nonne
whom we-fear that of-lands the-circle embraced it-has do-not
mavis sine periculo tuae domi esse quam cum periculo
you-prefer without danger at-your-own home to-be than with danger
alienae? Equidem, etiam si oppetenda mors esset, domi
at-another's For-my-part even if to-be-met death were at-home
atque in patria mallem quam in externis atque alienis
and in the-fatherland would-prefer than in external and foreign

locis. Hoc idem omnes, qui te diligunt, sentiunt; quorum est
places This same all who you love feel of-whom is
magna pro tuis maximis clarissimisque virtutibus multitudo.
great for your greatest and-most-illustrious virtues the-multitude
5 Habemus etiam rationem rei familiaris tuae, quam
We-have also regard of-the-estate family your which
dissipari nolumus. Nam, etsi nullam potest accipere
to-be-dissipated we-do-not-wish For although no it-can receive
iniuriam, quae futura perpetua sit, propterea quod neque
injury which going-to-be perpetual be for-this-reason that neither
is, qui tenet rem publicam, patietur neque ipsa res
he who holds the-thing public will-allow nor itself the-thing
publica, tamen impetum praedonum in tuas fortunas
public still an-attack of-robbers on your fortunes
fieri nolo; ii autem qui essent, auderem scribere,
to-be-made I-do-not-wish those however who they-were I-would-dare to-write
nisi te intellegere confiderem.
unless you to-understand I-trusted
6 Hic te unius sollicitudines, unius etiam multae et
Here you of-one-man the-anxieties of-one also many and
assiduae lacrimae, C. Marcelli, fratris optimi, deprecantur.
constant tears of-Gaius Marcellus brother excellent beg
Nos cura et dolore proximi sumus, precibus tardiores,
We in-care and grief next are in-prayers slower
quod ius adeundi, cum ipsi deprecatione eguerimus,
because the-right of-approaching since ourselves of-intercession have-needed
non habemus; gratia tantum possumus quantum victi;
not we-have by-favor so-much we-can as-much-as the-conquered
sed tamen consilio, studio Marcello non desumus. A tuis
but still by-counsel by-zeal to-Marcellus not we-are-lacking By your
reliquis non adhibemur; ad omnia parati sumus.
remaining not we-are-called-in for all-things ready we-are

Cicero dares neither advise, encourage, nor console so wise and brave a man; he can only offer himself and all his services. He adds one thing: if there is a state, Marcellus should be in it as a leading man yielding to the time; if none, home is the best place even for exile, since nowhere is free of the one man's rule. And the man who holds all things favors talent and nobility as far as his cause allows.

M. Cicero s. d. M. Marcello.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Marcus Marcellus

Neque monere te audeo, praestanti prudentia virum, nec 1

Neither to-advise you do-I-dare of-outstanding prudence a-man nor

confirmare, maximi animi hominem unumque fortissimum,

to-encourage of-greatest spirit a-man and-alone bravest

consolari vero nullo modo. Nam, si ea, quae acciderunt,

to-console indeed in-no way For if those-things which have-happened

ita fers, ut audio, gratulari magis virtuti debeo quam

so you-bear as I-hear to-congratulate more to-virtue I-ought than

consolari dolorem tuum; sin te tanta mala rei publicae

to-console grief your but-if you such-great evils of-the-thing public

frangunt, non ita abundo ingenio, ut te consoler, cum ipse

break not so do-I-abound in-talent that you I-may-console when myself

me non possim. Reliquum est igitur, ut tibi me in

me not I-can The-remaining-thing is therefore that to-you me in

omni re eum praebeam praestemque et ad omnia, quae tui

every matter him I-show and-prove and for all-things which yours

velint, ita sim praesto, ut me non solum omnia debere tua

wish so I-be at-hand that me not only all-things to-owe for-your

causa, sed causa quoque, etiam quae non possim, putem.

sake but for-your-sake also even what not I-can I-think

2 Illud tamen vel tu me monuisse vel censuisse puta vel
This still either you me to-have-advised or to-have-proposed think or
propter benevolentiam tacere non potuisse, ut, quod ego
on-account-of goodwill to-be-silent not to-have-been-able that what I
facio, tu quoque animum inducas, si sit aliqua res publica,
do you also mind may-bring if there-be some thing public
in ea te esse oportere iudicio hominum reque principem,
in it you to-be it-is-right by-the-judgment of-men and-in-fact a-leading-man
necessitate cedentem tempori; sin autem nulla sit, hunc
by-necessity yielding to-the-time but-if however none there-be this
tamen aptissimum esse etiam ad exsulandum locum. Si enim
still most-suitable to-be even for being-in-exile place If for
libertatem sequimur, qui locus hoc dominatu vacat? sin
freedom we-follow what place from-this domination is-free but-if
qualemcumque locum, quae est domestica sede iucundior?
any-sort-of place what is than-the-domestic seat more-pleasant
Sed, mihi crede, etiam is, qui omnia tenet, favet ingeniis,
But to-me believe even he who all-things holds favors talents
nobilitatem vero et dignitates hominum, quantum ei
nobility indeed and the-dignities of-men as-far-as to-him
res et ipsius causa concedit, amplectitur. Sed plura quam
circumstances and his-own cause allows embraces But more than
statueram. Redeo ergo ad unum illud, me tuum esse; fore
I-had-determined I-return therefore to one that me yours to-be going-to-be
cum tuis, si modo erunt tui, si minus, me certe in omnibus
with yours if only they-will-be yours if not me certainly in all
rebus satis nostrae coniunctioni amorique facturum. Vale.
things enough for-our union and-love going-to-do Farewell

Writing again by Marcellus' freedman Theophilus, Cicero urges him to return to the state as it is. He will see what he hears of daily already. To yield to necessity is the wise man's part, and silence is allowed. All power is in one man's hands, which would have been so had the leader they followed won, for in civil war nothing is more wretched than victory itself. Marcellus has been praised for his conduct and his fortune; to spurn the victor's generosity would be proud, and abroad is no safer, since swords are free everywhere and there is less shame before crime.

M. Cicero s. d. M. Marcello.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Marcus Marcellus

Etsi perpaucis ante diebus dederam Q. Mucio litteras 1

Although very-few before days I-had-given to-Quintus Mucius a-letter

ad te pluribus verbis scriptas, quibus declaraveram, quo

to you in-more words written in-which I-had-declared with-what

te animo censerem esse oportere et quid tibi faciendum

you mind I-thought to-be it-was-right and what by-you to-be-done

arbitrarer, tamen, cum Theophilus, libertus tuus, proficisceretur,

I-thought still when Theophilus freedman your was-setting-out

cuius ego fidem erga te benevolentiamque perspexeram, sine

whose I loyalty toward you and-goodwill had-perceived without

meis litteris eum ad te venire nolui. Isdem igitur te

my letter him to you to-come I-did-not-wish With-the-same then you

rebus etiam atque etiam hortor, quibus superioribus litteris

things again and again I-exhort with-which in-the-earlier letter

hortatus sum, ut in ea re publica, quaecumque est, quam

exhorted I-have that in that thing public whatever it-is as

primum velis esse. Multa videbis fortasse, quae nolis,

first you-wish to-be Many-things you-will-see perhaps which you-do-not-wish

non plura tamen, quam audis cotidie. Non est porro tuum

not more still than you-hear daily Not is moreover yours

uno sensu solum oculorum moveri, cum idem illud auribus
by-one sense only of-the-eyes to-be-moved when the-same thing with-the-ears
percipias, quod etiam maius videri solet, minus laborare.
you-perceive which even greater to-seem is-wont less to-labor
2 At tibi ipsi dicendum erit aliquid, quod non sentias, aut
But for-you yourself to-be-said will-be something which not you-feel or
faciendum, quod non probes. Primum tempori cedere, id
to-be-done which not you-approve First to-the-time to-yield that
est necessitati parere, semper sapientis est habitum; deinde
is to-necessity to-obey always of-the-wise has-been held then
non habet, ut nunc quidem est, id viti res. Dicere
not has as now indeed it-is that of-fault the-situation To-say
fortasse quae sentias non licet, tacere plane licet.
perhaps what you-feel not it-is-allowed to-be-silent plainly it-is-allowed
Omnia enim delata ad unum sunt; is utitur consilio ne
All-things for brought to one-man are he uses the-counsel not
suorum quidem, sed suo. Quod non multo secus fieret,
of-his-own even but his-own Which not much otherwise would-happen
si is rem publicam teneret, quem secuti sumus. An, qui
if he the-thing public held whom followed we-have Or who
in bello, cum omnium nostrum coniunctum esset periculum,
in war when of-all of-us joined was the-danger
suo et certorum hominum minime prudentium consilio
by-his-own and of-certain men least prudent counsel
uteretur, eum magis communem censemus in victoria
used him more common we-think in victory
futurum fuisse, quam incertis in rebus fuisset? et,
going-to-be to-have-been than uncertain in matters he-had-been and
qui nec te consule tuum sapientissimum consilium
who neither with-you consul your most-wise counsel
secutus esset nec fratre tuo consulatum ex auctoritate
followed had nor with-brother your the-consulship by authority

tua gerente vobis auctoribus uti voluerit, nunc omnia
your conducting you as-advisers to-use wished now all-things
tenentem nostras sententias desideraturum censes fuisse?
holding our opinions going-to-miss do-you-think to-have-been
Omnia sunt misera in bellis civilibus, quae maiores nostri 3
All-things are wretched in wars civil which our-ancestors our
ne semel quidem, nostra aetas saepe iam sensit, sed
not once even our age often already has-felt but
miserius nihil quam ipsa victoria; quae, etiam si ad
more-wretched nothing than itself victory which even if to
meliores venit, tamen eos ipsos ferociores impotentioresque
the-better comes still them themselves fiercer and-more-unbridled
reddit, ut, etiam si natura tales non sint, necessitate esse
renders so-that even if by-nature such not they-be by-necessity to-be
cogantur; multa enim victori eorum arbitrio,
they-are-compelled many-things for by-the-victor by-the-judgment of-those
per quos vicit, etiam invito facienda sunt. An tu non
through whom he-conquered even unwilling to-be-done are Or you not
videbas mecum simul, quam illa crudelis esset futura
saw-you with-me at-the-same-time how that cruel was going-to-be
victoria? Igitur tunc quoque careres patria,
victory Then at-that-time also you-would-be-without your-fatherland
ne quae nolles videres? 'Non,' inquies; 'ego enim
lest what you-did-not-wish you-should-see No you-will-say I for
ipse tenerem opes et dignitatem meam.' At erat tuae
myself would-hold resources and dignity my But it-was of-your
virtutis in minimis tuas res ponere, de re publica
virtue in least-account your affairs to-set about the-thing public
vehementius laborare. Deinde qui finis istius consili est?
more-vehemently to-labor Then what the-end of-that counsel is
nam adhuc et factum tuum probatur, et ut in tali re
for so-far both the-deed your is-approved and as in such a-matter

etiam fortuna laudatur, factum, quod et initium belli
even fortune is-praised the-deed that both the-beginning of-the-war
necessario secutus sis et extrema sapienter persequi
necessarily followed you-have and the-end wisely to-pursue
nolueris, fortuna, quod honesto otio tenueris et
you-were-unwilling fortune that in-honorable leisure you-held both
statum et famam dignitatis tuae. Nunc vero nec locus
the-position and the-repute of-dignity your Now indeed neither place
tibi ullus dulcior esse debet patria, nec eam diligere
to-you any sweeter to-be ought than-your-fatherland nor it to-love
minus debes, quod deformior est, sed misereri potius nec
less you-ought because more-disfigured it-is but to-pity rather nor
eam multis claris viris orbatam privare etiam aspectu tuo.
it of-many illustrious men bereaved to-deprive also of-the-sight your
4 Denique, si fuit magni animi non esse supplicem victori,
Finally if it-was of-great spirit not to-be a-suppliant to-the-victor
vide ne superbi sit aspernari eiusdem liberalitatem et, si
see lest of-the-proud it-be to-spurn of-the-same-man the-liberality and if
sapientis est carere patria, duri non desiderare; et, si
of-the-wise it-is to-be-without one's-fatherland of-the-hard not to-miss-it and if
re publica non possis frui, stultum est nolle privata.
the-thing public not you-can enjoy foolish it-is to-be-unwilling private-things
Caput illud est, ut, si ista vita tibi commodior esse videatur,
The-head this is that if that life to-you more-convenient to-be seem
cogitandum tamen sit, ne tutior non sit. Magna gladiorum
to-be-considered still it-be whether safer not it-be Great of-swords
est licentia, sed in externis locis minor etiam ad facinus
is the-license but in external places less also for crime
verecundia. Mihi salus tua tantae curae est, ut Marcello,
shame To-me safety your of-such-great care is that to-Marcellus

fratri tuo, aut par aut certe proximus sim; tuum est
brother your either equal or certainly next I-be yours it-is
consulere temporibus et incolumitati et vitae et fortunis tuis.
to-consult for-the-times and for-safety and for-life and for-fortunes your

IV.10 · COME SOON

A short note by Theophilus: Marcellus should come as soon as he can, since everyone awaits him. Cicero half fears he enjoys a slow departure, unwilling to see certain people, but what he hears is no lighter than what he would see, and his estate needs him; Cicero asks to know when to expect him.

Cicero Marcello s.
Cicero to-Marcellus greeting
Etsi nihil erat novi, quod ad te scriberem, magisque 1
Although nothing there-was new which to you I-might-write and-rather
litteras tuas iam exspectare incipiebam vel te potius
letter your already to-await I-was-beginning or you rather
ipsum, tamen, cum Theophilus proficisceretur, non potui
yourself still when Theophilus was-setting-out not I-could
nihil ei litterarum dare. Cura igitur ut quam primum
nothing to-him of-letter give See-to-it then that as first
venias; venies enim, mihi crede, exspectatus, neque solum
you-come you-will-come for to-me believe awaited nor only
nobis, id est tuis, sed prorsus omnibus. Venit enim
by-us that is by-yours but altogether by-all It-comes for
mihi in mentem subvereri interdum, ne te delectet tarda
to-me into mind to-fear-a-little sometimes lest you delight a-slow
decessio. Quod si nullum haberes sensum nisi oculorum,
departure But if no you-had sense except of-the-eyes
prorsus tibi ignoscerem, si quosdam nolles videre;
altogether to-you I-would-pardon if certain-people you-did-not-wish to-see

sed, cum leviora non multo essent, quae audirentur,
but since lighter not much were what-things were-heard
quam quae viderentur, suspicarer autem multum interesse
than what-things were-seen I-suspected moreover much to-matter
rei familiaris tuae te quam primum venire, idque
to-the-estate family your you as first to-come and-that
in omnis partis valeret, putavi ea de re te esse
in all directions held-good I-thought that about matter you to-be
admonendum. Sed quoniam, quid mihi placeret, ostendi,
to-be-advised But since what to-me pleased I-have-shown
reliqua tu pro tua prudentia considerabis; me tamen
the-rest you according-to your prudence will-consider me still
velim, quod ad tempus te exspectemus, certiorem facias.
I-would-wish what for time you we-should-await more-informed you-make

IV.11 · MARCELLUS THANKS CICERO

Marcellus writes that Cicero's authority has always weighed with him: his brother Gaius begged him to return, but only Cicero's letter persuaded him. Cicero's congratulations please him, and more still that in his great lack of friends Cicero showed such goodwill; without such men no one could live, in adversity or in prosperity, and he will show his gratitude in deeds.

Marcellus Ciceroni s.
Marcellus to-Cicero greeting
1 Plurimum valuisse apud me tuam semper auctoritatem cum
Very-much to-have-prevailed with me your always authority both
in omni re tum in hoc maxime negotio potes existimare.
in every matter and in this most business you-can judge
Cum mihi C. Marcellus, frater amantissimus mei, non
When to-me Gaius Marcellus brother most-loving of-me not

solum consilium daret, sed precibus quoque me obsecraret,
only counsel gave but with-prayers also me besought
non prius mihi persuadere potuit, quam tuis est effectum
not before me to-persuade could than by-your was effected
litteris ut uterer vestro potissimum consilio. Res quem
letter that I-should-use your above-all counsel The-affair in-what
ad modum sit acta, vestrae litterae mihi declarant. Gratulatio
to manner be done your letter to-me declares Congratulation
tua etsi est mihi probatissima, quod ab optimo fit
your although is to-me most-approved because from the-best it-is-made
animo, tamen hoc mihi multo iucundius est et gratius,
spirit still this to-me much more-pleasant is and more-welcome
quod in summa paucitate amicorum, propinquorum ac
that in the-greatest scarcity of-friends relatives and
necessariorum, qui vere meae saluti faverent, te cupidissimum
connections who truly my safety favored you most-desirous
mei singularemque mihi benevolentiam praestitisse cognovi.
of-me and-singular to-me goodwill to-have-shown I-learned
Reliqua sunt eius modi, quibus ego, quoniam haec erant 2
The-rest are of-that kind which I since these were
tempora, facile et aequo animo carebam; hoc vero eius
the-times easily and with-even mind I-was-lacking this indeed of-that
modi esse statuo, ut sine talium virorum et amicorum
kind to-be I-determine that without of-such men and friends
benevolentia neque in adversa neque in secunda fortuna
goodwill neither in adverse nor in favorable fortune
quisquam vivere possit. Itaque in hoc ego mihi gratulor;
anyone to-live could And-so in this I myself congratulate
tu vero ut intellegas homini amicissimo te tribuisse
you indeed that you-may-understand to-a-man most-friendly you to-have-rendered
officium, re tibi praestabo. Vale.
a-service in-deed to-you I-will-show Farewell

Servius reports from Athens. He met Marcellus at the Piraeus and parted from him the next day, Marcellus to sail for Italy. Two nights later Postumius brought word that Magius Cilo had stabbed Marcellus after dinner and then killed himself; Servius gathered physicians, but at dawn a slave met him with tablets saying Marcellus was dead. Servius found his slaves fled, brought the body to the city in his own litter, and, refused a burial place within Athens, burned him in the gymnasium of the Academy, where the Athenians will raise a marble monument.

Servius Ciceroni sal. plur.
Servius to-Cicero greeting very-much

1 Etsi scio non iucundissimum me nuntium vobis
Although I-know not most-pleasant me news to-you-all
allaturum, tamen, quoniam casus et natura in nobis
going-to-bring still since chance and nature over us
dominatur, visum est faciendum, quoquo modo res se
rule seemed it-has to-be-done in-whatever way the-matter itself
haberet, vos certiores facere. A. d. x K. Iun.
had you-all more-informed to-make On-the day tenth before-the-Kalends of-June
cum ab Epidauro Piraeum navi advectus essem, ibi M.
when from Epidaurus to-the-Piraeus by-ship conveyed I-had-been there Marcus
Marcellum, conlegam nostrum, conveni eumque diem ibi
Marcellus colleague our I-met and-that day there
consumpsi, ut cum eo essem. Postero die cum ab eo
I-spent so-that with him I-might-be On-the-next day when from him
digressus essem eo consilio, ut ab Athenis in Boeotiam
departed I-had with-that intention that from Athens into Boeotia
irem reliquamque iuris dictionem absolverem, ille, ut
I-might-go and-the-remaining of-law the-administration finish he as
aiebat, supra Maleas in Italiam versus navigaturus erat.
he-said round Malea into Italy toward going-to-sail was

Post diem tertium eius diei cum ab Athenis proficisci 2
After day third of-that day when from Athens to-set-out
in animo haberem, circiter hora decima noctis P.
in mind I-had about the-hour tenth of-the-night Publius
Postumius, familiaris eius, ad me venit et mihi nuntiavit M.
Postumius friend his to me came and to-me announced Marcus
Marcellum, conlegam nostrum, post cenae tempus a P.
Marcellus colleague our after of-dinner the-time by Publius
Magio Cilone, familiare eius, pugione percussum esse
Magius Cilo friend his with-a-dagger stabbed to-have-been
et duo vulnera accepisse, unum in stomacho, alterum in
and two wounds to-have-received one in the-stomach the-other in
capite secundum aurem; sperare tamen eum vivere posse;
the-head behind the-ear to-hope still him to-live to-be-able
Magium se ipsum interfecisse postea; se a Marcello ad
Magius himself self to-have-killed afterward himself by Marcellus to
me missum esse, qui haec nuntiaret et rogaret, uti
me sent to-have-been who these-things should-announce and should-ask that
medicos ei mitterem. Itaque medicos coegi et e vestigio
physicians to-him I-should-send And-so physicians I-collected and on the-spot
eo sum profectus prima luce. Cum non longe a Piraeo
thither I-have set-out at-first light When not far from the-Piraeus
abessem, puer Acidini obviam mihi venit cum codicillis, in
I-was-away the-slave of-Acidinus to-meet me came with tablets in
quibus erat scriptum paulo ante lucem Marcellum diem suum
which it-was written a-little before dawn Marcellus day his
obisse. Ita vir clarissimus ab homine deterrimo acerbissima
to-have-met So a-man most-illustrious by a-man most-base with-a-most-bitter
morte est adfectus, et, cui inimici propter dignitatem
death has-been affected and to-whom enemies on-account-of his-dignity
pepercerant, inventus est amicus, qui ei mortem offerret.
had-spared found was a-friend who to-him death should-bring

3 Ego tamen ad tabernaculum eius perrexi. Inveni duos
I still to the-tent his went-on I-found two
libertos et pauculos servos; reliquos aiebant profugisse
freedmen and very-few slaves the-rest they-said to-have-fled
metu perterritos, quod dominus eorum ante tabernaculum
with-fear terrified because master their before the-tent
interfectus esset. Coactus sum in eadem illa lectica,
killed had-been Compelled I-was in the-same that litter
qua ipse delatus eram, meisque lecticariis in urbem
in-which myself carried I-had-been and-by-my litter-bearers into the-city
eum referre ibique pro ea copia, quae Athenis
him to-bring-back and-there according-to that supply which at-Athens
erat, funus ei satis amplum faciendum curavi. Ab
was a-funeral for-him sufficiently ample to-be-made I-took-care From
Atheniensibus, locum sepulturae intra urbem ut darent,
the-Athenians a-place of-burial within the-city that they-should-give
impetrare non potui, quod religione se impediri
to-obtain not I-could because by-religion themselves to-be-prevented
dicerent, neque tamen id antea cuiquam concesserant.
they-said nor still that before to-anyone had-they-granted
Quod proximum fuit, uti in quo vellemus gymnasio eum
What next was that in what we-wished gymnasium him
sepeliremus, nobis permiserunt. Nos in nobilissimo orbi
we-should-bury to-us they-permitted We in most-noble of-the-circle
terrarum gymnasio Academiae locum delegimus ibique eum
of-lands gymnasium of-the-Academy a-place chose and-there him
combussimus posteaque curavimus, ut eidem Athenienses
we-burned and-afterward we-took-care that the-same Athenians
in eodem loco monumentum ei marmoreum faciendum
in the-same place a-monument to-him of-marble to-be-made
locarent. Ita, quae nostra officia fuerunt pro collegio
should-contract So what our duties were for the-college

et pro propinquitate, et vivo et mortuo omnia ei
and for the-kinship both living and dead all to-him
praestitimus. Vale. D. pr. K. Iun. Athenis.
we-have-rendered Farewell given on-the-day-before the-Kalends of-June at-Athens

IV.13 · TO NIGIDIUS IN EXILE

Cicero, seeking what to write to Nigidius Figulus, finds no kind of letter left: not the cheerful, nor promises of help, since he himself lives by others' favor and would sooner complain of living as he does than rejoice that he lives. Caesar has done him no wrong, but his friends are dead or scattered and he can do nothing worthy of a man. He leaves philosophy's consolation to Nigidius himself, but promises that his exile will not last: Caesar is inclined to save him, and Cicero will court his intimates. Nigidius should remember what his own talent and study have produced.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Figulo.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Figulus
Quaerenti mihi iam diu, quid ad te potissimum scriberem, 1
To-seeking me already long what to you above-all I-should-write
non modo certa res nulla, sed ne genus quidem litterarum
not only certain matter none but not kind even of-letter
usitatum veniebat in mentem. Unam enim partem et
usual came into mind One for part and
consuetudinem earum epistularum, quibus secundis rebus
custom of-those letters which in-favorable circumstances
uti solebamus, tempus eripuerat, perfeceratque fortuna,
to-use we-were-wont time had-snatched-away and-had-brought-about fortune
ne quid tale scribere possem aut omnino cogitare.
that-not anything such to-write I-could or at-all to-think
Relinquebatur triste quoddam et miserum et his
There-was-left sad a-certain and wretched and for-these

temporibus consentaneum genus litterarum. Id quoque
times suitable kind of-letter That also
deficiebat me, in quo debebat esse aut promissio auxili
failed me in which ought to-be either a-promise of-help
alicuius aut consolatio doloris tui. Quod pollicerer, non erat;
some or consolation of-grief your What I-might-promise not there-was
ipse enim pari fortuna adiectus aliorum opibus casus
myself for in-equal fortune cast-down by-others' resources misfortunes
meos sustentabam, saepiusque mihi veniebat in mentem
my I-was-sustaining and-more-often to-me it-came into mind
queri, quod ita viverem, quam gaudere, quod viverem.
to-complain that so I-lived than to-rejoice that I-lived
2 Quamquam enim nulla me ipsum privatim pepulit insignis
Although for no me myself privately has-struck notable
iniuria nec mihi quicquam tali tempore in mentem venit
injury nor to-me anything in-such a-time into mind has-come
optare, quod non ultro mihi Caesar detulerit, tamen non
to-wish which not unasked to-me Caesar has-offered still not
nihil eis conficior curis, ut ipsum, quod maneam in vita,
nothing by-those I-am-consumed cares that itself that I-remain in life
peccare me existimem. Careo enim cum familiarissimis multis,
to-sin me I-think I-lack for both most-intimate many
quos aut mors eripuit nobis aut distraxit fuga, tum omnibus
whom either death has-snatched from-us or has-scattered flight and all
amicis, quorum benevolentiam nobis conciliarat per me
friends whose goodwill for-us had-won through me
quondam te socio defensa res publica, versorque
once with-you as-partner defended the-thing public and-I-am-engaged
in eorum naufragiis et bonorum direptionibus nec audio
in their shipwrecks and of-goods plunderings nor do-I-hear
solum, quod ipsum esset miserum, sed etiam id ipsum
only what itself would-be wretched but also that itself

video, quo nihil est acerbius, eorum fortunas dissipari,
I-see than-which nothing is more-bitter of-those the-fortunes to-be-scattered
quibus nos olim adiutoribus illud incendium exstinximus, et,
with-whom we once as-helpers that conflagration extinguished and
in qua urbe modo gratia, auctoritate, gloria floruimus, in ea
in which city lately by-favor by-authority by-glory we-flourished in it
nunc his quidem omnibus caremus; obtinemus ipsius Caesaris
now these indeed all we-lack we-retain of-himself Caesar
summam erga nos humanitatem, sed ea plus non potest
the-highest toward us courtesy but that more not can
quam vis et mutatio omnium rerum atque temporum.
than the-force and change of-all things and times
Itaque orbus iis rebus omnibus, quibus et natura me 3
And-so bereft of-those things all to-which both nature me
et voluntas et consuetudo adsuefecerat, cum ceteris, ut
and will and custom had-accustomed both to-the-others as
quidem videor, tum mihi ipse displiceo. Natus enim ad
indeed I-seem and to-myself myself I-displease Born for for
agendum semper aliquid dignum viro nunc non modo
doing always something worthy of-a-man now not only
agendi rationem nullam habeo, sed ne cogitandi quidem
of-doing method none have-I but not of-thinking even
et, qui antea aut obscuris hominibus aut etiam sontibus
and I-who before either obscure men or even guilty
opitulari poteram, nunc P. Nigidio, uni omnium
to-help could now to-Publius Nigidius one of-all
doctissimo et sanctissimo et maxima quondam gratia
most-learned and most-upright and of-greatest once influence
et mihi certe amicissimo, ne benigne quidem polliceri
and to-me certainly most-friendly not kindly even to-promise
possum. Ergo hoc ereptum est litterarum genus.
can-I Therefore this taken-away has-been of-letter kind

4 Reliquum est, ut consoler et adferam rationes, quibus te
The-remaining-thing is that I-console and bring reasons by-which you
a molestiis coner abducere. At ea quidem facultas vel tui
from vexations I-may-try to-draw-away But that indeed ability either yourself
vel alterius consolandi in te summa est, si umquam in ullo
or another of-consoling in you highest is if ever in anyone
fuit. Itaque eam partem, quae ab exquisita quadam ratione
it-was And-so that part which from refined a-certain reason
et doctrina proficiscitur, non attingam, tibi totam relinquam.
and learning proceeds not I-will-touch to-you whole I-will-leave-it
Quid sit forti et sapienti homine dignum, quid gravitas,
What be of-a-brave and wise man worthy what gravity
quid altitudo animi, quid acta tua vita, quid studia, quid artes,
what loftiness of-mind what spent your life what studies what arts
quibus a pueritia floruisti, a te flagitent, tu videbis; ego,
in-which from boyhood you-flourished from you demand you will-see I
quod intellegere et sentire, quia sum Romae et quia curo
what to-understand and to-feel because I-am at-Rome and because I-take-care
attendoque, possum, id tibi adfirmo, te in istis molestiis,
and-attend can that to-you I-affirm you in those vexations
in quibus es hoc tempore, non diutius futurum, in iis
in which you-are at-this time not longer going-to-be in those
autem, in quibus etiam nos sumus, fortasse semper fore.
however in which also we are perhaps always going-to-be

5 Videor mihi perspicere primum ipsius animum, qui
I-seem to-myself to-perceive first of-himself the-mind who
plurimum potest, propensum ad salutem tuam. Non scribo
most can inclined to safety your Not I-write
hoc temere; quo minus familiaris sum, hoc sum
this rashly by-how-much less intimate I-am by-so-much am-I
ad investigandum curiosior. Quo facilius, quibus est iratior,
for investigating more-curious So-that more-easily to-whom he-is angrier

respondere tristius possit, hoc est adhuc tardior ad
to-answer more-sternly he-may-be-able this is so-far slower for
te molestia liberandum; familiares vero eius, et ii
you from-vexation to-be-freed friends indeed his and those
quidem, qui illi iucundissimi sunt, mirabiliter de te et
indeed who to-him most-pleasing are admirably about you both
loquuntur et sentiunt. Accedit eodem vulgi
speak and feel There-is-added to-the-same of-the-common-people
voluntas vel potius consensus omnium. Etiam illa, quae
the-will or rather the-agreement of-all Even that which
minimum nunc quidem potest, sed possit necessest, res
least now indeed can but have-power must the-thing
publica, quascumque viris habebit, ab iis ipsis, a quibus
public whatever men it-will-have from those very by whom
tenetur, de te propediem, mihi crede, impetrabit.
it-is-held about you soon to-me believe will-obtain
Redeo igitur ad id, ut iam tibi etiam pollicear 6
I-return then to that that now to-you also I-may-promise
aliquid, quod primo omiseram. Nam et complectar eius
something which at-first I-had-omitted For both I-will-embrace his
familiarissimos, qui me admodum diligunt multumque
most-intimate who me very-much love and-much
mecum sunt, et in ipsius consuetudinem, quam adhuc meus
with-me are and into his intercourse which so-far my
pudor mihi clausit, insinuabo et certe omnis vias
modesty to-me has-closed I-will-insinuate-myself and certainly all ways
persequar, quibus putabo ad id, quod volumus, pervenire
I-will-pursue by-which I-shall-think to that which we-wish to-arrive
posse. In hoc toto genere plura faciam quam scribere
to-be-able In this whole kind more I-will-do than to-write
audeo. Cetera, quae tibi a multis prompta esse certo scio,
I-dare The-rest which to-you by many ready to-be certainly I-know

a me sunt paratissima. Nihil in re familiari mea est,
by me are most-ready Nothing in estate family my is
quod ego meum malim esse quam tuum. Hac de re
which I mine would-prefer to-be than yours this about matter
et de hoc genere toto hoc scribo parcius, quod te id,
and about this kind whole this I-write more-sparingly because you that
quod ipse confido, sperare malo, te esse usurum tuis.
which I-myself trust to-hope I-prefer you to-be going-to-use your-own
7 Extremum illud est, ut te orem et obsecrem, animo ut
The-last that is that you I-beg and beseech of-spirit that
maximo sis nec ea solum memineris, quae ab aliis
the-greatest you-be nor those-things only you-remember which from other
magnis viris accepisti, sed illa etiam, quae ipse ingenio
great men you-have-received but those also which yourself by-talent
studioque peperisti. Quae si conliges, et sperabis
and-study you-have-produced Which if you-collect both you-will-hope
omnia optime et quae accident, qualiacumque erunt,
all-things best and what-things will-happen of-whatever-kind they-will-be
sapienter feres. Sed haec tu melius vel optime
wisely you-will-bear But these-things you better or best
omnium; ego, quae pertinere ad te intellegam, studiosissime
of-all I what to-pertain to you I-understand most-zealously
omnia diligentissimeque curabo tuorumque tristissimo
all and-most-diligently will-look-after and-of-yours in-saddest
meo tempore meritorum erga me memoriam conservabo.
my time services toward me the-memory I-will-preserve

Plancius congratulates Cicero on keeping his dignity and wishes his new step well. If dignity is thinking rightly, Cicero keeps it; if it is acting on it, none is left, and he must bear what war brings, slaughter on one side and slavery on the other. He foresaw it, and found home no safer than the state, so fortified himself with a new marriage against old treachery. Plancius has nothing special to fear, since his enemies are appeased, and Cicero will help him as he can.

M. Cicero s. d. Cn. Plancio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gnaeus Plancius

Binas a te accepi litteras Corcyrae datas; quarum alteris 1

Two from you I-received letters at-Corcyra given of-which in-the-one

mihi gratulabare, quod audisses me meam pristinam

me you-congratulated because you-had-heard me my former

dignitatem obtinere, alteris dicebas te velle, quae egissem,

dignity to-retain in-the-other you-said you to-wish what I-had-done

bene et feliciter evenire. Ego autem, si dignitas est

well and happily to-turn-out I however if dignity is

bene de re publica sentire et bonis viris probare

well about the-thing public to-feel and to-good men to-approve

quod sentias, obtineo dignitatem meam; sin autem in

what you-feel I-retain dignity my but-if however in

eo dignitas est, si, quod sentias, aut re efficere possis

this dignity is if what you-feel either in-fact to-effect you-can

aut denique libera oratione defendere, ne vestigium quidem

or finally with-free speech to-defend not a-trace even

ullum est reliquum nobis dignitatis, agiturque praeclare, si

any is left to-us of-dignity and-it-goes splendidly if

nosmet ipsos regere possumus, ut ea, quae partim

ourselves selves to-rule we-can so-that those-things which partly

iam adsunt, partim impendent, moderate feramus; quod

already are-present partly impend moderately we-bear which

est difficile in eius modi bello, cuius exitus ex altera
is difficult in of-that kind war of-which the-outcome on the-one
parte caedem ostentet, ex altera servitutem.
side slaughter displays on the-other slavery

2 Quo in periculo non nihil me consolatur, cum recordor haec
Which in danger not nothing me consoles when I-recall these-things
me tum vidisse, cum secundas etiam res nostras, non modo
me then to-have-seen when favorable even affairs our not only
adversas pertimescebam videbamque, quanto periculo de
adverse I-feared and-I-saw with-how-great danger about
iure publico disceptaretur armis; quibus si ii vicissent, ad
right public it-was-disputed with-arms by-which if those had-conquered to
quos ego pacis spe, non belli cupiditate adductus accesseram,
whom I of-peace by-hope not of-war by-desire led had-joined
tamen intellegebam, et iratorum hominum et cupidorum et
still I-understood both of-angry men and greedy and
insolentium quam crudelis esset futura victoria, sin autem
insolent how cruel was going-to-be the-victory but-if however
victi essent, quantus interitus esset futurus civium partim
conquered they-were how-great the-destruction was going-to-be of-citizens partly
amplissimorum, partim etiam optimorum, qui me haec
most-distinguished partly even best who me these-things
praedicentem atque optime consulentem saluti suae
foretelling and best consulting for-the-safety their
malebant nimium timidum quam satis prudentem existimari.
preferred too timid than sufficiently prudent to-be-thought

3 Quod autem mihi de eo, quod egerim, gratularis,
As-to-what however me about that which I-have-done you-congratulate
te ita velle certo scio; sed ego tam misero tempore
you so to-wish certainly I-know but I in-so wretched a-time
nihil novi consili cepissem, nisi in reditu meo nihilo
no new counsel would-have-taken unless at return my not-at-all

meliores res domesticas quam rem publicam offendissem.
better affairs domestic than the-thing public I-had-found
Quibus enim pro meis immortalibus beneficiis carissima
To-whom for for my immortal kindnesses dearest
mea salus et meae fortunae esse debebant, cum propter
my safety and my fortunes to-be ought when on-account-of
eorum scelus nihil mihi intra meos parietes tutum, nihil
their crime nothing for-me within my walls safe nothing
insidiis vacuum viderem, novarum me necessitudinum
from-snares free I-saw of-new myself of-connections
fidelitate contra veterum perfidiam muniendum putavi. Sed
by-the-loyalty against of-old-ones the-treachery to-be-fortified I-thought But
de nostris rebus satis vel etiam nimium multa.
about our affairs enough or even too many-things
De tuis velim ut eo sis animo, quo debes esse, 4
About yours I-would-wish that in-that you-be mind in-which you-ought to-be
id est ut ne quid tibi praecipue timendum putes. Si
that is that not anything by-you specially to-be-feared you-think If
enim status erit aliquis civitatis, quicumque erit, te
for a-state will-be any of-the-community whatever it-will-be you
omnium periculorum video expertem fore; nam alteros
of-all dangers I-see free going-to-be for the-ones
tibi iam placatos esse intellego, alteros numquam iratos
to-you already appeased to-be I-understand the-others never angry
fuisse. De mea autem in te voluntate sic velim
to-have-been About my however toward you goodwill so I-would-wish
iudices, me, quibuscumque rebus opus esse intellegam,
you-judge me in-whatever things need to-be I-understand
quamquam videam, qui sim hoc tempore et quid possim,
although I-see who I-am at-this time and what I-can
opera tamen et consilio, studio quidem certe rei,
with-effort still and with-counsel with-zeal indeed certainly for-property

famae, saluti tuae praesto futurum. Tu velim, et quid
reputation safety your at-hand going-to-be You I-would-wish both what
agas et quid acturum te putes, facias me quam
you-are-doing and what going-to-do you you-think make me as
diligentissime certiorem. Vale.
most-diligently more-informed Farewell

IV.15 · TO PLANCIUS, BRIEFLY

Plancius' very short letter did not tell Cicero what he wanted to know, how bravely Plancius bears the common miseries, but only what he never doubted, that Plancius loves him. Cicero repeats his reminder: Plancius should not think his danger his own; they are in great but common danger, and should neither demand a special fortune nor refuse the common one.

M. Cicero s. d. Cn. Plancio.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gnaeus Plancius

1 Accepi perbrevis tuas litteras; quibus id, quod scire cupiebam,
I-received very-short your letter from-which that which to-know I-desired
cognoscere non potui, cognovi autem id, quod mihi dubium
to-learn not I-could I-learned however that which to-me doubtful
non fuit; nam quam fortiter ferres communis miserias, non
not was for how bravely you-bore the-common miseries not
intellexi, quam me amares, facile perspexi. Sed hoc scieram,
I-understood how me you-loved easily I-perceived But this I-had-known
illud si scissem, ad id meas litteras accommodavissem.
that if I-had-known to that my letter I-would-have-adapted

2 Sed, tamen etsi antea scripsi quae existimavi scribi
But still although before I-wrote what I-thought to-be-written
oportere, tamen hoc tempore breviter commonendum
ought still at-this time briefly to-be-reminded

putavi, ne quo in periculo te proprio existimares esse.
I-thought lest any in danger you your-own you-should-think to-be
In magno omnes, sed tamen in communi sumus. Qua
In great all but still in common we-are By-which
re non debes aut propriam fortunam et praecipuam
thing not you-ought either your-own fortune and special
postulare aut communem recusare. Quapropter eo animo
to-demand or the-common to-refuse Wherefore with-that mind
simus inter nos, quo semper fuimus; quod de te
let-us-be toward each-other with-which always we-have-been which about you
sperare, de me praestare possum.
to-hope about me to-guarantee I-can

BOOK V

V.1 · METELLUS CELER COMPLAINS

Metellus Celer, proconsul, writes that he had not expected Cicero to mock him in his absence or to attack his brother Metellus Nepos, the tribune, for a word. His brother's modesty, their family's dignity, or Celer's zeal for the state should have protected him. Celer, at the head of a province, an army, and a war, is now in mourning, and warns that Cicero and his friends may repent; nothing will draw him from the state.

Q. Metellus Q. f. Celer procos. s. d. M.
Quintus Metellus of-Quintus son Celer proconsul greeting says to-Marcus
Tullio Ciceroni.
Tullius Cicero
Si vales, benest. Existimaram pro mutuo inter nos 1
If you-are-well it-is-good I-had-thought for mutual between us
animo et pro reconciliata gratia nec absentem me a te
feeling and for reconciled favor neither absent me by you
ludibrio laesum iri nec Metellum fratrem ob dictum
with-mockery hurt to-be-going nor Metellus my-brother for a-word
capite ac fortunis per te oppugnatum iri. Quem
in-life and fortunes through you attacked to-be-going Whom
si parum pudor ipsius defendebat, debebat vel familiae
if too-little the-modesty of-himself defended it-ought either of-family
nostrae dignitas vel meum studium erga vos remque
our the-dignity or my zeal toward you-all and-the-thing
publicam satis sublevare. Nunc video illum circumventum,
public enough to-support Now I-see him beset
me desertum, a quibus minime conveniebat.
me abandoned by whom least it-was-fitting

2 Itaque in luctu et squalore sum, qui provinciae, qui
And-so in mourning and squalor I-am who over-a-province who
exercitui praesum, qui bellum gero. Quae quoniam nec
over-an-army preside who war wage Which since neither
ratione nec maiorum nostrorum clementia administrastis,
with-reason nor of-ancestors our with-clemency you-have-managed
non erit mirandum, si vos paenitebit. Te tam mobili
not it-will-be to-be-wondered-at if you-all it-will-repent You so fickle
in me meosque esse animo non sperabam. Me interea
toward me and-mine to-be in-mind not I-hoped Me meanwhile
nec domesticus dolor nec cuiusquam iniuria ab re
neither domestic grief nor anyone's injury from the-thing
p. abducet.
public will-draw-away

V.2 · CICERO ANSWERS CELER

Cicero explains: in the senate he said, to some laughter, that Celer's relatives had kept him from praising Cicero as he meant. He gave up his province to Celer and spoke for him in the senate, and their favor was never broken. He tried, through Celer's wife Claudia and sister Mucia, to stop Nepos, who on the last day of December forbade him to address the people beyond his oath, and who threatened him; Cicero resisted him, but has never voted against him and even helped relieve him by decree. He will keep his goodwill toward Celer.

M. Tullius M. f. Cicero Q. Metello Q. f.
Marcus Tullius of-Marcus son Cicero to-Quintus Metellus of-Quintus son
Celeri procos. s. d.
Celer proconsul greeting says
Si tu exercitusque valetis, benest. Scribis ad me ‘te 1
If you and-the-army are-well it-is-good You-write to me you
existimasse pro mutuo inter nos animo et pro reconciliata
to-have-thought for mutual between us feeling and for reconciled
gratia numquam te a me ludibrio laesum iri.’ Quod
favor never you by me with-mockery hurt to-be-going Which
cuius modi sit, satis intellegere non possum, sed tamen
of-what kind it-be enough to-understand not I-can but still
suspicor ad te esse adlatum me in senatu, cum
I-suspect to you to-have-been reported me in the-senate when
disputarem permultos esse qui rem p. a me conservatam
I-was-arguing very-many to-be who the-thing public by me preserved
dolerent, dixisse a te propinquos tuos, quibus negare non
resented to-have-said from you relatives your whom to-refuse not
potuisses, impetrasse ut ea, quae statuisses tibi in
you-could to-have-obtained that those-things which you-had-determined by-you in
senatu de mea laude esse dicenda, reticeres. Quod cum
the-senate about my praise to-be to-be-said you-should-keep-silent Which when
dicerem, illud adiunxi, mihi tecum ita dispertitum officium
I-said this I-added for-me with-you so divided the-duty
fuisse in rei p. salute retinenda, ut ego urbem a
to-have-been in of-the-thing public the-safety to-be-retained that I the-city from
domesticis insidiis et ab intestino scelere, tu Italiam et ab
domestic plots and from internal crime you Italy both from
armatis hostibus et ab occulta coniuratione defenderes, atque
armed enemies and from secret conspiracy should-defend and
hanc nostram tanti et tam praeclari muneris societatem a
this our of-so-great and so splendid a-task partnership by

tuis propinquis labefactatam, qui, cum tu a me rebus
your relatives to-have-been-undermined who though you by me with-honors
amplissimis atque honorificentissimis ornatus esses, timuissent
most-ample and most-honorable decorated had-been feared
ne quae mihi pars abs te voluntatis mutuae tribueretur.
lest any to-me share from you of-goodwill mutual should-be-granted
2 Hoc in sermone cum a me exponeretur, quae mea exspectatio
This in talk when by me was-set-out what my expectation
fuisset orationis tuae quantoque in errore versatus essem,
had-been of-speech your and-how-great in error involved I-had-been
visa est oratio non iniucunda, et mediocris quidam est risus
seemed was the-speech not unpleasant and a-moderate certain was laughter
consecutus non in te sed magis in errorem meum, et quod
followed not at you but more at error my and because
me abs te cupisse laudari aperte atque ingenue confitebar.
me by you to-have-desired to-be-praised openly and frankly I-confessed
Iam hoc non potest in te non honorifice esse
Now this not can toward you not honorably to-have-been
dictum, me in clarissimis meis atque amplissimis rebus
said me in most-illustrious my and most-ample achievements
tamen aliquod testimonium tuae vocis habere voluisse.
still some testimony of-your voice to-have to-have-wished
3 Quod autem ita scribis: ‘pro mutuo inter nos animo,’ quid
As-to-what however so you-write for mutual between us feeling what
tu existimes esse in amicitia mutuum, nescio, equidem hoc
you think to-be in friendship mutual I-know-not for-my-part this
arbitror, cum par voluntas accipitur et redditur. Ego si
I-think when equal goodwill is-received and is-returned I if
hoc dicam, me tua causa praetermisisse provinciam, tibi
this I-should-say me for-your sake to-have-passed-over a-province to-you
ipse levior videar esse; meae enim rationes ita tulerunt,
myself shallower I-would-seem to-be my for interests so brought-it

atque eius mei consili maiorem in dies singulos fructum
and of-that my counsel greater into days single fruit
voluptatemque capio; illud dico, me, ut primum in contione
and-pleasure I-take this I-say me as first in an-assembly
provinciam deposuerim, statim, quem ad modum eam tibi
the-province I-had-laid-down at-once in-what to manner it to-you
traderem, cogitare coepisse. Nihil dico de sortitione
I-might-hand-over to-think to-have-begun Nothing I-say about the-allotment
vestra; tantum te suspicari volo, nihil in ea re per
your only you to-suspect I-wish nothing in that matter through
conlegam meum me insciente esse factum. Recordare
colleague my with-me unaware to-have-been done Recall
cetera, quam cito senatum illo die facta sortitione
the-rest how quickly the-senate on-that day with-the-allotment made
coegerim, quam multa de te verba fecerim, cum tu ipse
I-assembled how many about you words I-made when you yourself
mihi dixisti orationem meam non solum in te honorificam
to-me said speech my not only to you honorable
sed etiam in conlegas tuos contumeliosam fuisse.
but even toward colleagues your insulting to-have-been
Iam illud senatus consultum, quod eo die factum 4
Moreover that of-the-senate decree which on-that day made
est, ea praescriptione est, ut, dum id exstabit, officium
was with-that preamble is that while it exists service
meum in te obscurum esse non possit. Postea vero quam
my toward you obscure to-be not can After indeed that
profectus es, velim recordere quae ego de te in senatu
set-out you-have I-would-wish you-recall what I about you in the-senate
egerim, quae in contionibus dixerim, quas ad te litteras
did what in assemblies I-said what to you letters
miserim. Quae cum omnia conlegeris, tu ipse velim
I-sent Which when all you-have-collected you yourself I-would-wish

iudices, satisne videatur his omnibus rebus tuus
judge whether-enough seem by-these all things your
adventus, cum proxime Romam venisti, mutue respondisse.
arrival when last to-Rome you-came mutually to-have-answered
5 Quod scribis de 'reconciliata gratia' nostra, non intellego
As-to-what you-write about reconciled favor our not I-understand
cur reconciliatam esse dicas, quae numquam imminutast.
why reconciled to-be you-say which never was-diminished
6 Quod scribis non oportuisse 'Metellum, fratrem tuum,
As-to-what you-write not to-have-been-right Metellus brother your
ob dictum a me oppugnari,' primum hoc velim
for a-word by me to-be-attacked first this I-would-wish
existimes, animum mihi istum tuum vehementer probari
you-think mind to-me that your vehemently to-be-approved
et fraternam plenam humanitatis ac pietatis voluntatem;
and brotherly full of-courtesy and devotion goodwill
deinde, si qua ego in re fratri tuo rei publicae
then if any I in matter to-brother your of-the-thing public
causa restiterim, ut mihi ignoscas (tam enim sum amicus
for-the-sake have-resisted that me you-pardon so for am-I a-friend
rei p. quam qui maxime); si vero meam salutem
of-the-thing public as whoever most if indeed my safety
contra illius impetum in me crudelissimum defenderim, satis
against his attack on me most-cruel I-have-defended enough
habeas nihil me etiam tecum de tui fratris iniuria
you-should-hold-it nothing me also with-you about your brother's injury
conqueri. Quem ego cum comperissem omnem sui tribunatus
to-complain Whom I when I-had-learned all of-his tribunate
conatum in meam perniciem parare atque meditari, egi
the-effort for my destruction to-prepare and to-meditate I-dealt
cum Claudia, uxore tua, et cum vestra sorore Mucia, cuius
with Claudia wife your and with your sister Mucia whose

erga me studium pro Cn. Pompei necessitudine multis
toward me zeal for of-Gnaeus Pompey the-connection many
in rebus perspexeram, ut eum ab illa iniuria deterrerent.
in matters I-had-perceived that him from that injury they-should-deter
Atqui ille, quod te audisse certo scio, pr. 7
But he as you to-have-heard certainly I-know on-the-day-before
K. Ian., qua iniuria nemo umquam in aliquo
the-Kalends of-January with-what injury no-one ever in any
magistratu improbissimus civis adfectus est, ea me
magistracy most-wicked citizen affected has-been with-it me
consulem adfecit, cum rem p. conservassem, atque
as-consul he-affected when the-thing public I-had-preserved and
abeuntem magistratu contionis habendae potestate privavit.
going-out from-office of-an-assembly to-be-held of-the-power deprived
Cuius iniuria mihi tamen honori summo fuit; nam cum
Whose injury to-me still to-honor highest was for when
ille mihi nihil nisi ut iurarem permitteret, magna voce
he to-me nothing except that I-should-swear permitted with-great voice
iuravi verissimum pulcherrimumque ius iurandum, quod
I-swore most-true and-most-splendid oath sworn which
populus idem magna voce me vere iurasse iuravit.
the-people likewise with-great voice me truly to-have-sworn swore
Hac accepta tam insigni iniuria tamen illo ipso die misi 8
With-this received so signal injury still on-that very day I-sent
ad Metellum communis amicos, qui agerent cum eo, ut
to Metellus common friends who should-deal with him that
de illa mente desisteret. Quibus ille respondit sibi non
from that intention he-should-desist To-whom he answered for-himself not
esse integrum; etenim paulo ante in contione dixerat ei,
to-be open for-indeed a-little before in an-assembly he-had-said for-him
qui in alios animum advertisset indicta causa, dicendi
who against others mind had-turned unpleaded with-cause of-speaking

ipsi potestatem fieri non oportere. Hominem gravem
to-him-himself the-power to-be-given not to-be-right A-man grave
et civem egregium! qui, qua poena senatus consensu
and citizen outstanding who by-what punishment the-senate with-the-agreement
bonorum omnium eos adfecerat, qui urbem incendere et
of-good-men all those had-affected who the-city to-burn and
magistratus ac senatum trucidare, bellum maximum conflare
the-magistrates and senate to-slaughter war greatest to-stir-up
voluissent, eadem dignum iudicaret eum, qui curiam
had-wished of-the-same worthy judged him who the-senate-house
caede, urbem incendiis, Italiam bello liberasset. Itaque
from-slaughter the-city from-fires Italy from-war had-freed And-so
ego Metello, fratri tuo, praesenti restiti. Nam in senatu
I to-Metellus brother your present resisted For in the-senate
K. Ianuariis sic cum eo de re p. disputavi, ut
on-the-Kalends of-January so with him about the-thing public I-argued that
sentiret sibi cum viro forti et constanti esse pugnandum.
he-felt for-him with a-man brave and steadfast to-be to-be-fought
A. d. tertium Non. Ian. cum agere coepisset, tertio
On-the day third before-the-Nones of-January when to-act he-had-begun third
quoque verbo orationis suae me appellabat, mihi minabatur,
every word of-speech his me he-addressed me he-threatened
neque illi quicquam deliberatius fuit quam me, quacumque
nor to-him anything more-deliberate was than me by-whatever
ratione posset, non iudicio neque disceptatione sed vi
means he-could not by-trial nor by-discussion but by-force
atque impressione evertere. Huius ego temeritati si virtute
and onslaught to-overthrow Of-this-man I rashness if with-courage
atque animo non restitissem, quis esset qui me in consulatu
and spirit not I-had-resisted who would-be who me in consulship
non casu potius existimaret quam consilio fortem fuisse?
not by-chance rather would-think than by-design brave to-have-been

Haec si tu Metellum cogitare de me nescisti, debes 9
These-things if you Metellus to-intend about me knew-not you-ought
existimare te maximis de rebus a fratre esse
to-think you greatest about things by your-brother to-have-been
celatum; sin autem aliquid impertivit tibi sui consili,
kept-in-the-dark but-if however something he-imparted to-you of-his counsel
lenis a te et facilis existimari debeo, qui nihil tecum
lenient by you and easy to-be-thought I-ought who nothing with-you
de his ipsis rebus expostulem. Et, si intellegis non me
about these very things complain And if you-understand not me
'dicto' Metelli, ut scribis, sed consilio eius animoque
by-the-word of-Metellus as you-write but by-the-design his and-mind
in me inimicissimo esse commotum, cognosce nunc
toward me most-hostile to-have-been moved learn now
humanitatem meam, si humanitas appellandast in acerbissima
courtesy my if courtesy it-is-to-be-called in most-bitter
iniuria remissio animi ac dissolutio. Nullast a me umquam
injury a-remission of-mind and relaxation No-has-been by me ever
sententia dicta in fratrem tuum; quotienscumque aliquid
opinion spoken against brother your whenever anything
est actum, sedens iis adsensi, qui mihi lenissime
has-been done sitting with-those I-agreed who to-me most-leniently
sentire visi sunt. Addam illud etiam, quod iam ego curare
to-feel seemed have I-will-add that also which already I to-attend-to
non debui, sed tamen fieri non moleste tuli atque
not ought but still to-be-done not with-annoyance I-bore and
etiam, ut ita fieret, pro mea parte adiuvi, ut senati
even that so it-be-done for my part I-helped that by-the-senate's
consulto meus inimicus, quia tuus frater erat, sublevaretur.
decree my enemy because your brother he-was be-relieved

10 Quare non ego ‘oppugnavi’ fratrem tuum, sed fratri tuo
Wherefore not I attacked brother your but to-brother your
repugnavi nec in te, ut scribis, ‘animo fui mobili,’ sed
I-resisted nor toward you as you-write in-mind was-I fickle but
ita stabili, ut in mea erga te voluntate etiam desertus ab
so steadfast that in my toward you goodwill even abandoned by
officiis tuis permanerem. Atque hoc ipso tempore tibi paene
services your I-persevered And at-this very time to-you almost
minitanti nobis per litteras hoc rescribo atque respondeo: Ego
threatening us by letter this I-write-back and answer I
dolori tuo non solum ignosco, sed summam etiam laudem
grief your not only pardon but the-highest even praise
tribuo (meus enim me sensus, quanta vis fraterni sit amoris,
grant my for me feeling how-great the-force of-brotherly be love
admonet); a te peto ut tu quoque aequum te iudicem
reminds of you I-ask that you also fair yourself as-judge
dolori meo praebeas; si acerbe, si crudeliter, si sine causa
to-grief my show if bitterly if cruelly if without cause
sum a tuis oppugnatus, ut statuas mihi non modo non
I-have-been by yours attacked that you-determine for-me not only not
cedendum sed etiam tuo atque exercitus tui auxilio in eius
to-be-yielded but even your and of-army your help in of-that
modi causa utendum fuisse. Ego te mihi semper amicum
kind a-cause to-be-used to-have-been I you to-me always a-friend
esse volui, me ut tibi amicissimum esse intellegeres
to-be wished me that to-you most-friendly to-be you-should-understand
laboravi. Maneo in voluntate et, quoad voles tu, permanebo
I-labored I-remain in goodwill and as-long-as will-wish you I-will-persevere
citiusque amore tui fratrem tuum odisse desinam quam
and-sooner from-love of-you brother your to-hate I-will-cease than
illius odio quicquam de nostra benevolentia detraham.
from-his hatred anything from our goodwill I-take-away

Metellus Nepos, now consul, writes that Cicero's services soften the insults of a most insolent man, meaning Clodius, who abuses him in assembly after assembly; he despises them and counts Cicero a brother in his place. He does not even wish to remember the man he twice saved against his will. He has sent Lollius word about the province's accounts, and asks Cicero to keep his old goodwill.

Q. Metellus Nepos s. d. M. Ciceroni.
Quintus Metellus Nepos greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

Hominis importunissimi contumeliae, quibus crebris 1
Of-a-man most-insolent the-insults with-which in-frequent
contionibus me onerat, tuis erga me officiis leniuntur et,
assemblies me he-loads by-your toward me services are-softened and
ut sunt leves ab eius modi homine, a me despiciuntur,
as they-are light from of-that kind a-man by me are-despised
libenterque commutata persona te mihi fratris loco
and-gladly with-exchanged person you to-me of-a-brother in-the-place
esse duco.
to-be I-consider

De illo ne meminisse quidem volo, tametsi bis eum 2
About him not to-remember even do-I-wish although twice him
invitum servavi. De meis rebus, ne vobis multitudine
unwilling I-saved About my affairs lest to-you-all by-the-multitude
litterarum molestior essem, ad Lollium perscripsi, de
of-letters more-troublesome I-should-be to Lollius I-wrote-fully about
rationibus provinciae quid vellem fieri, ut is vos
the-accounts of-the-province what I-wished to-be-done that he you-all
doceret et commonefaceret. Si poteris, velim pristinam
might-instruct and remind If you-can I-would-wish former
tuam erga me voluntatem conserves.
your toward me goodwill you-preserve

Cicero, in exile, writes to Metellus Nepos as consul. Letters from his brother and from Atticus gave him hope of Nepos' help, but travelers' talk said his mind had changed. Now his brother reports Nepos' gentle speech in the senate, and Cicero begs him to save his own people and Cicero with them rather than attack him for the arrogant cruelty of his kin, meaning Clodius. If force keeps magistrates, senate, and people from helping, the time may come when there is no one left to save.

M. Cicero s. d. Q. Metello cos.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Quintus Metellus consul

1 Litterae Quinti fratris et T. Pomponi, necessarii mei,
The-letters of-Quintus my-brother and of-Titus Pomponius connection my
tantum spei dederant, ut in te non minus auxili quam in
so-much of-hope had-given that in you not less of-help than in
tuo conlega mihi constitutum fuerit. Itaque ad te litteras
your colleague for-me established was And-so to you a-letter
statim misi, per quas, ut fortuna postulabat, et gratias tibi
at-once I-sent by which as fortune demanded both thanks to-you
egi et de reliquo tempore auxilium petii. Postea mihi
I-gave and about the-remaining time help I-sought Afterward to-me
non tam meorum litterae quam sermones eorum, qui hac
not so-much of-my-people the-letters as the-talk of-those who this-way
iter faciebant, animum tuum immutatum significabant;
journey were-making mind your changed indicated
quae res fecit ut tibi litteris obstrepere non auderem.
which thing made that you with-letters to-importune not I-dared

2 Nunc mihi Quintus frater meus mitissimam tuam orationem,
Now to-me Quintus brother my most-gentle your speech
quam in senatu habuisses, perscripsit; qua inductus ad te
which in the-senate you-had-held wrote-fully by-which induced to you
scribere sum conatus et abs te, quantum tua fert voluntas,
to-write I-have attempted and of you as-much-as your allows will

peto quaesoque, ut tuos mecum serves potius quam
I-ask and-beg that yours with-me you-preserve rather than
propter adrogantem crudelitatem tuorum me oppugnes.
on-account-of the-arrogant cruelty of-yours me you-attack
Tu, tuas inimicitias ut rei p. donares, te
You your enmities that to-the-thing public you-might-give-up yourself
vicisti, alienas ut contra rem p. confirmes, adduceris?
conquered others' that against the-thing public you-confirm are-you-led
Quod si mihi tua clementia opem tuleris, omnibus in
But if to-me with-your clemency help you-bring all in
rebus me fore in tua potestate tibi confirmo. Si mihi
things me going-to-be in your power to-you I-assure If for-me
neque magistratum neque senatum neque populum auxiliari
neither magistracy nor senate nor people to-help
propter eam vim, quae me cum re p. vicit,
on-account-of that force which me with the-thing public conquered
licuerit, vide ne, cum velis revocare tempus omnium
shall-have-been-allowed see lest when you-wish to-recall the-time of-all
servandorum, cum qui servetur non erit, non possis.
to-be-saved when who be-saved not there-will-be not you-can

V.5 · TO ANTONIUS IN MACEDONIA

Cicero, who meant to write to Gaius Antonius only to recommend, sends this by Atticus. He has done everything for Antonius' advantage, honor, and dignity, and has had no gratitude; worse, he has heard of things said against him, which Atticus will report. What remains will need more effort, and he will not waste it if it is unwelcome. He commends Atticus' business to him.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Antonio M. f. imp.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Antonius of-Marcus son imperator

1 Etsi statueram nullas ad te litteras mittere nisi
Although I-had-determined no to you letters to-send unless
commendaticias (non quo eas intellegerem satis apud te
of-recommendation not that them I-understood sufficiently with you
valere, sed ne iis, qui me rogarent, aliquid de nostra
to-prevail but lest to-those who me asked anything about our
coniunctione imminutum esse ostenderem), tamen, cum T.
union diminished to-be I-should-show still since Titus
Pomponius, homo omnium meorum in te studiorum
Pomponius a-man of-all my toward you efforts
et officiorum maxime conscius, tui cupidus, nostri
and services most conscious of-you desirous of-us
amantissimus, ad te proficisceretur, aliquid mihi scribendum
most-loving to you was-setting-out something by-me to-be-written
putavi, praesertim cum aliter ipsi Pomponio satis
I-thought especially since otherwise to-Pomponius himself enough
facere non possem.
to-do not I-could

2 Ego si abs te summa officia desiderem, mirum nemini videri
I if from you the-highest services I-should-want strange to-no-one to-seem
debeat. Omnia enim a me in te profecta sunt, quae ad
ought All-things for by me toward you proceeded have which to
tuum commodum, quae ad honorem, quae ad dignitatem
your advantage which to honor which to dignity
pertinerent. Pro his rebus nullam mihi abs te relatam esse
pertained For these things no to-me from you returned to-have-been
gratiam tu es optimus testis, contra etiam esse aliquid
gratitude you are best witness on-the-contrary even to-be something
abs te profectum ex multis audivi; nam ‘comperisse’ me
from you proceeded from many I-have-heard for to-have-ascertained me

non audeo dicere, ne forte id ipsum verbum ponam, quod
not I-dare to-say lest perhaps that very word I-should-use which
abs te aiunt falso in me solere conferri. Sed ea, quae
by you they-say falsely to me to-be-wont to-be-applied But those-things which
ad me delata sunt, malo te ex Pomponio, cui non minus
to me reported have-been I-prefer you from Pomponius to-whom not less
molesta fuerunt, quam ex meis litteris cognoscere. Meus in
vexatious they-were than from my letter to-learn My toward
te animus quam singulari officio fuerit, et senatus et p.
you mind with-how singular service it-was both the-senate and the-people
R. testis est; tu quam gratus erga me fueris, ipse
Roman witness is you how grateful toward me you-have-been yourself
existimare potes; quantum mihi debeas, ceteri existimant.
to-judge you-can how-much to-me you-owe the-others judge
Ego quae tua causa antea feci, voluntate sum adductus 3
I what-things for-your sake before I-did by-goodwill I-was led
posteaque constantia; sed reliqua, mihi crede, multo
and-afterward by-consistency but the-remaining-things to-me believe much
maius meum studium maioremque gravitatem et laborem
greater my zeal and-greater gravity and labor
desiderant. Quae ego si non profundere ac perdere videbor,
require Which I if not to-pour-out and to-waste I-shall-seem
omnibus meis viribus sustinebo; sin autem ingrata esse
with-all my strength I-will-sustain but-if however unwelcome to-be
sentiam, non committam ut tibi ipsi insanire videar.
I-feel not I-will-allow that to-you yourself to-be-mad I-seem
Ea quae sint et cuius modi, poteris ex Pomponio
Those-things what they-are and of-what kind you-can from Pomponius
cognoscere. Atque ipsum tibi Pomponium ita commendo,
learn And himself to-you Pomponius so I-commend
ut, quamquam ipsius causa confido te facturum esse
that although for-his-own sake I-trust you going-to-do to-be

omnia, tamen abs te hoc petam, ut, si quid in te
all-things still of you this I-will-ask that if anything in you
residet amoris erga me, id omne in Pomponi negotio
remains of-love toward me that all in Pomponius' business
ostendas. Hoc mihi nihil gratius facere potes.
you-show This to-me nothing more-pleasing to-do you-can

V.6 · THE HOUSE OF CRASSUS

Decius asked Cicero to keep a successor from being sent to Sestius, proquaestor; Cicero, unsure of Sestius' wish after his earlier letter, waited until Sestius' wife Cornelia had met Terentia and he had spoken with Quintus Cornelius, then attended every sitting of the senate and pressed the tribune Fufius and the others; the matter was put off to January but easily held. He has bought Crassus' house for three and a half million sesterces, and is so in debt that he would join a conspiracy if anyone would have the man who punished one. He has inspected Sestius' house and approves of it, and he defended Antonius in the senate.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Sestio L. f. proq.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Sestius of-Lucius son proquaestor
1 Cum ad me Decius librarius venisset egissetque mecum,
When to me Decius the-copyist had-come and-had-dealt with-me
ut operam darem ne tibi hoc tempore succederetur,
that effort I-should-give lest to-you at-this time a-successor-be-sent
quamquam illum hominem frugi et tibi amicum
although him a-man honest and to-you friendly
existimabam, tamen, quod memoria tenebam, cuius modi
I-thought still because in-memory I-held of-what kind
ad me litteras antea misisses, non satis credidi homini
to me a-letter before you-had-sent not sufficiently I-believed in-a-man
prudenti tam valde esse mutatam voluntatem tuam.
prudent so greatly to-have-been changed the-wish your

Sed, postea quam et Cornelia tua Terentiam convenit, et
But after that both Cornelia your Terentia met and
ego cum Q. Cornelio locutus sum, adhibui diligentiam,
I with Quintus Cornelius spoken I-have I-applied diligence
quotienscumque senatus fuit, ut adessem, plurimumque
whenever the-senate was that I-should-be-present and-very-much
in eo negoti habui ut Q. Fufium, tr. pl., et
in it of-business I-had that Quintus Fufius tribune of-the-plebs and
ceteros, ad quos tu scripseras, cogerem mihi potius
the-others to whom you had-written I-should-compel me rather
credere quam tuis litteris. Omnino res tota in mensem
to-believe than your letter Altogether the-matter whole into the-month
Ianuarium reiecta erat, sed facile obtinebatur.
January thrown-back had-been but easily it-was-being-held
Ego tua gratulatione commotus, quod ad me pridem 2
I by-your congratulation moved because to me long-ago
scripseras velle te bene evenire, quod de Crasso domum
you-had-written to-wish you well to-turn-out that from Crassus a-house
emissem, emi eam ipsam domum |x̄x̄x̄v̄|
I-had-bought bought that very house for-three-and-a-half-million
aliquanto post tuam gratulationem. Itaque nunc me scito
somewhat after your congratulation And-so now me know
tantum habere aeris alieni, ut cupiam coniurare, si
so-much to-have of-bronze of-another that I-desire to-conspire if
quisquam recipiat; sed partim odio inducti me excludunt
anyone would-admit-me but partly by-hatred induced me they-exclude
et aperte vindicem coniurationis oderunt, partim non credunt
and openly the-punisher of-conspiracy they-hate partly not they-believe
et a me insidias metuunt nec putant ei nummos
and from me snares they-fear nor think to-him money
desse posse, qui ex obsidione feneratores exemerit.
to-be-lacking to-be-able who from siege the-money-lenders has-released

Omnino semissibus magna copia est; ego autem meis
Altogether at-six-percent great abundance there-is I however by-my
rebus gestis hoc sum adsecutus, ut bonum nomen existimer.
deeds done this have attained that a-good name I-am-thought
3 Domum tuam atque aedificationem omnem perspexi et
House your and building all I-have-inspected and
vehementer probavi. Antonium, etsi eius in me officia
vehemently approved Antonius although his toward me services
omnes desiderant, tamen in senatu gravissime ac diligentissime
all miss still in the-senate most-weightily and most-diligently
defendi senatumque vehementer oratione mea atque auctoritate
I-defended and-the-senate vehemently by-speech my and authority
commovi. Tu ad me velim litteras crebrius mittas.
moved You to me I-would-wish letters more-often send

V.7 · TO POMPEY

Pompey's official dispatch gave Cicero and everyone great pleasure with its hope of peace, and struck his old enemies, now new friends, from their hopes. His personal letter to Cicero showed slight goodwill, but it was welcome: Cicero is content to know his own services, and if they have not won Pompey, the state will bring the two men together. He missed in it any congratulation for what he did in his consulship, perhaps withheld to spare someone's feelings; when Pompey returns he will learn that what Cicero did for the country lets him stand beside Pompey, a greater man than Africanus, as one not much less than Laelius.

M. Tullius M. f. Cicero s. d. Cn. Pompeio
Marcus Tullius of-Marcus son Cicero greeting says to-Gnaeus Pompey
Cn. f. Magno imperatori.
of-Gnaeus son the-Great imperator
S. T. E. Q. V. B. E. Ex litteris tuis, quas publice 1
If you the-army and are-well well it-is From letter your which officially
misisti, cepi una cum omnibus incredibilem voluptatem;
you-sent I-took together with all incredible pleasure
tantam enim spem oti ostendisti, quantam ego semper
such for hope of-peace you-showed as I always
omnibus te uno fretus pollicebar. Sed hoc scito, tuos
to-all on-you alone relying promised But this know your
veteres hostis, novos amicos, vehementer litteris perculsos
old enemies new friends vehemently by-the-letter struck
atque ex magna spe deturbatos iacere.
and from great hope thrown-down to-lie
Ad me autem litteras quas misisti, quamquam exiguam 2
To me however the-letter which you-sent although slight
significationem tuae erga me voluntatis habebant, tamen
indication of-your toward me goodwill it-had still
mihi scito iucundas fuisse; nulla enim re tam laetari
to-me know pleasant to-have-been in-no for thing so to-rejoice
soleo quam meorum officiorum conscientia; quibus si
am-I-wont as of-my of-services in-the-consciousness to-which if
quando non mutue respondetur, apud me plus offici
ever not mutually there-is-response with me more of-service
residere facillime patior. Illud non dubito quin, si te mea
to-remain most-easily I-allow This not I-doubt but-that if you my
summa erga te studia parum mihi adiunxerint, res
highest toward you efforts too-little to-me have-joined the-thing
publica nos inter nos conciliatura coniuncturaque sit.
public us between ourselves going-to-reconcile and-going-to-join is

3 Ac ne ignores quid ego in tuis litteris desiderarim,
And lest you-be-unaware what I in your letter missed
scribam aperte, sicut et mea natura et nostra amicitia
I-will-write openly as both my nature and our friendship
postulat. Res eas gessi, quarum aliquam in tuis
demands Things those I-accomplished of-which some in your
litteris et nostrae necessitudinis et rei p. causa
letter both of-our close-tie and of-the-thing public for-the-sake
gratulationem exspectavi; quam ego abs te praetermissam
congratulation I-expected which I by you passed-over
esse arbitror, quod vererere ne cuius animum offenderes.
to-have-been think because you-feared lest anyone's mind you-should-offend
Sed scito ea, quae nos pro salute patriae gessimus,
But know those-things which we for the-safety of-the-fatherland accomplished
orbis terrae iudicio ac testimonio comprobari; quae,
of-the-circle of-lands by-the-judgment and testimony to-be-approved which
cum veneris, tanto consilio tantaque animi magnitudine a
when you-come with-so-great counsel and-so-great of-mind greatness by
me gesta esse cognosces, ut tibi multo maiori, quam
me accomplished to-have-been you-will-learn that to-you much greater than
Africanus fuit, me non multo minorem quam Laelium facile
Africanus was me not much less than Laelius easily
et in re p. et in amicitia adiunctum esse patiare.
both in the-thing public and in friendship joined to-be you-may-allow

Cicero tells Crassus, gone to his province, how hard he fought for his dignity with the consuls and consulars, repaying an old debt of friendship. Certain men who grieve at another's praise once estranged them, but now Crassus' wife and sons rely on Cicero's counsels, and the senate and people see his zeal for Crassus absent. Whatever doubts arose were false and should be forgotten. Crassus should treat this letter as a treaty: Cicero will serve him in every matter, public and private, and asks to be told of all of them.

M. Cicero M. Licinio P. f. Crasso.
Marcus Cicero to-Marcus Licinius of-Publius son Crassus

Quantum ad meum studium exstiterit dignitatis tuae vel 1
How-great to my zeal stood-out of-dignity your either
tuendae vel etiam augendae, non dubito quin ad te
to-be-protected or even to-be-increased not I-doubt but-that to you
omnes tui scripserint; non enim fuit aut mediocre aut
all yours have-written not for it-was either moderate or
obscurum aut eius modi, quod silentio posset praeteriri.
obscure or of-that kind which in-silence could to-be-passed-over
Nam et cum consulibus et cum multis consularibus
For both with the-consuls and with many consulars
tanta contentione decertavi quanta numquam antea ulla
with-such-great effort I-fought as-great-as never before any
in causa suscepique mihi perpetuam propugnationem pro
in cause and-I-undertook for-myself a-perpetual championship for
omnibus ornamentis tuis veterique nostrae necessitudini iam
all honors your and-to-old our close-tie already
diu debitum, sed multa varietate temporum interruptum
long owed but by-much variety of-times interrupted
officium cumulate reddidi.
the-duty abundantly I-have-repaid

2 Neque mehercule umquam mihi tui aut colendi aut ornandi
Nor by-Hercules ever in-me of-you either of-cultivating or of-honoring
voluntas defuit; sed quaedam pestes hominum laude
the-will has-been-lacking but certain plagues of-men at-praise
aliena dolentium et te non numquam a me alienarunt
another's grieving both you not never from me have-estranged
et me aliquando immutarunt tibi. Sed exstitit tempus
and me sometimes changed to-you But there-has-arisen a-time
optatum mihi magis quam speratum, ut florentissimis tuis
desired by-me more than hoped-for that in-most-flourishing your
rebus mea perspici posset et memoria nostrae voluntatis et
affairs mine to-be-perceived could both the-memory of-our goodwill and
amicitiae fides; sum enim consecutus, non modo ut domus
of-friendship the-loyalty I-have for attained not only that household
tua tota, sed ut cuncta civitas me tibi amicissimum esse
your whole but that the-whole state me to-you most-friendly to-be
cognosceret. Itaque et praestantissima omnium feminarum,
should-learn And-so both the-most-excellent of-all women
uxor tua, et eximia pietate, virtute, gratia tui Crassi meis
wife your and of-exceptional devotion virtue influence your the-Crassi on-my
consiliis, monitis, studiis actionibusque nituntur, et senatus
counsels admonitions efforts and-actions rely and the-senate
populusque R. intellegit tibi absenti nihil esse tam
and-people Roman understands to-you absent nothing to-be so
promptum aut tam paratum quam in omnibus rebus, quae ad
ready or so prepared as in all matters which to
te pertineant, operam, curam, diligentiam, auctoritatem meam.
you pertain effort care diligence authority my
3 Quae sint acta quaeque agantur, domesticorum tibi litteris
What has-been done and-what is-being-done of-your-household to-you by-the-letters
declarari puto. De me sic existimes ac tibi persuadeas
to-be-declared I-think About me so you-should-think and to-yourself persuade

vehementer velim, non me repentina aliqua voluntate aut
vehemently I-would-wish not me by-sudden some impulse or
fortuito ad tuam amplitudinem meis officiis amplectendam
by-chance to your greatness with-my services to-be-embraced
incidisse, sed, ut primum forum attigerim, spectasse semper,
to-have-fallen but as first the-forum I-touched to-have-aimed always
ut tibi possem quam maxime esse coniunctus. Quo quidem
that to-you I-could as most to-be joined Which indeed
ex tempore memoria teneo neque meam tibi observantiam
from time in-memory I-hold neither my to-you deference
neque mihi tuam summam benevolentiam ac liberalitatem
nor to-me your highest goodwill and liberality
defuisse. Si quae inciderunt non tam re quam
to-have-been-lacking If any-things have-occurred not so-much in-fact as
suspicione violata, ea, cum fuerint et falsa et inania,
by-suspicion violated those since they-have-been both false and empty
sint evulsa ex omni memoria vitaque nostra. Is enim
let-them-be torn-out from all memory and-life our That for
tu vir es et eum me esse cupio, ut, quoniam in eadem
you a-man are and that me to-be I-desire that since into the-same
rei p. tempora incidimus, coniunctionem amicitiamque
of-the-thing public times we-have-fallen union and-friendship
nostram utrique nostrum laudi sperem fore.
our to-each of-us for-praise I-may-hope going-to-be
Quam ob rem tu, quantum tuo iudicio tribuendum 4
Which on-account-of thing you how-much by-your judgment to-be-granted
esse nobis putes, statues ipse et, ut spero, statues
to-be to-us you-think will-determine yourself and as I-hope will-determine
ex nostra dignitate; ego vero tibi profiteor atque
according-to our dignity I indeed to-you declare and
polliceor eximium et singulare meum studium in omni genere
promise exceptional and singular my zeal in every kind

offici, quod ad honestatem et gloriam tuam spectet. In quo
of-service which to honor and glory your looks In which
etiam si multi mecum contendent, tamen cum reliquis
even if many with-me contend still both with-the-other
omnibus tum Crassis tuis iudicibus omnis facile superabo;
all and with-the-Crassi your as-judges all easily I-will-surpass
quos quidem ego ambo unice diligo, sed in Marcum
whom indeed I both singularly love but toward Marcus
benevolentia pari hoc magis sum Publio deditus, quod me,
with-goodwill equal by-this more I-am to-Publius devoted that me
quamquam a pueritia sua semper, tamen hoc tempore
although from boyhood his always still at-this time
maxime sicut alterum parentem et observat et diligit.
most as a-second parent both he-observes and loves
5 Has litteras velim existimes foederis habituras esse vim,
This letter I-would-wish you-think of-a-treaty going-to-have to-be the-force
non epistulae, meque ea, quae tibi promitto ac recipio,
not of-a-letter and-me those-things which to-you I-promise and undertake
sanctissime esse observaturum diligentissimeque esse facturum.
most-sacredly to-be going-to-observe and-most-diligently to-be going-to-do
Quae a me suscepta defensio est te absente dignitatis
What by me undertaken defense was with-you absent of-dignity
tuae, in ea iam ego non solum amicitiae nostrae sed etiam
your in it already I not only of-friendship our but also
constantiae meae causa permanebo. Quam ob rem
of-consistency my for-the-sake will-persist Which on-account-of thing
satis esse hoc tempore arbitratus sum hoc ad te scribere,
enough to-be at-this time thought I-have this to you to-write
me, si quid ipse intellegerem aut ad voluntatem aut ad
me if anything myself I-understood either to the-wish or to
commodum aut ad amplitudinem tuam pertinere, mea
the-advantage or to the-greatness your to-pertain of-my-own

sponte id esse facturum; sin autem quippiam aut a te
accord that to-be going-to-do but-if however anything either by you
essem admonitus aut a tuis, effecturum ut intellegeres
I-were reminded or by yours going-to-bring-about that you-should-understand
nihil neque te scripsisse neque quemquam tuorum frustra
nothing neither you to-have-written nor anyone of-yours in-vain
ad me detulisse. Quam ob rem velim ita et ipse
to me to-have-reported Which on-account-of thing I-would-wish so both yourself
ad me scribas de omnibus minimis, maximis, mediocribus
to me write about all least greatest middling
rebus ut ad hominem amicissimum et tuis praecipias ut
matters as to a-man most-friendly and to-yours instruct that
opera, consilio, auctoritate, gratia mea sic utantur in omnibus
effort counsel authority influence my so they-use in all
publicis, privatis, forensibus, domesticis tuis, amicorum,
public private forensic domestic your of-friends
hospitum, clientium tuorum negotiis, ut, quod eius fieri
of-guests of-clients your affairs that as-far-as of-it to-be-done
possit, praesentiae tuae desiderium meo labore minuatur.
can of-presence your the-longing by-my labor be-lessened

V.9 · VATINIUS, THE CLIENT

Vatinius, campaigning in Illyricum, writes that he comes as Cicero's client to have his case pleaded: Cicero, who defended him in danger, should defend his honor against petty envy while he is away, and he copies out his dispatch to the senate. He has heard that Cicero's runaway slave reader is among the Vardaei, and though Cicero gave him no instructions he has ordered him sought by land and sea.

Vatinius imp. Ciceroni suo s.

Vatinius imperator to-Cicero his greeting

1 S. V. B. E. E. V. Si tuam consuetudinem in

If you-are-well well it-is I am-well If your custom in

patrociniis tuendis servas, P. Vatinius cliens advenit,

defenses to-be-maintained you-keep Publius Vatinius a-client has-come

qui pro se causam dicier vult. Non, puto, repudiabis in

who for himself the-case to-be-pleaded wishes Not I-think will-you-reject in

honore, quem in periculo recepisti. Ego autem quem potius

office him-whom in danger you-took-up I however whom rather

adoptem aut invocem quam illum, quo defendente vincere

should-I-adopt or invoke than him with-whom defending to-win

didici? An verear ne, qui potentissimorum hominum

I-learned Or should-I-fear lest he-who of-most-powerful men

conspirationem neglexerit pro mea salute, is pro honore meo

the-conspiracy disregarded for my safety he for honor my

pusillorum ac malevolorum obtrectationes et invidias non

of-petty and malevolent the-disparagements and envies not

prosternat atque obterat? Qua re, si me, sicut soles,

should-lay-low and trample By-which thing if me as you-are-wont

amas, suscipe meme totum atque hoc, quicquid est oneris ac

you-love take-up me whole and this whatever is of-burden and

muneris, pro mea dignitate tibi tuendum ac sustinendum

of-task for my dignity by-you to-be-protected and to-be-sustained

puta. Scis meam fortunam nescio quo modo facile

think You-know my fortune I-know-not in-what way easily

obtrectatores invenire non meo quidem me hercules merito,

disparagers to-find not by-my indeed so-help-me Hercules desert

sed quanti id refert, si tamen fato nescio quo accidit?

but how-much it matters if still by-fate I-know-not by-what it-happens

Si qui forte fuerit qui nostrae dignitati obesse velit, peto

If anyone perhaps there-be who our dignity to-hinder wishes I-ask

a te ut tuam consuetudinem et liberalitatem in me absente
of you that your custom and liberality in me absent
defendendo mihi praestes. Litteras ad senatum de rebus
defending to-me you-show The-letter to the-senate about our
nostris gestis, quo exemplo miseram, infra tibi perscripsi.
deeds done what in-form I-had-sent below to-you I-have-written-out
Dicitur mihi tuus servus anagnostes fugitivus cum Vardaeis 2
It-is-said to-me your slave reader runaway with the-Vardaei
esse. De quo tu mihi nihil mandasti, ego tamen, terra
to-be About which you to-me nothing commissioned I still by-land
marique ut conquireretur, praemandavi et profecto tibi
and-sea that he-be-sought-out ordered-beforehand and surely for-you
illum reperiam, nisi si in Dalmatiam aufugerit, et inde
him I-will-find unless if into Dalmatia he-has-fled and from-there
tamen aliquando eruam. Tu nos fac ames. Vale.
still sometime I-will-dig-him-out You us see-that you-love Farewell
A. d. v Id. Quintilis ex castris Narona.
On-the day fifth before-the-Ides of-Quintilis from the-camp at-Narona

V.10A · THE PIRATE CATILIUS

Vatinius has not yet found Cicero's Dionysius, the Dalmatian cold having driven him back. Cicero has interceded for Catilius, who killed and carried off so many freeborn men, matrons, and Roman citizens and laid waste whole regions, and whom Vatinius captured in war; Vatinius will remit his punishment for Cicero's sake, though he does not know what to answer the victims' families. He complains that Caesar has not yet brought his thanksgiving before the senate, as if he must take every one of Dalmatia's towns first.

Vatinius Ciceroni suo s.

Vatinius to-Cicero his greeting

1 S. V. B. E. E. Q. V. De Dionysio tuo

If you-are-well well it-is I also am-well About Dionysius your

adhuc nihil extrico, et eo minus, quod me frigus

so-far nothing do-I-extricate and by-so-much less because me the-cold

Dalmaticum, quod illinc eiecit, etiam hic refrigeravit; sed

Dalmatian which thence threw-out also here has-chilled but

tamen non desistam, quin illum aliquando eruam. Sed

still not I-will-cease but-that him sometime I-dig-out But

tamen omnia mi dura imperas. De Catilio nescio quid

still all-things to-me hard you-order About Catilius I-know-not what

ad me scripsisti deprecationis diligentissimae. Apage te

to me you-wrote of-intercession most-diligent Away-with you

cum nostro Sex. Servilio; nam me hercule ego quoque

with our Sextus Servilius for so-help-me Hercules I also

illum amo; sed huiusce modi vos clientis, huius modi

him love but of-this kind you-all clients of-this kind

causas recipitis? hominem unum omnium crudelissimum,

cases take-up a-man one of-all most-cruel

qui tot ingenuos, matresfamilias, civis Romanos occidit,

who so-many free-born mothers-of-families citizens Roman killed

abripuit, disperdidit, regiones vastavit? Simius, non semissis

carried-off destroyed regions laid-waste An-ape not of-a-half-as

homo, contra me arma tulit, et eum bello cepi.

man against me arms bore and him in-war I-took

2 Sed tamen, mi Cicero, quid facere possum? Omnia me

But still my Cicero what to-do can-I All-things so-help-me

hercule cupio, quae tu mi imperas. Meam animadversionem

Hercules I-desire which you to-me order My punishment

et supplicium, quo usurus eram in eum, quem cepissem,

and penalty which going-to-use I-was on him whom I-had-taken

remitto tibi et condono; quid illis respondere possum, qui
I-remit to-you and pardon what to-them to-answer can-I who
ob sua bona direpta, navis expugnatas, fratres, liberos, parentis
for their goods plundered ships stormed brothers children parents
occisos actiones expostulant? Si me hercules Appi os
killed actions demand If so-help-me Hercules of-Appius the-face
haberem, in cuius locum suffectus sum, tamen hoc sustinere
I-had in whose place substituted I-am still this to-sustain
non possem. Quid ergo est? Faciam omnia sedulo, quae te
not I-could What therefore is-it I-will-do all-things assiduously which you
sciam velle. Defenditur a Q. Volusio, tuo discipulo, si forte
I-know to-wish He-is-defended by Quintus Volusius your pupil if perhaps
ea res poterit adversarios fugare; in eo maxima spes est.
that thing will-be-able the-adversaries to-put-to-flight in that greatest hope is
Nos, si quid erit istic opus, defendes. Caesar adhuc mi 3
Us if anything will-be there need you-will-defend Caesar so-far to-me
iniuriam facit; de meis supplicationibus et rebus gestis
injury does about my thanksgivings and deeds done
Dalmaticis adhuc non refert, quasi vero non iustissimi triumphi
Dalmatian so-far not he-refers as-if indeed not of-a-most-just triumph
in Dalmatia res gesserim! Nam, si hoc exspectandumst, dum
in Dalmatia deeds I-had-done For if this to-be-awaited-is until
totum bellum conficiam, viginti oppida sunt Dalmatiae antiqua,
the-whole war I-finish twenty towns are of-Dalmatia ancient
quae ipsi sibi asciverunt, amplius sexaginta. Haec
which themselves to-themselves have-annexed more than-sixty These
nisi omnia expugno, si mihi supplicationes non decernuntur,
unless all I-storm if to-me thanksgivings not are-decreed
longe alia condicione ego sum ac ceteri imperatores ***
far other condition I am than the-other imperators (lacuna)

After the thanksgiving was decreed, Vatinius took six Dalmatian towns by storm, the greatest of them four times, but snow, cold, and rain drove him out of its citadel, and he was forced, undeservedly, to leave a town taken and a war won. He asks Cicero to plead his cause with Caesar if need be.

1 ∗∗∗ Ego post supplicationes mihi decretas in Dalmatiam
(lacuna) I after the-thanksgivings to-me decreed into Dalmatia
profectus sum; sex oppida vi oppugnando cepi; unum
set-out have six towns by-force by-attacking I-took one
hoc, quod erat maximum, quater a me iam captum;
this which was the-greatest four-times by me already taken
quattuor enim turris et quattuor muros cepi et arcem
four for towers and four walls I-took and the-citadel
eorum totam; ex qua me nives, frigora, imbres detruserunt,
of-them whole from which me snows cold rains drove-out
indigneque, mi Cicero, oppidum captum et bellum confectum
and-undeservedly my Cicero the-town taken and the-war finished
relinquere sum coactus. Qua re te rogo, si opus erit,
to-leave I-have been-compelled By-which thing you I-ask if need will-be
ad Caesarem meam causam agas meque tibi in omnis
to Caesar my cause you-plead and-me to-you in all
partis defendendum putes, hoc existimans, neminem te tui
parts to-be-defended you-think this considering no-one you of-you
amantiorem habere. Vale. D. N. Decembr. Narona.
more-loving to-have Farewell Given on-the-Nones of-December at-Narona

Cicero is not surprised that his services please Vatinius, the most grateful of men, who has repaid them abundantly. He has told Sura to offer his help to Vatinius' wife Pompeia, and will meet her himself if needed. Vatinius should finish the business of Dionysius: Cicero will honor any pledge he gives him, and if he proves a rogue, Vatinius may lead him captive in triumph; the Dalmatians, warlike as they are, will soon be taken and will make his deeds illustrious.

M. Cicero Vatinio imp. s.

Marcus Cicero to-Vatinius imperator greeting

Grata tibi mea esse officia non miror; cognovi enim te 1

Pleasing to-you my to-be services not I-wonder I-have-learned for you

gratissimum omnium, idque numquam destiti praedicare.

most-grateful of-all and-that never have-I-ceased to-proclaim

Nec enim tu mihi habuisti modo gratiam, verum etiam

Nor for you to-me have-had only gratitude but also

cumulatissime rettulisti. Quam ob rem in reliquis

most-abundantly you-have-returned-it Which on-account-of thing in remaining

tuis rebus omnibus pari me studio erga te et eadem

your affairs all with-equal me zeal toward you and the-same

voluntate cognosces.

goodwill you-will-learn

Quod mihi feminam primariam, Pompeiam, uxorem tuam, 2

As-to-what to-me a-woman of-the-first-rank Pompeia wife your

commendas, cum Sura nostro statim tuis litteris lectis

you-commend with Sura our at-once with-your letter read

locutus sum, ut ei meis verbis diceret, ut, quicquid

spoken I-have that to-her in-my words he-should-say that whatever

opus esset, mihi denuntiaret; me omnia, quae ea vellet,

need were to-me she-should-declare me all-things which she wished

summo studio curaque facturum. Itaque faciam eamque,

with-highest zeal and-care going-to-do And-so I-will-do and-her

si opus esse videbitur, ipse conveniam. Tu tamen ei
if need to-be it-seems myself I-will-meet You still to-her
velim scribas, ut nullam rem neque tam magnam neque
I-would-wish you-write that no thing either so great or
tam parvam putet quae mihi aut difficilis aut parum me
so small she-think which to-me either difficult or too-little me
digna videatur. Omnia, quae in tuis rebus agam, et non
worthy seem All-things which in your affairs I-do both not
laboriosa mihi et honesta videbuntur.
laborious to-me and honorable will-seem

3 De Dionysio, si me amas, confice. Quamcumque ei
About Dionysius if me you-love finish-it Whatever to-him
fidem dederis, praestabo; si vero improbus fuerit, ut
pledge you-have-given I-will-make-good if indeed wicked he-has-been as
est, duces eum captivum in triumpho. Dalmatis di
he-is you-will-lead him captive in triumph The-Dalmatians the-gods
male faciant, qui tibi molesti sunt! Sed, ut scribis, brevi
ill may-do who to-you troublesome are But as you-write shortly
capientur et inlustrabunt res tuas gestas; semper enim
they-will-be-taken and will-make-illustrious deeds your done always for
habiti sunt bellicosi.
considered they-have-been warlike

Cicero asks, with a boldness a letter allows, that Lucceius celebrate his deeds in writing. Since Lucceius has nearly finished the Italian and civil wars, he might treat the conspiracy and Cicero's return as a separate work, as Callisthenes, Timaeus, and Polybius did their wars, a drama of changing fortune that will hold the reader. Cicero asks him to adorn it more warmly than he feels and to forsake the laws of history for friendship. Alexander chose Apelles and Lysippus, and Agesilaus was praised by Xenophon; failing Lucceius, Cicero must write of himself, which is less modest and less credited. He will send notes if Lucceius consents.

M. Cicero s. d. L. Lucceio Q. f.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Lucius Lucceius of-Quintus son

Coram me tecum eadem haec agere saepe conantem deterruit 1

Face-to-face me with-you same-things these to-treat often trying deterred

pudor quidam paene subrusticus, quae nunc expromam absens

a-shame certain almost rustic which now I-will-bring-out absent

audacius; epistula enim non erubescit. Ardeo cupiditate

more-boldly a-letter for not blushes I-burn with-desire

incredibili neque, ut ego arbitror, reprehendenda, nomen ut

incredible nor as I think to-be-blamed the-name that

nostrum scriptis inlustretur et celebretur tuis. Quod etsi

our by-writings be-made-illustrious and be-celebrated your Which although

mihi saepe ostendisti te esse facturum, tamen ignoscas

to-me often you-have-shown you to-be going-to-do still you-pardon

velim huic festinationi meae. Genus enim scriptorum

I-would-wish this haste my The-kind for of-writings

tuorum etsi erat semper a me vehementer exspectatum,

your although it-was always by me vehemently awaited

tamen vicit opinionem meam meque ita vel cepit vel

still has-surpassed expectation my and-me so either captured or

incendit, ut cuperem quam celerrime res nostras monumentis

inflamed that I-desired as most-quickly affairs our to-monuments

commendari tuis. Neque enim me solum commemoratio
to-be-committed your Nor for me only the-mention
posteritatis ad spem quandam immortalitatis rapit, sed etiam
of-posterity to hope some of-immortality snatches but also
illa cupiditas, ut vel auctoritate testimoni tui vel indicio
that desire that either by-the-authority of-testimony your or by-the-indication
benevolentiae vel suavitate ingeni vivi perfruamur.
of-goodwill or by-the-sweetness of-talent alive we-may-enjoy

2 Neque tamen, haec cum scribebam, eram nescius
Nor still these-things when I-was-writing was-I unaware
quantis oneribus premerere susceptarum rerum et
with-how-great burdens you-were-pressed of-undertaken affairs and
iam institutarum; sed, quia videbam Italici belli et
already instituted but because I-saw of-the-Italian war and
civilis historiam iam a te paene esse perfectam,
of-the-civil the-history already by you almost to-have-been completed
dixeras autem mihi te reliquas res ordiri, desse mihi
you-had-said however to-me you the-remaining matters to-begin to-fail myself
nolui quin te admonerem, ut cogitares, coniunctene
I-did-not-wish but-that you I-should-advise that you-should-consider whether-connected
malles cum reliquis rebus nostra contexere an, ut
you-would-prefer with the-remaining matters ours to-weave or as
multi Graeci fecerunt, Callisthenes Phocicum bellum, Timaeus
many Greeks did Callisthenes the-Phocian war Timaeus
Pyrrhi, Polybius Numantinum, qui omnes a perpetuis suis
of-Pyrrhus Polybius the-Numantine who all from continuous their
historiis ea, quae dixi, bella separaverunt, tu quoque
histories those which I-have-mentioned wars separated you also
item civilem coniurationem ab hostilibus externisque bellis
likewise the-civil conspiracy from hostile and-foreign wars
seiungeres. Equidem ad nostram laudem non multum video
should-separate For-my-part for our praise not much I-see

interesse, sed ad properationem meam quiddam interest non
to-matter but for haste my something it-matters not
te exspectare, dum ad locum venias, ac statim causam
you to-wait until to the-place you-come and at-once the-cause
illam totam et tempus arripere; et simul, si uno in
that whole and the-time to-seize and at-the-same-time if one on
argumento unaque in persona mens tua tota versabitur, cerno
subject and-one on person mind your whole will-be-engaged I-see
iam animo, quanto omnia uberiora atque ornatiora futura
already in-mind how-much all-things richer and more-ornate going-to-be
sint. Neque tamen ignoro quam impudenter faciam, qui
are Nor still do-I-fail-to-know how impudently I-act who
primum tibi tantum oneris imponam (potest enim mihi
first on-you so-much of-burden I-impose can for to-me
denegare occupatio tua), deinde etiam ut ornes me postulem.
refuse busyness your then also that you-adorn me I-demand
Quid, si illa tibi non tanto opere videntur ornanda?
What if those-things to-you not with-so-great measure seem to-be-adorned
Sed tamen, qui semel verecundiae finis transierit, eum 3
But still he-who once of-modesty the-bounds has-crossed him
bene et naviter oportet esse impudentem. Itaque te plane
well and diligently it-is-right to-be impudent And-so you plainly
etiam atque etiam rogo, ut et ornes ea vehementius
again and again I-ask that both you-adorn those-things more-vehemently
etiam quam fortasse sentis, et in eo leges historiae
even than perhaps you-feel and in that the-laws of-history
neglegas gratiamque illam, de qua suavissime quodam
you-neglect and-favor that about which most-charmingly a-certain
in prooemio scripsisti, a qua te deflecti non magis
in preface you-wrote from which you to-be-turned-aside not more
potuisse demonstras quam Herculem Xenophontium illum
to-have-been-able you-show than Hercules Xenophontian that

a Voluptate, eam, si me tibi vehementius commendabit,
from Pleasure that if me to-you more-vehemently commend
ne aspernere amorique nostro plusculum etiam, quam
not spurn-it and-to-love our a-little-more even than
concedet veritas, largiare. Quod si te adducemus ut hoc
will-allow truth bestow But if you we-bring that this
suscipias, erit, ut mihi persuadeo, materies digna
you-undertake there-will-be as to-myself I-persuade material worthy
facultate et copia tua.
of-the-ability and abundance your

4 A principio enim coniurationis usque ad reditum nostrum
From the-beginning for of-the-conspiracy right-up to return our
videtur mihi modicum quoddam corpus confici posse, in
seems to-me moderate a-certain body to-be-made to-be-able in
quo et illa poteris uti civilium commutationum scientia
which both that you-will-be-able to-use of-civil revolutions knowledge
vel in explicandis causis rerum novarum vel in remediis
either in explaining the-causes of-things new or in remedies
incommodorum, cum et reprehendes ea, quae vituperanda
of-ills when both you-blame those-things which to-be-censured
duces, et quae placebunt exponendis rationibus comprobabis
you-consider and what will-please by-setting-out reasons you-will-approve
et, si liberius, ut consuesti, agendum putabis, multorum in
and if more-freely as you-are-wont to-be-done you-think of-many toward
nos perfidiam, insidias, proditionem notabis. Multam etiam
us treachery plots betrayal you-will-brand Much also
casus nostri varietatem tibi in scribendo suppeditabunt
the-misfortunes our variety to-you in writing will-supply
plenam cuiusdam voluptatis, quae vehementer animos hominum
full of-a-certain pleasure which vehemently the-minds of-men
in legendo te scriptore tenere possit. Nihil est enim
in reading with-you as-writer to-hold can Nothing is for

aptius ad delectationem lectoris quam temporum varietates
more-suitable for the-delight of-the-reader than of-times the-varieties
fortunaeque vicissitudines. Quae etsi nobis optabiles in
and-of-fortune the-vicissitudes Which although to-us desirable in
experiendo non fuerunt, in legendo tamen erunt iucundae;
experiencing not were in reading still they-will-be pleasant
habet enim praeteriti doloris secura recordatio delectationem;
has for of-past grief safe recollection delight
ceteris vero nulla perfunctis propria molestia, casus
to-others indeed with-no having-undergone own vexation misfortunes
autem alienos sine ullo dolore intuentibus etiam ipsa
however of-others without any grief looking-at even itself
misericordia est iucunda. Quem enim nostrum ille moriens
pity is pleasant Whom for of-us that dying
apud Mantineam Epaminondas non cum quadam miseratione
at Mantinea Epaminondas not with a-certain compassion
delectat? qui tum denique sibi evelli iubet spiculum,
delights who then at-last for-himself to-be-pulled-out orders the-spear
postea quam ei percontanti dictum est clipeum esse
after that to-him asking said it-was the-shield to-be
salvum, ut etiam in vulneris dolore aequo animo cum
safe so-that even in of-the-wound pain with-even mind with
laude moreretur. Cuius studium in legendo non erectum
praise he-might-die Whose zeal in reading not aroused
Themistocli fuga redituque retinetur? Etenim ordo
of-Themistocles by-the-flight and-return is-held For-indeed the-order
ipse annalium mediocriter nos retinet quasi enumeratione
itself of-annals moderately us holds as-if by-an-enumeration
fastorum; at viri saepe excellentis ancipites variique casus
of-calendars but of-a-man often outstanding the-doubtful and-varied misfortunes
habent admirationem, exspectationem, laetitiam, molestiam,
contain wonder expectation joy vexation

spem, timorem; si vero exitu notabili concluduntur,
hope fear if indeed with-an-outcome remarkable they-are-concluded
expletur animus iucundissima lectionis voluptate.
is-filled the-mind with-most-pleasant of-reading pleasure
6 Quo mihi acciderit optatius, si in hac sententia
By-which to-me will-have-happened more-desirable if in this opinion
fueris ut a continentibus tuis scriptis, in quibus
you-have-been that from continuous your writings in which
perpetuam rerum gestarum historiam complecteris, secernas
a-perpetual of-deeds done history you-embrace you-separate
hanc quasi fabulam rerum eventorumque nostrorum. Habet
this as-it-were drama of-affairs and-events our It-has
enim varios actus mutationesque et consiliorum et temporum.
for various acts and-changes both of-counsels and of-times
Ac non vereor ne adsentatiuncula quadam aucupari tuam
And not I-fear lest by-flattery a-certain to-hunt your
gratiam videar, quom hoc demonstrem, me a te potissimum
favor I-seem when this I-show me by you above-all
ornari celebrarique velle. Neque enim tu is es qui, quid
to-be-adorned and-celebrated to-wish Nor for you he are who what
sis, nescias et qui non eos magis, qui te non admirentur,
you-are know-not and who not those more who you not admire
invidos quam eos, qui laudent, adsentatores arbitrere; neque
envious than those who praise flatterers would-think nor
autem ego sum ita demens, ut me sempiternae gloriae
however I am so mad that me to-everlasting glory
per eum commendari velim, qui non ipse quoque in
through him to-be-commended I-wish who not himself also in
me commendando propriam ingeni gloriam consequatur.
me commending own of-talent glory attains

Neque enim Alexander ille gratiae causa ab Apelle 7
Nor for Alexander that of-favor for-the-sake by Apelles
potissimum pingi et a Lysippo fingi volebat, sed
above-all to-be-painted and by Lysippus to-be-modeled wished but
quod illorum artem cum ipsis tum etiam sibi gloriae
because their art both for-themselves and also for-himself for-glory
fore putabat. Atque illi artifices corporis simulacra
going-to-be he-thought And those artists of-the-body likenesses
ignotis nota faciebant; quae vel si nulla sint, nihilo
to-the-unknown known made which even if none there-were by-nothing
sint tamen obscuriores clari viri. Nec minus est Spartiates
would-be still more-obscure illustrious men Nor less is the-Spartan
Agesilaus ille perhibendus, qui neque pictam neque fictam
Agesilaus that to-be-cited who neither painted nor modeled
imaginem suam passus est esse, quam qui in eo genere
image his allowed has to-be than who in that kind
laborarunt; unus enim Xenophontis libellus in eo rege
have-labored one for of-Xenophon little-book in that king
laudando facile omnis imagines omnium statuasque superavit.
praising easily all images of-all and-statues has-surpassed
Atque hoc praestantius mihi fuerit et ad laetitiam animi
And this more-outstanding for-me will-have-been both for joy of-mind
et ad memoriae dignitatem, si in tua scripta pervenero
and for of-memory dignity if into your writings I-come
quam si in ceterorum, quod non ingenium mihi solum
than if into of-the-others because not talent to-me only
suppeditatum fuerit tuum, sicut Timoleonti a Timaeo aut
supplied will-have-been your as for-Timoleon by Timaeus or
ab Herodoto Themistocli, sed etiam auctoritas clarissimi
by Herodotus for-Themistocles but also the-authority of-a-most-illustrious
et spectatissimi viri et in rei p. maximis gravissimisque
and most-esteemed man and in of-the-thing public greatest and-gravest

causis cogniti atque in primis probati, ut mihi non
causes known and among the-first approved so-that to-me not
solum praeconium, quod, cum in Sigeum venisset, Alexander
only a-trumpeting which when to Sigeum he-had-come Alexander
ab Homero Achilli tributum esse dixit, sed etiam
by Homer to-Achilles granted to-have-been said but also
grave testimonium impertitum clari hominis magnique
a-weighty testimony imparted of-an-illustrious man and-great
videatur. Placet enim Hector ille mihi Naevianus, qui non
may-seem It-pleases for Hector that to-me of-Naevius who not
tantum 'laudari' se laetatur, sed addit etiam 'a laudato viro.'
only to-be-praised himself rejoices but adds also by a-praised man
8 Quod si a te non impetro, hoc est, si quae te res impedierit
But if from you not I-obtain this is if any you thing hinders
(neque enim fas esse arbitror quicquam me rogantem abs te
nor for right to-be I-think anything me asking from you
non impetrare), cogar fortasse facere, quod non nulli
not to-obtain I-shall-be-compelled perhaps to-do what not none
saepe reprehendunt, scribam ipse de me, multorum tamen
often blame I-shall-write myself about myself of-many still
exemplo et clarorum virorum. Sed, quod te non fugit, haec
by-the-example and of-illustrious men But what you not escapes these
sunt in hoc genere vitia: et verecundius ipsi de sese
are in this kind faults both more-modestly themselves about themselves
scribant necesse est, si quid est laudandum, et praetereant,
they-write necessary it-is if anything is to-be-praised and they-pass-over
si quid reprehendendum est. Accedit etiam ut minor
if anything to-be-blamed is There-is-added also that less
sit fides, minor auctoritas, multi denique reprehendant et
be the-credit less the-authority many finally blame and
dicant verecundiores esse praecones ludorum gymnicorum,
say more-modest to-be the-heralds of-games gymnastic

qui cum ceteris coronas imposuerint victoribus eorumque
who when on-the-others crowns have-placed the-victors and-their
nomina magna voce pronuntiarint, cum ipsi ante ludorum
names with-great voice have-proclaimed when themselves before of-the-games
missionem corona donentur, alium praeconem adhibeant,
the-dismissal with-a-crown are-presented another herald employ
ne sua voce se ipsi victores esse praedicent.
lest with-their-own voice themselves themselves victors to-be they-proclaim
Haec nos vitare cupimus et, si recipis causam 9
These-things we to-avoid desire and if you-undertake the-cause
nostram, vitabimus, idque ut facias rogamus. Ac
our we-shall-avoid-them and-that that you-do we-ask And
ne forte mirere cur, cum mihi saepe ostenderis te
lest perhaps you-wonder why when to-me often you-have-shown you
accuratissime nostrorum temporum consilia atque eventus
most-carefully of-our times the-counsels and events
litteris mandaturum, a te id nunc tanto opere et
to-letters going-to-entrust of you that now with-so-great measure and
tam multis verbis petamus, illa nos cupiditas incendit, de
so many words we-seek that us desire inflames about
qua initio scripsi, festinationis, quod alacres animo
which at-the-beginning I-wrote of-haste because eager in-mind
sumus, ut et ceteri viventibus nobis ex libris tuis nos
we-are that both the-others with-living us from books your us
cognoscant et nosmet ipsi vivi gloriola nostra perfruamur.
may-know and we ourselves living little-glory our may-enjoy
His de rebus quid acturus sis, si tibi non est molestum, 10
These about things what going-to-do you-are if to-you not it-is troublesome
rescribas mihi velim. Si enim suscipis causam, conficiam
you-write-back to-me I-would-wish If for you-undertake the-cause I-will-compose
commentarios rerum omnium, sin autem differs me in
notes of-things all but-if however you-put-off me to

tempus aliud, coram tecum loquar. Tu interea non cessabis
time another face-to-face with-you I-will-speak You meanwhile not will-cease
et ea, quae habes instituta, perpolies nosque diliges.
and those-things which you-have begun will-polish and-us will-love

V.13 · LUCCEIUS' CONSOLATION

Lucceius' letter of consolation was welcome, and best of all because it showed him armed against fortune, holding that the reasons for living well or ill hang on nothing outside us. The storms had shaken that thought in Cicero, and Lucceius has steadied it. Cicero is braver than his teacher, since Lucceius still hopes for better times and Cicero despairs, every limb of the state being broken. He will bear his private griefs as advised, draw his mind to the studies that adorn good fortune and help bad, and be with Lucceius in spirit.

M. Cicero s. d. L. Lucceio Q. f.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Lucius Lucceius of-Quintus son
1 Quamquam ipsa consolatio litterarum tuarum mihi
Although itself the-consolation of-letter your to-me
gratissima est (declarat enim summam benevolentiam
most-welcome is it-declares for the-highest goodwill
coniunctam pari prudentia), tamen illum fructum ex
joined with-equal prudence still that fruit from
iis litteris vel maximum cepi, quod te praeclare res
that letter even the-greatest I-took that you splendidly affairs
humanas contemnentem et optime contra fortunam paratum
human despising and best against fortune prepared
armatumque cognovi; quam quidem laudem sapientiae statuo
and-armed I-learned which indeed praise of-wisdom I-determine

esse maximam, non aliunde pendere nec extrinsecus aut
to-be greatest not from-elsewhere to-depend nor externally either
bene aut male vivendi suspensas habere rationes.
of-well or of-ill living suspended to-have the-reasons
Quae cogitatio cum mihi non omnino excidisset (etenim 2
Which thought although from-me not altogether had-fallen-away for-indeed
penitus insederat), vi tamen tempestatum et concursu
deeply it-had-settled by-the-force still of-storms and the-clash
calamitatum erat aliquantum labefactata atque convulsa; cui
of-calamities it-was somewhat shaken and convulsed to-which
te opitulari et video et id fecisse etiam proximis litteris
you to-bring-help both I-see and that to-have-done also in-the-latest letter
multumque profecisse sentio. Itaque hoc saepius dicendum
and-much to-have-achieved I-feel And-so this more-often to-be-said
tibique non significandum solum sed etiam declarandum
and-to-you not to-be-indicated only but also to-be-declared
arbitror, nihil mihi esse potuisse tuis litteris gratius.
I-think nothing to-me to-be to-have-been-able than-your letter more-welcome
Ad consolandum autem cum illa valent, quae eleganter 3
For consoling however both those-things avail which elegantly
copioseque conlegisti, tum nihil plus quam quod
and-copiously you-have-collected and nothing more than that
firmitudinem gravitatemque animi tui perspexi; quam non
the-firmness and-gravity of-mind your I-perceived which not
imitari turpissimum existimo. Itaque hoc etiam fortiorem
to-imitate most-disgraceful I-think And-so by-this even braver
me puto quam te ipsum, praeceptorem fortitudinis, quod
me I-think than you yourself the-teacher of-fortitude that
tu mihi videre spem non nullam habere haec aliquando
you to-me you-seem hope not none to-have these-things sometime
futura meliora; casus enim gladiatorii similitudinesque
going-to-be better the-chances for gladiatorial and-the-comparisons

eae, tum rationes in ea disputatione a te conlectae vetabant
those and the-reasons in that discussion by you collected forbade
me rei p. penitus diffidere. Itaque alterum minus
me of-the-thing public utterly to-despair And-so the-one less
mirum, fortiorem te esse, cum aliquid speres, alterum
wonderful braver you to-be since something you-hope the-other
mirum, spe ulla teneri. Quid est enim non ita adfectum,
wonderful by-hope any to-be-held What is-there for not so affected
ut id non deletum exstinctumque esse fateare? Circumspice
that it not destroyed and-extinguished to-be you-admit Look-around
omnia membra rei p., quae notissima sunt tibi;
all the-limbs of-the-thing public which most-known are to-you
nullum reperies profecto, quod non fractum debilitatumve
none will-you-find surely which not broken or-weakened
sit. Quae persequerer, si aut melius ea viderem quam tu
be Which I-would-pursue if either better them I-saw than you
vides, aut commemorare possem sine dolore; quamquam
see or to-mention I-could without grief although
tuis monitis praeceptisque omnis est abiciendus dolor.
by-your admonitions and-precepts all is to-be-cast-off grief
4 Ergo et domestica feremus, ut censes, et publica paulo
Therefore both domestic-things we-will-bear as you-advise and public a-little
etiam fortius fortasse quam tu ipse, qui praecipis. Te
even more-bravely perhaps than you yourself who instruct You
enim aliqua spes consolatur, ut scribis, nos erimus etiam in
for some hope consoles as you-write we will-be even in
omnium desperatione fortes, ut tu tamen idem et hortaris
of-all despair brave as you still the-same both exhort
et praecipis. Das enim mihi iucundas recordationes
and instruct You-give for to-me pleasant recollections
conscientiae nostrae rerumque earum, quas te in
of-conscience our and-of-deeds those which with-you among

primis auctore gessimus; praestitimus enim patriae non
the-first as-author we-performed we-rendered for to-the-fatherland not
minus certe quam debuimus, plus profecto quam est ab
less certainly than we-ought more surely than is by
animo cuiusquam aut consilio hominis postulatum.
the-mind of-anyone or by-the-counsel of-man demanded
Ignosces mihi de me ipso aliquid praedicanti; quarum
You-will-pardon me about me myself something proclaiming of-which
enim tu rerum cogitatione nos levare aegritudine voluisti,
for you things by-thought us to-relieve from-sorrow wished
earum etiam commemoratione lenimur. Itaque, ut mones,
by-their also recollection we-are-soothed And-so as you-advise
quantum potero, me ab omnibus molestiis et angoribus
as-much-as I-can myself from all vexations and anxieties
abducam transferamque animum ad ea, quibus
I-will-draw-away and-I-will-transfer the-mind to those-things by-which
secundae res ornantur, adversae adiuvantur, tecumque
favorable fortunes are-adorned adverse are-helped and-with-you
et ero tantum, quantum patietur utriusque aetas
both I-will-be so-much as-much-as will-allow of-each the-age
et valetudo, et, si esse una minus poterimus quam
and health and if to-be together less we-can than
volemus, animorum tamen coniunctione iisdemque studiis
we-would-wish of-minds still by-the-union and-the-same studies
ita fruemur, ut numquam non una esse videamur.
so we-shall-enjoy that never not together to-be we-may-seem

Lucceius has looked for Cicero in Rome and wonders what keeps him away. If solitude and writing please him, he approves, since nothing is pleasanter in these times; if he has given himself to tears, Lucceius grieves and must reproach him, since daily complaints achieve nothing and double his troubles. He begs Cicero to return to their company and to his old habits.

L. Lucceius Q. f. s. d. M. Tullio M. f.
Lucius Lucceius of-Quintus son greeting says to-Marcus Tullius of-Marcus son
1 S. V. B. E. V., sicut soleo, paululo tamen etiam
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well as I-am-wont a-little still even
deterius quam soleo. Te requisivi saepius, ut viderem;
worse than I-am-wont You I-have-sought more-often that I-might-see
Romae quia postea non fuisti quam discesseram miratus
at-Rome because afterward not you-were than I-had-departed wondered
sum; quod item nunc miror. Non habeo certum quae te
I-have which likewise now I-wonder Not I-have certain what you
res hinc maxime retrahat. Si solitudine delectare, cum
thing hence most draws-back If by-solitude you-are-delighted while
scribas et aliquid agas eorum, quorum consuesti,
you-write and something you-do of-those-things which you-are-accustomed
gaudeo neque reprehendo tuum consilium. Nam nihil isto
I-rejoice nor blame your plan For nothing than-that
potest esse iucundius non modo miseris his temporibus
can to-be more-pleasant not only in-wretched these times
et luctuosis, sed etiam tranquillis et optatis, praesertim
and mournful but also in-tranquil and desired especially
vel animo defetigato tuo, qui nunc requiem quaerat ex
either for-a-mind wearied your which now rest may-seek from

magnis occupationibus, vel erudito, qui semper aliquid
great occupations or for-a-learned-one which always something
ex se promat, quod alios delectet, ipsum laudibus inlustret.
from itself brings-forth which others may-delight itself with-praises may-illustrate
Sin autem, sicut hinc discesseras, lacrimis ac tristitiae te 2
But-if however as hence you-had-departed to-tears and to-sadness yourself
tradidisti, doleo, quia doles et angere, non possum
you-have-given-up I-grieve because you-grieve and you-are-tormented not I-can
te non, si concedis, quod sentimus, ut liberius dicamus,
you not if you-allow what we-feel that more-freely we-may-say
accusare. Quid enim? tu solus aperta non videbis, qui
to-accuse What for you alone the-open-things not will-see who
propter acumen occultissima perspicis? tu non intelleges te
on-account-of acuteness the-most-hidden perceive you not will-understand you
querelis cotidianis nihil proficere? non intelleges duplicari
by-complaints daily nothing to-achieve not will-understand to-be-doubled
sollicitudines, quas elevare tua te prudentia postulat?
the-anxieties which to-lighten your you prudence demands
Quod si non possimus aliquid proficere suadendo, gratia 3
But if not we-can anything to-achieve by-persuading by-favor
contendimus et rogando, si quid nostra causa vis, ut
we-strive and by-asking if anything for-our sake you-wish that
istis te molestiis laxes et ad convictum nostrum
from-those yourself vexations you-release and to the-company our
redeas atque ad consuetudinem vel nostram communem
you-return and to the-custom either our common
vel tuam solius ac propriam. Cupio non obtundere te,
or your alone and own I-desire not to-weary you
si non delectare nostro studio, cupio deterrere ne
if not you-are-delighted with-our zeal I-desire to-deter-you lest
permaneas in incepto. Nunc duae res istae contrariae
you-persist in your-undertaking Now two things these contrary

me conturbant, ex quibus aut in altera mihi velim,
me disturb from which either in the-one me I-would-wish
si potes, obtemperes aut in altera non offendas. Vale.
if you-can you-obey or in the-other not offend Farewell

V.15 · WHY HE STAYS AWAY

Lucceius' love shows in every line. Cicero has no remedy for so great a wound: his friends are dead or hardened, and though he would most like to live with Lucceius, they have never managed it even as neighbors. At an age when he should flourish he is ashamed to live, stripped of honors public and private; his books seem to reproach him for living on. He stays away from Rome because he hates the times, the men, the forum, and the senate-house, and seeks in letters a slight forgetting. He will see Lucceius soon.

M. Cicero s. d. L. Lucceio Q. f.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Lucius Lucceius of-Quintus son
1 Omnis amor tuus ex omnibus partibus se ostendit in iis
All love your from all parts itself shows in that
litteris, quas a te proxime accepi, non ille quidem mihi
letter which from you most-recently I-received not that indeed to-me
ignotus, sed tamen gratus et optatus (dicerem 'iucundus,' nisi
unknown but still welcome and desired I-would-say pleasant unless
id verbum in omne tempus perdidissem), neque ob eam
that word for all time I-had-lost nor on-account-of that
unam causam, quam tu suspicaris et in qua me lenissimis
one cause which you suspect and in which me with-most-gentle
et amantissimis verbis utens re graviter accusas, sed quod,
and most-loving words using in-fact gravely you-accuse but because
illius tanti vulneris quae remedia esse debebant, ea nulla sunt.
of-that so-great wound what remedies to-be ought those none are

Quid enim? ad amicosne confugiam? Quam multi sunt? 2
What for to friends should-I-flee How many are-there
habuimus enim fere communis; quorum alii occiderunt,
we-had for almost in-common of-whom some have-perished
alii nescio quo pacto obduruerunt. Tecum vivere
others I-know-not in-what way have-grown-hard With-you to-live
possem equidem et maxime vellem; vetustas, amor,
I-could for-my-part and most I-would-wish old-acquaintance love
consuetudo, studia paria; quod vinclum, quaeso, dest
intimacy studies equal what bond I-ask is-lacking
nostrae coniunctionis? Possumusne igitur esse una? nec
of-our union Can-we then to-be together nor
me hercule intellego quid impediat; sed certe adhuc
so-help-me Hercules do-I-understand what prevents but certainly so-far
non fuimus, cum essemus vicini in Tusculano, in
not we-have-been when we-were neighbors in Tusculan-villa in
Puteolano; nam quid dicam in urbe? in qua cum
Puteolan-estate for why should-I-mention in the-city in which since
forum commune sit, vicinitas non requiritur.
the-forum common is neighborhood not is-required
Sed casu nescio quo in ea tempora nostra aetas incidit, ut, 3
But by-chance I-know-not what into those times our age has-fallen that
cum maxime florere nos oporteret, tum vivere etiam puderet.
when most to-flourish us it-was-proper then to-live even it-shamed
Quod enim esse poterat mihi perfugium spoliato et domesticis
What for to-be could for-me a-refuge stripped both of-domestic
et forensibus ornamentis atque solaciis? Litterae, credo, quibus
and of-public honors and consolations Letters I-suppose which
utor adsidue; quid enim aliud facere possum? Sed nescio
I-use constantly what for else to-do can-I But I-know-not
quo modo ipsae illae excludere me a portu et perfugio
in-what way themselves they to-exclude me from the-harbor and refuge

videntur et quasi exprobrare, quod in ea vita maneam,
seem and as-it-were to-reproach that in that life I-remain
in qua nihil insit nisi propagatio miserrimi temporis.
in which nothing is except the-prolonging of-a-most-wretched time
4 Hic tu me abesse urbe miraris, in qua domus
Here you me to-be-away from-the-city wonder in which home
nihil delectare possit, summum sit odium temporum,
nothing delight can the-highest is the-hatred of-the-times
hominum, fori, curiae? Itaque sic litteris utor, in
of-men of-the-forum of-the-senate-house And-so so letters I-use in
quibus consumo omne tempus, non ut ab iis medicinam
which I-spend all time not that from them a-medicine
perpetuam, sed ut exiguam oblivionem doloris petam.
perpetual but that a-slight forgetfulness of-grief I-may-seek
5 Quod si id egissemus ego atque tu, quod ne in
But if that we-had-done I and you which not into
mentem quidem nobis veniebat propter cotidianos metus,
mind even to-us came on-account-of daily fears
omne tempus una fuissemus, neque me valetudo tua
all time together we-would-have-been neither me the-health your
offenderet neque te maeror meus. Quod quantum fieri
would-offend nor you grief my Which as-far-as to-be-done
poterit consequamur; quid enim est utrique nostrum
will-be-possible let-us-attain what for is to-each of-us
aptius? Propediem te igitur videbo.
more-suitable Soon you therefore I-will-see

Though he himself needs consoling, Cicero writes to Titius on the loss of his children. The common consolation is that we are men, born exposed to fortune; but in these times the childless are happiest, and those who lose children now lose less than in a good state. If Titius mourns for the dead, there is no evil in death, and no youth or boy who died in this wretched year seems not snatched from misery. What remains is his own grief, which his wisdom should forestall rather than leave to time.

M. Cicero s. d. Titio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Titius

Etsi unus ex omnibus minime sum ad te consolandum 1

Although one of all least I-am for you consoling

accommodatus, quod tantum ex tuis molestiis cepi doloris,

suited because so-much from your vexations I-took of-grief

ut consolatione ipse egerem, tamen, cum longius a

that of-consolation myself I-needed still since farther from

summi luctus acerbitate meus abesset dolor quam tuus,

of-highest mourning the-bitterness my was-away grief than yours

statui nostrae necessitudinis esse meaeque in te

I-determined of-our close-tie it-to-be and-of-my toward you

benevolentiae non tacere tanto in tuo maerore tam diu,

goodwill not to-be-silent so-great in your sorrow so long

sed adhibere aliquam modicam consolationem, quae levare

but to-apply some moderate consolation which to-relieve

dolorem tuum posset, si minus sanare potuisset.

grief your could if less to-heal it-could-have

Est autem consolatio pervulgata quidem illa maxime, 2

There-is however a-consolation commonplace indeed that most

quam semper in ore atque in animo habere debemus,

which always in mouth and in mind to-have we-ought

homines nos ut esse meminerimus ea lege natos, ut
men us that to-be we-remember on-that law born that
omnibus telis fortunae proposita sit vita nostra, neque
to-all the-weapons of-fortune exposed be life our nor
esse recusandum quo minus ea, qua nati sumus,
to-be to-be-refused whereby less on-that on-which born we-are
condicione vivamus, neve tam graviter eos casus feramus,
condition we-live nor so heavily those misfortunes we-bear
quos nullo consilio vitare possimus, eventisque aliorum
which by-no counsel to-avoid we-can and-by-the-events of-others
memoria repetendis nihil accidisse novi nobis cogitemus.
in-memory being-recalled nothing to-have-happened new to-us we-reflect

3 Neque hae neque ceterae consolationes, quae sunt a
Neither these nor the-other consolations which are by
sapientissimis viris usurpatae memoriaeque litteris proditae,
most-wise men used and-to-memory by-letters handed-down
tantum videntur proficere debere, quantum status ipse
so-much seem to-help ought as-much-as the-state itself
nostrae civitatis et haec perturbatio temporum perditorum,
of-our community and this disturbance of-times abandoned
cum beatissimi sint qui liberos non susceperunt, minus
since most-happy are those-who children not have-raised less
autem miseri qui his temporibus amiserunt quam si
however wretched who in-these times have-lost than if
eosdem bona aut denique aliqua re p. perdidissent.
them in-a-good or at-least some thing public they-had-lost

4 Quod si tuum te desiderium movet, aut si tuarum rerum
But if your you longing moves or if of-your of-affairs
cogitatione maeres, non facile exhauriri tibi istum dolorem
in-thinking you-mourn not easily to-be-drained for-you that grief
posse universum puto; sin illa te res cruciat, quae magis
to-be-able whole I-think but-if that you thing tortures which more

amoris est, ut eorum, qui occiderunt, miserias lugeas, ut
of-love is that of-those who have-died the-miseries you-mourn that
ea non dicam, quae saepissime et legi et audivi,
those-things not I-will-say which very-often both I-have-read and heard
nihil mali esse in morte, ex qua si resideat sensus,
nothing of-evil to-be in death from which if remains feeling
immortalitas illa potius quam mors ducenda sit, sin sit
immortality that rather than death to-be-reckoned is but-if it-be
amissus, nulla videri miseria debeat quae non sentiatur, hoc
lost no to-seem misery ought which not is-felt this
tamen non dubitans confirmare possum, ea misceri,
still not doubting to-affirm can-I those-things to-be-mixed
parari, impendere rei p., quae qui reliquerit nullo
to-be-prepared to-impend on-the-thing public which who has-left in-no
modo mihi quidem deceptus esse videatur. Quid est
way to-me indeed deceived to-have-been seems What is-there
enim iam non modo pudori, probitati, virtuti, rectis
for now not only for-modesty for-uprightness for-virtue for-right
studiis, bonis artibus, sed omnino libertati ac saluti loci?
pursuits for-good arts but altogether for-freedom and for-safety of-room
Non me hercule quemquam audivi hoc gravissimo et
Not so-help-me Hercules anyone have-I-heard in-this most-grievous and
pestilentissimo anno adulescentulum aut puerum mortuum,
most-pestilent year a-youth or a-boy dead
qui mihi non a dis immortalibus ereptus ex his
who to-me not by the-gods immortal snatched from these
miseriis atque ex iniquissima condicione vitae videretur.
miseries and from most-unjust condition of-life seemed
Qua re, si tibi unum hoc detrahi potest, 5
By-which thing if from-you one this to-be-taken-away can
ne quid iis, quos amasti, mali putes contigisse,
lest anything to-those whom you-have-loved of-evil you-think to-have-befallen

permultum erit ex maerore tuo deminutum. Relinquetur
very-much will-be from sorrow your diminished There-will-be-left
enim simplex illa iam cura doloris tui, quae non cum illis
for simple that now care of-grief your which not with them
communicabitur sed ad te ipsum proprie referetur; in qua
will-be-shared but to you yourself properly will-be-referred in which
non est iam gravitatis et sapientiae tuae, quam tu a
not is now of-gravity and of-wisdom your which you from
puero praestitisti, ferre immoderatius casum incommodorum
a-boy have-shown to-bear more-immoderately the-chance of-misfortunes
tuorum, qui sit ab eorum, quos dilexeris, miseria maloque
your which be from their whom you-have-loved misery and-evil
seiunctus. Etenim eum semper te et privatis in rebus
separated For-indeed that always you both private in matters
et publicis praestitisti, tuenda tibi ut sit gravitas
and in-public have-shown to-be-protected by-you that be gravity
et constantiae serviendum. Nam, quod adlatura est ipsa
and to-constancy to-be-served For what going-to-bring is itself
diuturnitas, quae maximos luctus vetustate tollit, id nos
length-of-time which greatest mournings by-age removes that we
praecipere consilio prudentiaque debemus.
to-anticipate by-counsel and-prudence ought

6 Etenim, si nulla fuit umquam liberis amissis tam
For-indeed if none was ever with-children lost so
imbecillo mulier animo quae non aliquando lugendi modum
of-weak a-woman mind who not sometime of-mourning a-limit
fecerit, certe nos, quod est dies adlatura, id consilio
made certainly we what is the-day going-to-bring that by-counsel
anteferre debemus neque exspectare temporis medicinam,
to-forestall ought nor to-await of-time the-medicine
quam repraesentare ratione possimus. His ego litteris si
which to-anticipate by-reason we-can By-this I letter if

quid profecissem, existimabam optandum quiddam me
anything I-had-achieved I-thought desirable something me
esse adsecutum; sin minus forte valuissent, officio tamen
to-have attained but-if less perhaps they-had-availed the-duty still
esse functum viri benevolentissimi atque amicissimi.
to-have discharged of-a-man most-well-wishing and most-friendly
Quem me tibi et fuisse semper existimes velim et
Which me to-you both to-have-been always you-think I-would-wish and
futurum esse confidas.
going-to-be to-be trust

V.17 · TO SITTIUS IN EXILE

Cicero has not written to Publius Sittius, exiled after a conviction, because the state lay in ruins and then because Sittius' misfortune held him back. He reminds him how he defended him and his cause, and how hatred over the grain price and an unjust court prevailed over the truth. He urges him to bear the common, uncertain chance of men bravely: many of the best men have fallen to unjust judgments, and the state he lacks delights no wise man. His son's devotion should console him, and Cicero will help him wherever he can.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Sittio P. f.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Sittius of-Publius son
Non oblivione amicitiae nostrae neque intermissione 1
Not from-forgetfulness of-friendship our nor from-interruption
consuetudinis meae superioribus temporibus ad te nullas
of-intimacy my in-earlier times to you no
litteras misi, sed quod priora tempora in ruinis rei
letters I-sent but because the-former times in the-ruins of-the-thing
p. nostrisque iacuerunt, posteriora autem me a scribendo
public and-ours lay the-later however me from writing

tuis iniustissimis atque acerbissimis incommodis retardarunt.
by-your most-unjust and most-bitter misfortunes held-back
Cum vero et intervallum iam satis longum fuisset et
When indeed both the-interval already quite long had-been and
tuam virtutem animique magnitudinem diligentius essem
your virtue and-of-mind greatness more-diligently I-had
mecum recordatus, non putavi esse alienum institutis meis
with-myself recalled not I-thought to-be foreign to-principles my
haec ad te scribere.
these-things to you to-write

2 Ego te, P. Sitti, et primis temporibus illis, quibus in
I you Publius Sittius both in-the-first times those in-which into
invidiam absens et in crimen vocabare, defendi et, cum
odium absent and into a-charge you-were-called defended and when
in tui familiarissimi iudicio ac periculo tuum crimen
in of-your most-intimate-friend the-trial and danger your charge
coniungeretur, ut potui accuratissime te tuamque causam
was-joined as I-could most-carefully you and-your cause
tutatus sum et proxime recenti adventu meo, cum rem
I-protected have and most-recently at-recent arrival my when the-matter
aliter institutam offendissem ac mihi placuisset, si
otherwise instituted I-had-found than to-me would-have-pleased if
adfuissem, tamen nulla re saluti tuae defui; cumque
I-had-been-present still in-no thing to-safety your was-I-lacking and-when
eo tempore invidia annonae, inimici non solum tui,
at-that time the-odium of-the-grain-price enemies not only your
verum etiam amicorum tuorum, iniquitas totius iudici
but also of-friends your the-unfairness of-the-whole court
multaque alia rei p. vitia plus quam causa ipsa
and-many other of-the-thing public faults more than the-cause itself

veritasque valuissent, Publio tuo neque opera neque consilio
and-truth had-prevailed to-Publius your neither in-effort nor in-counsel
neque labore neque gratia neque testimonio defui.
nor in-labor nor in-influence nor in-testimony was-I-lacking
Quam ob rem omnibus officiis amicitiae diligenter 3
Which on-account-of thing with-all duties of-friendship diligently
a me sancteque servatis ne hoc quidem praetermittendum
by me and-sacredly kept not this even to-be-passed-over
esse duxi, te ut hortarer rogaremque, ut et hominem
to-be I-thought you that I-should-exhort and-ask that both a-human-being
te et virum esse meminisses, id est ut et communem
you and a-man to-be you-remember that is that both the-common
incertumque casum, quem neque vitare quisquam nostrum nec
and-uncertain chance which neither to-avoid anyone of-us nor
praestare ullo pacto potest, sapienter ferres et dolori fortiter
to-guarantee in-any way can wisely you-bear and to-grief bravely
ac fortunae resisteres cogitaresque et in nostra civitate et
and to-fortune you-resist and-think both in our state and
in ceteris, quae rerum potitae sunt, multis fortissimis
in the-others which of-affairs gained-mastery have on-many bravest
atque optimis viris iniustis iudiciis talis casus incidisse.
and best men by-unjust judgments such misfortunes to-have-fallen
Illud utinam ne vere scriberem, ea te re p. carere,
That would-that not truly I-wrote that you the-thing public lack
in qua neminem prudentem hominem res ulla delectet!
in which no prudent man thing any delights
De tuo autem filio, vereor ne, si nihil ad te scripserim, 4
About your however son I-fear lest if nothing to you I-write
debitum eius virtuti videar testimonium non dedisse, sin
due to-his virtue I-seem testimony not to-have-given but-if
autem omnia, quae sentio, perscripserim, ne refricem meis
however all-things which I-feel I-write-fully lest I-reopen by-my

litteris desiderium ac dolorem tuum. Sed tamen prudentissime
letter longing and grief your But still most-prudently
facies, si illius pietatem, virtutem, industriam, ubicumque
you-will-act if his devotion virtue industry wherever
eris, tuam esse, tecum esse duces; nec enim minus nostra
you-are yours to-be with-you to-be you-consider nor for less ours
sunt quae animo complectimur quam quae oculis intuemur.
are what in-mind we-embrace than what with-eyes we-look-at
Quam ob rem et illius eximia virtus summusque
Which on-account-of thing both his exceptional virtue and-highest
in te amor magnae tibi consolationi debet esse et nos
toward you love of-great to-you consolation ought to-be and we
ceterique, qui te non ex fortuna, sed ex virtute tua pendimus
and-the-others who you not by fortune but by virtue your weigh
semperque pendemus, et maxime animi tui conscientia, cum
and-always will-weigh and most of-mind your the-consciousness when
tibi nihil merito accidisse reputabis et illud adiunges,
to-you nothing by-desert to-have-happened you-will-reflect and that you-will-add
homines sapientis turpitudine, non casu et delicto suo,
men wise by-disgrace not by-chance and by-fault their-own
non aliorum iniuria commoveri. Ego et memoria nostrae
not by-others' injury to-be-moved I both by-the-memory of-our
veteris amicitiae et virtute atque observantia fili tui
old friendship and by-the-virtue and observance of-son your
monitus nullo loco dero neque ad consolandam neque
admonished in-no place will-be-lacking neither for consoling nor
ad levandam fortunam tuam. Tu si quid ad me forte
for relieving the-fortune your You if anything to me perhaps
scripseris, perficiam ne te frustra scripsisse arbitrere.
you-write I-will-bring-about that-not you in-vain to-have-written think

Cicero, who himself needs consoling for Fadius' misfortune, begs him to remember the times they were born into. His virtue gave him more than fortune has taken, since he reached what few new men reach and lost what many nobles have lost; in these times he fares best who leaves the state with the lightest penalty. His fortune, his children, and his friends are kept, and of so many verdicts his is the one men blame, as given to someone's power by a single doubtful vote; he should bear his loss gently.

M. Cicero s. d. T. Fadio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Titus Fadius

Etsi egomet, qui te consolari cupio, consolandus ipse 1

Although I-myself who you to-console desire to-be-consoled myself

sum, propterea quod nullam rem gravius iam diu

am for-this-reason that no thing more-heavily now long

tuli quam incommodum tuum, tamen te magno opere

have-I-borne than misfortune your still you in-great measure

non hortor solum, sed etiam pro amore nostro rogo

not I-exhort only but also for love our ask

atque oro, te conligas virumque te praebeas et, qua

and beg you you-collect and-a-man yourself you-show and on-what

condicione omnes homines et quibus temporibus nos nati

condition all men and in-what times we born

simus, cogites. Plus tibi virtus tua dedit quam fortuna

are you-think More to-you virtue your has-given than fortune

abstulit, propterea quod adeptus es quod non multi

has-taken-away for-this-reason that attained you-have what not many

homines novi, amisisti quae plurimi homines nobilissimi.

men new you-have-lost what very-many men most-noble

Ea denique videtur condicio impendere legum, iudiciorum,

That finally seems the-condition to-impend of-laws of-courts

temporum, ut optime actum cum eo videatur esse, qui
of-times that best dealt with him seems to-be who
quam levissima poena ab hac re p. discesserit.
as with-the-lightest penalty from this thing public has-departed

2 Tu vero, qui et fortunas et liberos habeas et nos ceterosque
You indeed who both fortunes and children have and us and-others
necessitudine et benevolentia tecum coniunctissimos, quomque
by-close-tie and goodwill with-you most-joined and-since
magnam facultatem sis habiturus nobiscum et cum omnibus
great opportunity you-are going-to-have with-us and with all
tuis vivendi, et cum unum sit iudicium ex tam multis quod
yours of-living and since one is judgment of so many which
reprehendatur, ut quod una sententia eaque dubia potentiae
is-blamed so-that because by-one vote and-that doubtful to-the-power
alicuius condonatum existimetur, omnibus his de causis debes
of-someone given-up it-is-thought all these for reasons you-ought
istam molestiam quam lenissime ferre. Meus animus erit in
that vexation as most-gently to-bear My mind will-be toward
te liberosque tuos semper, quem tu esse vis et qui esse debet.
you and-children your always such-as you to-be wish and which to-be it-ought

V.19 · TO RUFUS, A PLAN

Rufus is more zealous for Cicero now than he was in the province: he awaited his arrival and rejoiced at his counsel, holds nothing useful unless it is right, and promises to be with Cicero whatever plan he takes. Cicero has long had a plan which he did not share, since to share it now would be to ask a partner in danger or toil. What is right is plain and what is expedient obscure, but for men of their studies the right is the expedient. If Rufus agrees he should come at once; whatever he decides, he is a friend.

Cicero Rufo.

Cicero to-Rufus

Etsi mihi numquam dubium fuit quin tibi essem 1

Although to-me never doubtful was-it that to-you I-was

carissimus, tamen cotidie magis id perspicio, exstatque id,

most-dear still daily more that I-perceive and-stands-out that

quod mihi ostenderas quibusdam litteris, hoc te studiosiorem

which to-me you-had-shown in-certain letters by-this you more-zealous

in me colendo fore quam in provincia fuisses (etsi

in me cultivating going-to-be than in the-province you-had-been although

meo iudicio nihil ad tuum provinciale officium addi

in-my judgment nothing to your provincial service to-be-added

potest), quo liberius iudicium esse posset tuum. Itaque me

can by-which more-free judgment to-be could your And-so me

et superiores litterae tuae admodum delectaverunt, quibus

both the-earlier letter your greatly delighted in-which

et exspectatum meum adventum abs te amanter videbam et,

both awaited my arrival by you lovingly I-saw and

cum aliter res cecidisset ac putasses, te meo consilio

when otherwise the-matter had-turned-out than you-had-thought you at-my counsel

magno opere esse laetatum, et ex his proximis litteris

in-great measure to-have rejoiced and from this latest letter

magnum cepi fructum et iudici et offici tui, iudici,

great I-took fruit both of-judgment and of-duty your of-judgment

quod intellego te, id quod omnes fortes ac boni viri facere

because I-understand you that which all brave and good men to-do

debent, nihil putare utile esse nisi quod rectum honestumque

ought nothing to-think useful to-be except what right and-honorable

sit, offici, quod te mecum, quodcumque cepissem consili,

be of-duty because you with-me whatever I-had-taken of-counsel

polliceris fore; quo neque mihi gratius neque, ut
promise going-to-be than-which neither to-me more-welcome nor as
ego arbitror, tibi honestius esse quicquam potest.
I think to-you more-honorable to-be anything can
2 Mihi consilium captum iam diu est; de quo ad te, non
For-me a-plan taken now long is about which to you not
quo celandus esses, nihil scripsi antea, sed quia
that to-be-kept-in-the-dark you-were nothing I-wrote before but because
communicatio consili tali tempore quasi quaedam admonitio
sharing of-a-plan at-such a-time as-it-were a-certain admonition
videtur esse offici vel potius efflagitatio ad coeundam societatem
seems to-be of-duty or rather a-demand for entering a-partnership
vel periculi vel laboris. Cum vero ea tua sit voluntas,
either of-danger or of-labor Since indeed that your be goodwill
humanitas, benevolentia erga me, libenter amplector talem
courtesy kindness toward me gladly I-embrace such
animum, sed ita (non enim dimittam pudorem in rogando
a-mind but so not for will-I-let-go modesty in asking
meum): si feceris id, quod ostendis, magnam habebo gratiam,
my if you-do that which you-show great I-will-have gratitude
si non feceris, ignoscam et alterum timori, alterum mihi te
if not you-do I-will-pardon and the-one to-fear the-other to-me you
negare non potuisse arbitrabor. Est enim res profecto
to-refuse not to-have-been-able I-will-think It-is for a-matter surely
maxima. Quid rectum sit apparet, quid expediat obscurum
very-great What right be is-apparent what be-expedient obscure
est, ita tamen, ut, si nos ii sumus, qui esse debemus, id
is so still that if we those are who to-be we-ought that
est studio digni ac litteris nostris, dubitare non possimus
is of-study worthy and of-letters our to-doubt not we-can
quin ea maxime conducant, quae sunt rectissima.
but-that those-things most conduce which are most-right

Qua re tu, si simul placebit, statim ad me venies;
By-which thing you if likewise it-will-please at-once to me you-will-come
sin idem placebit atque eodem, nec continuo poterit,
but-if the-same pleases and to-the-same-place nor immediately you-can
omnia tibi ut nota sint faciam. Quicquid statueris, te mihi
all-things to-you that known be I-will-make Whatever you-decide you to-me
amicum, sin id, quod opto, etiam amicissimum iudicabo.
a-friend but-if that which I-wish even most-friendly I-will-judge

V.20 · THE PROVINCE'S ACCOUNTS

Answering Rufus' complaints about the provincial accounts, Cicero explains that under the Julian law they had to be deposited in the province, which he did at Laodicea and Apamea after Rufus' brother and Cicero's clerk Tullius completed them. The Volusius debt could not be transferred, and the sum was one million nine hundred thousand sesterces, not three million. The money with Lucceius was deposited in a temple at Pompey's order, and Pompey has taken the two million two hundred thousand Cicero left at Ephesus, so Rufus can bear the loss of a hundred thousand. Cicero reported favors only for his own tribunes, prefects, and companions, learning too late that they had to be reported within thirty days; for the centurions the matter is still open.

Cicero Rufo.
Cicero to-Rufus
Quoquo modo potuissem, te convenissem, si eo, quo 1
In-whatever way I-could-have you I-would-have-met if thither where
constitueras, venire voluisses. Qua re, etsi mei
you-had-determined to-come you-had-wished By-which thing although of-my
commodi causa commovere me noluisti, tamen ita
convenience for-the-sake to-disturb me you-did-not-wish still so
existimes velim, me antelaturum fuisse, si ad me
you-think I-would-wish me going-to-prefer to-have-been if to me

misisses, voluntatem tuam commodo meo. Ad ea, quae
you-had-sent wish your to-convenience my To those-things which
scripsisti, commodius equidem possem de singulis ad
you-wrote more-conveniently for-my-part I-could about individual to
te rebus scribere, si M. Tullius, scriba meus, adesset.
you things to-write if Marcus Tullius clerk my were-present
A quo mihi exploratum est in rationibus dumtaxat
From whom to-me ascertained it-is in accounts at-least
referendis (de ceteris rebus adfirmare non possum) nihil
to-be-rendered about other things to-affirm not I-can nothing
eum fecisse scientem, quod esset contra aut rem
him to-have-done knowingly which was against either the-interest
aut existimationem tuam; dein, si rationum referendarum
or reputation your then if of-accounts to-be-rendered
ius vetus et mos antiquus maneret, me relaturum
the-law old and custom ancient remained me going-to-render
rationes, nisi tecum pro coniunctione nostrae necessitudinis
the-accounts unless with-you for union of-our close-tie
contulissem confecissemque, non fuisse.
I-had-compared and-finished not to-have-been

2 Quod igitur fecissem ad urbem, si consuetudo pristina
What therefore I-would-have-done at the-city if custom former
maneret, id, quoniam lege Iulia relinquere rationes in
remained that since by-the-law Julian to-leave the-accounts in
provincia necesse erat easdemque totidem verbis referre ad
the-province necessary it-was and-the-same in-just-as-many words to-render to
aerarium, feci in provincia, neque ita feci ut te ad meum
the-treasury I-did in the-province nor so did-I that you to my
arbitrium adducerem, sed tribui tibi tantum, quantum me
judgment I-brought but I-granted to-you so-much as-much-as me
tribuisse numquam me paenitebit. Totum enim scribam
to-have-granted never me will-repent The-whole for clerk

meum, quem tibi video nunc esse suspectum, tibi tradidi.
my whom to-you I-see now to-be suspected to-you I-handed-over
Tu ei M. Mindium, fratrem tuum, adiunxisti. Rationes
You to-him Marcus Mindius brother your you-joined The-accounts
confectae me absente sunt tecum; ad quas ego nihil adhibui
completed with-me absent were with-you to which I nothing applied
praeter lectionem. Ita accepi librum a meo servo scriba, ut
except reading So I-received the-book from my slave clerk that
eundem acceperim a fratre tuo. Si honos is fuit, maiorem
the-same I-received from brother your If an-honor that was greater
tibi habere non potui, si fides, maiorem tibi habui quam
to-you to-have not I-could if trust greater in-you I-had than
paene ipsi mihi; si providendum fuit ne quid aliter ac
almost myself in-me if to-be-provided-for it-was lest anything otherwise than
tibi et honestum et utile esset referretur, non habui cui
to-you both honorable and useful were be-rendered not I-had to-whom
potius id negoti darem, quam cui dedi. Illud quidem
rather that business I-should-give than to-whom I-gave That indeed
certe factum est, quod lex iubebat, ut apud duas
certainly done has-been which the-law commanded that with two
civitates, Laudicensem et Apamensem, quae nobis maxime
states the-Laodicean and Apamean which to-us most
videbantur, quoniam ita necesse erat, rationes confectas
seemed since so necessary it-was the-accounts completed
conlatas deponeremus. Itaque huic loco primum respondeo
compared we-should-deposit And-so to-this point first I-answer
me, quamquam iustis de causis rationes deferre properarim,
me although just for reasons the-accounts to-deliver I-hastened
tamen te exspectaturum fuisse, nisi in provincia relictas
still you going-to-await to-have-been unless in the-province left
rationes pro relatis haberem, quam ob rem ***
accounts as rendered I-held which on-account-of thing (lacuna)

3 De Volusio quod scribis, non est id rationum;
About Volusius as-to-what you-write not is that of-accounts
docuerunt enim me periti homines, in his cum omnium
showed for me skilled men in these both of-all
peritissimus tum mihi amicissimus, C. Camillus, ad
most-skilled and to-me most-friendly Gaius Camillus to
Volusium traferri nomen a Valerio non potuisse,
Volusius to-be-transferred the-name from Valerius not to-have-been-able
praedes Valerianos teneri. Neque id erat HS |$\overline{\text{XXX}}$|, ut
the-sureties Valerian to-be-held Nor that was sesterces three-million as
scribis, sed HS |$\overline{\text{XIX}}$|; erat enim curata
you-write but sesterces one-million-nine-hundred-thousand it-was for paid-out
nobis pecunia Valeri mancipis nomine; ex qua reliquum
to-us the-money of-Valerius the-contractor in-the-name from which the-remainder
quod erat in rationibus rettuli.
which was in the-accounts I-rendered

4 Sed sic me et liberalitatis fructu privas et diligentiae
But so me both of-liberality of-the-fruit you-deprive and of-diligence
et, quod minime tamen laboro, mediocris etiam prudentiae:
and what least still I-labor of-moderate also prudence
liberalitatis, quod mavis scribae mei beneficio quam
of-liberality because you-prefer of-clerk my by-the-kindness than
meo legatum meum praefectumque Q. Leptam maxima
by-mine legate my and-prefect Quintus Lepta from-greatest
calamitate levatos, cum praesertim non deberent esse
calamity relieved when especially not they-ought to-be
obligati; diligentiae, quod existimas de tanto officio meo,
bound of-diligence because you-think about so-great service my
tanto etiam periculo, nec scisse me quicquam nec
so-great also danger neither to-have-known me anything nor
cogitavisse, scribam, quicquid voluisset, cum id mihi ne
to-have-thought the-clerk whatever he-wished when that to-me not

recitavisset quidem, rettulisse; prudentiae, cum rem a me
had-read-aloud even to-have-rendered of-prudence when a-thing by me
non insipienter excogitatam quidem putas. Nam et Volusi
not foolishly devised indeed you-think For both of-Volusius
liberandi meum fuit consilium, et, ut multa tam gravis
to-be-freed mine was the-plan and that a-fine so heavy
Valerianis praedibus ipsique T. Mario depelleretur,
from-the-Valerian sureties and-from-himself Titus Marius be-warded-off
a me inita ratio est; quam quidem omnes non solum
by me entered-on the-plan was which indeed all not only
probant, sed etiam laudant, et, si verum scire vis,
approve but also praise and if the-truth to-know you-wish
hoc uni scribae meo intellexi non nimium placere. Sed
this to-one clerk my I-understood not too-much to-please But
ego putavi esse viri boni, cum populus suum servaret,
I thought to-be of-a-man good when the-people its-own kept
consulere fortunis tot vel amicorum vel civium.
to-consult for-the-fortunes of-so-many either of-friends or of-citizens
Nam de Lucceio est ita actum, ut auctore Cn. 5
For about Lucceius it-was so done that on-the-authority-of Gnaeus
Pompeio ista pecunia in fano poneretur. Id ego agnovi
Pompey that money in a-temple be-placed That I acknowledged
meo iussu esse factum. Qua pecunia Pompeius est
by-my order to-have-been done Which money Pompey has
usus ut ea, quam tu deposueras, Sestius. Sed haec ad
used as that which you had-deposited Sestius But these-things to
te nihil intellego pertinere; illud me non animadvertisse
you nothing I-understand to-pertain that me not to-have-noticed
moleste ferrem, ut ascriberem te in fano pecuniam
with-vexation I-would-bear that I-should-add you in the-temple the-money
iussu meo deposuisse, nisi ista pecunia gravissimis esset
by-order my to-have-deposited unless that money by-most-weighty were

certissimisque monumentis testata, cui data, quo
and-most-certain records attested to-whom given by-what
senatus consulto, quibus tuis, quibus meis litteris P.
of-the-senate decree by-what your by-what my letter to-Publius
Sestio tradita esset. Quae cum viderem tot vestigiis
Sestius handed-over it-had-been Which when I-saw by-so-many traces
impressa, ut in iis errari non posset, non ascripsi id,
impressed that in them to-be-mistaken not could not I-added-it that
quod tua nihil referebat; ego tamen ascripsisse mallem,
which to-you nothing mattered I still to-have-added would-prefer
quoniam id te video desiderare.
since that you I-see to-want

6 Sicut scribis tibi id esse referendum, idem ipse sentio,
As you-write to-you that to-be to-be-rendered the-same myself I-feel
neque in eo quicquam a meis rationibus discrepabunt tuae;
nor in that anything from my accounts will-differ yours
addes enim tu, meo iussu, quod ego, qui non addidi, nec
you-will-add for you by-my order which I who not added nor
causa est cur negem nec, si causa esset et tu nolles,
reason is why I-should-deny nor if reason there-were and you did-not-wish
negarem. Nam de sestertiis nongentis milibus certe ita
would-I-deny For about sesterces nine-hundred thousand certainly so
relatum est, ut tu sive frater tuus referri voluit. Sed, si
rendered it-was as you or brother your to-be-rendered wished But if
quid est, quoniam de Lucceio parum provisum est, quod
anything there-is since about Lucceius too-little provided-for it-was which
ego in rationibus referendis etiam nunc corrigere possim, de
I in accounts to-be-rendered even now to-correct could about
eo mihi, quoniam senatus consulto non sum usus, quid
that by-me since of-the-senate decree not I-have used what
per leges liceat, considerandum est. Te certe in pecuniam
through the-laws be-allowed to-be-considered is You certainly in money

exactam ista referre ex meis rationibus relatis non oportuit,
exacted that to-render from my accounts rendered not ought
nisi quid me fallit; sunt enim alii peritiores. Illud
unless anything me deceives there-are for others more-skilled That
cave dubites, quin ego omnia faciam, quae interesse tua
beware-lest you-doubt but-that I all-things will-do which to-concern you
aut etiam velle te existimem, si ullo modo facere possim.
or even to-wish you I-think if in-any way to-do I-can
Quod scribis de beneficiis, scito a me et tribunos militaris 7
As-to-what you-write about the-favors know by me both the-tribunes military
et praefectos et contubernalis dumtaxat meos delatos esse.
and the-prefects and companions only my reported to-have-been
In quo quidem me ratio fefellit; liberum enim mihi tempus
In which indeed me reckoning deceived free for to-me time
ad eos deferendos existimabam dari, postea certior
for them to-be-reported I-thought to-be-given afterward more-informed
sum factus triginta diebus deferri necesse esse, quibus
I-was made within-thirty days to-be-reported necessary to-be in-which
rationes rettulissem. Sane moleste tuli non illa beneficia
the-accounts I-had-rendered Truly with-vexation I-bore not those favors
tuae potius ambitioni reservata esse quam meae, qui
for-your rather ambition reserved to-have-been than for-mine who
ambitione nihil uterer. De centurionibus tamen et de
of-ambition nothing used About the-centurions still and about
tribunorum militarium contubernalibus res est in integro;
of-the-tribunes military the-companions the-matter is in intact
genus enim horum beneficiorum definitum lege non erat.
the-kind for of-these favors defined by-law not was
Reliquum est de sestertiis centum milibus, de quibus 8
Remaining is about sesterces hundred thousand about which
memini mihi a te Myrina litteras esse adlatas, non
I-remember to-me from you from-Myrina a-letter to-have-been brought not

mei errati, sed tui; in quo peccatum videbatur esse,
about-my error but about-yours in which a-fault seemed to-be
si modo erat, fratris tui et Tulli. Sed, cum id corrigi
if only it-was of-brother your and of-Tullius But since that to-be-corrected
non posset, quod iam depositis rationibus ex provincia
not could because already with-deposited accounts from the-province
decessimus, credo me quidem tibi pro animi mei voluntate
we-departed I-believe me indeed to-you according-to of-mind my the-goodwill
proque ea spe facultatum, quam tum habebamus, quam
and-according-to that hope of-means which then we-had as
humanissime potuerim, rescripsisse; sed neque tum me
most-courteously I-could to-have-written-back but neither then me
humanitate litterarum mearum obligatum puto neque me tuam
by-the-courtesy of-letter my bound I-think nor me your
hodie epistulam de HS c̄ sic accepisse, ut ii
today letter about sesterces a-hundred-thousand so to-have-received as those
accipiunt, quibus epistulae per haec tempora molestae sunt.
receive to-whom letters during these times troublesome are
9 Simul illud cogitare debes, me omnem pecuniam, quae
At-the-same-time that to-consider you-ought me all money which
ad me salvis legibus pervenisset, Ephesi apud publicanos
to me with-safe laws had-come at-Ephesus with the-tax-farmers
deposuisse; id fuisse HS |x̄x̄ii|; eam
to-have-deposited that to-have-been sesterces two-million-two-hundred-thousand that
omnem pecuniam Pompeium abstulisse. Quod ego sive
all money Pompey to-have-taken-away Which I whether
aequo animo sive iniquo fero, tu de HS c̄
with-even mind or uneven bear you about sesterces a-hundred-thousand
aequo animo ferre debes et existimare eo minus ad te
with-even mind to-bear ought and to-think by-so-much less to you
vel de tuis cibariis vel de mea liberalitate pervenisse. Quod
either from your rations or from my liberality to-have-come But

si mihi expensa ista HS c̄ tulisses, tamen,
if to-me as-paid-out that sesterces a-hundred-thousand you-had-entered still
quae tua est suavitas quique in me amor, nolles a
what your is sweetness and-what toward me love you-would-not-wish from
me hoc tempore aestimationem accipere; nam, numeratum si
me at-this time an-assessment to-accept for cash if
cuperem, non erat. Sed haec iocatum me putato, ut ego
I-desired not there-was But these-things jesting me consider as I
te existimo. Ego tamen, cum Tullius rure redierit,
you think I still when Tullius from-the-country has-returned
mittam eum ad te, si quid ad rem putabis pertinere.
will-send him to you if anything to the-matter you-think to-pertain
Hanc epistulam cur conscindi velim causa nulla est.
This letter why to-be-torn-up I-should-wish reason none is

V.21 · TO MESCINIUS

Mescinius longs to see Cicero, and Cicero would spend one day with him sooner than this whole time with most of those he must live among; even solitude is pleasanter than the talk of those who throng his house. His refuge is his books and the knowledge that he always acted for his country, preferring peace on any safe terms to fighting a stronger force. He waits in Rome for the news from Africa, though whoever wins, the victories will differ little. Mescinius bore his own injury bravely; ruined fortune must be borne so that death, which they should have despised even when happy, is now to be wished for, and nothing but guilt is to be feared. Mescinius should not travel, in his weak health, until Cicero writes.

M. Cicero s. d. L. Mescinio.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Lucius Mescinius
Gratae mihi tuae litterae fuerunt; ex quibus intellexi, quod 1
Welcome to-me your letter was from which I-understood what
etiam sine litteris arbitrabar, te summa cupiditate adfectum
even without letter I-thought you with-highest desire affected

esse videndi mei. Quod ego ita libenter accipio, ut tamen tibi
to-be of-seeing me Which I so gladly receive that still to-you
non concedam; nam tecum esse, ita mihi commoda omnia,
not I-yield for with-you to-be so to-me advantages all
quae opto, contingant, ut vehementer velim! Etenim, cum
which I-wish may-befall as vehemently I-would-wish For-indeed when
esset maior et virorum et civium bonorum et iucundorum
was greater both of-men and of-citizens good and of-pleasant
hominum et amantium mei copia, tamen erat nemo,
men and loving of-me the-supply still was no-one
quicum essem libentius quam tecum, et pauci, quibuscum
with-whom I-would-be more-gladly than with-you and few with-whom
essem aeque libenter; hoc vero tempore cum alii interierint,
I-would-be equally gladly at-this indeed time when some have-perished
alii absint, alii mutati voluntate sint, unum medius fidius
others are-away others changed in-goodwill are one so-help-me god-of-faith
tecum diem libentius posuerim quam hoc omne tempus
with-you a-day more-gladly I-would-spend than this whole time
cum plerisque eorum, quibuscum vivo necessario. Noli enim
with most of-those with-whom I-live necessarily Do-not for
existimare mihi non solitudinem iucundiorem esse, qua
think to-me not solitude more-pleasant to-be which
tamen ipsa uti non licet, quam sermones eorum, qui
still itself to-use not it-is-allowed than the-conversations of-those who
frequentant domum meam, excepto uno aut summum altero.
throng house my excepted one or at-most a-second
2 Itaque utor eodem perfugio, quo tibi utendum censeo,
And-so I-use the-same refuge which by-you to-be-used I-think
litterulis nostris, praeterea conscientia etiam consiliorum
little-letters our besides the-consciousness also of-counsels
meorum. Ego enim is sum, quem ad modum tu facillime
my I for he am in-what to manner you most-easily

potes existimare, qui nihil umquam mea potius quam
you-can to-judge who nothing ever for-my rather than
meorum civium causa fecerim. Cui nisi invidisset is,
of-my citizens for-the-sake did To-whom unless had-envied he
quem tu numquam amasti (me enim amabas), et ipse
whom you never loved me for you-loved and he-himself
beatus esset et omnes boni. Ego sum, qui nullius vim
happy would-be and all good-men I am-be who no-one's force
plus valere volui quam honestum otium idemque, cum illa
more to-prevail wished than honorable peace and-the-same when those
ipsa arma, quae semper timueram, plus posse sensi quam
very arms which always I-had-feared more to-be-able I-felt than
illum consensum bonorum, quem ego idem effeceram,
that agreement of-good-men which I the-same had-brought-about
quavis tuta condicione pacem accipere malui quam viribus
on-any safe condition peace to-accept preferred than with-forces
cum valentiore pugnare. Sed et haec et multa alia
with a-stronger to-fight But both these-things and many other-things
coram brevi tempore licebit.
face-to-face in-short time it-will-be-allowed

Neque me tamen ulla res alia Romae tenet nisi 3
Nor me still any thing other at-Rome holds except
exspectatio rerum Africanarum; videtur enim mihi res
the-awaiting of-affairs African seems for to-me the-matter
in propinquum adducta discrimen. Puto autem mea non
into near brought crisis I-think however to-me not
nihil interesse, quamquam id ipsum, quid intersit, non sane
nothing to-matter although that very what it-matters not quite
intellego, verum tamen, quicquid illinc nuntiatum sit, non
do-I-understand but still whatever thence announced be not
longe abesse a consiliis amicorum. Est enim res iam
far to-be-away from the-counsels of-friends It-is for the-matter already

in eum locum adducta, ut, quamquam multum intersit
into that place brought that although much it-matters
inter eorum causas qui dimicant, tamen inter victorias non
between their causes who fight still between the-victories not
multum interfuturum putem. Sed plane animus, qui dubiis
much going-to-matter I-think But plainly my-mind which in-doubtful
rebus forsitan fuerit infirmior, desperatis confirmatus est
affairs perhaps was weaker in-desperate strengthened has-been
multum; quem etiam tuae superiores litterae confirmarunt,
much which also your earlier letter strengthened
quibus intellexi, quam fortiter iniuriam ferres; iuvitque me
from-which I-understood how bravely the-injury you-bore and-it-helped me
tibi cum summam humanitatem tum etiam tuas litteras
to-you both highest courtesy and also your letters
profuisse. Verum enim scribam: Teneriore mihi animo
to-have-been-useful Truth for I-will-write Of-tenderer to-me mind
videbare sicut omnes fere, qui vitam ingenuam in beata
you-seemed as all almost who life free in a-happy
civitate et in libera re p. viximus.
state and in a-free thing public have-lived

4 Sed, ut illa secunda moderate tulimus, sic hanc non
But as those favorable-things moderately we-bore so this not
solum adversam sed funditus eversam fortunam fortiter ferre
only adverse but utterly overturned fortune bravely to-bear
debemus, ut hoc saltem in maximis malis boni consequamur,
we-ought that this at-least in greatest evils of-good we-attain
ut mortem, quam etiam beati contemnere debebamus,
that death which even happy to-despise we-ought
propterea quod nullum sensum esset habitura, nunc sic
for-this-reason that no feeling it-was going-to-have now so
adfecti non modo contemnere debeamus sed etiam optare.
affected not only to-despise we-ought but even to-wish-for

Tu, si me diligis, fruere isto otio tibique persuade 5
You if me you-love enjoy that leisure and-yourself persuade
praeter culpam ac peccatum, qua semper caruisti et
except fault and wrongdoing which always you-have-been-free-of and
carebis, homini accidere nihil posse quod sit inhonorabile
will-be-free-of to-a-man to-happen nothing to-be-able which be dishonorable
aut pertimescendum. Ego, si videbitur recte fieri posse,
or to-be-feared I if it-seems rightly to-be-done to-be-able
ad te veniam brevi; si quid acciderit, ut mutandum
to you will-come shortly if anything happens so-that to-be-changed
consilium sit, te certiorem faciam statim. Tu ita fac
my-plan be you informed I-will-make at-once You so see-that
cupidus mei videndi sis, ut istinc te ne moveas
desirous of-me of-seeing you-be that from-there yourself not you-move
tam infirma valetudine, nisi ex me prius quaesieris per
with-such weak health unless from me first you-have-asked by
litteras, quid te velim facere. Me velim, ut facis, diligas
letter what you I-wish to-do Me I-would-wish as you-do you-love
valetudinique tuae et tranquillitati animi servias.
and-for-health your and for-tranquility of-mind attend