LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 62

Letters to His Friends

Cicero

Epistulae ad Familiares

Letters to His Friends

Part Three: Books XI–XVI

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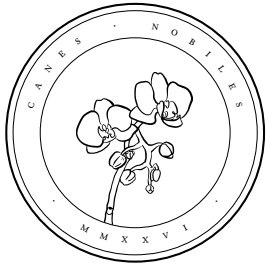
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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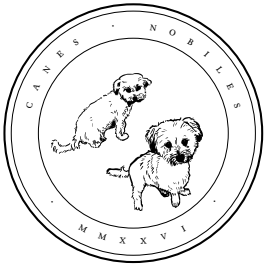

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BOOK XI

XI.1 · DECIMUS BRUTUS AFTER THE IDES

Decimus Brutus tells Brutus and Cassius that Hirtius came to him and revealed Antony's mind: Antony says he cannot give Decimus his province, nor is any of them safe in Rome, so roused are the soldiers and the plebs. Decimus thinks both false: Antony fears that even modest support for them would leave his side no part. He will ask a free legation for them all, though even if it is granted they will soon be declared enemies; so they must leave Italy for Rhodes or elsewhere, and in the worst case turn to Sextus Pompey and Caecilius Bassus. He asks where to meet, and will request a public guard at Rome.

D. Brutus Bruto suo et Cassio s.
Decimus Brutus to-Brutus his-own and to-Cassius greeting

Quo in statu simus cognoscite. Heri vesperi 1
What in condition we-are learn Yesterday in-the-evening
apud me Hirtius fuit; qua mente esset Antonius
at my-house Hirtius was with-what mind was Antony
demonstravit, pessima scilicet et infidelissima. Nam se
he-showed the-worst of-course and most-faithless For that-he
neque mihi provinciam dare posse aiebat neque arbitrari
neither to-me a-province to-give to-be-able he-said nor to-think
tuto in urbe esse quemquam nostrum; adeo esse militum
safely in the-city to-be anyone of-us so to-be of-the-soldiers
concitatos animos et plebis. Quod utrumque esse
roused the-minds and of-the-commons Which each to-be
falsum puto vos animadvertere atque illud esse verum,
false I-think that-you to-perceive and that to-be true
quod Hirtius demonstrabat, timere eum ne, si mediocre
which Hirtius was-showing to-fear that-he lest if moderate

auxilium dignitatis nostrae habuissemus, nullae partes iis
support of-standing our we-had-had no part to-them
in re p. relinquerentur.
in the-thing public would-be-left

2 Cum in his angustiis versarer, placitum est mihi ut
When in these straits I-was-turning resolved it-was by-me that
postularem legationem liberam mihi reliquisque nostris,
I-should-ask-for an-embassy free for-me and-for-the-rest of-ours
ut aliqua causa proficiscendi honesta quaereretur. Haec
that some reason for-setting-out honorable might-be-sought This
se impetraturum pollicitus est, nec tamen impetraturum
that-he going-to-obtain promised he-has nor still going-to-obtain
confido; tanta est hominum insolentia et nostri insectatio.
I-trust so-great is of-men the-insolence and of-us the-persecution
Ac si dederint quod petimus, tamen paulo post futurum puto
And if they-give what we-ask still a-little after going-to-be I-think
ut hostes iudicemur aut aqua et igni nobis interdicatur.
that enemies we-be-judged or from-water and fire to-us be-forbidden

3 ‘Quid ergo est’ inquis ‘tui consili?’ Dandus est locus
What then is you-say of-your plan To-be-given is room
fortunae, cedendum ex Italia, migrandum Rhodum aut
to-fortune to-be-yielded from Italy to-be-removed to-Rhodes or
aliquo terrarum arbitror. Si melior casus fuerit,
somewhere on-earth I-think If a-better chance will-have-been
revertemur Romam; si mediocris, in exsilio vivemus; si
we-shall-return to-Rome if a-middling in exile we-shall-live if
pessimus, ad novissima auxilia descendemus.
the-worst to the-last resources we-shall-descend

4 Succurret fortasse hoc loco alicui vestrum cur novissimum
Will-occur perhaps at-this point to-some of-you why the-last
tempus exspectemus potius quam nunc aliquid moliamur.
moment we-should-wait-for rather than now something we-attempt

Quia ubi consistamus non habemus praeter Sex.
Because where we-may-take-a-stand not we-have except Sextus
Pompeium et Bassum Caecilium; qui mihi videntur hoc
Pompeius and Bassus Caecilius who to-me seem with-this
nuntio de Caesare adlato firmiores futuri. Satis tempore
news about Caesar brought firmer going-to-be Enough in-time
ad eos accedemus, ubi quid valeant scierimus. Pro
to them we-shall-go when what they-are-worth we-shall-have-known For
Cassio et te si quid me velitis recipere recipiam;
Cassius and you if anything that-I you-wish to-guarantee I-will-guarantee
postulat enim hoc Hirtius ut faciam.
demands for this Hirtius that I-do
Rogo vos quam primum mihi rescribatis (nam non dubito 5
I-ask you as first to-me you-write-back for not I-doubt
quin de his rebus ante horam quartam Hirtius certiorem
but-that about these things before the-hour fourth Hirtius more-certain
me sit facturus); quem in locum convenire possimus, quo
me is going-to-make what into place to-meet we-can where
me velitis venire rescribite.
me you-wish to-come write-back
Post novissimum Hirti sermonem placitum est mihi 6
After the-latest of-Hirtius talk resolved it-was by-me
postulare ut liceret nobis Romae esse publico praesidio.
to-ask that it-be-allowed to-us at-Rome to-be with-a-public guard
Quod illos nobis concessuros non puto; magnam enim
Which that-they to-us going-to-grant not I-think great for
invidiam iis faciemus. Nihil tamen non postulandum
odium to-them we-shall-cause Nothing still not to-be-asked
putavi quod aequum esse statuerem.
I-thought which fair to-be I-judged

Brutus and Cassius write to Antony, trusting his good faith: veterans are flocking to Rome, more will come by the Kalends of June, and they talk of restoring Caesar's altar. Having dismissed their friends from the towns on his advice, they ask whether they will be safe; their friends fear the veterans are easier to rouse than he to restrain. They want a reply on every point, and say they have sought only peace and common liberty.

Brutus et Cassius praetores M. Antonio cos.
Brutus and Cassius praetors to-Mark Antony consul

1 De tua fide et benevolentia in nos nisi persuasum
About your good-faith and goodwill toward us unless persuaded
esset nobis, non scripsissemus haec tibi; quae
it-had-been to-us not we-would-have-written these-things to-you which
profecto, quoniam istum animum habes, in optimam partem
surely since that mind you-have in the-best part
accipies. Scribitur nobis magnam veteranorum multitudinem
you-will-take It-is-written to-us that-a-great of-veterans multitude
Romam convenisse iam et ad K. Iun. futuram multo
to-Rome to-have-gathered already and by the-Kalends of-June going-to-be much
maiorem. De te si dubitemus aut vereamur, simus
greater About you if we-were-to-doubt or fear we-would-be
nostri dissimiles; sed certe, cum ipsi in tua potestate
of-ourselves unlike but certainly since ourselves in your power
fuerimus tuoque adducti consilio dimiserimus ex municipiis
we-have-been and-by-your led counsel we-have-dismissed from the-towns
nostros necessarios neque solum edicto sed etiam litteris
our friends nor only by-edict but also by-letters
id fecerimus, digni sumus quos habeas tui consili
it have-done worthy we-are whom you-should-have of-your counsel
participes, in ea praesertim re quae ad nos pertinet.
sharers in that especially matter which to us pertains

Qua re petimus a te facias nos certiores tuae 2
By-which thing we-ask of you you-make us more-certain of-your
voluntatis in nos, putesne nos tutos fore in
intention toward us whether-you-think that-we safe going-to-be in
tanta frequentia militum veteranorum, quos etiam de
so-great a-crowd of-soldiers veteran who even about
reponenda ara cogitare audimus; quod velle et probare
restoring the-altar to-be-thinking we-hear which to-wish and to-approve
vix quisquam posse videtur qui nos salvos et honestos
scarcely anyone to-be-able seems who us safe and in-honor
velit. Nos ab initio spectasse otium nec quicquam
wishes That-we from the-beginning to-have-looked-to peace nor anything
aliud libertate communi quaesisse exitus declarat. Fallere
else than-liberty common to-have-sought the-outcome shows To-deceive
nemo nos potest nisi tu, quod certe abest ab tua virtute
no-one us can except you which certainly is-far from your virtue
et fide; sed alius nemo facultatem habet decipiendi nos;
and good-faith but other no-one the-means has of-deceiving us
tibi enim uni credidimus et crediturі sumus.
you for alone we-have-trusted and going-to-trust we-are
Maximo timore de nobis adficiuntur amici nostri; 3
With-the-greatest fear about us are-affected friends our
quibus etsi tua fides explorata est, tamen illud in
to-whom although your good-faith proved is still this into
mentem venit, multitudinem veteranorum facilius impelli
mind comes that-the-multitude of-veterans more-easily to-be-driven
ab aliis quolibet quam a te retineri posse. Rescribas
by others in-any-direction than by you to-be-held-back to-be-able You-write-back
nobis ad omnia rogamus; nam illud valde leve est ac
to-us to all-things we-ask for that very light is and
nugatorium, ea re denuntiatum esse veteranis,
trifling for-this reason given-notice to-have-been to-the-veterans

quod de commodis eorum mense Iunio laturus
that about the-interests their in-the-month of-June going-to-propose
esses. Quem enim impedimento futurum putas, cum
you-were Whom for as-an-obstacle going-to-be do-you-think when
de nobis certum sit nos quieturos? Non debemus
about us certain is that-we going-to-keep-quiet Not we-ought
cuiquam videri nimium cupidi vitae, cum accidere nobis
to-anyone to-seem too eager for-life since to-happen to-us
nihil possit sine pernicie et confusione omnium rerum.
nothing can without ruin and confusion of-all things

XI.3 · A REPLY TO THREATS

Brutus and Cassius answer Antony's insulting, threatening letter: they did him no wrong in asking something of a consul by edict. Antony denies complaining of levies, money, and messages overseas; they disown all of it, and wonder that he could not keep from charging them with Caesar's death. They protest that praetors may not yield their rights for concord without a consul threatening arms; threats move free men nothing. They wish him great in a free commonwealth but value liberty above his friendship, and bid him consider not how long Caesar lived but how short his reign was.

Brutus et Cassius pr. s. d. Antonio cos.
Brutus and Cassius praetors greeting say to-Antony consul
1 S. v. b. Litteras tuas legimus simillimas edicti
If you-are-well it-is-well The-letter your we-have-read most-like the-edict
tui, contumeliosas, minacis, minime dignas quae a te
your insulting threatening least worthy which by you
nobis mitterentur. Nos, Antoni, te nulla lacessiimus iniuria
to-us should-be-sent We Antony you with-no have-provoked wrong
neque miraturum credidimus, si praetores et ea dignitate
nor going-to-wonder we-believed if praetors and of-that rank

homines aliquid edicto postulassemus a consule. Quod
men something by-edict we-had-demanded of the-consul But
si indignaris ausos esse id facere, concede nobis ut
if you-are-indignant dared to-have that to-do allow us that
doleamus ne hoc quidem abs te Bruto et Cassio tribui.
we-grieve not this even by you to-Brutus and to-Cassius to-be-granted
Nam de dilectibus habitis et pecuniis imperatis, exercitibus 2
For about levies held and moneys exacted armies
sollicitatis et nuntiis trans mare missis quod te questum
tampered-with and messengers across the-sea sent which that-you complained
esse negas, nos quidem tibi credimus optimo animo
to-have you-deny we indeed you believe with-the-best intention
te fecisse, sed tamen neque agnoscimus quicquam
that-you to-have-done but still neither we-own any
eorum et te miramur, cum haec reticueris, non
of-them and you we-wonder-at since these-things you-have-kept-silent-on not
potuisse continere iracundiam tuam quin nobis de
to-have-been-able to-contain anger your but-that against-us about
morte Caesaris obiceres.
the-death of-Caesar you-threw(-it)
Illud vero quem ad modum ferendum sit tute cogita, 3
That indeed in-what to manner to-be-borne is you-yourself consider
non licere praetoribus concordiae ac libertatis causa per
not to-be-allowed for-praetors of-concord and of-liberty for-the-sake by
edictum de suo iure decedere quin consul arma minetur.
edict from their-own right to-withdraw but-that a-consul arms threatens
Quorum fiducia nihil est quod nos terreas; neque
Of-which by-confidence nothing is-there why us you-should-frighten nor
enim decet aut convenit nobis periculo ulli submittere animum
for it-befits or it-suits us to-danger any to-submit spirit
nostrum neque est Antonio postulandum ut iis imperet
our nor is for-Antony to-be-demanded that to-those he-command

quorum opera liber est. Nos si alia hortarentur ut bellum
whose by-efforts free he-is We if other-things urged that war
civile suscitare vellemus, litterae tuae nihil proficerent; nulla
civil to-stir-up we-should-wish letter your nothing would-achieve no
enim minantis auctoritas apud liberos est; sed pulchre
for of-one-threatening authority with the-free is but perfectly
intellegis non posse nos quoquam impelli et fortassis
you-understand not to-be-able that-we anywhere to-be-driven and perhaps
ea re minaciter agis ut iudicium nostrum metus videatur.
for-this reason threateningly you-act that judgment our fear may-seem
4 Nos in hac sententia sumus, ut te cupiamus in libera re
We in this mind are that you we-desire in a-free thing
p. magnum atque honestum esse, vocemus te ad nullas
public great and honored to-be we-call you to no
inimicitias, sed tamen pluris nostram libertatem quam tuam
enmities but still at-more our liberty than your
amicitiam aestimemus. Tu etiam atque etiam vide quid
friendship we-value You again and again see what
suscipias, quid sustinere possis, neque quam diu vixerit
you-undertake what to-sustain you-can and-not how long lived
Caesar sed quam non diu regnarit fac cogites. Deos
Caesar but how not long he-reigned make you-think The-gods
quaesumus consilia tua rei p. salutaria sint ac tibi;
we-beseech plans your to-the-thing public salutary be and to-you
si minus, ut salva atque honesta re p. tibi quam
if not that safe and honored with-the-thing public to-you as
minimum noceant optamus. Pr. Non. Sext.
least may-harm we-pray On-the-day-before the-Nones of-Sextilis

Decimus Brutus, sure of Cicero's care, has campaigned against the most warlike Alpine tribes, not seeking a title so much as to satisfy and steady his soldiers; he took and wasted many forts. He asks Cicero to support his letter to the senate.

D. Brutus imp. cos. desig. s. d. Ciceroni.
Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect greeting says to-Cicero

Si de tua in me voluntate dubitarem, multis a te 1
If about your toward me goodwill I-doubted with-many of you
verbis peterem ut dignitatem meam tuerere, sed profecto
words I-would-ask that dignity my you-protect but surely
est ita ut mihi persuasi, me tibi esse curae. Progressus
it-is so as myself I-have-persuaded that-I to-you to-be a-concern Advanced
sum ad Inalpinos cum exercitu non tam nomen
I-have to the-Alpine-tribes with the-army not so-much the-name
imperatorium captans quam cupiens militibus satis facere
of-imperator seeking as desiring the-soldiers enough to-do
firmosque eos ad tuendas nostras res efficere;
and-firm them for protecting our interests to-make
quod mihi videor consecutus; nam et liberalitatem nostram et 2
which to-me I-seem to-have-attained for both generosity our and
animum sunt experti. Cum omnium bellicosissimis bellum
spirit they-have experienced With of-all the-most-warlike war
gessi; multa castella cepi, multa vastavi. Non sine causa ad
I-waged many forts I-took many I-laid-waste Not without reason to
senatum litteras misi. Adiuva nos tua sententia; quod cum
the-senate a-letter I-sent Help us by-your motion which when
facies, ex magna parte communi commodo inservieris.
you-will-do in great part the-common good you-will-have-served

Lupus left without a letter from Cicero, who was away. Back in Rome on the fifth day before the Ides of December, Cicero heard good news of Decimus from Pansa. Decimus needs no urging, but Rome expects everything of him, and its hope of recovering liberty rests in him; if Antony gets the province, no hope is left. Cicero begs him to free the commonwealth from tyranny forever, and promises all his support.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect

1 Lupus familiaris noster cum a te venisset cumque Romae
Lupus friend our when from you had-come and-when at-Rome
quosdam dies commoraretur, ego eram in iis locis in
some days he-was-staying I was in those places in
quibus maxime tuto me esse arbitrabar. Eo factum est
which most safely that-I to-be I-thought By-this done it-was
ut ad te Lupus sine meis litteris rediret, cum tamen
that to you Lupus without my letter returned though still
curasset tuas ad me perferendas. Romam autem veni a.
he-had-seen-to yours to me to-be-carried to-Rome however I-came on-the
d. v Idus Dec. nec habui quicquam antiquius
day fifth before-the-Ides of-December nor I-had anything more-important
quam ut Pansam statim convenirem; ex quo ea de
than that Pansa at-once I-should-meet from whom those-things about
te cognovi quae maxime optabam. Qua re hortatione tu
you I-learned which most I-was-wishing By-which thing exhortation you
quidem non eges, si ne in illa quidem re quae a te gesta
indeed not need if not in that even deed which by you done
est post hominum memoriam maxima hortatorem desiderasti;
was after of-men the-memory the-greatest an-exhorter you-needed

illud tamen breviter significandum videtur, populum 2
this still briefly to-be-indicated seems that-the-people
Romanum omnia a te exspectare atque in te aliquando
Roman all-things from you to-expect and in you at-last
reciperandae libertatis omnem spem ponere. Tu si dies
of-recovering liberty all hope to-place You if days
noctesque memineris, quod te facere certo scio, quantam
and-nights you-remember which that-you to-do certainly I-know how-great
rem gesseris, non obliviscere profecto quantae tibi etiam
a-thing you-have-done not you-will-forget surely how-great by-you still
nunc gerendae sint. Si enim iste provinciam nactus erit,
now to-be-done are If for that-man the-province obtained will-have
cui quidem ego semper amicus fui, ante quam illum
to-whom indeed I always a-friend was before than that-he
intellexi non modo aperte sed etiam libenter cum re
I-understood not only openly but also gladly with the-thing
p. bellum gerere, spem reliquam nullam video salutis.
public war to-wage hope remaining none I-see of-safety
Quam ob rem te obsecro iisdem precibus quibus 3
Which on-account-of thing you I-beseech with-the-same prayers with-which
senatus populusque Romanus ut in perpetuum rem
the-senate and-people Roman that for ever the-thing
p. dominatu regio liberes, ut principiis consentiant
public from-the-tyranny of-kings you-free that with-the-beginnings may-agree
exitus. Tuum est hoc munus, tuae partes, a te hoc civitas
the-outcomes Yours is this task yours the-part from you this the-state
vel omnes potius gentes non exspectant solum sed etiam
or all rather nations not expect only but even
postulant. Quamquam, cum hortatione non egeas, ut supra
demand Although since exhortation not you-need as above
scripsi, non utar ea pluribus verbis, faciam illud, quod meum
I-wrote not I-shall-use it with-more words I-will-do that which mine

est, ut tibi omnia mea officia, studia, curas, cogitationes
is that to-you all my services zeal cares thoughts
pollicear, quae ad tuam laudem et gloriam pertinebunt. Quam
I-promise which to your praise and glory will-pertain Which
ob rem velim tibi ita persuadeas, me cum rei
on-account-of thing I-would-wish yourself so you-persuade that-I both of-the-thing
p. causa, quae mihi vita mea est carior, tum quod
public for-the-sake which to-me than-life my is dearer and because
tibi ipsi faveam tuamque dignitatem amplificari velim, tuis
you yourself I-favor and-your dignity to-be-enlarged I-wish to-your
optimis consiliis amplitudini, gloriae nullo loco defuturum.
most-excellent counsels greatness glory in-no place going-to-be-lacking

XI.6 · IN THE SENATE FOR DECIMUS

Lupus brought Decimus' message; in commending his own dignity he commends Cicero's. When the tribunes summoned the senate for the thirteenth day before the Kalends of January and Decimus' edict was posted that day, Cicero went, and the house filled. Others will tell what he said in the senate and the assembly; he will lead in raising Decimus' dignity.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect
1 Lupus noster cum Romam sexto die Mutina venisset,
Lupus our when to-Rome on-the-sixth day from-Mutina had-come
postridie me mane convenit; tua mihi mandata
the-next-day me in-the-morning met your to-me instructions
diligentissime exposuit et litteras reddidit. Quod mihi
most-carefully set-out and the-letter delivered As-for-that to-me
tuam dignitatem commendas, eodem tempore existimo
your dignity you-commend at-the-same time I-consider

te mihi meam dignitatem commendare, quam me
that-you to-me my dignity to-commend which so-help-me
hercule non habeo tua cariorem. Qua re mihi
Hercules not I-hold than-yours dearer By-which thing to-me
gratissimum facies, si exploratum habebis tuis laudibus
most-pleasing you-will-do if certain you-will-hold to-your praises
nullo loco nec consilium nec studium meum defuturum.
in-no place neither counsel nor zeal my going-to-be-lacking
Cum tribuni pl. edixissent senatus adesset a. 2
When the-tribunes of-the-plebs had-proclaimed that-the-senate be-present on-the
d. xiii K. Ian., haberentque in animo de
day thirteenth before-the-Kalends of-January and-had in mind about
praesidio consulum designatorum referre, quamquam
the-protection of-the-consuls elect to-bring-a-motion although
statueram in senatum ante K. Ian. non venire,
I-had-decided into the-senate before the-Kalends of-January not to-come
tamen, cum eo die ipso edictum tuum propositum esset,
still since on-that day very edict your posted had-been
nefas esse duxi aut ita haberi senatum ut de tuis divinis
wrong to-be I-held either so to-be-held the-senate that about your divine
in rem p. meritis sileretur (quod factum esset,
toward the-thing public services silence-were-kept which done would-have-been
nisi ego venissem), aut etiam, si quid de te honorifice
unless I had-come or even if anything about you honorably
diceretur, me non adesse. Itaque in senatum veni mane.
were-said that-I not to-be-present And-so into the-senate I-came early
Quod cum esset animadversum, frequentissimi senatores 3
Which when it-had-been noticed in-the-greatest-numbers senators
convenerunt. Quae de te in senatu egerim, quae
assembled What about you in the-senate I-did what
in contione maxima dixerim, aliorum te litteris malo
in the-assembly very-great I-said of-others you letters I-prefer

cognoscere; illud tibi persuadeas velim, me omnia quae
to-learn this yourself you-persuade I-would-wish that-I all-things which
ad tuam dignitatem augendam pertinebunt, quae est per
to your dignity increasing will-pertain which is in
se amplissima, summo semper studio suscepturum et
itself most-ample with-the-highest always zeal going-to-take-up and
defensurum. Quod quamquam intellego me cum multis
going-to-defend Which although I-understand that-I with many
esse facturum, tamen appetam huius rei principatum.
to-be going-to-do still I-shall-seek of-this thing the-lead

XI.7 · DO NOT WAIT FOR THE SENATE

Cicero's advice, given before Lupus, Libo, and Servius: Decimus must not wait for the authority of a senate not yet free to save the people's liberty, or he would condemn his own deed, young Caesar's private enterprise, the veterans, and the Martian and Fourth legions that judged their consul an enemy. The senate's will must stand for its authority when fear binds it; Decimus has twice taken up the cause and must act unbidden.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect
1 Cum adhibuisset domi meae Lupus me et Libonem et
When had-called-in at-house my Lupus me and Libo and
Servium, consobrinum tuum, quae mea fuerit sententia
Servius cousin your what my was opinion
cognosse te ex M. Seio arbitror, qui nostro sermoni
to-have-learned that-you from Marcus Seius I-suppose who our talk
interfuit; reliqua, quamquam statim Seium Graeceius est
attended the-rest although immediately Seius Graeceius has
subsecutus, tamen ex Graeceio poteris cognoscere.
followed still from Graeceius you-will-be-able to-learn

Caput autem est hoc, quod te diligentissime percipere 2
The-head however is this which you most-carefully to-grasp
et meminisse volo, ut ne in libertate et salute p.
and to-remember I-wish that not in the-liberty and the-safety of-the-people
R. conservanda auctoritatem senatus exspectes nondum
Roman preserving the-authority of-the-senate you-wait-for not-yet
liberi, ne et tuum factum condemnes (nullo enim publico
free lest both your deed you-condemn by-no for public
consilio rem p. liberavisti, quo etiam est res illa
counsel the-thing public you-freed by-which even is thing that
maior et clarior) et adulescentem vel puerum potius
greater and more-glorious and the-youth or the-boy rather
Caesarem iudices temere fecisse, qui tantam causam
Caesar you-judge rashly to-have-acted who so-great a-cause
publicam privato consilio susceperit, denique homines
public by-private counsel undertook in-short men
rusticos, sed fortissimos viros civisque optimos, dementis
rustic but most-brave men and-citizens excellent mad
fuisse iudices, primum milites veteranos commilitones
to-have-been you-judge first soldiers veteran fellow-soldiers
tuos, deinde legionem Martiam, legionem quartam, quae
your then the-legion Martian the-legion fourth which
suum consulem hostem iudicaverunt seque ad salutem
their-own consul an-enemy judged and-themselves to the-safety
rei p. defendendam contulerunt. Voluntas senatus
of-the-thing public defending betook The-will of-the-senate
pro auctoritate haberi debet, cum auctoritas impeditur metu.
for authority to-be-held ought when authority is-hindered by-fear
Postremo suscepta tibi causa iam bis est, ut non 3
Lastly taken-up by-you the-cause already twice has-been so-that not
sit integrum, primum Idibus Martiis, deinde proxime
it-is open first on-the-Ides of-March then most-recently

exercitu novo et copiis comparatis. Quam ob rem
with-an-army new and forces raised Which on-account-of thing
ad omnia ita paratus, ita animatus debes esse, non ut
for all-things so prepared so minded you-ought to-be not that
nihil facias nisi iussus, sed ut ea geras quae ab
nothing you-do unless ordered but that those-things you-do which by
omnibus summa cum admiratione laudentur.
all the-utmost with admiration may-be-praised

XI.8 · ROME EAGER

Polla offered to carry a letter when Cicero had nothing to write, all waiting on the envoys. The senate and people care for Decimus' honor, and hope that as he once freed them from a king, he will now free them from a kingdom. The levy in Rome and Italy is of volunteers, so great is the longing for liberty; Cicero awaits news of Decimus, Hirtius, and Caesar, and will never fail him.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect
1 Eo tempore Polla tua misit ut ad te si quid vellem
At-that time Polla your sent that to you if any I-wished
darem litterarum, cum quid scriberem non habebam;
I-should-give of-letter when what I-should-write not I-had
omnia enim erant suspensa propter exspectationem
all-things for were in-suspense on-account-of the-awaiting
legatorum, qui quid egissent nihildum nuntiabatur. Haec
of-the-envoys who what they-had-done nothing-yet was-reported These-things
tamen scribenda existimavi, primum senatum populumque
still to-be-written I-thought first that-the-senate and-people
R. de te laborare non solum salutis suae causa
Roman about you to-be-concerned not only of-safety their-own for-the-sake

sed etiam dignitatis tuae. Admirabilis enim est quaedam
but also of-dignity your Wonderful for is a-certain
tui nominis caritas amorque in te singularis omnium
of-your name affection and-love toward you singular of-all
civium; ita enim sperant atque confidunt, ut antea rege
citizens so for they-hope and trust as formerly from-a-king
sic hoc tempore regno te rem p. liberaturum.
so at-this time from-a-kingship that-you the-thing public going-to-free
Romae dilectus habetur totaque Italia, si hic dilectus 2
At-Rome a-levy is-held and-in-the-whole Italy if this levy
appellandus est, cum ultro se offerunt omnes; tantus
to-be-called is when unasked themselves offer all so-great
ardor animos hominum occupavit desiderio libertatis
an-ardor the-minds of-men has-seized through-longing for-liberty
odioque diutinae servitutis. De reliquis rebus a te iam
and-hatred of-long-lasting slavery About the-other things from you now
exspectare litteras debemus quid ipse agas, quid noster
to-expect a-letter we-ought what you-yourself are-doing what our
Hirtius, quid Caesar meus; quos spero brevi tempore
Hirtius what Caesar my whom I-hope in-short time
societate victoriae tecum copulatos fore. Reliquum est
by-partnership of-victory with-you joined going-to-be Remaining is
ut de me id scribam, quod te ex tuorum litteris
that about me that I-write which you from of-your-friends letters
et spero et malo cognoscere, me neque deesse ulla
both I-hope and prefer to-learn that-I neither to-be-lacking any
in re neque umquam defuturum dignitati tuae.
in thing nor ever going-to-be-lacking to-the-dignity your

Pansa's death is a great loss; Cicero must see that their enemies do not grow strong with the consuls gone. Decimus will pursue Antony and keep Ventidius from slipping away; Cicero should send to Lepidus, a weathercock, lest he join Antony and renew the war. Pollio is plain enough, and Plancus should be confirmed. If Antony crosses the Alps, Decimus will garrison them.

D. Brutus s. d. M. Ciceroni.

Decimus Brutus greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

1 Pansa amisso quantum detrimenti res p. acceperit non
With-Pansa lost how-much of-harm the-thing public has-received not
te praeterit. Nunc auctoritate et prudentia tua prospicias
you escapes Now by-authority and prudence your you-should-foresee
oportet, ne inimici nostri consulibus sublatis sperent se
it-behooves lest enemies our with-the-consuls removed hope that-they
convalescere posse. Ego ne consistere possit in Italia
to-recover-strength to-be-able I that-not to-stand can in Italy
Antonius dabo operam; sequar eum confestim. Utrumque
Antony will-give effort I-shall-follow him immediately Both
me praestaturum spero, ne aut Ventidius elabatur
that-I going-to-make-good I-hope that-not either Ventidius slip-away
aut Antonius in Italia moretur. In primis rogo te ad
or Antony in Italy linger Among the-first I-ask you to
hominem ventosissimum, Lepidum, mittas, ne bellum nobis
a-man most-windy Lepidus you-send lest the-war for-us
redintegrare possit Antonio sibi coniuncto. Nam de
to-renew he-may-be-able with-Antony to-himself joined For about
Pollione Asinio puto te perspicere quid facturus sit.
Pollio Asinius I-think that-you to-see-through what going-to-do he-is
Multae et bonae et firmae sunt legiones Lepidi et Asini.
Many and good and firm are the-legions of-Lepidus and of-Asinius

Neque haec idcirco tibi scribo, quod te non eadem 2
Nor these-things for-this-reason to-you I-write because you not the-same
animadvertere sciam, sed quod mihi persuasissimum est
to-perceive I-know but because to-me most-certain it-is
Lepidum recte facturum numquam, si forte vobis id de
that-Lepidus rightly going-to-act never if perhaps to-you that about
hoc dubium est. Plancum quoque confirmetis oro; quem
him doubtful is Plancus also you-strengthen I-beg who
spero pulso Antonio rei p. non defuturum. Si
I-hope with-Antony driven-off to-the-thing public not going-to-be-lacking If
se Alpis Antonius traiecerit, constitui praesidium
himself the-Alps Antony will-have-taken-across I-have-resolved a-garrison
in Alpibus conlocare et te de omni re facere certiorem.
in the-Alps to-place and you about every thing to-make more-certain
iii K. Mai. ex castris Regio.
third before-the-Kalends of-May from the-camp at-Regium

XI.10 · ANTONY REGATHERS

Decimus owes Cicero as much as the commonwealth owes him, and prefers Cicero's judgment to his detractors'. With the consuls dead, Antony has rebuilt a force by freeing slave-gangs and joined Ventidius at Vada; he may go to Lepidus, hold the Apennines and Alps, or turn back to Etruria. Had Caesar crossed the Apennines, Antony would have starved; but no one commands Caesar, nor Caesar his army. Decimus began with more than forty million sesterces, has spent all, and borrowed from his friends to feed seven legions.

D. Brutus s. d. M. Ciceroni.

Decimus Brutus greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

1 Non mihi rem p. plus debere arbitror quam me tibi.

Not to-me the-thing public more to-owe I-think than that-I to-you

Gratiorem me esse in te posse, quam isti perversi

More-grateful that-I to-be toward you to-be-able than those perverse-men

sint in me, exploratum habes sit an hoc temporis

are toward me ascertained you-hold be-it whether this of-the-time

videatur dici causa, malle me tuum iudicium quam

may-seem to-be-said for-the-sake to-prefer that-I your judgment than

ex altera parte omnium istorum; tu enim a certo sensu

on the-other side of-all those you for from sure feeling

et vero iudicas de nobis; quod isti ne faciant summa

and true judge of us which they that-not they-do by-the-utmost

malevolentia et livore impediuntur. Interpellent me quo

malice and envy are-hindered Let-them-hinder me by-which

minus honoratus sim, dum ne interpellent quo minus

less honored I-be provided not they-hinder by-which less

res p. a me commode administrari possit. Quae

the-thing public by me fitly to-be-administered can Which

quanto sit in periculo quam potero brevissime exponam.

how-great is in danger as I-shall-be-able most-briefly I-will-set-out

2 Primum omnium quantam perturbationem rerum urbanarum

First of-all how-great disturbance of-affairs of-the-city

adferat obitus consulum quantamque cupiditatem hominibus

brings the-death of-the-consuls and-how-great greed in-men

iniciat vacuitas non te fugit. Satis me multa scripsisse, quae

throws the-vacancy not you escapes Enough that-I much to-have-written which

litteris commendari possint, arbitror; scio enim cui scribam.

to-letters to-be-entrusted can I-think I-know for to-whom I-write

Revertor nunc ad Antonium. Qui ex fuga cum parvulam 3
I-return now to Antony Who out-of flight when a-tiny
manum peditum haberet inermium, ergastula solvendo
band of-foot-soldiers he-had unarmed the-slave-prisons by-unlocking
omneque genus hominum abripiendo satis magnum numerum
and-every kind of-men by-carrying-off enough large a-number
videtur effecisse. Hoc accessit manus Ventidi, quae
seems to-have-made To-this has-been-added the-band of-Ventidius which
trans Appenninum itinere facto difficillimo ad Vada pervenit
across the-Apennines a-march made most-difficult to Vada came
atque ibi se cum Antonio coniunxit. Est numerus
and there himself with Antony joined There-is a-number
veteranorum et armatorum satis frequens cum Ventidio.
of-veterans and of-armed-men enough large with Ventidius
Consilia Antoni haec sint necesse est, aut ad Lepidum ut se 4
The-plans of-Antony these be necessary it-is either to Lepidus that himself
conferat, si recipitur, aut Appennino Alpibusque se teneat et
he-betake if he-is-received or in-the-Apennines and-the-Alps himself he-keep and
decursionibus per equites, quos habet multos, vastet ea loca
by-raids through horsemen whom he-has many lay-waste those places
in quae incurrerit, aut rusus se in Etruriam referat, quod
into which he-will-have-run or again himself into Etruria he-withdraw because
ea pars Italiae sine exercitu est. Quod si me Caesar audisset
that part of-Italy without an-army is But if me Caesar had-heeded
atque Appenninum transisset, in tantas angustias Antonium
and the-Apennines had-crossed into such straits Antony
compulissem, ut inopia potius quam ferro conficeretur. Sed
I-would-have-driven that by-want rather than by-sword he-would-be-finished But
neque Caesari imperari potest nec Caesar exercitui suo,
neither Caesar to-be-commanded can nor Caesar the-army his-own
quod utrumque pessimum est. Cum haec talia sint, quo
which each the-worst is Since these-things such are by-which

minus, quod ad me pertinebit, homines interpellent, ut supra
less what to me will-pertain men hinder as above
scripsi, non impedio. Haec quem ad modum explicari
I-wrote not I-prevent These-things in-what to manner to-be-unfolded
possint aut, a te cum explicabuntur, ne impediantur timeo.
can or by you when they-will-be-unfolded lest they-be-hindered I-fear
Alere iam milites non possum. Cum ad rem p.
To-feed now the-soldiers not I-can When to the-thing public
liberandam accessi, HS mihi fuit pecuniae |$\overline{\text{cccc}}$|
freeing I-came sesterces to-me were of-money forty-million
amplius. Tantum abest ut meae rei familiaris liberum
more So-far is-it-distant that of-my estate family free
sit quicquam, ut omnis iam meos amicos aere alieno
be anything that all now my friends with-money another's
obstrinxerim. Septem numerum nunc legionum alo, qua
I-have-bound Seven the-number now of-legions I-feed with-what
difficultate tu arbitrare; non, si Varronis thensauros haberem,
difficulty you consider not if of-Varro the-treasures I-had
subsistere sumptui possem. Cum primum de Antonio
to-hold-out against-the-cost I-could When first about Antony
exploratum habuero, faciam te certiorem. Tu me amabis
certain I-shall-have I-will-make you more-certain You me will-love
ita, si hoc idem me in te facere senseris. iii
so if this same me toward you to-do you-will-have-perceived third
Non. Mai. ex castris Dertona.
before-the-Nones of-May from the-camp at-Dertona

Decimus can hardly repay Cicero. Antony is making for Lepidus and still hopes for Plancus, as papers fallen into Decimus' hands show; Decimus sent at once to Plancus and expects envoys of the Allobroges and all Gaul. He asks Cicero to manage matters at Rome and counter men's malice, which cannot deter him.

D. Brutus imp. cos. des. s. d. M. Ciceroni.
Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

Eodem exemplo a te mi litterae redditae sunt, quo pueri 1
In-the-same copy from you to-me a-letter delivered was in-which slaves
mei attulerunt. Tantum me tibi debere existimo, quantum
my brought So-much that-I to-you to-owe I-consider as-much-as
persolvere difficile est. Scripsi tibi quae hic gererentur.
to-pay-off difficult is I-wrote to-you what-things here were-being-done
In itinere est Antonius, ad Lepidum proficiscitur; ne de
On the-march is Antony to Lepidus he-is-setting-out not about
Planco quidem spem adhuc abiecit, ut ex libellis
Plancus even hope yet he-has-thrown-away as from the-notebooks
eius animadverti qui in me inciderunt; in quibus, quos ad
his I-perceived which into me fell in which whom to
Asinium, quos ad Lepidum, quos ad Plancum mitteret
Asinius whom to Lepidus whom to Plancus he-was-sending
scribebat. Ego tamen non habui ambiguum et statim ad
he-was-writing I still not held(-it) doubtful and at-once to
Plancum misi et biduo ab Allobrogibus et totius
Plancus I-sent and in-two-days from the-Allobroges and of-the-whole
Galliae legatos exspecto; quos confirmatos domum remittam.
of-Gaul envoys I-expect whom strengthened home I-shall-send-back

2 Tu quae istic opus erunt administrari prospicies, ut
You what-things there needful will-be to-be-administered will-see-to that
ex tua voluntate reique publicae commodo
according-to your will and-of-the-thing public for-the-advantage
fiant. Malevolentiae hominum in me, si poteris,
they-be-done The-malice of-men against me if you-will-be-able
occurres; si non potueris, hoc consolabere,
you-will-counter if not you-will-have-been-able by-this you-will-console(-yourself)
quod me de statu meo nullis contumeliis deterrere possunt.
that me about condition my by-no insults to-deter they-can
Pr. Non. Mai. ex castris finibus Statiellensium.
On-the-day-before the-Nones of-May from the-camp in-the-territory of-the-Statielli

XI.12 · THE WAR REKINDLED

Three letters in one day, and Graeceius' report, show that the war is not quenched but rekindled. Rome thought Antony had fled with a few unarmed men; if he cannot be fought without risk, he has only moved the war. Men complain that he was not pursued. Whoever crushes Antony will end the war.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. des.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect
1 Tris uno die a te accepi epistulas, unam brevem quam
Three in-one day from you I-received letters one short which
Flacco Volumnio dederas, duas pleniores, quarum alteram
to-Flaccus Volumnius you-had-given two fuller of-which the-one
tabellarius T. Vibi attulit, alteram ad me misit Lupus. Ex
the-courier of-Titus Vibius brought the-other to me sent Lupus From
tuis litteris et ex Graecei oratione non modo non restinctum
your letters and from of-Graeceius the-speech not only not quenched
bellum sed etiam inflammatum videtur. Non dubito autem pro
the-war but even inflamed it-seems Not I-doubt however by

tua singulari prudentia quin perspicias, si aliquid firmitatis
your singular prudence but-that you-see-clearly if any of-strength
nactus sit Antonius, omnia tua illa praeclara in rem
obtained will-have Antony all your those splendid toward the-thing
p. merita ad nihilum esse ventura. Ita enim Romam
public services to nothing to-be going-to-come So for to-Rome
erat nuntiatum, ita persuasum omnibus, cum paucis
it-had-been reported so persuaded to-all with a-few
inermis, perterritis metu, fracto animo fugisse Antonium.
unarmed terrified with-fear with-broken spirit to-have-fled that-Antony
Qui si ita se habet ut, quem ad modum audiebam de 2
Who if so himself holds that in-what to manner I-heard about
Graeceio, confligi cum eo sine periculo non possit, non ille
Graeceius to-be-fought with him without danger not can not he
mihi fugisse a Mutina videtur sed locum belli gerendi
to-me to-have-fled from Mutina seems but the-place of-war waging
mutasse. Itaque homines alii facti sunt; non nulli etiam
to-have-changed And-so men other made have-been not none even
queruntur, quod persecuti non sitis; opprimi potuisse,
complain that pursued not you-have to-be-crushed to-have-been-able
si celeritas adhibita esset, existimant. Omnino est hoc
if speed applied had-been they-think Altogether is this
populi maximeque nostri, in eo potissimum abuti libertate
of-the-people and-most of-ours in that one-especially to-abuse liberty
per quem eam consecutus sit; sed tamen providendum est
through whom it attained it-has but still to-be-foreseen is
ne quae iusta querela esse possit. Res se sic habet: Is
lest any just complaint to-be can The-matter itself thus has He
bellum confecerit, qui Antonium oppresserit. Hoc quam vim
the-war will-have-finished who Antony will-have-crushed This what force
habeat te existimare malo quam me apertius scribere.
it-has that-you to-judge I-prefer than that-I more-openly to-write

Decimus explains why he could not pursue Antony at once: he lacked cavalry and pack animals, did not know Hirtius and Aquila were dead, and did not trust Caesar. Summoned by Pansa to Bononia, he learned on the way that Pansa was dead. Antony, two days ahead, freed slave-gangs and reached Vada, where Ventidius joined him; his soldiers demanded Pollentia, and Decimus sent five cohorts ahead, which reached it an hour before Trebellius' cavalry.

D. Brutus imp. cos. des. s. d. M. Ciceroni.
Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

1 Iam non ago tibi gratias; cui enim re vix referre
Now not I-give to-you thanks to-whom for in-deed scarcely to-repay
possum, huic verbis non patitur res satis fieri.
I-can to-him in-words not allows the-matter enough to-be-done
Attendere te volo quae in manibus sunt; qua
To-attend that-you I-wish to-what-things in hands are with-what
enim prudentia es, nihil te fugiet, si meas litteras
for prudence you-are nothing you will-escape if my letter
diligenter legeris. Sequi confestim Antonium his de
carefully you-will-have-read To-follow at-once Antony these for
causis, Cicero, non potui: Eram sine equitibus, sine
reasons Cicero not I-could I-was without horsemen without
iumentis; Hirtium perisse nesciebam, Aquilam perisse
pack-animals that-Hirtius to-have-perished I-did-not-know that-Aquila to-have-perished
nesciebam; Caesari non credebam prius quam convenissem
I-did-not-know Caesar not I-was-trusting before than I-had-met
et conlocutus essem. Hic dies hoc modo abiit.
and talked I-had This day in-this way passed

2 Postero die mane a Pansa sum accersitus Bononiam.
On-the-next day in-the-morning by Pansa I-was summoned to-Bononia
Cum in itinere essem, nuntiatum mihi est eum mortuum
When on the-road I-was reported to-me it-was that-he dead

esse. Recurri ad meas copiolas; sic enim vere eas appellare
to-be I-ran-back to my little-forces so for truly them to-call
possum; sunt extenuatissimae et inopia omnium rerum
I-can they-are most-wasted and by-want of-all things
pessime acceptae. Biduo me Antonius antecessit, itinera
worst handled By-two-days me Antony preceded marches
fecit multo maiora fugiens quam ego sequens; ille enim
he-made much greater fleeing than I following he for
iit passim, ego ordinatim. Quacumque iit, ergastula
went scattered I in-order Wherever he-went the-slave-prisons
solvit, homines abripuit, constitit nusquam prius quam ad
he-unlocked men he-carried-off he-halted nowhere before than to
Vada venit; quem locum volo tibi esse notum. Iacet inter
Vada he-came which place I-wish to-you to-be known It-lies between
Appenninum et Alpis impeditissimus ad iter faciendum.
the-Apennines and the-Alps most-difficult for the-march making
Cum abessem ab eo milia passuum xxx et se iam 3
When I-was-distant from him thousand paces thirty and himself already
Ventidius coniunxisset, contio eius ad me est adlata, in qua
Ventidius had-joined the-speech his to me was brought in which
petere coepit a militibus ut se trans Alpis sequerentur;
to-ask he-began of the-soldiers that him across the-Alps they-should-follow
sibi cum M. Lepido convenire. Succlamatum est
that-to-himself with Marcus Lepidus to-be-agreed shouted-back it-was
ei frequenter a militibus Ventidianis (nam suos valde
to-him repeatedly by the-soldiers of-Ventidius for his-own very
quam paucos habet) sibi aut in Italia pereundum
how few he-has that-to-himself either in Italy to-be-perished
esse aut vincendum, et orare coeperunt ut Pollentiam
to-be or to-be-victorious and to-beg they-began that to-Pollentia

iter facerent. Cum sustinere eos non posset, in
the-march they-should-make When to-withstand them not he-could to
posterum diem iter suum contulit.
the-next day march his he-put-off
4 Hac re mihi nuntiata statim quinque cohortis Pollentiam
This thing to-me reported at-once five cohorts to-Pollentia
praemisi meumque iter eo contuli. Hora ante praesidium
I-sent-ahead and-my march thither I-turned An-hour before garrison
meum Pollentiam venit quam Trebellius cum equitibus.
my to-Pollentia came than Trebellius with horsemen
Sane quam sum gavisus; in hoc enim victoriam puto
Indeed how I-was glad in this for victory I-think
consistere ***
to-stand (lacuna)

XI.13A · PLANCUS AND BRUTUS TO THE SENATE

Plancus and Decimus Brutus report jointly to the senate: the enemy had hoped that Plancus' four legions were no match for them and that no army could cross from Italy so quickly. The Allobroges and the cavalry hold them, and the two commanders, united, will see that they do the commonwealth no harm if they cross the Isère. The senate should keep its courage and its diligence.

Plancus et D. Brutus senatui populo plebique
Plancus and Decimus Brutus to-the-senate people and-commons
Romanae.
Roman
4 *** in spem venerant, quod neque Planci quattuor legiones
(lacuna) into hope they-had-come because neither of-Plancus four legions
omnibus suis copiis paris arbitrabantur neque ex Italia tam
with-all their forces equal they-thought nor from Italy so

celeriter exercitum traici posse credebant. Quos ipsi
quickly an-army to-be-brought-across to-be-able they-believed Whom themselves
adhuc satis adroganter Allobroges equitatusque omnis, qui
so-far enough arrogantly the-Allobroges and-the-cavalry all which
eo praemissus erat a nobis, sustinebant, nostroque adventu
thither sent-ahead had-been by us were-withstanding and-by-our arrival
sustineri facilius posse confidimus. Tamen si quo etiam
to-be-withstood more-easily to-be-able we-trust Still if by-any even
casu Isaram se traiecerint, ne quod detrimentum
chance the-Isère themselves they-will-have-taken-across lest any harm
rei p. iniungant summa a nobis dabitur opera.
on-the-thing public they-inflict the-utmost by us will-be-given effort
Vos magnum animum optimamque spem de summa re 5
You great spirit and-best hope about the-supreme thing
p. habere volumus, cum et nos et exercitus nostros
public to-have we-wish since both us and the-armies our
singulari concordia coniunctus ad omnia pro vobis videatis
with-singular harmony joined for all-things for you you-see
paratos. Sed tamen nihil de diligentia remittere debetis
prepared But still nothing of diligence to-relax you-ought
dareque operam ut quam paratissimi et ab exercitu
and-to-give effort that as most-prepared both in army
reliquisque rebus pro vestra salute contra sceleratissimam
and-other things for your safety against the-most-wicked
conspirationem hostium confligamus; qui quidem eas
conspiracy of-the-enemies we-may-fight who indeed those
copias, quas diu simulatione rei publicae comparabant,
forces which long under-pretense of-the-thing public they-were-gathering
subito ad patriae periculum converterunt.
suddenly to of-the-country danger they-have-turned

XI.13B · A FRAGMENT

Of Decimus' letter to Cicero only the opening words survive, on the most wretched people of Parma.

D. Brutus cos. desig. M. Ciceroni s. d.
Decimus Brutus consul elect to-Marcus Cicero greeting says
1 Parmensis miserrimos ∗∗∗
the-Parmese most-wretched (lacuna)

XI.14 · THE SENATE GROWS COLD

Cicero is glad Decimus approves his views on the commission of ten and on honoring the young man, but the senate, his instrument, has dissolved since the victory at Mutina relaxed everyone. The Martian and Fourth legions will not go to Decimus; the money will be found. Cicero agrees on summoning Brutus and keeping Caesar in Italy, but Decimus, as he writes, has detractors, whom Cicero bears easily though they still hinder. If Lepidus has refused Antony, all will be easier.

M. Cicero D. Bruto cos. desig. s. d.
Marcus Cicero to-Decimus Brutus consul elect greeting says
1 Mirabiliter, mi Brute, laetor mea consilia measque sententias
Wonderfully my Brutus I-rejoice my plans and-my motions
a te probari de decem viris, de ornando adulescente.
by you to-be-approved about the-ten men about honoring the-young-man
Sed quid refert? Mihi crede, homini non glorioso, plane
But what does-it-matter Me believe a-man not boastful quite
iam, Brute, frigeo; ὄργανον enim erat meum senatus;
now Brutus I-am-cold the-instrument for was my the-senate

id iam est dissolutum. Tantam spem attulerat exploratae
it now is dissolved So-great hope had-brought of-certain
victoriae tua praeclara Mutina eruptio, fuga Antoni conciso
victory your splendid at-Mutina sally the-flight of-Antony with-cut-up
exercitu, ut omnium animi relaxati sint, meaeque illae
army that of-all the-minds relaxed are and-my those
vehementes contentiones tamquam σκιαμαχίαι esse videantur.
vehement efforts as-if shadow-fights to-be seem
Sed ut ad rem redeam, legionem Martiam et quartam 2
But that to the-matter I-may-return the-legion Martian and fourth
negant qui illas norunt ulla condicione ad te posse perduci;
they-deny who them know on-any terms to you to-be-able to-be-brought
pecuniae, quam desideras, ratio potest haberi, eaque habebitur.
of-the-money which you-want account can to-be-had and-it will-be-had
De Bruto arcessendo Caesareque ad Italiae praesidium tenendo
About Brutus summoning and-Caesar for of-Italy the-protection holding
valde tibi adsentior; sed, ut scribis, habes obtrectatores;
strongly with-you I-agree but as you-write you-have detractors
quos equidem facillime sustineo, sed impediunt tamen.
whom for-my-part most-easily I-bear but they-hinder still
Ex Africa legiones exspectantur; sed bellum istuc renatum 3
From Africa legions are-expected but the-war there reborn
mirantur homines. Nihil tam praeter spem umquam; nam
wonder-at men Nothing so beyond hope ever for
die tuo natali victoria nuntiata in multa saecula videbamus
on-day your birth with-the-victory reported for many ages we-saw
rem p. liberatam, hi novi timores retexunt superiora.
the-thing public freed these new fears unravel the-earlier-things
Scripsisti autem ad me litteris iis, quas Idibus Maiis dedisti,
You-wrote however to me in-the-letter that which on-the-Ides of-May you-gave
modo te accepisse a Planco litteras non recipi
just-now that-you to-have-received from Plancus a-letter not to-be-received

Antonium a Lepido. Id si ita est, omnia faciliora; sin aliter,
that-Antony by Lepidus That if so it-is all-things easier but-if otherwise
magnum negotium, cuius exitum non extimesco. Tuae partes
great business of-which the-outcome not I-dread Yours the-part
sunt; ego plus quam feci facere non possum. Te tamen, id
is I more than I-have-done to-do not I-can You still that
quod spero, omnium maximum et clarissimum videre cupio.
which I-hope of-all the-greatest and most-glorious to-see I-desire

XI.15 · CONCORD WITH PLANCUS

Cicero is pleased that Decimus, in all his business, asked his colleague Plancus to excuse him by letter; their concord, declared in a joint letter, delights the senate and people. Decimus should now compete only with himself; Cicero, his pupil in brevity, writes no more.

M. Cicero D. Bruto cos. des. s. d.
Marcus Cicero to-Decimus Brutus consul elect greeting says
1 Etsi mihi tuae litterae iucundissimae sunt, tamen
Although to-me your letter most-delightful is still
iucundius fuit, quod in summa occupatione tua Planco
more-delightful was that in the-utmost busyness your to-Plancus
conlegae mandasti ut te mihi per litteras excusaret;
your-colleague you-instructed that you to-me by letter he-should-excuse
quod fecit ille diligenter. Mihi autem nihil amabilius
which did he carefully To-me however nothing more-lovable
officio tuo et diligentia. Coniunctio tua cum conlega
than-duty your and diligence The-union your with your-colleague
concordiaque vestra, quae litteris communibus declarata est,
and-harmony your which in-a-letter joint declared was
senatui populoque Romano gratissima accidit.
to-the-senate and-people Roman most-pleasing befell

Quod superest, perge, mi Brute, et iam non cum aliis sed 2
As-for-what remains go-on my Brutus and now not with others but
tecum ipse certa. Plura scribere non debeo, praesertim ad te,
with-you yourself contend More to-write not I-ought especially to you
quo magistro brevitatis uti cogito. Litteras tuas vehementer
whom as-master of-brevity to-use I-intend Letter your vehemently
exspecto, et quidem talis qualis maxime opto. Vale.
I-await and indeed such as most I-wish Farewell

XI.16 · FOR LAMIA'S PRAETORSHIP

Cicero hopes this letter reaches Decimus at a good moment. Lucius Lamia, his oldest and dearest friend, banished by the consul Gabinius in Clodius' day for defending Cicero, is standing for the praetorship, and Cicero has taken on the whole canvass. Since Decimus commands the knights' centuries, he asks him to have Lupus secure them; nothing would please him more.

M. Cicero D. Bruto cos. des. s. d.
Marcus Cicero to-Decimus Brutus consul elect greeting says
Permagni interest quo tibi haec tempore epistula reddita 1
Very-much it-matters at-what to-you this time letter delivered
sit, utrum cum sollicitudinis aliquid haberes an cum ab
be whether when of-anxiety something you-had or when from
omni molestia vacuus esses. Itaque ei praecepi, quem ad te
all trouble free you-were And-so to-him I-instructed whom to you
misi, ut tempus observaret epistulae tibi reddendae. Nam
I-sent that the-time he-should-watch-for of-the-letter to-you to-be-delivered For
quem ad modum coram qui ad nos intempestive adeunt
in-what to manner face-to-face those-who to us unseasonably come
molesti saepe sunt, sic epistulae offendunt non loco redditae.
troublesome often are so letters offend not in-place delivered

Si autem, ut spero, nihil te perturbat, nihil impedit, et ille
If however as I-hope nothing you disturbs nothing hinders and he
cui mandavi satis scite et commode tempus ad te cepit
whom I-charged enough skillfully and fittingly the-time to you has-taken
adeundi, confido me quod velim facile a te impetraturum.
of-approaching I-trust that-I what I-wish easily from you going-to-obtain

2 L. Lamia praeturam petit. Hoc ego utor uno
Lucius Lamia the-praetorship seeks Him I am-intimate-with alone
omnium plurimum; magna vetustas, magna consuetudo
of-all most great old-acquaintance great familiarity
intercedit, quodque plurimum valet, nihil mihi eius
is-between and-what most avails nothing to-me than-his
est familiaritate iucundius. Magno praeterea beneficio eius
is friendship more-delightful By-great besides kindness his
magnoque merito sum obligatus. Nam Clodianis temporibus,
and-great service I-am bound For in-the-Clodian times
cum equestris ordinis princeps esset proque mea salute
when of-the-equestrian order the-chief he-was and-for my safety
acerrime propugnaret, a Gabinio consule relegatus est,
most-vigorously was-fighting by Gabinius the-consul banished he-was
quod ante id tempus civi Romano Romae contigit
which before that time to-a-citizen Roman at-Rome happened
nemini. Hoc cum populus Romanus meminit, me ipsum
to-no-one This when the-people Roman remembers that-I myself
non meminisse turpissimum est.
not to-remember most-shameful is

3 Quapropter persuade tibi, mi Brute, me petere praeturam.
Wherefore persuade yourself my Brutus that-I to-be-seeking the-praetorship
Quamquam enim Lamia summo splendore, summa gratia
Although for Lamia of-the-highest splendor of-the-highest influence
est magnificentissimo munere aedilicio, tamen, quasi ea
is of-a-most-magnificent show aedilician still as-if those

ita non essent, ego suscepi totum negotium. Nunc si
so not were I have-taken-up the-whole business Now if
me tanti facis quanti certe facis, quoniam equitum
me at-so-much you-value as-much certainly you-value since of-the-knights
centurias tenes, in quis regnas, mitte ad Lupum nostrum
the-centuries you-hold in which you-reign send to Lupus our
ut is nobis eas centurias conficiat. Non tenebo te pluribus;
that he for-us those centuries may-secure Not I-will-hold you with-more
ponam in extremo quod sentio: Nihil est, Brute, cum
I-will-put at the-end what I-feel Nothing is-there Brutus since
omnia a te exspectem, quod mihi gratius facere possis.
all-things from you I-expect which to-me more-pleasing to-do you-can

XI.17 · LAMIA AGAIN

Lamia, Cicero's closest friend, whose services the people know, is standing for the praetorship after a splendid aedileship; bribery makes Cicero fear for him, and he asks Decimus to help with all his resources.

M. Cicero D. Bruto s. d.
Marcus Cicero to-Decimus Brutus greeting says
L. Lamia uno omnium familiarissime utor. Magna 1
Lucius Lamia alone of-all most-intimately I-am-close-to Great
sunt eius in me, non dico officia, sed merita, eaque
are his toward me not I-say services but merits and-they
sunt populo Romano notissima. Is magnificentissimo
are to-the-people Roman most-known He with-a-most-magnificent
munere aedilitatis perfunctus petit praeturam, omnesque
show of-aedileship having-discharged seeks the-praetorship and-all
intellegunt nec dignitatem ei deesse nec gratiam; sed
understand neither dignity to-him to-be-lacking nor influence but

is ambitus excitari videtur ut ego omnia pertimescam
such canvassing to-be-stirred-up seems that I all-things fear
totamque petitionem Lamiae mihi sustinendam putem.
and-the-whole candidacy of-Lamia by-me to-be-sustained I-think
2 In ea re quantum me possis adiuvare facile perspicio
In that matter how-much me you-can to-help easily I-see
nec vero quantum mea causa velis dubito. Velim
nor indeed how-much for-my sake you-would-wish do-I-doubt I-would-wish
igitur, mi Brute, tibi persuadeas nihil me maiore studio
therefore my Brutus yourself you-persuade nothing that-I with-greater zeal
a te petere, nihil te mihi gratius facere posse quam
of you to-ask nothing that-you to-me more-pleasing to-do to-be-able than
si omnibus tuis opibus, omni studio Lamiam in petitione
if with-all your resources with-all zeal Lamia in his-candidacy
iuveris. Quod ut facias vehementer te rogo.
you-will-have-helped Which that you-do vehemently you I-ask

XI.18 · TIMID INSTRUCTIONS

The instructions Decimus sent the senate by Galba and Volumnius seemed timid for his and Rome's victory; the senate is brave and resented being thought cowardly. No one fears that Lepidus would declare war in peace. Cicero hopes Antony is broken; if not, he will find the senate's counsel, the people's courage, and, while Decimus lives, a commander.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect
1 Etsi ex mandatis, quae Galbae Volumnioque ad senatum
Although from the-instructions which to-Galba and-Volumnius to the-senate
dedisti, quid timendum putares suspicabamur, tamen
you-gave what to-be-feared you-thought we-were-suspecting still

timidiora mandata videbantur quam erat dignum tua
more-timid the-instructions seemed than was worthy of-your
populique Romani victoria. Senatus autem, mi Brute,
and-of-the-people Roman victory The-senate however my Brutus
fortis est et habet fortis duces. Itaque moleste ferebat
brave is and has brave leaders And-so ill it-was-taking
se a te, quem omnium quicumque fuissent fortissimum
that-it by you whom of-all whoever had-been the-bravest
iudicaret, timidum atque ignavum iudicari.
it-judged timid and cowardly to-be-judged
Etenim cum te incluso spem maximam omnes habuissent 2
For-indeed when with-you shut-in hope the-greatest all had-had
in tua virtute florente Antonio, quis erat qui quicquam
in your virtue with-flourishing Antony who was-there who anything
timeret profligato illo, te liberato? Nec vero Lepidum
feared with-routed him with-you freed Nor indeed Lepidus
timebamus. Quis enim esset qui illum tam furiosum
were-we-fearing Who for was-there who him so mad
arbitraretur ut, qui in maximo bello pacem velle se
would-think that he-who in the-greatest war peace to-wish himself
dixisset, is in optatissima pace bellum rei p. indiceret?
had-said he in most-longed-for peace war on-the-thing public would-declare
Nec dubito quin tu plus provideas; sed tamen tam recenti 3
Nor do-I-doubt but-that you more foresee but still so recent
gratulatione quam tuo nomine ad omnia deorum templa
the-thanksgiving which in-your name at all of-the-gods the-temples
fecimus, renovatio timoris magnam molestiam adferebat.
we-made the-renewal of-fear great trouble brought
Qua re velim equidem, id quod spero, ut plane
By-which thing I-would-wish for-my-part that which I-hope that quite
abiectus et fractus sit Antonius; sin aliquid virium forte
cast-down and broken be Antony but-if any of-strength by-chance

conlegerit, sentiet nec senatui consilium nec populo
he-will-have-gathered he-will-feel neither to-the-senate counsel nor to-the-people
Romano virtutem deesse nec rei p. te vivo
Roman courage to-be-lacking nor to-the-thing public with-you living
imperatorem. xiiii K. Iun.
a-general fourteenth before-the-Kalends of-June

XI.19 · RAW RECRUITS

Decimus asks Cicero to read and amend his letter to the senate, written of necessity: he had counted on the Fourth and Martian legions and now has needy recruits. He asks Cicero to protect Vicetia, devoted to him and Marcus Brutus, in its suit against its slaves.

D. Brutus imp. cos. desig. s. d. M. Ciceroni.
Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect greeting says to-Marcus Cicero
1 Ad senatum quas litteras misi velim prius perlegas et
To the-senate what letter I-sent I-would-wish first you-read-through and
si qua tibi videbuntur commutes. Necessario me scripsisse
if any to-you will-seem you-change Necessarily that-I to-have-written
ipse animadvertes; nam cum putarem quartam et Martiam
yourself you-will-notice for when I-thought that-the-fourth and Martian
legiones mecum futuras, ut Druso Paulloque placuerat
legions with-me going-to-be as to-Drusus and-Paullus it-had-seemed-good
vobis adsentientibus, minus de reliquis rebus laborandum
with-you agreeing less about the-other things to-be-troubled
existimavi; nunc vero, cum sim cum tironibus egentissimis,
I-thought now indeed since I-am with recruits most-needy
valde et meam et vestram vicem timeam necesse est.
greatly both my and your lot I-fear necessary it-is

Vicetini me et M. Brutum praecipue observant. His 2
The-people-of-Vicetia me and Marcus Brutus especially attend To-them
ne quam patiare iniuriam fieri in senatu vernarum
lest any you-allow wrong to-be-done in the-senate of-the-home-born-slaves
causa a te peto. Causam habent optimam, officium
for-the-sake of you I-ask A-case they-have excellent devotion
in re p. summum, genus hominum adversariorum
toward the-thing public the-highest the-kind of-men of-the-opponents
seditiosum et incertissimum. xii K. Iun. Vercellis.
seditious and most-unreliable twelfth before-the-Kalends of-June at-Vercellae

XI.20 · SEGULIUS' TALE

Fearing for Cicero, Decimus reports Labeo Segulius' tale: Caesar repeated Cicero's quip that the young man must be praised, honored, and removed, and said he would not let himself be removed; the veterans resent that neither Caesar nor Decimus sits on the commission of ten. Decimus thinks they mean to frighten Cicero for profit, but bids him beware, give the veterans what they want, and assign the legions land from the Sullan lands and the Campanian territory. Decimus is arming legions and will not leave Italy unless he must.

D. Brutus s. d. M. Ciceroni.
Decimus Brutus greeting says to-Marcus Cicero
Quod pro me non facio, id pro te facere amor meus in 1
What for myself not I-do that for you to-do love my for
te tuaque officia cogunt, ut timeam. Saepe enim mihi cum
you and-your services compel that I-fear Often for to-me when
esset dictum neque a me contemptum, novissime Labeo
it-had-been said nor by me despised most-recently Labeo
Segulius, homo sui simillimus, narrat mihi apud Caesarem
Segulius a-man of-himself most-like tells me with Caesar

se fuisse multumque sermonem de te habitum esse.
that-he to-have-been and-much conversation about you held to-have-been
Ipsum Caesarem nihil sane de te questum, nisi
That-himself Caesar nothing indeed about you to-have-complained except
dictum quod diceret te dixisse 'laudandum adulescentem,
the-saying which he-said that-you to-have-said to-be-praised the-young-man
ornandum, tollendum'; se non esse commissurum ut
to-be-honored to-be-lifted that-he not to-be going-to-permit that
tolli possit. Hoc ego Labeonem credo illi rettulisse
to-be-lifted he-can This I that-Labeo I-believe to-him to-have-reported
aut finxisse dictum, non ab adulescente prolatum.
or to-have-invented the-saying not by the-young-man brought-out
Veteranos vero pessime loqui volebat Labeo me credere
That-the-veterans indeed most-vilely to-speak wished Labeo that-I to-believe
et tibi ab iis instare periculum maximeque indignari,
and that-to-you from them to-threaten danger and-most to-be-indignant
quod in decem viris neque Caesar neque ego habiti
because among the-ten men neither Caesar nor I counted
essemus atque omnia ad vestrum arbitrium essent conlata.
we-had-been and all-things to your discretion had-been referred
2 Haec cum audissem et iam in itinere essem,
These-things when I-had-heard and already on the-march I-was
committendum non putavi prius ut Alpis transgrederer
to-be-ventured not I-thought before that the-Alps I-should-cross
quam quid istic ageretur scirem; nam de tuo periculo
than what there was-being-done I-knew for about your danger
crede mihi iactatione verborum et denuntiatione periculi
believe me by-the-tossing of-words and announcement of-danger
sperare eos te pertimefacto, adulescente impulso,
to-hope that-they with-you thoroughly-frightened with-the-young-man pushed
posse magna consequi praemia, et totam istam cantilenam
to-be-able great to-obtain rewards and whole that song

ex hoc pendere ut quam plurimum lucri faciant. Neque
on this to-hang that as most of-profit they-may-make Nor
tamen non te cautum esse volo et insidias vitantem; nihil
still not you cautious to-be I-wish and plots avoiding nothing
enim tua mihi vita potest esse iucundius neque carius.
for than-your to-me life can to-be more-pleasant nor dearer
Illud vide ne timendo magis timere cogare et quibus 3
That see lest by-fearing more to-fear you-be-compelled and in-which
rebus potest occurri veteranis occurras, primum quod
things it-can be-met the-veterans you-meet first what
desiderant de decem viris facias, deinde de praemiis,
they-want about the-ten men you-do then about the-rewards
si tibi videtur, agros eorum militum qui cum Antonio
if to-you it-seems the-lands of-those soldiers who with Antony
veterani fuerunt iis dandos censeas ab utrisque nobis;
veterans have-been to-them to-be-given you-propose by both us
de nummis lente ac ratione habita pecuniae senatum
about the-money slowly and with-account held of-the-funds that-the-senate
de ea re constituturum. Quattuor legionibus iis, quibus
about that matter going-to-decide For-the-four legions those to-which
agros dandos censuistis, video facultatem fore ex agris
lands to-be-given you-have-voted I-see that-the-means going-to-be from the-lands
Sullanis et agro Campano; aequaliter aut sorte agros
of-Sulla and the-land Campanian equally or by-lot lands
legionibus adsignari puto oportere.
to-the-legions to-be-assigned I-think to-be-proper
Haec me tibi scribere non prudentia mea hortatur sed 4
These-things me to-you to-write not prudence my urges but
amor in te et cupiditas oti, quod sine te consistere
love for you and desire of-peace which without you to-stand
non potest. Ego, nisi valde necesse fuerit, ex Italia non
not can I unless greatly necessary it-will-be from Italy not

excedam. Legiones armo, paro. Spero me non pessimum
will-depart Legions I-arm I-prepare I-hope that-I not the-worst
exercitum habiturum ad omnis casus et impetus hominum.
army going-to-have for all chances and attacks of-men
De exercitu quem Pansa habuit legionem mihi Caesar non
About the-army which Pansa had the-legion to-me Caesar not
remittit. Ad has litteras statim mihi rescribe tuorumque
sends-back To this letter at-once to-me write-back and-of-your-people
aliquem mitte, si quid reconditum magis erit meque
someone send if anything hidden more will-be and-me
scire opus esse putaris. viiii K. Iun. Eporedia.
to-know needful to-be you-will-think ninth before-the-Kalends of-June from-Eporedia

XI.21 · CURSES ON SEGULIUS

Cicero curses Segulius, the worst of men, who told the same story to everyone. He wishes he were off the commission himself; he argued that men with armies should be named and was outvoted. He is not afraid and will be careful, the more with Decimus as consul; he agrees on the four legions and the lands, and has kept the land commission free of his colleagues' meddling.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect
1 Dei isti Segulio male faciant, homini nequissimo omnium,
May-the-gods that Segulius ill do a-man most-worthless of-all
qui sunt, qui fuerunt, qui futuri sunt! Quid? tu illum tecum
who are who have-been who going-to-be are What you him with-you
solum aut cum Caesare? qui neminem praetermiserit, quicum
alone or with Caesar who no-one has-passed-over with-whom
loqui potuerit, cui non eadem ista dixerit. Te tamen,
to-speak he-could to-whom not the-same those-things he-has-said You still

mi Brute, sic amo ut debeo, quod istud quicquid esset nugarum
my Brutus so I-love as I-ought because that whatever it-was of-trifles
me scire voluisti; signum enim magnum amoris dedisti.
me to-know you-wished a-sign for great of-love you-have-given
Nam quod idem Segulius, veteranos queri, quod tu et 2
For as-for-that the-same Segulius that-the-veterans to-complain because you and
Caesar in decem viris non essetis, utinam ne ego quidem
Caesar among the-ten men not were would-that not I even
essem! quid enim molestius? Sed tamen, cum ego sensissem
were what for more-troublesome But still when I had-felt
de iis qui exercitus haberent sententiam ferri oportere,
about those who armies had a-motion to-be-put to-be-proper
idem illi qui solent reclamarunt; itaque excepti etiam estis
the-same those who are-wont cried-out-against-it and-so excepted even you-were
me vehementer repugnante. Quocirca Segulium neglegamus
with-me vehemently opposing Wherefore Segulius let-us-disregard
qui res novas quaerit, non quo veterem comederit (nullam
who things new seeks not because the-old he-has-eaten-up none
enim habuit) sed hanc ipsam recentem novam devoravit.
for he-had but this very recent new he-has-devoured
Quod autem scribis te, quod pro te ipso non facias, 3
As-for-what however you-write that-you what for you yourself not you-do
id pro me, ut de me timeas aliquid, omni te, vir
that for me that about me you-fear anything from-all you man
optime mihique carissime, Brute, de me metu libero;
most-excellent and-to-me dearest Brutus about me from-fear I-free
ego enim quae provideri poterunt non fallar in
I for which-things to-be-foreseen will-be-able not I-shall-be-deceived in
iis, quae cautionem non habebunt de iis non ita valde
those which precaution not will-have about those not so very-much

laboro. Sim enim impudens, si plus postulem quam
I-am-troubled I-would-be for shameless if more I-demanded than
homini a rerum natura tribui potest.
to-a-man by of-things the-nature to-be-granted can

4 Quod mihi praecipis ut caveam ne timendo magis timere
As-for-what me you-advise that I-beware lest by-fearing more to-fear
cogar, et sapienter et amicissime praecipis; sed velim
I-be-compelled both wisely and most-friendly you-advise but I-would-wish
tibi persuadeas, cum te constet excellere hoc genere
yourself you-persuade since that-you it-is-agreed to-excel in-this kind
virtutis ut numquam extimescas, numquam perturbere, me
of-virtue that never you-dread never you-are-disturbed that-I
huic tuae virtuti proxime accedere. Quam ob rem nec
to-this your virtue most-closely to-come-near Which on-account-of thing neither
metuo quicquam et cavebo omnia. Sed vide ne tua iam,
I-fear anything and I-will-guard-against all-things But see lest your now
mi Brute, culpa futura sit, si ego quicquam timeam. Tuis
my Brutus fault going-to-be be if I anything fear By-your
enim opibus et consulatu tuo, etiam si timidi essemus, tamen
for resources and consulship your even if timid we-were still
omnem timorem abiceremus, praesertim cum persuasum
all fear we-would-throw-off especially since persuaded
omnibus esset mihique maxime a te nos unice diligi.
to-all it-was and-to-me most by you us singularly to-be-loved

5 Consiliis tuis, quae scribis de quattuor legionibus deque
To-the-counsels your which you-write about the-four legions and-about
agris adsignandis ab utroque vestrum, vehementer adsentior.
the-lands to-be-assigned by both of-you vehemently I-agree
Itaque cum quidam de conlegis nostris agrariam curationem
And-so when certain of colleagues our the-agrarian commission
ligurrirent, disturbavi rem totamque nobis integram
were-licking-their-lips-at I-upset the-matter and-whole for-us intact

reservavi. Si quid erit occultius et, ut scribis, 'reconditum,'
I-have-kept If anything will-be more-secret and as you-write hidden
meorum aliquem mittam, quo fidelius ad te litterae
of-my-people someone I-will-send that more-faithfully to you a-letter
perferantur. Pr. Non. Iun.
may-be-carried On-the-day-before the-Nones of-June

XI.22 · APPIUS CLAUDIUS

Cicero asks Decimus to save young Appius Claudius, who joined Antony out of devotion, for his father's restoration; mercy will crown Decimus' courage.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus
Cum Appio Claudio C. f. summa mihi necessitudo est 1
With Appius Claudius of-Gaius son the-closest to-me connection is
multis eius officiis et meis mutuis constituta. Peto a te
by-many his services and my mutual established I-ask of you
maiorem in modum vel humanitatis tuae vel mea causa
greater in measure either of-humanity your or my for-the-sake
ut eum auctoritate tua, quae plurimum valet, conservatum
that him by-authority your which most avails preserved
velis. Volo te, cum fortissimus vir cognitus sis, etiam
you-wish I-wish that-you since a-most-brave man known you-are also
clementissimum existimari. Magno tibi erit ornamento
most-merciful to-be-thought Great to-you it-will-be as-honor
nobilissimum adulescentem beneficio tuo esse salvum; cuius
a-most-noble young-man by-kindness your to-be safe whose
quidem causa hoc melior debet esse, quod pietate adductus
indeed case by-this better ought to-be that by-devotion led
propter patris restitutionem se cum Antonio coniunxit.
on-account-of of-his-father the-restoration himself with Antony he-joined

2 Qua re etsi minus veram causam habebis, tamen vel
By-which thing although less true a-case you-will-have still at-least
probabilem aliquam poteris inducere. Nutus tuus potest
plausible some you-will-be-able to-put-forward A-nod your can
hominem summo loco natum, summo ingenio, summa
a-man in-the-highest place born of-the-highest talent of-the-highest
virtute, officiosissimum praeterea et gratissimum, incolumem
virtue most-dutiful besides and most-grateful safe
in civitate retinere. Quod ut facias ita a te peto, ut
in the-state to-keep Which that you-do so of you I-ask that
maiore studio magisve ex animo petere non possim.
with-greater zeal or-more from the-heart to-ask not I-could

XI.23 · THREE ARMIES

Decimus is well, and Lepidus seems sound; with three armies the commonwealth's own, Cicero should have courage. The talk Decimus reported was meant to frighten Cicero; if he takes the bit between his teeth, none of them will be able to stand against him when he speaks. Decimus will stay in Italy until Cicero writes.

D. Brutus s. d. M. Ciceroni.
Decimus Brutus greeting says to-Marcus Cicero
1 Nos hic valemus recte et quo melius valeamus operam
We here are-well properly and that better we-may-be-well effort
dabimus. Lepidus commode nobis sentire videtur. Omni
we-will-give Lepidus favorably to-us to-feel seems All
timore deposito debemus libere rei p. consulere.
fear laid-aside we-ought freely for-the-thing public to-provide
Quod si omnia essent aliena, tamen tribus tantis exercitibus,
But if all-things were another's still with-three so-great armies
propriis rei p., valentibus magnum animum habere
of-its-own of-the-thing public being-strong great spirit to-have

debebas; quem et semper habuisti et nunc fortuna
you-ought which both always you-have-had and now with-fortune
adiuvante augere potes.
helping to-increase you-can
Quae tibi superioribus litteris mea manu scripsi, terrendi 2
What-things to-you in-earlier letters in-my hand I-wrote of-frightening
tui causa homines loquuntur. Si frenum momorderis,
you for-the-sake men are-saying If the-bit you-will-have-bitten
peream, si te omnes quot sunt conantem loqui ferre
may-I-perish if you all as-many-as there-are attempting to-speak to-bear
poterunt. Ego, tibi ut antea scripsi, dum mihi a te litterae
will-be-able I to-you as before I-wrote until to-me from you a-letter
veniant, in Italia morabor. viii K. Iunias Eporedia.
come in Italy will-stay eighth before-the-Kalends of-June from-Eporedia

XI.24 · I HAVE TAKEN THE BIT

Cicero, once vexed by Decimus' brevity, now imitates it. Decimus' letter would banish any fear; Cicero has taken the bit between his teeth and longs to hand over his watch. Decimus may stay in Italy if the enemy allows, but should end the war if he can. Money has been voted, and Servius is his friend.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto imp. cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus imperator consul elect
Narro tibi: antea subirascebar brevitati tuarum litterarum, 1
I-tell to-you before I-was-a-little-angry at-the-brevity of-your letters
nunc mihi loquax esse videor; te igitur imitabor. Quam multa
now to-myself talkative to-be I-seem you therefore I-will-imitate How much
quam paucis! te recte valere operamque dare ut cotidie
how in-few-words that-you properly to-be-well and-effort to-give that daily
melius, Lepidum commode sentire, tribus exercitibus quidvis
better that-Lepidus favorably to-feel with-three armies anything

nos oportere confidere. Si timidus essem, tamen ista epistula
that-we to-be-bound to-trust If timid I-were still by-that letter
mi omnem metum abstersisses; sed, ut mones,
from-me all fear you-would-have-wiped-away but as you-advise
'frenum momordi'; etenim qui te incluso omnem spem
the-bit I-have-bitten for-indeed I-who with-you shut-in all hope
habuerim in te, quid nunc putas? Cupio iam vigiliam meam,
had in you what now do-you-think I-desire now the-watch my
Brute, tibi tradere, sed ita ut ne desim constantiae meae.
Brutus to-you to-hand-over but so that not I-fail to-the-constancy my
2 Quod scribis in Italia te moraturum dum tibi litterae
As-for-what you-write in Italy that-you going-to-stay until to-you letter
meae veniant, si per hostem licet, non erraris
my come if through the-enemy it-is-allowed not you-will-have-erred
(multa enim Romae), sin adventu tuo bellum confici
much for at-Rome but-if by-arrival your the-war to-be-finished
potest, nihil sit antiquius. Pecunia expeditissima quae
can nothing be more-important Money most-readily which
erat tibi decreta est. Habes amantissimum Servium;
was-available to-you voted has-been You-have most-loving Servius
nos non desumus. viii Idus Iunias.
we not fail eighth before-the-Ides of-June

Lupus suddenly asked for a letter. Cicero, Decimus' pupil in brevity, says all hope rests in him and his colleague; he keeps urging Brutus by private letters to come. He breaks his laconism with a second page.

M. Cicero s. d. D. Bruto.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Decimus Brutus

Exspectanti mihi tuas cotidie litteras Lupus noster subito 1
To-expecting me your daily letter Lupus our suddenly
denuntiavit ut ad te scriberem si quid vellem. Ego autem,
gave-notice that to you I-should-write if anything I-wished I however
etsi quid scriberem non habebam (acta enim ad te
although what I-should-write not I-had the-proceedings for to you
mitti sciebam, inanem autem sermonem litterarum tibi
to-be-sent I-knew empty however talk of-letters to-you
iniucundum esse audiebam), brevitatem secutus sum te
unpleasant to-be I-heard brevity followed I-have with-you
magistro. Scito igitur in te et in conlega spem omnem esse.
as-master Know therefore in you and in your-colleague hope all to-be
De Bruto autem nihil adhuc certi; quem ego, quem ad 2
About Brutus however nothing yet certain whom I in-what to
modum praecipis, privatis litteris ad bellum commune vocare
manner you-instruct by-private letters to the-war common to-call
non desino. Qui utinam iam adesset! intestinum urbis
not I-cease Who would-that already were-here the-internal of-the-city
malum, quod est non mediocre, minus timeremus. Sed quid
evil which is not slight less we-would-fear But what
ago? non imitor λακωνισμόν tuum; altera iam pagella
am-I-doing not I-imitate laconic-brevity your the-second already little-page
procedit. Vince et vale. xiiii K. Quintil.
proceeds Win and farewell fourteenth before-the-Kalends of-Quintilis

Decimus' only comfort in his grief is that men see his fears were justified. The senate must decide on bringing legions from Africa and Sardinia, summoning Brutus, and paying him; unless it does, all face great danger. He asks Cicero to choose trustworthy, quick men to bring the legions.

D. Brutus s. d. M. Ciceroni.

Decimus Brutus greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

1 Maximo meo dolore hoc solacio utor, quod intellegunt homines
In-greatest my grief this solace I-use that understand men
non sine causa me timuisse ista quae acciderunt.
not without reason that-I to-have-feared those-things which have-happened
Deliberent utrum traiciant legiones ex Africa necne et
Let-them-deliberate whether they-bring-across the-legions from Africa or-not and
ex Sardinia, et Brutum accersant necne, et mihi stipendium
from Sardinia and Brutus they-summon or-not and to-me pay
dent an decernant. Ad senatum litteras misi. Crede mihi,
they-give or decree To the-senate a-letter I-have-sent Believe me
nisi ista omnia ita fiant quem ad modum scribo, magnum
unless those all-things so be-done in-what to manner I-write great
nos omnis adituros periculum. Rogo te, videte quibus
that-we all going-to-encounter danger I-ask you see to-what
hominibus negotium detis qui ad me legiones adducant. Et
men the-business you-give who to me the-legions may-bring Both
fide opus est et celeritate. iii Non. Iun. ex castris.
of-loyalty need is and of-speed third before-the-Nones of-June from camp

Trebatius brought Cicero Matius' complaint. Cicero recalls their long friendship: Matius' help in making Caesar Cicero's friend, his visit at Formiae as the civil war began, his care at Brundisium, their talk at Rome. He does not believe Matius voted for that law, and defends him about the games: if Caesar was a king, one may argue either way, praising loyalty to a dead friend or putting the country's liberty first. Cicero always praises him for opposing civil war and moderating victory.

M. Cicero Matio s.

Marcus Cicero to-Matius greeting

Nondum satis constitui molestiaene plus an voluptatis 1

Not-yet enough I-have-decided whether-of-trouble more or of-pleasure

attulerit mihi Trebatius noster, homo cum plenus offici tum

has-brought to-me Trebatius our a-man both full of-duty and

utriusque nostrum amantissimus. Nam cum in Tusculanum

of-both of-us most-loving For when to my-Tusculan

vesperi venissem, postridie ille ad me, nondum satis

in-the-evening I-had-come the-next-day he to me not-yet quite

firmo corpore cum esset, mane venit. Quem cum

firm in-body though he-was in-the-morning came Whom when

obiurgarem quod parum valetudini parceret, tum ille nihil

I-was-scolding because too-little his-health he-was-sparing then he nothing

sibi longius fuisse quam ut me videret. 'Num

to-himself longer to-have-been than that me he-should-see Surely-not

quidnam' inquam 'novi?' Detulit ad me querelam tuam.

anything I-say new He-brought to me complaint your

De qua prius quam respondeo pauca proponam.

About which before than I-reply a-few-things I-will-set-out

2 Quantum memoria repetere praeterita possum, nemo est
As-far-as by-memory to-recall the-past I-can no-one is
mihi te amicus antiquior. Sed vetustas habet aliquid
to-me than-you a-friend older But old-acquaintance has something
commune cum multis, amor non habet. Dilexi te quo die
common with many love not has I-loved you on-what day
cognovi meque a te diligi iudicavi. Tuus deinde discessus
I-came-to-know and-that-I by you to-be-loved I-judged Your then departure
isque diuturnus, ambitio nostra et vitae dissimilitudo non
and-that long ambition our and of-life difference not
est passa voluntates nostras consuetudine conglutinari; tuum
has allowed wills our by-familiarity to-be-glued-together your
tamen erga me animum agnovi multis annis ante bellum
still toward me mind I-recognized many years before the-war
civile, cum Caesar esset in Gallia. Quod enim vehementer
civil when Caesar was in Gaul What for vehemently
mihi utile esse putabas nec inutile ipsi Caesari perfecisti,
to-me useful to-be you-thought nor useless himself to-Caesar you-brought-about
ut ille me diligeret, coleret, haberet in suis. Multa
that he me esteemed courted held among his-friends Many-things
praetereo quae temporibus illis inter nos familiarissime dicta,
I-pass-over which in-times those between us most-intimately said
scripta, communicata sunt; graviora enim consecuta sunt.
written shared were weightier for followed have

3 Et initio belli civilis cum Brundisium versus
And at-the-beginning of-the-war civil when Brundisium toward
ires ad Caesarem, venisti ad me in Formianum.
you-were-going to Caesar you-came to me to my-Formian
Primum hoc ipsum quanti, praesertim temporibus illis!
First this itself at-how-much especially in-times those
deinde oblitum me putas consili, sermonis, humanitatis
then forgotten that-I do-you-think of-the-counsel of-the-talk of-the-kindness

tuae? quibus rebus interesse memini Trebatium. Nec vero
your at-which things to-be-present I-remember that-Trebatius Nor indeed
sum oblitus litterarum tuarum quas ad me misisti, cum
have-I forgotten of-the-letter your which to me you-sent when
Caesari obviam venisses in agro, ut arbitror, Trebulano.
Caesar to-meet you-had-come in the-territory as I-think Trebulan
Secutum illud tempus est, cum me ad Pompeium proficisci 4
Followed that time has when me to Pompey to-set-out
sive pudor meus coegit sive officium sive fortuna. Quod
either shame my compelled or duty or fortune What
officium tuum, quod studium vel in absentem me vel in
duty your what zeal either toward absent me or toward
praesentis meos defuit? quem porro omnes mei et mihi
present my-family was-lacking whom moreover all my-family both to-me
et sibi te amiciorem iudicaverunt? Veni Brundisium.
and to-themselves than-you more-friendly judged I-came to-Brundisium
Oblitumne me putas qua celeritate, ut primum audieris,
Forgotten-then me do-you-think with-what speed as first you-heard
ad me Tarento advolaris, quae tua fuerit adsessio, oratio,
to me from-Tarentum you-flew what your was sitting-beside talk
confirmatio animi mei fracti communium miseriarum metu?
strengthening of-mind my broken of-common miseries by-fear
Tandem aliquando Romae esse coepimus. Quid defuit 5
At-last finally at-Rome to-be we-began What was-lacking
nostrae familiaritati? In maximis rebus quonam modo
to-our friendship In the-greatest matters in-what way
gererem me adversus Caesarem usus tuo consilio sum,
I-should-bear myself toward Caesar I-used your counsel I-have
in reliquis officio. Cui tu tribuisti excepto Caesare
in the-rest your-service To-whom you granted with-excepted Caesar
praeter me ut domum ventitares horasque multas
except me that to-my-house you-should-come-often and-hours many

saepe suavissimo sermone consumeres, tum cum etiam, si
often in-most-delightful conversation you-should-spend then when even if
meministi, ut haec φιλοσοφούμενα scriberem tu me impulisti?
you-remember that these philosophical-works I-should-write you me urged
Post Caesaris reditum quid tibi maiori curae fuit quam ut
After Caesar's return what to-you of-greater concern was than that
essem ego illi quam familiarissimus? quod effeceras.
I-should-be I to-him as most-intimate which you-had-brought-about
6 Quorsum igitur haec oratio longior quam putaram? Quia
To-what-end therefore this speech longer than I-had-thought Because
sum admiratus te, qui haec nosse deberes, quicquam
I-have wondered that-you who these-things to-know ought anything
a me commissum, quod esset alienum nostra amicitia,
by me done which might-be foreign to-our friendship
credidisse. Nam praeter haec quae commemoravi, quae
to-have-believed For besides these-things which I-have-mentioned which
testata sunt et inlustria, habeo multa occultiora, quae vix
attested are and clear I-have many more-hidden which scarcely
verbis exsequi possum. Omnia me tua delectant sed
in-words to-follow-out I-can All-things me of-yours delight but
maxime maxima cum fides in amicitia, consilium, gravitas,
most the-greatest both loyalty in friendship counsel dignity
constantia tum lepos, humanitas, litterae.
constancy and charm humanity learning
7 Quapropter (redeo nunc ad querelam) ego te suffragium
Wherefore I-return now to the-complaint I that-you a-vote
tulisse in illa lege primum non credidi; deinde, si
to-have-cast in that law first not believed then if
credidissem, numquam id sine aliqua iusta causa existimarem
I-had-believed never that without some just reason would-I-think
te fecisse. Dignitas tua facit ut animadvertatur quicquid
that-you to-have-done Dignity your makes that is-noticed whatever

facias, malevolentia autem hominum ut non nulla durius
you-do the-malice however of-men that not none-things more-harshly
quam a te facta sint proferantur. Ea tu si non audis, quid
than by you done were are-put-about Those you if not you-hear what
dicam nescio; equidem, si quando audio, tam defendo
I-should-say I-know-not for-my-part if ever I-hear as-much I-defend
quam me scio a te contra iniquos meos solere defendi.
as myself I-know by you against the-unfair my to-be-wont to-be-defended
Defensio autem est duplex; alia sunt quae liquido negare
The-defense however is double other-things there-are which flatly to-deny
soleam, ut de isto ipso suffragio, alia quae defendam a
I-am-wont as about that very vote other-things which I-defend by
te pie fieri et humane, ut de curatione ludorum.
you dutifully to-be-done and humanely as about the-management of-the-games
Sed te, hominem doctissimum, non fugit, si Caesar rex 8
But you a-man most-learned not escapes if Caesar king
fuerit (quod mihi quidem videtur), in utramque partem
was which to-me indeed seems on either side
de tuo officio disputari posse, vel in eam qua ego
about your duty to-be-argued to-be-able either in that in-which I
soleo uti, laudandam esse fidem et humanitatem tuam,
am-wont to-use to-be-praised to-be loyalty and humanity your
qui amicum etiam mortuum diligas, vel in eam qua
who a-friend even dead you-love or in that in-which
non nulli utuntur, libertatem patriae vitae amici
not none use that-liberty of-the-country than-the-life of-a-friend
anteponendam. Ex his sermonibus utinam essent delatae
to-be-preferred From these conversations would-that had-been carried
ad te disputationes meae! Illa vero duo, quae maxima sunt
to you the-arguments my Those indeed two which the-greatest are
laudum tuarum, quis aut libentius quam ego commemorat
of-praises your who either more-gladly than I mentions

aut saepius, te et non suscipiendi belli civilis
or more-often that-you both of-not undertaking of-the-war civil
gravissimum auctorem fuisse et moderandae victoriae? in
the-weightiest adviser to-have-been and of-moderating the-victory in
quo qui mihi non adsentiretur inveni neminem. Qua re
which who with-me not would-agree I-found no-one By-which thing
habeo gratiam Trebatio, familiari nostro, qui mihi dedit
I-have gratitude to-Trebatius friend our who to-me has-given
causam harum litterarum; quibus nisi credideris, me
the-occasion of-this letter which unless you-will-have-believed me
omnis offici et humanitatis expertem iudicaris; quo
of-every duty and humanity devoid you-will-have-judged than-which
nec mihi gravius quicquam potest esse nec te alienius.
nor to-me more-grievous anything can be nor to-you more-foreign

XI.28 · MATIUS REPLIES

Matius is glad Cicero thinks well of him, and answers the charges made since Caesar's death. He followed a friend, not a cause, and never approved civil war; he took no honor or money in victory and labored to spare the vanquished, so he grieves for the man who granted it. He will not yield to threats from the authors of liberty, nor renounce his loyalty; he managed the games for young Caesar as a private duty, and calls on Antony. He hopes to live at Rhodes in peace.

Matius Ciceroni s.
Matius to-Cicero greeting

1 Magnam voluptatem ex tuis litteris cepi, quod quam
Great pleasure from your letter I-took because which
speraram atque optaram habere te de me opinionem
I-had-hoped and wished to-have that-you about me opinion
cognovi; de qua etsi non dubitabam, tamen, quia
I-learned about which although not I-was-doubting still because

maximi aestimabam, ut incorrupta maneret laborabam.
at-the-highest I-valued that uncorrupted it-might-remain I-was-anxious
Conscius autem mihi eram nihil a me commissum
Conscious however to-myself I-was nothing by me done
esse quod boni cuiusquam offenderet animum.
to-have-been which of-a-good-man any might-offend the-mind
Eo minus credebam plurimis atque optimis artibus
By-this less I-believed with-very-many and most-excellent accomplishments
ornato tibi temere quicquam persuaderi potuisse,
adorned that-you rashly anything to-be-persuaded to-have-been-able
praesertim in quem mea propensa et perpetua fuisset
especially toward whom my inclined and lasting had-been
atque esset benevolentia. Quod quoniam ut volui scio esse,
and was goodwill Which since as I-wished I-know to-be
respondebo criminibus, quibus tu pro me, ut par erat
I-will-reply to-the-charges against-which you for me as fitting was
tua singulari bonitate et amicitia nostra, saepe restitisti.
by-your singular goodness and friendship our often have-stood
Nota enim mihi sunt quae in me post Caesaris mortem 2
Known for to-me are what-things against me after of-Caesar the-death
contulerint. Vitio mihi dant quod mortem hominis
they-have-brought As-a-fault to-me they-give that the-death of-a-man
necessari graviter fero atque eum quem dilexi perisse
close heavily I-bear and that-he whom I-loved to-have-perished
indignor; aiunt enim patriam amicitiae praeponendam esse,
I-resent they-say for that-the-country to-friendship to-be-preferred to-be
proinde ac si iam vicerint obitum eius rei p.
just as if already they-had-won-the-point the-death his to-the-thing public
fuisse utilem. Sed non agam astute; fateor me ad istum
to-have-been useful But not I-will-act cunningly I-confess that-I to that
gradum sapientiae non pervenisse; neque enim Caesarem in
step of-wisdom not to-have-come nor for Caesar in

dissensione civili sum secutus sed amicum; quamquam re
strife civil have-I followed but a-friend although by-the-cause
offendebar, tamen non deserui, neque bellum umquam civile
I-was-offended still not I-deserted nor war ever civil
aut etiam causam dissensionis probavi, quam etiam nascentem
or even the-cause of-strife I-approved which even arising
exstingui summe studui. Itaque in victoria hominis necessari
to-be-quenched supremely I-strove And-so in the-victory of-a-man close
neque honoris neque pecuniae dulcedine sum captus, quibus
neither by-honor's nor by-money's sweetness was-I caught by-which
praemiis reliqui, minus apud eum quam ego cum possent,
rewards the-rest less with him than I though they-could
immoderate sunt abusi. Atque etiam res familiaris mea
immoderately have abused And even estate family my
lege Caesaris deminuta est, cuius beneficio plerique, qui
by-the-law of-Caesar lessened has-been whose by-kindness very-many who
Caesaris morte laetantur remanserunt, in civitate. Civibus
at-Caesar's death rejoice have-remained in the-state To-the-citizens
victis ut parceretur aeque ac pro mea salute laboravi.
conquered that might-be-spared equally as for my safety I-labored

3 Possum igitur qui omnis voluerim incolumis eum a
Can-I therefore who all I-wished safe that-he by
quo id impetratum est perisse non indignari? cum
whom that obtained was to-have-perished not to-resent since
praesertim idem homines illi et invidiae et exitio
especially the-same men to-him both of-envy and of-destruction
fuerint. 'Plecteris ergo' inquiunt 'quoniam factum
have-been(-the-cause) You-will-be-punished then they-say since deed
nostrum improbare audes.' O superbiam inauditam alios
our to-disapprove you-dare O arrogance unheard-of others
in facinore gloriari, aliis ne dolore quidem impunite
in crime to-glory to-others not with-grief even with-impunity

licere! At haec etiam servis semper libera fuerunt,
to-be-allowed But these-things even to-slaves always free have-been
ut timerent, gauderent, dolerent suo potius quam
that they-should-fear rejoice grieve by-their-own rather than
alterius arbitrio; quae nunc, ut quidem isti dictitant,
another's choice which now as indeed those-men keep-saying
'libertatis auctores' metu nobis extorquere conantur.
of-liberty the-authors by-fear from-us to-wrest are-trying
Sed nihil agunt; nullius umquam periculi terroribus 4
But nothing they-achieve of-no ever of-danger by-terrors
ab officio aut ab humanitate desciscam; numquam enim
from duty or from humanity will-I-desert never for
honestam mortem fugiendam, saepe etiam oppetendam
honorable death to-be-shunned often even to-be-met
putavi. Sed quid mihi suscensent, si id opto ut paeniteat
I-have-thought But why with-me are-they-angry if this I-wish that may-repent
eos sui facti? Cupio enim Caesaris mortem omnibus esse
them of-their deed I-desire for of-Caesar the-death to-all to-be
acerbam. 'At debeo pro civili parte rem p. velle salvam.'
bitter But I-ought for civil part the-thing public to-wish safe
Id quidem me cupere, nisi et ante acta vita et reliqua
That indeed that-I to-desire unless both before done life and remaining
mea spes tacente me probat, dicendo vincere non postulo.
my hope with-silent me proves by-speaking to-prevail not I-claim
Qua re maiorem in modum te rogo ut rem potiorem 5
By-which thing greater in measure you I-ask that the-thing more-important
oratione ducas mihique, si sentis expedire recte fieri,
than-speech you-consider and-to-me if you-feel it-to-be-advantageous rightly to-be-done
credas nullam communionem cum improbis esse posse. An
you-believe no fellowship with the-wicked to-be to-be-able Or
quod adulescens praestiti, cum etiam errare cum excusatione
what as-a-young-man I-showed when even to-err with excuse

possem, id nunc aetate praecipitata commutem ac me ipse
I-could that now with-age declining should-I-change and myself I
retexam? Non faciam neque quod displiceat committam,
unravel Not I-will-do(-it) nor what may-displease will-I-commit
praeterquam quod hominis mihi coniunctissimi ac viri
except that of-a-man to-me most-closely-joined and of-a-man
amplissimi doleo gravem casum. Quod si aliter essem
most-distinguished I-grieve-at the-heavy fall But if otherwise I-were
animatus, numquam quod facerem negarem, ne et in peccando
minded never what I-did would-I-deny lest both in sinning
improbus et in dissimulando timidus ac vanus existimarer.
wicked and in dissembling cowardly and false I-should-be-thought

6 'At ludos quos Caesaris victoriae Caesar adulescens fecit
But the-games which for-Caesar's victory Caesar the-young gave
curavi.' At id ad privatum officium, non ad statum
I-managed But that to private duty not to the-condition
rei p. pertinet; quod tamen munus et hominis
of-the-thing public pertains which still service both of-a-man
amicissimi memoriae atque honoribus praestare etiam mortui
most-friendly to-the-memory and honors to-render even dead
debui et optimae spei adulescenti ac dignissimo Caesare
I-ought and of-the-best hope to-a-young-man and most-worthy of-Caesar
petenti negare non potui.
asking to-refuse not I-could

7 Veni etiam consulis Antoni domum saepe salutandi causa;
I-came also of-the-consul Antony to-the-house often of-greeting for-the-sake
ad quem qui me parum patriae amantem esse existimant
to whom those-who me too-little of-country loving to-be think
rogandi quidem aliquid aut auferendi causa frequentis
of-asking indeed something or of-carrying-off for-the-sake in-numbers
ventitare reperies. Sed quae haec est adrogantia, quod
to-come-often you-will-find But what this is arrogance that

Caesar numquam interpellavit quin quibus vellem atque
Caesar never interfered but-that with-whom I-wished and
etiam quos ipse non diligebat tamen iis uterer,
even whom he-himself not esteemed still them I-should-associate-with
eos qui mihi amicum eripuerunt carpendo me efficere
those who from-me a-friend have-snatched by-carping me to-bring-about
conari ne quos velim diligam?
try that-not any I-wish I-may-love
Sed non vereor ne aut meae vitae modestia parum 8
But not I-fear lest either of-my life the-moderation too-little
valitura sit in posterum contra falsos rumores aut ne
going-to-prevail be in the-future against false rumors or lest
etiam ii, qui me non amant propter meam in Caesarem
even those who me not love on-account-of my toward Caesar
constantiam, non malint mei quam sui similis amicos
constancy not would-prefer to-me than to-themselves similar friends
habere. Mihi quidem si optata contingent, quod reliquum est
to-have To-me indeed if my-wishes will-befall what remaining is
vitae in otio Rhodi degam; sin casus aliquis interpellarit,
of-life in leisure at-Rhodes I-shall-spend but-if chance some will-have-interfered
ita ero Romae ut recte fieri semper cupiam. Trebatio
so I-shall-be at-Rome that rightly to-be-done always I-desire to-Trebatius
nostro magnas ago gratias, quod tuum erga me animum
our great I-give thanks because your toward me mind
simplicem atque amicum aperuit et quod eum, quem
simple and friendly he-has-revealed and because him whom
semper libenter dilexi, quo magis iure colere atque
always gladly I-have-loved by-which more justly to-court and
observare deberem fecit. Bene vale et me dilige.
to-attend I-ought he-has-made Well farewell and me love

Oppius' advice, written and reported by Atticus, settled Cicero's doubts about leaving Italy, as his honest counsel did at the start of the civil war, when he urged Cicero to consult his dignity though his friend Caesar wished otherwise. Oppius has always cared for Cicero and his family, and gave himself wholly to Cicero's friendship after Caesar's death; Cicero commends all his affairs to him.

Cicero Oppio s. d.

Cicero to-Oppius greeting says

1 Dubitanti mihi, quod scit Atticus noster, de hoc toto
To-doubting me as knows Atticus our about this whole
consilio profectionis, quod in utramque partem in mentem
plan of-departure because on either side into mind
multa veniebant, magnum pondus accessit ad tollendam
many-things were-coming great weight was-added for removing
dubitationem iudicium et consilium tuum; nam et scripsisti
the-doubt the-judgment and counsel your for both you-wrote
aperte quid tibi videretur et Atticus ad me sermonem tuum
openly what to-you seemed and Atticus to me the-talk your
pertulit. Semper iudicavi in te et in capiendo consilio
carried Always I-have-judged in you both in taking counsel
prudentiam summam esse et in dando fidem maximeque
prudence the-highest to-be and in giving faithfulness and-most
sum expertus, cum initio civilis belli per litteras te
I-have experienced(-it) when at-the-beginning of-the-civil war by letter you
consuluissem quid mihi faciendum esse censeres, eundumne
I-had-consulted what by-me to-be-done to-be you-judged whether-to-be-gone
ad Pompeium an manendum in Italia. Suasisti ut consulerem
to Pompey or to-be-stayed in Italy You-advised that I-should-provide
dignitati meae; ex quo quid sentires intellexi et sum
for-dignity my from which what you-felt I-understood and I-have

admiratus fidem tuam et in consilio dando religionem,
wondered-at the-faithfulness your and in counsel giving the-scrupulousness
quod, cum aliud malle amicissimum tuum putares,
because though other-things to-prefer most-friendly your you-thought
antiquius tibi officium meum quam illius voluntas fuit.
more-important to-you duty my than his wish was
Equidem et ante hoc tempus te dilexi et semper me 2
For-my-part both before this time you I-esteemed and always myself
a te diligi sensi et, cum abessem atque in magnis
by you to-be-esteemed I-felt and when I-was-away and in great
periculis essem, et me absentem et meos praesentis a te
dangers I-was both me absent and my-family present by you
cultos et defensos esse memini et, post meum reditum
cared-for and defended to-have-been I-remember and after my return
quam familiariter mecum vixeris quaeque ego de te
how familiarly with-me you-have-lived and-what I about you
et senserim et praedicarim, omnis qui solent haec
both have-felt and have-proclaimed all who are-wont these-things
animadvertere testis habemus. Gravissimum vero iudicium de
to-notice witnesses we-have The-weightiest indeed judgment about
mea fide et constantia fecisti, cum post mortem Caesaris
my faithfulness and constancy you-made when after the-death of-Caesar
totum te ad amicitiam meam contulisti; quod tuum
wholly yourself to friendship my you-betook which your
iudicium nisi mea summa benevolentia erga te omnibusque
judgment unless by-my highest goodwill toward you and-by-all
meritis comprobaro, ipse me hominem non putabo.
services I-shall-have-confirmed myself me a-man not I-shall-think
Tu, mi Oppi, conservabis amorem tuum (etsi more 3
You my Oppius will-keep love your although by-custom
magis hoc quidem scribo quam quo te admonendum
rather this indeed I-write than because you to-be-advised

putem) meaque omnia tuebere; quae tibi ne ignota
I-think and-my all-interests you-will-protect which to-you lest unknown
essent Attico mandavi; a me autem, cum paulum
they-be to-Atticus I-have-entrusted from me however when a-little
oti nacti erimus, uberiores litteras exspectato. Da
of-leisure obtained we-shall-have fuller letters expect Give
operam ut valeas. Hoc mihi gratius facere nihil potes.
effort that you-are-well This to-me more-pleasing to-do nothing you-can

BOOK XII

XII.1 · RID OF THE KING, NOT THE KINGDOM

Cicero thinks constantly of Cassius and Brutus, in whom all hope rests, with Decimus Brutus. Dolabella has crushed the riot in Rome, but they seem freed from the king, not from the kingdom: Caesar's acts are upheld, even forged ones, with tablets posted, exemptions granted, money handed out, and exiles recalled. The commonwealth is avenged but not restored, and it is for the liberators to set this right; Cicero assures Cassius of his care for his dignity.

Cicero Cassio s.

Cicero to-Cassius greeting

Finem nullam facio, mihi crede, Cassi, de te et Bruto 1

End no I-make me believe Cassius about you and Brutus

nostro, id est de tota re p., cogitandi, cuius omnis

our that is about the-whole thing public of-thinking whose all

spes in vobis est et in D. Bruto; quam quidem iam

hope in you is and in Decimus Brutus which indeed now

habeo ipse meliorem re publica a Dolabella meo

I-have myself better with-the-thing public by Dolabella my

praeclarissime gesta. Manabat enim illud malum urbanum

most-splendidly handled Was-spreading for that evil of-the-city

et ita corroborabatur cotidie ut ego quidem et urbi et

and so was-gaining-strength daily that I indeed both for-the-city and

otio diffiderem urbano, sed ita seditio compressa est

for-peace I-despaired urban but so the-sedition crushed has-been

ut mihi videamur omne iam ad tempus ab illo dumtaxat

that to-me we-seem all now for time from that at-least

sordidissimo periculo tuti futuri. Reliqua magna sunt ac

most-sordid danger safe going-to-be The-rest great are and

multa sed posita omnia in vobis. Quamquam primum quidque

many but placed all in you And-yet first each-thing

explicemus. Nam ut adhuc quidem actum est, non
let-us-unfold For as so-far indeed done it-has-been not
regno sed rege liberati videmur; interfecto enim
from-the-kingship but from-the-king freed we-seem with-killed for
rege regios omnis nutus tuemur, neque vero id solum sed
the-king the-king's all nods we-uphold nor indeed that only but
etiam, quae ipse ille si viveret non faceret, ea
even what-things himself he if he-were-living not would-do those-things
nos quasi cogitata ab illo probamus. Nec eius quidem rei
we as-if planned by him we-approve Nor of-that indeed thing
finem video. Tabulae figuntur, immunitates dantur, pecuniae
an-end I-see Tablets are-posted exemptions are-given moneys
maximae discribuntur, exsules reducuntur, senatus consulta
very-great are-distributed exiles are-brought-back of-the-senate decrees
falsa deferuntur, ut tantum modo odium illud hominis
false are-reported that only merely the-hatred that of-a-man
impuri et servitutis dolor depulsus esse videatur, res
impure and of-slavery the-grief driven-off to-have-been may-seem the-thing
p. iaceat in iis perturbationibus in quas eam ille coniecit.
public lies in those disorders into which it he threw
2 Haec omnia vobis sunt expedienda, nec hoc cogitandum,
These-things all by-you are to-be-set-right nor this to-be-thought
satis iam habere rem p. a vobis. Habet illa quidem
enough now to-have the-thing public from you It-has it indeed
tantum quantum numquam mihi in mentem venit optare,
as-much as never to-me into mind came to-wish-for
sed contenta non est et pro magnitudine et animi
but content not it-is and in-proportion-to the-greatness both of-the-spirit
et benefici vestri a vobis magna desiderat. Adhuc ulta
and of-the-service your from you great-things it-wants So-far avenged
suas iniurias est per vos interitu tyranni; nihil amplius;
its wrongs it-has through you by-the-death of-the-tyrant nothing more

ornamenta vero sua quae reciperavit? an quod ei mortuo
ornaments indeed its-own which has-it-recovered or that to-him dead
paret quem vivum ferre non poterat? Cuius aera refigere
obeys whom living to-bear not it-could Whose bronzes to-tear-down
debebamus, eius etiam chirographa defendimus? At enim
we-ought his even handwritten-notes we-defend But for
ita decrevimus. Fecimus id quidem temporibus cedentes,
so we-decreed We-did that indeed to-the-times yielding
quae valent in re p. plurimum; sed immoderate
which avail in the-thing public most but immoderately
quidam et ingrate nostra facilitate abutuntur. Verum
certain-men and ungratefully our easiness abuse But
haec propediem et multa alia coram; interim velim
these-things very-soon and many others face-to-face meanwhile I-would-wish
sic tibi persuadeas, mihi cum rei p., quam semper
thus yourself you-persuade to-me both of-the-thing public which always
habui carissimam, tum amoris nostri causa maximae
I-have-held dearest and of-love our for-the-sake of-the-greatest
curae esse tuam dignitatem. Da operam ut valeas. Vale.
concern to-be your dignity Give effort that you-are-well Farewell

XII.2 · THE GLADIATOR SEEKS BLOODSHED

Cicero is glad Cassius approves his speech. Antony, worse than the man Cassius killed, seeks a beginning of slaughter and charges Cicero with plotting Caesar's death to set the veterans on him, so that Piso, Cicero, and Servilius cannot safely attend the senate. Antony prepared his attack for days at Metellus' villa, but vomited rather than spoke. Cicero runs through the feeble consulars; all hope is in the liberators, and he will not fail Cassius' friends.

Cicero Cassio s.

Cicero to-Cassius greeting

1 Vehementer laetor tibi probari sententiam et orationem
Vehemently I-rejoice that-to-you to-be-approved the-motion and speech
meam. Qua si saepius uti liceret, nihil esset
my Which if more-often to-use it-were-allowed nothing there-would-be
negoti libertatem et rem p. reciperare; sed homo amens
of-business liberty and the-thing public to-recover but a-man mad
et perditus multoque nequior quam ille ipse quem tu
and ruined and-much more-worthless than he himself whom you
nequissimum occisum esse dixisti caedis initium quaerit
most-worthless killed to-have-been said of-slaughter a-beginning seeks
nullamque aliam ob causam me auctorem fuisse
and-for-no other on-account-of reason that-I the-instigator to-have-been
Caesaris interficiendi criminatur, nisi ut in me veterani
of-Caesar killing charges except that against me the-veterans
incitentur; quod ego periculum non extimesco, modo vestri
be-roused which I danger not dread provided of-your
facti gloriam cum mea laude communicet. Ita nec Pisoni
deed the-glory with my praise he-shares So neither to-Piso
qui in eum primus invectus est nullo adsentiente, nec
who against him first inveighed has with-no-one assenting nor
mihi qui idem tricesimo post die feci, nec P. Servilio
to-me who the-same on-the-thirtieth after day did nor to-Publius Servilius
qui me est consecutus, tuto in senatum venire licet.
who me has followed safely into the-senate to-come is-it-allowed
Caedem enim gladiator quaerit eiusque initium a. d.
Slaughter for the-gladiator seeks and-its beginning on-the day
xiii K. Octobr. a me se facturum putavit;
thirteenth before-the-Kalends of-October with me that-he going-to-make thought
ad quem paratus venerat, cum in villa Metelli compluris
to whom prepared he-had-come when in the-villa of-Metellus very-many

dies commentatus esset. Quae autem in lustris et in vino
days practiced he-had What however in brothels and in wine
commentatio potuit esse? Itaque omnibus est visus, ut
practice could there-be And-so to-all he-has seemed as
ad te antea scripsi, vomere suo more, non dicere.
to you before I-wrote to-vomit his in-the-way not to-speak
Qua re, quod scribis te confidere auctoritate 2
By-which thing as-for-what you-write that-you to-trust that-by-the-authority
et eloquentia nostra aliquid profici posse, non nihil ut
and eloquence our something to-be-achieved to-be-able not nothing as
in tantis malis est profectum. Intellegit enim populus
in such-great evils has-been achieved Understands for the-people
R. tris esse consularis, qui, quia de re p. bene
Roman that-three to-be consulars who because about the-thing public well
senserint, libere locuti sint, tuto in senatum venire non
they-have-felt freely spoken have safely into the-senate to-come not
possint. Nec est praeterea quod quicquam exspectes.
can Nor is-there besides why anything you-should-expect
Tuus enim necessarius adfinitate nova delectatur, itaque
Your for connection with-his-relationship new is-delighted and-so
iam non est studiosus ludorum infinitoque fratris tui
now not is eager for-the-games and-by-the-boundless of-brother your
plausu dirumpitur; alter item adfinis novis commentariis
applause he-is-bursting the-other likewise a-relative by-new notebooks
Caesaris delenitus est. Sed haec tolerabilia, illud non
of-Caesar soothed has-been But these-things tolerable that not
ferendum, quod est qui vestro anno filium suum
to-be-borne that there-is one-who in-your year son his
consulem futurum putet ob eamque causam se
consul going-to-be thinks on-account-of and-that reason himself
huic latroni deservire prae se ferat.
to-this brigand to-be-a-slave before himself bears

3 Nam L. Cotta familiaris meus fatali quadam
For Lucius Cotta friend my through-a-fated certain
desperatione, ut ait, minus in senatum venit; L. Caesar,
despair as he-says less into the-senate comes Lucius Caesar
optimus et fortissimus civis, valetudine impeditur; Ser.
excellent and most-brave citizen by-health is-hindered Servius
Sulpicius et summa auctoritate et optime sentiens non
Sulpicius both of-the-highest authority and best feeling not
adest; reliquos exceptis designatis ignosce mihi si non numero
is-present the-rest with-excepted the-elect pardon me if not I-count
consularis. Habes auctores consili publici. Qui numerus etiam
as-consulars You-have the-authors of-counsel public Which number even
bonis rebus exiguus esset, quid censes perditis? Qua
in-good circumstances small would-be what do-you-think in-desperate By-which
re spes est omnis in vobis; qui si idcirco abestis ut
thing hope is all in you who if for-this-reason you-are-away that
sitis in tuto, ne in vobis quidem; sin aliquid dignum vestra
you-may-be in safety not in you even but-if something worthy of-your
gloria cogitatis, velim salvis nobis; sin id minus, res
glory you-are-planning I-would-wish with-safe us but-if that less the-thing
tamen publica per vos brevi tempore ius suum reciperabit.
still public through you in-short time right its-own will-recover
Ego tuis neque desum neque dero. Qui si quae ad me
I to-your-people neither fail nor will-fail Who if anything to me
referent, mea tibi benevolentia fidesque praestabitur. Vale.
they-will-refer my to-you goodwill and-loyalty will-be-shown Farewell

Antony grows madder daily: on the statue he set up on the rostra he inscribed 'to the father who deserved best,' making the liberators parricides, and he calls Cicero their leader. Brought before an assembly by Cannutius, he spoke of the country's saviors as of traitors, and his men robbed Cassius' legate of his travel money. We could not bear a master, Cicero laments, and now we serve a fellow slave. He sees no remedy against force without force.

Cicero Cassio s.

Cicero to-Cassius greeting

Auget tuus amicus furorem in dies. Primum in statua quam 1

Increases your friend his-madness into days First on the-statue which

posuit in rostris inscripsit 'parenti optime merito,' ut non

he-set-up on the-rostra he-inscribed to-the-parent best deserving so-that not

modo sicarii sed iam etiam parricidae iudicemini, quid dico

only assassins but now even parricides you-are-judged why do-I-say

'iudicemini'? iudicemur potius; vestri enim pulcherrimi facti

you-are-judged we-are-judged rather of-your for most-beautiful deed

ille furiosus me principem dicit fuisse. Utinam quidem

that madman me the-chief says to-have-been Would-that indeed

fuissem! molestus nobis non esset. Sed hoc vestrum est;

I-had-been troublesome to-us not he-would-be But this yours is

quod quoniam praeteriit, utinam haberem quid vobis darem

which since it-has-passed would-that I-had what to-you I-could-give

consili! sed ne mihi quidem ipsi reperio quid faciendum sit.

of-counsel but not for-me even myself I-find what to-be-done is

Quid enim est quod contra vim sine vi fieri possit?

What for is-there which against force without force to-be-done can

Consilium omne autem hoc est illorum, ut mortem Caesaris 2

The-plan whole however this is of-them that the-death of-Caesar

persequantur. Itaque ante diem vi Non. Oct.

they-may-avenge And-so on-the day sixth before-the-Nones of-October

productus in contionem a Cannutio turpissime ille quidem
brought-forward into the-assembly by Cannutius most-disgracefully he indeed
discessit, sed tamen ea dixit de conservatoribus
came-off but still those-things he-said about the-preservers
patriae quae dici deberent de proditoribus; de me
of-the-country which to-be-said ought about traitors about me
quidem non dubitanter quin omnia de meo consilio et
indeed not hesitatingly but-that all-things by my counsel both
vos fecissetis et Cannutius faceret. Cetera cuius modi sint
you had-done and Cannutius was-doing The-rest of-what kind they-are
ex hoc iudica, quod legato tuo viaticum eripuerunt.
from this judge that from-legate your the-travel-money they-have-snatched
Quid eos interpretari putas, cum hoc faciunt? ad hostem
What them to-interpret do-you-think when this they-do to the-enemy
scilicet portari. O rem miseram! dominum ferre non
of-course to-be-carried O thing wretched a-master to-bear not
potuimus, conservo servimus. Et tamen me quidem
we-could to-a-fellow-slave we-are-slaves And still me indeed
favente magis quam sperante etiam nunc residet spes in
favoring rather than hoping even now remains hope in
virtute tua. Sed ubi sunt copiae? De reliquo malo te
virtue your But where are the-forces About the-rest I-prefer that-you
ipsum tecum loqui quam nostra dicta cognoscere. Vale.
yourself with-yourself to-speak than our words to-learn Farewell

Cicero wishes Cassius had invited him to the dinner of the Ides: there would have been no leftovers, which now torment him. The consuls are excellent, the consulars shameful; the senate is brave, the people and all Italy splendid. The envoys Philippus and Piso brought back Antony's intolerable demands. Cassius is said to be in Syria; Dolabella was blamed for succeeding him so soon; Cassius and Brutus are praised for raising armies.

Cicero Cassio s.

Cicero to-Cassius greeting

Vellem Idibus Martiis me ad cenam invitasses; reliquiarum 1

I-would-wish on-the-Ides of-March me to dinner you-had-invited of-leftovers

nihil fuisset. Nunc me reliquiae vestrae exercent et

nothing there-would-have-been Now me the-leftovers your exercise and

quidem praeter ceteros me hercule. Quamquam egregios

indeed beyond the-others so-help-me Hercules And-yet excellent

consules habemus sed turpissimos consularis, senatum fortem

consuls we-have but most-shameful consulars a-senate brave

sed infimo quemque honore fortissimum; populo vero nihil

but the-lowest each in-rank bravest than-the-people indeed nothing

fortius, nihil melius Italiaque universa: nihil autem foedius

braver nothing better and-than-Italy whole nothing however more-foul

Philippo et Pisone legatis, nihil flagitiosius. Qui cum

than-Philippus and Piso as-envoys nothing more-disgraceful Who when

essent missi ut Antonio ex senatus sententia certas res

they-had-been sent that to-Antony by of-the-senate the-decision certain things

nuntiarent, cum ille earum rerum nulli paruisset, ultro ab

they-should-announce when he of-those things none had-obeyed unasked from

illo ad nos intolerabilia postulata rettulerunt. Itaque ad nos

him to us intolerable demands they-brought-back And-so to us

concurritur factique iam in re salutari populares sumus.

people-run and-made now in a-thing salutary popular we-are

2 Sed tu quid ageres, quid acturus, ubi denique
But you what you-were-doing what going-to-do where in-short
esses, nesciebam; fama nuntiabat te esse in Syria,
you-were I-did-not-know report was-announcing that-you to-be in Syria
auctor erat nemo. De Bruto, quo propius est, eo
the-authority was no-one About Brutus the nearer he-is by-that
firmiora videntur esse quae nuntiantur. Dolabella valde
firmer seem to-be what-things are-reported Dolabella greatly
vituperabatur ab hominibus non insulsis, quod tibi tam
was-being-blamed by men not witless because you so
cito succederet, cum tu vixdum xxx dies in Syria fuisses.
quickly he-was-succeeding when you scarcely thirty days in Syria had-been
Itaque constabat eum recipi in Syriam non oportere.
And-so it-was-agreed that-he to-be-received into Syria not to-be-proper
Summa laus et tua et Bruti est, quod exercitum praeter
The-highest praise both yours and of-Brutus is that an-army beyond
spem existimamini comparasse. Scriberem plura, si rem
hope you-are-thought to-have-raised I-would-write more if the-matter
causamque nossem; nunc quae scribo scribo ex opinione
and-cause I-knew now what I-write I-write from the-opinion
hominum atque fama. Tuas litteras avide exspecto. Vale.
of-men and report Your letter eagerly I-await Farewell

Winter has kept Cassius' news from Rome, though all say he is in Syria with forces. Brutus has won great praise; if Cassius holds what they hope, the commonwealth is guarded from Greece to Egypt. Everything turns on Decimus Brutus, besieged at Mutina while Hirtius, Caesar, and Pansa gather forces. The senate is firm except for the consulars, of whom only Lucius Caesar is sound; Servius Sulpicius' death is a great loss; Rome and Italy are united. Cicero hopes Cassius' light will shine from the East.

Cicero Cassio s.

Cicero to-Cassius greeting

Hiemem credo adhuc prohibuisse quo minus de te 1

The-winter I-believe so-far to-have-prevented by-which less about you

certum haberemus quid ageres maximeque ubi esses;

certain we-should-have what you-were-doing and-most where you-were

loquebantur omnes tamen (credo, quod volebant) in

were-saying all still I-believe what they-wished in

Syria te esse, habere copias. Id autem eo facilius

Syria that-you to-be to-have forces That however by-this more-easily

credebatur, quia simile veri videbatur. Brutus quidem

was-believed because like the-truth it-seemed Brutus indeed

noster egregiam laudem est consecutus; res enim tantas

our splendid praise has attained things for so-great

gessit tamque inopinatas ut eae cum per se gratae

he-has-done and-so unexpected that they both in themselves welcome

essent tum ornatiores propter celeritatem. Quod si tu

they-were and more-adorned on-account-of the-speed But if you

ea tenes quae putamus, magnis subsidiis fulta res

those-places hold which we-think by-great supports propped the-thing

p. est; a prima enim ora Graeciae usque ad Aegyptum
public is from the-first for coast of-Greece as-far to Egypt
optimorum civium imperiis muniti erimus et copiis.
of-the-best citizens by-the-commands protected we-shall-be and by-forces
2 Quamquam, nisi me fallebat, res se sic habebat
And-yet unless me it-was-deceiving the-matter itself thus held
ut totius belli omne discrimen in D. Bruto positum
that of-the-whole war all the-crisis on Decimus Brutus placed
videretur; qui si, ut sperabamus, erupisset Mutina, nihil
it-seemed who if as we-were-hoping had-broken-out from-Mutina nothing
belli reliqui fore videbatur. Parvis omnino iam copiis
of-war remaining going-to-be it-seemed With-small altogether now forces
obsidebatur, quod magno praesidio Bononiam tenebat
he-was-being-besieged because with-a-great garrison Bononia was-holding
Antonius. Erat autem Claternae noster Hirtius, ad Forum
Antony Was however at-Claterna our Hirtius at Forum
Corneli Caesar, uterque cum firmo exercitu, magnasque
of-Cornelius Caesar each with a-firm army and-great
Romae Pansa copias ex dilectu Italiae compararat. Hiems
at-Rome Pansa forces from the-levy of-Italy had-raised The-winter
adhuc rem geri prohibuerat. Hirtius nihil nisi
so-far the-matter to-be-done had-prevented Hirtius nothing except
considerate, ut mihi crebris litteris significat, acturus
considerately as to-me in-frequent letters he-indicates going-to-do
videbatur. Praeter Bononiam, Regium Lepidi, Parmam totam
seemed Besides Bononia Regium of-Lepidus Parma the-whole
Galliam tenebamus studiosissimam rei publicae; tuos
Gaul we-were-holding most-zealous for-the-thing public your
etiam clientis Transpadanos mirifice coniunctos cum causa
even clients the-Transpadanes wonderfully joined with the-cause

habebamus. Erat firmissimus senatus exceptis consularibus,
we-had Was most-firm the-senate with-excepted the-consulars
ex quibus unus L. Caesar firmus est et rectus.
of whom one Lucius Caesar firm is and upright
Ser. Sulpici morte magnum praesidium amisimus; reliqui 3
By-Servius Sulpicius' death a-great support we-have-lost the-rest
partim inertes, partim improbi; non nulli invident eorum
partly inactive partly wicked not none envy of-those
laudi quos in re p. probari vident; populi vero
the-praise whom in the-thing public to-be-approved they-see of-the-people indeed
Romani totiusque Italiae mira consensio est. Haec erant
Roman and-of-all Italy wonderful agreement is These-things were
fere quae tibi nota esse vellem; nunc autem opto ut ab
almost which to-you known to-be I-would-wish now however I-wish that from
istis Orientis partibus virtutis tuae lumen eluceat. Vale.
those of-the-East parts of-virtue your the-light may-shine-forth Farewell

XII.6 · TITIUS STRABO

Gaius Titius Strabo, who left home and fortune to join Cassius, will tell him how things stand, and needs no commendation. If Mutina falls, all good men will flee to Cassius and Brutus; Cassius must be ready to recover the whole commonwealth.

Cicero Cassio s.
Cicero to-Cassius greeting
Qui status rerum fuerit tum cum has litteras dedi scire 1
What the-state of-things was then when this letter I-gave to-know
poteris ex C. Titio Strabone, viro bono et optime
you-will-be-able from Gaius Titius Strabo a-man good and best
de re p. sentiente; nam quid dicam 'cupidissimo
about the-thing public feeling for why should-I-say most-devoted

tui,' qui domo et fortunis relictis ad te potissimum
to-you who home and fortunes left to you especially
profectus sit? Itaque eum tibi ne commendo quidem;
set-out has And-so him to-you not I-commend even
adventus ipsius ad te satis eum commendabit.
the-arrival of-himself to you enough him will-commend
2 Tu velim sic existimes tibique persuadeas, omne perfugium
You I-would-wish thus judge and-yourself persuade all the-refuge
bonorum in te et Bruto esse positum, si, quod nolim,
of-the-good in you and Brutus to-be placed if which I-would-not-wish
adversi quid evenerit. Res, cum haec scribebam,
adverse anything will-have-happened The-matter when these-things I-was-writing
erat in extremum adducta discrimen; Brutus enim Mutinae
had-been into the-final brought crisis Brutus for at-Mutina
vix iam sustinebat. Qui si conservatus erit, vicimus; sin,
scarcely now was-holding-out Who if preserved will-be we-have-won but-if
quod di omen avertant! omnis omnium cursus est ad
which may-the-gods the-omen avert all of-all the-course is to
vos. Proinde fac animum tantum habeas tantumque apparatum
you Accordingly make spirit as-much you-have and-as-much preparation
quanto opus est ad universam rem p. reciperandam. Vale.
as need is for the-whole thing public recovering Farewell

Cicero defended Cassius' dignity in the senate and before the people, though Pansa opposed his motion and Cassius' mother-in-law, mother, and brother wished it unspoken. He promised that Cassius would not wait for decrees but defend the commonwealth in his own way, and that all the forces of the East were his; he asks Cassius to make good his word.

Cicero Cassio s.

Cicero to-Cassius greeting

Quanto studio dignitatem tuam et in senatu et ad 1

With-how-great zeal dignity your both in the-senate and before

populum defenderim ex tuis te malo quam ex me

the-people I-have-defended from yours that-you I-prefer than from me

cognoscere; quae mea sententia in senatu facile valuisset,

to-learn which my motion in the-senate easily would-have-prevailed

nisi Pansa vehementer obstitisset. Ea sententia dicta

unless Pansa vehemently had-opposed(-it) That motion delivered

productus sum in contionem a tr. pl. M.

brought-out I-was into the-assembly by the-tribune of-the-plebs Marcus

Servilio. Dixi de te quae potui tanta contentione

Servilius I-said about you what I-could with-as-great effort

quantum forum est, tanto clamore consensuque populi

as-great-as the-forum is with-such shouting and-agreement of-the-people

ut nihil umquam simile viderim. Id velim mihi

that nothing ever similar I-have-seen That I-would-wish to-me

ignoscas quod invita socru tua fecerim. Mulier

you-pardon that against-the-will-of mother-in-law your I-did(-it) The-woman

timida verebatur ne Pansae animus offenderetur. In contione

timid was-fearing lest of-Pansa the-mind be-offended In the-assembly

quidem Pansa dixit matrem quoque tuam et fratrem illam

indeed Pansa said that-mother also your and brother that

a me sententiam noluisse dici. Sed me haec
by me motion not-to-have-wished to-be-delivered But me these-things
non movebant, alia valebant; favebam et rei
not were-moving other-things prevailed I-was-favoring both to-the-thing
p., cui semper favi, et dignitati ac gloriae tuae.
public which always I-have-favored and dignity and glory your
2 Quod autem et in senatu pluribus verbis disserui et dixi
As-for-what however both in the-senate in-more words I-argued and I-said
in contione, in eo velim fidem meam liberes. Promisi
in the-assembly in that I-would-wish the-pledge my you-free I-promised
enim et prope confirmavi te non exspectasse nec
for and almost assured that-you not to-have-waited nor
exspectaturum decreta nostra sed te ipsum tuo more rem
going-to-wait-for the-decrees our but you yourself in-your manner the-thing
p. defensurum. Et quamquam nihildum audieramus nec
public going-to-defend And although nothing-yet we-had-heard neither
ubi esses nec quas copias haberes, tamen sic statuebam,
where you-were nor what forces you-had still thus I-was-deciding
omnis quae in istis partibus essent opes copiaeque tuas esse,
all which in those parts were resources and-forces yours to-be
per teque Asiam provinciam confidebam iam rei p.
through and-you Asia the-province I-was-trusting already for-the-thing public
reciperatam. Tu fac in augenda gloria te ipsum vincas. Vale.
recovered You make in increasing glory you yourself surpass Farewell

Cassius will learn from the record of his kinsman Lepidus' crime and fickleness: the war thought finished is renewed, and hope rests in Decimus Brutus and Plancus, and in Cassius and Marcus Brutus. Rumor says Dolabella is beaten; the people believe Cassius can achieve anything.

Cicero Cassio s.

Cicero to-Cassius greeting

Scelus adfinis tui Lepidi summamque levitatem et 1

The-crime of-relative your Lepidus and-the-utmost fickleness and

inconstantiam ex actis, quae ad te mitti certo scio,

inconstancy from the-proceedings which to you to-be-sent certainly I-know

cognosse te arbitror. Itaque nos confecto bello, ut

to-have-learned that-you I-think And-so we with-finished war as

arbitrabamur, renovatum bellum gerimus spemque omnem

we-thought renewed a-war wage and-hope all

in D. Bruto et Planco habemus, si verum quaeris, in

in Decimus Brutus and Plancus we-have if the-truth you-ask in

te et in M. Bruto non solum ad praesens perfugium,

you and in Marcus Brutus not only for present refuge

si, quod nolim, adversi quid acciderit, sed etiam

if which I-would-not-wish adverse anything will-have-happened but also

ad confirmationem perpetuae libertatis.

for the-strengthening of-lasting liberty

Nos hic de Dolabella audiebamus quae vellemus, sed 2

We here about Dolabella were-hearing what we-would-wish but

certos auctores non habebamus. Te quidem magnum

sure authorities not we-had You indeed a-great

hominem et praesenti iudicio et reliqui temporis

man both in-present judgment and of-the-remaining time

exspectatione scito esse. Hoc tibi proposito fac ut ad
by-the-expectation know to-be This to-you set-before make that to
summa contendas. Nihil est tantum quod non p.
the-highest-things you-strive Nothing is so-great which not the-people
R. a te perfici atque obtineri posse iudicet. Vale.
Roman by you to-be-accomplished and to-be-held to-be-able may-judge Farewell

XII.9 · COME QUICKLY

Cassius' brevity makes Cicero brief. Nothing comes from Asia but unconfirmed rumors of Dolabella's defeat. Lepidus has thrown Rome into anxiety; the commonwealth's hope is in Cassius and his forces, and it matters greatly that he come.

Cicero Cassio s.
Cicero to-Cassius greeting

1 Brevitas tuarum litterarum me quoque breviorem in scribendo
The-brevity of-your letters me also briefer in writing
facit et, vere ut dicam, non satis occurrit quid scribam;
makes and truly that I-may-say not enough occurs what I-should-write
nostras enim res in actis perferri ad te certo scio,
our for affairs in the-proceedings to-be-carried to you certainly I-know
tuas autem ignoramus. Tamquam enim clausa sit Asia, sic
yours however we-do-not-know As-if for closed were Asia so
nihil perfertur ad nos praeter rumores de oppresso Dolabella
nothing is-carried to us except rumors about crushed Dolabella
satis illos quidem constantis, sed adhuc sine auctore.
fairly those indeed constant but so-far without authority

2 Nos confectum bellum quom putaremus, repente a Lepido
We finished the-war when we-were-thinking suddenly by Lepidus
tuo in summam sollicitudinem sumus adducti. Itaque
your into the-utmost anxiety we-have-been brought And-so

tibi persuade maximam rei p. spem in te et in
yourself persuade the-greatest of-the-thing public hope in you and in
tuis copiis esse. Firmos omnino exercitus habemus, sed
your forces to-be Firm altogether armies we-have but
tamen ut omnia, ut spero, prospere procedant multum
still that all-things as I-hope prosperously proceed much
interest te venire. Exigua enim spes est rei p.
it-matters that-you to-come Slight for hope is of-the-thing public
(nam nullam non libet dicere), sed, quaecumque est, ea
for none not it-pleases to-say but whatever is it
despondetur anno consulatus tui. Vale.
is-pledged for-the-year of-the-consulship your Farewell

XII.10 · LEPIDUS AN ENEMY

Lepidus and those who defected with him have been declared enemies, with leave to recover their senses before the Kalends of September; the senate is brave in the hope of Cassius' help. Rumors of Dolabella's defeat lack an author, but Cassius' letter convinced Rome that he is coming with an army. Cicero will honor that army once it acts. Against the renewed war stand the consuls-elect; all rests on Cassius and Brutus.

Cicero Cassio s.
Cicero to-Cassius greeting
Lepidus, tuus adfinis, meus familiaris, pr. K. 1
Lepidus your relative my friend on-the-day-before the-Kalends
Quintilis sententiis omnibus hostis a senatu iudicatus est
of-Quintilis by-motions all an-enemy by the-senate judged was
ceterique qui una cum illo a re p. defecerunt;
and-the-rest who together with him from the-thing public revolted
quibus tamen ad sanitatem redeundi ante K. Sept.
to-whom still to sanity of-returning before the-Kalends of-September

potestas facta est. Fortis sane senatus, sed maxime
opportunity made has-been Brave indeed the-senate but most
spe subsidi tui. Bellum quidem, cum haec
through-hope of-the-support your The-war indeed when these-things
scribebam, sane magnum erat scelere et levitate
I-was-writing very great was through-the-crime and fickleness
Lepidi. Nos de Dolabella cotidie quae volumus audimus,
of-Lepidus We about Dolabella daily what we-wish hear
sed adhuc sine capite, sine auctore, rumore nuntio.
but so-far without head without authority by-rumor by-report

2 Quod cum ita esset, tamen litteris tuis, quas Nonis Maiis
Which though so it-was still by-letter your which on-the-Nones of-May
ex castris datas acceperamus, ita persuasum erat civitati
from camp dated we-had-received so persuaded it-had-been to-the-state
ut illum iam oppressum omnes arbitrarentur, te autem in
that he already crushed all thought that-you however into
Italiam venire cum exercitu ut, si haec ex sententia
Italy to-be-coming with an-army that if these-things according-to wish
confecta essent, consilio atque auctoritate tua, sin quid
accomplished had-been by-the-counsel and authority your but-if anything
forte titubatum, ut fit in bello, exercitu tuo niteremur.
perhaps had-tottered as happens in war on-the-army your we-might-lean
Quem quidem ego exercitum quibuscumque potuero rebus
Which indeed I army with-whatever I-shall-be-able things
ornabo; cuius rei tum tempus erit cum quid opis rei
will-honor of-which thing then the-time will-be when what of-help to-the-thing
p. laturus is exercitus sit aut quid iam tulerit notum
public going-to-bring that army is or what already it-has-brought known
esse coeperit; nam adhuc tantum conatus audiuntur optimi
to-be will-have-begun for so-far only attempts are-heard excellent
illi quidem et praeclarissimi, sed gesta res exspectatur,
those indeed and most-splendid but a-deed done is-awaited

quam quidem aut iam esse aliquam aut appropinquare
which indeed either already to-be some or to-be-approaching
confido. Tua virtute, magnitudine animi nihil est nobilius.
I-trust Than-your virtue greatness of-mind nothing is nobler
Itaque optamus ut quam primum te in Italia videamus. 3
And-so we-pray that as first you in Italy we-may-see
Rem p. nos habere arbitrabimur, si vos habebimus.
The-thing public that-we to-have we-shall-think if you we-shall-have
Praeclare viceramus, nisi spoliatum, inermem, fugientem
Splendidly we-had-won unless despoiled unarmed fleeing
Lepidus recepisset Antonium. Itaque numquam tanto
Lepidus had-received Antony And-so never with-so-great
odio civitati Antonius fuit quanto est Lepidus; ille enim
hatred to-the-state Antony was as-great-as is Lepidus he for
ex turbulenta re p., hic ex pace et victoria bellum
from a-turbulent thing public this-man from peace and victory a-war
excitavit. Huic oppositos consules designatos habemus,
has-stirred-up Against-him opposed the-consuls elect we-have
in quibus est magna illa quidem spes sed anceps cura
in whom is great that indeed hope but doubtful anxiety
propter incertos exitus proeliorum.
on-account-of the-uncertain outcomes of-battles
Persuade tibi igitur in te et in Bruto tuo esse omnia, 4
Persuade yourself therefore in you and in Brutus your to-be all-things
vos exspectari, Brutum quidem iam iamque. Quod si,
you to-be-awaited Brutus indeed now and-now But if
ut spero, victis hostibus nostris veneritis, tamen
as I-hope with-conquered enemies our you-will-have-come still
auctoritate vestra res p. exsurget et in aliquo statu
by-the-authority your the-thing public will-rise-up and in some state
tolerabili consistet; sunt enim permulta quibus erit
tolerable will-settle there-are for very-many-things for-which it-will-be

medendum, etiam si res p. satis esse videbitur
to-be-remedied even if the-thing public sufficiently to-be will-seem
sceleribus hostium liberata. Vale.
from-the-crimes of-the-enemy freed Farewell

XII.11 · CASSIUS TAKES SYRIA

Cassius reports from his camp at Tarichea that Murcus and Crispus have handed him their armies, that Caecilius Bassus' legion has come over, and that Allienus has delivered the four legions he led out of Egypt. He asks Cicero to defend the absent and the commonwealth; Carteius will tell the rest.

C. Cassius procos. s. d. M. Ciceroni.
Gaius Cassius proconsul greeting says to-Marcus Cicero
1 S. v. b. e. e. q. v. In Syriam me profectum
If you-are-well well it-is I also am-well Into Syria that-I set-out
esse scito ad L. Murcum et Q. Crispum imp.
to-have know to Lucius Murcus and Quintus Crispus imperators
Viri fortes optimique cives, postea quam audierunt quae
Men brave and-most-excellent citizens after that they-heard what
Romae gererentur, exercitus mihi tradiderunt ipsique
at-Rome was-being-done the-armies to-me handed-over and-themselves
mecum una fortissimo animo rem p. administrant.
with-me together with-most-brave spirit the-thing public administer
Item legionem quam Q. Caecilius Bassus habuit ad
Likewise that-the-legion which Quintus Caecilius Bassus had to
me venisse scito, quattuorque legiones quas A. Allienus
me to-have-come know and-four legions which Aulus Allienus
ex Aegypto eduxit traditas ab eo mihi esse scito.
from Egypt led-out handed-over by him to-me to-have-been know

Nunc te cohortatione non puto indigere ut nos absentis 2
Now you exhortation not I-think to-need that us absent
remque p., quantum est in te, defendas. Scire te
and-the-thing public as-much-as is in you you-defend To-know that-you
volo firma praesidia vobis senatuique non deesse, ut
I-wish firm protections for-you and-for-the-senate not to-be-lacking that
optima spe et maximo animo rem p. defendas.
with-the-best hope and greatest spirit the-thing public you-defend
Reliqua tecum aget L. Carteius, familiaris meus. Vale.
The-rest with-you will-treat Lucius Carteius friend my Farewell
D. Nonis Martiis ex castris Taricheis.
Dated on-the-Nones of-March from the-camp at-Tarichea

XII.12 · ALL THE ARMIES OF SYRIA

Cassius sees Cicero's anxious love for them. He wrote to Cicero and the senate when Allienus' legions came, but Dolabella, who murdered Trebonius and seized Asia, may have intercepted the couriers. He holds every army in Syria and has paid his soldiers; he asks Cicero to guard his dignity, his soldiers, and that of Murcus and Crispus, since Bassus yielded his legion only when his men forced him. The army is the senate's and Cicero's. Hearing that Dolabella has entered Cilicia, he will march there.

Cassius procos. s. d. M. Ciceroni suo.
Cassius proconsul greeting says to-Marcus Cicero his-own
S. v. b. e. e. q. v. Legi tuas litteras, 1
If you-are-well well it-is I also am-well I-have-read your letter
in quibus mirificum tuum erga me amorem recognovi;
in which wonderful your toward me love I-recognized
videbaris enim non solum favere nobis, id quod et nostra
you-seemed for not only to-favor us that which both for-our

et rei p. causa semper fecisti, sed etiam
and of-the-thing public for-the-sake always you-have-done but also
gravem curam suscepisse vehementerque esse de nobis
heavy care to-have-taken-up and-greatly to-be about us
sollicitus. Itaque quod te primum existimare putabam
anxious And-so because that-you first to-think I-supposed
nos oppressa re p. quiescere non posse, deinde, cum
that-we with-crushed thing public to-keep-quiet not to-be-able then when
suspicarere nos moliri, quod te sollicitum esse
you-suspected that-we to-be-planning-something because that-you anxious to-be
et de salute nostra et de rerum eventu putabam, simul
both about safety our and about of-things the-outcome I-supposed as-soon
ac legiones accepi quas A. Allienus eduxerat ex Aegypto,
as the-legions I-received which Aulus Allienus had-led-out from Egypt
scripsi ad te tabellariosque compluris Romam misi; scripsi
I-wrote to you and-couriers very-many to-Rome I-sent I-wrote
etiam ad senatum litteras, quas reddi vetui prius
also to the-senate a-letter which to-be-delivered I-forbade before
quam tibi recitatae essent, si forte mei obtemperare
than to-you read it-had-been if perhaps my-people to-obey
mihi voluerint. Quod si litterae perlatae non sunt, non
me should-be-willing But if the-letter carried not has-been not
dubito quin Dolabella, qui nefarie Trebonio occiso Asiam
I-doubt but-that Dolabella who wickedly with-Trebonius killed Asia
occupavit, tabellarios meos deprenderit litterasque interceperit.
has-seized the-couriers my has-caught and-the-letter has-intercepted
2 Exercitus omnis qui in Syria fuerunt teneo. Habui pollulum
The-armies all which in Syria were I-hold I-had a-little
morae, dum promissa militibus persolvo; nunc iam sum
of-delay while the-promises to-the-soldiers I-pay-off now already I-am
expeditus. A te peto ut dignitatem meam commendatam
freed From you I-ask that dignity my commended

tibi habeas, si me intellegis nullum neque periculum neque
to-you you-hold if me you-understand no neither danger nor
laborem patriae denegasse, si contra importunissimos
labor to-my-country to-have-refused if against the-most-savage
latrones arma cepi te hortante et auctore, si non solum
brigands arms I-took-up with-you urging and as-adviser if not only
exercitus ad rem p. libertatemque defendendam comparavi
armies for the-thing public and-liberty defending I-raised
sed etiam crudelissimis tyrannis eripui; quos si
but also from-the-most-cruel tyrants I-snatched(-them) which if
occupasset Dolabella, non solum adventu sed etiam opinione
had-seized Dolabella not only by-the-arrival but even by-the-opinion
et exspectatione exercitus sui Antonium confirmasset.
and expectation of-the-army his Antony he-would-have-strengthened
Quas ob res milites tuere, si eos mirifice de re 3
Which on-account-of things the-soldiers protect if them wonderfully of the-thing
p. meritos esse animadvertis, et effice ne quem
public deserved to-have you-perceive and bring-it-about that-not any
paeniteat rem p. quam spem praedae et rapinarum sequi
regret the-thing public than the-hope of-plunder and of-pillage to-follow
maluisse. Item Murci et Crispi imperatorum dignitatem,
to-have-preferred Likewise of-Murcus and of-Crispus the-imperators the-dignity
quantum est in te, tuere. Nam Bassus misere noluit mihi
as-far-as is in you protect For Bassus wretchedly was-unwilling to-me
legionem tradere. Quod nisi milites invito eo legatos
the-legion to-hand-over But unless the-soldiers with-unwilling him envoys
ad me misissent, clausam Apameam tenuisset, quoad vi
to me had-sent shut Apamea he-would-have-held until by-force
esset expugnata. Haec a te peto non solum rei
it-had-been stormed These-things of you I-ask not only of-the-thing

p., quae tibi semper fuit carissima, sed etiam amicitiae
public which to-you always has-been dearest but also of-friendship
nostrae nomine, quam confido apud te plurimum posse.
our in-the-name which I-trust with you most to-be-able
4 Crede mihi hunc exercitum quem habeo senatus atque
Believe me this army which I-have of-the-senate and
optimi cuiusque esse maximeque tuum, de cuius voluntate
of-the-best each to-be and-most yours about whose goodwill
adsidue audiendo mirifice te diligit carumque habet. Qui
constantly by-hearing wonderfully you it-loves and-dear holds Which
si intellexerit commoda sua curae tibi esse, debere
if it-will-have-understood interests its a-concern to-you to-be to-owe
etiam se tibi omnia putabit.
even itself to-you all-things it-will-think
5 Litteris scriptis audii Dolabellam in Ciliciam venisse
With-the-letter written I-heard that-Dolabella into Cilicia to-have-come
cum suis copiis. Proficiscar in Ciliciam. Quid egerim
with his forces I-shall-set-out into Cilicia What I-have-done
celeriter ut scias dabo operam; ac velim, ut
quickly that you-may-know I-will-give effort and I-would-wish as
meremur de re p., sic felices simus. Fac valeas
we-deserve of the-thing public so lucky we-may-be Make you-are-well
meque ames. Nonis Maiis ex castris.
and-me you-love On-the-Nones of-May from camp

Cassius of Parma, quaestor, rejoices that Cicero, greatest of consulars, has outdone himself as consul, his toga luckier than all arms in saving the commonwealth, and asks a place among those Cicero brings forward. With ships gathered from Asia's coast he chased Dolabella's fleet under Figulus into Corycus, then made for Cyprus. Dolabella is camped against Laodicea with grain so dear that he must soon starve unless supplies come by sea; Cassius, camped at Paltus, hopes to win without a battle, and the fleets of Sextilius Rufus, the writer, Turullius, and Patiscus will cut off his supplies. He bids Cicero hope.

C. Cassius Q. s. d. M. Ciceroni.

Gaius Cassius quaestor greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

S. v. b. e. v. Cum rei p. vel salute vel 1

If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well Both of-the-thing public either in-the-safety or

victoria gaudemus tum instauratione tuarum laudum, quod

in-the-victory we-rejoice and in-the-renewal of-your praises that

maximus consularis maximum consulem te ipse vicisti,

the-greatest consular the-greatest consul you yourself you-have-surpassed

et laetamur et mirari satis non possumus. Fatale nescio

both we-are-glad and to-wonder enough not we-can Fated I-know-not

quid tuae virtuti datum, id quod saepe iam experti

what to-your virtue given that which often already experienced

sumus. Est enim tua toga omnium armis felicior; quae nunc

we-have Is for your toga than-all arms luckier which now

quoque nobis paene victam rem p. ex manibus hostium

also for-us almost conquered the-thing public from the-hands of-the-enemy

eripuit ac reddidit. Nunc ergo vivemus liberi, nunc te,

has-snatched and has-given-back Now therefore we-shall-live free now you

omnium maxime civis et mihi carissime, id quod maximis

of-all most citizen and to-me dearest that which in-the-greatest

rei p. tenebris comperisti, nunc te habebimus testem

of-the-thing public darkness you-found-out now you we-shall-have as-witness

nostri et in te et in coniunctissimam tibi rem
of-our both toward you and toward most-closely-joined to-you the-thing
p. amoris et, quae saepe pollicitus es te et
public love and what-things often promised you-have that-you both
taciturum dum serviremus, et dicturum de me tum
going-to-keep-silent while we-were-slaves and going-to-speak about me then
cum mihi profutura essent, nunc illa non ego
when to-me helpful they-would-be now those-things not I
quidem dici tanto opere desiderabo quam sentiri a te
indeed to-be-said so much will-desire as to-be-felt by you
ipso. Neque enim omnium iudicio malim me a
yourself Nor for of-all by-the-judgment would-I-prefer me by
te commendari quam ipse tuo iudicio digne ac mereor
you to-be-commended than myself by-your judgment worthily as I-deserve
commendatus esse, ut haec novissima nostra facta non
commended to-be so-that these latest our deeds not
subita nec convenientia sed similia illis cogitationibus quarum
sudden nor fitting but like those thoughts of-which
tu testis es fuisse iudices meque ad optimam spem
you witness are to-have-been you-judge and-me to the-best hope
patriae non minimum tibi ipsi producendum putes.
of-the-country not least by-you yourself to-be-brought-forward you-think

2 Sunt tibi, M. Tulli, liberi propinquique digni quidem te
There-are to-you Marcus Tullius children and-relatives worthy indeed of-you
et merito tibi carissimi; esse etiam debent in re p.
and deservedly to-you dearest to-be also they-ought in the-thing public
proxime hos cari, qui studiorum tuorum sunt aemuli, quorum
next to-these dear who of-the-pursuits your are rivals of-whom
esse cupio tibi copiam; sed tamen non maxima me turba
to-be I-desire to-you an-abundance but still not in-the-greatest me crowd
puto excludi, quo minus tibi vacet me excipere et
I-think to-be-shut-out by-which less to-you there-be-leisure me to-take-up and

ad omnia quae velis et probes producere. Animum tibi
to all-things which you-wish and approve to-bring-forward The-spirit to-you
nostrum fortasse probavimus, ingenium diutina servitus certe,
our perhaps we-have-proved the-talent long slavery certainly
qualecumque est, minus tamen quam erat passa est videri.
whatever-kind it-is less still than it-was allowed has to-be-seen
Nos ex ora maritima Asiae provinciae et ex insulis 3
We from the-coast maritime of-Asia the-province and from the-islands
quas potuimus navis deduximus, dilectum remigum magna
which we-could ships we-brought-down a-levy of-rowers with-great
contumacia civitatium tamen satis celeriter habuimus, secuti
obstinacy of-the-states still fairly quickly we-held followed
sumus classem Dolabellae cui L. Figulus praeerat; qui
we-have the-fleet of-Dolabella which Lucius Figulus commanded who
spem saepe transitionis praebendo neque umquam non
the-hope often of-desertion by-offering nor ever not
decedendo novissime Corycum se contulit et clauso portu
by-withdrawing at-last to-Corycus himself betook and with-closed harbor
se tenere coepit. Nos illa relicta, quod et in castra
himself to-keep began We with-that left because both into the-camp
pervenire satius esse putabamus et sequebatur classis altera,
to-come better to-be we-thought and there-was-following fleet another
quam anno priore in Bithynia Tillius Cimber compararat,
which in-the-year previous in Bithynia Tillius Cimber had-raised
Turullius quaestor praeerat, Cyprum petivimus. Ibi quae
Turullius the-quaestor commanded(-it) Cyprus we-made-for There what
cognovimus scribere ad vos quam celerrime voluimus.
we-learned to-write to you as most-quickly we-wished
Dolabellam ut Tarsenses, pessimi socii, ita Laudiceni multo 4
Dolabella as the-Tarsians worst allies so the-Laodiceans much
amentiores ultro arcessierunt; ex quibus utrisque civitatibus
madder unasked summoned from which both states

Graecorum militum numero speciem exercitus effecit.
of-Greek soldiers by-the-number the-appearance of-an-army he-has-made
Castra habet ante oppidum Laudiceam posita et partem
Camp he-has before the-town Laodicea placed and part
muri demolitus est et castra oppido coniunxit. Cassius
of-the-wall demolished he-has and the-camp to-the-town has-joined Cassius
noster cum decem legionibus et cohortibus xx auxiliariis
our with ten legions and cohorts twenty auxiliary
et quattuor milium equitatu a milibus passuum xx castra
and of-four thousand cavalry from thousand paces twenty camp
habet posita Πάλτῳ et existimat se sine proelio posse
has placed at-Paltus and thinks that-he without battle to-be-able
vincere; nam iam ternis tetrachmis triticum apud Dolabellam
to-conquer for now at-three tetradrachms wheat with Dolabella
est. Nisi quid navibus Laudicenorum supportarit, cito
is Unless anything in-the-ships of-the-Laodiceans he-will-have-brought-in quickly
fame pereat necesse est; ne supportare possit et Cassi
by-hunger he-perish needful it-is that-not to-bring-in he-can both of-Cassius
classis bene magna cui praeest Sextilius Rufus et tres quas
the-fleet very large which commands Sextilius Rufus and the-three which
nos adduximus, ego, Turullius, Patiscus, facile praestabunt.
we have-brought I Turullius Patiscus easily will-make-good
Te volo bene sperare et rem p., ut vos istic expedistis,
You I-wish well to-hope and the-thing public as you there have-set-right
ita pro nostra parte celeriter nobis expediri posse confidere.
so for our part quickly by-us to-be-set-right to-be-able to-trust
Vale. D. Idib. Iun. Cypro a Crommyuacride.
Farewell Dated on-the-Ides of-June from-Cyprus from Crommyuacris

Lentulus, finding Brutus slow to reach Asia, went back to gather what he had collected and send money to Rome. Learning that Dolabella's fleet and over a hundred transports lay in Lycia, ready to carry his army to Italy, he attacked; despite the Rhodians' obstruction he scattered the fleet and took every transport. He complains of the Rhodians and asks Cicero to have the consuls leave Asia in his charge until they come, recounting what he did first for Cassius and the commonwealth. He could not see Cicero's son, gone to wind quarters with the cavalry.

Lentulus Ciceroni suo s. p. d.
Lentulus to-Cicero his-own greeting very-much says

Cum Brutum nostrum convenissem eumque tardius in 1
When Brutus our I-had-met and-that-he rather-late into
Asiam venturum animadverterem, in Asiam redii ut
Asia going-to-come I-perceived into Asia I-returned that
reliquias mei laboris conligerem et pecuniam quam primum
the-remnants of-my labor I-might-gather and the-money as first
Romam mitterem. Interim cognovi in Lycia esse classem
to-Rome I-might-send Meanwhile I-learned in Lycia to-be the-fleet
Dolabellae ampliusque centum navis onerarias in quas
of-Dolabella and-more than-a-hundred ships transport into which
exercitus eius imponi posset, idque Dolabellam ea
the-army his to-be-put could and-that that-Dolabella with-that
mente comparasse ut, si Syriae spes eum frustrata esset,
mind to-have-gathered that if of-Syria the-hope him deceived had
conscenderet in navis et Italiam peteret seque cum
he-might-embark on the-ships and Italy make-for and-himself with
Antoniis et reliquis latronibus coniungeret. Cuius rei
the-Antonii and the-other brigands join Of-which thing

tanto in timore fui, ut omnibus rebus relictis cum
such-great in fear I-was that with-all things left with
paucioribus et minoribus navibus ad illas ire conatus sim.
fewer and smaller ships against them to-go tried I-have

2 Quae res, si a Rhodiis non essem interpellatus, fortasse
Which thing if by the-Rhodians not I-had-been interrupted perhaps
tota sublata esset; tamen magna ex parte profligata
wholly removed it-would-have-been still great in part routed
est, quoniam quidem classis dissipata est adventus
it-has-been since indeed the-fleet scattered has-been of-the-arrival
nostri timore, milites ducesque effugerunt, onerariae omnes
our through-fear the-soldiers and-leaders fled the-transports all
ad unam a nobis sunt exceptae. Certe quod maxime
to one by us have-been captured Certainly what most
timui videor esse consecutus, ut non possit Dolabella in
I-feared I-seem to-have attained that not can Dolabella into
Italiam pervenire nec suis sociis firmatis durius vobis
Italy to-come nor with-his allies strengthened harsher for-you
efficere negotium.
to-make the-business

3 Rhodii nos et rem p. quam valde desperaverint
The-Rhodians us and the-thing public how greatly they-have-despaired-of
ex litteris quas publice misi cognosces. Et quidem
from the-letter which officially I-sent you-will-learn And indeed
multo parcius scripsi quam re vera furere eos
much more-sparingly I-wrote than in-fact true to-rage that-they
inveni. Quod vero aliquid de iis scripsi, mirari noli;
I-found That indeed something about them I-wrote to-wonder do-not
mira est eorum amentia. Nec me meae ullae privatim
wonderful is their madness Nor me my any privately
iniuriae umquam; malus animus eorum in nostra salute,
wrongs ever the-ill will their toward our safety

cupiditas partium aliarum, perseverantia in contemptione
the-desire for-parties other the-persistence in contempt
optimi cuiusque ferenda mihi non fuit. Nec tamen omnis
of-the-best each to-be-borne by-me not was Nor still all
perditos esse puto; sed idem illi, qui tum fugientem
ruined to-be I-think but the-same those-men who then fleeing
patrem meum, qui L. Lentulum, qui Pompeium, qui
father my who Lucius Lentulus who Pompey who
ceteros viros clarissimos non receperunt, idem tamquam
the-other men most-illustrious not received the-same as-if
aliquo fato et nunc aut magistratum gerunt aut eos
by-some fate also now either magistracy hold or those
qui sunt in magistratu in sua habent potestate; itaque
who are in magistracy in their-own have power and-so
eadem superbia in pravitate utuntur; quorum improbitatem
the-same arrogance in depravity they-use whose wickedness
aliquando retundi et non pati impunitate augeri non
sometime to-be-blunted and not to-allow by-impunity to-be-increased not
solum utile est rei p. nostrae sed etiam necessarium.
only useful is for-the-thing public our but also necessary
De nostra dignitate velim tibi ut semper curae sit 4
About our dignity I-would-wish to-you that always a-concern be
et, quocumque tempore occasionem habueris, et in
and at-whatever time opportunity you-will-have-had both in
senatu et ceteris rebus laudi nostrae suffragere. Quoniam
the-senate and in-other matters for-praise our you-vote Since
consulibus decreta est Asia et permissum est iis
to-the-consuls assigned has-been Asia and allowed it-has-been to-them
ut, dum ipsi venirent, darent negotium qui
that until they-themselves came they-should-give the-charge to-men-who
Asiam optineant, rogo te petas ab iis ut hanc dignitatem
Asia may-hold I-ask you you-ask of them that this dignity

potissimum nobis tribuant et mihi dent negotium ut Asiam
especially to-us they-grant and to-me give the-charge that Asia
obtineam, dum ipsorum alter uter venit; nam quod hoc
I-hold until of-themselves one or-other comes for that to-this
properent in magistratu venire aut exercitum mittere causam
they-should-hasten in office to-come or an-army to-send cause
non habent. Dolabella enim in Syria est et, ut tu divina tua
not they-have Dolabella for in Syria is and as you by-divine your
mente prospexisti et praedicasti, dum isti veniunt, Cassius
mind have-foreseen and foretold while those-men are-coming Cassius
eum opprimet; exclusus enim ab Antiochia Dolabella et in
him will-crush shut-out for from Antioch Dolabella and in
oppugnando male acceptus nulla alia confisus urbe Laudiceam,
attacking ill received in-no other trusting city to-Laodicea
quae est in Syria, ad mare se contulit. Ibi spero celeriter
which is in Syria by the-sea himself has-betaken There I-hope quickly
eum poenas daturum; nam neque quo refugiat habet neque
that-he punishment going-to-pay for neither whither he-may-flee he-has nor
diutius ibi poterit tantum exercitum Cassi sustinere. Spero
longer there will-be-be-able so-great an-army of-Cassius to-withstand I-hope
etiam confectum esse iam et oppressum Dolabellam.
even finished to-have-been already and crushed Dolabella
5 Qua re non puto Pansam et Hirtium in consulatu
By-which thing not I-think that-Pansa and Hirtius in the-consulship
properaturos in provincias exire sed Romae acturos
going-to-hurry into the-provinces to-go-out but at-Rome going-to-carry-on
consulatum. Itaque si ab iis petieris ut interea
the-consulship And-so if from them you-will-have-asked that meanwhile
nobis procurationem Asiae dent, spero te posse
to-us the-administration of-Asia they-give I-hope that-you to-be-able
impetrare. Praeterea mihi promiserunt Pansa et Hirtius
to-obtain(-it) Besides to-me promised Pansa and Hirtius

coram et absenti mihi scripserunt Verrioque nostro Pansa
face-to-face and to-absent me wrote and-to-Verrius our Pansa
adfirmavit se daturum operam ne in suo consulatu
affirmed that-be going-to-give effort that-not in his consulship
mihi succedatur. Ego porro non medius fidius cupiditate
to-me a-successor-be-sent I moreover not so-help-me god-of-faith by-desire
provinciae produci longius spatium mihi volo; nam mihi
for-the-province to-be-drawn-out a-longer space for-myself I-wish for to-me
fuit ista provincia plena laboris, periculi, detrimenti; quae
has-been that province full of-labor of-danger of-loss which
ego ne frustra subierim nive, prius quam reliquias
I lest in-vain I-should-have-undergone or-lest before than the-remnants
meae diligentiae consequar, decedere cogar valde laboro.
of-my diligence I-attain to-withdraw I-be-compelled greatly I-am-concerned
Nam si potuissem quam exegeram pecuniam universam
For if I-had-been-able which I-had-exacted the-money all
mittere, postularem ut mihi succederetur; nunc, quod Cassio
to-send I-would-demand that to-me a-successor-be-sent now what to-Cassius
dedi, quod Treboni morte amisimus, quod etiam crudelitate
I-gave what by-Trebonius' death we-lost what also by-the-cruelty
Dolabellae aut perfidia eorum, qui fidem mihi reique
of-Dolabella or the-treachery of-those who faith to-me and-to-the-thing
publicae non praestiterunt, id consequi et reficere volo;
public not kept that to-recover and to-restore I-wish
quod aliter non potest fieri, nisi spatium habuero. Id
which otherwise not can to-be-done unless time I-shall-have-had That
ut per te consequar velim, ut solet, tibi curae sit.
that through you I-may-attain I-would-wish as it-is-wont to-you a-concern be
Ego me de re p. puto esse meritum, ut non provinciae 6
I myself of the-thing public I-think to-have deserved that not of-the-province
istius beneficium exspectare debeam sed tantum quantum
that the-favor to-await I-ought but as-much as

Cassius et Bruti non solum illius facti periculique societate
Cassius and the-Bruti not only of-that deed and-danger by-partnership
sed etiam huius temporis studio et virtute. Primus enim
but also of-this time by-zeal and courage First for
ego leges Antonias fregi, primus equitatum Dolabellae ad
I the-laws Antonian broke first the-cavalry of-Dolabella to
rem p. traduxi Cassioque tradidi, primus dilectus habui
the-thing public brought-over and-to-Cassius handed-over first levies I-held
pro salute omnium contra coniurationem sceleratissimam,
for the-safety of-all against a-conspiracy most-wicked
solus Cassio et rei p. Syriam exercitusque qui ibi
alone to-Cassius and to-the-thing public Syria and-the-armies which there
erant coniunxi; nam nisi ego tantam pecuniam tantaque
were I-joined for unless I so-much money and-so-great
praesidia et tam celeriter Cassio dedissem, ne ausus quidem
forces and so quickly to-Cassius had-given not dared even
esset ire in Syriam et nunc non minora pericula
would-be-have to-go into Syria and now not smaller dangers
rei p. a Dolabella instarent quam ab Antonio.
to-the-thing public from Dolabella would-press than from Antony
7 Atque haec omnia is feci qui sodalis et
And these-things all the-man I-did who companion and
familiarissimus Dolabellae eram, coniunctissimus sanguine
most-intimate of-Dolabella I-was most-closely-joined by-blood
Antoniis, provinciam quoque illorum beneficio habebam,
to-the-Antonii the-province also by-their kindness I-held
sed ‘πατρίδα ἐμὴν μᾶλλον φιλῶν’ omnibus meis bellum
but country my more loving on-all my-own war
primus indixi. Haec etsi adhuc non magno opere
first I-declared These-things although so-far not in-great measure
mihi tulisse fructum animadverto, tamen non despero
to-me to-have-brought fruit I-perceive still not I-despair

nec defetigabor permanere non solum in studio libertatis
nor will-I-be-wearied to-remain not only in zeal for-liberty
sed etiam in labore et periculis. At tamen, si etiam aliqua
but also in labor and dangers But still if also by-some
gloria iusta et merita provocabimur senatus et optimi
glory just and deserved we-shall-be-called-out of-the-senate and of-the-best
cuiusque officiis, maiore cum auctoritate apud ceteros
each by-the-services greater with authority with the-rest
erimus et eo plus prodesse rei p. poterimus.
we-shall-be and by-so-much more to-benefit to-the-thing public we-shall-be-able
Filium tuum, ad Brutum cum veni, videre non potui, 8
Son your to Brutus when I-came to-see not I-could
ideo quod iam in hiberna cum equitibus erat
for-this-reason that already into winter-quarters with the-horsemen he-had
profectus, sed medius fidius ea esse eum opinione
set-out but so-help-me god-of-faith of-that to-be that-he reputation
et tua et ipsius et in primis mea causa gaudeo;
both of-you and of-himself and among the-first for-my sake I-rejoice
fratris enim loco mihi est qui ex te natus teque
of-a-brother for in-place to-me he-is who from you born and-of-you
dignus est. Vale. D. iiii K. Iun. Pergae.
worthy is Farewell Dated fourth before-the-Kalends of-June at-Perga

Publius Lentulus, proquaestor, reports officially: when Dolabella plundered Asia and its Roman citizens and left before help could come, Lentulus returned to collect the revenues. Hearing of Dolabella's fleet in Lycia, he sailed with Patiscus' ships, met Rhodian obstruction, and took the transports. Dolabella has fled from Antioch toward Laodicea, his Asiatic troops deserting, and Cassius is near; the brigand will soon pay.

P. Lentulus P. f. proq. propr. s. d. coss.
Publius Lentulus of-Publius son proquaestor propraetor greeting says to-the-consuls
pr. tr. pl. senatui populo plebique Romanae.
praetors tribunes of-the-plebs senate people and-commons Roman
1 S. v. l. v. v. b. e. v. Scelere Dolabellae
If you and-children your are-well well it-is I-am-well By-the-crime of-Dolabella
oppressa Asia in proximam provinciam Macedoniam
with-crushed Asia into the-nearest province Macedonia
praesidiaque rei p. quae M. Brutus, v. c.,
and-the-defenses of-the-thing public which Marcus Brutus a-man most-distinguished
tenebat me contuli et id egi ut, per quos celerrime
was-holding myself I-betook and this I-worked-at that through whom most-quickly
possent, Asia provincia vectigaliaque in vestram potestatem
they-could Asia the-province and-the-revenues into your power
redigerentur. Quod cum pertimuisset Dolabella vastata
might-be-brought-back Which when had-feared Dolabella with-ravaged
provincia, correptis vectigalibus, praecipue civibus Romanis
province with-seized revenues especially with-citizens Roman
omnibus crudelissime denudatis ac divenditis celeriusque
all most-cruelly stripped and sold-off and-more-quickly
Asia excessisset quam eo praesidium adduci potuisset,
Asia had-left than thither a-force to-be-brought could
diutius morari aut exspectare praesidium non necesse habui
longer to-stay or to-wait-for a-force not necessary I-held

et quam primum ad meum officium revertendum mihi esse
and as first to my duty to-be-returned by-me to-be
existimavi, ut et reliqua vectigalia exigerem et quam
I-thought that both the-remaining revenues I-might-exact and what
deposui pecuniam conligerem, quicquid ex ea correptum
I-deposited money I-might-collect whatever from it seized
esset aut quorum id culpa accidisset cognoscerem quam
had-been or whose this by-fault had-happened I-might-learn as
primum et vos de omni re facerem certiores.
first and you about every thing I-might-make more-certain
Interim cum per insulas in Asiam naviganti mihi 2
Meanwhile when through the-islands into Asia sailing to-me
nuntiatum esset classem Dolabellae in Lycia esse
reported it-had-been that-the-fleet of-Dolabella in Lycia to-be
Rhodiosque navis compluris instructas et paratas in aqua
and-the-Rhodians ships very-many equipped and ready in the-water
habere, cum iis navibus, quas aut mecum adduxeram aut
to-have with those ships which either with-me I-had-brought or
comparaverat Patiscus proq., homo mihi cum familiaritate
had-procured Patiscus proquaestor a-man to-me both by-friendship
tum etiam sensibus in re p. coniunctissimus, Rhodum
and also in-feelings in the-thing public most-closely-joined to-Rhodes
deverti confisus auctoritate vestra senatusque consulto
I-turned-aside trusting in-the-authority your and-the-senate's decree
quo hostem Dolabellam iudicaratis, foedere quoque quod
by-which an-enemy Dolabella you-had-judged in-the-treaty also which
cum iis M. Marcello, Ser. Sulpicio coss. renovatum
with them with-Marcus Marcellus Servius Sulpicius consuls renewed
erat, quo iuraverant Rhodii eosdem hostis se
had-been in-which had-sworn the-Rhodians the-same as-enemies that-they
habituros quos senatus populusque R. Quae res nos
going-to-hold whom the-senate and-people Roman Which thing us

vehementer fefellit; tantum enim afuit ut illorum
vehemently deceived so-far for it-was-distant that by-their
praesidio nostram firmaremus classem, ut etiam a
protection our we-might-strengthen fleet that even by
Rhodiis urbe, portu, statione quae extra urbem est,
the-Rhodians from-the-city the-harbor the-anchorage which outside the-city is
commeatu, aqua denique prohiberentur nostri milites, nos
supplies water in-short were-kept-off our soldiers we
vix ipsi singulis cum navigiolis reciperemur. Quam
scarcely ourselves single with small-boats were-received Which
indignitatem deminutionemque maiestatis non solum iuris
indignity and-lessening of-the-majesty not only of-right
nostri sed etiam imperi populique Romani idcirco
our but also of-the-empire and-of-the-people Roman for-this-reason
tulimus, quod interceptis litteris cognoramus Dolabellam, si
we-bore because with-intercepted letters we-had-learned that-Dolabella if
desperasset de Syria Aegyptoque, quod necesse erat fieri,
he-had-despaired about Syria and-Egypt which necessary was to-happen
in navis cum omnibus suis latronibus atque omni pecunia
on the-ships with all his brigands and all the-money
conscendere esse paratum Italiamque petere; idcirco etiam
to-embark to-be prepared and-Italy to-make-for for-this-reason also
navis onerarias, quarum minor nulla erat duum milium
the-ships transport of-which smaller none was than-two thousand
amphorum, contractas in Lycia a classe eius obsideri.
amphorae gathered in Lycia by the-fleet his to-be-guarded
3 Huius rei timore, p. c., percitus iniurias perpeti et
Of-this thing by-fear fathers enrolled roused wrongs to-endure and
cum contumelia etiam nostra omnia prius experiri malui.
with insult even our all-things first to-try I-preferred
Itaque ad illorum voluntatem introductus in urbem et in
And-so at their will brought into the-city and into

senatum eorum quam diligentissime potui causam rei
the-senate their as most-diligently I-could the-cause of-the-thing
p. egi periculumque omne quod instaret si ille latro
public I-pleaded and-the-danger all which would-threaten if that brigand
cum suis omnibus navis conscendisset exposui. Rhodios
with his all the-ships had-embarked I-set-out The-Rhodians
autem tanta in pravitate animadverti ut omnis firmiores
however such in depravity I-perceived that all stronger
putarent quam bonos, ut hanc concordiam et conspirationem
they-thought than the-good that this harmony and union
omnium ordinum ad defendendam libertatem propense non
of-all orders for defending liberty readily not
crederent esse factam, ut patientiam senatus et optimi
they-believed to-be made that the-patience of-the-senate and of-the-best
cuiusque manere etiam nunc confiderent nec potuisse
each to-remain even now they-trusted nor to-have-been-able
audere quemquam Dolabellam hostem iudicare, ut denique
to-dare anyone Dolabella an-enemy to-judge that in-short
omnia quae improbi fingebant magis vera existimarent
all-things which the-wicked were-inventing more true they-thought
quam quae vere facta erant et a nobis docebantur.
than what truly done had-been and by us were-being-shown
Qua mente etiam ante nostrum adventum post Treboni 4
With-which mind even before our arrival after of-Trebonius
indignissimam caedem ceteraque tot tamque nefaria
most-shameful murder and-the-other so-many and-so wicked
facinora binae profectae erant ad Dolabellam legationes
crimes two set-out had to Dolabella embassies
eorum, et quidem novo exemplo, contra leges ipsorum,
their and indeed by-a-new precedent against the-laws their-own
prohibentibus iis qui tum magistratus gerebant. Haec
with-forbidding those who then magistracies held These-things

sive timore, ut dictitant, de agris quos in continenti
whether through-fear as they-keep-saying about the-lands which on the-mainland
habent, sive furore sive patientia paucorum, qui
they-have or through-madness or by-the-sufferance of-a-few who
et antea pari contumelia viros clarissimos adfecerant
both before with-equal insult men most-illustrious had-visited
et nunc maximos magistratus gerentes nullo exemplo
and now the-greatest magistracies holding by-no precedent
neque nostra ex parte neque nostro praesentium neque
neither our on part nor to-our present nor
imminenti Italiae urbique nostrae periculo, si ille parricida
to-the-impending on-Italy and-city our danger if that parricide
cum suis latronibus navibus ex Asia Syriaque expulsus
with his brigands in-ships from Asia and-Syria driven-out
Italiam petisset, mederi, cum facile possent, noluerunt.
Italy had-made-for to-remedy though easily they-could they-were-unwilling
5 Non nullis etiam ipsi magistratus veniebant in suspicionem
Not to-none even the-very magistrates were-coming into suspicion
detinuisse nos et demorati esse, dum classis Dolabellae
to-have-detained us and delayed to-have while the-fleet of-Dolabella
certior fieret de adventu nostro. Quam suspicionem
more-certain might-be-made about the-arrival our Which suspicion
consecutae res aliquot auxerunt, maxime quod subito ex
following things several increased most because suddenly from
Lycia Sex. Marius et C. Titius, legati Dolabellae, a classe
Lycia Sextus Marius and Gaius Titius legates of-Dolabella from the-fleet
discesserunt navique longa profugerunt onerariis relictis,
departed and-in-a-ship long fled with-the-transports left
in quibus conligendis non minimum temporis laborisque
in which gathering not the-least of-time and-of-labor
consumpserant. Itaque cum ab Rhodo cum iis quas
they-had-spent And-so when from Rhodes with those which

habueramus navibus in Lyciam venissemus, navis onerarias
we-had ships into Lycia we-had-come the-ships transport
recepimus dominisque restituimus idemque, quod maxime
we-recovered and-to-their-owners restored and-likewise what most
verebamur, ne posset Dolabella cum suis latronibus in
we-were-fearing lest could Dolabella with his brigands into
Italiam venire, timere desiimus; classem fugientem persecuti
Italy to-come to-fear we-ceased the-fleet fleeing pursued
sumus usque Sidam, quae extrema regio est provinciae meae.
we-have as-far-as Side which the-farthest region is of-province my
Ibi cognovi partem navium Dolabellae diffugisse, reliquas 6
There I-learned that-part of-the-ships of-Dolabella to-have-scattered the-rest
Syriam Cyprumque petisse. Quibus disiectis, cum
Syria and-Cyprus to-have-made-for With-which scattered since
scirem C. Cassi, singularis civis et ducis, classem
I-knew of-Gaius Cassius a-singular citizen and general the-fleet
maximam fore praesto in Syria, ad meum officium
very-great going-to-be at-hand in Syria to my duty
reverti daboque operam ut meum studium, diligentiam
I-returned and-I-will-give effort that my zeal diligence
vobis, p. c., reique p. praestem pecuniamque
to-you fathers enrolled and-to-the-thing public I-may-show and-the-money
quam maximam potero et quam celerrime cogam
as greatest I-shall-be-able and as most-quickly I-will-collect
omnibusque rationibus ad vos mittam. Si percurrero
and-by-all means to you will-send If I-shall-have-run-through
provinciam et cognovero qui nobis et rei p. fidem
the-province and will-have-learned who to-us and to-the-thing public faith
praestiterunt in conservanda pecunia a me deposita quique
kept in preserving the-money by me deposited and-who
scelere ultro deferentes pecuniam publicam hoc munere
by-crime unasked handing-over the-money public by-this service

societatem facinorum cum Dolabella inierunt, faciam vos
partnership of-crimes with Dolabella entered I-will-make you
certiores. De quibus, si vobis videbitur, si, ut meriti
more-certain About whom if to-you it-will-seem-good if as deserved
sunt, graviter constitueritis nosque vestra auctoritate
they-have severely you-will-have-decided and-us by-your authority
firmaveritis, facilius et reliqua exigere vectigalia
you-will-have-strengthened more-easily both the-remaining to-exact revenues
et exacta servare poterimus. Interea quo commodius
and the-exacted to-keep we-shall-be-able Meanwhile that more-conveniently
vectigalia tueri provinciamque ab iniuria defendere
the-revenues to-guard and-the-province from wrong to-defend
possim, praesidium voluntarium necessariumque comparavi.
I-may-be-able a-force voluntary and-needful I-have-raised

7 His litteris scriptis milites circiter xxx, quos Dolabella
With-this letter written soldiers about thirty whom Dolabella
ex Asia conscripserat, ex Syria fugientes in Pamphyliam
from Asia had-enrolled from Syria fleeing into Pamphylia
venerunt. Hi nuntiaverunt Dolabellam Antiocheam quae in
came They reported that-Dolabella to-Antioch which in
Syria est venisse, non receptum conatum esse aliquotiens
Syria is to-have-come not received tried to-have several-times
vi introire; repulsum semper esse cum magno suo
by-force to-enter repulsed always to-have-been with great his
detrimento itaque dc circiter amissis, aegris relictis
loss and-so six-hundred about lost with-the-sick left
noctu Antiochea profugisse Laudiceam versus; ea nocte
by-night from-Antioch to-have-fled Laodicea toward that night
omnis fere Asiaticos milites ab eo discessisse; ex his
all almost the-Asiatic soldiers from him to-have-departed of these
ad octingentos Antiocheam redisse et se iis
up-to eight-hundred to-Antioch to-have-returned and themselves to-those

tradidisse qui a Cassio relicti urbi illi praeerant,
to-have-surrendered who by Cassius left over-the-city that were-in-command
ceteros per Amanum in Ciliciam descendisse, quo ex
the-rest through the-Amanus into Cilicia to-have-come-down which from
numero se quoque esse dicebant; Cassium autem cum suis
number themselves also to-be they-said that-Cassius however with his
omnibus copiis nuntiatum esse quadridui iter Laudicea
all forces reported to-have-been of-four-days a-march from-Laodicea
afuisse tum cum Dolabella eo tenderet. Quam
to-have-been-distant then when Dolabella thither was-making-for Which
ob rem opinione celerius confido sceleratissimum
on-account-of thing than-expectation more-quickly I-trust that-the-most-wicked
latronem poenas daturum. iiii N. Iun. Pergae.
brigand punishment going-to-pay fourth before-the-Nones of-June at-Perga

XII.16 · TREBONIUS AT ATHENS

Trebonius found Cicero's son at Athens devoted to the best studies and well spoken of, and will take him to Asia with Cratippus. He sends verses he wrote on the voyage, sharp against someone, defended by Lucilius' license, and asks Cicero to give him a part in his dialogues on Caesar's death.

Trebonius Ciceroni s.
Trebonius to-Cicero greeting
S. v. b. Athenas veni a. d. xi K. 1
If you-are-well it-is-well to-Athens I-came on-the day eleventh before-the-Kalends
Iun. atque ibi, quod maxime optabam, vidi filium tuum
of-June and there what most I-was-wishing I-saw son your
deditum optimis studiis summaque modestiae fama. Qua ex
devoted to-the-best studies and-the-highest for-modesty in-repute Which from
re quantam voluptatem ceperim scire potes etiam me
thing how-great pleasure I-have-taken to-know you-can even with-me

tacente; non enim nescis quanti te faciam et quam
silent not for you-are-ignorant at-how-much you I-value and how
pro nostro veterrimo verissimoque amore omnibus
in-accordance-with our oldest and-truest love in-all
tuis etiam minimis commodis, non modo tanto bono
your even the-smallest advantages not only in-so-great a-good
gaudeam. Noli putare, mi Cicero, me hoc auribus tuis dare;
I-rejoice Do-not think my Cicero that-I this to-ears your to-give
nihil adulescente tuo atque adeo nostro (nihil enim mihi
nothing than-young-man your and indeed our nothing for to-me
a te potest esse seiunctum) aut amabilius omnibus iis qui
from you can be separated or more-lovable to-all those who
Athenis sunt est aut studiosius earum artium quas tu maxime
at-Athens are is or more-devoted to-those arts which you most
amas, hoc est optimarum. Itaque tibi, quod vere facere
love that is to-the-best And-so to-you what truly to-do
possum, libenter quoque gratulor nec minus etiam
I-can gladly also I-offer-congratulations nor less also
nobis quod eum, quem necesse erat diligere qualiscumque
to-us that him whom needful it-was to-love whatever-sort
esset, talem habemus ut libenter quoque diligamus.
be-were such we-have that gladly also we-love(-him)

2 Qui cum mihi in sermone iniecisset se velle Asiam
Who when to-me in conversation had-thrown-in that-he to-wish Asia
visere, non modo invitatus sed etiam rogatus est a me ut
to-visit not only invited but also asked was by me that
id potissimum nobis obtinentibus provinciam faceret; cui
it especially with-us holding the-province he-should-do to-whom
nos et caritate et amore tuum officium praestaturos
that-we both in-affection and love your duty going-to-perform
non debes dubitare. Illud quoque erit nobis curae ut
not you-ought to-doubt That also will-be to-us a-concern that

Cratippus una cum eo sit, ne putes in Asia feriatum
Cratippus together with him be lest you-think in Asia on-holiday
illum ab iis studiis in quae tua cohortatione incitatur
that-he from those studies to which by-your exhortation he-is-urged
futurum; nam illum paratum, ut video, et ingressum pleno
going-to-be for him ready as I-see and having-entered at-full
gradu cohortari non intermittemus, quo in dies longius
pace to-urge-on not we-shall-cease that into days farther
discendo exercendoque se procedat.
by-learning and-exercising himself he-may-advance
Vos quid ageretis in re p., cum has litteras dabam, 3
You what you-were-doing in the-thing public when this letter I-was-giving
non sciebam; audiebam quaedam turbulenta, quae scilicet
not I-knew I-was-hearing certain-things turbulent which of-course
cupio esse falsa ut aliquando otiosa libertate fruamur;
I-wish to-be false that at-last at-leisure liberty we-may-enjoy
quod vel minime mihi adhuc contigit. Ego tamen nactus
which even least to-me so-far has-befallen I still having-got
in navigatione nostra pusillum laxamenti concinnavi tibi
in voyage our a-little of-relaxation have-put-together for-you
munusculum ex instituto meo et dictum cum magno
a-little-gift from custom my and a-saying with great
nostro honore a te dictum conclusi et tibi infra
our honor by you spoken I-have-made-into-verse and for-you below
subscripsi. In quibus versiculis si tibi quibusdam verbis
I-have-written-out In which little-verses if to-you in-certain words
εὐθυρρημονέστερος videbor, turpitudo personae eius in
more-plain-spoken I-shall-seem the-foulness of-the-person of-him against
quam liberius invehimur nos vindicabit. Ignosces etiam
whom more-freely we-inveigh us will-vindicate You-will-pardon also
iracundiae nostrae, quae iusta est in eius modi et homines
the-anger our which just is against of-that kind both men

et civis. Deinde qui magis hoc Lucilio licuerit
and citizens Then why more this to-Lucilius should-have-been-allowed
adsumere libertatis quam nobis? cum etiam si odio pari
to-assume of-liberty than to-us when even if with-hatred equal
fuerit in eos quos laesit, tamen certe non magis dignos
he-was toward those whom he-hurt still certainly not more worthy
habuerit in quos tanta libertate verborum incurreret.
he-had against whom with-so-great liberty of-words he-should-run
4 Tu sicut mihi pollicitus es, adiunges me quam primum ad
You as to-me promised you-have will-join me as first to
tuos sermones; namque illud non dubito quin, si quid de
your dialogues for that not I-doubt but-that if anything about
interitu Caesaris scribas, non patiaris me minimam partem
the-death of-Caesar you-write not you-will-allow me the-smallest part
et rei et amoris tui ferre. Vale et matrem meosque
both of-the-matter and of-love your to-bear Farewell and mother and-my-people
tibi commendatos habe. D. viii K. Iun. Athenis.
to-you commended hold Dated eighth before-the-Kalends of-June at-Athens

XII.17 · ON THE BEST KIND OF SPEAKING

Cicero thanks Cornificius for remembering him; there is disquieting news from Syria. Rome is at peace, but such that one would prefer some honorable activity. Cicero has written on the best kind of oratory, where he suspects Cornificius may differ, and will have it copied and sent; he sets no one above Cornificius' talent and hopes, and ranks few beside him.

Cicero s. d. Cornificio conlegae.

Cicero greeting says to-Cornificius his-colleague

Grata mihi vehementer est memoria nostri tua quam 1

Pleasing to-me vehemently is the-memory of-us your which

significasti litteris; quam ut conserves, non quo de tua

you-have-shown by-letter which that you-keep not because about your

constantia dubitem sed quia mos est ita rogandi, rogo.

constancy I-doubt but because the-custom is so of-asking I-ask

Ex Syria nobis tumultuosiora quaedam nuntiata sunt,

From Syria to-us more-tumultuous certain-things reported have-been

quae quia tibi sunt propiora quam nobis, tua me causa

which because to-you they-are nearer than to-us for-your me sake

magis movent quam mea. Romae summum otium est, sed

more move than for-mine At-Rome the-utmost peace is but

ita ut malis salubre aliquod et honestum negotium;

such that you-would-prefer a-wholesome some and honorable activity

quod spero fore. Video id curae esse Caesari.

which I-hope going-to-be I-see that a-concern to-be to-Caesar

Me scito, dum tu absis, quasi occasionem quandam et 2

Me know while you are-away as-it-were the-occasion a-certain and

licentiam nactum scribere audacius, et cetera quidem

license having-got to-write more-boldly and other-things indeed

fortasse quae etiam tu concederes, sed proxime scripsi de

perhaps which even you would-allow but lately I-have-written about

optimo genere dicendi, in quo saepe suspicatus sum te

the-best kind of-speaking in which often suspected I-have that-you

a iudicio nostro sic scilicet ut doctum hominem ab non

from judgment our thus of-course as a-learned man from a-not

indocto paulum dissidere. Huic tu libro maxime velim

unlearned-one a-little to-differ For-this you book most I-would-wish

ex animo, si minus, gratiae causa suffragere. Dicam tuis

from the-heart if less of-favor for-the-sake you-vote I-will-tell your-people

ut eum, si velint, describant ad teque mittant; puto enim,
that it if they-wish they-copy to and-you send I-think for
etiam si rem minus probabis, tamen in ista solitudine,
even if the-thing less you-will-approve still in that solitude
quicquid a me profectum sit, iucundum tibi fore.
whatever from me proceeded has pleasant to-you going-to-be
3 Quod mihi existimationem tuam dignitatemque commendas,
As-for-that to-me reputation your and-dignity you-commend
facis tu quidem omnium more, sed velim sic existimes,
you-do you indeed by-the-custom of-all but I-would-wish thus you-think
me cum amori quem inter nos mutuum esse intellegam
that-I both to-the-love which between us mutual to-be I-understand
plurimum tribuam, tum de summo ingenio et de
most I-attribute and about the-highest talent and about
studiis tuis optimis et de spe amplissimae dignitatis ita
pursuits your excellent and about the-hope of-most-ample dignity so
iudicare ut neminem tibi anteponam, comparem paucos.
to-judge that no-one to-you I-prefer I-compare few

XII.18 · PEACE HERE, WAR THERE

Cicero answers Cornificius' last point first: he never misses a courier. He approves his caution about Caecilius Bassus. Both of Cicero's hopes turned out the reverse: war came to Syria, peace to Rome, but a peace Cornificius would not enjoy, since in civil wars the victor must indulge his helpers. Cicero watched Plancus at Caesar's games calmly and heard Laberius and Publilius; he lacks someone to laugh with, and wants Cornificius back.

Cicero s. d. Cornificio conlegae.

Cicero greeting says to-Cornificius his-colleague

Quod extremum fuit in ea epistula quam a te proxime 1

What last was in that letter which from you lately

accepi, ad id primum respondebo; animum adverti enim hoc

I-received to that first I-will-reply mind I-turned for this

vos magnos oratores facere non numquam. Epistulas requiris

you great orators to-do not never Letters you-miss

meas; ego autem numquam, cum mihi denuntiatum esset

my I however never when to-me notice-given had-been

a tuis ire aliquem, non dedi. Quod mihi videor ex

by your-people to-go someone not gave(-one) As-for-what to-me I-seem from

tuis litteris intellegere te nihil commissurum esse temere

your letter to-understand that-you nothing going-to-commit to-be rashly

nec ante quam scisses quo iste nescio qui Caecilius

nor before than you-knew whither that I-know-not who Caecilius

Bassus erumperet quicquam certi constituturum, id ego et

Bassus would-break-out anything certain going-to-decide that I both

speraram prudentia tua fretus et ut confiderem fecerunt tuae

had-hoped by-the-prudence your relying and that I-should-trust have-made your

gratissimae mihi litterae, idque ut facias quam saepissime,

most-pleasing to-me letters and-that that you-do as most-often

ut et quid tu agas et quid agatur scire possim et

that both what you are-doing and what is-being-done to-know I-can and

etiam quid acturus sis, valde te rogo. Etsi periniquo

even what going-to-do you-are greatly you I-ask Although with-a-very-unfair

patiebar animo te a me digredi, tamen eo tempore

I-was-bearing mind that-you from me to-part still at-that time

me consolabar, quod et in summum otium te ire

myself I-was-consoling because both into the-utmost peace that-you to-go

arbitrabar et ab impendentibus magnis negotiis discedere.

I-thought and from impending great affairs to-depart

2 Utrumque contra accidit; istic enim bellum est exortum, hic
Each the-contrary happened there for war has arisen here
pax consecuta, sed tamen eius modi pax in qua, si adesses,
peace followed but still of-that kind peace in which if you-were-present
multa te non delectarent, ea tamen quae ne ipsum
many-things you not would-delight those still which not himself
Caesarem quidem delectant. Bellorum enim civilium ii semper
Caesar even delight Of-wars for civil these always
exitus sunt, ut non ea solum fiant quae velit victor,
the-outcomes are that not those-things only are-done which may-wish the-victor
sed etiam ut iis mos gerendus sit quibus adiutoribus
but also that to-those compliance to-be-shown be with-whom as-helpers
sit parta victoria. Equidem sic iam obdurui ut
has-been won the-victory For-my-part so now I-have-become-hardened that
ludis Caesaris nostri animo aequissimo viderem T.
at-the-games of-Caesar our with-mind most-even I-saw Titus
Plancum, audirem Laberi et Publili poemata. Nihil mihi tam
Plancus I-heard of-Laberius and of-Publilius the-poems Nothing to-me so
desse scito quam quicum haec familiariter docteque
to-be-lacking know as one-with-whom these-things familiarly and-learnedly
rideam. Is tu eris, si quam primum veneris; quod
I-may-laugh-at That you will-be if as first you-will-have-come which
ut facias, non mea solum sed etiam tua interesse arbitror.
that you-do not for-mine only but also for-yours to-concern I-think

Cicero is glad his letters arrived. He hopes the war in Syria, with the province Caesar assigned, will turn out well; if the Parthians move and Cornificius' forces are unequal, he should follow Bibulus and hold a fortified town. He asks Cornificius to write to his people that Cicero is his.

Cicero Cornificio s.

Cicero to-Cornificius greeting

Libentissime legi tuas litteras; in quibus iucundissimum mihi 1

Most-gladly I-read your letter in which most-delightful to-me

fuit, quod cognovi meas tibi redditas esse; non enim

was that I-learned that-mine to-you delivered to-have-been not for

dubitabam quin eas libenter lecturus esses, verebar

I-doubted but-that them gladly going-to-read you-would-be I-was-afraid

ut redderentur. Bellum quod est in Syria Syriamque

that-not they-would-be-delivered The-war which is in Syria and-Syria

provinciam tibi tributam esse a Caesare ex tuis litteris

the-province to-you assigned to-have-been by Caesar from your letter

cognovi. Eam rem tibi volo bene et feliciter evenire; quod

I-learned That thing for-you I-wish well and luckily to-turn-out which

ita fore confido fretus et industria et prudentia tua.

so going-to-be I-trust relying both on-the-industry and prudence your

Sed de Parthici belli suspicione quod scribis, sane me 2

But about of-a-Parthian war the-suspicion what you-write truly me

commovit. Quid enim copiarum haberes cum ipse coniectura

disturbed What for of-forces you-had both myself by-conjecture

consequi poteram tum ex tuis litteris cognovi. Itaque opto

to-attain I-could and from your letter I-learned And-so I-wish

ne se illa gens moveat hoc tempore, dum ad te legiones

that-not itself that people should-move at-this time while to you the-legions

eae perducantur quas audio duci. Quod si paris copias ad
those be-brought which I-hear to-be-led But if equal forces for
confligendum non habebis, non te fugiet uti consilio
fighting not you-will-have not you will-escape to-use the-plan
M. Bibuli, qui se oppido munitissimo et copiosissimo
of-Marcus Bibulus who himself in-a-town most-fortified and most-well-supplied
tam diu tenuit quam diu in provincia Parthi fuerunt.
as long kept as long in the-province the-Parthians were
3 Sed haec melius ex re et ex tempore constitues;
But these-things better from the-situation and from the-time you-will-settle
mihi quidem usque curae erit quid agas, dum
to-me indeed continually a-concern it-will-be what you-are-doing until
quid egeris sciero. Litteras ad te numquam habui
what you-have-done I-shall-know A-letter to you never I-had-anyone
cui darem, quin dederim; a te ut idem facias peto,
to-whom I-could-give but-that I-gave(-it) of you that the-same you-do I-ask
in primisque ut ita ad tuos scribas, ut me tuum
among and-the-first that so to your-people you-write that me yours
sciant esse.
they-may-know to-be

XII.20 · THE SINUESSAN INN

Cicero welcomes Cornificius' letter, except for his scorn of Cicero's little inn at Sinuessa, which the little villa will resent unless Cornificius makes amends in full over the villas at Cumae and Pompeii. He asks to be provoked by some writing, since he answers more easily than he provokes; he dashed this off in the senate.

Cicero Cornificio.

Cicero to-Cornificius

Gratae mihi tuae litterae, nisi quod Sinuessanum 1

Welcome to-me your letter except that my-Sinuessan

deversoriolum contempsisti. Quam quidem contumeliam

little-inn you-despised Which indeed insult

villa pusilla iniquo animo feret, nisi in Cumano et

the-villa tiny with-unfair mind will-bear unless in my-Cuman and

Pompeiano reddideris πάντα περὶ πάντων. Sic igitur

my-Pompeian you-will-make-amends all-things about all-things Thus therefore

facies meque amabis et scripto aliquo lacesses; ego enim

you-will-do and-me you-will-love and with-writing some will-provoke I for

respondere facilius possum quam provocare. Quod si, ut es,

to-reply more-easily can than to-provoke But if as you-are

cessabis, lacessam, nec tua ignavia etiam mihi inertiam

you-will-be-idle I-will-provoke nor your idleness even to-me sloth

adferet. Plura otiosus; haec cum essem in senatu exaravi.

will-bring More at-leisure these-things when I-was in the-senate I-scratched-out

XII.21 · GAIUS ANICIUS

Gaius Anicius, a friend, goes to Africa on a free legation for his business; Cicero asks Cornificius to help him and grant him lictors, as Cicero did for senators.

Cicero Cornificio.

Cicero to-Cornificius

C. Anicius, familiaris meus, vir omnibus rebus ornatus, 1

Gaius Anicius friend my a-man in-all things accomplished

negotiorum suorum causa legatus est in Africam

of-business his-own for-the-sake as-legate has-gone to Africa

legatione libera. Eum velim rebus omnibus adiuves
on-an-embassy free Him I-would-wish in-things all you-help
operamque des ut quam commodissime sua negotia
and-effort give that as most-conveniently his business
conficiat, in primisque, quod ei carissimum est,
he-may-accomplish among and-the-first what to-him dearest is
dignitatem eius tibi commendo idque a te peto, quod
dignity his to-you I-commend and-this from you I-ask which
ipse in provincia facere sum solitus non rogatus, ut
I-myself in the-province to-do was accustomed not asked that
omnibus senatoribus lictores darem; quod idem acceperam
to-all senators lictors I-should-give which the-same I-had-received
et id cognoveram a summis viris factitatum. Hoc
and that I-had-learned by the-greatest men to-have-been-done-often This
igitur, mi Cornifici, facies ceterisque rebus omnibus
therefore my Cornificius you-will-do and-in-the-other things all
eius dignitati reique, si me amas, consules. Erit id
for-his dignity and-interest if me you-love you-will-provide It-will-be that
mihi gratissimum. Da operam ut valeas.
to-me most-pleasing Give effort that you-are-well

XII.22 · WAR AGAINST A GLADIATOR

In Rome they wage war with a gladiator, Antony, with words against arms; he harangues against Cornificius too, but will regret it. All is crushed, and the tyrannicides are far away; Pansa feels and speaks well, Hirtius recovers slowly. Cicero will not fail the commonwealth and will protect Cornificius' reputation.

Cicero Cornificio s.

Cicero to-Cornificius greeting

Nos hic cum homine gladiatore omnium nequissimo, conlega 1

We here with a-man gladiator of-all most-worthless colleague

nostro, Antonio, bellum gerimus, sed non pari condicione,

our Antony war wage but not on-equal terms

contra arma verbis. At etiam de te contionatur, nec

against arms with-words But even about you he-harangues nor

impune; nam sentiet quos lacessierit. Ego autem acta

with-impunity for he-will-feel whom he-has-provoked I however the-proceedings

ad te omnia arbitror perscribi ab aliis; a me futura

to you all I-think to-be-written-out by others from me the-future-things

debes cognoscere; quorum quidem non est difficilis coniectura.

you-ought to-learn of-which indeed not is difficult the-conjecture

Oppressa omnia sunt, nec habent ducem boni, nostrique 2

Crushed all-things are nor have a-leader the-good and-our

tyrannoctoni longe gentium absunt. Pansa et sentit bene

tyrant-slayers far in-the-world are-away Pansa both feels well

et loquitur fortiter; Hirtius noster tardius convalescit. Quid

and speaks bravely Hirtius our more-slowly is-recovering What

futurum sit plane nescio; spes tamen una est aliquando

going-to-be is quite I-know-not hope still one is that-at-some-time

p. R. maiorum similem fore. Ego certe rei

the-people Roman to-its-ancestors like going-to-be I certainly to-the-thing

p. non deero et, quicquid acciderit a quo mea

public not I-shall-fail and whatever will-have-happened from which my

culpa absit, animo forti feram; illud profecto, quoad

fault be-absent with-mind brave I-shall-bear that surely as-long-as

potero, tuam famam et dignitatem tuebor.

I-shall-be-able your reputation and dignity I-will-protect

On the thirteenth day before the Kalends of January the senate agreed with Cicero that the provinces be kept by their governors until successors were named by decree. He urges Cornificius to let no one claim any right in his province. Had he obeyed Cicero over Sempronius he would have won praise; he should keep his province for the commonwealth.

Cicero Cornificio s.

Cicero to-Cornificius greeting

3 A. d. xiii K. Ian. senatus frequens mihi

On-the day thirteenth before-the-Kalends of-January the-senate full with-me

est adsensus cum de ceteris rebus magnis et necessariis

has agreed both about the-other matters great and necessary

tum de provinciis ab iis qui obtinerent retinendis

and about the-provinces by those who were-holding to-be-retained

neque cuiquam tradendis, nisi qui ex s. c.

nor to-anyone to-be-handed-over except who from of-the-senate decree

successisset. Hoc ego cum rei p. causa censui

had-succeeded This I both of-the-thing public for-the-sake proposed

tum me hercule in primis retinendae dignitatis

and so-help-me Hercules among the-first of-retaining the-dignity

tuae. Quam ob rem te amoris nostri causa rogo,

your Which on-account-of thing you of-love our for-the-sake I-ask

rei p. causa hortor ut ne cui quicquam iuris

of-the-thing public for-the-sake I-urge that not to-anyone any of-right

in tua provincia esse patiare atque ut omnia referas ad

in your province to-be you-allow and that all-things you-refer to

dignitatem, qua nihil esse potest praestantius.

dignity than-which nothing to-be can more-excellent

Vere tecum agam, ut necessitudo nostra postulat. In 4
Truly with-you I-will-deal as connection our demands In
Sempronio, si meis litteris obtemperasses, maximam ab
Sempronius if my letter you-had-obeyed the-greatest from
omnibus laudem adeptus esses. Sed illud et praeteriit et
all praise attained you-would-have But that both has-passed and
levius est, haec magna res est: Fac ut provinciam retineas
lighter is this a-great matter is Make that the-province you-keep
in potestate rei p. Plura scripsissem, nisi tui
in the-power of-the-thing public More I-would-have-written unless your-people
festinarent. Itaque Chaerippo nostro me velim excuses.
were-hurrying And-so to-Chaerippus our me I-would-wish you-excuse

XII.23 · ANTONY AT BRUNDISIUM

Tratorius has told Cicero the whole state of Cornificius' command, much of it intolerable. In Rome, Antony made a charge of young Caesar's attempt on his life, which the crowd thinks invented and prudent men believe and approve. He has gone to meet the four Macedonian legions at Brundisium, meaning to bring them on Rome's necks. Cicero laments that Cornificius has never known a sound commonwealth, and takes comfort in philosophy.

Cicero Cornificio s.
Cicero to-Cornificius greeting
Omnem condicionem imperi tui statumque provinciae mihi 1
The-whole condition of-command your and-the-state of-the-province to-me
demonstravit Tratorius. O multa intolerabilia locis omnibus!
showed Tratorius O many-things intolerable in-places all
Sed quo tua maior dignitas, eo quae tibi acciderunt minus
But the your greater dignity by-that what to-you have-happened less
ferenda; neque enim, quae tu propter magnitudinem
to-be-borne nor for what-things you on-account-of greatness

et animi et ingeni moderate fers, a te ea non ulciscenda
both of-mind and of-talent calmly bear by you those not to-be-avenged
sunt, etiam si non sunt dolenda. Sed haec posterius.
are even if not they-are to-be-grieved But these-things later
2 Rerum urbanarum acta tibi mitti certo scio. Quod
Of-affairs of-the-city the-proceedings to-you to-be-sent certainly I-know Which
ni ita putarem, ipse perscriberem in primisque Caesaris
unless so I-thought myself I-would-write-out among and-the-first of-Caesar
Octaviani conatum; de quo multitudini fictum ab Antonio
Octavianus the-attempt about which to-the-multitude invented by Antony
crimen videtur, ut in pecuniam adulescentis impetum
the-charge seems that on the-money of-the-young-man an-attack
faceret; prudentes autem et boni viri et credunt factum
he-might-make the-prudent however and good men both believe(-it) done
et probant. Quid quaeris? magna spes est in eo; nihil est
and approve(-it) What do-you-ask great hope is in him nothing is-there
quod non existimetur laudis et gloriae causa facturus.
which not he-is-thought of-praise and glory for-the-sake going-to-do
Antonius autem, noster familiaris, tanto se odio esse
Antony however our friend so-great himself with-hatred to-be
intellegit ut, cum interfectores suos domi comprenderit,
understands that when the-murderers his-own in-his-house he-has-caught
rem proferre non audeat. A. d. vii Id. Oct.
the-matter to-bring-forward not he-dares On-the day seventh before-the-Ides of-October
Brundisium erat profectus obviam legionibus Macedonicis
to-Brundisium he-had set-out to-meet the-legions Macedonian
quattuor, quas sibi conciliare pecunia cogitabat easque
four which to-himself to-win with-money he-was-planning and-them
ad urbem adducere et in cervicibus nostris conlocare.
to the-city to-bring and on necks our to-place

Habes formam rei p., si in castris potest esse res 3
You-have the-shape of-the-thing public if in a-camp can there-be a-thing
p.; in quo tuam vicem saepe doleo, quod nullam partem
public in which your lot often I-lament that no part
per aetatem sanae et salvae rei p. gustare potuisti.
through age of-a-sound and safe thing public to-taste you-have-been-able
Atque antehac quidem sperare saltem licebat, nunc etiam
And formerly indeed to-hope at-least it-was-allowed now even
id ereptum est. Quae enim est spes, cum in contione
that snatched-away is What for is hope when in an-assembly
dicere ausus sit Antonius Cannutium apud eos locum sibi
to-say dared has Antony that-Cannutius with those a-place for-himself
quaerere quibus se salvo locus in civitate esse non posset?
to-seek for-whom with-himself safe a-place in the-state to-be not could
Equidem et haec et omnia quae homini accidere 4
For-my-part both these-things and all which to-a-man to-happen
possunt sic fero ut philosophiae magnam habeam gratiam,
can so I-bear that to-philosophy great I-have gratitude
quae me non modo ab sollicitudine abducit sed etiam
which me not only from anxiety leads-away but also
contra omnis fortunae impetus armat, tibique idem censeo
against all of-fortune attacks arms and-for-you the-same I-think
faciendum nec a quo culpa absit quicquam in malis
to-be-done nor from which fault be-absent anything among evils
numerandum. Sed haec tu melius. Tratorium nostrum
to-be-counted But these-things you better Tratorius our
cum semper probassem, tum maxime in tuis rebus summam
while always I-had-approved then most in your affairs the-highest
eius fidem, diligentiam prudentiamque cognovi. Da
his loyalty diligence and-prudence I-came-to-know Give
operam ut valeas; hoc mihi gratius facere nihil potes.
effort that you-are-well this to-me more-pleasing to-do nothing you-can

Cicero takes every occasion to honor Cornificius and urges him to throw himself into the commonwealth. The envoys sent to Antony have not returned; Cicero defends the commonwealth as before. He commends Titus Pinarius, who manages Dionysius' affairs.

Cicero Cornificio s.

Cicero to-Cornificius greeting

1 Ego nullum locum praetermitto (nec enim debeo) non modo
I no occasion pass-over nor for I-ought not only
laudandi tui sed ne ornandi quidem; sed mea studia erga
of-praising you but not of-honoring even but my zeal toward
te et officia malo tibi ex tuorum litteris quam ex
you and services I-prefer to-you from of-your-people letters than from
meis esse nota. Te tamen hortor ut omni cura in rem
mine to-be known You still I-urge that with-all care on the-thing
p. incumbas. Hoc est animi, hoc est ingeni tui, hoc
public you-throw-yourself This is of-mind this is of-talent your this
eius spei quam habere debes amplificandae dignitatis tuae.
of-that hope which to-have you-ought of-increasing dignity your
2 Sed hac de re alias ad te pluribus. Cum enim
But this about matter another-time to you at-more-length When for
haec scribebam, in exspectatione erant omnia; nondum
these-things I-was-writing in expectation were all-things not-yet
legati redierant, quos senatus non ad pacem deprecandam
the-envoys had-returned whom the-senate not for peace to-be-begged
sed ad denuntiandum bellum miserat nisi legatorum nuntio
but for declaring war had-sent unless of-the-envoys to-the-message
paruisset. Ego tamen, ut primum occasio data est, meo
he-had-obeyed I still as first the-occasion given was in-my

pristino more rem p. defendi, me principem senatui
former manner the-thing public I-defended myself the-leader to-the-senate
populoque R. professus sum nec, postea quam suscepi
and-people Roman declared I-have nor after that I-took-up
causam libertatis, minimum tempus amisi tuendae salutis
the-cause of-liberty the-least time have-I-lost of-protecting the-safety
libertatisque communis. Sed haec quoque te ex aliis malo.
and-liberty common But these-things also you from others I-prefer
T. Pinarium, familiarissimum meum, tanto tibi studio 3
Titus Pinarius most-intimate my with-so-great to-you zeal
commendo ut maiore non possim; cui cum propter
I-commend that greater not I-could to-whom both on-account-of
omnis virtutes tum etiam propter studia communia sum
all virtues and also on-account-of pursuits common I-am
amicissimus. Is procurat rationes negotiaque Dionysi nostri,
most-friendly He manages the-accounts and-business of-Dionysius our
quem et tu multum amas et ego omnium plurimum. Ea
whom both you much love and I of-all most Those-things
tibi ego non debeo commendare, sed commendo tamen.
to-you I not ought to-commend but I-commend still
Facies igitur ut ex Pinari, gratissimi hominis, litteris
You-will-make therefore that from of-Pinarius most-grateful of-a-man the-letter
tuum et erga illum et erga Dionysium studium perspiciamus.
your both toward him and toward Dionysius zeal we-may-see-clearly

Cornificius' letter came at the Liberalia; at the Quinquatrus, before a full senate, Cicero pleaded his cause, the day the senate voted to restore Minerva's statue, and an honorable decree was passed for Cornificius, to the offense of Calvisius and Taurus. Since the thirteenth before the Kalends of January Cicero has worked for him and driven Calvisius from his hold on Africa. He accepts Cornificius' excuse about Sempronius, recalls his own return and his war on Antony, and urges courage: there is one ship for all the good.

Cicero Cornificio s.

Cicero to-Cornificius greeting

1 Liberalibus litteras accepi tuas quas mihi Cornificius
At-the-Liberalia letter I-received your which to-me Cornificius
altero vicesimo die, ut dicebat, reddidit. Eo die
on-the-second twentieth day as he-said delivered On-that day
non fuit senatus neque postero. Quinquatribus frequenti
not there-was a-senate nor on-the-next At-the-Quinquatrus with-a-full
senatu causam tuam egi non invita Minerva;
senate the-cause your I-pleaded not against-the-will-of Minerva
etenim eo ipso die senatus decrevit ut Minerva nostra,
for-indeed on-that very day the-senate decreed that Minerva our
custos urbis, quam turbo deiecerat, restitueretur.
guardian of-the-city whom a-whirlwind had-thrown-down should-be-restored
Pansa tuas litteras recitavit. Magna senatus approbatio
Pansa your letter read Great of-the-senate approval
consecuta est cum summo gaudio et offensione Minotauri,
followed has with the-highest joy and offense of-the-Minotaur
id est Calvisi et Tauri; factum de te s. c.
that is of-Calvisius and Taurus was-made about you of-the-senate decree
honorificum. Postulabatur ut etiam illi notarentur;
honorable It-was-being-demanded that also they be-censured

sed Pansa clementior. Ego, mi Cornifici, quo die primum in 2
but Pansa more-merciful I my Cornificius on-what day first into
spem libertatis ingressus sum et cunctantibus ceteris a. d.
hope of-liberty entered I-have and with-hesitating the-others on-the day
xiii K. Ian. fundamenta ieci rei p., eo
thirteenth before-the-Kalends of-January the-foundations I-laid of-the-thing public on-that
ipso die providi multum atque habui rationem dignitatis tuae;
very day I-provided much and I-held account of-the-dignity your
mihi enim est adsensus senatus de obtinendis provinciis.
with-me for has agreed the-senate about holding the-provinces
Nec vero postea destiti labefactare eum qui summa cum
Nor indeed afterward have-I-ceased to-undermine him who the-utmost with
tua iniuria contumeliaque rei p. provinciam absens
your injury and-insult of-the-thing public the-province absent
obtinebat. Itaque crebras vel potius cotidianas compellationes
was-holding And-so frequent or rather daily addresses
meas non tulit seque in urbem recepit invitus neque
my not he-bore and-himself into the-city he-withdrew unwilling nor
solum spe sed certa re iam et possessione deturbatus
only from-hope but from-certain thing already and possession dislodged
est meo iustissimo honestissimoque convicio. Te
he-has-been by-my most-just and-most-honorable outcry That-you
tuam dignitatem summa tua virtute tenuisse provinciaeque
your dignity by-the-highest your virtue to-have-held and-by-the-province's
honoribus amplissimis adfectum vehementer gaudeo.
honors most-ample affected vehemently I-rejoice
Quod te mihi de Sempronio purgas, accipio excusationem; 3
As-for-that you to-me about Sempronius you-clear I-accept the-excuse
fuit enim illud quoddam caecum tempus servitutis. Ego
was for that a-certain blind time of-slavery I
tuorum consiliorum auctor dignitatisque fautor iratus
of-your counsels the-adviser and-of-dignity the-supporter angry

temporibus in Graeciam desperata libertate rapiebar,
with-the-times into Greece with-despaired-of liberty was-being-swept
cum me etesiae quasi boni cives relinquentem rem
when me the-etesian-winds as-it-were good citizens abandoning the-thing
p. prosequi noluerunt austerque adversus maximo
public to-escort were-unwilling and-the-south-wind contrary with-the-greatest
flatu me ad tribulis tuos Regium rettulit, atque inde
blast me to tribesmen your to-Regium carried-back and thence
ventis remis in patriam omni festinatione properavi
with-winds with-oars to my-country with-all haste I-hurried
postridieque in summa reliquorum servitute liber unus fui.
and-the-next-day in the-utmost of-the-rest slavery free alone I-was
4 Sic sum in Antonium invectus ut ille non ferret
So I-have against Antony inveighed that he not could-bear(-it)
omnemque suum vinulentum furorem in me unum
and-all his wine-soaked fury on me alone
effunderet meque tum elicere vellet ad caedis causam
poured and-me now to-draw-out wished to of-slaughter a-cause
tum temptaret insidiis. Quem ego ructantem et nauseantem
now he-tried by-plots Whom I belching and vomiting
conieci in Caesaris Octaviani plagas. Puer enim egregius
I-threw into of-Caesar Octavianus the-nets The-boy for excellent
praesidium sibi primum et nobis, deinde summae
protection for-himself first and for-us then of-the-supreme
rei p. comparavit. Qui nisi fuisset, Antoni reditus a
thing public raised Who unless he-had-been of-Antony the-return from
Brundisio pestis patriae fuisset. Quae deinceps
Brundisium the-plague of-the-country would-have-been What-things next
acta sint scire te arbitror.
done have-been to-know that-you I-think

Sed redeamus illuc, unde devertimus. Accipio excusationem 5
But let-us-return thither whence we-have-turned-aside I-accept excuse
tuam de Sempronio; neque enim statuti quid in tanta
your about Sempronius nor for settled anything in such-great
perturbatione habere potuisti.
disturbance to-have you-could

'Nunc hic dies aliam vitam defert, alios mores postulat,'
Now this day another life brings other ways demands

ut ait Terentius. Quam ob rem, mi Quinte, conscende
as says Terence Which on-account-of thing my Quintus embark
nobiscum et quidem ad puppim. Una navis est iam
with-us and indeed to the-stern One ship there-is now
bonorum omnium, quam quidem nos damus operam ut
of-the-good all which indeed we we-give effort that
rectam teneamus, utinam prospero cursu! Sed, quicumque
straight we-may-hold would-that with-a-prosperous course But whatever
venti erunt, ars nostra certe non aberit. Quid enim
winds there-will-be skill our certainly not will-be-absent What for
praestare aliud virtus potest? Tu fac ut magno animo
to-make-good else virtue can You make that of-great spirit
sis et excelso cogitesque omnem dignitatem tuam cum
you-be and lofty and-think all dignity your with
re p. coniunctam esse debere.
the-thing public joined to-be to-be-bound

Cicero will protect Publius Lucceius. They have lost Hirtius and Pansa, salutary consuls; the commonwealth is freed from Antony's brigandage but not yet set right. He would rather Cornificius learned of Cicero's doings from others than from Cicero himself, and wants certain news of Gnaeus Minucius.

Cicero Cornificio s.

Cicero to-Cornificius greeting

6 P. Lucceium mihi meum commendas; quem quibuscumque

Publius Lucceius to-me my-own you-commend whom in-whatever

rebus potero diligenter tuebor. Hirtium quidem et

things I-shall-be-able carefully I-will-protect Hirtius indeed and

Pansam, conlegas nostros, homines in consulatu rei

Pansa colleagues our men in the-consulship to-the-thing

p. salutaris, alieno sane tempore amisimus, re

public salutary in-an-unfavorable truly time we-have-lost with-the-thing

publica Antoniano quidem latrocinio liberata sed nondum

public from-Antonian indeed brigandage freed but not-yet

omnino explicata. Quam nos, si licebit, more nostro

altogether set-right Which we if it-will-be-allowed in-manner our

tuebimur, quamquam admodum sumus iam defetigati. Sed

we-will-protect although very we-are now wearied But

nulla lassitudo impedire officium et fidem debet.

no weariness to-hinder duty and loyalty ought

7 Verum haec hactenus. Ab aliis te de me quam a

But these-things so-far From others you about me than from

me ipso malo cognoscere. De te audiebamus ea quae

me myself I-prefer to-learn About you we-were-hearing those-things which

maxime vellemus. De Cn. Minucio, quem tu quibusdam

most we-would-wish About Gnaeus Minucius whom you in-certain

litteris ad caelum laudibus extulisti, rumores duriores erant.
letters to heaven with-praises raised the-rumors harsher were
Id quale sit omninoque quid istic agatur facias me
That of-what-sort be and-altogether what there is-being-done you-make me
velim certiorem.
I-would-wish more-certain

XII.26 · TURIUS' HEIRS

Quintus Turius, who did business in Africa, made good men his heirs; they need thanks more than recommendation, so generous has Cornificius been. Cicero asks him to stop Turius' freedman Eros from diverting the inheritance.

Cicero Cornificio s.
Cicero to-Cornificius greeting
Q. Turius, qui in Africa negotiatus est, vir bonus 1
Quintus Turius who in Africa did-business has a-man good
et honestus, heredes fecit similis sui, Cn. Saturninum,
and honorable heirs made like himself Gnaeus Saturninus
Sex. Aufidium, C. Anneum, Q. Considium Gallum,
Sextus Aufidius Gaius Anneus Quintus Considius Gallus
L. Servilium Postumum, C. Rubellium. Ex eorum
Lucius Servilius Postumus Gaius Rubellius From their
oratione intellexi gratiarum actione eos magis egere quam
talk I-understood of-thanks the-giving that-they more to-need than
commendatione. Tanta enim liberalitate se tua usos
recommendation So-great for generosity themselves your to-have-used
praedicabant ut iis plus a te tributum intellegerem
they-declared that on-them more by you bestowed I-understood
quam ego te auderem rogare.
than I you would-dare to-ask

2 Audebo tamen; scio enim quantum ponderis mea commendatio
I-will-dare still I-know for how-much of-weight my recommendation
sit habitura. Qua re a te peto ut ad eam liberalitatem
is going-to-have By-which thing of you I-ask that to that generosity
qua sine meis litteris usus es quam maximus his litteris
which without my letter used you-have as greatest by-this letter
cumulus accedat. Caput autem est meae commendationis
a-heap be-added The-head however is of-my recommendation
ne patiare Erotem Turium, Q. Turi libertum, ut
that-not you-allow Eros Turius of-Quintus Turius the-freedman as
adhuc fecit, hereditatem Turianam avertere ceterisque
so-far he-has-done the-inheritance Turian to-divert and-in-the-other
omnibus rebus habeas eos a me commendatissimos. Magnam
all things you-hold them by me most-commended Great
ex eorum splendore et observantia capies voluptatem.
from their distinction and attentiveness you-will-take pleasure
Quod ut velis te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
Which that you-wish you vehemently again and again I-ask

XII.27 · SEXTUS AUFIDIUS

Cicero commends Sextus Aufidius, close to him in attentiveness, a distinguished knight of tempered ways, and his business in Africa.

Cicero Cornificio s.
Cicero to-Cornificius greeting
1 Sex. Aufidius et observantia qua me colit accedit
Sextus Aufidius both in-the-attentiveness with-which me he-courts comes-close
ad proximos et splendore equiti Romano nemini cedit;
to the-nearest and in-distinction to-a-knight Roman to-no-one yields

est autem ita temperatis moderatisque moribus ut summa
he-is however so tempered and-moderate ways that the-highest
severitas summa cum humanitate iungatur. Cuius tibi
severity the-highest with kindness is-joined Whose to-you
negotia quae sunt in Africa ita commendo ut maiore
business which is in Africa so I-commend that with-greater
studio magisve ex animo commendare non possim.
zeal or-more from the-heart to-commend not I-could
Pergratum mihi feceris, si dederis operam ut is
Very-pleasing to-me you-will-have-done if you-will-have-given effort that he
intellegat meas apud te litteras maximum pondus habuisse.
understand my with you letter the-greatest weight to-have-had
Hoc te vehementer, mi Cornifici, rogo.
This you vehemently my Cornificius I-ask

XII.28 · LILYBAEUM AND MONEY

Cicero agrees that those at Lilybaeum deserved punishment, though Cornificius feared to seem too harsh. He welcomes their renewed partnership in defending the commonwealth and needs no thanks. The senate cannot vote money without the consuls; Cornificius should raise it by levy or loan under the decree. Cicero is hopeful, and would be more so if some had not failed.

Cicero Cornificio s.
Cicero to-Cornificius greeting
Adsentior tibi eos quos scribis Lilybaeo minari istic 1
I-agree with-you that-those whom you-write at-Lilybaeum to-threaten there
poenas dare debuisse; sed metuisti, ut ais, ne nimis
punishment to-pay to-have-been-bound but you-feared as you-say lest too

liber in ulciscendo viderere. Metuisti igitur ne gravis
free in avenging you-should-seem You-feared therefore lest a-weighty
civis, ne nimis fortis, ne nimis te dignus viderere.
citizen lest too brave lest too of-you worthy you-should-seem

2 Quod societatem rei p. conservandae tibi mecum
That the-partnership of-the-thing public to-be-preserved for-you with-me
a patre acceptam renovas gratum est; quae societas
from your-father received you-renew pleasing it-is which partnership
inter nos semper, mi Cornifici, manebit. Gratum etiam
between us always my Cornificius will-remain Pleasing also
illud, quod mihi tuo nomine gratias agendas non putas;
that that to-me in-your name thanks to-be-given not you-think
nec enim id inter nos facere debemus. Senatus saepius pro
nor for that between us to-do we-ought The-senate more-often for
dignitate tua appellaretur, si absentibus consulibus umquam
dignity your would-be-called-on if with-absent consuls ever
nisi ad rem novam cogeretur. Itaque nec de HS
except for a-matter new it-were-assembled And-so neither about sesterces
|$\overline{\text{x}}\overline{\text{x}}$| nec de HS $\overline{\text{d}}\overline{\text{cc}}$ quicquam agi
two-million nor about sesterces seven-hundred-thousand anything to-be-done
nunc per senatum potest. Tibi autem ex s. c.
now through the-senate can To-you however from of-the-senate decree
imperandum mutuumve sumendum censeo.
to-be-levied or-on-loan to-be-raised I-think

3 In re p. quid agatur credo te ex eorum litteris
In the-thing public what is-being-done I-believe that-you from their letters
cognoscere, qui ad te acta debent perscribere. Ego sum
learn who to you the-proceedings ought to-write-out I am
spe bona; consilio, cura, labore non desum; omnibus inimicis
of-hope good in-counsel care labor not I-fail to-all enemies
rei publicae esse me acerrimum hostem prae me
of-the-thing public to-be that-I the-fiercest enemy before myself

fero. Res neque nunc difficili loco mihi videtur esse
I-carry The-matter neither now in-a-difficult position to-me seems to-be
et fuisset facillimo, si culpa a quibusdam afuisset.
and would-have-been in-a-very-easy if fault from certain-men had-been-absent

XII.29 · LUCIUS LAMIA

Everyone knows Cicero's friendship with Lucius Lamia, banished by the consul Gabinius for defending him. He asks Cornificius to protect Lamia's business, agents, and freedmen; Lamia was never present at the drafting of the decree that offended Cornificius.

Cicero Cornificio sal.
Cicero to-Cornificius greeting
Non modo tibi cui nostra omnia notissima sunt, sed 1
Not only to-you to-whom our all-things most-known are but
neminem in populo R. arbitror esse cui sit ignota ea
no-one among the-people Roman I-think to-be to-whom be unknown that
familiaritas quae mihi cum L. Lamia est. Etenim magno
friendship which to-me with Lucius Lamia is For-indeed in-a-great
theatro spectata est tum, cum est ab A. Gabinio consule
theater seen it-was then when he-was by Aulus Gabinius the-consul
relegatus quod libere et fortiter salutem meam defendisset. Nec
banished because freely and bravely safety my he-had-defended Nor
ex eo amor inter nos natus est sed, quod erat vetus et
from that love between us born has-been but because it-was old and
magnus, propterea nullum periculum pro me adire dubitavit.
great for-that-reason no danger for me to-face he-hesitated
Ad haec officia vel merita potius iucundissima consuetudo
To these services or merits rather a-most-delightful intimacy
accedit, ut nullo prorsus plus homine delecter. Non puto
is-added so-that in-no altogether more man I-delight Not I-think

te iam exspectare quibus eum tibi verbis commendem;
that-you now to-expect with-what him to-you words I-commend
causa enim tanti amoris intellegis quae verba desideret.
the-cause for of-such-great love you-understand what words it-requires
2 Iis me omnibus usum putato. Tantum velim
Those me all to-have-used consider Only I-would-wish
existimes, si negotia Lamiae, procuratores, libertos, familiam
you-think if the-business of-Lamia agents freedmen household
quibuscumque rebus opus erit defenderis, gratius
in-whatever things need will-be you-will-have-defended more-pleasing
mihi futurum quam si ea tua liberalitas pertinuisset
to-me going-to-be than if that your generosity had-extended
ad rem familiarem meam; nec dubito quin sine mea
to estate family my nor I-doubt but-that without my
commendatione, quod tuum est iudicium de hominibus,
recommendation such your is judgment about men
ipsius Lamiae causa studiose omnia facturus sis.
of-himself of-Lamia for-the-sake zealously all-things going-to-do you-are
Quamquam erat nobis dictum te existimare alicui
Although it-was to-us said that-you to-think in-a-certain
s. c., quod contra dignitatem tuam fieret, scribendo
of-the-senate decree which against dignity your was-made in-writing
Lamiam adfuisse; qui omnino consulibus illis numquam
that-Lamia to-have-been-present who at-all with-consuls those never
fuit ad scribendum; deinde omnia tum falsa senatus
was at writing then all-things then false of-the-senate
consulta deferebantur. Nisi forte etiam illi Semproniano
decrees were-being-reported Unless perhaps also at-that Sempronian
s. c. me censes adfuisse qui ne Romae
of-the-senate decree me you-think to-have-been-present who not at-Rome
quidem fui, ut tum de eo ad te scripsi re recenti.
even was as then about it to you I-wrote with-the-matter fresh

Sed haec hactenus. Te, mi Cornifici, etiam atque etiam 3
But these-things so-far You my Cornificius again and again
rogo ut omnia Lamiae negotia mea putes esse curesque ut
I-ask that all of-Lamia the-business mine you-think to-be and-take-care that
intellegat hanc commendationem maximo sibi usui fuisse.
he-understand this recommendation for-the-greatest to-him use to-have-been
Hoc mihi gratius facere nihil potes. Cura ut valeas.
This to-me more-pleasing to-do nothing you-can Take-care that you-are-well

XII.30 · LETTERS AND VOLUMES

Cicero teases Cornificius, who complains that only litigants bring Cicero's letters: were he free he would challenge him with volumes. Business distracts him more now, as a relapse is worse than the illness. Chaerippus has portrayed Cornificius to him, and Cornificius need not fear Cicero's anger. Money cannot be voted; the company's masters are bound by bond and oath not to defer the day, so Lucceius must come; Pansa's death ended what Cornificius hoped. Cicero approves his treatment of Venuleius, Latinus, and Horatius, but not his taking lictors from his own legates.

Cicero Cornificio s.
Cicero to-Cornificius greeting
Itane? praeter litigatores nemo ad te meas litteras? Multae 1
Is-it-so except litigants no-one to you my letters Many
istae quidem; tu enim perfecisti ut nemo sine litteris
those indeed you for have-brought-about that no-one without letters
meis tibi se commendatum putaret; sed quis umquam
my to-you himself commended should-think but who ever
tuorum mihi dixit esse cui darem, quin dederim?
of-your-people to-me said there-was-one to-whom I-could-give but-that I-gave(-one)
aut quid mi iucundius quam, cum coram tecum loqui
or what to-me more-delightful than when face-to-face with-you to-speak

non possim, aut scribere ad te aut tuas legere litteras?
not I-can either to-write to you or your to-read letters
Illud magis mihi solet esse molestum, tantis me impediri
That more to-me is-wont to-be troublesome by-so-great me to-be-hindered
occupationibus, ut ad te scribendi meo arbitratu facultas
occupations that to you of-writing at-my discretion opportunity
nulla detur. Non enim te epistulis sed voluminibus lacesserem;
none is-given Not for you with-letters but with-volumes I-would-provoke
quibus quidem me a te provocari oportebat. Quamvis enim
by-which indeed me by you to-be-challenged it-was-proper However-much for
occupatus sis, oti tamen plus habes; aut, si ne tu quidem
busy you-are of-leisure still more you-have or if not you even
vacas, noli impudens esse nec mihi molestiam exhibere et
are-free do-not shameless be nor to-me trouble cause and
a me litteras crebriores, cum tu mihi raro mittas, flagitare.
from me letters more-frequent when you to-me rarely send to-demand
2 Nam cum antea distinebar maximis occupationibus,
For both before I-was-distracted by-the-greatest occupations
propterea quod omnibus curis rem p. mihi tuendam
for-this-reason that with-all cares the-thing public by-me to-be-guarded
putabam, tum hoc tempore multo distineor vehementius.
I-thought and at-this time much I-am-distracted more-vehemently
Ut enim gravius aegrotant ii qui, cum levati morbo
As for more-gravely are-sick those who when relieved from-disease
videntur, in eum de integro inciderunt, sic vehementius
they-seem into it from afresh have-fallen so more-vehemently
nos laboramus, qui profligato bello ac paene sublato
we labor who with-routed war and almost removed
renovatum bellum gerere conamur. Sed haec hactenus.
a-renewed war to-wage are-trying But these-things so-far

Tu tibi, mi Cornifici, fac ut persuadeas non esse me tam 3
You yourself my Cornificius make that you-persuade not to-be me of-so
imbecillo animo, ne dicam inhumano, ut a te vinci
feeble a-mind not to-say inhuman that by you to-be-surpassed
possim aut officiis aut amore. Non dubitabam equidem,
I-could either in-services or in-love Not I-doubted for-my-part
verum tamen multo mihi notiorem amorem tuum effecit
but still much to-me better-known love your has-made
Chaerippus. O hominem semper illum quidem mihi aptum,
Chaerippus O man always that indeed to-me suited
nunc vero etiam suavem! Vultus me hercule tuos mihi
now indeed even agreeable The-looks so-help-me Hercules your to-me
expressit omnis, non solum animum ac verba pertulit.
he-portrayed all not only the-mind and words he-conveyed
Itaque noli vereri ne tibi suscensuerim, quod eodem
And-so do-not fear that with-you I-have-been-angry because in-the-same
exemplo ad me quo ad ceteros. Requisivi equidem proprias
copy to me as to the-others I-wanted for-my-part my-own
ad me unum litteras, sed neque vehementer et amanter.
to me one letter but neither vehemently and lovingly
De sumptu, quem te in rem militarem facere et 4
About the-expense which that-you on the-matter military to-make and
fecisse dicis, nihil sane possum tibi opitulari, propterea
to-have-made you-say nothing indeed I-can you to-help for-this-reason
quod et orbus senatus consulibus amissis et incredibiles
that both bereaved the-senate with-the-consuls lost and incredible
angustiae pecuniae publicae; quae conquiritur undique, ut
straits of-money public which is-sought-out everywhere that
optime meritis militibus promissa solvantur; quod quidem
best deserving to-the-soldiers the-promises be-paid which indeed
fieri sine tributo posse non arbitror.
to-be-done without a-tax to-be-able not I-think

5 De Attio Dionysio nihil puto esse, quoniam mihi nihil
About Attius Dionysius nothing I-think to-be since to-me nothing
dixit Tratorius. De P. Lucceio nihil tibi concedo,
said Tratorius About Publius Lucceius nothing to-you I-yield
quo studiosior tu sis quam ego sum; est enim nobis
by-which more-zealous you be than I am he-is for to-us
necessarius. Sed a magistris cum contenderem de
a-connection But from the-masters when I-pressed about
proferendo die, probarunt mihi sese quo minus id
deferring the-day they-proved to-me that-they from less this
facerent et compromisso et iure iurando impediri.
to-do both by-the-arbitration-bond and by-oath sworn to-be-hindered
Qua re veniendum arbitror Lucceio; quamquam, si meis
By-which thing to-be-come I-think for-Lucceius although if my
litteris obtemperavit, cum tu haec leges, illum Romae
letter he-has-obeyed when you these-things will-read that-he at-Rome
esse oportebit.
to-be it-will-be-needful

6 Ceteris de rebus maximeque de pecunia, cum Pansae
The-other about matters and-most about money when of-Pansa
mortem ignorares, scripsisti quae per nos ab
the-death you-did-not-know you-wrote what-things through us from
eo consequi te posse arbitrarere. Quae te non
him to-attain that-you to-be-able you-thought Which you not
fefellissent, si viveret; nam te diligebat; post mortem
would-have-deceived if he-were-living for you he-loved after the-death
autem eius quid fieri posset non videbamus.
however his what to-be-done could not we-saw

7 De Venuleio, Latino, Horatio valde laudo; illud non
About Venuleius Latinus Horatius greatly I-praise that not
nimium probo, quod scribis, quo illi animo aequiore
too-much I-approve which you-write that they with-mind more-even

ferrent, te tuis etiam legatis lictores ademisse (honore
might-bear that-you from-your even legates the-lictors to-have-taken with-honor
enim cum ignominia dignis non erant comparandi), eosque,
for with disgrace the-worthy not were to-be-matched and-them
ex s. c. si non decedunt, cogendos ut decedant
from of-the-senate decree if not they-depart to-be-compelled that they-depart
existimo. Haec fere ad eas litteras, quas eodem
I-think These-things almost to that letter which in-the-same
exemplo binas accepi; de reliquo velim tibi persuadeas
copy two I-received about the-rest I-would-wish yourself you-persuade
non esse mihi meam dignitatem tua cariorem.
not to-be to-me my dignity than-yours dearer

BOOK XIII

XIII.1 · THE RUINS OF EPICURUS' HOUSE

Cicero cannot say whether seeing Memmius at Athens would have pained or pleased him more, and will do by letter what he can. He asks a favor only if Memmius grants it gladly. Patro the Epicurean, Cicero's friend in everything but philosophy and commended to him long ago by Phaedrus, begs the ruined walls of Epicurus' house. Since Memmius has given up building, Cicero asks him to let the Areopagites' memorandum be annulled; Atticus, who loves Patro and loved Phaedrus, would think Cicero neglectful if he failed.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Memmio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Memmius

Etsi non satis mihi constiterat cum aliquane animi 1

Although not enough to-me it-had-been-clear with whether-some of-mind

mei molestia an potius libenter te Athenis visurus essem,

my vexation or rather gladly you at-Athens going-to-see I-would-be

quod iniuria, quam accepisti, dolore me adficeret, sapientia

because the-wrong which you-received with-grief me would-affect the-wisdom

tua, qua fers iniuriam, laetitia, tamen vidisse te

your with-which you-bear the-wrong with-joy still to-have-seen you

mallem; nam quod est molestiae non sane multo levius

I-would-prefer for what is of-vexation not truly much lighter

est, cum te non video, quod esse potuit voluptatis certe,

is when you not I-see what to-be could of-pleasure certainly

si vidissem te, plus fuisset. Itaque non dubitabo dare

if I-had-seen you more would-have-been And-so not I-will-hesitate to-give

operam ut te videam, cum id satis commode facere

effort that you I-may-see when it quite conveniently to-do

potuero; interea quod per litteras et agi tecum
I-shall-have-been-able meanwhile what through letters both to-be-dealt with-you
et, ut arbitror, confici potest agam.
and as I-think to-be-accomplished can I-will-deal

2 Nunc te illud primum rogabo ne quid invitus mea
Now you this first I-will-ask that-not anything unwilling my
causa facias, sed id, quod mea intelleges multum, tua
for-the-sake you-do but that which to-me you-will-understand much to-you
nullam in partem interesse, ita mihi des, si tibi ut id
no in direction to-matter so to-me you-grant if yourself that it
libenter facias ante persuaseris. Cum Patrone Epicurio
gladly you-do before you-will-have-persuaded With Patro the-Epicurean
mihi omnia sunt, nisi quod in philosophia vehementer ab
to-me all-things there-are except that in philosophy vehemently from
eo dissentio. Sed et initio Romae, cum te quoque
him I-disagree But both at-the-beginning at-Rome when you also
et tuos omnis observabat, me coluit in primis et
and your-people all he-was-courting me he-cultivated among the-first and
nuper, cum ea quae voluit de suis commodis et
lately when those-things which he-wished about his-own advantages and
praemiis consecutus est, me habuit suorum defensorum et
rewards obtained has me he-held of-his defenders and
amicorum fere principem et iam a Phaedro, qui nobis,
friends almost the-chief and already by Phaedrus who to-us
cum pueri essemus, ante quam Philonem cognovimus, valde
when boys we-were before than Philo we-came-to-know greatly
ut philosophus, postea tamen ut vir bonus et suavis et
as a-philosopher afterward still as a-man good and pleasant and
officiosus probabatur, traditus mihi commendatusque est.
obliging was-approved handed-over to-me and-commended he-was

Is igitur Patro cum ad me Romam litteras misisset, uti te 3
He therefore Patro when to me to-Rome a-letter had-sent that you
sibi placarem peteremque ut nescio quid illud Epicuri
to-him I-should-reconcile and-should-ask that I-know-not what that of-Epicurus
parietinarum sibi concederes, nihil scripsi ad te ob
of-ruined-walls to-him you-would-grant nothing I-wrote to you on-account-of
eam rem, quod aedificationis tuae consilium commendatione
that thing because of-building your the-plan by-recommendation
mea nolebam impediri; idem, ut veni Athenas, cum
my I-was-unwilling to-be-hindered The-same when I-came to-Athens when
idem ad te scriberem rogasset, ob eam causam
again to you I-should-write had-asked on-account-of that cause
impetravit, quod te abiecisse illam aedificationem
he-obtained-it because that-you to-have-given-up that building
constabat inter omnis amicos tuos.
it-was-agreed among all friends your
Quod si ita est et si iam tua plane nihil interest, velim, 4
But if so it-is and if now to-you plainly nothing it-matters I-would-wish
si qua offensiuncula facta est animi tui perversitate
if any slight-offense made has-been of-mind your by-the-perversity
aliquorum (novi enim gentem illam), des te ad lenitatem
of-certain-people I-know for the-tribe that you-give yourself to mildness
vel propter summam tuam humanitatem vel etiam honoris
either on-account-of the-highest your kindness or even of-honor
mei causa. Equidem, si quid ipse sentiam quaeris, nec
my for-the-sake For-my-part if what myself I-feel you-ask neither
cur ille tanto opere contendat video, nec cur tu repugnes,
why he in-so-great measure should-strive I-see nor why you should-resist
nisi tamen multo minus tibi concedi potest quam illi
unless still much less to-you to-be-allowed can than to-him
laborare sine causa. Quamquam Patronis et orationem
to-labor without cause Although of-Patro both the-plea

et causam tibi cognitam esse certo scio; honorem,
and the-case to-you known to-be certainly I-know honor
officium, testamentorum ius, Epicuri auctoritatem, Phaedri
duty of-wills the-right of-Epicurus the-authority of-Phaedrus
obtestationem, sedem, domicilium, vestigia summorum
the-adjuration the-seat the-dwelling the-footprints of-the-greatest
hominum sibi tuenda esse dicit. Totam hominis vitam
men by-him to-be-guarded to-be he-says The-whole of-the-man life
rationemque, quam sequitur in philosophia, derideamus
and-system which he-follows in philosophy we-may-mock
licet, si hanc eius contentionem volumus reprehendere;
it-is-allowed if this his striving we-wish to-censure
sed me hercules, quoniam illi ceterisque, quos
but so-help-me Hercules since to-him and-to-the-rest whom
illa delectant, non valde inimici sumus, nescio an
those-things delight not very hostile we-are I-know-not whether
ignoscendum sit huic, si tanto opere laborat; in quo
to-be-pardoned it-be to-this-man if in-so-great measure he-labors in which
etiam si peccat, magis ineptiis quam improbitate peccat.
even if he-errs more by-follies than by-wickedness he-errs
5 Sed ne plura (dicendum enim aliquando est), Pomponium
But not more-things to-be-said for sometime it-is Pomponius
Atticum sic amo ut alterum fratrem. Nihil est illo
Atticus so I-love as a-second brother Nothing is than-him
mihi nec carius nec iucundius. Is (non quo sit ex istis;
to-me neither dearer nor more-delightful He not that he-is of those
est enim omni liberali doctrina politissimus, sed valde
he-is for in-all liberal learning most-polished but greatly
diligit Patronem, valde Phaedrum amavit) sic a me hoc
he-esteems Patro greatly Phaedrus he-loved so from me this
contendit, homo minime ambitiosus, minime in rogando
he-demands a-man least self-seeking least in asking

molestus, ut nihil umquam magis, nec dubitat quin ego
troublesome as nothing ever more nor he-doubts but-that I
a te nutu hoc consequi possem, etiam si aedificaturus
from you by-a-nod this to-obtain could even if going-to-build
esses. Nunc vero, si audierit te aedificationem
you-were Now indeed if he-will-have-heard that-you the-building
deposuisse neque tamen me a te impetrasse, non te
to-have-laid-aside nor still that-I from you to-have-obtained-it not you
in me inliberalem sed me in se neglegentem putabit.
toward me ungenerous but me toward himself neglectful he-will-think
Quam ob rem peto a te ut scribas ad tuos
Which on-account-of thing I-ask from you that you-write to your-people
posse tua voluntate decretum illud Areopagitarum, quem
to-be-able with-your consent decree that of-the-Areopagites which
ὑπομνηματισμόν illi vocant, tolli. Sed redeo ad prima.
memorandum they call to-be-annulled But I-return to the-first-things
Prius velim tibi persuadeas ut hoc mea causa 6
Sooner I-would-wish yourself you-persuade that this my for-the-sake
libenter facias quam ut facias; sic tamen habeto, si
gladly you-do than that you-do so still hold if
feceris quod rogo, fore mihi gratissimum. Vale.
you-will-have-done what I-ask going-to-be to-me most-pleasing Farewell

Cicero is intimate with Gaius Avianius Evander, who lives in Memmius' shrine, and with his patron Marcus Aemilius. With much work in hand, Evander would be put out suddenly if he had to move on the Kalends of Quintilis. Cicero asks Memmius, if it costs him little, to give him time, as Cicero would do for Memmius.

Cicero Memmio s.

Cicero to-Memmius greeting

1 C. Avianio Evandro, qui habitat in tuo sacrario, et ipso

with-Gaius Avianius Evander who lives in your shrine and himself

multum utor et patrono eius M. Aemilio familiarissime. Peto

much I-use and patron his Marcus Aemilius most-intimately I-ask

igitur a te in maiorem modum, quod sine tua molestia

therefore from you in greater measure as-far-as without your trouble

fiat, ut ei de habitatione accommodes. Nam

it-may-be-done that to-him about the-dwelling you-be-accommodating For

propter opera instituta multa multorum subitum est ei

on-account-of works begun many of-many sudden it-is for-him

remigrare K. Quintilibus. Impedior verecundia ne te

to-move-back on-the-Kalends of-Quintilis I-am-hindered by-modesty lest you

pluribus verbis rogem; neque tamen dubito quin, si tua nihil

with-more words I-ask nor still I-doubt but-that if to-you nothing

aut non multum intersit, eo sis animo, quo ego essem

or not much it-matters of-that you-are mind of-which I would-be

si quid tu me rogares. Mihi certe gratissimum feceris.

if anything you me were-to-ask To-me certainly most-pleasing you-will-have-done

XIII.3 · FOR AULUS FUFIUS

Cicero commends Aulus Fufius, an intimate friend, learned, kind, and worthy of Memmius' friendship, and asks him to treat Fufius as he promised face to face; he will bind Fufius to himself forever.

Cicero Memmio s.

Cicero to-Memmius greeting

A. Fufium, unum ex meis intimis observantissimum 1

Aulus Fufius one of my intimates most-attentive

studiosissimumque nostri, eruditum hominem et summa

and-most-devoted to-us a-learned man and of-the-highest

humanitate tuaque amicitia dignissimum, velim ita

kindness and-of-your friendship most-worthy I-would-wish so

tractes ut mihi coram recepisti. Tam gratum mihi id erit

you-treat as to-me face-to-face you-promised As pleasing to-me that will-be

quam quod gratissimum; ipsum praeterea summo officio

as what most-pleasing him-himself besides by-the-highest duty

et summa observantia tibi in perpetuum devinxeris.

and the-highest attentiveness to-you for ever you-will-have-bound

XIII.4 · THE LANDS OF VOLATERRAE

Cicero is closely bound to Volaterrae, which has repaid his kindness in every honor and labor. He asks Quintus Valerius Orca, the commissioner dividing land, to consider the town: it escaped the bitterness of Sulla's time by the gods' kindness, Cicero defended it as consul against a tribunes' law, and Caesar confirmed its land in his agrarian law. Orca should follow Caesar's authority or leave the case untouched for him, and so bind a weighty and honorable town to himself.

M. Cicero s. d. Q. Valerio Q. f. Orcae
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Quintus Valerius of-Quintus son Orca
legato propr.
legate propraetor

1 Cum municipibus Volaterranis mihi summa necessitudo est;
With the-townsmen of-Volaterrae to-me the-closest connection is
magno enim meo beneficio adfecti cumulatissime mihi gratiam
by-a-great for my kindness treated most-abundantly to-me thanks
rettulerunt; nam nec in honoribus meis nec in laboribus
they-have-returned for neither in honors my nor in labors
umquam defuerunt. Cum quibus si mihi nulla causa
ever were-they-absent With whom if to-me no cause
intercederet, tamen, quod te vehementissime diligo quodque
were-intervening still because you most-vehemently I-esteem and-because
me a te plurimi fieri sentio, et monerem te et hortarer
me by you at-the-highest to-be-valued I-feel both I-would-warn you and would-urge
ut eorum fortunis consuleres, praesertim cum prope
that their for-the-fortunes you-should-provide especially since almost
praecipuam causam haberent ad ius obtinendum, primum
a-special case they-had for right obtaining first
quod Sullani temporis acerbitatem deorum immortalium
because of-the-Sullan time the-bitterness of-gods immortal
benignitate subterfugerunt, deinde quod summo studio
by-the-kindness they-escaped then because with-the-highest zeal
p. R. a me in consulatu meo defensi sunt.
of-the-people Roman by me in consulship my defended they-were

2 Cum tribuni plebi legem iniquissimam de eorum agris
When the-tribunes of-the-plebs a-law most-unjust about their lands
promulgavissent, facile senatui populoque R. persuasi ut
had-proposed easily the-senate and-people Roman I-persuaded that
eos civis, quibus fortuna pepercisset, salvos esse vellent.
those citizens whom fortune had-spared safe to-be they-should-wish

Hanc actionem meam C. Caesar primo suo consulatu
This action my Gaius Caesar in-first his consulship
lege agraria comprobavit agrumque Volaterranum et
by-the-law agrarian approved and-the-land Volaterran and
oppidum omni periculo in perpetuum liberavit, ut mihi
the-town from-every danger for ever freed so-that to-me
dubium non sit quin is, qui novas necessitudines adiungat,
doubtful not it-is but-that he who new connections adds
vetera sua beneficia conservari velit. Quam ob rem
old his-own kindnesses to-be-preserved wishes Which on-account-of thing
est tuae prudentiae aut sequi eius auctoritatem, cuius
it-is of-your prudence either to-follow his authority whose
sectam atque imperium summa cum tua dignitate secutus
party and command the-highest with your dignity followed
es, aut certe illi integram omnem causam reservare;
you-have or certainly for-him untouched the-whole case to-reserve
illud vero dubitare non debes quin tam grave, tam
that indeed to-doubt not you-ought but-that so weighty so
firmum, tam honestum municipium tibi tuo summo
firm so honorable a-town to-you by-your highest
beneficio in perpetuum obligari velis.
kindness for ever to-be-bound you-wish
Sed haec quae supra scripta sunt eo spectant ut 3
But these-things which above written are to-this-end look that
te horter et suadeam; reliqua sunt, quae pertinent ad
you I-may-urge and advise remaining are-things which pertain to
rogandum, ut non solum tua causa tibi consilium me dare
asking that not only your for-the-sake to-you advice that-I to-give
putes sed etiam, quod mihi opus sit, me a te petere et
you-think but also what to-me need is that-I from you to-seek and
rogare. Gratissimum igitur mihi feceris, si Volaterranos
to-ask Most-pleasing therefore to-me you-will-have-done if the-Volaterrans

omnibus rebus integros incolumisque esse volueris.
in-all things untouched and-unharmed to-be you-will-have-wished
Eorum ego domicilia, sedes, rem, fortunas, quae et a dis
Their I dwellings seats property fortunes which both by gods
immortalibus et a praestantissimis in nostra re p. civibus
immortal and by the-most-outstanding in our thing public citizens
summo senatus populique R. studio conservatae
with-the-highest of-the-senate and-of-the-people Roman zeal preserved
sunt, tuae fidei, iustitiae bonitatique commendo.
have-been to-your good-faith justice and-goodness I-commend
4 Si pro meis pristinis opibus facultatem mihi res
If in-accordance-with my former resources the-means to-me circumstance
hoc tempore daret ut ita defendere possem Volaterranos
at-this time should-give that so to-defend I-could the-Volaterrans
quem ad modum consuevi tueri meos, nullum officium,
in-what to manner I-am-accustomed to-protect my-own no service
nullum denique certamen, in quo illis prodesse possem,
no finally struggle in which to-them to-be-of-use I-could
praetermitterem; sed quoniam apud te nihilo minus hoc
would-I-pass-over but since with you by-nothing less at-this
tempore valere me confido quam valuerim semper
time to-have-influence that-I I-trust than I-have-had-influence always
apud omnis, pro nostra summa necessitudine parique
with all in-accordance-with our highest connection and-equal
inter nos et mutua benevolentia abs te peto ut ita de
between us and mutual goodwill from you I-ask that so of
Volaterranis mereare, ut existiment eum quasi divino consilio
the-Volaterrans you-deserve that they-think him as-if by-divine plan
isti negotio praepositum esse, apud quem unum nos
over-that business placed to-have-been with whom alone we
eorum perpetui defensores plurimum valere possemus.
their perpetual defenders the-most to-have-influence could

Cicero is glad his tie with Orca is known, but will not let self-seeking disturb Orca's duty. He commends Gaius Curtius, whom he helped restore after Sulla's proscription and who saved the remnants of his fortune in an estate near Volaterrae; Caesar has just enrolled him in the senate, a rank he could hardly keep without it. Rather than argue the fairness, Cicero asks Orca to treat the estate as Cicero's own.

Cicero s. d. Q. Valerio leg. propr.
Cicero greeting says to-Quintus Valerius legate propraetor

Non moleste fero eam necessitudinem, quae mihi tecum 1
Not with-annoyance I-bear that connection which to-me with-you
est, notam esse quam plurimis neque tamen ob eam
is known to-be as to-most nor still on-account-of that
causam (quod tu optime existimare potes) te impedio quo
cause as you best to-judge can you I-binder by-which
minus susceptum negotium pro tua fide et
less the-undertaken business in-accordance-with your good-faith and
diligentia ex voluntate Caesaris, qui tibi rem magnam
diligence according-to the-will of-Caesar who to-you a-matter great
difficilemque commisit, gerere possis. Nam cum multi a me
and-difficult entrusted to-conduct you-can For since many from me
petant multa, quod de tua erga me voluntate non dubitent,
seek many-things because about your toward me goodwill not they-doubt
non committo ut ambitione mea conturbem officium tuum.
not I-allow that by-self-seeking my I-should-disturb duty your

C. Curtio ab ineunte aetate familiarissime sum 2
With-Gaius Curtius from entering age most-intimately I-have
usus. Eius et Sullani temporis iniustissima calamitate
been-acquainted His both of-the-Sullan time by-the-most-unjust disaster
dolui et cum iis, qui similem iniuriam acceperant,
I-grieved and when to-those who a-similar wrong had-received

amissis omnibus fortunis reditus tamen in patriam voluntate
lost all fortunes a-return still into the-country by-the-will
omnium concedi videretur, adiutor incolumitatis fui. Is
of-all to-be-granted seemed the-helper of-restoration I-was He
habet in Volaterrano possessionem, cum in eam tamquam
has in the-Volaterran an-estate since into it as-if
e naufragio reliquias contulisset. Hoc autem tempore
from shipwreck the-remnants he-had-gathered At-this however time
eum Caesar in senatum legit; quem ordinem ille ista
him Caesar into the-senate chose which rank he with-that
possessione amissa tueri vix potest. Gravissimum autem
estate lost to-maintain scarcely can Most-grievous however
est, cum superior factus sit ordine, inferiorem esse
it-is when superior made he-has-been in-rank inferior to-be
fortuna, minimeque convenit ex eo agro, qui Caesaris iussu
in-fortune and-least it-is-fitting from that land which of-Caesar by-order
dividatur, eum moveri, qui Caesaris beneficio senator sit.
is-divided him to-be-removed who of-Caesar by-kindness a-senator is
3 Sed mihi minus libet multa de aequitate rei
But to-me less it-pleases many-things about the-fairness of-the-matter
scribere, ne causa potius apud te valuisse videar quam
to-write lest the-case rather with you to-have-prevailed I-seem than
gratia. Quam ob rem te in maiorem modum rogo
influence Which on-account-of thing you in greater measure I-ask
ut C. Curti rem meam putes esse, quicquid
that of-Gaius Curtius the-property mine you-think to-be whatever
mea causa faceres, ut, id C. Curti causa cum
my for-the-sake you-would-do that it of-Gaius Curtius for-the-sake when
feceris, existimes, quod ille per me habuerit, id me
you-will-have-done you-think what he through me will-have-had that that-I
habere abs te. Hoc te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
to-have from you This you vehemently again and again I-ask

Cicero reminds Orca of his promise, made at his departure, to treat Publius Cuspius' friends in Africa as Cicero's own; Cuspius managed a great company there and still protects its people. Later letters will carry only an agreed mark, but this one, the weightiest of all, commends Lucius Julius, for whom Cuspius demands something new; Cicero promised him a wonderful kind of recommendation. Since words cannot achieve it, he asks Orca to make Julius think it incredible by generosity in deed, word, and look; Julius is worthy, as Cuspius' judgment of friends shows.

M. Cicero Q. Valerio Q. f. Orcae procos.
Marcus Cicero to-Quintus Valerius of-Quintus son Orca proconsul

S. v. b. e. v. Credo te memoria tenere 1
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well I-believe that-you in-memory to-hold
me et coram P. Cuspio tecum locutum esse,
that-I both in-the-presence-of Publius Cuspius with-you spoken to-have
cum te prosequerer paludatum, et item postea
when you I-was-escorting in-the-general's-cloak and likewise afterward
pluribus verbis tecum egisse ut, quoscumque tibi
in-more words with-you to-have-dealt that whomever to-you
eius necessarios commendarem, haberes eos in numero
his connections I-should-commend you-would-hold them in the-number
meorum necessariorum. Id tu pro tua summa erga
of-my connections That you in-accordance-with your highest toward
me benevolentia perpetuaque observantia mihi liberalissime
me goodwill and-perpetual attentiveness to-me most-generously
atque humanissime recepisti.
and most-kindly you-promised

Cuspius, homo in omnis suos officiosissimus, mirifice 2
Cuspius a-man toward all his-own most-obliging wonderfully
quosdam homines ex ista provincia tuetur et diligit, propterea
certain men from that province protects and esteems for-this-reason

quod fuit in Africa bis, cum maximis societatis negotiis
that he-was in Africa twice when over-the-greatest of-the-company businesses
praeesset. Itaque hoc eius officium, quod adhibetur erga illos,
he-was-in-charge And-so this his service which is-applied toward them
ego mea facultate et gratia soleo quantum possum adiuvare.
I with-my means and influence am-wont as-much-as I-can to-assist
Qua re Cuspianorum omnium commendationis causam hac
By-which thing of-Cuspius'-people all of-the-recommendation the-ground in-this
tibi epistula exponendam putavi, reliquis epistulis tantum
to-you letter to-be-set-out I-thought in-the-remaining letters only
faciam ut notam apponam eam, quae mihi tecum convenit,
I-will-do that a-mark I-attach that which to-me with-you was-agreed
et simul significem de numero esse Cuspi amicorum;
and at-the-same-time indicate of the-number to-be of-Cuspius of-the-friends
3 sed hanc commendationem, quam his litteris consignare volui,
but this recommendation which by-this letter to-seal I-wished
scito esse omnium gravissimam; nam P. Cuspius singulari
know to-be of-all the-weightiest for Publius Cuspius with-singular
studio contendit a me ut tibi quam diligentissime L.
zeal demanded from me that to-you as most-carefully Lucius
Iulium commendarem. Eius ego studio vix videor mihi satis
Julius I-should-commend His I zeal scarcely I-seem to-myself enough
facere posse, si utar verbis iis, quibus, cum diligentissime
to-do to-be-able if I-use words those which when most-carefully
quid agimus, uti solemus; nova quaedam postulat et
anything we-do to-use we-are-wont new certain-things he-demands and
putat me eius generis artificium quoddam tenere. Ei ego
thinks that-I of-that kind the-art a-certain to-hold To-him I
pollicitus sum me ex intima nostra arte deprompturum
promised have that-I from inmost our art going-to-bring-out
mirificum genus commendationis. Id quoniam adsequi non
a-wonderful kind of-recommendation That since to-attain not

possum, tu re velim efficias ut ille genere
I-can you in-fact I-would-wish you-bring-about that he by-the-kind
mearum litterarum incredibile quiddam perfectum arbitretur.
of-my letters incredible something achieved may-think
Id facies, si omne genus liberalitatis, quod et ab 4
That you-will-do if every kind of-generosity which both from
humanitate et potestate tua proficisci poterit, non modo
kindness and power your to-proceed will-be-able not only
re sed etiam verbis, vultu denique exprompseris;
in-fact but also by-words by-countenance finally you-will-have-displayed
quae quantum in provincia valeant vellem expertus esse,
which how-much in a-province they-avail I-would-wish experienced to-have
sed tamen suspicor. Ipsum hominem, quem tibi commendo,
but still I-suspect The-very man whom to-you I-commend
perdignum esse tua amicitia, non solum quia mihi
very-worthy to-be of-your friendship not only because to-me
Cuspius dicit, credo, tametsi id satis esse debebat, sed
Cuspius says I-believe although that enough to-be ought but
quia novi eius iudicium in hominibus et amicis deligendis.
because I-know his judgment in men and friends choosing
Harum litterarum vis quanta fuerit propediem iudicabo 5
Of-this letter the-force how-great it-has-been shortly I-will-judge
tibique, ut confido, gratias agam. Ego quae te
and-to-you as I-trust thanks I-will-give I what-things that-you
velle quaeque ad te pertinere arbitrabor, omnia studiose
to-wish and-what to you to-pertain I-shall-think all zealously
diligenterque curabo. Cura ut valeas.
and-carefully I-will-attend-to Take-care that you-are-well

XIII.6A · FOR PUBLIUS CORNELIUS

Publius Cornelius, who carries this letter, is commended to Cicero by Cuspius; Cicero asks Orca to see that Cuspius thanks him as much, as soon, and as often as possible.

M. Cicero Q. Valerio Q. f. Orcae procos.
Marcus Cicero to-Quintus Valerius of-Quintus son Orca proconsul

1 P. Cornelius, qui tibi litteras has dedit, est mihi a P.
Publius Cornelius who to-you letter this gave is to-me by Publius

Cuspio commendatus; cuius causa quanto opere cuperem
Cuspius commended whose for-the-sake in-how-great measure I-desired

deberemque profecto ex me facile cognosti. Vehementer
and-ought surely from me easily you-learned Vehemently

te rogo ut cures ut ex hac commendatione mihi
you I-ask that you-take-care that from this recommendation to-me

Cuspius quam maximas quam primum quam saepissime
Cuspius as greatest as first as most-often

gratias agat. Vale.
thanks may-give Farewell

XIII.7 · ATELLA'S TAX LAND

Before Cluvius left for Gaul, Cicero spoke to him of the tributary land in Gaul held by Atella, a town dear to him. Its whole fortune rests on that revenue, and it is burdened and afflicted beyond others. Since Caesar is to judge the case and Cicero hopes to win it, he asks Cluvius to keep it untouched for Caesar, as he did for Regium; Atella supported Cicero in every honor and labor.

Cicero Cluvio s.

Cicero to-Cluvius greeting

Cum in Galliam proficiscens pro nostra necessitudine 1

When into Gaul setting-out in-accordance-with our connection

tuaque summa in me observantia ad me domum venisses,

and-your highest toward me attentiveness to me home you-had-come

locutus sum tecum de agro vectigali municipi Atellani,

spoken I-have with-you about the-land tributary of-the-town Atellan

qui esset in Gallia, quantoque opere eius municipi causa

which was in Gaul and-in-how-great measure of-that town for-the-sake

laborarem tibi ostendi. Post tuam autem profectionem cum

I-was-laboring to-you I-showed After your however departure since

et maxima res municipi honestissimi mihique coniunctissimi

both the-greatest interest of-a-town most-honorable and-to-me most-closely-joined

et summum meum officium ageretur, pro tuo animo

and the-highest my duty was-at-stake in-accordance-with your mind

in me singulari existimavi me oportere ad te accuratius

toward me singular I-thought that-I to-be-bound to you more-carefully

scribere, etsi non sum nescius et quae temporum ratio

to-write although not I-am unaware both what of-the-times the-nature

et quae tua potestas sit, tibique negotium datum esse

and what your power is and-to-you a-business given to-have-been

a C. Caesare, non iudicium, praeclare intellego. Qua

by Gaius Caesar not a-judgment clearly I-understand By-which

re a te tantum peto, quantum et te facere posse

thing from you so-much I-ask as-much-as both that-you to-do to-be-able

et libenter mea causa facturum esse arbitror.

and gladly my for-the-sake going-to-do to-be I-think

Et primum velim existimes, quod res est, municipi 2

And first I-would-wish you-think what the-fact is of-the-town

fortunas omnis in isto vectigali consistere, his autem

the-fortunes all in that revenue to-rest in-these however

temporibus hoc municipium maximis oneribus pressum
times this town by-the-greatest burdens pressed
summis adfectum esse difficultatibus. Hoc etsi commune
by-the-utmost afflicted to-be difficulties This although common
videtur esse cum multis, tamen mihi crede singularis
seems to-be with many still me believe singular
huic municipio calamitates accidisse; quas idcirco
to-this town calamities to-have-befallen which for-this-reason
non commemoro, ne de miseriis meorum necessariorum
not I-mention lest about the-miseries of-my connections
conquerens homines quos nolo videar offendere.
complaining people whom I-do-not-wish I-seem to-offend

3 Itaque nisi magnam spem haberem C. Caesari nos
And-so unless great hope I-had to-Gaius Caesar that-we
causam municipi probaturos, non erat causa cur a
the-case of-the-town going-to-commend not there-was reason why from
te hoc tempore aliquid contenderem; sed quia confido
you at-this time anything I-should-press but because I-trust
mihique persuasi illum et dignitatis municipi et
and-myself I-have-persuaded that-he both of-the-dignity of-the-town and
aequitatis et etiam voluntatis erga se habiturum esse
of-the-fairness and also of-the-goodwill toward himself going-to-have to-be
rationem, ideo a te non dubitavi contendere ut hanc
account therefore from you not I-hesitated to-press that this
causam illi integram conservares.
case for-him untouched you-should-preserve

4 Quod etsi nihilo minus a te peterem, si nihil
Which although by-nothing less from you I-would-ask if nothing
audivissem te tale fecisse, tamen maiorem spem
I-had-heard that-you such-a-thing to-have-done still greater hope
impetrandi nactus sum, postea quam mihi dictum est hoc
of-obtaining gained I-have after that to-me said it-was this

idem a te Regiensis impetravisse; qui etsi te aliqua
same from you the-people-of-Regium to-have-obtained who although you by-some
necessitudine attingunt, tamen tuus amor in me sperare
connection touch still your love toward me to-hope
me cogit te, quod tuis necessariis tribueris, idem
me compels that-you what to-your connections you-have-granted the-same
esse tributurum meis, praesertim cum ego pro his unis
to-be going-to-grant to-mine especially since I for these alone
petam, habeam autem qui simili causa laborent compluris
I-ask I-have however who in-a-similar case labor very-many
necessarios. Hoc me non sine causa facere neque aliqua
connections This that-I not without cause to-do nor by-some
levi ambitione commotum a te contendere etsi te
light self-seeking moved from you to-press although that-you
existimare arbitror, tamen mihi adfirmanti credas velim
to-judge I-think still me affirming you-believe I-would-wish
me huic municipio debere plurimum; nullum umquam
that-I to-this town to-owe the-most no ever
fuisse tempus neque honorum nec laborum meorum, in
to-have-been time neither of-honors nor of-labors my in
quo non huius municipi studium in me exstiterit singulare.
which not of-this town the-zeal toward me has-stood-out singular
Quapropter a te etiam atque etiam pro nostra 5
Wherefore from you again and again in-accordance-with our
summa coniunctione proque tua in me perpetua
highest union and-in-accordance-with your toward me perpetual
et maxima benevolentia maiorem in modum peto atque
and greatest goodwill greater in measure I-ask and
contendo ut, cum fortunas agi eius municipi
press that since the-fortunes to-be-at-stake of-that town
intellegas, quod sit mihi necessitudine, officiis, benevolentia
you-understand which is to-me by-connection by-services by-goodwill

coniunctissimum, id mihi des; quod erit huius modi ut,
most-closely-joined that to-me you-grant which will-be of-this kind that
si a Caesare quod speramus impetrarimus, tuo beneficio
if from Caesar what we-hope we-shall-have-obtained by-your kindness
nos id consecutos esse iudicemus, sin minus, pro eo
that-we it obtained to-have we-may-judge but-if not for that
tamen id habeamus, quoniam a te data sit opera ut
still it we-may-hold since by you given has-been effort that
impetraremus. Hoc cum mihi gratissimum feceris tum
we-might-obtain This both to-me most-pleasing you-will-have-done and
viros optimos, homines honestissimos eosdemque gratissimos
men the-best people most-honorable and-the-same most-grateful
et tua necessitudine dignissimos summo beneficio in
and of-your connection most-worthy by-the-highest kindness for
perpetuum tibi tuisque devinxeris.
ever to-you and-to-yours you-will-have-bound

XIII.8 · ALBINIUS' ESTATES

Cicero asks Marcus Rutilius a favor for Publius Sestius: Gaius Albinius, a senator whose daughter bore Sestius' son, received in valuation estates that Laberius had bought from Caesar out of Plotius' property. To divide them would shake Caesar's own sales, while Caesar wants even Sulla's held firm. Cicero asks him plainly to spare Albinius and leave the estates alone.

M. Cicero M. Rutilio s.
Marcus Cicero to-Marcus Rutilius greeting
1 Cum et mihi conscius essem quanti te facerem et
Since both to-myself aware I-was at-how-much you I-valued and
tuam erga me benevolentiam expertus essem, non dubitavi
your toward me goodwill experienced I-had not I-hesitated

a te petere, quod mihi petendum esset. P. Sestium
from you to-ask what by-me to-be-asked was Publius Sestius
quanti faciam ipse optime scio, quanti autem facere
at-how-much I-value myself best I-know at-how-much however to-value
debeam et tu et omnes homines sciunt. Is cum ex aliis
I-ought both you and all men know He when from others
te mei studiosissimum esse cognosset, petivit a me
that-you of-me most-devoted to-be had-learned asked from me
ut ad te quam accuratissime scriberem de re C.
that to you as most-carefully I-should-write about the-affair of-Gaius
Albini senatoris, cuius ex filia natus est L. Sestius,
Albinius the-senator whose from daughter born has-been Lucius Sestius
optimus adulescens, filius P. Sesti. Hoc idcirco
an-excellent young-man the-son of-Publius Sestius This for-this-reason
scripsi, ut intellegeres non solum me pro P. Sestio
I-wrote that you-might-understand not only that-I for Publius Sestius
laborare debere, sed Sestium etiam pro Albinio.
to-labor to-be-bound but Sestius also for Albinius
Res autem est haec: A M. Laberio C. Albinius 2
The-matter however is this From Marcus Laberius Gaius Albinius
praedia in aestimationem accepit, quae praedia Laberius
estates in valuation received which estates Laberius
emerat a Caesare de bonis Plotianis. Ea si dicam
had-bought from Caesar from the-property Plotian Those if I-should-say
non esse e re p. dividi, docere te videar,
not to-be from the-thing public to-be-divided to-instruct you I-would-seem
non rogare. Sed tamen cum Caesar Sullanas venditiones et
not to-ask But still since Caesar Sullan sales and
adsignationes ratas esse velit, quo firmiores existimentur suae,
assignments ratified to-be wishes so-that firmer may-be-thought his-own
si ea praedia dividentur, quae ipse Caesar vendidit, quae
if those estates will-be-divided which himself Caesar sold what

tandem in eius venditionibus esse poterit auctoritas? Sed
pray in his sales to-be will-be-able authority But
hoc quale sit tu pro tua prudentia considerabis.
this of-what-sort it-is you in-accordance-with your prudence will-consider
3 Ego te plane rogo atque ita, ut maiore studio, iustiore de
I you plainly ask and so that with-greater zeal more-just about
causa, magis ex animo rogare nihil possim, ut Albinio parcas,
a-cause more from the-heart to-ask nothing I-could that Albinius you-spare
praedia Laberiana ne attingas. Magna me adfeceris non
the-estates Laberian not you-touch With-great me you-will-have-affected not
modo laetitia, sed etiam quodam modo gloria, si P. Sestius
only joy but also in-a-certain way glory if Publius Sestius
homini maxime necessario satis fecerit per me, ut ego
a-man most closely-connected enough will-have-done through me as I
illi uni plurimum debeo. Quod ut facias te vehementer
to-him alone the-most owe Which that you-do you vehemently
etiam atque etiam rogo. Maius mihi dare beneficium
again and again I-ask Greater to-me to-give kindness
nullum potes; id mihi intelleges esse gratissimum.
none you-can that to-me you-will-understand to-be most-pleasing

XIII.9 · THE BITHYNIAN COMPANY

Cicero commended the Bithynian tax partners to Crassipes in person, and writes because they ask it. He favors the whole order of tax-farmers, and this company in particular, made up of the others and full of his friends, chief among them its manager Publius Rupilius. He asks Crassipes to protect Gnaeus Pupius on its staff, and promises the partners' gratitude.

Cicero Crassipedi s.

Cicero to-Crassipes greeting

Quamquam tibi praesens commendavi, ut potui diligentissime, 1

Although to-you present I-commended as I-could most-carefully

socios Bithyniae teque cum mea commendatione tum

the-partners of-Bithynia and-you both by-my recommendation and

etiam tua sponte intellexi cupere ei societati

also of-your own-accord I-understood to-desire to-that company

quibuscumque rebus posses commodare, tamen cum ii,

in-whatever things you-could to-oblige still since those

quorum res agitur, magni sua interesse arbitrarentur

whose interest is-at-stake greatly to-them to-matter thought

me etiam per litteras declarare tibi qua essem erga

that-I also by letter to-declare to-you with-what I-was toward

ipsos voluntate, non dubitavi haec ad te scribere.

them goodwill not I-hesitated these-things to you to-write

Volo enim te existimare me, cum universo ordini 2

I-wish for that-you to-think that-I although to-the-whole order

publicanorum semper libentissime tribuerim idque magnis

of-the-tax-farmers always most-gladly I-have-deferred and-that by-the-great

eius ordinis erga me meritis facere debuerim, tum in

of-that order toward me services to-do I-was-bound yet among

primis amicum esse huic Bithynicae societati, quae societas

the-first a-friend to-be to-this Bithynian company which company

ordine ipso et hominum genere pars est maxima civitatis

in-rank itself and of-men in-kind a-part is very-great of-the-state

(constat enim ex ceteris societatibus), et casu permulti sunt

it-consists for of the-other companies and by-chance very-many are

in ea societate valde mihi familiares in primisque is, cuius

in that company very to-me intimate among and-the-first he whose

praecipuum officium agitur hoc tempore, P. Rupilius
special duty is-at-stake at-this time Publius Rupilius
P. f. Men., qui est magister in ea societate.
of-Publius son of-the-Menenian-tribe who is the-manager in that company
3 Quae cum ita sint, in maiorem modum a te peto
Which since so they-are in greater measure from you I-ask
Cn. Pupium, qui est in operis eius societatis, omnibus
Gnaeus Pupius who is in the-staff of-that company with-all
tuis officiis atque omni liberalitate tueare curesque ut
your services and with-all generosity you-protect and-take-care that
eius operae, quod tibi facile factu est, quam gratissimae
his labors which for-you easy to-do is as most-pleasing
sint sociis, remque et utilitatem sociorum (cuius
be to-the-partners and-the-interest and advantage of-the-partners of-which
rei quantam potestatem quaestor habeat non sum ignarus)
thing how-much power a-quaestor has not I-am unaware
per te quam maxime defensam et auctam velis. Id
through you as most defended and increased you-wish That
cum mihi gratissimum feceris, tum illud tibi expertus
both to-me most-pleasing you-will-have-done and this to-you having-tried
promitto et spondeo, te socios Bithyniae, si iis
I-promise and pledge that-you the-partners of-Bithynia if them
commodaris, memores esse et gratos cogniturum.
you-will-have-obliged mindful to-be and grateful going-to-learn

Marcus Terentius Varro, going to Brutus as quaestor, needed no letter, since custom makes that tie next to kinship, but he asked for one. Cicero says why he loves him: Varro came to his friendship on entering the forum, shares his studies, lost heavily in the tax companies, pleaded honestly, and carried Cicero's letter and instructions to Caesar from Brundisium with zeal and good faith. Cicero promises a modest, prudent, industrious man, and asks Brutus to show that the letter has helped.

Cicero Bruto s.

Cicero to-Brutus greeting

Cum ad te tuus quaestor, M. Varro, proficisceretur, 1

When to you your quaestor Marcus Varro was-setting-out

commendatione egere eum non putabam; satis enim

recommendation to-need him not I-thought sufficiently for

commendatum tibi eum arbitrabar ab ipso more maiorum,

commended to-you him I-thought by the-very custom of-the-ancestors

qui, ut te non fugit, hanc quaesturae coniunctionem

which as you not escapes this of-the-quaestorship union

liberorum necessitudini proximam voluit esse. Sed cum

of-children to-the-bond nearest wished to-be But since

sibi ita persuasisset ipse, meas de se accurate scriptas

himself so he-had-persuaded he my about himself carefully written

litteras maximum apud te pondus habituras, a meque

letters the-greatest with you weight going-to-have from and-me

contenderet ut quam diligentissime scriberem, malui facere,

was-demanding that as most-carefully I-should-write I-preferred to-do

quod meus familiaris tanti sua interesse arbitraretur.

what my intimate of-so-much to-him to-matter thought

2 Ut igitur debere me facere hoc intellegas, cum primum
That therefore to-be-bound that-I to-do this you-may-understand when first
M. Terentius in forum venit, ad amicitiam se meam
Marcus Terentius into the-forum came to friendship himself my
contulit; deinde, ut se corroboravit, duae causae accesserunt
he-betook then when himself he-strengthened two causes were-added
quae meam in illum benevolentiam augerent, una, quod
which my toward him goodwill should-increase one that
versabatur in hoc studio nostro, quo etiam nunc maxime
he-was-engaged in this pursuit our by-which even now most
delectamur, et cum ingenio, ut nosti, nec sine industria;
we-are-delighted and with talent as you-know nor without industry
deinde, quod mature se contulit in societates publicorum;
then that early himself he-betook into the-companies of-the-public-revenues
quod quidem nollem; maximis enim damnis adfectus
which indeed I-would-not-wish by-the-greatest for losses afflicted
est; sed tamen causa communis ordinis mihi
he-has-been but still the-cause common of-an-order to-me
commendatissimi fecit amicitiam nostram firmiorem. Deinde
most-commended made friendship our firmer Then
versatus in utrisque subselliis optima et fide et fama iam
engaged on both benches with-the-best both good-faith and repute already
ante hanc commutationem rei p. petitioni sese dedit
before this change of-the-thing public to-candidacy himself he-gave
honoremque honestissimum existimavit fructum laboris sui.
and-office most-honorable he-thought the-fruit of-labor his
3 His autem temporibus a me Brundisio cum litteris et
In-these however times from me from-Brundisium with a-letter and
mandatis profectus ad Caesarem est; qua in re et amorem
instructions set-out to Caesar he-has which in matter both the-love
eius in suscipiendo negotio perspexi et in conficiendo ac
his in undertaking the-business I-saw-clearly and in completing and

renuntiando fidem. Videor mihi, cum separatim de
reporting the-good-faith I-seem to-myself although separately about
probitate eius et moribus dicturus fuissem, si prius
the-uprightness his and character going-to-speak I-would-have-been if first
causam cur eum tanto opere diligerem tibi exposuissem,
the-reason why him in-so-great measure I-esteemed to-you I-had-set-out
in ipsa causa exponenda satis etiam de probitate
in the-very reason setting-out enough even about uprightness
dixisse. Sed tamen separatim promitto in meque recipio
to-have-spoken But still separately I-promise upon and-myself I-take
fore eum tibi et voluptati et usui; nam et modestum
going-to-be him to-you both for-pleasure and for-use for both a-modest
hominem cognosces et prudentem et a cupiditate omni
man you-will-find and prudent and from greed all
remotissimum, praeterea magni laboris summaeque industriae.
most-remote besides of-great labor and-of-the-highest industry
Neque ego haec polliceri debeo, quae tibi ipsi, cum 4
Nor I these-things to-promise ought which by-you yourself when
bene cognoris, iudicanda sunt; sed tamen in omnibus
well you-will-have-learned to-be-judged are but still in all
novis coniunctionibus interest qualis primus aditus sit et
new connections it-matters of-what-sort the-first approach is and
qua commendatione quasi amicitiae fores aperiantur;
by-what recommendation as-it-were of-friendship the-doors are-opened
quod ego his litteris efficere volui; etsi id ipsa
which I by-this letter to-accomplish wished although that itself
per se necessitudo quaesturae effecisse debet; sed
by itself the-bond of-the-quaestorship to-have-accomplished ought but
tamen nihilo infirmius illud hoc addito. Cura igitur,
still by-nothing weaker that with-this added Take-care therefore
si me tanti facis quanti et Varro existimat et
if me at-so-much you-value at-how-much both Varro thinks and

ipse sentio, ut quam primum intellegam hanc meam
myself I-feel that as first I-may-understand this my
commendationem tantum illi utilitatis attulisse quantum
recommendation so-much to-him of-advantage to-have-brought as-much-as
et ipse sperarit nec ego dubitarim.
both himself he-will-have-hoped nor I would-have-doubted

XIII.11 · ARPINUM'S REVENUES

The townsmen of Arpinum depend for their rites and for the upkeep of temples and public places on revenues in Gaul, and three knights, Quintus Fufidius, Marcus Faucius, and Quintus Mamercius, go to collect them. Cicero asks Brutus to see the business done quickly and to treat the envoys generously; this year matters doubly to him, since his son, his nephew, and Marcus Caesius are the town's aediles.

Cicero Bruto s.
Cicero to-Brutus greeting
1 Quia semper animadverti studiose te operam dare ut ne
Because always I-have-noticed zealously that-you effort to-give that not
quid meorum tibi esset ignotum, propterea non dubito
any of-my-affairs to-you should-be unknown for-this-reason not I-doubt
quin scias non solum cuius municipi sim, sed etiam
but-that you-know not only of-what town I-am but also
quam diligenter soleam meos municipes Arpinatis tueri.
how carefully I-am-wont my townsmen of-Arpinum to-protect
Quorum quidem omnia commoda omnesque facultates,
Whose indeed all advantages and-all resources
quibus et sacra conficere et sarta tecta aedium sacrarum
by-which both rites to-perform and patched roofed of-the-temples sacred
locorumque communium tueri possint, consistunt in iis
and-of-places common to-keep they-can consist in those

vectigalibus, quae habent in provincia Gallia. Ad ea
revenues which they-have in the-province Gaul To them
visenda pecuniasque, quae a colonis debentur, exigendas
inspecting and-the-moneys which by the-tenants are-owed collecting
totamque rem et cognoscendam et administrandam legatos
and-the-whole matter both examining and administering as-envoys
equites Romanos misimus, Q. Fufidium Q. f., M.
knights Roman we-have-sent Quintus Fufidius of-Quintus son Marcus
Faucium M. f., Q. Mamercium Q. f.
Faucius of-Marcus son Quintus Mamercius of-Quintus son
Peto a te in maiorem modum pro nostra 2
I-ask from you in greater measure in-accordance-with our
necessitudine ut tibi ea res curae sit operamque
connection that to-you that matter for-a-concern be and-effort
des ut per te quam commodissime negotium municipi
you-give that through you as most-conveniently the-business of-the-town
administretur quam primumque conficiatur, ipsosque,
be-administered and-as first be-completed and-the-men-themselves
quorum nomina scripsi, ut quam honorificentissime
whose names I-have-written that as most-honorably
pro tua natura et quam liberalissime tractes.
in-accordance-with your nature and as most-generously you-treat
Bonos viros ad tuam necessitudinem adiunxeris 3
Good men to your connection you-will-have-joined
municipiumque gratissimum beneficio tuo devinxeris,
and-a-town most-grateful by-kindness your you-will-have-bound
mihi vero etiam gratius feceris, quod cum semper
to-me indeed even more-pleasing you-will-have-done because although always
tueri municipes meos consuevi, tum hic annus
to-protect townsmen my I-have-been-accustomed yet this year
praecipue ad meam curam officiumque pertinet. Nam
especially to my care and-duty pertains For

constituendi municipi causa hoc anno aedilem filium
of-settling the-town for-the-sake this year aedile son
meum fieri volui et fratris filium et M. Caesium,
my to-be-made I-wished and of-my-brother the-son and Marcus Caesius
hominem mihi maxime necessarium; is enim magistratus
a-man to-me most closely-connected that for magistracy
in nostro municipio nec alius ullus creari solet. Quos
in our town nor other any to-be-elected is-wont Whom
cohonestaris in primisque me, si res p. municipi
you-will-have-honored among and-the-first me if the-thing public of-the-town
tuo studio, diligentia bene administrata erit. Quod
by-your zeal diligence well administered will-have-been Which
ut facias te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
that you-do you vehemently again and again I-ask

XIII.12 · QUINTUS FUFIDIUS

Having commended Arpinum's envoys together, Cicero commends Quintus Fufidius alone: Caesius' stepson, Cicero's military tribune in Cilicia, and a lover of letters, who undertook the embassy against his own interest. Cicero asks Brutus to embrace him and help him win praise from the town.

Cicero Bruto s.
Cicero to-Brutus greeting
1 Alia epistula communiter commendavi tibi legatos
In-another letter jointly I-commended to-you the-envoys
Arpinatium, ut potui diligentissime, hac separatim Q.
of-the-Arpinates as I-could most-carefully in-this separately Quintus
Fufidium, quocum mihi omnes necessitudines sunt, diligentius
Fufidius with-whom to-me all ties are more-carefully
commendo, non ut aliquid de illa commendatione deminuam,
I-commend not that anything from that recommendation I-may-diminish

sed ut ad hanc addam. Nam et privignus est M. Caesi,
but that to this I-may-add For both the-stepson he-is of-Marcus Caesius
mei maxime et familiaris et necessari, et fuit in Cilicia
my most both intimate and connection and he-was in Cilicia
mecum tribunus militum; quo in munere ita se tractavit,
with-me tribune of-the-soldiers which in office so himself he-conducted
ut accepisse ab eo beneficium viderer, non dedisse.
that to-have-received from him a-kindness I-seemed not to-have-given
Est praeterea, quod apud te valet plurimum, a 2
He-is besides what with you avails the-most from
nostris studiis non abhorrens. Qua re velim eum
our pursuits not averse By-which thing I-would-wish him
quam liberalissime complectare operamque des ut in ea
as most-generously you-embrace and-effort you-give that in that
legatione, quam suscepit contra suum commodum secutus
embassy which he-undertook against his-own advantage having-followed
auctoritatem meam, quam maxime eius excellat industria.
the-authority my as most his may-excel industry
Vult enim, id quod optimo cuique natura tributum est,
He-wishes for that which to-the-best each by-nature granted is
quam maximam laudem cum a nobis, qui eum impulimus,
as greatest praise both from us who him urged
tum a municipio consequi; quod ei continget, si hac mea
and from the-town to-obtain which to-him will-befall if by-this my
commendatione tuum erga se studium erit consecutus.
recommendation your toward himself zeal he-will-have obtained

Cicero commends Lucius Castronius Paetus, by far the first man of Luca, honorable, weighty, and rich, and so close to Cicero that he courts no senator more attentively, as his friend and as worthy of Brutus' friendship.

Cicero Bruto s.

Cicero to-Brutus greeting

1 L. Castronius Paetus, longe princeps municipi Lucensis,

Lucius Castronius Paetus by-far the-chief of-the-town Lucan

est honestus, gravis, plenus offici, bonus plane vir et

is honorable weighty full of-duty a-good wholly man and

cum virtutibus tum etiam fortuna, si quid hoc ad rem

both with-virtues and also with-fortune if at-all this to the-matter

pertinet, ornatus; meus autem est familiarissimus, sic prosus

pertains endowed my however he-is most-intimate so absolutely

ut nostri ordinis observet neminem diligentius. Qua

that of-our order he-courts no-one more-carefully By-which

re ut et meum amicum et tua dignum amicitia tibi

thing as both my friend and of-your worthy friendship to-you

commendo. Cui quibuscumque rebus commodaveris, tibi

I-commend Whom in-whatever things you-will-have-obliged to-you

profecto iucundum, mihi certe erit gratum. Vale.

surely pleasant to-me certainly will-be pleasing Farewell

Publius Cornelius owes money in Brutus' province to Lucius Titius Strabo, a knight and close friend of Cicero's, and Volcacius has referred the case to Gaul. Cicero asks Brutus to see it settled and the money paid to Strabo's freedman, as if the affair were Cicero's own.

Cicero Bruto s.

Cicero to-Brutus greeting

L. Titio Strabone, equite R. in primis honesto 1

With-Lucius Titius Strabo a-knight Roman among the-first honorable

et ornato, familiarissime utor; omnia mihi cum eo

and distinguished most-intimately I-use all to-me with him

intercedunt iura summae necessitudinis. Huic in tua

subsist the-rights of-the-closest connection To-him in your

provincia pecuniam debet P. Cornelius. Ea res a

province money owes Publius Cornelius That matter by

Volcacio, qui Romae ius dicit, reiecta in Galliam est.

Volcacius who at-Rome justice pronounces referred into Gaul has-been

Peto a te hoc diligentius quam si mea res esset, 2

I-ask from you this more-carefully than if my-own affair it-were

quo est honestius de amicorum pecunia laborare

by-as-much-as it-is more-honorable about of-friends money to-labor

quam de sua, ut negotium conficiendum cures, ipse

than about one's-own that the-business to-be-completed you-take-care yourself

suscipias, transigas operamque des, quoad tibi aequum et

you-undertake you-settle and-effort you-give as-far-as to-you fair and

rectum videbitur, ut quam commodissima condicione libertus

right it-will-seem that as most-convenient on-terms the-freedman

Strabonis, qui eius rei causa missus est, negotium

of-Strabo who of-that matter for-the-sake sent has-been the-business

conficiat ad nummosque perveniat. Id et mihi gratissimum
may-complete to and-the-cash may-come That both to-me most-pleasing
erit et tu ipse L. Titium cognosces amicitia tua
will-be and you yourself Lucius Titius will-find of-friendship your
dignissimum. Quod ut tibi curae sit, ut omnia solent esse
most-worthy Which that to-you for-a-concern be as all-things are-wont to-be
quae me velle scis, te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
which that-I to-wish you-know you vehemently again and again I-ask

XIII.15 · PRECILIUS, IN HOMER'S WORDS

Cicero commends young Precilius to Caesar, son of a friend who used to mock Cicero for not joining Caesar, while the leaders cried Homer's calls to glory at him. Scorched already, Cicero has turned from Homer's grandeur to Euripides' precepts, and old Precilius praises the line on the sage who is not wise for himself, and wants a man who looks before and after and still excels. Cicero asks Caesar to crown the recommendation, written in a new kind of letter.

Cicero Caesari imp. s.
Cicero to-Caesar imperator greeting
1 Precilium tibi commendo unice, tui necessari, mei
Precilius to-you I-commend singularly of-your connection of-my
familiarissimi, viri optimi filium. Quem cum adulescentem
most-intimate of-a-man the-best the-son Whom while the-young-man
ipsum propter eius modestiam, humanitatem, animum et
himself on-account-of his modesty kindness spirit and
amorem erga me singularem mirifice diligo, tum patrem eius
love toward me singular wonderfully I-esteem so the-father his
re doctus intellexi et didici mihi fuisse semper
by-the-fact taught I-have-understood and learned to-me to-have-been always
amicissimum. Em hic ille est, maxime qui inridere atque
most-friendly Look this that-man is above-all who to-mock and

obiurgare me solitus est, quod me non tecum, praesertim
to-scold me accustomed was because myself not with-you especially
cum abs te honorificentissime invitarer, coniungerem;
when by you most-honorably I-was-invited I-joined

ἀλλ’ ἐμὸν οὔ ποτε θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἔπειθεν.
but my not ever heart in breast he-persuaded

Audiebam enim nostros proceres clamitantis:
I-heard for our chiefs crying-out

ἄλκιμος ἔσσ’, ἵνα τίς σε καὶ ὀψιγόνων ἐὺ εἴπῃ.
brave be that someone you even of-those-born-later well may-speak-of
ὣς φάτο, τὸν δ’ ἄχεος νεφέλη ἐκάλυψε μέλαινα.
So he-spoke him and of-grief a-cloud covered black

Sed tamen idem me consolantur etiam; hominem perustum 2
But still the-same me console also a-man scorched
etiamnum gloria volunt incendere atque ita loquuntur:
even-now with-glory they-wish to-inflame and thus they-speak

μὴ μὰν ἀσπουδί γε καὶ ἀκλειῶς ἀπολοίμην,
not truly without-a-struggle at-least and ingloriously may-I-perish
ἀλλὰ μέγα ῥέξας τι καὶ ἐσσομένοισι πυθέσθαι.
but great having-done something even for-those-to-come to-learn

Sed me minus iam movent, ut vides. Itaque ab Homeri
But me less now they-move as you-see And-so from of-Homer
magniloquentia confero me ad vera praecepta Εὐριπίδου:
the-grandiloquence I-betake myself to the-true precepts of-Euripides

μισῶ σοφιστήν, ὅστις οὐχ αὑτῷ σοφός,
I-hate a-sage who not for-himself wise

quem versum senex Precilius laudat egregie et ait posse
which verse old Precilius praises excellently and says to-be-able
eundem et ἅμα πρόσσω καὶ ὀπίσσω videre et tamen
the-same-man both at-once forward and backward to-see and still
nihilo minus
by-nothing less

αἰὲν ἀριστεύειν καὶ ὑπείροχον ἔμμεναι ἄλλων.
always to-be-best and pre-eminent to-be of-others

3 Sed ut redeam ad id unde coepi, vehementer mihi gratum
But that I-may-return to that whence I-began vehemently to-me pleasing
feceris, si hunc adulescentem humanitate tua, quae est
you-will-have-done if this young-man with-kindness your which is
singularis, comprehenderis et ad id, quod ipsorum Preciliorum
singular you-will-have-embraced and to that which of-the-very Precilii
causa te velle arbitror, addideris cumulum
for-the-sake that-you to-wish I-think you-will-have-added the-crown
commendationis meae. Genere novo sum litterarum ad te
of-recommendation my In-a-kind new I-have of-letter to you
usus, ut intellegeres non vulgarem esse commendationem.
used that you-might-understand not common to-be the-recommendation

Cicero loved young Publius Crassus and esteemed his freedman Apollonius, devoted to his studies, who after Crassus' death came to Cicero in Cilicia and served Caesar in the Alexandrian war. Learned, and trained from boyhood with Diodotus the Stoic, Apollonius goes to Spain wanting to write Caesar's deeds in Greek. Cicero had said he would not commend him, and commends him.

Cicero Caesari s.

Cicero to-Caesar greeting

P. Crassum ex omni nobilitate adulescentem dilexi 1
Publius Crassus out-of all the-nobility a-young-man I-esteemed
plurimum, et ex eo cum ab ineunte eius aetate bene
the-most and from him while from the-entering his age well
speravissem, tum perbone existimare coepi eximiis iudiciis
I-had-hoped then very-well to-think I-began by-the-exceptional judgments
quae de eo feceras cognitis. Eius libertum Apollonium
which about him you-had-made learned His freedman Apollonius
iam tum equidem cum ille viveret et magni faciebam et
already then for-my-part when he was-living both greatly I-valued and
probabam; erat enim et studiosus Crassi et ad eius optima
approved he-was for both devoted to-Crassus and to his excellent
studia vehementer aptus; itaque ab eo admodum diligebatur.
pursuits vehemently suited and-so by him greatly he-was-esteemed
Post mortem autem Crassi eo mihi etiam dignior visus 2
After the-death however of-Crassus by-this to-me even more-worthy seemed
est quem in fidem atque amicitiam meam reciperem, quod
he whom into protection and friendship my I-should-receive because
eos a se observandos et colendos putabat, quos ille
those by himself to-be-respected and to-be-cultivated he-thought whom that-man
dilexisset et quibus carus fuisset. Itaque et ad me in
had-esteemed and to-whom dear he-had-been And-so both to me into

Ciliciam venit multisque in rebus mihi magno usui fuit et
Cilicia he-came and-many in things to-me of-great use he-was and
fides eius et prudentia et, ut opinor, tibi in Alexandrino
the-good-faith his and prudence and as I-suppose to-you in the-Alexandrian
bello, quantum studio et fidelitate consequi potuit, non defuit.
war as-much-as by-zeal and loyalty to-achieve he-could not he-failed
3 Quod cum speraret te quoque ita existimare, in Hispaniam
Which since he-hoped that-you also so to-think into Spain
ad te maxime ille quidem suo consilio sed etiam me
to you chiefly he indeed by-his-own plan but also with-me
auctore est profectus. Cui ego commendationem non sum
as-adviser has set-out To-whom I a-recommendation not I-have
pollicitus, non quin eam valituram apud te arbitrarer, sed
promised not that it going-to-avail with you I-thought but
neque egere mihi commendatione videbatur, qui et in bello
neither to-need to-me recommendation he-seemed who both in war
tecum fuisset et propter memoriam Crassi de tuis
with-you had-been and on-account-of the-memory of-Crassus of your-people
unus esset, et, si uti commendationibus vellet, etiam
one was and if to-use recommendations he-wished even
per alios eum videbam id consequi posse; testimonium
through others him I-saw that to-attain to-be-able The-testimony
mei de eo iudici, quod et ipse magni aestimabat et
of-my about him judgment which both he-himself greatly valued and
ego apud te valere eram expertus, ei libenter dedi.
I with you to-avail had experienced to-him gladly I-gave
4 Doctum igitur hominem cognovi et studiis optimis
Learned therefore the-man I-have-found and to-pursuits the-best
deditum, idque a puero; nam domi meae cum Diodoto
devoted and-that from a-boy for at-home my with Diodotus
Stoico, homine meo iudicio eruditissimo, multum a puero
the-Stoic a-man in-my judgment most-learned much from a-boy

fuit. Nunc autem incensus studio rerum tuarum eas litteris
he-was Now however fired with-zeal for-deeds your them to-letters
Graecis mandare cupiebat. Posse arbitror; valet ingenio,
Greek to-commit he-was-desiring To-be-able I-think he-is-strong in-talent
habet usum, iam pridem in eo genere studi litterarumque
he-has practice already long in that kind of-pursuit and-of-letters
versatur, satis facere immortalitati laudum tuarum mirabiliter
he-is-engaged enough to-do to-the-immortality of-praises your wonderfully
cupit. Habes opinionis meae testimonium, sed tu hoc
he-desires You-have of-opinion my the-testimony but you this
facilius multo pro tua singulari prudentia iudicabis.
more-easily much in-accordance-with your singular prudence will-judge
Et tamen, quod negaveram, commendo tibi eum. Quicquid
And still what I-had-refused I-commend to-you him Whatever
ei commodaveris, erit id mihi maiorem in modum gratum.
him you-will-have-obliged will-be that to-me greater in measure pleasing

XIII.17 · MANIUS CURIUS AT PATRAE

Cicero commends to Servius Sulpicius Manius Curius, a merchant at Patrae: an old friend whose house there lay open to Cicero in the war, and Atticus' closest friend. If Servius already knows him, Cicero asks for more; if modesty has kept him back, Cicero pledges his character, as a scrupulous recommender should.

Cicero s. d. Ser. Sulpicio.
Cicero greeting says to-Servius Sulpicius
M'. Curius, qui Patris negotiatur, multis et magnis 1
Manius Curius who at-Patrae does-business many and great
de causis a me diligitur; nam et amicitia pervetus mihi
for reasons by me is-esteemed for both friendship very-old to-me
cum eo est ut primum in forum venit instituta, et
with him there-is when first into the-forum he-came begun and

Patris cum aliquotiens antea tum proxime hoc miserrimo
at-Patrae both several-times before and most-recently in-this most-wretched
bello domus eius tota mihi patuit; qua si opus fuisset tam
war house his whole to-me lay-open which if need had-been as
essem usus quam mea. Maximum autem mihi vinculum
I-would-have used as my-own The-greatest however to-me bond
cum eo est quasi sanctioris cuiusdam necessitudinis,
with him is as-it-were of-a-more-sacred certain connection
quod est Attici nostri familiarissimus eumque unum
that he-is of-Atticus our most-intimate and-him alone
praeter ceteros observat ac diligit.
beyond the-rest he-courts and esteems

2 Quem si tu iam forte cognosti, puto me hoc quod
Whom if you already by-chance have-come-to-know I-think that-I this which
facio facere serius; ea est enim humanitate et observantia,
I-do to-do too-late of-such he-is for kindness and attentiveness
ut eum tibi iam ipsum per se commendatum putem.
that him to-you already himself by himself commended I-think
Quod tamen si ita est, magno opere a te quaeso ut ad
But still if so it-is in-great measure from you I-beg that to
eam voluntatem, si quam in illum ante has meas litteras
that goodwill if any toward him before this my letter
contulisti, quam maximus potest mea commendatione
you-have-bestowed as greatest can by-my recommendation
cumulus accedat;
crown be-added

3 sin autem propter verecundiam suam minus se tibi
but-if however on-account-of modesty his less himself to-you
obtulit aut nondum eum satis habes cognitum aut
he-has-offered or not-yet him well you-have known or
quae causa est cur maioris commendationis indigeat, sic
some reason is why of-greater recommendation he-needs so

tibi eum commendo, ut neque maiore studio quemquam
to-you him I-commend that neither with-greater zeal anyone
neque iustioribus de causis commendare possim, faciamque
nor more-just for reasons to-commend I-could and-I-will-do
id quod debent facere ii qui religiose et sine ambitione
that which ought to-do those who scrupulously and without self-seeking
commendant; spondebo enim tibi vel potius spondeo in
commend I-will-pledge for to-you or rather I-pledge upon
meque recipio eos esse M'. Curi mores eamque cum
and-myself I-take those to-be of-Manius Curius the-ways and-that both
probitatem tum etiam humanitatem, ut eum et amicitia
uprightness and also kindness that him both of-friendship
tua et tam accurata commendatione, si tibi sit cognitus,
your and of-so careful recommendation if to-you he-be known
dignum sis existimaturus. Mihi certe gratissimum
worthy you-will-be going-to-judge To-me certainly most-pleasing
feceris, si intellexero has litteras tantum, quantum
you-will-have-done if I-shall-have-understood this letter so-much as-much-as
scribens confidebam, apud te pondus habuisse.
writing I-trusted with you weight to-have-had

XIII.18 · THANKS FOR ATTICUS

Servius wrote to Atticus unasked, so warmly that the letter pleased Cicero no less than Atticus. He need not ask more for Atticus, nor even thank Servius, who did it for Atticus' sake, but he does both anyway, and asks him to know that every service he does Atticus in Epirus binds Cicero too.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

1 Non concedam ut Attico nostro, quem elatum laetitia vidi,
Not I-will-grant that to-Atticus our whom carried-away with-joy I-saw
iucundiores tuae suavissime ad eum et humanissime scriptae
more-delightful your most-sweetly to him and most-kindly written
litterae fuerint quam mihi. Nam etsi utrique nostrum
letter has-been than to-me For although to-both of-us
prope aeque gratae erant, tamen ego admirabar magis
almost equally welcome it-was still I admired more
te, qui, si rogatus aut certe admonitus liberaliter Attico
you who if asked or certainly reminded generously to-Atticus
respondisses (quod tamen dubium nobis quin ita futurum
you-had-replied which still doubtful to-us that so going-to-be
fuerit non erat), ultro ad eum scripsisse eique
it-would-have-been not was unasked to him to-have-written and-to-him
nec opinanti voluntatem tuam tantam per litteras detulisse.
not expecting goodwill your so-great by letter to-have-conveyed
De quo non modo rogare te ut eo studiosius mea
About which not only to-ask you that by-this more-zealously my
quoque causa facias non debeo (nihil enim cumulatius
also for-the-sake you-do not I-ought nothing for more-abundantly
fieri potest quam polliceris), sed ne gratias quidem agere,
to-be-done can than you-promise but not thanks even to-give
quod tu et ipsius causa et tua sponte feceris;
because you both of-himself for-the-sake and of-your own-accord you-have-done
2 illud tamen dicam, mihi id, quod fecisti, esse gratissimum.
this still I-will-say to-me that which you-have-done to-be most-pleasing
Tale enim tuum iudicium de homine eo, quem ego unice
Such for your judgment about a-man that whom I singularly
diligo, non potest mihi non summe esse iucundum; quod
esteem not can to-me not supremely to-be delightful which

cum ita sit, esse gratum necesse est. Sed tamen, quoniam
since so it-is to-be pleasing necessary it-is But still since
mihi pro coniunctione nostra vel peccare apud te
to-me in-accordance-with union our even to-err with you
in scribendo licet, utrumque eorum, quae negavi mihi
in writing it-is-allowed each of-those which I-said-not by-me
facienda esse, faciam; nam et ad id, quod Attici causa te
to-be-done to-be I-will-do for both to that which of-Atticus for-the-sake yourself
ostendisti esse facturum, tantum velim addas, quantum
you-showed to-be going-to-do so-much I-would-wish you-add as-much-as
ex nostro amore accessionis fieri potest, et, quod modo
from our love of-increase to-be-made can and what just-now
verebar, tibi gratias agere, nunc plane ago teque ita existimare
I-feared to-you thanks to-give now plainly I-give and-you so to-think
volo, quibuscumque officiis in Epiroticis reliquisque rebus
I-wish by-whatever services in the-Epirote and-the-other affairs
Atticum obstrinxeris, iisdem me tibi obligatum fore.
Atticus you-will-have-bound by-the-same me to-you bound going-to-be

XIII.19 · LYSO OF PATRAE

Lyso of Patrae, Cicero's guest-friend and intimate, lived with him nearly a year at Rome. Cicero feared for his property while one man held all power, but Caesar granted all they asked, as his letter to Servius shows. Now Cicero asks Servius to take Lyso into his protection, with his household and his young son, whom Cicero's client Gemellus adopted, and whose inheritance needs defending.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

1 Cum Lysone Patrensi est mihi quidem hospitium vetus,
With Lyso of-Patrae there-is to-me indeed a-guest-friendship old
quam ego necessitudinem sancte colendam puto; sed ea
which I tie sacredly to-be-cultivated think but that
causa est etiam cum aliis compluribus, familiaritas tanta
cause is also with others very-many intimacy so-great
nullo cum hospite, et ea cum officiis eius multis tum
no with guest and that both by-services his many and
etiam consuetudine cotidiana sic est aucta, ut nihil sit
also by-intercourse daily so has-been increased that nothing be
familiaritate nostra coniunctius. Is cum Romae annum prope
than-intimacy our more-close He when at-Rome a-year almost
ita fuisset, ut mecum viveret, etsi eramus in magna
so had-been that with-me he-lived although we-were in great
spe te meis litteris commendationeque diligentissime
hope that-you by-my letter and-recommendation most-carefully
facturum id, quod fecisti, ut eius rem et fortunas
going-to-do that which you-have-done that his property and fortunes
absentis tuerere, tamen, quod in unius potestate erant
in-his-absence you-protect still because in of-one-man the-power were
omnia et quod Lyso fuerat in nostra causa nostrisque
all-things and because Lyso had-been in our cause and-our
praesidiis, cotidie aliquid timebamus. Effectum tamen est
camp daily something we-feared Brought-about still it-was
et ipsius splendore et nostro reliquorumque hospitum
both by-his-own distinction and by-our and-of-the-remaining guests
studio ut omnia quae vellemus a Caesare impetrarentur,
zeal that all-things which we-wished from Caesar were-obtained
quod intelleges ex iis litteris, quas Caesar ad te dedit.
which you-will-understand from that letter which Caesar to you gave

Nunc non modo non remittimus tibi aliquid ex nostra 2
Now not only not we-abate to-you anything from our
commendatione quasi adepti iam omnia, sed eo
recommendation as-if having-obtained already all-things but by-this
vehementius a te contendimus ut Lysonem in fidem
more-vehemently from you we-press that Lyso into protection
necessitudinemque tuam recipias; cuius dubia fortuna
and-connection your you-receive whose doubtful fortune
timidius tecum agebamus verentes ne quid accideret
more-timidly with-you we-were-dealing fearing lest anything happen
eius modi ut ne tu quidem mederi posses; explorata vero
of-that kind that not you even to-remedy could with-assured indeed
eius incolumitate omnia a te summo studio et cura
his safety all-things from you with-the-highest zeal and care
peto. Quae ne singula enumerem, totam tibi domum
I-ask Which lest one-by-one I-enumerate the-whole to-you household
commendo, in his adulescentem filium eius, quem C.
I-commend among these the-young son his whom Gaius
Maenius Gemellus, cliens meus, cum in calamitate exsili sui
Maenius Gemellus client my when in the-calamity of-exile his
Patrensis civis factus esset, Patrensium legibus adoptavit,
of-Patrae citizen made he-had-been of-the-Patrenses by-the-laws adopted
ut eius ipsius hereditatis ius causamque tueare.
that of-that very inheritance the-right and-case you-protect
Caput illud est ut Lysonem, quem ego virum optimum 3
The-head that is that Lyso whom I a-man the-best
gratissimumque cognovi, recipias in necessitudinem tuam.
and-most-grateful have-found you-receive into connection your
Quod si feceris, non dubito quin in eo diligendo
But if you-will-have-done not I-doubt but-that in him esteeming
ceterisque postea commendando idem quod ego sis
and-the-others afterward commending the-same which I you-will-be

iudici et voluntatis habiturus. Quod cum fieri
of-judgment and of-goodwill going-to-have Which while to-be-done
vehementer studeo tum etiam illud vereor ne, si minus
vehemently I-desire so also this I-fear lest if less
cumulate videbere fecisse aliquid eius causa, me
abundantly you-will-seem to-have-done anything his for-the-sake that-I
ille neglegenter scripsisse putet, non te oblitum mei.
he negligently to-have-written may-think not you forgetful of-me
Quanti enim me faceres cum ex sermonibus cotidianis
At-how-much for me you-valued both from conversations daily
meis tum ex epistulis etiam tuis potuit cognoscere.
my and from letters also your he-could learn

XIII.20 · ASCLAPO THE PHYSICIAN

Cicero commends Asclapo of Patrae, a physician whose company pleased him and whose skill and loyalty served his household in illness, and asks Servius to show Asclapo that the recommendation helped him.

Cicero Servio s.
Cicero to-Servius greeting
1 Asclapone Patrensi medico utor familiariter, eiusque cum
With-Asclapo of-Patrae the-physician I-use intimately and-his both
consuetudo mihi iucunda fuit tum ars etiam, quam
company to-me pleasant has-been and skill also which
sum expertus in valetudine meorum; in qua mihi cum
I-have experienced in the-health of-my-household in which me both
ipsa scientia tum etiam fidelitate benevolentiaque satis
by-his-very knowledge and also by-loyalty and-goodwill enough
fecit. Hunc igitur tibi commendo et a te peto ut
he-did Him therefore to-you I-commend and from you I-ask that

des operam ut intellegat diligenter me scripsisse de
you-give effort that he-understand carefully that-I to-have-written about
sese meamque commendationem usui magno sibi fuisse.
himself and-my recommendation for-use great to-him to-have-been
Erit id mihi vehementer gratum.
Will-be that to-me vehemently pleasing

XIII.21 · AVIANIUS' FREEDMAN

Marcus Aemilius Avianius, devoted to Cicero from youth, would need no letter if he were at Sicyon, but he lingers at Cibyra. Cicero commends his house at Sicyon and his freedman Hammonius, who served Cicero faithfully in his worst times, as if Cicero had freed him.

Cicero Servio s.
Cicero to-Servius greeting
M. Aemilius Avianius ab ineunte adulescentia me 1
Marcus Aemilius Avianius from entering youth me
observavit semperque dilexit, vir cum bonus tum
has-courted and-always esteemed a-man both good and
perhumanus et in omni genere offici diligendus. Quem
very-kind and in every kind of-duty to-be-esteemed Whom
si arbitrarer esse Sicyone et nisi audirem ibi eum etiam
if I-thought to-be at-Sicyon and unless I-heard there him even
nunc, ubi ego reliqui, Cibyrae commorari, nihil esset
now where I left-him at-Cibyra to-stay nothing would-be
necesse plura me ad te de eo scribere; perficeret
necessary more-things that-I to you about him to-write would-bring-about
enim ipse profecto suis moribus suaque humanitate
for himself surely by-his-own ways and-his-own kindness

ut sine cuiusquam commendatione diligeretur abs te non
that without anyone's recommendation he-be-esteemed by you not
minus quam et a me et a ceteris suis familiaribus.
less than both by me and by the-rest his intimates

2 Sed cum illum abesse putem, commendo tibi in maiorem
But since him to-be-away I-think I-commend to-you in greater
modum domum eius quae est Sicyone remque familiarem,
measure the-house his which is at-Sicyon and-the-estate family
maxime C. Avianium Hammonium, libertum eius, quem
above-all Gaius Avianius Hammonius the-freedman his whom
quidem tibi etiam suo nomine commendo. Nam cum
indeed to-you also in-his-own name I-commend For both
propterea mihi est probatus, quod est in patronum suum
for-this-reason to-me he-is approved because he-is toward patron his
officio et fide singulari, tum etiam in me ipsum
of-dutifulness and loyalty singular and also toward me myself
magna officia contulit mihique molestissimis temporibus
great services he-has-bestowed and-to-me in-the-most-troublesome times
ita fideliter benevoleque praesto fuit, ut si a me manumissus
so faithfully and-kindly at-hand he-was as if by me freed
esset. Itaque peto a te ut eum Hammonium et
he-had-been And-so I-ask from you that that Hammonius both
in patroni eius negotio sic tueare ut eius procuratorem,
in of-patron his the-business so you-protect as his agent
quem tibi commendo, et ipsum suo nomine diligas
whom to-you I-commend and himself in-his-own name you-esteem
habeasque in numero tuorum. Hominem pudentem et
and-hold in the-number of-your-people A-man modest and
officiosum cognosces et dignum qui a te diligatur. Vale.
obliging you-will-find and worthy who by you be-esteemed Farewell

Cicero commends Titus Manlius, a merchant at Thespiae who courts him and loves letters, at the urging of Varro Murena, who thought a word from Cicero would add to his own; he asks Servius to help Manlius honorably and promises his gratitude.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

T. Manlium, qui negotiatur Thespiis, vehementer diligo; 1

Titus Manlius who does-business at-Thespiae vehemently I-esteem

nam et semper me coluit diligentissimeque observavit

for both always me he-has-cultivated and-most-carefully courted

et a studiis nostris non abhorret. Accedit eo quod

and from pursuits our not he-is-averse There-is-added to-this that

Varro Murena magno opere eius causa vult omnia;

Varro Murena in-great measure his for-the-sake wishes all-things

qui tamen existimavit, etsi suis litteris, quibus tibi

who still thought although in-his-own letter in-which to-you

Manlium commendabat, valde confideret, tamen mea

Manlius he-was-commending greatly he-trusted still by-my

commendatione aliquid accessionis fore. Me quidem cum

recommendation some of-increase going-to-be Me indeed both

Manli familiaritas tum Varronis studium commovit ut

of-Manlius the-intimacy and of-Varro the-zeal moved that

ad te quam accuratissime scriberem.

to you as most-carefully I-should-write

Gratissimum igitur mihi feceris, si huic commendationi 2

Most-pleasing therefore to-me you-will-have-done if to-this recommendation

meae tantum tribueris quantum cui tribuisti

my so-much you-will-have-granted as-much-as to-anyone you-have-granted

plurimum, id est, si T. Manlium quam maxime,
the-most that is if Titus Manlius as most
quibuscumque rebus honeste ac pro tua dignitate
in-whatever things honorably and in-accordance-with your dignity
poteris, iuveris atque ornaveris; ex ipsiusque
you-will-be-able you-will-have-helped and honored from and-his-own
praeterea gratissimis et humanissimis moribus confirmo
besides most-grateful and most-kind ways I-affirm
tibi te eum, quem soles fructum a bonorum
to-you that-you that which you-are-wont fruit from of-good
virorum officiis exspectare, esse capturum.
men services to-expect to-be going-to-reap

XIII.23 · COSSINIUS' FREEDMAN

Cicero is intimate with Lucius Cossinius, Servius' tribesman, and with his household, and commends Cossinius' freedman Anchialus as warmly as if he were his own freedman.

Cicero Servio s.
Cicero to-Servius greeting
1 L. Cossinio, amico et tribuli tuo, valde familiariter utor;
With-Lucius Cossinius friend and tribesman your very intimately I-use
nam et inter nosmet ipsos vetus usus intercedit et Atticus
for both between us ourselves old intercourse subsists and Atticus
noster maiorem etiam mihi cum Cossinio consuetudinem
our greater even to-me with Cossinius intimacy
fecit. Itaque tota Cossini domus me diligit in primisque
has-made And-so the-whole of-Cossinius household me esteems among and-the-first

libertus eius, L. Cossinius Anchialus, homo et patrono et
the-freedman his Lucius Cossinius Anchialus a-man both to-patron and
patroni necessariis, quo in numero ego sum, probatissimus.
of-patron to-the-connections which in number I am most-approved
Hunc tibi ita commendo, ut, si meus libertus esset eodemque 2
Him to-you so I-commend as if my freedman he-were and-in-the-same
apud me loco esset quo est apud suum patronum, maiore
with me place he-were in-which he-is with his-own patron with-greater
studio commendare non possem. Qua re pergratum mihi
zeal to-commend not I-could By-which thing very-pleasing to-me
feceris, si eum in amicitiam tuam receperis atque
you-will-have-done if him into friendship your you-will-have-received and
eum, quod sine molestia tua fiat, si qua in re opus
him as-far-as without trouble your it-may-be-done if any in matter need
ei fuerit, iuveris. Id et mihi vehementer
to-him there-will-have-been you-will-have-helped That both to-me vehemently
gratum erit et tibi postea iucundum; hominem enim
pleasing will-be and to-you afterward pleasant a-man for
summa probitate, humanitate observantiaque cognosces.
of-the-highest uprightness kindness and-attentiveness you-will-find

XIII.24 · LYSO CLEARED

Cicero rejoices that his recommendation helped Lyso, who had been falsely reported as speaking against Servius at Rome and has cleared himself. Cicero affirms that he never heard anyone speak of Servius without praise, Lyso least of all, and asks Servius to embrace him still more.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

1 Cum antea capiebam ex officio meo voluptatem, quod
While before I-was-taking from service my pleasure because
memineram quam tibi diligenter Lysonem, hospitem et
I-remembered how to-you carefully Lyso guest-friend and
familiarem meum, commendassem, tum vero, postea quam
intimate my I-had-commended then indeed after that
ex litteris eius cognovi tibi eum falso suspectum fuisse,
from the-letter his I-learned to-you him falsely suspected to-have-been
vehementissime laetatus sum me tam diligentem in eo
most-vehemently rejoiced I-have that-I so careful in him
commendando fuisse. Ita enim scripsit ad me, sibi
commending to-have-been So for he-wrote to me to-himself
meam commendationem maximo adiumento fuisse, quod
my recommendation for-the-greatest help to-have-been because
ad te delatum diceret sese contra dignitatem tuam Romae
to you reported he-said that-he against dignity your at-Rome
de te loqui solitum esse.
about you to-speak accustomed to-have-been

2 De quo etsi pro tua facilitate et humanitate
About which although in-accordance-with your easiness and kindness
purgatum se tibi scribit esse, tamen primum, ut debeo,
cleared himself to-you he-writes to-be still first as I-ought
tibi maximas gratias ago, cum tantum litterae meae
to-you the-greatest thanks I-give since so-much the-letter my
potuerunt, ut iis lectis omnem offensionem suspicionis,
could that with-them read all offense of-suspicion
quam habueras de Lysone, deponeres, deinde credas mihi
which you-had-had about Lyso you-laid-aside next you-believe me
adfirmanti velim me hoc non pro Lysone magis quam
affirming I-would-wish that-I this not for Lyso more than

pro omnibus scribere, hominem esse neminem, qui umquam
for all to-write man to-be none who ever
mentionem tui sine tua summa laude fecerit; Lyso vero
mention of-you without your highest praise has-made Lyso indeed
cum mecum prope cotidie esset unaque viveret, non solum
since with-me almost daily he-was and-together he-lived not only
quia libenter me audire arbitrabatur, sed quia libentius ipse
because gladly that-I to-hear he-thought but because more-gladly himself
loquebatur, omnia mihi tua et facta et dicta laudabat.
he-was-speaking all to-me your both deeds and sayings he-was-praising
Quapropter etsi a te ita tractatur, ut iam non desideret 3
Wherefore although by you so he-is-treated that now not he-miss
commendationem meam unisque se litteris meis omnia
recommendation my and-by-one himself letter my all-things
consecutum putet, tamen a te peto in maiorem modum
to-have-obtained he-thinks still from you I-ask in greater measure
ut eum etiam atque etiam tuis officiis, liberalitate
that him again and again with-your services generosity
conplectare. Scriberem ad te qualis vir esset, ut
you-embrace I-would-write to you what-sort-of a-man he-was as
superioribus litteris feceram, nisi eum iam per se ipsum
in-the-earlier letter I-had-done unless him already by himself very
tibi satis notum esse arbitrarer.
to-you enough known to-be I-thought

Hagesaretus of Larisa, honored by Cicero in his consulship, has stayed grateful; Cicero commends him as a guest-friend, a good man, and the first man of his city.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

1 Hagesaretus Larisaeus magnis meis beneficiis ornatus in
Hagesaretus of-Larisa by-great my kindnesses honored in
consulatu meo memor et gratus fuit meque postea
consulship my mindful and grateful has-been and-me afterward
diligentissime coluit. Eum tibi magno opere commendo
most-carefully he-has-cultivated Him to-you in-great measure I-commend
ut et hospitem meum et familiarem et gratum hominem
as both guest-friend my and intimate and a-grateful man
et virum bonum et principem civitatis suae et tua
and a-man good and the-chief of-state his and of-your
necessitudine dignissimum. Pergratum mihi feceris,
connection most-worthy Very-pleasing to-me you-will-have-done
si dederis operam ut is intellegat hanc meam
if you-will-have-given effort that he may-understand this my
commendationem magnum apud te pondus habuisse.
recommendation great with you weight to-have-had

Lucius Mescinius was Cicero's quaestor and is his intimate. As heir to his brother Mindius, who traded at Elis, he has business in Achaea; Cicero asks Servius to settle it as arbiter of any dispute and, if anyone resists, to refer him to Rome, since a senator is involved. A letter from the consul Lepidus asks the same.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

L. Mescinius ea mecum necessitudine coniunctus est, 1

Lucius Mescinius by-that with-me connection joined is

quod mihi quaestor fuit; sed hanc causam, quam ego, ut

that to-me quaestor he-was but this ground which I as

a maioribus accepi, semper gravem duxi, fecit virtute

from the-ancestors I-received always weighty have-held he-has-made by-virtue

et humanitate sua iustiorem. Itaque eo sic utor ut nec

and kindness his more-just And-so him so I-use that neither

familiarius ullo nec libentius. Is quamquam confidere

more-intimately than-any nor more-gladly He although to-trust

videbatur te sua causa quae honeste posses libenter

he-seemed that-you his for-the-sake what-things honorably you-could gladly

esse facturum, magnum esse tamen speravit apud te meas

to-be going-to-do great to-be still he-hoped with you my

quoque litteras pondus habituras. Id cum ipse ita iudicabat

also letter weight going-to-have That both he-himself so was-judging

tum pro familiari consuetudine saepe ex me

and in-accordance-with intimate intercourse often from me

audierat quam suavis esset inter nos et quanta coniunctio.

he-had-heard how pleasant was between us and how-great the-union

2 Peto igitur a te tanto scilicet studio, quanto intellegis
I-ask therefore from you with-as-much of-course zeal as you-understand
debere me petere pro homine tam mihi necessario et tam
to-be-bound that-I to-ask for a-man so to-me connected and so
familiari, ut eius negotia, quae sunt in Achaia ex eo quod
intimate that his affairs which are in Achaea from that that
heres est M. Mindio, fratri suo, qui Elide negotiatus
heir he-is to-Marcus Mindius brother his who at-Elis done-business
est, explices et expedias cum iure et potestate,
has you-unravel and you-set-free both by-the-right and power
quam habes, tum etiam auctoritate et consilio tuo. Sic
which you-have and also by-authority and counsel your So
enim praescripsimus iis, quibus ea negotia mandavimus,
for we-have-instructed those to-whom those affairs we-have-entrusted
ut omnibus in rebus, quae in aliquam controversiam
that all in matters which into some dispute
vocarentur, te arbitro et, quod commodo tuo fieri
should-be-called you as-arbiter and as-far-as with-convenience your to-be-done
posset, te disceptatore uterentur. Id ut honoris mei
could you as-umpire they-should-use That that of-honor my
causa suscipias, vehementer te etiam atque etiam rogo.
for-the-sake you-undertake vehemently you again and again I-ask
3 Illud praeterea, si non alienum tua dignitate putabis
This besides if not foreign to-your dignity you-will-think
esse, feceris mihi pergratum, si qui difficiliores erunt,
to-be you-will-have-done to-me very-pleasing if any more-difficult will-be
ut rem sine controversia confici nolint, si eos,
so-that the-matter without dispute to-be-settled they-be-unwilling if them
quoniam cum senatore res est, Romam reieceris.
since with a-senator the-matter is to-Rome you-will-have-referred
Quod quo minore dubitatione facere possis, litteras ad te
Which that with-less hesitation to-do you-can a-letter to you

a M. Lepido consule, non quae te aliquid iuberent
from Marcus Lepidus the-consul not which you anything should-order
(neque enim id tuae dignitatis esse arbitramur) sed
nor for that of-your dignity to-be we-think but
quodam modo quasi commendaticias sumpsimus.
in-a-certain way as-it-were of-recommendation we-have-obtained
Scriberem quam id beneficium bene apud Mescinium positurus 4
I-would-write how that kindness well with Mescinius going-to-place
esses, nisi et te scire confiderem et mihi peterem.
you-were unless both that-you to-know I-trusted and for-myself I-were-asking
Sic enim velim existimes, non minus me de illius re
So for I-would-wish you-think not less that-I about his affair
laborare quam ipsum de sua. Sed cum illum studeo quam
to-labor than himself about his-own But while him I-desire as
facillime ad suum pervenire tum illud laboro ut non minimum
most-easily to his-own to-come so this I-labor that not the-least
hac mea commendatione se consecutum arbitretur.
by-this my recommendation himself to-have-obtained he-think

XIII.27 · THANKS, IN ANOTHER FORM

Thanking Servius often in one form, Cicero varies his letters as lawyers vary formulas. Hammonius reports how generously Servius treated him and his absent patron Aemilius Avianius; Cicero is glad, and gladder that Servius helps his friends more than Cicero could. He asks the same for their remaining business, and delights in Servius' son.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

1 Licet eodem exemplo saepius tibi huius generis litteras
Although in-the-same form quite-often to-you of-this kind letters
mittam, cum gratias agam, quod meas commendationes tam
I-send when thanks I-give that my recommendations so
diligenter observes (quod feci in aliis et faciam, ut video,
carefully you-observe which I-have-done in others and will-do as I-see
saepius), sed tamen non parcam operae et, ut vos soletis in
more-often but still not I-will-spare trouble and as you are-wont in
formulis, sic ego in epistulis 'de eadem re alio modo.'
formulas so I in letters about the-same matter in-another way

2 C. Avianius igitur Hammonius incredibilis mihi gratias
Gaius Avianius then Hammonius incredible to-me thanks
per litteras egit et suo et Aemili Aviani, patroni
by letter has-given both in-his-own and of-Aemilius Avianius patron
sui, nomine; nec liberalius nec honorificentius potuisse
his name neither more-generously nor more-honorably to-have-been-able
tractari nec se praesentem nec rem familiarem absentis
to-be-treated neither himself present nor the-estate family of-the-absent
patroni sui. Id mihi cum iucundum est eorum causa, quos
patron his That to-me both pleasant is of-them for-the-sake whom
tibi ego summa necessitudine et summa coniunctione
to-you I by-the-highest connection and the-highest union
adductus commendaveram, quod M. Aemilius unus est ex
induced had-commended because Marcus Aemilius one is of
meis familiarissimis atque intimis maxime necessarius, homo
my most-intimate and inmost-friends most closely-connected a-man
et magnis meis beneficiis devinctus et prope omnium, qui
and by-great my kindnesses bound and almost of-all who
mihi debere aliquid videntur, gratissimus, tum multo iucundius
to-me to-owe something seem the-most-grateful and much more-pleasant

te esse in me tali voluntate, ut plus prosis amicis meis
that-you to-be toward me of-such goodwill that more you-benefit friends my
quam ego praesens fortasse prodessem, credo, quod magis ego
than I present perhaps would-benefit I-believe because more I
dubitarem quid illorum causa facerem, quam tu quid mea.
would-hesitate what of-them for-the-sake I-should-do than you what mine
Sed hoc non dubito quin existimes mihi esse gratum; illud 3
But this not I-doubt that you-think to-me to-be pleasing this
te rogo ut illos quoque gratos esse homines putes, quod
you I-ask that them also grateful to-be men you-think which
ita esse tibi promitto atque confirmo. Qua re velim,
so to-be to-you I-promise and affirm By-which thing I-would-wish
quicquid habent negoti, des operam, quod commodo
whatever they-have of-business you-give effort as-far-as with-convenience
tuo fiat, ut te obtinente Achaiam conficiant.
your it-may-be-done that you holding Achaea they-complete
Ego cum tuo Servio iucundissime et coniunctissime vivo 4
I with your Servius most-pleasantly and most-closely live
magnamque cum ex ingenio eius singularique studio tum
and-great both from talent his and-singular zeal and
ex virtute et probitate voluptatem capio.
from virtue and uprightness pleasure I-take

Cicero thanks Servius for Mescinius, who reports that he promised everything and did more. He asks two things more: that any security required against further claims on that account be accepted on Cicero's word, and that Servius help bring Oppia, Mindius' widow, to Rome, since most of the inheritance lies in what she carried off.

Cicero Servio s.

Cicero to-Servius greeting

1 Etsi libenter petere a te soleo, si quid opus est meorum
Although gladly to-ask from you I-am-wont if anything need is of-my-people
cuipiam, tamen multo libentius gratias tibi ago, cum fecisti
to-anyone still much more-gladly thanks to-you I-give when you-have-done
aliquid commendatione mea, quod semper facis. Incredibile est
something on-recommendation my which always you-do Incredible it-is
enim quas mihi gratias omnes agant, etiam mediocriter a me
for what to-me thanks all give even moderately by me
tibi commendati. Quae mihi omnia grata, sed de L.
to-you commended Which-things to-me all pleasing but about Lucius
Mescinio gratissimum. Sic enim est mecum locutus, te,
Mescinius most-pleasing So for has with-me spoken that-you
ut meas litteras legeris, statim procuratoribus suis
as-soon-as my letter you-had-read at-once to-agents his
pollicitum esse omnia, multo vero plura et maiora fecisse.
promised to-have all-things much indeed more and greater to-have-done
Id igitur (puto enim etiam atque etiam mihi dicendum
That therefore I-think for again and again by-me to-be-said
esse) velim existimes mihi te fecisse gratissimum.
to-be I-would-wish you-think to-me that-you to-have-done most-pleasing

Quod quidem hoc vehementius laetor, quod ex ipso Mescinio 2
Which indeed by-this more-vehemently I-rejoice that from himself Mescinius
te video magnam capturum voluptatem; est enim in
that-you I-see great going-to-reap pleasure there-is for in
eo cum virtus et probitas et summum officium summaque
him both virtue and uprightness and the-highest dutifulness and-the-highest
observantia tum studia illa nostra, quibus antea delectabamur
attentiveness and pursuits those our in-which before we-were-delighted
nunc etiam vivimus. Quod reliquum est, velim augeas
now even we-live As-for-what remaining is I-would-wish you-increase
tua in eum beneficia omnibus rebus, quae te erunt
your toward him kindnesses in-all things which of-you will-be
dignae; sed duo, quae te nominatim rogo, primum ut, si
worthy but two-things which you by-name I-ask first that if
quid satis dandum erit 'amplius eo nomine non peti,'
any security to-be-given will-be further on-that account not to-be-sought
cures ut satis detur fide mea; deinde, cum fere
you-take-care that security be-given on-the-word my next since almost
consistat hereditas in iis rebus, quas avertit Oppia, quae
consists the-inheritance in those things which made-off-with Oppia who
uxor Mindi fuit, adiuves ineasque rationem quem ad
the-wife of-Mindius was you-help and-enter-into a-plan in-what to
modum ea mulier Romam perducatur. Quod si putarit
manner that woman to-Rome be-brought But if will-have-thought
illa fore, ut opinio nostra est, negotium conficiemus. Hoc
she going-to-be as opinion our is the-business we-will-complete This
ut adsequamur, te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
that we-may-attain you vehemently again and again I-ask
Illud, quod supra scripsi, id tibi confirmo in meque 3
That which above I-wrote that to-you I-affirm upon and-myself
recipio, te ea quae fecisti Mescini causa
I-take that-you those-things which you-have-done of-Mescinius for-the-sake

quaeque feceris ita bene conlocaturum, ut ipse iudices
and-which you-will-do so well going-to-place that yourself you-judge
homini te gratissimo, iucundissimo benigne fecisse. Volo
to-a-man you most-grateful most-delightful kindly to-have-done I-wish
enim ad id quod mea causa fecisti hoc etiam accedere.
for to that which my for-the-sake you-have-done this also to-be-added

XIII.28A · FOR SPARTA

The Lacedaemonians need no commendation to Servius, who knows their rights and merits, and Cicero told Philippus so; still, he asks Servius to let them know that what he does for them pleases Cicero too.

Cicero Servio s.
Cicero to-Servius greeting
1 Nec Lacedaemonios dubitare arbitror quin ipsi sua
Nor the-Lacedaemonians to-doubt I-think that themselves by-their-own
maiorumque suorum auctoritate satis commendati sint
and-of-ancestors their authority sufficiently commended are
fidei et iustitiae tuae, et ego, qui te optime
to-the-good-faith and justice your and I who you best
novissem, non dubitavi quin tibi notissima et iura
knew not I-doubted that to-you most-known both the-rights
et merita populorum essent. Itaque cum a me peteret
and merits of-peoples were And-so when from me asked
Philippus Lacedaemonius ut tibi civitatem commendarem,
Philippus the-Lacedaemonian that to-you the-state I-should-commend
etsi memineram me ei civitati omnia debere, tamen
although I-remembered that-I to-that state everything to-owe still
respondi commendatione Lacedaemonios apud te non egere.
I-answered recommendation the-Lacedaemonians with you not to-need

Itaque sic velim existimes, me omnis Achaiae civitates 2
And-so so I-would-wish you-think that-I all of-Achaea the-states
arbitrari pro horum temporum perturbatione felicis, quod
to-consider in-view-of of-these times the-turmoil fortunate because
iis tu praesis, eundemque me ita iudicasse, te, quod
over-them you preside and-the-same that-I so to-have-judged that-you because
unus optime nosses non nostra solum sed etiam Graeciae
alone best you-knew not our only but also of-Greece
monumenta omnia, tua sponte amicum Lacedaemoniis
records all of-your own-accord a-friend to-the-Lacedaemonians
et esse et fore. Qua re tantum a te peto ut,
both to-be and going-to-be By-which thing only from you I-ask that
quom ea facies Lacedaemoniorum causa quae tua
when those-things you-will-do of-the-Lacedaemonians for-the-sake which your
fides, amplitudo, iustitia postulabit, iis, si tibi videbitur,
good-faith greatness justice will-demand to-them if to-you it-will-seem
significes te non moleste ferre, quod intellegas
you-indicate that-you not with-annoyance to-bear that you-understand
ea quae facias mihi quoque grata esse. Pertinet enim
those-things which you-do to-me also pleasing to-be It-pertains for
ad officium meum eos existimare curae mihi suas res
to duty my them to-think for-a-concern to-me their affairs
esse. Hoc te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
to-be This you vehemently again and again I-ask

Cicero reminds Plancus of their bond through his father and their studies. Gaius Ateius Capito stood by Cicero in every fortune. His kinsman Titus Antistius, quaestor in Macedonia when Pompey came, took as little part in the war as he could; after the battle Caesar received him kindly, and he died at Corcyra, leaving Capito heir to five-sixths. Cicero asks Plancus to win that inheritance from Caesar, whom Capito always loved, and vouches that Capito's influence kept Cicero moderate in the war.

M. Cicero L. Planco s.

Marcus Cicero to-Lucius Plancus greeting

1 Non dubito quin scias in iis necessariis, qui tibi a
Not I-doubt that you-know among those connections who to-you by
patre relicti sunt, me tibi esse vel coniunctissimum
your-father left have-been that-I to-you to-be even the-most-closely-joined
non iis modo causis, quae speciem habent magnae
not by-those only grounds which the-appearance have of-great
coniunctionis, sed iis etiam, quae familiaritate et
union but by-those also which by-intimacy and
consuetudine tenentur, quam scis mihi iucundissimam
intercourse are-held which you-know to-me most-delightful
cum patre tuo et summam fuisse. Ab his initiis noster
with father your and the-closest to-have-been From these beginnings our
in te amor profectus auxit paternam necessitudinem,
toward you love proceeding has-increased the-paternal connection
et eo magis, quod intellexi, ut primum per aetatem
and by-this more because I-perceived as first through age
iudicium facere potueris quanti quisque tibi faciendus
judgment to-make you-could at-how-much each by-you to-be-valued
esset, me a te in primis coeptum esse observari,
was that-I by you among the-first begun to-have-been to-be-respected

coli, diligi. Accedebat non mediocre vinculum
to-be-cultivated to-be-esteemed There-was-added not slight a-bond
cum studiorum, quod ipsum est per se grave, tum eorum
both of-pursuits which itself is by itself weighty and of-those
studiorum earumque artium, quae per se ipsae eos
pursuits and-of-those arts which by themselves themselves those
qui voluntate eadem sunt etiam familiaritate devinciunt.
who in-will the-same are also in-intimacy bind
Exspectare te arbitror haec tam longe repetita principia 2
To-wait that-you I-think these so far fetched beginnings
quo spectent. Id primum ergo habeto, non sine magna
whither they-look This first therefore hold not without great
iustaque causa hanc a me commemorationem esse
and-just cause this by me recollection to-have-been
factam. C. Ateio Capitone utor familiarissime. Notae
made with-Gaius Ateius Capito I-use most-intimately Known
tibi sunt varietates meorum temporum. In omni genere
to-you are the-vicissitudes of-my times In every kind
et honorum et laborum meorum et animus et opera et
both of-honors and of-labors my both the-mind and the-work and
auctoritas et gratia, etiam res familiaris C. Capitonis
the-authority and the-influence even the-estate family of-Gaius Capito
praesto fuit et paruit et temporibus et fortunae meae.
at-hand was and obeyed both the-times and fortune my
Huius propinquus fuit T. Antistius. Qui cum sorte 3
His kinsman was Titus Antistius Who when by-lot
quaestor Macedoniam obtineret neque ei successum
quaestor Macedonia he-was-holding nor to-him succeeded
esset, Pompeius in eam provinciam cum exercitu venit.
had-been Pompey into that province with an-army came
Facere Antistius nihil potuit; nam si potuisset, nihil
To-do Antistius nothing could for if he-had-been-able nothing

ei fuisset antiquius quam ad Capitonem, quem ut
to-him would-have-been more-important than to Capito whom as
parentem diligebat, reverti, praesertim cum sciret quanti
a-parent he-esteemed to-return especially since he-knew at-how-much
is Caesarem faceret semperque fecisset. Sed oppressus
he Caesar valued and-always had-valued But overwhelmed
tantum attigit negoti quantum recusare non potuit.
so-much he-touched of-business as-much-as to-refuse not he-could
4 Cum signaretur argentum Apolloniae, non possum dicere
When was-being-coined silver at-Apollonia not I-can say
eum praefuisse neque possum negare adfuisse, sed
him to-have-been-in-charge nor can-I deny to-have-been-present but
non plus duobus aut tribus mensibus. Deinde afuit a
not more than-two or three months Then he-was-absent from
castris; fugit omne negotium. Hoc mihi ut testi velim
the-camp he-fled all business This me as a-witness I-would-wish
credas; meam enim ille maestitiam in illo bello videbat,
you-believe my for he sadness in that war saw
mecum omnia communicabat. Itaque abdidit se in intimam
with-me all-things he-shared And-so he-hid himself in inmost
Macedoniam, quo potuit longissime a castris, non modo
Macedonia where he-could farthest from the-camp not only
ut non praeesset ulli negotio sed etiam ut ne interesset
that not he-be-in-charge of-any business but also that not be-present
quidem. Is post proelium se ad hominem necessarium,
even He after the-battle himself to a-man connected
A. Plautium, in Bithyniam contulit. Ibi eum Caesar cum
Aulus Plautius into Bithynia betook There him Caesar when
vidisset, nihil aspere, nihil acerbe dixit, Romam iussit
he-had-seen nothing harshly nothing bitterly he-said to-Rome he-ordered
venire. Ille in morbum continuo incidit, ex quo non
to-come He into illness at-once fell from which not

convaluit. Aeger Corcyram venit; ibi est mortuus. Testamento,
he-recovered Sick to-Corcyra he-came there has died By-the-will
quod Romae Paulo et Marcello consulibus fecerat, heres
which at-Rome with-Paulus and Marcellus consuls he-had-made heir
ex parte dimidia et tertia est Capito; in sextante sunt ii
to a-part half and a-third is Capito in the-sixth are those
quorum pars sine ulla cuiusquam querela publica potest
whose share without any of-anyone complaint public can
esse; ea est ad HS |x̄x̄x̄|. Sed de hoc Caesar viderit.
be that is about sesterces three-million But about this Caesar must-see
Te, mi Plance, pro paterna necessitudine, pro nostro amore, 5
You my Plancus by the-paternal connection by our love
pro studiis et omni cursu nostro totius vitae simillimo
by the-pursuits and the-whole course our of-the-whole life most-similar
rogo et a te ita peto, ut maiore cura, maiore studio
I-ask and from you so I-seek as with-greater care with-greater zeal
nullam possim, ut hanc rem suscipias, meam putes esse,
none I-can that this matter you-undertake mine you-think to-be
enitare, contendas, efficias ut mea commendatione, tuo
strive press bring-about that by-my recommendation by-your
studio, Caesaris beneficio hereditatem propinqui sui C.
zeal of-Caesar by-kindness the-inheritance of-kinsman his Gaius
Capito obtineat. Omnia quae potui in hac summa tua
Capito may-obtain All-things which I-could in this highest your
gratia ac potentia a te impetrare, si petissem, ultro
favor and power from you to-obtain if I-had-asked unasked
te ad me detulisse putabo, si hanc rem impetravero.
that-you to me to-have-brought I-will-think if this matter I-shall-have-obtained
Illud fore tibi adiumento spero, cuius ipse Caesar optimus 6
This going-to-be to-you for-help I-hope of-which himself Caesar the-best
esse iudex potest: Semper Caesarem Capito coluit et
to-be judge can Always Caesar Capito has-cultivated and

dilexit. Sed ipse huius rei testis est; novi hominis memoriam.
esteemed But himself of-this thing witness he-is I-know of-the-man the-memory
Itaque nihil te doceo; tantum tibi sumito pro Capitone
And-so nothing you I-teach so-much for-yourself take for Capito
apud Caesarem quantum ipsum meminisse senties.
with Caesar as-much-as himself to-remember you-will-perceive
7 Ego, quod in me ipso experiri potui, ad te deferam; in eo
I what in me myself to-experience I-could to you I-will-report in that
quantum sit ponderis tu videbis. Quam partem in re
how-much there-be of-weight you will-see What side in the-thing
p. causamque defenderim, per quos homines ordinesque
public and-cause I-defended through what men and-orders
steterim quibusque munitus fuerim non ignoras. Hoc
I-stood and-by-which protected I-was not you-are-unaware This
mihi velim credas, si quid fecerim hoc ipso in
me I-would-wish you-believe if anything I-did this very in
bello minus ex Caesaris voluntate (quod intellexi
war less according-to of-Caesar the-will which I-perceived
scire ipsum Caesarem me invitissimum fecisse), id
to-know himself Caesar that-I most-unwilling to-have-done that
fecisse aliorum consilio, hortatu, auctoritate; quod fuerim
to-have-done of-others by-counsel urging authority what I-was
moderatior temperatiorque quam in ea parte quisquam, id
more-moderate and-more-restrained than in that party anyone that
me fecisse maxime auctoritate Capitonis; cuius similis
that-I to-have-done most by-the-authority of-Capito whose like
si reliquos necessarios habuissem, rei p. fortasse non
if the-other connections I-had-had to-the-thing public perhaps not
nihil, mihi certe plurimum profuissem.
nothing to-myself certainly the-most I-would-have-been-of-use

Hanc rem, mi Plance, si effeceris, meam de 8
This matter my Plancus if you-will-have-accomplished my about
tua erga me benevolentia spem confirmaveris, ipsum
your toward me goodwill hope you-will-have-confirmed himself
Capitonem, gratissimum, officiosissimum, optimum virum, ad
Capito most-grateful most-obliging best man to
tuam necessitudinem tuo summo beneficio adiunxeris.
your connection by-your highest kindness you-will-have-joined

XIII.30 · MANLIUS SOSIS

Lucius Manlius Sosis of Catina, a Roman citizen and councilor of Naples, has inherited his brother's estate at Catina; Cicero commends the inheritance, his other Sicilian affairs, and the man himself, a learned friend, to Acilius.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting
L. Manlius est Sosis. Is fuit Catinensis, sed est una 1
Lucius Manlius is Sosis He was of-Catina but has together
cum reliquis Neapolitanis civis R. factus decurioque
with the-other Neapolitans a-citizen Roman been-made and-councilor
Neapoli; erat enim adscriptus in id municipium ante
at-Naples he-was for enrolled into that town before
civitatem sociis et Latinis datam. Eius frater Catinae
citizenship to-the-allies and Latins given His brother at-Catina
nuper mortuus est. Nullam omnino arbitramur de ea
lately died has No at-all we-think about that
hereditate controversiam eum habiturum, et est hodie in
inheritance dispute him going-to-have and he-is today in
bonis; sed quoniam habet praeterea negotia vetera in Sicilia
possession but since he-has besides affairs old in Sicily

sua, et hanc hereditatem fraternam et omnia eius tibi
his-own both this inheritance fraternal and all his to-you
commendo in primisque ipsum, virum optimum mihique
I-commend among and-the-first himself a-man most-excellent and-to-me
familiarissimum, iis studiis litterarum doctrinaeque
most-intimate with-those pursuits of-letters and-of-learning
praeditum, quibus ego maxime delector.
endowed in-which I most am-delighted

2 Peto igitur abs te ut eum, sive aderit sive non
I-ask therefore from you that him whether he-will-be-present or not
venerit in Siciliam, in meis intimis maximeque
will-have-come into Sicily among my intimates and-most
necessariis scias esse itaque tractes, ut intellegat meam
connections you-know to-be and-so you-treat that he-understand my
sibi commendationem magno adiumento fuisse.
to-himself recommendation for-great help to-have-been

XIII.31 · GAIUS FLAVIUS

Cicero commends Gaius Flavius, a knight devoted to Cicero's late son-in-law Piso, and promises Acilius pleasure from his loyalty, distinction, and influence.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting

1 C. Flavio, honesto et ornato equite R., utor
With-Gaius Flavius an-honorable and distinguished knight Roman I-use
valde familiariter; fuit enim generi mei, C. Pisonis,
very intimately he-was for of-son-in-law my Gaius Piso
pernecessarius meque diligentissime observant et ipse et
a-very-close-connection and-me most-carefully court both himself and

L. Flavius, frater eius. Quapropter velim honoris mei
Lucius Flavius brother his Wherefore I-would-wish of-honor my
causa, quibus rebus honeste et pro tua dignitate
for-the-sake in-what things honorably and in-accordance-with your dignity
poteris, quam honorificentissime et quam liberalissime
you-will-be-able as most-honorably and as most-generously
C. Flavium tractes. Id mihi sic erit gratum, ut
Gaius Flavius you-treat That to-me so will-be pleasing that
gratius esse nihil possit.
more-pleasing to-be nothing can
Sed praeterea tibi adfirmo (neque id ambitione adductus 2
But besides to-you I-affirm nor that by-self-seeking induced
facio sed cum familiaritate et necessitudine tum etiam
I-do but both by-intimacy and connection and also
veritate) te ex C. Flavi officio et observantia et
by-truth that-you from of-Gaius Flavius dutifulness and attentiveness and
praeterea splendore atque inter suos gratia magnam
besides distinction and among his-own-people influence great
voluptatem esse capturum. Vale.
pleasure to-be going-to-reap Farewell

XIII.32 · THE CLODII OF HALAESA

Cicero commends Marcus and Gaius Clodius, Archagathus and Philo, of Halaesa; he fears seeming to level all his recommendations, but this family is bound to him by long standing, services, and goodwill.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.

Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting

1 In Halaesina civitate tam lauta tamque nobili coniunctissimos

In the-Halaesan state so splendid and-so noble most-closely-joined

habeo et hospitio et familiaritate M. et C.

I-have both by-guest-friendship and by-intimacy Marcus and Gaius

Clodios Archagathum et Philonem. Sed vereor ne, quia

Clodius Archagathus and Philo But I-fear lest because

compluris tibi praecipue commendo, exaequare videar

very-many to-you especially I-commend to-level I-seem

ambitione quadam commendationes meas; quamquam a te

by-self-seeking a-certain recommendations my although by you

quidem cumulate satis fit et mihi et meis omnibus.

indeed abundantly enough is-done both to-me and to-my all

2 Sed velim sic existimes, hanc familiam et hos mihi maxime

But I-would-wish so you-think this family and these to-me most

esse coniunctos vetustate, officiis, benevolentia. Quam

to-be joined by-length-of-time by-services by-goodwill Which

ob rem peto a te in maiorem modum ut iis omnibus

on-account-of thing I-ask from you in greater measure that them all

in rebus, quantum tua fides dignitasque patietur, commodes.

in things as-much-as your good-faith and-dignity will-allow you-oblige

Id si feceris, erit mihi vehementissime gratum.

That if you-will-have-done will-be to-me most-vehemently pleasing

Cicero is as intimate with Gnaeus Otacilius Naso as with any knight, and commends his business in Sicily and the freedmen who manage it as if it were his own.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting

Cn. Otacilio Nasone utor familiarissime, ita prorsus 1
With-Gnaeus Otacilius Naso I-use most-intimately so absolutely

ut illius ordinis nullo familiarius; nam et humanitate
that of-that order than-none more-intimately for both by-kindness

eius et probitate in consuetudine cotidiana magno opere
his and uprightness in intercourse daily in-great measure

delector. Nihil iam opus est exspectare te quibus eum
I-am-delighted Nothing now need is to-wait you with-what him

verbis tibi commendem, quo sic utar ut scripsi. Habet
words to-you I-commend whom so I-use as I-have-written Has

is in provincia tua negotia, quae procurant liberti,
he in province your affairs which manage his-freedmen

Hilarus, Antigonus, Demostratus; quos tibi negotiaque
Hilarus Antigonus Demostratus whom to-you and-the-affairs

omnia Nasonis non secus commendo ac si mea essent.
all of-Naso not otherwise I-commend than if mine they-were

Gratissimum mihi feceris, si intellexero hanc
Most-pleasing to-me you-will-have-done if I-shall-have-understood this

commendationem magnum apud te pondus habuisse. Vale.
recommendation great with you weight to-have-had Farewell

Cicero's guest-friendship with Lyso of Lilybaeum goes back to his grandfather's time; he commends Lyso's property and house.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting

1 Avitum mihi hospitium est cum Lysone, Lysonis filio,
Ancestral to-me guest-friendship is with Lyso of-Lyso son
Lilybitano, valdeque ab eo observor cognovique dignum et
of-Lilybaeum and-greatly by him I-am-courted and-I-have-found worthy both
patre et avo; est enim nobilissima familia. Quapropter
of-father and grandfather he-is for of-most-noble family Wherefore
commendo tibi maiorem in modum rem domumque
I-commend to-you greater in measure the-property and-house
eius magnoque opere abs te peto cures ut is intellegat
his and-in-great measure from you I-ask you-take-care that he understand
meam commendationem maximo sibi apud te et
my recommendation for-the-greatest to-himself with you both
adiumento et ornamento fuisse.
for-help and for-distinction to-have-been

Gaius Avianius Philoxenus, an old guest-friend whom Caesar enrolled at Novum Comum at Cicero's request, took the name of Cicero's friend Flaccus Avianius; Cicero commends him warmly.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting

C. Avianius Philoxenus antiquus est hospes meus et 1
Gaius Avianius Philoxenus an-old is guest-friend my and
praeter hospitium valde etiam familiaris; quem Caesar meo
besides guest-friendship very also intimate whom Caesar by-my
beneficio in Novocomensis rettulit; nomen autem Aviani
kindness among the-Novocomenses enrolled the-name however of-Avianius
secutus est, quod homine nullo plus est usus quam
followed he-has because a-man no more he-has used than
Flacco Avianio, meo, quem ad modum te scire arbitror,
Flaccus Avianius my in-what to manner that-you to-know I-think
familiarissimo. Quae ego omnia conlegi, ut intellegeres
most-intimate Which I all have-gathered that you-might-understand
non vulgarem esse commendationem hanc meam.
not common to-be recommendation this my

Peto igitur abs te ut omnibus rebus, quod sine molestia tua 2
I-ask therefore from you that in-all things as-far-as without trouble your
facere possis, ei commodes habeasque in numero tuorum
to-do you-can him you-oblige and-hold in the-number of-your-people
perficiasque ut intellegat has litteras meas magno sibi
and-bring-about that he-understand this letter my for-great to-himself
usui fuisse. Erit id mihi maiorem in modum gratum.
use to-have-been Will-be that to-me greater in measure pleasing

Demetrius Megas received citizenship from Caesar through Dolabella at Cicero's request and is now Publius Cornelius. When Caesar ordered the tablet of grants torn down for fraud, he told Dolabella that Megas' grant stood; Cicero asks Acilius to treat him as a Roman citizen.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.

Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting

1 Cum Demetrio Mega mihi vetustum hospitium est,

With Demetrius Megas to-me an-old guest-friendship is

familiaritas autem tanta quanta cum Siculo nullo. Ei

intimacy however as-great as with Sicilian no-other For-him

Dolabella rogatu meo civitatem a Caesare impetravit, qua

Dolabella at-request my citizenship from Caesar obtained which

in re ego interfui; itaque nunc P. Cornelius vocatur;

in matter I took-part and-so now Publius Cornelius he-is-called

cumque propter quosdam sordidos homines, qui Caesaris

and-when on-account-of certain base men who of-Caesar

beneficia vendebant, tabulam, in qua nomina civitate

the-favors were-selling the-tablet on which the-names with-citizenship

donatorum incisa essent, revelli iussisset, eidem

of-those-presented engraved were to-be-torn-down he-had-ordered to-the-same

Dolabellae me audiente Caesar dixit nihil esse quod de

Dolabella me hearing Caesar said nothing to-be that about

Mega verereturr; beneficium suum in eo manere.

Megas he-should-fear the-favor his in him to-stand

2 Hoc te scire volui, ut eum in civium Romanorum numero

This you to-know I-wished that him in of-citizens Roman the-number

haberes, ceterisque in rebus tibi eum ita commendo,

you-should-hold and-the-other in things to-you him so I-commend

ut maiore studio neminem commendarim. Gratissimum
that with-greater zeal no-one I-have-commended Most-pleasing
mihi feceris, si eum ita tractaris, ut intellegat
to-me you-will-have-done if him so you-will-have-treated that he-understand
meam commendationem magno sibi ornamento fuisse.
my recommendation for-great to-himself distinction to-have-been

XIII.37 · HIPPIAS OF CALE ACTE

Hippias of Cale Acte, Cicero's guest-friend, has his goods held publicly in another's name against the town's laws; Cicero asks Acilius to free him and help him as far as his good faith allows.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting
Hippiam, Philoxeni filium, Calactinum, hospitem et 1
Hippias of-Philoxenus son of-Cale-Acte guest-friend and
necessarium meum, tibi commendo in maiorem modum.
connection my to-you I-commend in greater measure
Eius bona, quem ad modum ad me delata res
His goods in-what to manner to me reported the-matter
est, publice possidentur alieno nomine contra leges
has-been publicly are-held under-another's name against the-laws
Calactinorum. Id si ita est, etiam sine mea commendatione
of-the-Calactini That if so it-is even without my recommendation
ab aequitate tua res ipsa impetrare debet ut ei
from fairness your the-matter itself to-obtain ought that him
subvenias. Quoquo modo autem se res habet, peto a
you-help In-whatever way however itself the-matter has I-ask from
te ut honoris mei causa eum expedias tantumque ei
you that of-honor my for-the-sake him you-set-free and-so-much him

commodes et in hac re et in ceteris, quantum tua fides
you-oblige both in this matter and in the-rest as-much-as your good-faith
dignitasque patietur. Id mihi vehementer gratum erit.
and-dignity will-allow That to-me vehemently pleasing will-be

XIII.38 · LUCIUS BRUTTIUS

Lucius Bruttius, a young knight whose father Cicero has known since his quaestorship in Sicily, is at Rome with Cicero; Cicero commends his house, property, and agents.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting
1 L. Bruttius, eques R., adulescens omnibus rebus
Lucius Bruttius a-knight Roman a-young-man in-all things
ornatus, in meis familiarissimis est meque observat
accomplished among my most-intimate is and-me courts
diligentissime; cuius cum patre magna mihi fuit amicitia
most-carefully whose with father great to-me was friendship
iam inde a quaestura mea Siciliensi. Omnino nunc
already from-then from quaestorship my Sicilian To-be-sure now
ipse Bruttius Romae mecum est; sed tamen domum eius
himself Bruttius at-Rome with-me is but still house his
et rem familiarem et procuratores tibi sic commendo, ut
and estate family and agents to-you so I-commend that
maiore studio commendare non possim. Gratissimum mihi
with-greater zeal to-commend not I-can Most-pleasing to-me
feceris, si curaris ut intellegat Bruttius, id
you-will-have-done if you-will-have-taken-care that understand Bruttius that

quod ei recepi, hanc meam commendationem sibi
which to-him I-promised this my recommendation to-himself
magno adiumento fuisse.
for-great help to-have-been

XIII.39 · TITURNIUS RUFUS

Marcus Titurnius Rufus, the last of a family Cicero is bound to, should find protection in him; Cicero commends him to Acilius.

Cicero Acilio proconsuli s.
Cicero to-Acilius proconsul greeting
Cum familia Titurnia necessitudo mihi intercedit vetus; ex qua 1
With the-family Titurnian connection to-me subsists old of which
reliquus est M. Titurnius Rufus, qui mihi omni diligentia
remaining is Marcus Titurnius Rufus who by-me with-all diligence
atque officio est tuendus. Est igitur in tua potestate ut
and service is to-be-protected It-is therefore in your power that
ille in me satis sibi praesidi putet esse. Quapropter
he in me enough for-himself of-protection think to-be Wherefore
eum tibi commendo in maiorem modum et abs te peto
him to-you I-commend in greater measure and from you I-ask
efficias ut is commendationem hanc intellegat sibi
you-bring-about that he recommendation this understand to-himself
magno adiumento fuisse. Erit id mihi vehementer gratum.
for-great help to-have-been Will-be that to-me vehemently pleasing

Cicero commends the young brothers Lucius and Gaius Aurelius, sons of an excellent friend, to the proconsul Ancharius.

M. Cicero s. d. Q. Anchario Q. f. procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Quintus Ancharius of-Quintus son proconsul
1 L. et C. Aurelios L. filios, quibus et ipsis et
Lucius and Gaius Aurelius of-Lucius sons with-whom both themselves and
patre eorum, viro optimo, familiarissime utor, commendo
father their a-man excellent most-intimately I-use I-commend
tibi maiorem in modum, adulescentis omnibus optimis
to-you greater in measure young-men with-all the-best
artibus ornatos, meos pernecessarios, tua amicitia
arts accomplished my very-close-connections of-your friendship
dignissimos. Si ulla mea apud te commendatio valuit
most-worthy If any my with you recommendation has-availed
(quod scio multas plurimum valuisse), haec ut valeat
which I-know many the-most to-have-availed this that it-avail
rogo. Quod si eos honorifice liberaliterque tractaris,
I-ask But if them honorably and-generously you-will-have-treated
et tibi gratissimos optimosque adulescentis adiunxeris
both to-yourself most-grateful and-the-best young-men you-will-have-joined
et mihi gratissimum feceris.
and to-me most-pleasing you-will-have-done

Cicero thanks Culleolus for what he did for Lucceius, which Pompey praises whenever he sees Cicero, and asks him to carry it through to the end.

Cicero Culleolo s.
Cicero to-Culleolus greeting

Quae fecisti L. Luccei causa, scire te plane 1
What-things you-have-done of-Lucius Lucceius for-the-sake to-know you plainly
volo te homini gratissimo commodasse, et cum
I-wish that-you a-man most-grateful to-have-obliged and both
ipsi quae fecisti pergrata sunt, tum Pompeius,
to-himself what-things you-have-done very-pleasing are and Pompey
quotienscumque me videt (videt autem saepe), gratias tibi
as-often-as me he-sees he-sees however often thanks to-you
agit singularis. Addo etiam illud, quod tibi iucundissimum
gives singular I-add also this which to-you most-delightful
esse certo scio, me ipsum ex tua erga Lucceium
to-be certainly I-know that-I myself from your toward Lucceius
benignitate maxima voluptate adfici.
kindness with-the-greatest pleasure to-be-affected

Quod superest, quamquam mihi non est dubium quin, 2
As-for-what remains although to-me not it-is doubtful that
cum antea nostra causa, nunc iam etiam tuae constantiae
whereas before our for-the-sake now by-now also of-your consistency
gratia mansurus sis in eadem ista liberalitate, tamen
for-the-sake going-to-remain you-are in the-same that generosity still
abs te vehementer etiam atque etiam peto ut ea, quae
from you vehemently again and again I-ask that those-things which
initio ostendisti, deinceps fecisti, ad exitum augeri
at-the-beginning you-showed next you-did to the-end to-be-increased

et cumulari per te velis. Id et Lucceio et Pompeio
and to-be-heaped-up through you you-wish That both to-Lucceius and to-Pompey
valde gratum fore teque apud eos praeclare positurum
very pleasing going-to-be and-you with them splendidly going-to-place
confirmo et spondeo. De re p. deque his negotiis
I-affirm and pledge About the-thing public and-about these affairs
cogitationibusque nostris perscripseram ad te diligenter
and-thoughts our I-had-written-in-full to you carefully
paucis ante diebus easque litteras dederam pueris tuis. Vale.
a-few before days and-that letter I-had-given to-slaves your Farewell

XIII.42 · THE BULLIONES' DEBT

Lucceius thanks Culleolus for his promises. The Bulliones have undertaken to satisfy him under Pompey's arbitration, but Culleolus' authority is needed, and Cicero asks him to show in deed that no one's influence with him counts for more than Cicero's.

M. Cicero s. d. L. Culleolo procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Lucius Culleolus proconsul
1 L. Lucceius, meus familiaris, homo omnium gratissimus,
Lucius Lucceius my intimate a-man of-all most-grateful
mirificas tibi apud me gratias egit, cum diceret omnia
wonderful to-you with me thanks has-given when he-said all-things
te cumulatissime et liberalissime procuratoribus suis
that-you most-abundantly and most-generously to-agents his
pollicitum esse. Cum oratio tua tam ei grata fuerit,
promised to-have Since speech your so to-him pleasing has-been
quam gratam rem ipsam existimas fore, cum, ut spero,
how pleasing the-thing itself do-you-think going-to-be when as I-hope

quae pollicitus es feceris! Omnino ostenderunt
what-things promised you-have you-will-have-done To-be-sure have-shown
Bulliones sese Lucceio Pompei arbitratu satis facturos;
the-Bulliones that-they to-Lucceius of-Pompey by-arbitration enough going-to-do
sed vehementer opus est nobis et voluntatem et 2
but vehemently need is to-us both the-goodwill and
auctoritatem et imperium tuum accedere; quod ut facias
authority and command your to-be-added which that you-do
te etiam atque etiam rogo. Illudque mihi gratissimum est,
you again and again I-ask And-this to-me most-pleasing is
quod ita sciunt Luccei procuratores et ita Lucceius ipse
that so know of-Lucceius the-agents and so Lucceius himself
ex litteris tuis, quas ad eum misisti, intellexit, hominis
from letter your which to him you-sent has-understood of-man
nullius apud te auctoritatem aut gratiam valere plus quam
no with you authority or influence to-avail more than
meam. Id ut re experiatur iterum et saepius te rogo.
mine That that in-fact he-may-find again and more-often you I-ask

XIII.43 · OPPIUS AND EGNATIUS

Cicero commends Lucius Oppius, a merchant at Philomelium, and the business he manages for Lucius Egnatius Rufus, Cicero's closest friend among the knights, and asks Gallus to write himself a note that will recall this letter in the province.

M. Cicero Quintio Gallo.
Marcus Cicero to-Quintius Gallus
Etsi plurimis rebus spero fore ut perspiciam, quod 1
Although by-very-many things I-hope it-will-be that I-may-see-clearly what
tamen iam pridem perspicio, me a te amari, tamen ea
still now long I-see-clearly that-I by you to-be-loved still that

causa tibi datur, in qua facile declarare possis tuam erga me
occasion to-you is-given in which easily to-declare you-can your toward me
benevolentiam. L. Oppius M. f. Philomeli negotiatur,
goodwill Lucius Oppius of-Marcus son at-Philomelium does-business
homo mihi familiaris. Eum tibi unice commendo eoque
a-man to-me intimate Him to-you singularly I-commend and-by-this
magis, quod cum ipsum diligo, tum quod negotia procurat
more because both himself I-esteem and because the-affairs he-manages
L. Egnati Rufi, quo ego uno equite R. familiarissime
of-Lucius Egnatius Rufus whom I alone knight Roman most-intimately
utor et qui cum consuetudine cotidiana tum officiis
use and who both by-intercourse daily and by-services
plurimis maximisque mihi coniunctus est.
very-many and-very-great to-me joined is

2 Oppium igitur praesentem ut diligas, Egnati absentis rem
Oppius therefore present that you-esteem of-Egnatius absent the-property
ut tueare aeque a te peto ac si mea negotia essent.
that you-protect equally from you I-ask as if my affairs they-were
Velim memoriae tuae causa des litterarum aliquid, quae
I-would-wish of-memory your for-the-sake you-give of-letter something which
tibi in provincia reddantur, sed ita conscribas, ut tum, cum
to-you in the-province may-be-delivered but so you-write that then when
eas leges, facile recordari possis huius meae commendationis
it you-read easily to-recall you-can of-this my recommendation
diligentiam. Hoc te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
the-carefulness This you vehemently again and again I-ask

Gallus has remembered Cicero's recommendation; Cicero commends Oppius and Egnatius' business once more and asks Gallus to show Oppius how much he values Cicero.

Cicero Gallo s.
Cicero to-Gallus greeting

Etsi ex tuis et ex L. Oppi, familiaris mei, litteris 1
Although from your and from of-Lucius Oppius intimate my letters
cognovi te memorem commendationis meae fuisse
I-learned that-you mindful of-recommendation my to-have-been
idque pro tua summa erga me benevolentia proque
and-that in-view-of your highest toward me goodwill and-in-view-of
nostra necessitudine minime sum admiratus, tamen etiam
our connection least I-have wondered still again
atque etiam tibi L. Oppium praesentem et L.
and again to-you Lucius Oppius present and of-Lucius
Egnati, mei familiarissimi, absentis negotia commendo. Tanta
Egnatius my most-intimate absent the-affairs I-commend So-great
mihi cum eo necessitudo est familiaritasque ut, si mea res
to-me with him connection is and-intimacy that if my affair
esset, non magis laborarem. Quapropter gratissimum mihi
it-were not more I-would-labor Wherefore most-pleasing to-me
feceris, si curaris ut is intellegat me a te
you-will-have-done if you-will-have-taken-care that he understand that-I by you
tantum amari quantum ipse existimo. Hoc mihi gratius
so-much to-be-loved as-much-as myself I-think This to-me more-pleasing
facere nihil potes, idque ut facias vehementer te rogo.
to-do nothing you-can and-that that you-do vehemently you I-ask

Cicero commends Egnatius' slave Anchialus and his business in Asia to the proquaestor Appuleius as if they were his own.

Cicero Appuleio proquaestori.

Cicero to-Appuleius proquaestor

1 L. Egnatio uno equite R. vel familiarissime utor.

With-Lucius Egnatius alone knight Roman even most-intimately I-use

Eius Anchialum servum negotiaque quae habet in Asia

His Anchialus slave and-affairs which he-has in Asia

tibi commendo non minore studio quam si rem meam

to-you I-commend not with-less zeal than if affair my

commendarem. Sic enim existimes velim, mihi cum eo

I-were-commending So for you-think I-would-wish to-me with him

non modo cotidianam consuetudinem summam intercedere,

not only daily intercourse the-closest to-subsist

sed etiam officia magna et mutua nostra inter nos esse.

but also services great and mutual our between us to-be

Quam ob rem etiam atque etiam a te peto ut

Which on-account-of thing again and again from you I-ask that

cures ut intellegat me ad te satis diligenter scripsisse;

you-take-care that he-understand that-I to you quite carefully to-have-written

nam de tua erga me voluntate non dubitabat. Id ut

for about your toward me goodwill not he-was-doubting That that

facias te etiam atque etiam rogo. Vale.

you-do you again and again I-ask Farewell

Lucius Nostius Zoilus, Cicero's co-heir and his patron's heir, is commended to Appuleius as one of Cicero's household.

Cicero Appuleio s.

Cicero to-Appuleius greeting

L. Nostius Zoilus est coheres meus, heres autem patroni 1

Lucius Nostius Zoilus is co-heir my heir however of-patron

sui. Ea re utrumque scripsi, ut et mihi cum

his For-that reason both I-have-written that both to-me with

illo causam amicitiae scires esse et hominem probum

him ground of-friendship you-might-know to-be and the-man upright

existimares, qui patroni iudicio ornatus esset. Eum tibi

you-might-think who of-patron by-judgment honored had-been Him to-you

igitur sic commendo ut unum ex nostra domo. Valde

therefore so I-commend as one of our household Very

mihi gratum erit, si curaris ut intellegat hanc

to-me pleasing it-will-be if you-will-have-taken-care that he-understand this

commendationem sibi apud te magno adiumento fuisse.

recommendation to-himself with you for-great help to-have-been

Cicero need not commend Egnatius, whom Silius esteems already, but writes so that Silius may know Cicero loves him, and asks Silius to treat him so that he feels both that Cicero loves him and that Silius loves Cicero. Their old order has fallen; let them use the common consolation, and talk of the rest face to face.

Cicero Silio s.

Cicero to-Silius greeting

1 Quid ego tibi commendem eum, quem tu ipse diligis?

Why I to-you should-commend him whom you yourself esteem

Sed tamen, ut scires eum a me non diligi solum

But still that you-might-know him by me not to-be-esteemed only

verum etiam amari, ob eam rem tibi haec scribo.

but also to-be-loved on-account-of that thing to-you these-things I-write

Omnium tuorum officiorum, quae et multa et magna

Of-all your services which both many and great

sunt, mihi gratissimum fuerit, si ita tractaris

are to-me most-pleasing it-will-have-been if so you-will-have-treated

Egnatium, ut sentiat et se a me et me a te amari.

Egnatius that he-feel both himself by me and me by you to-be-loved

Hoc te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo. Illa nostra

This you vehemently again and again I-ask Those our

scilicet ceciderunt. Utamur igitur vulgari consolatione:

of-course have-fallen Let-us-use therefore the-common consolation

'Quid, si hoc melius?' Sed haec coram. Tu fac, quod

What if this better But these-things face-to-face You do what

facis, ut me ames teque amari a me scias.

you-do that me you-love and-yourself to-be-loved by me you-know

Cicero commends all the Cyprians, Paphos above all, to the quaestor Sextilius Rufus, and urges him, as the island's first quaestor, to follow Lentulus' law and Cicero's own arrangements.

Cicero C. Sextilio Rufo quaestori s. d.
Cicero to-Gaius Sextilius Rufus quaestor greeting says

Omnis tibi commendo Cyprios, sed magis Paphios (quibus 1
All to-you I-commend the-Cyprians but more the-Paphians to-whom
tu quaecumque commodaris erunt mihi gratissima),
you whatever-things you-will-have-granted will-be to-me most-pleasing
eoque facio libentius ut eos tibi commendem, quod et
and-by-this I-do more-gladly that them to-you I-commend because both
tuae laudi, cuius ego fautor sum, conducere arbitror,
to-your praise of-which I the-promoter am to-conduce I-think
cum primus in eam insulam quaestor veneris, ea
when first into that island as-quaestor you-have-come those-things
te instituere quae sequantur alii; quae, ut spero, facilius
that-you to-establish which may-follow others which as I-hope more-easily
consequere, si et P. Lentuli, necessari tui, legem et
you-will-attain if both of-Publius Lentulus connection your the-law and
ea quae a me constituta sunt sequi volueris;
those-things which by me established have-been to-follow you-will-have-wished
quam rem tibi confido magnae laudi fore.
which thing to-you I-trust for-great praise going-to-be

Quintus Pompeius, bound to Cicero by old ties, has always protected his affairs through Cicero's letters; Cicero asks the proconsul Curius to show him that no recommendation ever served him better.

Cicero Curio procos.

Cicero to-Curius proconsul

1 Q. Pompeius Sex. f. multis et veteribus causis
Quintus Pompeius of-Sextus son by-many and old grounds
necessitudinis mihi coniunctus est. Is cum antea meis
of-connection to-me joined is He since before by-my
commendationibus et rem et gratiam et auctoritatem suam
recommendations both property and influence and authority his
tueri consuerit, nunc profecto te provinciam obtinente
to-protect has-been-accustomed now surely you the-province holding
meis litteris adsequi debet, ut nemini se intellegat
by-my letter to-attain ought that to-no-one himself be-understand
commendatiorem umquam fuisse. Quam ob rem a
more-commended ever to-have-been Which on-account-of thing from
te maiorem in modum peto ut, cum omnis meos aeque
you greater in measure I-ask that while all my-people equally
ac tuos observare pro necessitudine nostra debeas,
as your-own to-respect in-accordance-with connection our you-ought
hunc in primis ita in tuam fidem recipias, ut ipse
this-man among the-first so into your protection you-receive that himself
intellegat nullam rem sibi maiori usui aut ornamento
he-understand no thing to-himself for-greater use or distinction
quam meam commendationem esse potuisse. Vale.
than my recommendation to-be to-have-been-able Farewell

Cicero claims the right of friendship formed with Acilius at Brundisium to commend Manius Curius of Patrae, his close friend, and asks that Curius be kept patched and roofed, safe from all harm.

Cicero s. d. Acilio.

Cicero greeting says to-Acilius

Sumpsi hoc mihi pro tua in me observantia, quam 1
I-have-taken this for-myself in-view-of your toward me attentiveness which
penitus perspexi quam diu Brundisi fuimus, ut ad te
thoroughly I-saw-clearly as long at-Brundisium we-were that to you
familiariter et quasi pro meo iure scriberem, si quae
intimately and as-it-were by my right I-should-write if any
res esset de qua valde laborarem. M'. Curius, qui
matter there-were about which greatly I-labored Manius Curius who
Patris negotiatur, ita mihi familiaris est, ut nihil possit
at-Patrae does-business so to-me intimate is that nothing can
esse coniunctius. Multa illius in me officia, multa in
be more-closely-joined Many his toward me services many toward
illum mea, quodque maximum est, summus inter nos
him mine and-what greatest is the-highest between us
amor et mutuus.
love and mutual

Quae cum ita sint, si ullam in amicitia mea spem habes, si ea, 2
Which since so they-are if any in friendship my hope you-have if those
quae in me officia et studia Brundisi contulisti, vis mihi
which toward me services and zeal at-Brundisium you-bestowed you-wish to-me
etiam gratiora efficere (quamquam sunt gratissima), si me a
even more-pleasing to-make although they-are most-pleasing if me by
tuis omnibus amari vides, hoc mihi da atque largire, ut M'.
your all to-be-loved you-see this to-me give and bestow that Manius

Curium 'sartum et tectum,' ut aiunt, ab omnique incommodo,
Curius patched and roofed as they-say from and-every inconvenience
detrimento, molestia sincerum integrumque conserves. Et
loss annoyance sound and-whole you-preserve Both
ipse spondeo et omnes hoc tibi tui pro me recipient,
myself I-pledge and all this to-you your-people for me will-guarantee
ex mea amicitia et ex tuo in me officio maximum
from my friendship and from your toward me service the-greatest
te fructum summamque voluptatem esse capturum. Vale.
that-you fruit and-the-highest pleasure to-be going-to-reap Farewell

XIII.51 · PUBLIUS MESSIENUS

Cicero commends the knight Publius Messienus to Publius Caesius, for their own friendship and their fathers'.

Cicero P. Caesio s. d.
Cicero to-Publius Caesius greeting says
1 P. Messienum, equitem R. omnibus rebus
Publius Messienus a-knight Roman in-all things
ornatum meumque perfamiliarem, tibi commendo ea
accomplished and-my very-intimate to-you I-commend with-that
commendatione quae potest esse diligentissima. Peto a
recommendation which can be the-most-careful I-ask from
te et pro nostra et pro paterna amicitia ut
you both in-view-of our and in-view-of paternal friendship that
eum in tuam fidem recipias eiusque rem famamque
him into your protection you-receive and-his property and-repute
tueare. Virum bonum tuaque amicitia dignum tibi
you-protect A-man good and-of-your friendship worthy to-yourself
adiunxeris mihique gratissimum feceris.
you-will-have-joined and-to-me most-pleasing you-will-have-done

Aulus Licinius Aristoteles of Malta, an old guest-friend whom Cicero freed from Caesar's displeasure though he stayed longer in Pompey's cause than Cicero, is commended to Rex.

Cicero Regi s.

Cicero to-Rex greeting

A. Licinius Aristoteles Melitensis antiquissimus est hospes 1

Aulus Licinius Aristoteles of-Malta the-oldest is guest-friend

meus et praeterea coniunctus magno usu familiaritatis.

my and besides joined by-great practice of-intimacy

Haec cum ita sint, non dubito quin tibi satis

These-things since so they-are not I-doubt that to-you sufficiently

commendatus sit; etenim ex multis cognosco meam

commended he-is for from many I-learn my

commendationem plurimum apud te valere. Hunc ego a

recommendation the-most with you to-avail Him I from

Caesare liberavi; frequens enim fuerat nobiscum atque

Caesar have-freed constant for he-had-been with-us and

etiam diutius in causa est quam nos commoratus; quo

even longer in the-cause has than we stayed by-which

melius te de eo existimaturum arbitror. Fac igitur, mi

better that-you about him going-to-think I-believe Make therefore my

Rex, ut intellegat has sibi litteras plurimum profuisse.

Rex that he-understand this to-himself letter the-most to-have-profited

Cicero commends Lucius Genucilius Curvus to Thermus, above all his rights in land granted by Parium and his disputes in the Hellespont, and will count any kindness to him as done to Cicero.

Cicero Thermo propr. s.

Cicero to-Thermus propraetor greeting

1 L. Genucilio Curvo iam pridem utor familiarissime,

With-Lucius Genucilius Curvus now long I-use most-intimately

optimo viro et homine gratissimo. Eum tibi penitus

an-excellent man and a-person most-grateful Him to-you thoroughly

commendo atque trado, primum ut omnibus in rebus ei

I-commend and hand-over first that all in things him

commodes, quoad fides tua dignitasque patietur; patietur

you-oblige as-far-as good-faith your and-dignity will-allow it-will-allow

autem in omnibus; nihil enim abs te umquam, quod sit

however in all-things nothing for from you ever which be

alienum tuis aut etiam suis moribus, postulabit.

foreign to-your or even to-his ways he-will-demand

2 Praecipue autem tibi commendo negotia eius, quae sunt

Especially however to-you I-commend the-affairs his which are

in Hellesponto, primum ut obtineat id iuris in agris,

in the-Hellespont first that he-hold that of-right in lands

quod ei Pariana civitas decrevit et dedit et quod

which to-him the-Parian state decreed and gave and which

semper obtinuit sine ulla controversia, deinde, si quid

always he-has-held without any dispute next if any

habebit cum aliquo Hellespontio controversiae, ut in illam

he-will-have with some Hellespontine of-dispute that into that

διοίκησιν reicias. Sed non mihi videor, cum tibi totum

district you-refer-it But not to-myself I-seem since to-you the-whole

hominem diligentissime commendarim, singulas ad te eius
man most-carefully I-have-commended the-several to you his
causas perscribere debere. Summa illa est: Quicquid offici,
cases to-write-out to-be-bound The-sum this is Whatever of-service
benefici, honoris in Genucilium conluleris, id te
of-kindness of-honor upon Genucilius you-will-have-bestowed that that-you
existimabo in me ipsum atque in rem meam contulisse.
I-shall-think upon me myself and upon affairs my to-have-bestowed

XIII.54 · MARCILIUS' MOTHER-IN-LAW

Cicero thanks Thermus for his generosity to young Marcilius, son of Cicero's friend and interpreter, and asks that the young man's mother-in-law not be brought to trial; he has seen the father's loyalty and restraint in long service.

Cicero Thermo propr. s.
Cicero to-Thermus propraetor greeting
Cum multa mihi grata sunt, quae tu adductus mea 1
While many-things to-me pleasing are which you induced by-my
commendatione fecisti, tum in primis, quod M.
recommendation have-done so among the-first that Marcus
Marcilium, amici atque interpretis mei filium, liberalissime
Marcilius of-friend and interpreter my the-son most-generously
tractavisti; venit enim Laudiceam et tibi apud me mihique
you-have-treated he-came for to-Laodicea and to-you with me and-to-me
propter te gratias maximas egit. Qua re, quod
on-account-of you thanks the-greatest gave By-which thing as-for-what
reliquum est, a te peto, quoniam apud gratos homines
remaining is from you I-ask since with grateful men
beneficium ponis, ut eo libentius iis commodes operamque
kindness you-place that by-this more-gladly them you-oblige and-effort

des, quoad fides tua patietur, ut socrus adulescentis
give as-far-as good-faith your will-allow that the-mother-in-law of-the-young-man
rea ne fiat. Ego cum antea studiose commendabam
a-defendant not be-made I while before zealously was-commending
Marcilium tum multo nunc studiosius, quod in longa
Marcilius so much now more-zealously because in long
apparitione singularem et prope incredibilem patris
attendance singular and almost incredible of-the-father
Marcili fidem, abstinentiam modestiamque cognovi.
Marcilius good-faith self-restraint and-modesty I-have-come-to-know

XIII.55 · ANNEIUS AND THE SARDIANS

Cicero commends his legate Marcus Anneius, whose courage, prudence, and loyalty in war he values above anyone's, in his dispute with the Sardians, and asks Thermus to use his authority as praetor so that Anneius knows Cicero's letter has made Thermus still more his friend.

Cicero Thermo propr. s.
Cicero to-Thermus propraetor greeting
1 Etsi mihi videor intellexisse, cum tecum Ephesi de
Although to-myself I-seem to-have-understood when with-you at-Ephesus about
re M. Annei, legati mei, locutus sum, te ipsius
the-affair of-Marcus Anneius legate my spoken I-have that-you of-himself
causa vehementer omnia velle, tamen et M. Anneium
for-the-sake vehemently all-things to-wish still both Marcus Anneius
tanti facio, ut mihi nihil putem praetermittendum quod
at-so-much I-value that by-me nothing I-think to-be-passed-over which
illius intersit, et me a te tanti fieri puto, ut
to-him may-matter and me by you at-so-much to-be-valued I-think that
non dubitem quin ad tuam voluntatem magnus cumulus
not I-doubt that to your goodwill a-great heap

accedat commendationis meae. Nam cum iam diu diligerem
may-be-added of-recommendation my For while now long I-esteemed
M. Anneium deque eo sic existimarem, ut res declarat,
Marcus Anneius and-about him so I-thought as the-fact declares
qui ultro ei detulerim legationem, cum multis petentibus
who unasked to-him offered a-legateship when to-many seeking-it
denegassem, tum vero, postea quam mecum in bello atque
I-had-refused so indeed after that with-me in war and
in re militari fuit, tantam in eo virtutem, prudentiam,
in affairs military he-was so-great in him courage prudence
fidem tantamque erga me benevolentiam cognovi, ut
good-faith and-so-great toward me goodwill I-came-to-know that
hominem neminem pluris faciam. Eum cum Sardianis habere
man none at-more I-value Him with the-Sardians to-have
controversiam scis. Causam tibi exposuimus Ephesi; quam
a-dispute you-know The-case to-you we-set-out at-Ephesus which
tu tamen coram facilius meliusque cognosces.
you still face-to-face more-easily and-better will-learn
De reliquo mihi me hercule diu dubium fuit quid 2
About the-remainder to-me so-help-me Hercules long doubtful it-was what
ad te potissimum scriberem. Ius enim quem ad modum
to you above-all I-should-write Justice for in-what to manner
dicas clarum et magna cum tua laude notum est;
you-administer famous and great with your praise known is
nobis autem in hac causa nihil aliud opus est nisi te
to-us however in this case nothing else need is except that-you
ius instituto tuo dicere. Sed tamen cum me non fugiat
justice by-custom your to-administer But still since me not escapes
quanta sit in praetore auctoritas, praesertim ista integritate,
how-great be in a-praetor authority especially with-that integrity
gravitate, clementia, qua te esse inter omnis constat,
dignity clemency with-which that-you to-be among all it-is-agreed

peto abs te pro nostra coniunctissima necessitudine
I-ask from you in-view-of our most-close connection
plurimisque officiis paribus ac mutuis ut voluntate, auctoritate,
and-very-many services equal and mutual that by-goodwill authority
studio tuo perficias ut M. Anneius intellegat te et
zeal your you-bring-about that Marcus Anneius understand that-you both
sibi amicum esse (quod non dubitat; saepe enim mecum
to-him a-friend to-be which not he-doubts often for with-me
locutus est) et multo amiciorem his meis litteris esse
spoken he-has and much more-friendly by-this my letter to-have-been
factum. In tuo toto imperio atque provincia nihil est quod
made In your whole command and province nothing is which
mihi gratius facere possis; nam apud ipsum gratissimum
to-me more-pleasing to-do you-could for with himself a-most-grateful
hominem atque optimum virum quam bene positurus sis
person and an-excellent man how well going-to-place you-are
studium tuum atque officium dubitare te non existimo.
zeal your and service to-doubt you not I-think

XIII.56 · CLUVIUS' DEBTS

Cluvius of Puteoli thinks his business in Asia lost unless it is settled under Thermus by Cicero's letters. Mylasa and Alabanda owe him money, and Cicero asks that they send advocates to Rome; Philocles' mortgages should be surrendered or paid, Heraclea and Bargylia should pay, and the Caunians' claim to have deposited the money should be examined. Pompey's interest is involved.

Cicero Thermo propr. s.

Cicero to-Thermus propraetor greeting

Cluvius Puteolanus valde me observat valdeque est mihi 1

Cluvius of-Puteoli greatly me courts and-greatly is to-me

familiaris. Is ita sibi persuadet, quod in tua provincia negoti

intimate He so himself persuades what in your province of-business

habeat nisi te provinciam obtinente meis commendationibus

he-has unless you the-province holding by-my recommendations

confecerit, id se in perditis et desperatis

he-will-have-completed that himself among lost and despaired-of

habiturum. Nunc quoniam mihi ab amico officiosissimo

going-to-count Now since on-me by a-friend most-obliging

tantum oneris imponitur, ego quoque tibi imponam pro

so-great of-burden is-placed I also on-you will-place in-view-of

tuis in me summis officiis, ita tamen ut tibi nolim

your toward me highest services so still that to-you I-would-not-wish

molestus esse. Μυλασεῖς et Ἀλαβανδεῖς pecuniam Cluvio

troublesome to-be The-Mylasians and Alabandians money to-Cluvius

debent. Dixerat mihi Euthydemus, cum Ephesi essem, se

owe Had-said to-me Euthydemus when at-Ephesus I-was that-he

curaturum ut ecdici a Mylasinis Romam mitterentur. Id

going-to-see that advocates by the-Mylasians to-Rome be-sent That

factum non est. Legatos audio missos esse, sed malo

done not has-been Envoys I-hear sent to-have-been but I-prefer

ecdicos, ut aliquid confici possit. Qua re peto a te

advocates that something to-be-settled can By-which thing I-ask from you

ut et eos et Ἀλαβανδεῖς iubeas ecdicos Romam mittere.

that both them and the-Alabandians you-order advocates to-Rome to-send

Praeterea Philocles Alabandensis ὑποθήκας Cluvio dedit. Eae 2

Besides Philocles of-Alabanda mortgages to-Cluvius gave These

commissae sunt. Velim cures ut aut de hypothecis

forfeited have-been I-would-wish you-take-care that either from the-mortgages

decedat easque procuratoribus Cluvi tradat aut pecuniam
he-withdraw and-them to-agents of-Cluvius hand-over or the-money
solvat, praeterea Heracleotae et Bargylietae, qui item debent,
pay besides the-Heracleots and Bargylietans who likewise owe
aut pecuniam solvant aut fructibus suis satis faciant.
either the-money should-pay or with-revenues their enough make
3 Caunii praeterea debent, sed aiunt se depositam
The-Caunians besides owe but say that-they deposited
pecuniam habuisse. Id velim cognoscas et, si
the-money to-have-had That I-would-wish you-examine and if
intellexeris eos neque ex edicto neque ex
you-will-have-found them neither according-to edict nor according-to
decreto depositam habuisse, des operam ut usurae
decree deposited to-have-had you-give effort that the-interest
Cluvio instituto tuo conserventur. His de rebus eo magis
to-Cluvius by-rule your be-preserved These about matters by-this more
laboro, quod agitur res Cn. Pompei etiam, nostri
I-labor because is-at-stake the-interest of-Gnaeus Pompey also our
necessari, et quod is magis etiam mihi laborare videtur
connection and because he more even to-me to-labor seems
quam ipse Cluvius; cui satis factum esse a nobis valde
than himself Cluvius to-whom enough done to-be by us greatly
volo. His de rebus te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
I-wish These about matters you vehemently again and again I-ask

With a great war reported in Syria, Cicero asks Thermus to send his legate Anneius back before the Kalends of May, and commends again his business with the Sardians.

Cicero Thermo propr. s.
Cicero to-Thermus propraetor greeting

Quo magis cotidie ex litteris nuntiisque bellum 1
By-how-much more daily from letters and-messages war
magnum esse in Syria cognosco, eo vehementius a
great to-be in Syria I-learn by-so-much more-vehemently from
te pro nostra necessitudine contendo ut mihi M.
you in-view-of our connection I-press that to-me Marcus
Anneium legatum primo quoque tempore remittas; nam
Anneius the-legate at-the-first every time you-send-back for
eius opera, consilio, scientia rei militaris vel maxime
by-his work counsel knowledge of-affairs military even most
intellego me et rem p. adiuvari posse. Quod nisi
I-understand that-I and the-thing public to-be-helped to-be-able But unless
tanta res eius ageretur, nec ipse adduci potuisset ut
so-great interest his were-at-stake neither himself to-be-induced could-have that
a me discederet, neque ego ut eum a me dimitterem.
from me he-should-depart nor I that him from me I-should-let-go
Ego in Ciliciam proficisci cogito circiter K. Mai.
I into Cilicia to-set-out intend about the-Kalends of-May
Ante eam diem M. Anneius ad me redeat oportet.
Before that day Marcus Anneius to me return it-is-needful
Illud quod tecum et coram et per litteras diligentissime 2
That which with-you both face-to-face and by letter most-carefully
egi, id et nunc etiam atque etiam rogo curae tibi
I-urged that both now again and again I-ask for-a-concern to-you

sit, ut suum negotium, quod habet cum populo Sardiano,
be that his business which he-has with the-people Sardian
pro causae veritate et pro sua dignitate
in-accordance-with of-the-case the-truth and in-accordance-with his dignity
conficiat. Intellexi ex tua oratione, cum tecum Ephesi
he-may-complete I-understood from your speech when with-you at-Ephesus
locutus sum, te ipsius M. Annei causa omnia
spoken I-have that-you of-himself Marcus Anneius for-the-sake all-things
velle; sed tamen sic velim existimes, te mihi nihil
to-wish but still so I-would-wish you-think that-you to-me nothing
gratius facere posse quam si intellexero per te
more-pleasing to-do to-be-able than if I-shall-have-understood through you
illum ipsum negotium ex sententia confecisse, idque
him himself the-business according-to wish to-have-completed and-that
quam primum ut efficias te etiam atque etiam rogo.
as first that you-bring-about you again and again I-ask

XIII.58 · CUSTIDIUS

Cicero commends Lucius Custidius, his tribesman and fellow townsman, to the urban praetor Titius, asking only easy access and what is fair.

M. Cicero C. Titio L. f. Rufo pr. urb. s.
Marcus Cicero to-Gaius Titius of-Lucius son Rufus praetor of-the-city greeting
1 L. Custidius est tribulis et municeps et familiaris meus. Is
Lucius Custidius is tribesman and fellow-townsman and intimate my He
causam habet, quam causam ad te deferet. Commendo tibi
a-case has which case to you he-will-bring I-commend to-you
hominem, sic ut tua fides et meus pudor postulat, tantum
the-man so as your good-faith and my modesty demands only

ut facilis ad te aditus habeat, quae aequa postulabit
that easy to you access he-may-have what-things fair he-will-demand
ut libente te impetret, sentiatque meam sibi amicitiam,
that willing you he-may-obtain and-may-feel my to-himself friendship
etiam cum longissime absim, prodesse, in primis apud te.
even when farthest I-am-away to-be-of-use among the-first with you

XIII.59 · MARCUS FADIUS

Cicero asks the praetor Curtius not for any decision in Marcus Fadius' disputes but for easy access, so that his friendship may help Fadius even from afar.

M. Cicero C. Curtio Peducaeano pr. s.
Marcus Cicero to-Gaius Curtius Peducaeanus praetor greeting
M. Fadium unice diligo, summaque mihi cum eo 1
Marcus Fadius singularly I-esteem and-the-closest to-me with him
consuetudo et familiaritas est pervetus. In eius controversiis
intercourse and intimacy is very-old In his disputes
quid decernas a te non peto (servabis, ut tua fides
what you-decide from you not I-ask you-will-keep as your good-faith
et dignitas postulat, edictum et institutum tuum), sed ut
and dignity demands the-edict and practice your but that
quam facillimos ad te aditus habeat, quae erunt aequa
as easiest to you access he-may-have what-things will-be fair
libente te impetret, ut meam amicitiam sibi, etiam
willing you he-may-obtain that my friendship to-himself even
cum procul absim, prodesse sentiat, praesertim apud te.
when far-off I-am-away to-be-of-use he-may-feel especially with you
Hoc te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
This you vehemently again and again I-ask

Lucius Livineius Trypho, freedman of Cicero's friend Regulus, whose misfortune moves Cicero, served him in his exile, often sailing in deep winter; Cicero commends him to Munatius.

M. Cicero C. Munatio C. f. s.
Marcus Cicero to-Gaius Munatius of-Gaius son greeting

1 L. Livineius Trypho est omnino L. Reguli,
Lucius Livineius Trypho is indeed of-Lucius Regulus
familiarissimi mei, libertus; cuius calamitas etiam
most-intimate my the-freedman whose calamity even
officiosiorem me facit in illum; nam benevolentior quam
more-obliging me makes toward him for more-well-disposed than
semper fui esse non possum. Sed ego libertum
always I-have-been to-be not I-can But I freedman
eius per se ipsum diligo; summa enim eius erga me
his for himself himself I-esteem the-highest for his toward me
officia exstiterunt iis nostris temporibus, quibus facillime
services stood-out in-those our times in-which most-easily
benevolentiam hominum et fidem perspicere potui.
the-goodwill of-men and loyalty to-see-clearly I-could
2 Eum tibi ita commendo, ut homines grati et memores
Him to-you so I-commend as men grateful and mindful
bene meritos de se commendare debent. Pergratum mihi
the-well deserving of themselves to-commend ought Very-pleasing to-me
feceris, si ille intellexerit se, quod pro salute mea
you-will-have-done if he will-have-understood that-he because for safety my
multa pericula adierit, saepe hieme summa navigarit, pro
many dangers he-faced often in-winter the-depth-of he-sailed in-view-of
tua erga me benevolentia gratum etiam tibi fecisse.
your toward me goodwill a-welcome-thing also to-you to-have-done

Titus Pinnius named Cicero guardian and second heir, and Nicaea owes his son some eight million sesterces. Cicero asks Silius to see as much paid as his good faith allows.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Silio propr.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Silius propraetor
T. Pinnio familiarissime me usum esse scire te 1
With-Titus Pinnius most-intimately that-I associated to-have to-know that-you
arbitror; quod quidem ille testamento declaravit, qui me
I-think which indeed he in-will declared who me
cum tutorem tum etiam secundum heredem instituerit. Eius
both guardian and also second heir appointed His
filio mire studioso et erudito et modesto pecuniam
to-son wonderfully studious and learned and modest money
Nicaeenses grandem debent, ad sestertium octogies, et, ut
the-Nicaeans large owe about sesterces eight-million and as
audio, in primis ei volunt solvere. Pergratum igitur mihi
I-hear among the-first to-him they-wish to-pay Very-pleasing therefore to-me
feceris, quoniam non modo reliqui tutores qui sciunt
you-will-have-done since not only the-other guardians who know
quanti me facias sed etiam puer ipse sibi persuasit
at-how-much me you-value but also the-boy himself himself has-persuaded
te omnia mea causa facturum esse, si dederis
that-you all-things my for-the-sake going-to-do to-be if you-will-have-given
operam, quoad tua fides dignitasque patietur, ut quam
effort as-far-as your good-faith and-dignity will-allow that as
plurimum pecuniae Pinnio solvatur Nicaeensium nomine.
most of-money to-Pinnius be-paid of-the-Nicaeans on-account

Silius saved Atilius at Cicero's late plea, and Cicero thanks him, then asks him to count Quintus among his friends as he counts Cicero.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Silio propr.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Silius propraetor

1 Et in Atili negotio te amavi (cum enim sero venissem,
Both in of-Atilius the-business you I-loved although for late I-had-come
tamen honestum equitem R. beneficio tuo conservavi) et
still an-honorable knight Roman by-kindness your I-saved and
me hercule semper sic in animo habui, te in meo aere
so-help-me Hercules always so in mind I-held you in my debt
esse propter Lamiae nostri coniunctionem et singularem
to-be on-account-of of-Lamia our the-union and singular
necessitudinem. Itaque primum tibi ago gratias quod me
connection And-so first to-you I-give thanks that me
omni molestia liberas, deinde impudentia prosequor, sed
from-all annoyance you-free then with-shamelessness I-follow-up but
idem sarciam; te enim semper sic colam et tuebor
the-same I-will-make-good you for always so I-will-cultivate and protect
ut quem diligentissime. Quintum, fratrem meum, si me
as whom-ever most-carefully Quintus brother my if me
diligis, eo numero cura ut habeas quo me. Ita
you-esteem in-that number take-care that you-hold in-which me So
magnum beneficium tuum magno cumulo auxeris.
great kindness your by-a-great heap you-will-have-increased

Words fail Cicero to commend Marcus Laenius, whom he and Quintus value beyond belief for his services, uprightness, and modesty; he asks Silius to settle Laenius' business and send him back quickly.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Silio propr.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Silius propraetor
Non putavi fieri posse ut mihi verba dessent, sed tamen 1
Not I-thought to-happen to-be-able that to-me words should-fail but still
in M. Laenio commendando desunt. Itaque rem tibi
in Marcus Laenius commending they-fail And-so the-matter to-you
exponam paucis verbis, sed tamen ut plane perspicere possis
I-will-set-out in-few words but still that plainly to-see you-can
voluntatem meam. Incredibile est quanti faciamus et ego
wish my Incredible it-is at-how-much we-value both I
et frater meus, qui mihi carissimus est, M. Laenium. Id
and brother my who to-me dearest is Marcus Laenius That
fit cum plurimis eius officiis tum summa probitate
comes-about both by-very-many his services and by-the-highest uprightness
et singulari modestia. Eum ego a me invitissimus dimisi
and singular modesty Him I from me most-unwilling let-go
cum propter familiaritatem et consuetudinis suavitatem
both on-account-of intimacy and of-intercourse the-sweetness
tum quod consilio eius fideli ac bono libenter utebar.
and because counsel his faithful and good gladly I-was-using
Sed vereor ne iam superesse mihi verba putes, quae dixeram 2
But I-fear lest now to-be-in-excess to-me words you-think which I-had-said
defutura. Commendo tibi hominem sic, ut intellegis me
going-to-fail I-commend to-you the-man so as you-understand that-I
eum de quo ea supra scripserim debere commendare,
him about whom those-things above I-have-written to-be-bound to-commend

a teque vehementer etiam atque etiam peto ut quod habet
from and-you vehemently again and again I-ask that what he-has
in tua provincia negoti expedias, quod tibi videbitur rectum
in your province of-business you-settle what to-you will-seem right
esse ipsi dicas. Hominem facillimum liberalissimumque
to-be to-himself you-say A-man most-easy and-most-generous
cognosces. Itaque te rogo ut eum solutum, liberum
you-will-find And-so you I-ask that him released free
confectis eius negotiis per te quam primum ad me
completed his affairs through you as first to me
remittas. Id mihi fratrique meo gratissimum feceris.
you-send-back That to-me and-to-brother my most-pleasing you-will-have-done

XIII.64 · FOR NERO'S CLIENTS

Tiberius Nero thanks Silius warmly. Cicero asks him to hold Pausanias' case until Nero comes, to favor Nysa, Nero's client city, and to protect Strabo Servilius, whose case Nero has taken up; Asia is a great stage for a noble young man's career.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Silio propr.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Silius propraetor
1 Nero meus mirificas apud me tibi gratias egit, prorsus
Nero my wonderful with me to-you thanks has-given absolutely
incredibilis, ut nullum honorem sibi haberi potuisse
incredible so-that no honor to-himself to-be-shown to-have-been-able
diceret qui a te praetermissus esset. Magnum fructum ex
he-said which by you passed-over had-been Great fruit from
ipso capies; nihil est enim illo adulescente gratius;
himself you-will-reap nothing is for than-that young-man more-grateful
sed me hercule mihi quoque gratissimum fecisti;
but so-help-me Hercules to-me also most-pleasing you-have-done

pluris enim ex omni nobilitate neminem facio. Itaque
at-more for out-of all the-nobility no-one I-value And-so
si ea feceris quae ille per me tecum agi
if those-things you-will-have-done which he through me with-you to-be-urged
voluit, gratissimum mihi feceris, primum de Pausania
wished most-pleasing to-me you-will-have-done first about Pausanias
Alabandensi sustentes rem, dum Nero veniat (vehementer
of-Alabanda you-hold-up the-matter until Nero comes vehemently
eius causa cupere eum intellexi; itaque hoc valde te
his for-the-sake to-be-eager him I-perceived and-so this greatly you
rogo); deinde Nysaeos, quos Nero in primis habet
I-ask next the-Nysaeans whom Nero among the-first holds
necessarios diligentissimeque tuetur ac defendit, habeas tibi
connections and-most-carefully protects and defends you-hold to-yourself
commendatissimos, ut intellegat illa civitas sibi in Neronis
most-commended that may-understand that state to-itself in of-Nero
patrocinio summum esse praesidium. Strabonem Servilium
patronage the-highest to-be protection Strabo Servilius
tibi saepe commendavi; nunc eo facio id impensius, quod
to-you often I-have-commended now by-this I-do it more-earnestly because
eius causam Nero suscepit. Tantum a te petimus ut
his case Nero has-taken-up Only from you we-ask that
agas eam rem ne relinquas hominem innocentem ad
you-proceed-with that matter lest you-leave a-man innocent to
alicuius tui dissimilis quaestum. Id cum gratum mihi erit
of-some-one you unlike the-gain That both pleasing to-me will-be
tum etiam existimabo te humanitate tua esse usum.
and also I-will-think that-you kindness your to-have used
Summa huius epistulae haec est, ut ornes omnibus rebus 2
The-sum of-this letter this is that you-honor in-all things
Neronem, sicuti instituisti atque fecisti. Magnum theatrum
Nero as you-have-begun and done A-great theater

habet ista provincia, non ut haec nostra, ad adulescentis
has that province not as this our for of-a-young-man
nobilis, ingeniosi, abstinentis commendationem atque gloriam.
noble talented self-restrained the-recommendation and glory
Qua re si te fautore usus erit, sicuti profecto et
By-which thing if you as-promoter used he-will-have as surely both
utetur et usus est, amplissimas clientelas acceptas a
he-will-use and used has the-most-ample clienteles received from
maioribus confirmare poterit et beneficiis suis obligare.
his-ancestors to-confirm he-will-be-able and by-kindnesses his to-bind
Hoc in genere si eum adiuveris eo studio quo
This in kind if him you-will-have-helped with-that zeal which
ostendisti, apud ipsum praeclarissime posueris sed
you-have-shown with himself most-splendidly you-will-have-placed but
mihi etiam gratissimum feceris.
to-me also most-pleasing you-will-have-done

XIII.65 · HISPO AND THE PASTURE TAX

Publius Terentius Hispo, acting manager of the pasture-tax company, must make agreements with the remaining cities, which Ephesus refused even Cicero. Cicero asks Silius to win him that credit; the company is under Cicero's protection, and its partners are men of distinction.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Silio propr.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Silius propraetor
1 Cum P. Terentio Hispone, qui operas in scriptura
With Publius Terentius Hispo who service in the-pasture-tax
pro magistro dat, mihi summa familiaritas consuetudoque
as manager gives to-me the-closest intimacy and-intercourse
est, multaque et magna inter nos officia paria et mutua
is and-many and great between us services equal and mutual

intercedunt. Eius summa existimatio agitur in eo ut
subsist His highest reputation is-at-stake in this that
pactiones cum civitatibus reliquis conficiat. Non me praeterit
agreements with the-states remaining be-complete Not me escapes
nos eam rem Ephesi expertos esse neque ab Ephesiis
that-we that thing at-Ephesus tried to-have nor from the-Ephesians
ullo modo impetrare potuisse; sed quoniam, quem ad
in-any way to-obtain to-have-been-able but since in-what to
modum omnes existimant et ego intellego, tua cum
manner all think and I understand by-your both
summa integritate tum singulari humanitate et mansuetudine
highest integrity and singular kindness and gentleness
consecutus es ut libentissimis Graecis nutu quod velis
achieved you-have that most-willing the-Greeks by-a-nod what you-wish
consequare, peto a te in maiorem modum ut honoris
you-obtain I-ask from you in greater measure that of-honor
mei causa hac laude Hisponem adfici velis.
my for-the-sake with-this praise Hispo to-be-endowed you-wish
Praeterea cum sociis scripturae mihi summa necessitudo 2
Besides with the-partners of-the-pasture-tax to-me the-closest connection
est non solum ob eam causam quod ea societas
is not only on-account-of that reason that that company
universa in mea fide est, sed etiam quod plerisque
whole in my protection is but also because most
sociis utor familiarissime. Ita et Hisponem meum per me
partners I-use most-intimately So both Hispo my through me
ornaris et societatem mihi coniunctiorem feceris
you-will-have-honored and the-company to-me more-closely-joined you-will-have-made
tuque ipse et ex huius observantia, gratissimi hominis, et
and-you yourself both from his attentiveness most-grateful man and
ex sociorum gratia, hominum amplissimorum, maximum
from of-the-partners the-favor of-men most-distinguished the-greatest

fructum capies et me summo beneficio adfeceris.
fruit you-will-reap and me with-the-highest kindness you-will-have-affected
Sic enim velim existimes, ex tota tua provincia omnique
So for I-would-wish you-think out-of whole your province and-all
isto imperio nihil esse quod mihi gratius facere possis.
that command nothing to-be which to-me more-pleasing to-do you-could

XIII.66 · CAECINA IN ASIA

Aulus Caecina, a client of Servilius' family, would have regained his safety had Servilius been at Rome. Since he has fled to the province trusting in Servilius' justice, Cicero asks him to help Caecina gather the remnants of his old business.

M. Cicero P. Servilio s.
Marcus Cicero to-Publius Servilius greeting
1 A. Caecinam, maxime proprium clientem familiae vestrae, non
Aulus Caecina most particular client of-family your not
commendarem tibi, cum scirem qua fide in tuos,
I-would-commend to-you since I-knew with-what good-faith toward your-people
qua clementia in calamitosos soleres esse, nisi me
with-what clemency toward the-unfortunate you-were-wont to-be unless me
et patris eius, quo sum familiarissime usus, memoria et
both of-father his with-whom I-have most-intimately associated the-memory and
huius fortuna ita moveret, ut hominis omnibus mecum studiis
his fortune so moved as of-a-man in-all with-me pursuits
officiisque coniunctissimi movere debebat. A te hoc omni
and-services most-closely-joined to-move ought From you this with-all
contentione peto, sic ut maiore cura, maiore animi labore
exertion I-ask so that with-greater care with-greater of-mind labor
petere non possim, ut ad ea, quae tua sponte sine
to-ask not I-could that to those-things which of-your own-accord without

cuiusquam commendatione faceres in hominem tantum
anyone's recommendation you-would-do toward a-man so-great
et talem et calamitosum, aliquem adferant cumulum meae
and such and unfortunate some may-bring heap my
litterae, quo studiosius eum quibuscumque rebus possis iuves.
letter by-which more-zealously him in-whatever things you-can you-help
Quod si Romae fuisses, etiam salutem A. Caecinae 2
But if at-Rome you-had-been even the-restoration of-Aulus Caecina
essemus, ut opinio mea fert, per te consecuti; de qua
we-would-have as opinion my holds through you obtained about which
tamen magnam spem habemus freti clementia conlegae
still great hope we-have relying-on the-clemency of-colleague
tui. Nunc quoniam tuam iustitiam secutus tutissimum
your Now since your justice having-followed the-safest
sibi portum provinciam istam duxit esse, etiam
for-himself harbor province that he-has-thought to-be again
atque etiam te rogo atque oro ut eum et in reliquiis
and again you I-ask and beg that him both in the-remnants
veteris negotiationis conligendis iuves et ceteris rebus
of-old business gathering you-help and in-the-other things
tegas atque tueare. Hoc mihi gratius facere nihil potes.
shelter and protect This to-me more-pleasing to-do nothing you-can

Andro of Laodicea was Cicero's closest friend in his province and has proved grateful; Cicero commends him to Servilius.

M. Cicero P. Servilio propr. s.
Marcus Cicero to-Publius Servilius propraetor greeting

1 Ex provincia mea Ciliciensi, cui scis τρεῖς διοικήσεις
Out-of province my Cilician to-which you-know three districts
Asiaticas adtributas fuisse, nullo sum familiarius usus
Asiatic assigned to-have-been with-none have-I more-intimately associated
quam Androne, Artemonis filio, Laudicensi, eumque habui
than with-Andro of-Artemo son of-Laodicea and-him I-had
in ea civitate cum hospitem tum vehementer ad meae
in that state both as-guest-friend and vehemently to of-my
vitae rationem et consuetudinem accommodatum; quem
life the-plan and habit suited whom
quidem multo etiam pluris postea quam decessi facere
indeed much even at-more after that I-departed to-value
coepi, quod multis rebus expertus sum gratum hominem
I-began because in-many things found I-have grateful a-man
meique memorem. Itaque eum Romae libentissime vidi;
and-of-me mindful And-so him at-Rome most-gladly I-saw
non te enim fugit, qui plurimis in ista provincia benigne
not you for escapes who to-very-many in that province kindly
fecisti, quam multi grati reperiantur.
have-done how many grateful are-found

2 Haec propterea scripsi, ut et me non sine causa
These-things for-this-reason I-have-written that both me not without cause
laborare intellegeres et tu ipse eum dignum hospitio
to-labor you-might-understand and you yourself him worthy of-guest-friendship

tuo iudicares. Feceris igitur mihi gratissimum, si ei
your might-judge You-will-have-done therefore to-me most-pleasing if to-him
declararis quanti me facias, id est si receperis
you-will-have-declared at-how-much me you-value that is if you-will-have-received
eum in fidem tuam et quibuscumque rebus honeste ac
him into protection your and in-whatever things honorably and
sine molestia tua poteris adiuveris. Hoc mihi erit
without trouble your you-will-be-able you-will-have-helped This to-me will-be
vehementer gratum idque ut facias te etiam atque etiam rogo.
vehemently pleasing and-that that you-do you again and again I-ask

XIII.68 · TO ISAURICUS

Cicero thanks Servilius Isauricus for his letter and asks for news of his province. He will write of the commonwealth rarely, for the danger, and of events more often. He hopes Caesar means to give them some commonwealth, where Servilius' counsel would count, but if Asia brings more glory, so be it; Cicero will guard Servilius' dignity and honor his father.

M. Tullius Cicero P. Servilio Isaurico procos. conlegae
Marcus Tullius Cicero to-Publius Servilius Isauricus proconsul colleague
s. p.
greeting very-much
Gratae mihi vehementer tuae litterae fuerunt, ex quibus 1
Welcome to-me vehemently your letter has-been from which
cognovi cursus navigationum tuarum; significabas enim
I-learned the-courses of-voyages your you-showed for
memoriam tuam nostrae necessitudinis, qua mihi nihil
memory your of-our connection than-which to-me nothing
poterat esse iucundius. Quod reliquum est, multo etiam
could be more-delightful As-for-what remaining is much even

erit gratius, si ad me de re p., id est de
it-will-be more-pleasing if to me about the-thing public that is about
statu provinciae, de institutis tuis familiariter scribes.
the-state of-the-province about measures your intimately you-will-write
Quae quamquam ex multis pro tua claritate audiam,
Which although from many in-view-of your renown I-may-hear
tamen libentissime ex tuis litteris cognoscam.
still most-gladly from your letter I-shall-learn

2 Ego ad te de re p. summa quid sentiam non saepe
I to you about the-thing public the-whole what I-feel not often
scribam propter periculum eius modi litterarum; quid agatur
will-write on-account-of the-danger of-that kind of-letters what is-done
autem scribam saepius. Sperare tamen videor Caesari, conlegae
however I-will-write more-often To-hope still I-seem to-Caesar colleague
nostro, fore curae et esse ut habeamus aliquam rem
our going-to-be for-a-concern and to-be that we-may-have some thing
p., cuius consiliis magni referebat te interesse; sed si tibi
public in-whose counsels greatly it-mattered that-you to-take-part but if to-you
utilius est, id est gloriosius, Asiae praeesse et istam partem
more-useful it-is that is more-glorious over-Asia to-preside and that part
rei p. male adfectam tueri, mihi quoque idem quod
of-the-thing public badly affected to-protect to-me also the-same which
tibi et laudi tuae profuturum est optatius debet esse.
to-you and to-praise your going-to-profit is more-to-be-desired ought to-be

3 Ego quae ad tuam dignitatem pertinere arbitrabor
I what-things to your dignity to-pertain I-shall-think
summo studio diligentiaque curabo in primisque
with-the-highest zeal and-diligence I-will-attend-to among and-the-first
tuebor omni observantia clarissimum virum, patrem
I-will-protect with-all attentiveness the-most-illustrious man father

tuum, quod et pro vetustate necessitudinis et pro
your which both in-view-of the-age of-the-connection and in-view-of
beneficiis vestris et pro dignitate ipsius facere debeo.
kindnesses your and in-view-of the-dignity of-himself to-do I-ought

XIII.69 · CURTIUS MITHRES

Gaius Curtius Mithres, freedman of Postumus, was Cicero's host at Ephesus and serves him like his patron; Cicero asks Servilius to help him in a dispute with a Colophonian over an estate.

Cicero P. Servilio conlegae s. p.
Cicero to-Publius Servilius colleague greeting very-much
C. Curtius Mithres est ille quidem, ut scis, libertus 1
Gaius Curtius Mithres is he indeed as you-know the-freedman
Postumi, familiarissimi mei, sed me colit et observat
of-Postumus most-intimate my but me be-cultivates and courts
aeque atque illum ipsum patronum suum. Apud eum ego
equally as him himself patron his With him I
sic Ephesi fui, quotienscumque fui, tamquam domi meae,
so at-Ephesus was whenever I-was as-if at-home my
multaque acciderunt in quibus et benevolentiam eius
and-many-things happened in which both the-goodwill his
erga me experirer et fidem. Itaque si quid aut mihi
toward me I-might-test and loyalty And-so if anything either to-me
aut meorum cuipiam in Asia opus est, ad hunc scribere
or of-my-people to-anyone in Asia need is to him to-write
consuevi, huius cum opera et fide tum domo et
I-am-accustomed his both service and loyalty and house and
re uti tamquam mea. Haec ad te eo pluribus
property to-use as-if mine These-things to you by-this in-more-words

scripsi ut intellegeres me non vulgare nec ambitiose,
I-have-written that you-might-understand that-I not commonly nor for-self-seeking
sed ut pro homine intimo ac mihi pernecessario scribere.
but as for a-man intimate and to-me very-closely-connected to-write
2 Peto igitur a te ut in ea controversia, quam habet
I-ask therefore from you that in that dispute which he-has
de fundo cum quodam Colophonio, et in ceteris rebus
about an-estate with a-certain Colophonian and in the-other matters
quantum fides tua patietur quantumque tuo commodo
as-much-as good-faith your will-allow and-as-much-as with-your convenience
poteris tantum ei honoris mei causa commodes;
you-will-be-able so-much him of-honor my for-the-sake you-oblige
etsi ut eius modestiam cognovi, gravis tibi nulla in
although as his modesty I-have-found burdensome to-you no in
re erit. Si et mea commendatione et sua probitate
matter he-will-be If both by-my recommendation and by-his-own uprightness
adsecutus erit ut de se bene existimes, omnia se
attained he-will-have that of himself well you-think all-things himself
adeptum arbitrabitur. Ut igitur eum recipias in fidem
obtained he-will-think That therefore him you-receive into protection
habeasque in numero tuorum te vehementer etiam atque
and-hold in the-number of-your-people you vehemently again and
etiam rogo. Ego quae te velle quaeque ad te
again I-ask I what-things that-you to-wish and-what to you
pertinere arbitrabor omnia studiose diligenterque curabo.
to-pertain I-shall-think all zealously and-carefully I-will-attend-to

Cicero commends Titus Ampius Menander, freedman of his friend Ampius Balbus, an honest and modest man.

M. Cicero P. Servilio conlegae s. p.
Marcus Cicero to-Publius Servilius colleague greeting very-much
Quia non est obscura tua in me benevolentia, sic fit 1
Because not is obscure your toward me goodwill so it-happens
ut multi per me tibi velint commendari; ego autem tribuo
that many through me to-you wish to-be-commended I however grant
non numquam in vulgus, sed plerumque necessariis, ut hoc
not never to the-crowd but mostly to-connections as at-this
tempore. Nam cum T. Ampio Balbo mihi summa familiaritas
time For with Titus Ampius Balbus to-me the-closest intimacy
necessitudoque est. Eius libertum, T. Ampium Menandrum,
and-connection is His freedman Titus Ampius Menander
hominem frugi et modestum et patrono et nobis
a-man honest and modest and to-patron and to-us
vehementer probatum, tibi commendo maiorem in modum.
vehemently approved to-you I-commend greater in measure
Vehementer mihi gratum feceris, si quibuscumque
Vehemently to-me pleasing you-will-have-done if in-whatever
rebus sine tua molestia poteris ei commodaris. Quod
things without your trouble you-will-be-able him you-will-have-obliged Which
ut facias te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
that you-do you vehemently again and again I-ask

Titus Agusius was Cicero's companion in all his journeys and dangers in his worst time; Cicero commends him as one of his household.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Servilio conlegae.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Servilius colleague

1 Multos tibi commendem necesse est, quoniam omnibus nota
Many to-you I-commend necessary it-is since to-all known
nostra necessitudo est tuaque erga me benevolentia; sed
our connection is and-your toward me goodwill but
tamen etsi omnium causa quos commendo velle debeo,
still although of-all for-the-sake whom I-commend to-wish I-ought
tamen cum omnibus non eadem mihi causa est. T. Agusius
still with all not the-same to-me ground is Titus Agusius
et comes meus fuit illo miserrimo tempore et omnium
both companion my was in-that most-wretched time and of-all
itinerum, navigationum, laborum, periculorum meorum
journeys voyages labors dangers my
socius neque hoc tempore discessisset a me nisi ego
the-partner nor at-this time would-he-have-departed from me unless I
ei permisissem. Qua re sic tibi eum commendo ut
to-him had-permitted By-which thing so to-you him I-commend as
unum de meis domesticis et maxime necessariis. Pergratum
one of my household and most connections Very-pleasing
mihi feceris, si eum ita tractaris, ut intellegat hanc
to-me you-will-have-done if him so you-will-have-treated that he-understand this
commendationem sibi magno usu atque adiumento fuisse.
recommendation to-himself for-great use and help to-have-been

Cicero commended Caerellia's Asian property to Servilius in his gardens, and her agents fear the province's business may crowd it out. He asks Servilius to use the senate's decree on Vennonius' heirs in her favor.

M. Cicero P. Servilio conlegae s.
Marcus Cicero to-Publius Servilius colleague greeting

Caerelliae, necessariae meae, rem, nomina, possessiones 1
Of-Caerellia connection my the-property debts possessions

Asiaticas commendavi tibi praesens in hortis tuis
Asiatic I-commended to-you present in gardens your

quam potui diligentissime, tuque mihi pro tua
as I-could most-carefully and-you to-me in-accordance-with your

consuetudine proque tuis in me perpetuis
habit and-in-accordance-with your toward me perpetual

maximisque officiis omnia te facturum liberalissime
and-greatest services all-things that-you going-to-do most-generously

recepisti. Meminisse te id spero; scio enim solere. Sed
promised To-remember that-you it I-hope I-know for to-be-wont But

tamen Caerelliae procuratores scripserunt te propter
still of-Caerellia the-agents have-written that-you on-account-of

magnitudinem provinciae multitudinemque negotiorum etiam
the-size of-the-province and-the-multitude of-affairs again

atque etiam esse commonefaciendum.
and again to-be to-be-reminded

Peto igitur ut memineris te omnia, quae tua fides 2
I-ask therefore that you-remember that-you all-things which your good-faith

pateretur, mihi cumulate recepisse. Equidem existimo
would-allow to-me abundantly to-have-promised For-my-part I-think

habere te magnam facultatem (sed hoc tui est consili
to-have that-you great means but this of-you is of-counsel

et iudici) ex eo s. c., quod in heredes C.
and judgment from that of-the-senate decree which against the-heirs of-Gaius
Vennoni factum est, Caerelliae commodandi. Id senatus
Vennonius made has-been of-Caerellia obliging That of-the-senate
consultum tu interpretabere pro tua sapientia; scio
decree you will-interpret in-accordance-with your wisdom I-know
enim eius ordinis auctoritatem semper apud te magni
for of-that order the-authority always with you of-great-weight
fuisse. Quod reliquum est, sic velim existimes
to-have-been As-for-what remaining is so I-would-wish you-think
quibuscumque rebus Caerelliae benigne feceris mihi
in-whatever things to-Caerellia kindly you-will-have-done to-me
te gratissimum esse facturum.
that-you most-pleasing to-be going-to-do

XIII.73 · ANTIPATER'S SONS

Cicero congratulates Philippus on his safe return and thanks him for Egnatius and Oppius. He is close to Antipater of Derbe, with whom Philippus was angry, and asks him to release Antipater's sons, unless that would harm his reputation.

M. Cicero Q. Philippo procos. s.
Marcus Cicero to-Quintus Philippus proconsul greeting
1 Gratulor tibi, quod ex provincia salvum te ad tuos
I-congratulate you that from the-province safe yourself to your-people
recepisti incolumi fama et re p. Quod
you-have-brought-back with-unharmed reputation and the-thing public But
si Romae fuissem, te vidissem coramque gratias
if at-Rome I-had-been you I-would-have-seen and-face-to-face thanks

egissem, quod tibi L. Egnatius, familiarissimus meus,
I-would-have-given that to-you Lucius Egnatius most-intimate my
absens, L. Oppius praesens curae fuisset.
absent Lucius Oppius present a-concern had-been
Cum Antipatro Derbete mihi non solum hospitium verum 2
With Antipater of-Derbe to-me not only guest-friendship but
etiam summa familiaritas intercedit. Ei te vehementer
also the-closest intimacy subsists With-him you vehemently
suscensuisse audivi et moleste tuli. De re nihil
to-have-been-angry I-heard and with-annoyance I-took-it About the-matter nothing
possum iudicare, nisi illud mihi persuadeo, te, talem
I-can judge except this myself I-persuade that-you such
virum, nihil temere fecisse. A te autem pro vetere
a-man nothing rashly to-have-done From you however in-view-of old
nostra necessitudine etiam atque etiam peto ut eius filios, qui
our connection again and again I-ask that his sons who
in tua potestate sunt, mihi potissimum condones, nisi quid
in your power are to-me above-all you-pardon unless anything
existimas in ea re violari existimationem tuam. Quod
you-think in that matter to-be-violated reputation your Which
ego si arbitrarer, numquam te rogarem mihique tua fama
I if I-thought never you I-would-ask and-to-me your reputation
multo antiquior esset quam illa necessitudo est; sed mihi
much more-important would-be than that connection is but myself
ita persuadeo (potest fieri ut fallar) eam rem laudi tibi
so I-persuade it-can happen that I-be-mistaken that matter for-praise to-you
potius quam vituperationi fore. Quid fieri possit et
rather than for-blame going-to-be What to-be-done can and
quid mea causa facere possis (nam quin velis non dubito)
what my for-the-sake to-do you-can for that you-wish not I-doubt
velim, si tibi grave non erit, certiorem me facias.
I-would-wish if to-you burdensome not it-will-be more-certain me you-make

Cicero commends Oppius and Egnatius' business to Philippus once more, and asks him to show Oppius how much he values Cicero.

M. Cicero Q. Philippo procos. s.
Marcus Cicero to-Quintus Philippus proconsul greeting

1 Etsi non dubito pro tua in me observantia proque
Although not I-doubt in-view-of your toward me attentiveness and-in-view-of
nostra necessitudine quin commendationem meam memoria
our connection that recommendation my in-memory
teneas, tamen etiam atque etiam eundem tibi L.
you-hold still again and again the-same to-you Lucius
Oppium, familiarem meum, praesentem et L. Egnati,
Oppius intimate my present and of-Lucius Egnatius
familiarissimi mei, absentis negotia commendo. Tanta mihi
most-intimate my absent the-affairs I-commend So-great to-me
cum eo necessitudo est familiaritasque, ut si mea res
with him connection is and-intimacy that if my affair
esset non magis laborarem. Quapropter gratissimum mihi
it-were not more I-would-labor Wherefore most-pleasing to-me
feceris, si curaris ut is intellegat me a te
you-will-have-done if you-will-have-taken-care that he understand that-I by you
tantum amari quantum ipse existimo. Hoc mihi gratius
so-much to-be-loved as-much-as myself I-think This to-me more-pleasing
facere nihil potes, idque ut facias te vehementer rogo.
to-do nothing you-can and-that that you-do you vehemently I-ask

Cicero writes again for Gaius Avianius Flaccus, asking Titius to give him the same place and time for shipping grain that he had for three years under Pompey.

M. Cicero T. Titio T. f. leg. s. d.
Marcus Cicero to-Titus Titius of-Titus son legate greeting says
Etsi non dubito quin apud te mea commendatio prima 1
Although not I-doubt that with you my recommendation first
satis valeat, tamen obsequor homini familiarissimo, C.
sufficiently avails still I-comply-with a-man most-intimate Gaius
Avianio Flacco, cuius causa omnia cum cupio tum
Avianius Flaccus whose for-the-sake all-things both I-desire and
me hercule etiam debeo. De quo et praesens tecum
so-help-me Hercules also I-owe About whom both present with-you
egi diligenter, cum tu mihi humanissime respondisti, et
I-dealt carefully when you to-me most-kindly replied and
scripsi ad te accurate antea; sed putat interesse sua me
I-wrote to you carefully before but he-thinks to-matter to-him that-I
ad te quam saepissime scribere. Qua re velim mihi
to you as most-often to-write By-which thing I-would-wish me
ignoscas, si illius voluntati obtemperans minus videbor
you-pardon if his wish complying-with less I-shall-seem
meminisse constantiae tuae.
to-remember the-constancy your
A te idem illud peto ut de loco, quo deportet 2
From you the-same that I-ask that about the-place to-which he-may-carry
frumentum, et de tempore Avianio commodes, quorum
the-grain and about the-time to-Avianius you-oblige of-which
utrumque per eundem me obtinuit triennium, dum
each through the-same me he-held for-three-years while

Pompeius isti negotio praefuit. Summa est, in quo mihi
Pompey over-that business presided The-sum is in which to-me
gratissimum facere possis, si curaris ut Avianius,
most-pleasing to-do you-can if you-will-have-taken-care that Avianius
quoniam se a me amari putat, me a te amari
since himself by me to-be-loved he-thinks that-I by you to-be-loved
sciat. Erit id mihi pergratum.
he-know Will-be that to-me very-pleasing

XIII.76 · VALGIUS' LAND AT FREGELLAE

For the sake of his close friend Quintus Hippius, Cicero asks the magistrates and councilors of Fregellae to let Gaius Valgius Hippianus hold the land he bought from them free and exempt.

M. Cicero iiii viris et decurionibus s. d.
Marcus Cicero to-the-four men and councilors greeting says
1 Tantae mihi cum Q. Hippio causae necessitudinis sunt,
So-great to-me with Quintus Hippius grounds of-connection there-are
ut nihil possit esse coniunctius quam nos inter nos
that nothing can be more-closely-joined than we between ourselves
sumus. Quod nisi ita esset, uterer mea consuetudine
are But unless so it-were I-would-use my custom
ut vobis nulla in re molestus essem. Etenim vos mihi
that to-you no in matter troublesome I-should-be For you to-me
optimi testes estis, quom mihi persuasum esset nihil
the-best witnesses are although to-me persuaded it-was nothing
esse quod a vobis impetrare non possem, numquam me
to-be which from you to-obtain not I-could never that-I
tamen gravem vobis esse voluisse.
still burdensome to-you to-be to-have-wished

Vehementer igitur vos etiam atque etiam rogo ut honoris mei 2
Vehemently therefore you again and again I-ask that of-honor my
causa quam liberalissime C. Valgium Hippianum tractetis
for-the-sake as most-generously Gaius Valgius Hippianus you-treat
remque cum eo conficiatis, ut quam possessionem habet
and-the-matter with him you-settle that what estate he-has
in agro Fregellano a vobis emptam eam liberam et
in the-district Fregellan from you bought that free and
immunem habere possit. Id si a vobis impetraro,
exempt to-hold he-may-be-able That if from you I-shall-have-obtained
summo me beneficio vestro adfectum arbitrabor.
with-the-highest myself kindness your affected I-will-think

XIII.77 · BOLANUS AND THE RUNAWAY

Cicero voted Sulpicius a thanksgiving and will support his honor. He commends Marcus Bolanus, and asks Sulpicius to recover Dionysius, the slave who managed Cicero's library, stole many books, and fled; he is in Sulpicius' province, claiming to have been freed.

M. Cicero s. d. P. Sulpicio imp.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Publius Sulpicius imperator
Cum his temporibus non sane in senatum ventitarem, 1
Although in-these times not truly into the-senate I-was-coming-often
tamen, ut tuas litteras legi, non existimavi me salvo iure
still when your letter I-read not I-thought that-I with-safe right
nostrae veteris amicitiae multorumque inter nos officiorum
of-our old friendship and-of-many between us services
facere posse ut honori tuo deessem. Itaque adfui
to-do to-be-able that to-honor your I-should-be-wanting And-so I-was-present
supplicationemque tibi libenter decrevi nec reliquo tempore
and-a-thanksgiving to-you gladly I-voted nor at-other time

ullo aut rei aut existimationi aut dignitati tuae deero.
any either to-interest or to-reputation or to-dignity your will-I-be-wanting
Atque hoc ut tui necessarii sciant, hoc me animo erga te
And this that your connections may-know this that-I of-mind toward you
esse, velim facias eos per litteras certiores, ut si quid
to-be I-would-wish you-make them by letter more-certain that if anything
tibi opus sit ne dubitent mihi iure suo denuntiare.
to-you need be not they-hesitate to-me by-right their-own to-announce-it

2 M. Bolanum, virum bonum et fortem et omnibus rebus
Marcus Bolanus a-man good and brave and in-all things
ornatum meumque veterem amicum, tibi magno opere
accomplished and-my old friend to-you in-great measure
commendo. Pergratum mihi feceris, si curaris
I-commend Very-pleasing to-me you-will-have-done if you-will-have-taken-care
ut is intellegat hanc commendationem sibi magno
that he understand this recommendation to-himself for-great
adiumento fuisse; ipsumque virum optimum gratissimumque
help to-have-been and-himself a-man the-best and-most-grateful
cognosces. Promitto tibi te ex eius amicitia magnam
you-will-find I-promise to-you that-you from his friendship great
voluptatem esse capturum.
pleasure to-be going-to-reap

3 Praeterea a te peto in maiorem modum pro nostra
Besides from you I-ask in greater measure in-view-of our
amicitia et pro tuo perpetuo in me studio ut in
friendship and in-view-of your perpetual toward me zeal that in
hac re etiam elabores: Dionysius, servus meus, qui
this matter also you-exert-yourself Dionysius slave my who
meam bibliothecen multorum nummorum tractavit, cum
my library of-many coins handled when
multos libros surripuisset nec se impune laturum putaret,
many books he-had-stolen nor himself unpunished to-get-off he-thought

aufugit. Is est in provincia tua. Eum et M. Bolanus,
has-run-away He is in province your Him both Marcus Bolanus
meus familiaris, et multi alii Naronae viderunt, sed, cum
my intimate and many others at-Narona have-seen but since
se a me manu missum esse diceret, crediderunt. Hunc
himself by me by-hand released to-have-been he-said they-believed-him Him
tu si mihi restituendum curaris, non possum dicere
you if to-me to-be-restored you-will-have-taken-care not I-can say
quam mihi gratum futurum sit. Res ipsa parva, sed animi
how to-me pleasing going-to-be it-is The-thing itself small but of-mind
mei dolor magnus est. Ubi sit et quid fieri possit
my the-pain great is Where he-is and what to-be-done can
Bolanus te docebit. Ego si hominem per te reciperaro,
Bolanus you will-inform I if the-man through you I-shall-have-recovered
summo me a te beneficio adfectum arbitrabor.
with-the-highest myself by you kindness affected I-will-think

XIII.78 · DEMOCRITUS OF SICYON

Democritus of Sicyon, a guest-friend of upright life and generous to guests, is one of the few, Greeks above all, whom Cicero counts a close friend; Cicero asks Allienus to receive him and, once he knows him, to take him into his friendship.

M. Cicero Allieno s.
Marcus Cicero to-Allienus greeting
Democritus Sicyonius non solum hospes meus est sed etiam, 1
Democritus of-Sicyon not only guest-friend my is but also
quod non multis contigit, Graecis praesertim, valde familiaris;
what not to-many has-befallen to-Greeks especially very intimate
est enim in eo summa probitas, summa virtus, summa
there-is for in him the-highest uprightness the-highest virtue the-highest

in hospites liberalitas et observantia, meque praeter ceteros
toward guests generosity and attentiveness and-me beyond the-rest
et colit et observat et diligit. Eum tu non modo
both he-cultivates and courts and esteems Him you not only
suorum civium verum paene Achaiae principem cognosces.
of-his citizens but almost of-Achaea the-chief you-will-find
2 Huic ego tantum modo aditum ad tuam cognitionem
For-him I only merely access to your acquaintance
patefacio et munio; cognitum per te ipsum, quae tua
open and pave acquainted through you yourself which your
natura est, dignum tua amicitia atque hospitio iudicabis.
nature is worthy of-your friendship and guest-friendship you-will-judge
Peto igitur a te ut his litteris lectis recipias eum
I-ask therefore from you that with-this letter read you-receive him
in tuam fidem, polliceare omnia te facturum mea
into your protection you-promise all-things that-you going-to-do my
causa. De reliquo si, id quod confido fore, dignum
for-the-sake About the-rest if that which I-trust going-to-be worthy
eum tua amicitia hospitioque cognoveris, peto ut
him of-your friendship and-guest-friendship you-will-have-found I-ask that
eum complectare, diligas, in tuis habeas. Erit id
him you-embrace you-esteem among your-own hold Will-be that
mihi maiorem in modum gratum. Vale.
to-me greater in measure pleasing Farewell

Cicero commends the sons of Gaius Avianius Flaccus, whom Allienus treated generously; one is in Sicily, the other with Cicero.

M. Cicero s. d. Allieno procos.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Allienus proconsul
Et te scire arbitror quanti fecerim C. Avianium 1
Both you to-know I-think at-how-much I-valued Gaius Avianius
Flaccum, et ego ex ipso audiveram, optimo et
Flaccus and I from himself had-heard a-most-excellent and
gratissimo homine, quam a te liberaliter esset tractatus.
most-grateful man how by you generously he-had-been treated
Eius filios dignissimos illo patre meosque necessarios,
His sons most-worthy of-that father and-my connections
quos ego unice diligo, commendo tibi sic, ut maiore
whom I singularly esteem I-commend to-you so that with-greater
studio nullos commendare possim. C. Avianius in Sicilia
zeal none to-commend I-could Gaius Avianius in Sicily
est, Marcus est nobiscum. Ut illius dignitatem praesentis
is Marcus is with-us That of-the-one the-dignity present
ornes, rem utriusque defendas te rogo. Hoc mihi
you-honor the-property of-each you-defend you I-ask This to-me
gratius in ista provincia facere nihil potes, idque ut
more-pleasing in that province to-do nothing you-can and-that that
facias te vehementer etiam atque etiam rogo.
you-do you vehemently again and again I-ask

BOOK XIV

XIV.1 · FROM DYRRHACHIUM

Everyone tells Cicero of Terentia's courage and tireless labor, and he grieves that she, Tullia, and little Cicero suffer through his fault: he trusted those who envied him and would not follow those who sought him. Friends bid him hope, and if all the tribunes, Lentulus, Pompey, and Caesar are with them, all is not lost. The plague has passed, Plancius keeps him near, and Piso is wholly theirs. He begs her not to sell her block of houses, for their boy's sake. He has moved to Dyrrhachium, a free town devoted to him.

Tullius Terentiae suae, Tulliolae suae, Ciceroni suo s.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own to-Tulliola his-own to-Cicero his-own greeting
d.
says
Et litteris multorum et sermone omnium perfertur ad me 1
Both by-the-letters of-many and by-the-talk of-all it-is-reported to me
incredibilem tuam virtutem et fortitudinem esse teque nec
incredible your courage and fortitude to-be and-you neither
animi neque corporis laboribus defetigari. Me miserum! te
of-mind nor of-body by-labors to-be-worn-out Me wretched that-you
ista virtute, fide, probitate, humanitate in tantas aerumnas
with-that virtue loyalty uprightness kindness into such-great hardships
propter me incidisse, Tulliolamque nostram, ex quo patre
on-account-of me to-have-fallen and-Tulliola our from whom father
tantas voluptates capiebat, ex eo tantos percipere luctus!
such-great pleasures she-was-taking from him such-great to-reap griefs
Nam quid ego de Cicerone dicam? qui cum primum sapere
For what I about Cicero should-say who as soon-as to-have-sense
coepit, acerbissimos dolores miseriasque percepit. Quae si, tu
began the-bitterest pains and-miseries has-felt Which if you

ut scribis, ‘fato facta’ putarem, ferrem paulo facilius; sed
as you-write by-fate done I-thought I-would-bear a-little more-easily but
omnia sunt mea culpa commissa, qui ab iis me amari
all-things have-been by-my fault committed who by those me to-be-loved
putabam qui invidebant, eos non sequebar qui petebant.
I-thought who envied those not I-followed who sought-me
2 Quod si nostris consiliis usi essemus neque apud nos tantum
But if our counsels used we-had nor with us so-much
valuisset sermo aut stultorum amicorum aut improborum,
had-prevailed the-talk either of-foolish friends or of-the-wicked
beatissimi viveremus. Nunc quoniam sperare nos amici iubent,
most-happy we-would-live Now since to-hope us friends bid
dabo operam ne mea valetudo tuo labori desit.
I-will-give effort that-not my health to-your labor be-wanting
Res quanta sit intellego quantoque fuerit facilius
The-matter how-great it-is I-understand and-by-how-much it-would-have-been easier
manere domi quam redire; sed tamen si omnis tr.
to-stay at-home than to-return but still if all the-tribunes
pl. habemus, si Lentulum tam studiosum quam videtur,
of-the-plebs we-have if Lentulus as zealous as he-seems
si vero etiam Pompeium et Caesarem, non est desperandum.
if indeed also Pompey and Caesar not it-is to-be-despaired
3 De familia quo modo placuisse scribis amicis faciemus.
About the-household in-what way to-have-pleased you-write the-friends we-will-do
De loco nunc quidem iam abiit pestilentia, sed quam
About the-place now indeed already has-gone the-plague but as
diu fuit me non attigit. Plancius, homo officiosissimus, me
long it-was me not it-touched Plancius a-man most-obliging me
cupit esse secum et adhuc retinet. Ego volebam loco
desires to-be with-himself and so-far keeps-me I was-wishing in-a-place
magis deserto esse in Epiro, quo neque Piso veniret
more deserted to-be in Epirus where neither Piso would-come

nec milites, sed adhuc Plancius me retinet; sperat posse
nor soldiers but so-far Plancius me keeps he-hopes to-be-able
fieri ut mecum in Italiam decedat. Quem ego diem
to-happen that with-me into Italy he-may-withdraw Which I day
si videro et si in vestrum complexum venero ac
if I-shall-have-seen and if into your embrace I-shall-have-come and
si et vos et me ipsum reciperaro, satis magnum mihi
if both you and me myself I-shall-have-recovered quite great to-me
fructum videbor percepisse et vestrae pietatis et meae.
fruit I-shall-seem to-have-reaped both of-your devotion and of-mine
Pisonis humanitas, virtus, amor in omnis nos tantus 4
Of-Piso the-kindness courage love toward all us so-great
est, ut nihil supra possit. Utinam ea res ei voluptati
is that nothing beyond can-be Would-that that thing to-him for-pleasure
sit! gloriae quidem video fore. De Quinto fratre
may-be for-glory indeed I-see going-to-be About Quintus my-brother
nihil ego te accusavi, sed vos, cum praesertim tam pauci
nothing I you accused but you since especially so few
sitis, volui esse quam coniunctissimos.
you-are I-wished to-be as most-closely-joined
Quibus me voluisti agere gratias egi et me a te certiorem 5
To-whom me you-wished to-give thanks I-gave and that-I by you more-certain
factum esse scripsi. Quod ad me, mea Terentia, scribis
made to-have-been I-wrote As-for-what to me my Terentia you-write
te vicum venditurum, quid, obsecro te, me miserum! quid
that-you the-block going-to-sell what I-beseech you me wretched what
futurum est? et si nos premet eadem fortuna, quid puero
going-to-be is and if us will-press the-same fortune what of-the-boy
misero fiet? Non queo reliqua scribere; tanta vis
wretched will-become Not I-can the-rest to-write so-great the-force
lacrimarum est; neque te in eundem fletum adducam; tantum
of-tears is nor you into the-same weeping will-I-bring only

scribo: Si erunt in officio amici, pecunia non derit;
I-write If will-be in duty friends money not will-be-lacking
si non erunt, tu efficere tua pecunia non poteris.
if not they-will-be you to-accomplish with-your money not will-be-able
Per fortunas miseras nostras, vide ne puerum perditum
By fortunes wretched our see lest the-boy ruined
perdamus; cui si aliquid erit ne egeat, mediocri
we-ruin to-whom if something will-be that-not he-be-in-want of-moderate
virtute opus est et mediocri fortuna ut cetera consequatur.
virtue need is and of-moderate fortune that the-rest he-may-attain
6 Fac valeas et ad me tabellarios mittas, ut sciam
Make-sure you-are-well and to me letter-carriers you-send that I-may-know
quid agatur et vos quid agatis. Mihi omnino iam
what is-done and you what you-are-doing To-me altogether now
brevis exspectatio est, Tulliolae et Ciceroni salutem dic.
brief the-waiting is to-Tulliola and to-Cicero greeting give
Valete. D. a. d. vi K. Decembr. Dyrrhachi.
Farewell Dated on-the day sixth before-the-Kalends of-December at-Dyrrhachium
7 Dyrrhachium veni, quod et libera civitas est et in
To-Dyrrhachium I-have-come because both a-free state it-is and toward
me officiosa et proxima Italiae; sed si offendet me loci
me obliging and nearest to-Italy but if will-offend me of-the-place
celebritas, alio me conferam, ad te scribam.
the-crowding elsewhere myself I-will-betake to you I-will-write

Cicero cannot write to Terentia and Tullia without tears, seeing them wretched whom he wished happy. He thanks Piso; hope lies in the new tribunes and in Pompey, though he fears Crassus. He weeps that Terentia was dragged from the temple of Vesta to the Valerian bank, she to whom all used to turn. If the site of their house is lost, she should not throw away the rest of her fortune, and must spare her health.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae et Tulliolae et Ciceroni
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own and to-Tulliola and to-Cicero
suis.
his-own
Noli putare me ad quemquam longiores epistulas scribere, 1
Do-not think that-I to anyone longer letters to-write
nisi si quis ad me plura scripsit, cui puto rescribi
except if anyone to me more has-written to-whom I-think to-be-replied
oportere; nec enim habeo quid scribam nec hoc tempore
to-be-proper nor for I-have what I-may-write nor at-this time
quicquam difficilius facio; ad te vero et ad nostram Tulliolam
anything more-difficult I-do to you indeed and to our Tulliola
non queo sine plurimis lacrimis scribere; vos enim video esse
not I-can without very-many tears to-write you for I-see to-be
miserrimas, quas ego beatissimas semper esse volui, idque
most-wretched whom I most-happy always to-be wished and-that
praestare debui et, nisi tam timidi fuissemus, praestitissem.
to-make-good I-ought and unless so timid we-had-been I-would-have-made-good
Pisonem nostrum merito eius amo plurimum. Eum, ut 2
Piso our for-the-desert his I-love the-most Him as
potui, per litteras cohortatus sum gratiasque egi, ut debui.
I-could by letter encouraged I-have and-thanks I-gave as I-ought
In novis tr. pl. intellego spem te habere. Id erit
In the-new tribunes of-the-plebs I-perceive hope that-you to-have That will-be

firmum, si Pompei voluntas erit; sed Crassum tamen metuo.
firm if of-Pompey the-goodwill will-be but Crassus still I-fear
A te quidem omnia fieri fortissime et amantissime
By you indeed all-things to-be-done most-bravely and most-lovingly
video nec miror, sed maereo casum eius modi, ut tantis
I-see nor I-wonder but I-grieve-at a-chance of-that kind that by-so-great
tuis miseriis meae miseriae subleventur. Nam ad me P.
your miseries my miseries are-relieved For to me Publius
Valerius, homo officiosus, scripsit, id quod ego maximo
Valerius a-man obliging has-written that which I the-greatest
cum fletu legi, quem ad modum a Vestae ad tabulam
with weeping read in-what to manner from of-Vesta to the-bank
Valeriam ducta esses. Hem, mea lux, meum desiderium,
Valerian led you-had-been Ah my light my longing
unde omnes opem petere solebant! te nunc, mea Terentia,
from-whom all help to-seek were-wont you now my Terentia
sic vexari, sic iacere in lacrimis et sordibus, idque
so to-be-harassed so to-lie in tears and mourning and-that
fieri mea culpa, qui ceteros servavi, ut nos periremus!
to-come-about by-my fault who the-others I-saved that we might-perish
3 Quod de domo scribis, hoc est de area, ego vero tum
As-for-what about the-house you-write that is about the-site I indeed then
denique mihi videbor restitutus, si illa nobis erit
at-last to-myself will-seem restored if it to-us will-have-been
restituta. Verum haec non sunt in nostra manu; illud
restored But these-things not are in our hand this
doleo, quae impensa facienda est, in eius partem te
I-grieve-at which expense to-be-made is into its share that-you
miseram et despoliatam venire. Quod si conficitur negotium,
wretched and stripped to-come But if is-accomplished the-business
omnia consequemur; sin eadem nos fortuna premet, etiamne
all-things we-shall-attain but-if the-same us fortune will-press will-you-even

reliquias tuas misera proicies? Obsecro te, mea vita, quod
the-remnants your wretched throw-away I-beseech you my life as
ad sumptum attinet, sine alios, qui possunt si modo volunt,
to the-expense pertains allow others who can if only they-will
sustinere et valetudinem istam infirmam, si me amas, noli
to-bear-it and health that weak if me you-love do-not
vexare. Nam mihi ante oculos dies noctesque versaris;
harass For to-me before the-eyes days and-nights you-are-present
omnis labores te excipere video; timeo ut sustineas.
all labors that-you to-take-on I-see I-fear that-not you-may-hold-out
Sed video in te esse omnia. Qua re, ut id quod
But I-see in you to-be all-things By-which thing that that which
speras et quod agis consequamur, servi valetudini.
you-hope and which you-are-doing we-may-attain be-a-slave to-health
Ego ad quos scribam nescio, nisi ad eos qui ad me 4
I to whom I-should-write I-know-not except to those who to me
scribunt, aut ad eos de quibus ad me vos aliquid scribitis.
write or to those about whom to me you something write
Longius, quoniam ita vobis placet, non discedam; sed
Farther since so to-you it-pleases not I-will-depart but
velim quam saepissime litteras mittatis, praesertim si
I-would-wish as most-often letters you-send especially if
quid est firmius quod speremus. Valete, mea desideria,
anything there-is firmer which we-may-hope Farewell my longings
valete. D. a. d. iii Non. Oct. Thessalonica.
farewell Dated on-the day third before-the-Nones of-October at-Thessalonica

Three letters from Terentia are nearly washed away by Cicero's tears. The calamity is shared, the fault his alone: he should have escaped the danger by a legateship, resisted it, or fallen bravely, and he is worn by shame as well as grief. He thanks Piso, follows her counsel for his safety, and pins his hope on the new tribunes' first days. He has sent Aristocritus back for news and stays at Dyrrhachium; she should stay at Rome, where she bears much of the burden.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae et Tulliae et Ciceroni.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own and to-Tullia and to-Cicero

1 Accepi ab Aristocrito tris epistulas, quas ego lacrimis prope
I-received from Aristocritus three letters which I with-tears almost
delevi; conficior enim maerore, mea Terentia, nec meae me
blotted-out I-am-worn-out for with-grief my Terentia nor my me
miseriae magis excruciant quam tuae vestraeque; ego autem
miseries more torment than yours and-yours-all I however
hoc miserior sum quam tu, quae es miserrima, quod
by-this more-wretched am than you who are most-wretched that
ipsa calamitas communis est utriusque nostrum, sed culpa
the-very calamity common is of-each of-us but the-fault
mea propria est. Meum fuit officium vel legatione vitare
mine own is Mine it-was the-duty either by-a-legateship to-avoid
periculum vel diligentia et copiis resistere vel cadere fortiter.
the-danger or by-diligence and by-forces to-resist or to-fall bravely
Hoc miserius, turpius, indignius nobis nihil fuit.
Than-this more-wretched more-shameful more-unworthy for-us nothing has-been

2 Qua re cum dolore conficior tum etiam pudore; pudet
By-which thing both by-grief I-am-worn-out and also by-shame it-shames
enim me uxori meae optimae, suavissimis liberis virtutem
for me to-wife my the-best to-the-sweetest children courage
et diligentiam non praestitisse. Nam mi ante oculos dies
and diligence not to-have-shown For to-me before the-eyes days

noctesque versatur squalor vester et maeror et infirmitas
and-nights is-present the-squalor your and grief and the-weakness
valetudinis tuae, spes autem salutis pertenuis ostenditur.
of-health your the-hope however of-restoration very-slight is-shown
Inimici sunt multi, invidi paene omnes; eicere nos magnum
Enemies are many envious almost all To-cast-out us great
fuit, excludere facile est. Sed tamen quam diu vos eritis in
it-was to-shut-out easy it-is But still as long you will-be in
spe, non deficiam, ne omnia mea culpa cecidisse videantur.
hope not I-will-give-up lest all-things by-my fault to-have-fallen may-seem
Ut tuto sim, quod laboras, id mihi nunc facillimum est, 3
That safely I-be about-which you-labor that to-me now easiest is
quem etiam inimici volunt vivere in tantis miseriis; ego
whom even enemies wish to-live in such-great miseries I
tamen faciam quae praecipis. Amicis quibus voluisti
still will-do what-things you-advise To-the-friends whom you-wished
egi gratias et eas litteras Dexippo dedi meque de
I-gave thanks and that letter to-Dexippus I-gave and-that-I about
eorum officio scripsi a te certiorem esse factum. Pisonem
their service I-wrote by you more-certain to-have been-made That-Piso
nostrum mirifico esse studio in nos et officio et ego
our of-wonderful to-be zeal toward us and service both I
perspicio et omnes praedicant. Di faxint ut tali genero
see-clearly and all proclaim The-gods grant that such son-in-law
mihi praesenti tecum simul et cum liberis nostris frui
to-me present with-you together and with children our to-enjoy
liceat! Nunc spes reliqua est in novis tr. pl. et
it-be-allowed Now hope remaining is in the-new tribunes of-the-plebs and
in primis quidem diebus; nam si inveterarit, actum est.
in the-first indeed days for if it-will-have-grown-old done it-is

4 Ea re ad te statim Aristocritum misi ut ad me
For-that reason to you at-once Aristocritus I-sent that to me
continuo initia rerum et rationem totius negoti
forthwith the-beginnings of-affairs and the-plan of-the-whole business
posses scribere; etsi Dexippo quoque ita imperavi,
you-might-be-able to-write although to-Dexippus also so I-ordered
statim ut recurreret, et ad fratrem misi ut crebro
at-once that he-should-run-back and to my-brother I-sent that frequently
tabellarios mitteret. Nam ego eo nomine sum Dyrrhachi
letter-carriers he-should-send For I on-that account am at-Dyrrhachium
hoc tempore, ut quam celerrime quid agatur audiam, et
at-this time that as most-quickly what is-done I-may-hear and
sum tuto; civitas enim haec semper a me defensa est.
I-am safely state for this always by me defended has-been
Cum inimici nostri venire dicentur, tum in Epirum ibo.
When enemies our to-come will-be-said then into Epirus I-will-go
5 Quod scribis te, si velim, ad me venturam, ego vero,
As-for-what you-write that-you if I-wish to me going-to-come I indeed
cum sciam magnam partem istius oneris abs te sustineri, te
since I-know a-great part of-that burden by you to-be-borne you
istic esse volo. Si perficitis quod agitis, me ad vos venire
there to-be I-wish If you-accomplish what you-are-doing me to you to-come
oportet; sin autem — sed nihil opus est reliqua scribere.
it-is-needful but-if however but no need is the-rest to-write
Ex primis aut summum secundis litteris tuis constituere
From the-first or at-most the-second letters your to-determine
poterimus quid nobis faciendum sit; tu modo ad me
we-shall-be-able what by-us to-be-done is you only to me
velim omnia diligentissime perscribas; etsi magis iam
I-would-wish all-things most-carefully you-write-out although more now
rem quam litteras debeo exspectare. Cura ut valeas
the-thing than letters I-ought to-await Take-care that you-are-well

et ita tibi persuadeas, mihi te carius nihil esse nec
and so yourself persuade to-me than-you dearer nothing to-be nor
umquam fuisse. Vale, mea Terentia; quam ego videre videor
ever to-have-been Farewell my Terentia whom I to-see I-seem
itaque debilitor lacrimis. Vale. Pr. K. Dec.
and-so I-am-unnerved by-tears Farewell The-day-before the-Kalends of-December

XIV.4 · FROM BRUNDISIUM

Cicero writes seldom, since writing to his family overcomes him with tears; would that he had loved life less. Laenius Flaccus sheltered him at Brundisium at his own peril. He leaves through Macedonia for Cyzicus, torn whether to ask Terentia to come: if there is hope she should work for his return, if not she should join him. He frets for Tullia's marriage and young Cicero, reassures her about the slaves to be freed, and tells her that their virtue, not their vice, has brought them down.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae et Tulliae et Ciceroni suis.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia and to-Tullia and to-Cicero his-own
Ego minus saepe do ad vos litteras quam possum, propterea 1
I less often give to you letters than I-can for-this-reason
quod cum omnia mihi tempora sunt misera, tum vero,
that although all to-me times are wretched then indeed
cum aut scribo ad vos aut vestras lego, conficior lacrimis
when either I-write to you or yours I-read I-am-overcome by-tears
sic ut ferre non possim. Quod utinam minus vitae
so that to-bear-it not I-can But would-that less of-life
cupidi fuissemus! certe nihil aut non multum in vita mali
desirous we-had-been certainly nothing or not much in life of-evil
vidissemus. Quod si nos ad aliquam alicuius commodi
we-would-have-seen But if us to some of-some advantage
aliquando reciperandi spem fortuna reservavit, minus est
sometime of-recovering hope fortune has-reserved less it-has

erratum a nobis; si haec mala fixa sunt, ego vero te quam
been-erred by us if these evils fixed are I indeed you as
primum, mea vita, cupio videre et in tuo complexu emori,
first my life I-desire to-see and in your embrace to-die
quoniam neque dii, quos tu castissime coluisti, neque
since neither the-gods whom you most-purely have-worshiped nor
homines, quibus ego semper servivi, nobis gratiam rettulerunt.
men whom I always have-served to-us thanks have-returned

2 Nos Brundisi apud M. Laenium Flaccum dies xiii fuimus,
We at-Brundisium with Marcus Laenius Flaccus days thirteen were
virum optimum, qui periculum fortunarum et capitis sui
a-man most-excellent who the-danger of-fortunes and of-life his
prae mea salute neglexit neque legis improbissimae
in-comparison-with my safety disregarded nor of-the-law most-wicked
poena deductus est quo minus hospiti et amicitiae
by-the-penalty drawn-away was by-which less of-hospitality and of-friendship
ius officiumque praestaret. Huic utinam aliquando gratiam
the-right and-duty he-should-fulfill To-him would-that sometime thanks
referre possimus! habebimus quidem semper.
to-return we-may-be-able we-shall-feel indeed always

3 Brundisio profecti sumus a. d. ii K. Mai.;
From-Brundisium set-out we-have on-the day second before-the-Kalends of-May
per Macedoniam Cyzicum petebamus. O me perditum,
through Macedonia Cyzicus we-were-making-for O me ruined
o adflictum! Quid nunc rogem te ut venias, mulierem
O crushed What now should-I-ask you that you-come a-woman
aegram et corpore et animo confectam? Non rogem? sine
sick both in-body and in-mind worn-out Not should-I-ask without
te igitur sim? Opinor, sic agam: Si est spes nostri
you then should-I-be I-think so I-will-do If there-is hope of-our
reditus, eam confirmes et rem adiuves; sin, ut ego
return it you-confirm and the-matter help but-if as I

metuo, transactum est, quoquo modo potes ad me fac
fear finished it-is in-whatever way you-can to me see-that
venias. Unum hoc scito: Si te habebo, non mihi videbor
you-come One-thing this know If you I-shall-have not to-myself I-shall-seem
plane perisse. Sed quid Tulliola mea fiet? Iam id vos
wholly to-have-perished But what Tulliola my will-become Now that you
videte; mihi deest consilium. Sed certe, quoquo modo se
see-to to-me is-lacking counsel But certainly in-whatever way itself
res habebit, illius misellae et matrimonio et famae
the-matter will-have of-her poor-little both marriage and reputation
serviendum est. Quid? Cicero meus quid aget? Iste vero
to-be-served is What Cicero my what will-he-do He indeed
sit in sinu semper et complexu meo. Non queo plura
may-he-be in the-bosom always and embrace my Not I-can more
iam scribere; impedit maeror. Tu quid egeris nescio;
now to-write binders grief You what you-have-done I-know-not
utrum aliquid teneas an, quod metuo, plane sis spoliata.
whether anything you-hold or what I-fear wholly you-are robbed
Pisonem, ut scribis, spero fore semper nostrum. De 4
That-Piso as you-write I-hope going-to-be always ours About
familia liberata nihil est quod te moveat. Primum
the-household freed nothing is which you should-disturb First
tuis ita promissum est, te facturam esse, ut quisque
to-your-people so promised it-was that-you going-to-do to-be as each
esset meritus; est autem in officio adhuc Orpheus, praeterea
had deserved is however in duty so-far Orpheus besides
magno opere nemo; ceterorum servorum ea causa est ut,
in-great measure none of-the-other slaves that condition is that
si res a nobis abisset, liberti nostri essent, si
if the-property from us had-gone-away freedmen our they-would-be if

obtinere potuissent; sin ad nos pertinerent, servirent
to-make-it-good they-could but-if to us they-belonged they-would-be-slaves
praeterquam oppido pauci. Sed haec minora sunt.
except very few But these-things lesser are
5 Tu quod me hortaris ut animo sim magno et spem
You as-for-that me you-urge that of-mind I-be great and hope
habeam reciperandae salutis, id velim sit eius modi ut
I-have of-recovering restoration that I-would-wish be of-such kind that
recte sperare possimus. Nunc miser quando tuas iam litteras
rightly to-hope we-may-be-able Now wretched when your now letter
accipiam? quis ad me perferet? Quas ego exspectassem
will-I-receive who to me will-carry-it Which I would-have-awaited
Brundisi, si esset licitum per nautas, qui tempestatem
at-Brundisium if it-had-been allowed by the-sailors who the-weather
praetermittere noluerunt. Quod reliquum est, sustenta te,
to-let-pass were-unwilling As-for-what remaining is sustain yourself
mea Terentia, ut potes honestissime. Viximus, floruimus;
my Terentia as you-can most-honorably We-have-lived we-have-flourished
non vitium nostrum sed virtus nostra nos adflixit; peccatum
not vice our but virtue our us has-crushed wrong
est nullum, nisi quod non una animam cum ornamentis
there-is none except that not together life with honors
amisimus. Sed si hoc fuit liberis nostris gratius nos
we-lost But if this was to-children our more-pleasing that-we
vivere, cetera, quamquam ferenda non sunt, feramus. Atque
to-live the-rest although to-be-borne not they-are let-us-bear And
ego, qui te confirmo, ipse me non possum.
I who you strengthen myself me not I-can
6 Clodium Philhetaerum, quod valetudine oculorum
Clodius Philhetaerus because by-health of-the-eyes
impediebatur, hominem fidelem, remisi. Sallustius
he-was-hindered a-man faithful I-have-sent-back Sallustius

officio vincit omnis. Pescennius est perbenevolus nobis;
in-dutifulness surpasses all Pescennius is very-well-disposed to-us
quem semper spero tui fore observantem. Sicca dixerat
who always I-hope of-you going-to-be attentive Sicca had-said
se mecum fore sed Brundisio discessit. Cura, quod
that-he with-me going-to-be but from-Brundisium departed Take-care as-far-as
potes, ut valeas et sic existimes, me vehementius tua
you-can that you-are-well and so think that-I more-vehemently by-your
miseria quam mea commoveri. Mea Terentia, fidissima atque
misery than by-mine to-be-moved My Terentia most-faithful and
optima uxor, et mea carissima filiola et spes reliqua
best wife and my dearest little-daughter and hope remaining
nostra, Cicero, valete. Pr. K. Mai. Brundisio.
our Cicero farewell The-day-before the-Kalends of-May from-Brundisium

XIV.5 · REACHING ATHENS

All are well. After a slow voyage they reached Athens on the day before the Ides of October, and Acastus met them with Terentia's letters, all of which arrived. Friends write that matters at Rome point to war, so that Cicero will not be able to hide his views when he comes. He grieves for Precius, whose legacy he asks Pomponius or Camillus to see to at the auction, and hopes to be in Italy about the Ides of November.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own
Si tu et Tullia, lux nostra, valetis, ego et suavissimus 1
If you and Tullia light our are-well I and the-sweetest
Cicero valemus. Pr. Idus Oct. Athenas venimus,
Cicero are-well The-day-before the-Ides of-October to-Athens we-came
cum sane adversis ventis usi essemus tardeque et
although truly contrary winds used we-had and-slowly and

incommode navigassemus. De nave exeuntibus nobis
inconveniently we-had-sailed From the-ship disembarking us
Acastus cum litteris praesto fuit uno et vicesimo die
Acastus with letters at-hand was on-the-one and twentieth day
sane strenue. Accepi tuas litteras, quibus intellexi te
truly briskly I-received your letter from-which I-understood that-you
vereri ne superiores mihi redditae non essent. Omnes
to-fear lest the-earlier to-me delivered not had-been All
sunt redditae diligentissimeque a te perscripta sunt
have-been delivered and-most-carefully by you written-out have-been
omnia, idque mihi gratissimum fuit. Neque sum admiratus
all-things and-that to-me most-pleasing was Nor have-I wondered
hanc epistulam, quam Acastus attulit, brevem fuisse; iam
this letter which Acastus brought short to-have-been already
enim me ipsum exspectas sive nos ipsos, qui quidem quam
for me myself you-await or us ourselves who indeed as
primum ad vos venire cupimus, etsi in quam rem p.
first to you to-come desire although into what thing public
veniamus intellego. Cognovi enim ex multorum amicorum
we-are-coming I-understand I-have-learned for from of-many friends
litteris, quas attulit Acastus, ad arma rem spectare, ut
the-letters which brought Acastus to arms the-matter to-look so-that
mihi, cum venero, dissimulare non liceat quid
to-me when I-shall-have-come to-conceal not it-may-be-allowed what
sentiam. Sed quoniam subeunda fortuna est, eo citius
I-feel But since to-be-undergone fortune is by-this sooner
dabimus operam ut veniamus, quo facilius de tota re
we-will-give effort that we-may-come so-that more-easily about the-whole matter
deliberemus. Tu velim, quod commodo valetudinis tuae
we-may-deliberate You I-would-wish as-far-as with-convenience of-health your
fiat, quam longissime poteris obviam nobis prodeas.
it-may-be-done as farthest you-will-be-able to-meet us come-forth

De hereditate Preciana (quae quidem mihi magno dolori 2
About the-inheritance Precian which indeed to-me for-great grief
est; valde enim illum amavi) sed hoc velim cures, si
is greatly for him I-loved but this I-would-wish you-take-care if
auctio ante meum adventum fiet, ut Pomponius aut,
the-auction before my arrival will-take-place that Pomponius or
si is minus poterit, Camillus nostrum negotium curet;
if he less will-be-able Camillus our business may-attend-to
nos cum salvi venerimus, reliqua per nos agemus;
we when safe we-shall-have-come the-rest through ourselves will-handle
sin tu iam Roma profecta eris, tamen curabis
but-if you already from-Rome set-out will-have still you-will-take-care
ut hoc ita fiat. Nos, si dii adiuvabunt, circiter Idus
that this so be-done We if the-gods will-help about the-Ides
Nov. in Italia speramus fore. Vos, mea suavissima
of-November in Italy we-hope going-to-be You my sweetest
et optatissima Terentia, si nos amatis, curate ut valeatis.
and most-longed-for Terentia if us you-love take-care that you-are-well
Vale. Athenis a. d. xvii K. Novemb.
Farewell At-Athens on-the day seventeenth before-the-Kalends of-November

XIV.6 · A DEBT TO BE MET

Cicero has little to write and few to carry it. No estate could be sold, and he asks his family to find how the man they know he wants paid may be satisfied. He does not wonder that Tullia thanks her mother, and asks that Pollex be hurried off.

Suis s. d.

To-his-own greeting says

1 Nec saepe est cui litteras demus, nec rem

Neither often is-there-anyone to-whom a-letter we-may-give nor matter

habemus ullam quam scribere velimus. Ex tuis litteris,

do-we-have any which to-write we-may-wish From your letter

quas proxime accepi, cognovi praedium nullum venire

which lately I-received I-learned estate none to-be-sold

potuisse. Qua re videatis velim quo modo

to-have-been-able By-which thing you-see I-would-wish in-what way

satis fiat ei, cui scitis me satis fieri velle.

satisfaction be-made to-him to-whom you-know that-I satisfaction to-be-made to-wish

Quod nostra tibi gratias agit, id ego non miror

As-for-the-fact-that our-girl to-you thanks gives that I not wonder

te mereri ut ea tibi merito tuo gratias agere possit.

that-you to-deserve that she to-you for-merit your thanks to-give may-be-able

Pollicem, si adhuc non est profectus, quam primum fac

Pollex if still not has set-out as first see-that

extrudas. Cura ut valeas. Idib. Quint.

you-push-out Take-care that you-are-well On-the-Ides of-Quintilis

XIV.7 · ABOARD SHIP

Cicero has thrown up the bile that made him ill and anxious, and owes thanks to some god; he writes as he boards a good ship. Terentia and Tullia are braver than any man. He hopes they may live comfortably and he may yet defend the commonwealth with men like himself. Terentia should mind her health, use the villas farthest from the soldiers, and the farm at Arpinum if grain grows dear.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. p.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting very-much

Omnis molestias et sollicitudines, quibus et te miserrimam 1
All vexations and anxieties by-which both you most-wretched
habui, id quod mihi molestissimum est, et Tulliolam, quae
I-held that which to-me most-vexing is and Tulliola who
nobis nostra vita dulcior est, deposui et eieci. Quid
to-us than-our life sweeter is I-have-laid-down and thrown-off What
causae autem fuerit postridie intellexi quam a vobis discessi.
of-cause however there-was the-next-day I-understood than from you I-departed
Χολὴν ἄκρατον noctu eieci; statim ita sum levatus, ut mihi
Bile unmixed by-night I-threw-up at-once so I-was relieved that to-me
deus aliquis medicinam fecisse videatur; cui quidem tu
god some cure to-have-made seems to-whom indeed you
deo, quem ad modum soles, pie et caste satis facies.
god in-what to manner you-are-wont dutifully and purely satisfaction will-make
Navem spero nos valde bonam habere. In eam simul 2
A-ship I-hope that-we very good to-have Onto it as-soon
atque conscendi, haec scripsi. Deinde conscribam ad
as I-went-aboard these-things I-wrote Next I-will-write to
nostros familiaris multas epistulas, quibus te et Tulliolam
our intimates many letters in-which you and Tulliola
nostram diligentissime commendabo. Cohortarer vos quo
our most-carefully I-will-commend I-would-encourage you that
animo fortiores essetis, nisi vos fortiores cognossem quam
in-mind braver you-might-be unless you braver I-had-known than
quemquam virum. Et tamen eius modi spero negotia
any man And still of-such kind I-hope affairs
esse, ut et vos istic commodissime sperem esse et me
to-be that both you there most-comfortably I-may-hope to-be and me
aliquando cum similibus nostri rem p. defensuros.
sometime with men-like us the-thing public going-to-defend

3 Tu primum valetudinem tuam velim cures; deinde,
You first health your I-would-wish you-take-care-of next
si tibi videbitur, villis iis utere, quae longissime aberunt
if to-you it-will-seem villas those use which farthest will-be-away
a militibus. Fundo Arpinati bene poteris uti cum
from the-soldiers The-farm at-Arpinum well you-will-be-able to-use with
familia urbana, si annona carior fuerit. Cicero bellissimus
household city if the-grain-price dearer will-be Cicero most-charming
tibi salutem plurimam dicit. Etiam atque etiam vale. D.
to-you greeting very-much says Again and again farewell Dated
vii. Idus Iun.
seventh before-the-Ides of-June

XIV.8 · A FEVER

Cicero hears that Terentia has fallen into a fever and asks her to care for her health; he thanks her for word of Caesar's letter and asks to be told anything new.

Tullius Terentiae suae s.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting
1 Si vales, bene est, ego valeo. Valetudinem tuam velim
If you-are-well well it-is I am-well Health your I-would-wish
cures diligentissime. Nam mihi et scriptum et
you-take-care-of most-carefully For to-me both written and
nuntiatum est te in febrim subito incidisse. Quod
reported it-has-been that-you into a-fever suddenly to-have-fallen That
celeriter me fecisti de Caesaris litteris certiorem, fecisti
quickly me you-made about of-Caesar the-letter more-certain you-made
mihi gratum. Item posthac, si quid opus erit, si
to-me a-welcome-thing Likewise hereafter if anything need will-be if

quid acciderit novi, facies ut sciam. Cura ut
anything will-have-happened new you-will-see that I-know Take-care that
valeas. Vale. D. iiii Non. Iun.
you-are-well Farewell Dated fourth before-the-Nones of-June

XIV.9 · MORE GRIEF

To his other miseries is added anxiety for Dolabella's and Tullia's health; Cicero knows neither what to plan nor what to do, and asks Terentia to care for her own health and Tullia's.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. p.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting very-much
Ad ceteras meas miserias accessit dolor et de Dolabellae 1
To the-other my miseries has-been-added grief both about of-Dolabella
valetudine et de Tulliae. Omnino de omnibus rebus
the-health and about of-Tullia Altogether about all things
nec quid consili capiam nec quid faciam scio. Tu
neither what of-plan I-should-take nor what I-should-do I-know You
velim tuam et Tulliae valetudinem cures. Vale.
I-would-wish your and of-Tullia health take-care-of Farewell

XIV.10 · ASK POMPONIUS

Cicero wrote to Pomponius, later than he should have, what he wants done; Terentia can learn it from him. He asks her to write soon on that and all else.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own

1 Quid fieri placeret scripsi ad Pomponium serius quam
What to-be-done pleased-me I-wrote to Pomponius later than
oportuit. Cum eo si locuta eris, intelleges quid
it-was-proper With him if spoken you-will-have you-will-understand what
fieri velim; apertius scribi, quoniam ad illum scripseram,
to-be-done I-wish More-openly to-be-written since to him I-had-written
necesse non fuit. De ea re et de ceteris rebus quam
necessary not it-was About that matter and about the-other matters as
primum velim nobis litteras mittas. Valetudinem tuam
first I-would-wish to-us a-letter you-send Health your
cura diligenter. Vale. vii Idus Quintilis.
take-care-of carefully Farewell seventh before-the-Ides of-Quintilis

XIV.11 · TULLIA AT BRUNDISIUM

Tullia came to Cicero on the day before the Ides of June. Her virtue and kindness grieve him the more, since by his neglect her fortune is far below what her devotion and dignity deserved. He means to send young Cicero to Caesar with Sallustius.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own
S. v. b. e. v. Tullia nostra venit ad me pr. 1
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well Tullia our came to me the-day-before
Idus Iun. Cuius summa virtute et singulari humanitate
the-Ides of-June By-whose highest virtue and singular kindness
graviore etiam sum dolore adfectus nostra factum esse
with-heavier even I-have grief been-affected by-our done to-have-been
neglegentia ut longe alia in fortuna esset atque eius pietas
negligence that far other in fortune she-was than her devotion
ac dignitas postulabat. Nobis erat in animo Ciceronem ad
and dignity demanded To-us it-was in mind Cicero to
Caesarem mittere et cum eo Cn. Sallustium. Si profectus
Caesar to-send and with him Gnaeus Sallustius If set-out
erit, faciam te certiorem. Valetudinem tuam cura
he-will-have I-will-make you more-certain Health your take-care-of
diligenter. Vale. xvii K. Quintilis.
carefully Farewell seventeenth before-the-Kalends of-Quintilis

XIV.12 · BACK IN ITALY

Terentia rejoices that Cicero has reached Italy safely; he fears he has taken a course hard to undo. She should not set out, on a long and unsafe road where she could do no good.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. d.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting says
Quod nos in Italiam salvos venisse gaudes, perpetuo 1
That we into Italy safe to-have-come you-rejoice forever
gaudeas velim; sed perturbati dolore animi magnisque
may-you-rejoice I-would-wish but disturbed by-grief of-mind and-great

iniuriis metuo ne id consili ceperimus, quod non facile
wrongs I-fear lest that of-plan we-have-taken which not easily
explicare possimus. Qua re quantum potes adiuva; quid
to-unravel we-can By-which thing as-much-as you-can help what
autem possis mihi in mentem non venit. In viam quod
however you-can to-me into mind not comes On the-road that
te des hoc tempore nihil est. Et longum est
yourself you-give at-this time no-reason there-is Both long is
iter et non tutum, et non video quid prodesse possis,
the-journey and not safe and not I-see what to-be-of-use you-could
si veneris. Vale. D. pr. Non. Nov. Brundisio.
if you-come Farewell Dated the-day-before the-Nones of-November at-Brundisium

XIV.13 · THE NOTICE OF DIVORCE

As for the notice of divorce Cicero mentioned, he does not know the man's power at present or the mob's temper; if his anger is to be feared, Terentia should keep quiet, though trouble may come from him anyway. She must judge, and do what seems least wretched in their wretched state.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own
1 Quod scripsi ad te proximis litteris de nuntio
As-for-what I-wrote to you in-the-last letter about the-notice
remittendo, quae sit istius vis hoc tempore et quae
sending-back what be his power at-this time and what
concitatio multitudinis ignoro. Si metuendus iratus est,
the-excitement of-the-crowd I-do-not-know If to-be-feared angry he-is
quiesces; tamen ab illo fortasse nascetur. Totum
you-will-keep-quiet still from him perhaps it-will-arise The-whole

iudicabis quale sit et, quod in miserrimis rebus minime
you-will-judge of-what-sort it-is and what in most-wretched affairs least
miserum putabis, id facies. Vale. vi Id. Quintilis.
wretched you-will-think that you-will-do Farewell sixth before-the-Ides of-Quintilis

XIV.14 · ROME OR THE COUNTRY

Where they should be is now their decision too. If Caesar comes to Rome with restraint they can stay at home; if he gives the city up to plunder, Cicero fears Dolabella can do little, and that they may be cut off. They should see what women like them do, consult Pomponius and Camillus, and be brave. Labienus has helped the cause, and Piso condemns his son-in-law's crime.

Tullius Terentiae et pater Tulliae, duabus animis suis, et
Tullius to-Terentia and the-father to-Tullia two souls his-own and
Cicero matri optimae, suavissimae sorori s. p. d.
Cicero to-mother the-best to-the-sweetest sister greeting very-much says
Si vos valetis, nos valemus. Vestrum iam consilium est 1
If you are-well we are-well Yours now the-counsel is
non solum meum quid sit vobis faciendum. Si ille Romam
not only mine what be by-you to-be-done If he to-Rome
modeste venturus est, recte in praesentia domi esse potestis;
with-restraint going-to-come is rightly for the-present at-home to-be you-can
sin homo amens diripiendam urbem daturus est, vereor ut
but-if the-man insane to-be-plundered the-city going-to-give is I-fear that-not
Dolabella ipse satis nobis prodesse possit. Etiam illud metuo
Dolabella himself enough to-us to-be-of-use can Also this I-fear
ne iam intercludamur, ut cum velitis exire non liceat.
lest now we-be-cut-off so-that when you-wish to-go-out not it-be-allowed
Reliquum est, quod ipsae optime considerabitis, vestri similes
Remaining is what yourselves best will-consider of-you like

feminae sintne Romae; si enim non sunt, videndum
women whether-they-are at-Rome if for not they-are to-be-seen
est ut honeste vos esse possitis. Quo modo quidem nunc
it-is that honorably you to-be can In-which way indeed now
se res habet, modo ut haec nobis loca tenere liceat,
itself the-matter has provided that these to-us places to-hold it-be-allowed
bellissime vel mecum vel in nostris praediis esse poteritis.
most-charmingly either with-me or on our estates to-be you-will-be-able
Etiam illud verendum est ne brevi tempore fames in urbe sit.
Also this to-be-feared is lest in-short time famine in the-city be
2 His de rebus velim cum Pomponio, cum Camillo, cum
These about matters I-would-wish with Pomponius with Camillus with
quibus vobis videbitur, consideretis, ad summam animo forti
whom to-you it-will-seem you-consider in sum of-mind brave
sitis. Labienus rem meliorem fecit; adiuvat etiam Piso, quod
be Labienus the-cause better has-made helps also Piso because
ab urbe discedit et sceleris condemnat generum suum. Vos,
from the-city he-departs and of-crime condemns son-in-law his You
meae carissimae animae, quam saepissime ad me scribite et
my dearest souls as most-often to me write both
vos quid agatis et quid istic agatur. Quintus pater et filius
you what you-are-doing and what there is-done Quintus father and son
et Rufus vobis s. d. Valete. viii K. Menturnis.
and Rufus to-you greeting say Farewell eighth before-the-Kalends at-Minturnae

Cicero had meant to send young Cicero to meet Caesar, but has changed his mind, hearing nothing of Caesar's coming; Sicca will tell Terentia the rest. Tullia is still with him.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae.

Tullius greeting says to-Terentia

Si vales, bene est. Constitueramus, ut ad te antea 1

If you-are-well well it-is We-had-resolved as to you before

scripseram, obviam Ciceronem Caesari mittere, sed mutavimus

I-had-written to-meet Cicero Caesar to-send but we-have-changed

consilium, quia de illius adventu nihil audiebamus. De

plan because about his arrival nothing we-were-hearing About

ceteris rebus, etsi nihil erat novi, tamen quid velimus et

the-other matters although nothing there-was new still what we-wish and

quid hoc tempore putemus opus esse ex Sicca poteris

what at-this time we-think needful to-be from Sicca you-will-be-able

cognoscere. Tulliam adhuc mecum teneo. Valetudinem tuam

to-learn Tullia still with-me I-keep Health your

cura diligenter. Vale. xii K. Quintilis.

take-care-of carefully Farewell twelfth before-the-Kalends of-Quintilis

Cicero has nothing to write, yet waits for and writes letters. Volumnia should have been more attentive to Terentia and more careful in what she did. Greater things grieve Cicero, as those who drove him from his own judgment wished.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. d.

Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting says

1 S. v. b. e. v. Etsi eius modi tempora

If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well Although of-such kind times

nostra sunt ut nihil habeam quod aut a te litterarum

our are that nothing I-have which either from you of-letters

exspectem aut ipse ad te scribam, tamen nescio quo

I-may-expect or myself to you I-may-write still I-know-not in-what

modo et ipse vestras litteras exspecto et scribo ad vos,

way both myself your letters I-await and I-write to you

cum habeo qui ferat. Volumnia debuit in te

when I-have someone-who may-carry-it Volumnia ought toward you

officiosior esse quam fuit, et id ipsum quod fecit potuit

more-obliging to-be than she-was and that very-thing which she-did she-could

diligentius facere et cautius. Quamquam alia sunt

more-carefully to-do and more-cautiously Although other-things there-are

quae magis curemus magisque doleamus, quae me

which more we-should-care-about and-more grieve-over which me

ita conficiunt, ut ii voluerunt qui me de mea sententia

so wear-out as those wished who me from my opinion

detruserunt. Cura ut valeas. Pr. Non. Ian.

thrust-out Take-care that you-are-well The-day-before the-Nones of-January

XIV.17 · ASK LEPTA AND TREBATIUS

Cicero would write more if he had anything to say; Lepta and Trebatius will tell Terentia how he is.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. d.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting says
S. v. b. e. v. Si quid haberem quod ad 1
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well If anything I-had which to
te scriberem, facerem id et pluribus verbis et saepius.
you I-might-write I-would-do that both in-more words and more-often
Nunc quae sint negotia vides; ego autem quo modo sim
Now what are the-affairs you-see I however in-what way I-am
adfectus ex Lepta et Trebatio poteris cognoscere. Tu
affected from Lepta and Trebatius you-will-be-able to-learn You
fac ut tuam et Tulliae valetudinem cures. Vale.
see that your and of-Tullia health you-take-care-of Farewell

XIV.18 · STAY OR LEAVE

Terentia and Tullia must decide whether to stay at Rome, with Dolabella's protection, or join Cicero in his region of towns and estates; all the good have left Rome with their women. They should see what other women of their rank do, not be cut off, and have Philotimus fortify and guard the house.

Tullius Terentiae suae et pater suavissimae filiae, Cicero
Tullius to-Terentia his-own and the-father to-the-sweetest daughter Cicero
matri et sorori s. d. p.
to-mother and to-sister greeting says very-much

1 Considerandum vobis etiam atque etiam, animae meae,
To-be-considered by-you again and again souls my
diligenter puto quid faciatis, Romaene sitis an mecum an
carefully I-think what you-should-do whether-at-Rome you-be or with-me or
aliquo tuto loco; id non solum meum consilium est sed etiam
in-some safe place that not only my counsel is but also
vestrum. Mihi veniunt in mentem haec, Romae vos
yours To-me come into mind these-things at-Rome that-you
esse tuto posse per Dolabellam, eamque rem posse nobis
to-be safely to-be-able through Dolabella and-that thing to-be-able to-us
adiumento esse, si quae vis aut si quae rapinae fieri
for-help to-be if any violence or if any plunderings to-be-done
coeperint. Sed rursus illud me movet, quod video omnis bonos
will-have-begun But again this me moves that I-see all the-good
abesse Roma et eos mulieres suas secum habere. Haec
to-be-away from-Rome and them women their with-themselves to-have This
autem regio, in qua ego sum, nostrorum est cum oppidorum
however region in which I am of-ours is both of-towns
tum etiam praediorum, ut et multum esse mecum et,
and also of-estates so-that both much to-be with-me and
cum abieritis, commode et in nostris esse possitis.
when you-will-have-left comfortably and on our-places to-be you-could

2 Mihi plane non satis constat adhuc utrum sit melius. Vos
To-me plainly not enough it-is-settled yet which be better You
videte quid aliae faciant isto loco feminae et ne, cum
see what other do of-that rank women and lest when
velitis, exire non liceat. Id velim diligenter etiam
you-wish to-go-out not it-be-allowed That I-would-wish carefully again

atque etiam vobiscum et cum amicis consideretis. Domus
and again with-yourselves and with friends you-consider The-house
ut propugnacula et praesidium habeat Philotimo dicetis;
that bulwarks and a-guard may-have to-Philotimus you-will-say
et velim tabellarios instituatis certos, ut cotidie aliquas
and I-would-wish letter-carriers you-establish regular that daily some
a vobis litteras accipiam; maxime autem date operam
from you letters I-may-receive most however give effort
ut valeatis, si nos vultis valere. viiii K. Formiis.
that you-are-well if us you-wish to-be-well ninth before-the-Kalends at-Formiae

XIV.19 · TULLIA'S HEALTH

Tullia's health torments Cicero. He would have come nearer, as they wish, but much hinders him still; he awaits Pomponius' letter.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. d.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting says
In maximis meis doloribus excruciat me valetudo Tulliae 1
In the-greatest my griefs torments me the-health of-Tullia
nostrae, de qua nihil est quod ad te plura scribam;
our about which nothing is that to you more I-should-write
tibi enim aeque magnae curae esse certo scio. Quod
to-you for equally of-great concern to-be certainly I-know As-for-that
me propius vultis accedere, video ita esse faciendum et
me nearer you-wish to-approach I-see so to-be to-be-done and
iam ante fecissem, sed me multa impediverunt,
already before I-would-have-done-it but me many-things have-hindered
quae ne nunc quidem expedita sunt. Sed a Pomponio
which not now even disentangled are But from Pomponius

exspecto litteras; quas ad me quam primum perferendas
I-await a-letter which to me as first to-be-delivered
cures velim. Da operam ut valeas.
you-take-care I-would-wish Give effort that you-are-well

XIV.20 · THE TUSCULAN BATH

Cicero expects to reach the Tusculan villa on the Nones or the day after; everything should be ready for guests, a tub in the bath, and all that is needed for food and health.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own
1 In Tusculanum nos venturos putamus aut Nonis aut
To the-Tusculan that-we going-to-come we-think either on-the-Nones or
postridie. Ibi ut sint omnia parata (plures enim fortasse
the-day-after There that be all-things ready more for perhaps
nobiscum erunt et, ut arbitror, diutius ibi commorabimur);
with-us will-be and as I-think longer there we-shall-stay
labrum si in balineo non est, ut sit, item cetera
the-tub if in the-bath not there-is that there-be likewise the-other-things
quae sunt ad victum et ad valetudinem necessaria. Vale.
which are for living and for health necessary Farewell
K. Oct. de Venusino.
On-the-Kalends of-October from the-Venusian

XIV.21 · GET WELL

Cicero asks Terentia to get well, to manage what is needed, and to write often.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. d.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting says
S. v. b. e. v. Da operam ut convalescas, 1
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well Give effort that you-get-well
quod opus erit, ut res tempusque postulat, provideas
what need will-be as the-matter and-the-time demands you-provide
atque administres et ad me de omnibus rebus quam
and manage and to me about all things as
saepissime litteras mittas. Vale.
most-often letters you-send Farewell

XIV.22 · WAITING FOR COURIERS

Cicero awaits his couriers daily and will tell Terentia at once what he must do.

Tullius s. d. Terentiae suae.
Tullius greeting says to-Terentia his-own
S. v. b. e. v. Nos cotidie tabellarios nostros 1
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well We daily letter-carriers our
exspectamus. Qui si venerint, fortasse erimus certiores
await Who if they-will-have-come perhaps we-shall-be more-certain
quid nobis faciendum sit, faciemusque te statim certiorem.
what by-us to-be-done is and-we-will-make you at-once more-certain
Valetudinem tuam cura diligenter. Vale. K.
Health your take-care-of carefully Farewell On-the-Kalends
Septemb.
of-September

A generous letter from Caesar has come at last, and he is said to be coming sooner than expected; Cicero will tell Terentia whether he goes to meet him.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. d.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting says

1 S. v. b. e. v. Redditae mihi tandem sunt a
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well Delivered to-me at-last has-been from
Caesare litterae satis liberales, et ipse opinione celerius
Caesar a-letter quite generous and himself than-expectation sooner
venturus esse dicitur. Cui utrum obviam procedam
going-to-come to-be is-said Whom whether to-meet I-should-go-forward
an hic eum exspectem cum constituero, faciam te
or here him I-should-await when I-shall-have-decided I-will-make you
certiorem. Tabellarios mihi velim quam primum
more-certain The-letter-carriers to-me I-would-wish as first
remittas. Valetudinem tuam cura diligenter. Vale. D.
you-send-back Health your take-care-of carefully Farewell Dated
pr. Id. Sext.
the-day-before the-Ides of-Sextilis

Cicero has no certain news of Caesar's coming or of the letter Philotimus is said to have, and will write as soon as he has.

Tullius Terentiae suae s. d.
Tullius to-Terentia his-own greeting says
S. v. b. e. v. Nos neque de Caesaris adventu 1
If you-are-well well it-is I-am-well We neither about of-Caesar the-arrival
neque de litteris, quas Philotimus habere dicitur, quicquam
nor about the-letter which Philotimus to-have is-said anything
adhuc certi habemus. Si quid erit certi, faciam
yet of-certain have If anything will-be of-certain I-will-make
te statim certiorem. Valetudinem tuam fac ut cures.
you at-once more-certain Health your see that you-take-care-of
Vale. iii Idus Sextilis.
Farewell third before-the-Ides of-Sextilis

BOOK XV

XV.1 · THE PARTHIANS CROSS

Cicero writes officially to the senate: envoys of Antiochus of Commagene reported the Parthians crossing the Euphrates, then Tarcondimotus and Iamblichus, chief of the Arabs, confirmed that Pacorus had crossed with great cavalry and camped at Tyba. Cicero led his army toward the Taurus to hearten the allies and warn the enemy. He urges the senate to send a proper army at once: the provincial levy is worthless, the allies are estranged, and only Deiotarus' forces can be counted on; courage he will not lack, and he hopes not counsel either.

M. Tullius M. f. Cicero procos. s. d. cos.,
Marcus Tullius of-Marcus son Cicero proconsul greeting says to-the-consuls
pr., tr. pl., senatui.
praetors tribunes of-the-plebs senate
S. v. v. b. e. e. q. v. Etsi non dubie mihi 1
If you are-well well it-is I also am-well Although not doubtfully to-me
nuntiabatur Parthos transisse Euphratem cum omnibus
it-was-reported the-Parthians to-have-crossed the-Euphrates with all
fere suis copiis, tamen, quod arbitrabar a M. Bibulo procos.
almost their forces still because I-thought by Marcus Bibulus proconsul
certiora de his rebus ad vos scribi posse, statuebam
more-certain-things about these matters to you to-be-written to-be-able I-was-deciding
mihi non necesse esse publice scribere ea quae de
for-me not necessary to-be officially to-write those-things which about
alterius provincia nuntiarentur. Postea vero quam certissimis
another's province were-reported After indeed that by-most-certain
auctoribus, legatis, nuntiis, litteris, sum certior factus,
authorities by-envoys messengers letters I-have more-certain been-made
vel quod tanta res erat vel quod nondum audieramus
either because so-great the-matter was or because not-yet we-had-heard

Bibulum in Syriam venisse vel quia administratio huius
that-Bibulus into Syria to-have-come or because the-conduct of-this
belli mihi cum Bibulo paene est communis, quae ad
war to-me with Bibulus almost is common what-things to
me delata essent scribenda ad vos putavi.
me reported had-been to-be-written to you I-thought

2 Regis Antiochi Commageni legati primi mihi nuntiarunt
Of-King Antiochus of-Commagene the-envoys first to-me reported
Parthorum magnas copias Euphratem transire coepisse. Quo
of-the-Parthians great forces the-Euphrates to-cross to-have-begun Which
nuntio adlato, cum essent non nulli qui ei regi minorem
news brought since there-were not none who to-that king less
fidem habendam putarent, statui exspectandum esse si quid
credit to-be-given thought I-decided to-be-waited to-be if anything
certius adferretur. A. d. xiii K. Oct.,
more-certain should-be-brought On-the day thirteenth before-the-Kalends of-October
cum exercitum in Ciliciam ducerem, in finibus Lycaoniae
when the-army into Cilicia I-was-leading on the-borders of-Lycaonia
et Cappadociae mihi litterae redditae sunt a Tarcondimoto,
and of-Cappadocia to-me a-letter delivered was from Tarcondimotus
qui fidelissimus socius trans Taurum amicissimusque p.
who the-most-faithful ally beyond the-Taurus and-most-friendly to-the-people
R. existimatur, Pacorum Orodi regis Parthorum filium cum
Roman is-thought that-Pacorus of-Orodes king of-the-Parthians son with
permagno equitatu Parthico transisse Euphratem et castra
very-great cavalry Parthian to-have-crossed the-Euphrates and camp
posuisse Tybae, magnumque tumultum esse in provincia
to-have-pitched at-Tyba and-great commotion to-have in the-province
Syria excitatum. Eodem die ab Iamblicho, phylarcho Arabum,
Syria been-roused On-the-same day from Iamblichus phylarch of-the-Arabs

quem homines opinantur bene sentire amicumque esse rei
who men suppose well to-feel and-a-friend to-be to-the-thing
p. nostrae, litterae de isdem rebus mihi redditae sunt.
public our a-letter about the-same matters to-me delivered was
His rebus adlatis, etsi intellegebam socios infirme animatos 3
These matters brought although I-understood the-allies weakly disposed
esse et novarum rerum exspectatione suspensos, sperabam
to-be and of-new things by-expectation in-suspense I-was-hoping
tamen eos, ad quos iam accesseram quique nostram
still those to whom already I-had-come and-who our
mansuetudinem integritatemque perspexerant, amiciores
gentleness and-integrity had-seen-clearly more-friendly
p. R. esse factos, Ciliciam autem firmiorem
to-the-people Roman to-have become Cilicia however firmer
fore, si aequitatis nostrae particeps facta esset. Et
going-to-be if of-fairness our a-sharer made it-had-been Both
ob eam causam et ut opprimerentur ii qui ex
on-account-of that reason and that might-be-crushed those who of
Cilicum gente in armis essent, et ut hostis is qui
of-the-Cilicians the-race in arms were and that the-enemy he who
esset in Syria sciret exercitum p. R. non modo
was in Syria might-know the-army of-the-people Roman not only
non cedere iis nuntiis adlatis sed etiam propius accedere,
not to-yield that news brought but even nearer to-approach
exercitum ad Taurum institui ducere.
the-army to the-Taurus I-resolved to-lead
Sed si quid apud vos auctoritas mea ponderis habet, in 4
But if any with you authority my of-weight has in
iis praesertim rebus, quas vos audistis, ego paene cerno,
those especially matters which you have-heard I almost see
magno opere vos et hortor et moneo ut his provinciis
in-great measure you both I-urge and warn that for-these provinces

serius vos quidem quam decuit, sed aliquando tamen
later you indeed than was-fitting but sometime still
consulatis. Nos quem ad modum instructos et quibus
you-provide Us in-what to manner equipped and by-what
praesidiis munitos ad tanti belli opinionem miseritis non
forces fortified to of-so-great war the-expectation you-have-sent not
estis ignari. Quod ego negotium non stultitia occaecatus
you-are unaware Which I task not by-folly blinded
sed verecundia deterritus non recusavi; neque enim umquam
but by-modesty deterred not I-refused nor for ever
ullum periculum tantum putavi quod subterfugere
any danger so-great I-have-thought which to-evade
mallem quam vestrae auctoritati obtemperare.
I-would-prefer than your authority to-obey
5 Hoc autem tempore res sese sic habet ut, nisi exercitum
At-this however time the-matter itself so has that unless an-army
tantum, quantum ad maximum bellum mittere soletis,
so-great as-great-as to the-greatest war to-send you-are-wont
mature in has provincias miseritis, summum periculum
early into these provinces you-send the-utmost danger
sit ne amittendae sint omnes hae provinciae, quibus
there-is lest to-be-lost be all these provinces by-which
vectigalia p. R. continentur. Quam ob rem
the-revenues of-the-people Roman are-held-together Which on-account-of thing
autem in hoc provinciali dilectu spem habeatis aliquam
however in this provincial levy hope you-should-have any
causa nulla est. Neque multi sunt et diffugiunt qui sunt
reason none is Neither many are-they and they-scatter who are
metu oblato; et quod genus hoc militum sit iudicavit
with-fear presented and what kind this of-soldiers be has-judged
vir fortissimus M. Bibulus in Asia, qui, cum vos
a-man most-brave Marcus Bibulus in Asia who although you

ei permisissetis, dilectum habere noluerit. Nam sociorum
to-him had-permitted a-levy to-hold was-unwilling For of-the-allies
auxilia propter acerbitatem atque iniurias imperi nostri
the-auxiliaries on-account-of the-harshness and wrongs of-rule our
aut ita imbecilla sunt ut non multum nos iuvare possint,
either so weak are that not much us to-help they-can
aut ita alienata a nobis ut neque exspectandum ab iis
or so estranged from us that neither to-be-expected from them
neque committendum iis quicquam esse videatur.
nor to-be-entrusted to-them anything to-be seems
Regis Deiotari et voluntatem et copias, quantaecumque 6
Of-King Deiotarus both the-goodwill and the-forces however-great
sunt, nostras esse duco; Cappadocia est inanis, reliqui
they-are ours to-be I-reckon Cappadocia is empty the-other
reges tyrannique neque opibus satis firmi nec voluntate
kings and-tyrants neither in-resources sufficiently firm nor in-will
sunt. Mihi in hac paucitate militum animus certe non
are To-me in this fewness of-soldiers courage certainly not
deerit, spero ne consilium quidem; quid casurum sit
will-be-lacking I-hope not counsel even What going-to-happen is
incertum est. Utinam saluti nostrae consulere possimus!
uncertain is Would-that for-safety our to-provide we-may-be-able
dignitati certe consulemus.
for-dignity certainly we-shall-provide

Reaching his province, Cicero marched through Cappadocia and camped at Cybistra near the Taurus, to deter Artavasdes of Armenia and keep Deiotarus close. Obeying the senate's commendation, he offered King Ariobarzanes his protection; the next day the king came weeping with his brother to report plots that the hope of that protection had brought to light. Cicero urged him to learn to reign, punish the guilty, and free the rest from fear, and left with the king delivered from present danger, as the senate had foreseen.

M. Tullius M. f. Cicero procos. s. d. cos.,
Marcus Tullius of-Marcus son Cicero proconsul greeting says to-the-consuls
pr., tr. pl., senatui.
praetors tribunes of-the-plebs senate
1 S. v. v. b. e. e. q. v. Cum pr. K. Sext.
If you are-well well it-is I also am-well When the-day-before the-Kalends of-Sextilis
in provinciam venissem neque maturius propter itinerum
into the-province I-had-come nor earlier on-account-of of-journeys
et navigationum difficultatem venire potuissem, maxime
and of-voyages the-difficulty to-come I-had-been-able most
convenire officio meo reique p. conducere putavi
to-befit duty my and-to-the-thing public to-conduce I-thought
parare ea quae ad exercitum quaeque ad rem militarem
to-prepare those-things which for the-army and-which for affairs military
pertinerent. Quae cum essent a me cura magis et diligentia
pertained Which when had-been by me with-care more and diligence
quam facultate et copia constituta, nuntiique et litterae
than with-means and supply arranged and-messengers and letters
de bello a Parthis in provinciam Syriam inlato cotidie
about war by the-Parthians into the-province Syria brought daily
fere adferrentur, iter mihi faciendum per Lycaoniam et
almost were-being-brought a-march by-me to-be-made through Lycaonia and

per Isauros et per Cappadociam arbitratus sum. Erat
through the-Isaurians and through Cappadocia thought I-have There-was
enim magna suspicio Parthos, si ex Syria egredi atque
for great suspicion the-Parthians if from Syria to-go-out and
inrumpere in meam provinciam conarentur, iter eos
to-burst into my province should-try a-march that-they
per Cappadociam, quod ea maxime pateret, esse facturos.
through Cappadocia because it most lay-open to-be going-to-make
Itaque cum exercitu per Cappadociae partem eam quae 2
And-so with the-army through of-Cappadocia part that which
cum Cilicia continens est iter feci castraque ad
with Cilicia adjoining is a-march I-made and-camp at
Cybistra, quod oppidum est ad montem Taurum, locavi, ut
Cybistra which town is at mount Taurus I-placed that
Artuasdes, rex Armenius, quocumque animo esset, sciret
Artavasdes king Armenian with-whatever mind he-was might-know
non procul a suis finibus exercitum p. R. esse,
not far from his borders the-army of-the-people Roman to-be
et Deiotarum, fidelissimum regem atque amicissimum
and Deiotarus the-most-faithful king and most-friendly
rei p. nostrae, maxime coniunctum haberem, cuius
to-the-thing public our most closely-joined I-might-have whose
et consilio et opibus adiuvari posset res p.
both by-counsel and by-resources to-be-helped could the-thing public
Quo cum in loco castra haberem equitatumque in Ciliciam 3
Which when in place camp I-had and-the-cavalry into Cilicia
misissem, ut et meus adventus iis civitatibus, quae
I-had-sent that both my arrival to-those states which
in ea parte essent, nuntiatus firmiores animos omnium
in that part were announced firmer the-minds of-all
faceret et ego mature quid ageretur in Syria scire
might-make and I early what was-being-done in Syria to-know

possem, tempus eius tridui, quod in iis castris morabar,
could the-time of-that three-days which in that camp I-was-staying
in magno officio et necessario mihi ponendum putavi.
in a-great duty and necessary by-me to-be-spent I-thought
4 Cum enim vestra auctoritas intercessisset ut ego regem
Since for your authority had-intervened that I king
Ariobarzanem Eusebem et Philorhomaeum tuerer eiusque
Ariobarzanes Eusebes and Philorhomaeus should-protect and-of-that
regis salutem et incolumitatem regnumque defenderem,
king the-safety and security and-kingdom should-defend
regi regnoque praesidio essem, adiunxissetisque salutem
to-the-king and-kingdom for-a-protection should-be and-you-had-added the-safety
eius regis populo senatuique magnae curae esse, quod
of-that king to-the-people and-senate of-great concern to-be which
nullo umquam de rege decretum esset a nostro ordine,
no ever about king decreed had-been by our order
existimavi me iudicium vestrum ad regem deferre debere
I-thought that-I judgment your to the-king to-convey to-be-bound
eique praesidium meum et fidem et diligentiam
and-to-him protection my and good-faith and diligence
polliceri, ut, quoniam salus ipsius, incolumitas regni
to-promise that since the-safety of-himself the-security of-the-kingdom
mihi commendata esset a vobis, diceret si quid vellet.
to-me commended had-been by you he-should-say if anything he-wished
5 Quae cum essem in consilio meo cum rege locutus,
Which-things when I-had in council my with the-king spoken
initio ille orationis suae vobis maximas, ut debuit,
at-the-beginning he of-speech his to-you the-greatest as he-ought
deinde etiam mihi gratias egit, quod ei permagnum et
then also to-me thanks gave because to-him very-great and
perhonorificum videbatur senatui p. q. R. tantae
very-honorable it-seemed to-the-senate to-the-people and Roman of-such

curae esse salutem suam meque tantam diligentiam adhibere
concern to-be safety his and-that-I such diligence to-apply
ut et mea fides et commendationis vestrae auctoritas
that both my good-faith and of-recommendation your the-authority
perspici posset. Atque ille primo, quod mihi maximae
to-be-seen could And he at-first which to-me of-the-greatest
laetitiae fuit, ita mecum locutus est, ut nullas insidias neque
joy was so with-me spoken has that no plots neither
vitae suae neque regno diceret se aut intellegere
against-life his nor against-kingdom he-said that-he either to-perceive
fieri aut etiam suspicari. Cum ego ei gratulatus essem
to-be-made or even to-suspect When I him congratulated had
idque me gaudere dixissem et tamen adulescentem essem
and-that that-I to-rejoice had-said and still the-young-man had
cohortatus ut recordaretur casum illum interitus paterni et
encouraged that he-should-remember the-fate that of-the-death paternal and
vigilanter se tueretur atque admonitu senatus consuleret
watchfully himself should-protect and at-the-warning of-the-senate should-provide
saluti suae, tum a me discessit in oppidum Cybistra.
for-safety his then from me he-departed into the-town Cybistra
Postero autem die cum Ariarathe, fratre suo, et cum paternis 6
On-the-next however day with Ariarathes brother his and with paternal
amicis maioribus natu ad me in castra venit perturbatusque
friends older by-birth to me into the-camp he-came and-agitated
et flens, cum idem et frater faceret et amici, meam fidem,
and weeping since the-same both brother was-doing and friends my good-faith
vestram commendationem implorare coepit. Cum admirarer
your recommendation to-implore he-began When I-wondered
quid accidisset novi dixit ad se indicia manifestarum
what had-happened new he-said to himself evidence of-manifest
insidiarum esse delata, quae essent ante adventum meum
plots to-have-been brought which had-been before arrival my

occultata, quod ii, qui ea patefacere possent, propter
concealed because those who it to-disclose could on-account-of
metum reticuissent. Eo autem tempore spe mei praesidi
fear had-kept-silent At-that however time by-hope of-my protection
compluris ea quae scirent audacter ad se detulisse;
very-many those-things which they-knew boldly to himself to-have-reported
in iis amantissimum sui, summa pietate praeditum
among them most-loving of-himself with-the-highest devotion endowed
fratrem dicere (ea quae is me quoque audiente dicebat)
his-brother to-say those-things which he me also hearing was-saying
se sollicitatum esse ut regnare vellet; id vivo
that-he solicited to-have-been that to-reign he-should-wish that living
fratre suo accipere non potuisse; se tamen ante illud
brother his to-accept not to-have-been-able he still before that
tempus eam rem numquam in medium propter periculi
time that matter never into the-open on-account-of of-danger
metum protulisse. Quae cum esset locutus, monui regem
fear to-have-brought-forth Which when he-had spoken I-warned the-king
ut omnem diligentiam ad se conservandum adhiberet,
that all diligence to himself preserving he-should-apply
amicosque patris eius atque avi iudicio probatos
and-the-friends of-father his and of-grandfather by-judgment approved
hortatus sum regis sui vitam docti casu acerbissimo
urged I-have of-king their the-life taught by-the-fate most-bitter
patris eius omni cura custodiaque defenderent.
of-father his with-all care and-watchfulness they-should-defend

7 Cum rex a me equitatum cohortisque de exercitu meo
When the-king from me cavalry and-cohorts from army my
postularet, etsi intellegebam vestro senatus consulto non
was-demanding although I-understood by-your of-the-senate decree not
modo posse me id facere sed etiam debere, tamen,
only to-be-able that-I that to-do but also to-be-bound still

cum res p. postularet propter cotidianos ex Syria
since the-thing public demanded on-account-of daily from Syria
nuntios ut quam primum exercitum ad Ciliciae finis
messages that as first the-army to of-Cilicia the-borders
adducerem, cumque mihi rex patefactis iam insidiis non
I-should-bring and-since to-me the-king with-disclosed now plots not
egere exercitu p. R. sed posse se suis
to-need the-army of-the-people Roman but to-be-able himself with-his-own
opibus defendere videretur, illum cohortatus sum ut in
resources to-defend seemed him encouraged I-have that in
sua vita conservanda primum regnare disceret; a quibus
his life preserving first to-reign he-should-learn by whom
perspexisset sibi insidias paratas, in eos uteretur
he-had-seen-clearly for-himself plots prepared against them he-should-use
iure regio; poena adficeret eos quos necesse esset,
the-right kingly with-punishment should-afflict those whom necessary it-was
reliquos metu liberaret; praesidio exercitus mei ad eorum
the-rest from-fear should-free the-protection of-army my for of-those
qui in culpa essent timorem potius quam ad contentionem
who in fault were the-fear rather than for conflict
uteretur; fore autem ut omnes, quoniam senatus
he-should-use going-to-be however that all since of-the-senate
consultum nossent, intellegerent me regi, si opus esset,
the-decree they-knew should-understand that-I to-the-king if need were
ex auctoritate vestra praesidio futurum.
according-to authority your for-a-protection going-to-be
Ita confirmato illo ex eo loco castra movi; iter in Ciliciam 8
So strengthened him from that place camp I-moved a-march into Cilicia
facere institui, cum hac opinione e Cappadocia discederem,
to-make I-resolved since with-this opinion from Cappadocia I-was-departing
ut consilio vestro, casu incredibili ac paene divino
that by-counsel your by-chance incredible and almost divine

regem, quem vos honorificentissime appellassetis nullo
the-king whom you most-honorably had-named with-no-one
postulante quemque meae fidei commendassetis et cuius
demanding and-whom to-my good-faith you-had-commended and whose
salutem magnae vobis curae esse decressetis, meus adventus
safety of-great to-you concern to-be you-had-decreed my arrival
praesentibus insidiis liberarit. Quod ad vos a me scribi non
from-present plots has-freed Which to you by me to-be-written not
alienum putavi, ut intellegeretis ex iis, quae paene
foreign I-thought that you-might-understand from those-things which almost
acciderunt, vos multo ante ne ea acciderent providisse,
happened that-you much before lest they should-happen to-have-provided
eoque vos studiosius feci certiores, quod in rege Ariobarzane
and-by-this you more-zealously I-made more-certain because in king Ariobarzanes
ea mihi signa videor virtutis, ingeni, fidei benevolentiaeque
those to-me signs I-seem of-virtue of-talent of-loyalty and-of-goodwill
erga vos perspexisse, ut non sine causa tantam curam
toward you to-have-seen-clearly that not without cause such care
in eius vos salutem diligentiamque videamini contulisse.
upon his you safety and-diligence may-seem to-have-bestowed

XV.3 · TO CATO, ON THE PARTHIANS

Envoys of Antiochus of Commagene reported that the Parthian king's son, with great Parthian forces and many other peoples, had reached the Euphrates and that the Armenian king was said to be about to attack Cappadocia. Cicero writes to Cato privately, since Antiochus has written to the senate and Bibulus' reports should reach it; he means to hold the allies by gentleness and restraint, and asks Cato to defend him in his absence.

M. Cicero s. d. M. Catoni.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Marcus Cato

Cum ad me legati missi ab Antiocho Commageno venissent 1

When to me envoys sent by Antiochus of-Commagene had-come

in castra ad Iconium a. d. iii K. Sept.

into the-camp at Iconium on-the day third before-the-Kalends of-September

iique mihi nuntiassent regis Parthorum filium, quocum

and-they to-me had-reported of-the-king of-the-Parthians the-son with-whom

esset nupta regis Armeniorum soror, ad Euphratem

was married of-the-king of-the-Armenians the-sister to the-Euphrates

cum maximis Parthorum copiis multarumque praeterea

with the-greatest of-the-Parthians forces and-of-many besides

gentium magna manu venisse Euphratemque iam transire

peoples a-great band to-have-come and-the-Euphrates already to-cross

coepisse dicique Armenium regem in Cappadociam

to-have-begun and-it-to-be-said the-Armenian king into Cappadocia

impetum esse facturum, putavi pro nostra necessitudine

an-attack to-be going-to-make I-thought in-view-of our connection

me hoc ad te scribere oportere.

that-I this to you to-write to-be-proper

Publice propter duas causas nihil scripsi, quod et ipsum 2

Officially on-account-of two reasons nothing I-wrote because both himself

Commagenum legati dicebant ad senatum statim nuntios

the-Commagenian the-envoys were-saying to the-senate at-once messengers

litterasque misisse et existimabam M. Bibulum

and-letters to-have-sent and I-was-thinking that-Marcus Bibulus

procos., qui circiter Idus Sext. ab Epheso in Syriam

proconsul who about the-Ides of-Sextilis from Ephesus into Syria

navibus profectus erat, quod secundos ventos habuisset,

by-ships set-out had because favorable winds he-had-had

iam in provinciam suam pervenisse; cuius litteris omnia

already into province his to-have-arrived whose by-letters all-things

certiora perlatum iri ad senatum putabam. Mihi, ut in
more-certain conveyed going-to-be to the-senate I-thought To-me as in
eius modi re tantoque bello, maximae curae est ut, quae
of-such kind matter and-so-great war of-the-greatest concern it-is that what
copiis et opibus tenere vix possumus, ea mansuetudine
by-forces and resources to-hold scarcely we-can that by-gentleness
et continentia nostra, sociorum fidelitate teneamus. Tu
and self-restraint our of-the-allies by-loyalty we-may-hold You
velim, ut consuesti, nos absentis diligas et defendas.
I-would-wish as you-are-accustomed us absent you-esteem and defend

XV.4 · A THANKSGIVING SOUGHT

Cicero sets out for Cato all he has done: freeing cities from tribute and false debt, gathering the scattered army at Iconium, saving Ariobarzanes from a plot, marching to the Amanus on the Parthian threat, taking Erana, Sepyra, and Commoris by a night attack, and capturing Pindenissum on the fifty-seventh day of the siege. He asks Cato's vote for a thanksgiving: not that he craves praise, but such honor would heal the wound of his exile, and Cato has always praised his consulship. Philosophy itself pleads with him.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. M. Catoni.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Marcus Cato
1 Summa tua auctoritas fecit meumque perpetuum de tua
Highest your authority has-caused and-my perpetual about your
singulari virtute iudicium ut magni mea interesse putarem
singular virtue judgment that greatly to-me to-matter I-thought
et res eas quas gessissem tibi notas esse et non
both the-deeds those which I-had-done to-you known to-be and not
ignorari a te qua aequitate et continentia tuerer
to-be-unknown by you with-what fairness and self-restraint I-protected

socios provinciamque administrarem. Iis enim a te cognitis
the-allies and-the-province administered These for by you known
arbitrabar facilius me tibi quae vellem probaturum.
I-thought more-easily that-I to-you what I-wished going-to-commend
Cum in provinciam pr. K. Sext. venissem et 2
When into the-province the-day-before the-Kalends of-Sextilis I-had-come and
propter anni tempus ad exercitum mihi confestim esse
on-account-of of-the-year the-season to the-army by-me at-once to-be
eundum viderem, biduum Laudiceae fui, deinde Apameae
to-be-gone I-saw two-days at-Laodicea I-was then at-Apamea
quadriduum, triduum Synnadis, totidem dies Philomeli.
four-days three-days at-Synnada as-many days at-Philomelium
Quibus in oppidis cum magni conventus fuissent, multas
Which in towns since great assemblies there-had-been many
civitates acerbissimis tributis et gravissimis usuris et falso
states from-most-bitter tributes and most-grievous interest and false
aere alieno liberavi. Cumque ante adventum meum seditione
money borrowed I-freed And-since before arrival my by-mutiny
quadam exercitus esset dissipatus, quinque cohortes sine
a-certain the-army had-been scattered five cohorts without
legato, sine tribuno militum, denique etiam sine centurione
legate without tribune of-soldiers finally even without centurion
ullo apud Philomelium consedissent, reliquus exercitus esset
any at Philomelium had-settled the-remaining army was
in Lycaonia, M. Anneio legato imperavi ut eas quinque
in Lycaonia to-Marcus Anneius the-legate I-ordered that those five
cohortis ad reliquum exercitum duceret coactoque in unum
cohorts to the-remaining army he-should-lead and-gathered into one
locum exercitu castra in Lycaonia apud Iconium faceret.
place the-army camp in Lycaonia at Iconium he-should-make

3 Quod cum ab illo diligenter esset factum, ego in
Which when by him carefully had-been done I into
castra a. d. vii K. Sept. veni, cum
the-camp on-the day seventh before-the-Kalends of-September came while
interea superioribus diebus ex. s. c. et
meanwhile on-the-earlier days according-to of-the-senate decree both
evocatorum firmam manum et equitatum sane idoneum et
of-reservists a-firm band and cavalry quite fit and
populorum liberorum regumque sociorum auxilia voluntaria
of-peoples free and-of-kings allied auxiliaries voluntary
comparavissem. Interim cum exercitu lustrato iter in
I-had-raised Meanwhile when with-the-army purified a-march into
Ciliciam facere coepissem, iii K. Sept. legati a
Cilicia to-make I-had-begun third before-the-Kalends of-September envoys from
rege Commageno ad me missi pertumultuose neque tamen
the-king Commagenian to me sent very-excitedly nor still
non vere Parthos in Syriam transisse nuntiaverunt;
not truly that-the-Parthians into Syria to-have-crossed reported
4 quo audito vehementer sum commotus cum de Syria
which heard vehemently I-was disturbed both about Syria
tum de mea provincia, de reliqua denique Asia. Itaque
and about my province about the-rest-of finally Asia And-so
exercitum mihi ducendum per Cappadociae regionem eam
the-army by-me to-be-led through of-Cappadocia region that
quae Ciliciam attingeret putavi. Nam si me in Ciliciam
which Cilicia touched I-thought For if myself into Cilicia
demisissem, Ciliciam quidem ipsam propter montis Amani
I-had-let-down Cilicia indeed itself on-account-of of-mount Amanus
naturam facile tenuissem (duo sunt enim aditus in
the-nature easily I-would-have-held two are for approaches into
Ciliciam ex Syria, quorum uterque parvis praesidiis propter
Cilicia from Syria of-which each by-small garrisons on-account-of

angustias intercludi potest, nec est quicquam Cilicia contra
the-narrows to-be-shut-off can nor is anything than-Cilicia against
Syriam munitius), sed me Cappadocia movebat, quae patet
Syria more-fortified but me Cappadocia was-troubling which lies-open
a Syria regesque habet finitimos, qui etiam si sunt clam
from Syria and-kings has neighboring who even if they-are secretly
amici nobis, tamen aperte Parthis inimici esse non audent.
friends to-us still openly to-the-Parthians hostile to-be not dare
Itaque in Cappadocia extrema non longe a Tauro apud
And-so in Cappadocia farthest not far from the-Taurus at
oppidum Cybistra castra feci, ut et Ciliciam tuerer et
the-town Cybistra camp I-made that both Cilicia I-might-protect and
Cappadociam tenens nova finitimorum consilia impedirem.
Cappadocia holding the-new of-the-neighbors plans I-might-hinder
Interea in hoc tanto motu tantaque exspectatione maximi 5
Meanwhile in this so-great commotion and-so-great expectation of-the-greatest
belli rex Deiotarus, cui non sine causa plurimum semper
war king Deiotarus to-whom not without cause the-most always
et meo et tuo et senatus iudicio tributum est, vir
both by-my and by-your and of-the-senate judgment granted has-been a-man
cum benevolentia et fide erga populum R. singulari
both of-goodwill and loyalty toward the-people Roman singular
tum praestanti magnitudine et animi et consili, legatos
and of-outstanding greatness both of-mind and of-counsel envoys
ad me misit se cum omnibus suis copiis in mea castra
to me sent that-he with all his forces into my camp
esse venturum. Cuius ego studio officioque commotus egi
to-be going-to-come Whose I by-zeal and-by-service moved I-gave
ei per litteras gratias idque ut maturaret hortatus sum.
to-him by letter thanks and-that that he-should-hasten urged I-have

6 Cum autem ad Cybistra propter rationem belli quinque
When however at Cybistra on-account-of the-plan of-the-war five
dies essem moratus, regem Ariobarzanem, cuius salutem
days I-had stayed king Ariobarzanes whose safety
a senatu te auctore commendatam habebam, praesentibus
by the-senate you proposing commended I-had from-present
insidiis nec opinantem liberavi neque solum ei saluti fui
plots not expecting I-freed nor only to-him for-safety I-was
sed etiam curavi ut cum auctoritate regnaret. Metram
but also I-took-care that with authority he-might-reign Metras
et eum quem tu mihi diligenter commendaras, Athenaeum,
and him whom you to-me carefully had-commended Athenaeus
importunitate Athenaidis exsilio multatos in maxima apud
by-the-ruthlessness of-Athenais with-exile punished in the-greatest with
regem auctoritate gratiaque constitui, cumque magnum
the-king authority and-favor I-established and-when a-great
bellum in Cappadocia concitaretur, si sacerdos armis se,
war in Cappadocia was-being-stirred if the-priest with-arms himself
quod facturus putabatur, defenderet, adulescens et equitatu
which going-to-do he-was-thought should-defend a-young-man both with-cavalry
et peditatu et pecunia paratus et toto iis, qui novari
and infantry and money equipped and with-all those who to-be-changed
aliquid volebant, perfeci ut e regno ille discederet
something wished I-brought-about that from the-kingdom he should-depart
rexque sine tumultu ac sine armis omni auctoritate
and-the-king without uproar and without arms with-all authority
aulae communita regnum cum dignitate obtineret.
of-the-court secured the-kingdom with dignity should-hold

7 Interea cognovi multorum litteris atque nuntiis magnas
Meanwhile I-learned of-many by-letters and messages great
Parthorum copias et Arabum ad oppidum Antiocheam
of-the-Parthians forces and of-the-Arabs to the-town Antioch

accessisse magnumque eorum equitatum, qui in Ciliciam
to-have-approached and-great their cavalry which into Cilicia
transisset, ab equitum meorum turmis et a cohorte
had-crossed by of-horsemen my squadrons and by the-cohort
praetoria, quae erat Epiphaneae praesidi causa, occidione
praetorian which was at-Epiphanea of-garrison for-the-sake by-slaughter
occisum. Qua re cum viderem a Cappadocia Parthorum
slain By-which thing when I-saw from Cappadocia of-the-Parthians
copias aversas non longe a finibus esse Ciliciae, quam
the-forces turned-away not far from the-borders to-be of-Cilicia as
potui maximis itineribus ad Amanum exercitum duxi. Quo
I-could by-greatest marches to the-Amanus the-army I-led Where
ut veni, hostem ab Antiochea recessisse, Bibulum
when I-came the-enemy from Antioch to-have-withdrawn Bibulus
Antiocheae esse cognovi. Deiotarum confestim iam ad me
at-Antioch to-be I-learned Deiotarus at-once already to me
venientem cum magno et firmo equitatu et peditatu et cum
coming with great and firm cavalry and infantry and with
omnibus suis copiis certiorem feci non videri esse causam
all his forces more-certain I-made not to-seem to-be reason
cur abesset a regno meque ad eum, si quid novi
why be-should-be-away from the-kingdom and-that-I to him if anything new
forte accidisset, statim litteras nuntiosque missurum esse.
by-chance had-happened at-once letters and-messengers going-to-send to-be
Cumque eo animo venissem ut utrique provinciae, si 8
And-since with-that mind I-had-come that to-each province if
ita tempus ferret, subvenirem, tum id, quod iam
so the-time should-bring I-might-come-to-help then that which already
ante statueram vehementer interesse utriusque provinciae,
before I-had-decided vehemently to-matter of-each province
pacare Amanum et perpetuum hostem ex eo monte
to-pacify the-Amanus and the-perpetual enemy from that mountain

tollere, agere perrexi. Cumque me discedere ab eo monte
to-remove to-do I-proceeded And-when that-I to-depart from that mountain
simulassem et alias partis Ciliciae petere abessemque ab
I-had-feigned and other parts of-Cilicia to-seek and-I-was-away from
Amano iter unius diei et castra apud Epiphaneam
the-Amanus a-march of-one day and camp at Epiphanea
fecissem, a. d. iiii Id. Oct., cum advesperasceret,
had-made on-the day fourth before-the-Ides of-October when it-was-growing-dark
expedito exercitu ita noctu iter feci, ut a. d.
with-unencumbered army so by-night a-march I-made that on-the day
iii Id. Oct., cum lucisceret, in Amanum
third before-the-Ides of-October when it-was-growing-light into the-Amanus
ascenderem distributisque cohortibus et auxiliis, cum
I-ascended and-distributed the-cohorts and auxiliaries when
aliis Quintus frater legatus mecum simul, aliis C.
over-some Quintus my-brother the-legate with-me together over-others Gaius
Pomptinus legatus, reliquis M. Anneius et L. Tullius
Pomptinus the-legate over-the-rest Marcus Anneius and Lucius Tullius
legati praeessent, plerosque nec opinantis oppressimus, qui
legates were-in-command most not expecting we-overwhelmed who
occisi captique sunt interclusi fuga,
slain and-captured were cut-off from-flight

9 Eranam autem, quae fuit non vici instar sed
Erana however which was not of-a-village the-likeness but
urbis, quod erat Amani caput, itemque Sepyram et
of-a-city because it-was of-the-Amanus the-capital and-likewise Sepyra and
Commorim, acriter et diu repugnantibus Pomptino illam
Commoris fiercely and long resisting Pomptinus that
partem Amani tenente, ex antelucano tempore usque
part of-the-Amanus holding from before-dawn time right
ad horam diei x magna multitudine hostium occisa
to the-hour of-the-day tenth great a-multitude of-enemies slain

cepimus castellaque vi capta complura incendimus. His
we-took and-forts by-force taken very-many we-burned These
rebus ita gestis castra in radicibus Amani habuimus
things so done camp at the-roots of-the-Amanus we-held
apud Aras Alexandri quadriduum et in reliquiis Amani
at the-Altars of-Alexander four-days and in remnants of-the-Amanus
delendis agrisque vastandis, quae pars eius montis meae
destroying and-fields laying-waste which part of-that mountain of-my
provinciae est, id tempus omne consumpsimus.
province is that time all we-spent
Confectis his rebus ad oppidum Eleutherocilicum Pindenissum 10
Finished these things to the-town of-the-Free-Cilicians Pindenissum
exercitum adduxi. Quod cum esset altissimo et munitissimo
the-army I-led Which since it-was on-a-very-high and most-fortified
loco ab iisque incoleretur qui ne regibus quidem umquam
place by and-those was-inhabited who not to-kings even ever
paruissent, cum et fugitivos reciperent et Parthorum
had-submitted since both fugitives they-were-receiving and of-the-Parthians
adventum acerrime exspectarent, ad existimationem imperi
the-arrival most-keenly were-awaiting to the-reputation of-the-empire
pertinere arbitratus sum comprimere eorum audaciam, quo
to-pertain thought I-have to-check their boldness that
facilius etiam ceterorum animi, qui alieni essent ab imperio
more-easily also of-the-rest the-spirits who estranged were from rule
nostro, frangerentur. Vallo et fossa circumdedi, sex
our might-be-broken With-a-rampart and ditch I-surrounded-it with-six
castellis castrisque maximis saepsi, aggere, viniis, turribus
forts and-camps very-large I-hedged-it with-a-mound with-sheds with-towers
oppugnavi ususque tormentis multis, multis sagittariis
I-assaulted-it and-having-used engines many many archers
magno labore meo sine ulla molestia sumptuve sociorum
with-great labor my without any trouble or-expense of-the-allies

septimo quinquagesimo die rem confeci, ut omnibus
on-the-seventh fiftieth day the-matter I-completed so-that all
partibus urbis disturbatis aut incensis compulsi in potestatem
parts of-the-city demolished or burned compelled into power
meam pervenirent. His erant finitimi pari scelere et audacia
my they-came To-these were neighbors of-equal wickedness and boldness
Tebarani. Ab iis Pindenisso capto obsides accepi; exercitum
the-Tebarani From them Pindenissum taken hostages I-received the-army
in hiberna dimisi; Quintum fratrem negotio praeposui
into winter-quarters I-dismissed Quintus my-brother over-the-business I-set
ut in vicis aut captis aut male pacatis exercitus conlocaretur.
that in villages either captured or badly pacified the-army should-be-stationed
11 Nunc velim sic tibi persuadeas, si de iis rebus ad
Now I-would-wish so yourself you-persuade if about those things to
senatum relatum sit, me existimaturum summam mihi laudem
the-senate referred it-be that-I going-to-think the-highest to-me praise
tributam, si tu honorem meum sententia tua comprobaris,
granted if you honor my by-vote your you-will-have-approved
idque, etsi talibus de rebus gravissimos homines et rogare
and-that although such about matters the-weightiest men both to-ask
solere et rogari scio, tamen admonendum potius te a
to-be-wont and to-be-asked I-know still to-be-reminded rather you by
me quam rogandum puto. Tu es enim is qui me tuis
me than to-be-asked I-think You are for he who me with-your
sententiis saepissime ornasti, qui oratione, qui praedicatione,
votes most-often have-honored who by-speech who by-proclamation
qui summis laudibus in senatu, in contionibus ad caelum
who with-the-highest praises in the-senate in assemblies to heaven
extulisti; cuius ego semper tanta esse verborum pondera
have-raised of-whom I always so-great to-be of-words the-weights
putavi, ut uno verbo tuo cum mea laude coniuncto
have-thought that with-one word your with my praise joined

omnia adsequi me arbitrarer; te denique memini, cum
all-things to-attain that-I I-thought you finally I-remember when
cuidam clarissimo atque optimo viro supplicationem non
to-a-certain most-illustrious and excellent man a-thanksgiving not
decerneres, dicere te decreturum, si referretur ob
you-were-voting to-say that-you going-to-vote if it-were-moved on-account-of
eas res quas is consul in urbe gessisset; tu idem mihi
those deeds which he as-consul in the-city had-done you the-same to-me
supplicationem decrevisti togato non ut multis re
a-thanksgiving voted in-civilian-dress not as to-many for-the-thing
p. bene gesta sed ut nemini re p. conservata.
public well managed but as to-no-one for-the-thing public preserved
Mitto quod invidiam, quod pericula, quod omnis meas 12
I-pass-over that ill-will that dangers that all my
tempestates et subieris et multo etiam magis, si per
storms both you-underwent and much even more if through
me licuisset, subire paratissimus fueris, quod denique
me it-had-been-allowed to-undergo most-ready you-were that finally
inimicum meum tuum inimicum putaris, cuius etiam
enemy my your enemy you-counted whose even
interitum, cum facile intellegerem mihi quantum tribueres,
death when easily I-understood to-me how-much you-granted
Milonis causa in senatu defendenda approbaris. A me autem
of-Milo the-cause in the-senate defending you-approved By me however
haec sunt profecta, quae non ego in benefici loco pono
these-things have proceeded which not I in of-kindness place put
sed in veri testimoni atque iudici, ut praestantissimas tuas
but in of-true testimony and judgment that most-outstanding your
virtutes non tacitus admirarer (quis enim id non facit?), sed
virtues not silent I-admired who for that not does but
in omnibus orationibus, sententiis dicendis, causis agendis,
in all speeches votes stating cases pleading

omnibus scriptis Graecis, Latinis, omni denique varietate
all writings Greek Latin all finally variety
litterarum mearum te non modo iis quos vidissemus
of-writings my you not only to-those whom we-had-seen
sed iis de quibus audissemus omnibus anteferrem.
but to-those about whom we-had-heard to-all I-preferred
13 Quaeres fortasse quid sit quod ego hoc nescio quid
You-will-ask perhaps what it-is that I this I-know-not what
gratulationis et honoris a senatu tanti aestimem. Agam
of-congratulation and of-honor from the-senate so-highly I-value I-will-deal
iam tecum familiariter, ut est et studiis et officiis nostris
now with-you intimately as is both by-pursuits and services our
mutuis et summa amicitia dignum et necessitudine etiam
mutual and the-highest friendship worthy and connection even
paterna. Si quisquam fuit umquam remotus et natura et
paternal If anyone was ever removed both by-nature and
magis etiam, ut mihi quidem sentire videor, ratione atque
more even as to-myself indeed to-feel I-seem by-reason and
doctrina ab inani laude et sermonibus vulgi, ego profecto
learning from empty praise and the-talk of-the-crowd I surely
is sum. Testis est consulatus meus, in quo sicut in reliqua vita
be am Witness is consulship my in which as in the-rest-of life
fateor ea me studiose secutum ex quibus vera gloria
I-confess those-things that-I zealously followed from which true glory
nasci posset, ipsam quidem gloriam per se numquam putavi
to-be-born could itself indeed glory for itself never I-thought
expetendam. Itaque et provinciam ornatam et spem non
to-be-sought And-so both a-province equipped and hope not
dubiam triumphi neglexi, sacerdotium denique, cum, quem
doubtful of-a-triumph I-disregarded a-priesthood finally although in-what
ad modum te existimare arbitror, non difficillime consequi
to manner that-you to-think I-believe not most-difficultly to-attain

possem, non appetivi; idem post iniuriam acceptam, quam tu
I-could not I-sought the-same after the-wrong received which you
rei p. calamitatem semper appellas, meam non modo
of-the-thing public the-calamity always call mine not only
non calamitatem sed etiam gloriam, studui quam ornatissima
not calamity but even glory I-strove as most-honorable
senatus populique R. de me iudicia intercedere. Itaque
of-the-senate and-of-the-people Roman about me judgments to-intervene And-so
et augur postea fieri volui, quod antea neglexeram,
both augur afterward to-be-made I-wished which before I-had-disregarded
et eum honorem, qui a senatu tribui rebus bellicis
and that honor which by the-senate to-be-granted for-deeds of-war
solet, neglectum a me olim nunc mihi expetendum puto.
is-wont disregarded by me formerly now by-me to-be-sought I-think
Huic meae voluntati, in qua inest aliqua vis desideri 14
This my wish in which is-present some force of-longing
ad sanandum vulnus iniuriae, ut faveas adiutorque sis,
for healing the-wound of-wrong that you-favor and-helper you-be
quod paulo ante me negaram rogaturum, vehementer te
which a-little before that-I had-denied going-to-ask vehemently you
rogo, sed ita, si non ieiunum hoc nescio quid, quod ego
I-ask but so if not meager this I-know-not what which I
gessi, et contemnendum videbitur sed tale atque tantum,
did and contemptible will-seem but such and so-great
ut multi nequaquam paribus rebus honores summos a
that many by-no-means for-equal deeds honors the-highest from
senatu consecuti sint. Equidem etiam illud mihi animum
the-senate obtained have For-my-part also this to-me the-mind
advertisse videor (scis enim quam attente te audire
to-have-turned I-seem you-know for how attentively you to-hear
soleam), te non tam res gestas quam mores instituta
I-am-wont that-you not so-much deeds done as the-ways practices

atque vitam imperatorum spectare solere in habendis aut
and life of-commanders to-regard to-be-wont in granting or
non habendis honoribus. Quod si in mea causa considerabis,
not granting honors But if in my case you-will-consider
reperies me exercitu imbecillo contra metum maximi
you-will-find that-I with-an-army weak against the-fear of-the-greatest
belli firmissimum praesidium habuisse aequitatem et
war the-firmest protection to-have-had fairness and
continentiam. His ego subsidiis ea sum consecutus,
self-restraint By-these I aids those-things have attained
quae nullis legionibus consequi potuissem, ut ex alienissimis
which by-no legions to-attain I-had-been-able that from most-estranged
sociis amicissimos, ex infidelissimis firmissimos redderem
allies most-friendly from most-faithless most-steadfast I-should-render
animosque novarum rerum exspectatione suspensos ad
and-minds of-new things by-expectation in-suspense to
veteris imperi benevolentiam traducerem.
of-the-old rule goodwill I-should-bring-over
15 Sed nimis haec multa de me, praesertim ad te, a quo uno
But too these many-things about me especially to you by whom alone
omnium sociorum querelae audiuntur. Cognosces ex iis, qui
of-all the-allies complaints are-heard You-will-learn from those who
meis institutis se recreatos putant; cumque omnes uno
by-my measures themselves revived think and-when all with-one
prope consensu de me apud te ea quae mihi optatissima
almost consent about me with you those-things which to-me most-desired
sunt praedicabunt, tum duae maxime clientelae tuae, Cyprus
are will-proclaim then two especially clienteles your Cyprus
insula et Cappadociae regnum, tecum de me loquentur, puto
the-island and of-Cappadocia the-kingdom with-you about me will-speak I-think
etiam regem Deiotarum, qui uni tibi est maxime necessarius.
also king Deiotarus who alone to-you is most closely-connected

Quae si etiam maiora sunt et in omnibus saeculis pauciores
Which if even greater are and in all ages fewer
viri reperti sunt qui suas cupiditates quam qui hostium
men found have-been who their desires than who of-enemies
copias vincerent, est profecto tuum, cum ad res bellicas haec
the-forces conquered it-is surely yours when to deeds of-war these
quae rariora et difficiliora sunt genera virtutis adiunxeris,
which rarer and more-difficult are kinds of-virtue you-will-have-added
ipsas etiam illas res gestas iustiores esse et maiores putare.
themselves even those deeds done more-just to-be and greater to-think
Extremum illud est, ut quasi diffidens rogationi meae 16
Last this is that as-if distrusting request my
philosophiam ad te adlegem, qua nec mihi carior ulla
philosophy to you I-send-as-envoy than-which neither to-me dearer any
umquam res in vita fuit nec hominum generi maius a
ever thing in life has-been nor of-men to-the-race greater by
deis munus ullum est datum. Haec igitur, quae mihi tecum
the-gods gift any has-been given This therefore which to-me with-you
communis est, societas studiorum atque artium nostrarum,
common is the-partnership of-pursuits and arts our
quibus a pueritia dediti ac devincti soli prope modum
to-which from boyhood devoted and bound alone almost in-measure
nos philosophiam veram illam et antiquam, quae quibusdam
we philosophy true that and ancient which to-certain-people
oti esse ac desidiae videtur, in forum atque in rem p.
of-leisure to-be and of-idleness seems into the-forum and into the-thing public
atque in ipsam aciem paene deduximus, tecum agit de
and into the-very battle-line almost have-brought-down with-you pleads about
mea laude; cui negari a Catone fas esse non puto. Quam
my praise to-which to-be-refused by Cato right to-be not I-think Which
ob rem tibi sic persuadeas velim, si mihi tua
on-account-of thing yourself so you-persuade I-would-wish if to-me by-your

sententia tributus honos ex meis litteris fuerit,
vote granted honor in-consequence-of my letter will-have-been
me sic existimaturum, cum auctoritate tua tum benevolentia
that-I so going-to-think both by-authority your and by-goodwill
erga me mihi quod maxime cupierim contigisse.
toward me to-me what most I-may-have-desired to-have-fallen-to

XV.5 · CATO'S REPLY

Cato gladly praised in the senate, by vote and decree, Cicero's integrity and diligence in saving the province and Ariobarzanes' kingdom by gentleness, not force. If Cicero prefers a thanksgiving to the gods to praise of himself, Cato is glad, though a triumph does not always follow, and it is more glorious that the senate judged the province kept by its commander's integrity. He wrote at length to show he did what he thought most honorable for Cicero.

M. Cato s. d. M. Ciceroni imp.
Marcus Cato greeting says to-Marcus Cicero imperator
1 Quod et res p. me et nostra amicitia hortatur, libenter
What both the-thing public me and our friendship urges gladly
facio ut tuam virtutem, innocentiam, diligentiam cognitam
I-do that your courage integrity diligence known
in maximis rebus domi togati, armati foris pari
in the-greatest affairs at-home in-the-toga in-arms abroad with-equal
industria administrare gaudeam. Itaque, quod pro
industry to-administer I-rejoice And-so what in-accordance-with
meo iudicio facere potui, ut innocentia consilioque tuo
my judgment to-do I-could that by-integrity and-counsel your
defensam provinciam, servatum Ariobarzanis cum ipso rege
defended the-province preserved of-Ariobarzanes with himself the-king

regnum, sociorum revocatam ad studium imperi nostri
the-kingdom of-the-allies recalled to devotion of-rule our
voluntatem sententia mea et decreto laudarem, feci.
the-goodwill by-vote my and decree I-should-praise I-have-done
Supplicationem decretam, si tu, qua in re nihil fortuito 2
The-thanksgiving decreed if you which in matter nothing by-chance
sed summa tua ratione et continentia rei p. provisum
but by-highest your reason and self-restraint for-the-thing public provided
est, dis immortalibus gratulari nos quam tibi referre
has-been to-the-gods immortal to-give-thanks us than to-you to-ascribe
acceptum mavis, gaudeo; quod si triumphi praerogativam
as-received you-prefer I-rejoice but if of-a-triumph the-forerunner
putas supplicationem et idcirco casum potius quam
you-think the-thanksgiving and for-this-reason chance rather than
te laudari mavis, neque supplicationem sequitur semper
you to-be-praised you-prefer neither the-thanksgiving follows always
triumphus, et triumpho multo clarius est senatum iudicare
a-triumph and than-a-triumph much more-glorious is the-senate to-judge
potius mansuetudine et innocentia imperatoris provinciam
rather by-the-gentleness and integrity of-the-commander the-province
quam vi militum aut benignitate deorum retentam atque
than by-force of-soldiers or by-the-kindness of-the-gods held and
conservatam esse; quod ego mea sententia censebam.
preserved to-be which I by-my vote was-proposing
Atque haec ego idcirco ad te contra consuetudinem 3
And these-things I for-this-reason to you against custom
meam pluribus scripsi ut, quod maxime volo, existimes
my at-more-length have-written that what most I-wish you-think
me laborare ut tibi persuadeam me et voluisse de
that-I to-labor that you I-may-persuade that-I both to-have-wished about
tua maiestate quod amplissimum sim arbitratus et quod
your dignity what most-ample I-have thought and what

tu maluisti factum esse gaudere. Vale et nos dilige
you preferred done to-have-been to-rejoice Farewell and us esteem
et instituto itinere severitatem diligentiamque sociis et
and on-the-begun course strictness and-diligence to-the-allies and
rei p. praesta.
to-the-thing public show

XV.6 · PRAISED BY THE PRAISED

Cicero is glad, as Naevius' Hector says, to be praised by a man praised; no chariot or laurel matches Cato's tribute. He explained his wish before, and hopes the senate will think him worthy; if it grants what he prefers, he trusts Cato will rejoice, as his presence at the drafting of the thanksgiving shows. He hopes to see him soon, and the commonwealth better than he fears.

M. Cicero s. d. M. Catoni.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Marcus Cato

1 'Laetus sum laudari me,' inquit Hector, opinor, apud
Glad I-am to-be-praised me says Hector I-think in
Naevium, 'abs te, pater, a laudato viro.' Ea est enim profecto
Naevius by you father by-a praised man That is for surely
iucunda laus, quae ab iis proficiscitur, qui ipsi in laude
pleasant praise which from those proceeds who themselves in praise
vixerunt. Ego vero vel gratulatione litterarum tuarum vel
have-lived I indeed either by-the-congratulation of-letter your or
testimoniis sententiae dictae nihil est quod me non adsecutum
by-the-testimony of-the-vote spoken nothing is which me not attained
putem, idque mihi cum amplissimum tum gratissimum est,
I-think and-that to-me both most-ample and most-pleasing is
te libenter amicitiae dedisse quod liquido veritati dares.
that-you gladly to-friendship to-have-given what clearly to-truth you-gave

Et, si non modo omnes verum etiam multi Catones essent
And if not only all but even many Catos there-were
in civitate nostra, in qua unum exstitisse mirabile est,
in state our in which one to-have-arisen wonderful is
quem ego currum aut quam lauream cum tua laudatione
what I chariot or what laurel with your praise
conferrem? Nam ad meum sensum et ad illud sincerum
should-compare For to my feeling and to that pure
ac subtile iudicium nihil potest esse laudabilius quam ea
and fine judgment nothing can be more-praiseworthy than that
tua oratio, quae est ad me perscripta a meis necessariis.
your speech which has-been to me written-out by my connections
Sed causam meae voluntatis, non enim dicam 'cupiditatis,' 2
But the-ground of-my wish not for I-will-say of-desire
exposui tibi superioribus litteris; quae etiam si parum iusta
I-set-out to-you in-the-earlier letter which even if too-little just
tibi visa est, hanc tamen habet rationem, non ut nimis
to-you seemed has this still it-has reason not that too-much
concupiscendus honos sed tamen, si deferatur a senatu,
to-be-coveted the-honor but still if it-be-offered by the-senate
minime aspernandus esse videatur. Spero autem illum ordinem
least to-be-spurned to-be may-seem I-hope however that order
pro meis ob rem p. susceptis laboribus me non indignum
for my for the-thing public undertaken labors me not unworthy
honore, usitato praesertim, existimaturum. Quod si ita erit,
of-an-honor customary especially going-to-think But if so it-will-be
tantum ex te peto, quod amicissime scribis, ut, cum tuo
only from you I-ask what most-amicably you-write that when by-your
iudicio quod amplissimum esse arbitraris mihi tribueris,
judgment what most-ample to-be you-think to-me you-will-have-granted
si id quod maluero acciderit, gaudeas. Sic enim fecisse
if that which I-shall-prefer will-have-happened you-rejoice So for to-have-done

te et sensisse et scripsisse video, resque ipsa declarat
you both to-have-felt and to-have-written I-see and-the-fact itself declares
tibi illum honorem nostrum supplicationis iucundum
to-you that honor our of-the-thanksgiving pleasant
fuisse, quod scribendo adfuisti; haec enim senatus
to-have-been because at-the-writing you-were-present these for of-the-senate
consulta non ignoro ab amicissimis eius, cuius de
decrees not I-am-unaware by the-closest-friends of-him whose about
honore agitur, scribi solere. Ego, ut spero, te propediem
honor it-is-dealt to-be-written to-be-wont I as I-hope you shortly
videbo, atque utinam re p. meliore quam timeo!
will-see and would-that the-thing public better than I-fear

XV.7 · TO MARCELLUS, CONSUL-ELECT

Cicero rejoices that Gaius Marcellus has been made consul; he owes Marcellus' family much, and his mother showed a devotion to his safety beyond what a woman could be asked. He asks Marcellus to love and defend him in his absence.

M. Cicero procos. s. d. C. Marcello cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero proconsul greeting says to-Gaius Marcellus consul elect
1 Maxima sum laetitia adfectus, cum audivi consulem
With-the-greatest I-have joy been-affected when I-heard consul
te factum esse, eumque honorem tibi deos fortunare
you made to-have-been and-that honor for-you the-gods to-bless
volo atque a te pro tua parentisque tui dignitate
I-wish and by you in-accordance-with your and-of-parent your dignity
administrari. Nam cum te semper amavi dilexique, tum mei
to-be-administered For both you always I-have-loved and-esteemed and of-me
amantissimum cognovi in omni varietate rerum mearum, tum
most-loving I-have-found in every vicissitude of-affairs my and

patris tui pluribus beneficiis vel defensus tristibus temporibus
of-father your by-many kindnesses either defended in-sad times
vel ornatus secundis et sum totus vester et esse debeo, cum
or honored in-favorable and I-am wholly yours and to-be I-ought since
praesertim matris tuae, gravissimae atque optimae feminae,
especially of-mother your most-dignified and best woman
maiora erga salutem dignitatemque meam studia quam erant
greater toward safety and-dignity my efforts than were
a muliere postulanda perspexerim. Quapropter a te peto
from a-woman to-be-demanded I-have-seen-clearly Wherefore from you I-ask
in maiorem modum ut me absentem diligas atque defendas.
in greater measure that me absent you-esteem and defend

XV.8 · TO MARCELLUS' FATHER

Cicero congratulates the elder Gaius Marcellus on his son's consulship and the joy he wished for; his whole house has always been devoted to Cicero's safety and honor. He asks him to greet Junia and to defend Cicero in his absence.

M. Cicero procos. s. d. C. Marcello conlegae.
Marcus Cicero proconsul greeting says to-Gaius Marcellus colleague
Marcellum tuum cos. factum teque ea laetitia adfectum 1
That-Marcellus your consul made and-you with-that joy affected
esse, quam maxime optasti, mirandum in modum gaudeo,
to-be which most you-wished wonderful in measure I-rejoice
idque cum ipsius causa, tum quod te omnibus secundissimis
and-that both of-himself for-the-sake and because you of-all most-favorable
rebus dignissimum iudico, cuius erga me singularem
things most-worthy I-judge whose toward me singular
benevolentiam vel in labore meo vel in honore perspexi,
goodwill either in labor my or in honor I-have-seen-clearly

totam denique domum vestram vel salutis vel dignitatis meae
the-whole finally house your either of-safety or of-dignity my
studiosissimam cupidissimamque cognovi. Qua re gratum
most-zealous and-most-desirous I-have-found By-which thing pleasing
mihi feceris, si uxori tuae Iuniae, gravissimae atque
to-me you-will-have-done if to-wife your Junia most-dignified and
optimae feminae, meis verbis eris gratulatus. A te, id
best woman in-my words you-will-have congratulated From you that
quod consuesti, peto me absentem diligas atque defendas.
which you-are-accustomed I-ask me absent you-esteem and defend

XV.9 · TO MARCUS MARCELLUS, CONSUL

Cicero rejoices that Marcus Marcellus' devotion and his excellent consulship have borne fruit in his cousin Gaius' election, and praises him from afar. He asks only that a successor be sent soon or his year not lengthened; Parthian news he will not write privately to a consul.

M. Cicero procos. s. d. M. Marcello cos.
Marcus Cicero proconsul greeting says to-Marcus Marcellus consul
1 Te et pietatis in tuos et animi in rem p.
That-you both of-devotion toward your-people and of-spirit toward the-thing public
et clarissimi atque optimi consulatus C. Marcello
and of-the-most-illustrious and best consulship Gaius Marcellus
consule facto fructum cepisse vehementer gaudeo. Non
consul made the-fruit to-have-reaped vehemently I-rejoice Not
dubito quid praesentes sentiant; nos quidem longinqui et
I-doubt what those-present feel we indeed far-off and
a te ipso missi in ultimas gentis ad caelum me
by you yourself sent among the-farthest peoples to heaven so-help-me
hercule tollimus verissimis ac iustissimis laudibus. Nam
Hercules we-raise-you with-the-truest and most-just praises For

cum te a pueritia tua unice dilexerim tuque me in
since you from boyhood your singularly I-have-esteemed and-you me in
omni genere semper amplissimum esse et volueris et
every kind always most-distinguished to-be both have-wished and
iudicaris, tum hoc vel tuo facto vel populi R. de te
have-judged then by-this either your deed or of-the-people Roman about you
iudicio multo acrius vehementiusque diligo maximaque
judgment much more-keenly and-more-vehemently I-esteem and-with-the-greatest
laetitia adficior, cum ab hominibus prudentissimis virisque
joy I-am-affected when from men most-prudent and-men
optimis omnibus dictis, factis, studiis, institutis vel me
the-best in-all sayings deeds pursuits practices either me
tui similem esse audio vel te mei.
of-you like to-be I-hear or you of-me

Unum vero si addis ad praeclarissimas res consulatus tui, 2
One-thing indeed if you-add to the-most-splendid deeds of-consulship your
ut aut mihi succedat quam primum aliquis aut ne quid
that either to-me may-succeed as first someone or not anything
accedat temporis ad id quod tu mihi et senatus c.
be-added of-time to that which you for-me both of-the-senate by-decree
et lege finisti, omnia me per te consecutum putabo.
and by-law have-limited all-things that-I through you obtained I-will-think
Cura ut valeas et me absentem diligas atque defendas.
Take-care that you-are-well and me absent you-esteem and defend

Quae mihi de Parthis nuntiata sunt, quia non 3
What-things to-me about the-Parthians reported have-been because not
putabam a me etiam nunc scribenda esse publice, propterea
I-thought by me even now to-be-written to-be officially for-this-reason
ne pro familiaritate quidem nostra volui ad te scribere,
not in-view-of intimacy even our I-wished to you to-write
ne, cum ad consulem scripsissem, publice viderer scripsisse.
lest when to a-consul I-had-written officially I-might-seem to-have-written

Cicero rejoices that a Marcellus is consul when his deeds come before the senate, and asks Gaius Marcellus to see a decree on his letter passed as honorably as possible; Marcellus' father, brother, and whole house have always favored him.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. C. Marcello C. f. cos.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Gaius Marcellus of-Gaius son consul
1 Quoniam id accidit, quod mihi maxime fuit optatum, ut
Since that has-happened which to-me most was desired that
omnium Marcellorum, Marcellinorum etiam (mirificus enim
of-all the-Marcelli of-the-Marcellini also wonderful for
generis ac nominis vestri fuit erga me semper animus)
of-the-family and of-the-name your has-been toward me always the-spirit
— quoniam ergo ita accidit, ut omnium vestrum
since then so it-has-happened that of-all of-you
studio tuus consulatus satis facere posset, in quem
to-the-zeal your consulship satisfaction to-make could into which
meae res gestae lausque et honos earum potissimum
my deeds done and-the-praise and honor of-them above-all
incideret, peto a te, id quod facillimum factu est non
should-fall I-ask from you that which easiest to-do is not
aspernante, ut confido, senatu, ut quam honorificentissime
spurning-it as I-trust the-senate that as most-honorably
senatus consultum litteris meis recitatis faciendum cures.
of-the-senate decree letter my read-out to-be-made you-take-care
2 Si mihi tecum minus esset quam est cum tuis omnibus,
If to-me with-you less there-were than there-is with your all
adlegarem ad te illos a quibus intellegis me praecipue
I-would-send-as-envoys to you those by whom you-understand that-I especially
diligi. Patris tui beneficia in me sunt amplissima;
to-be-esteemed Of-father your the-kindnesses toward me are most-ample

neque enim saluti meae neque honori amicior quisquam
nor for to-safety my nor to-honor more-friendly anyone
dici potest; frater tuus quanti me faciat semperque
to-be-said can brother your at-how-much me he-values and-always
fecerit esse hominem qui ignoret arbitror neminem; domus
has-valued to-be a-man who is-unaware I-think no-one house
tua denique tota me semper omnibus summis officiis
your finally whole me always with-all highest services
prosecuta est; neque vero tu in me diligendo cuiquam
has honored nor indeed you in me esteeming to-anyone
concessisti tuorum. Qua re a te peto in maiorem
have-yielded of-your-people By-which thing from you I-ask in greater
modum ut me per te quam ornatissimum velis esse
measure that me through you as most-honored you-wish to-be
meamque et in supplicatione decernenda et in ceteris
and-my both in a-thanksgiving decreeing and in the-other
rebus existimationem satis tibi esse commendatam putes.
matters reputation sufficiently to-you to-be commended you-think

XV.11 · THANKS TO MARCELLUS

Gaius Marcellus has proved as consul what he always was, eager for Cicero's honor. Cicero will do anything for him, glad to owe most to one who manages the commonwealth so well, and hopes to see him soon if the etesian winds allow.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. C. Marcello cos.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Gaius Marcellus consul
Quantae curae tibi meus honos fuerit et quam idem 1
Of-how-great concern to-you my honor has-been and how the-same
exstiteris consul in me ornando et amplificando, qui
you-have-proved as-consul in me honoring and enlarging who

fueras semper cum parentibus tuis et cum tota domo,
you-had-been always with parents your and with the-whole house
etsi res ipsa loquebatur, cognovi tamen ex meorum
although the-fact itself was-speaking I-learned still from of-my-people
omnium litteris. Itaque nihil est tantum, quod ego non tua
all the-letters And-so nothing is so-great that I not your
causa debeam facturusque sim cum studiose ac libenter.
for-the-sake ought and-going-to-do am both zealously and gladly
2 Nam magni interest cui debeas, debere autem nemini
For greatly it-matters to-whom you-owe to-owe however to-no-one
malui quam tibi, cui me cum studia communia,
I-preferred than to-you to-whom me both pursuits common
beneficia paterna tuaque iam ante coniunxerant, tum accedit
kindnesses paternal and-yours already before had-joined and is-added
mea quidem sententia maximum vinculum, quod ita rem
in-my indeed opinion the-greatest bond that so the-thing
p. geris atque gessisti, qua mihi carius nihil
public you-manage and have-managed than-which to-me dearer nothing
est, ut, quantum tibi omnes boni debeant, quo minus
is that as-much-as to-you all good-men owe by-which less
tantundem ego unus debeam non recusem. Quam ob
just-as-much I alone should-owe not I-would-refuse Which on-account-of
rem tibi velim ii sint exitus, quos mereris et quos
thing to-you I-would-wish those be the-outcomes which you-deserve and which
fore confido. Ego, si me navigatio non morabitur, quae
going-to-be I-trust I if me the-voyage not will-delay which
incurrebat in ipsos etesias, propediem te, ut spero, videbo.
was-running into the-very etesian-winds shortly you as I-hope I-shall-see

Cicero is delighted that Lucius Paullus has been elected consul with the people's full support, and wishes he could have seen the day. He asks Paullus to see that no wrong is done him and no time added to his yearly command.

M. Cicero procos. s. d. L. Paullo cos. desig.
Marcus Cicero proconsul greeting says to-Lucius Paullus consul elect
Etsi mihi numquam fuit dubium quin te populus R. 1
Although to-me never it-was doubtful that you the-people Roman
pro tuis summis in rem p. meritis et pro
in-view-of your highest toward the-thing public services and in-view-of
amplissima familiae dignitate summo studio cunctis
the-most-ample of-family dignity with-the-highest zeal with-all
suffragiis consulem facturus esset, tamen incredibili laetitia
votes consul going-to-make was still with-incredible joy
sum adfectus, cum id mihi nuntiatum est, eumque
I-have been-affected when that to-me reported was and-that
honorem tibi deos fortunare volo a teque ex tua
honor for-you the-gods to-bless I-wish by and-you according-to your
maiorumque tuorum dignitate administrari.
and-of-ancestors your dignity to-be-administered
Atque utinam praesens illum diem mihi optatissimum videre 2
And would-that present that day to-me most-desired to-see
potuissem proque tuis amplissimis erga me studiis
I-had-been-able and-in-return-for your most-ample toward me efforts
atque beneficiis tibi operam meam studiumque navare! Quam
and kindnesses to-you effort my and-zeal to-render Which
mihi facultatem quoniam hic nec opinatus et improvisus
to-me opportunity since this not expected and unforeseen
provinciae casus eripuit, tamen ut te consulem rem
of-a-province chance has-snatched-away still that you consul the-thing

p. pro tua dignitate gerentem videre possim,
public in-accordance-with your dignity managing to-see I-may-be-able
magno opere a te peto ut operam des efficiasque
in-great measure from you I-ask that effort you-give and-bring-about
ne quid mihi fiat iniuriae neve quid temporis ad
that-not any to-me be-done of-wrong nor-that any of-time to
meum annuum munus accedat. Quod si feceris,
my yearly office be-added But if you-will-have-done
magnus ad tua pristina erga me studia cumulus accedet.
a-great to your former toward me efforts heap will-be-added

XV.13 · PAULLUS, CONSUL

Cicero wished to be at Rome to show Paullus his zeal in the canvass and the consulship; fate gives Paullus every chance to honor him and Cicero nothing to repay. His deeds fall in Paullus' consulship; he asks for a quick and honorable decree, and that his term not be extended.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. L. Paullo cos.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Lucius Paullus consul
1 Maxime mihi fuit optatum Romae esse tecum multas ob
Most to-me it-was desired at-Rome to-be with-you many for
causas sed praecipue ut et in petendo et in gerendo
reasons but especially that both in seeking and in holding
consulatu meum tibi debitum studium perspicere posses.
the-consulship my to-you owed zeal to-see-clearly you-might-be-able
Ac petitionis quidem tuae ratio mihi semper fuit
And of-candidacy indeed your the-reckoning to-me always was
explorata, sed tamen navare operam volebam; in consulatu
assured but still to-render effort I-wished in the-consulship
vero cupio equidem te minus habere negoti, sed moleste
indeed I-desire for-my-part that-you less to-have of-business but with-annoyance

fero me consulem tuum studium adulescentis perspexisse,
I-bear that-I as-consul your zeal as-a-young-man to-have-seen-clearly
te meum, cum id aetatis sim, perspicere non posse.
that-you mine when that of-age I-am to-see-clearly not to-be-able
Sed ita fato nescio quo contigisse arbitror ut tibi 2
But so by-fate I-know-not what to-have-happened I-think that to-you
ad me ornandum semper detur facultas, mihi ad
for me honoring always is-given the-opportunity to-me for
remunerandum nihil suppetat praeter voluntatem. Ornasti
repaying nothing is-at-hand except the-will You-honored
consulatum, ornasti reditum meum; incidit meum tempus
consulship you-honored return my has-fallen my time
rerum gerendarum in ipsum consulatum tuum. Itaque
of-deeds to-be-done into the-very consulship your And-so
cum et tua summa amplitudo et dignitas et meus
since both your highest greatness and dignity and my
magnus honos magnaque existimatio postulare videatur ut
great honor and-great reputation to-demand may-seem that
a te plurimis verbis contendam ac petam ut quam
from you with-very-many words I-should-press and ask that as
honorificentissimum senatus consultum de meis rebus
most-honorable of-the-senate a-decree about my deeds
gestis faciendum cures, non audeo vehementer a te
done to-be-made you-take-care not I-dare vehemently from you
contendere, ne aut ipse tuae perpetuae consuetudinis erga
to-press lest either myself of-your perpetual habit toward
me oblitus esse videar aut te oblitum putem.
me forgetful to-be I-may-seem or you forgetful I-may-think
Qua re, ut te velle arbitror, ita faciam atque ab eo, 3
By-which thing as that-you to-wish I-think so I-will-do and from him
quem omnes gentes sciunt de me optime meritum, breviter
whom all peoples know of me best deserved briefly

petam. Si alii consules essent, ad te potissimum, Paulle,
I-will-ask If other consuls there-were to you above-all Paullus
mitterem ut eos mihi quam amicissimos redderes; nunc
I-would-send that them to-me as most-friendly you-might-render now
cum tua summa potestas summaque auctoritas notaque
since your highest power and-highest authority and-known
omnibus nostra necessitudo sit, vehementer te rogo ut et
to-all our connection is vehemently you I-ask that both
quam honorificentissime cures decernendum de meis
as most-honorably you-take-care to-be-decreed about my
rebus gestis et quam celerrime. Dignas res esse honore et
deeds done and as most-quickly Worthy the-deeds to-be of-honor and
gratulatione cognosces ex iis litteris, quas ad te et conlegam
congratulation you-will-learn from that letter which to you and colleague
et senatum publice misi. Omniumque mearum reliquarum
and the-senate officially I-sent And-of-all my remaining
rerum maximeque existimationis meae procurationem
affairs and-most of-reputation my the-management
susceptam velim habeas, in primisque tibi curae
undertaken I-would-wish you-have among and-the-first to-you for-a-concern
sit, quod abs te superioribus quoque litteris petivi, ne mihi
be what from you in-earlier also letter I-asked that-not for-me
tempus prorogetur. Cupio te consulem videre omniaque quae
the-time be-extended I-desire you as-consul to-see and-all-things which
spero cum absens tum etiam praesens te consule adsequi.
I-hope both absent and also present with-you consul to-attain

Cicero values Marcus Fadius, now commended by Cassius, all the more. He wishes they could have met, to see Cassius, congratulate him on his victory, and confer. He advises Cassius to hurry to Rome if he can bear his friends' burdens, and asks him to work with Paullus, Curio, and Furnius that Cicero's command not be extended; their friendship, joined now by Brutus', should be strengthened by frequent letters.

M. Cicero imp. s. d. C. Cassio proq.
Marcus Cicero imperator greeting says to-Gaius Cassius proquaestor
M. Fadium quod mihi amicum tua commendatione 1
Marcus Fadius as-for-the-fact-that to-me as-a-friend by-your recommendation
das, nullum in eo facio quaestum; multi enim anni sunt
you-give no in that I-make gain many for years there-are
cum ille in aere meo est et a me diligitur propter
since he in debt my is and by me is-esteemed on-account-of
summam suam humanitatem et observantiam; sed tamen
highest his kindness and attentiveness but still
quod te ab eo egregie diligi sensi, multo amicior
because you by him exceedingly to-be-esteemed I-perceived much more-friendly
ei sum factus. Itaque quamquam profecerunt litterae
to-him I-have become And-so although have-availed letter
tuae, tamen aliquanto plus commendationis apud me habuit
your still somewhat more of-recommendation with me has-had
animus ipsius erga te mihi perspectus et cognitus.
the-mind of-himself toward you to-me seen-clearly and known
Sed de Fadio faciemus studiose quae rogas; tu multis 2
But about Fadius we-will-do zealously what-things you-ask you many
de causis vellem me convenire potuisses, primum ut te,
for reasons I-would-wish me to-meet you-had-been-able first that you
quem iam diu plurimi facio, tanto intervallo viderem,
whom now long at-the-highest I-value after-so-great an-interval I-might-see

deinde ut tibi, quod feci per litteras, possem
next that you which I-have-done by letter I-might-be-able
praesens gratulari, tum ut quibus de rebus vellemus, tu
present to-congratulate then that which about matters we-wished you
tuis, ego meis, inter nos communicaremus, postremo
about-yours I about-mine between us we-might-share lastly
ut amicitia nostra, quae summis officiis ab utroque
that friendship our which by-the-highest services by each
culta est sed longis intervallis temporum interruptam
cultivated has-been but by-long intervals of-times interrupted
consuetudinem habuit, confirmaretur vehementius.
intercourse has-had might-be-strengthened more-vehemently
3 Id quoniam non accidit, utemur bono litterarum et
That since not it-has-happened we-will-use the-good of-letters and
eadem fere absentes quae, si coram essemus, consequeremur.
the-same almost absent which if face-to-face we-were we-would-attain
Unus scilicet animi fructus, qui in te videndo est,
One of-course of-the-mind fruit which in you seeing is
percipi litteris non potest, alter gratulationis est is
to-be-reaped by-letters not can the-other of-congratulation is that
quidem exilior quam si tibi te ipsum intuens gratularer, sed
indeed thinner than if you you yourself gazing-at I-congratulated but
tamen et feci antea et facio nunc tibique cum pro
still both I-did-it before and I-do-it now and-you both in-view-of
rerum magnitudine quas gessisti, tum pro opportunitate
of-deeds the-greatness which you-have-done and in-view-of the-timeliness
temporis gratulor, quod te de provincia decedentem
of-the-moment I-congratulate that you from the-province departing
summa laus et summa gratia provinciae prosecuta est.
the-highest praise and the-highest gratitude of-the-province escorted has

Tertium est ut id, quod de nostris rebus coram 4
The-third is that that which about our affairs face-to-face
communicassemus inter nos, conficiamus idem litteris.
we-would-have-shared between us we-may-accomplish the-same by-letters
Ego ceterarum rerum causa tibi Romam properandum
I of-other things for-the-sake by-you to-Rome to-be-hastened
magno opere censeo; nam et ea quae reliqui tranquilla
in-great measure I-think for both those-things which I-left calm
de te erant et hac tua recenti victoria tanta clarum
about you were and by-this your recent victory so-great famous
tuum adventum fore intellego; sed si quae sunt onera
your arrival going-to-be I-understand but if any are the-burdens
tuorum, si tanta sunt ut ea sustinere possis, propera;
of-your-people if so-great they-are that them to-bear you-can hasten
nihil tibi erit lautius, nihil gloriosus; sin maiora,
nothing to-you will-be more-splendid nothing more-glorious but-if greater
considera ne in alienissimum tempus cadat adventus tuus.
consider lest into the-most-unsuitable time fall arrival your
Huius rei totum consilium tuum est; tu enim scis quid
Of-this matter the-whole decision yours is you for know what
sustinere possis. Si potes, laudabile atque populare est; sin
to-bear you-can If you-can praiseworthy and popular it-is but-if
plane non potes, absens hominum sermones facilius sustinebis.
plainly not you-can absent of-men the-talk more-easily you-will-bear
De me autem idem tecum his ago litteris quod 5
About me however the-same with-you in-this I-urge letter which
superioribus egi, ut omnis tuos nervos in eo contendas
in-the-earlier I-urged that all your sinews in this you-strain
ne quid mihi ad hanc provinciam, quam et senatus et
that-not anything for-me to this province which both the-senate and
populus annuam esse voluit, temporis prorogetur. Hoc a te
the-people yearly to-be wished of-time be-extended This from you

ita contendo, ut in eo fortunas meas positas putem. Habes
so I-press as in it fortunes my placed I-think You-have
Paullum nostrum nostri cupidissimum; est Curio, est
Paullus our of-us most-desirous there-is Curio there-is
Furnius. Sic velim enitare, quasi in eo sint mihi omnia.
Furnius So I-would-wish you-strive as-if in it be for-me all-things
6 Extremum illud est de iis quae proposueram confirmatio
The-last that is of those-things which I-had-proposed the-strengthening
nostrae amicitiae; de qua pluribus verbis nihil opus est.
of-our friendship about which in-more words no need is
Tu puer me appetisti, ego autem semper ornamento te
You as-a-boy me sought-out I however always for-distinction you
mihi fore duxi; fuisti etiam praesidio tristissimis
to-me going-to-be reckoned you-have-been also for-protection in-the-saddest
meis temporibus; accessit post tuum discessum familiaritas
my times was-added after your departure an-intimacy
mihi cum Bruto tuo maxima. Itaque in vestro ingenio
to-me with Brutus your very-great And-so in your talent
et industria mihi plurimum et suavitatis et dignitatis
and industry for-me the-most both of-pleasantness and of-dignity
constitutum puto. Id tu ut tuo studio confirmes te
established I-think That you that by-your zeal you-strengthen you
vehementer rogo, litterasque ad me et continuo mittas
vehemently I-ask and-letters to me both forthwith you-send
et, cum Romam veneris, quam saepissime.
and when to-Rome you-will-have-come as most-often

Cicero and Cassius both left the war for hope of peace; Cicero thought one battle should decide, and that the victor would soon spare the beaten. But the Alexandrian war and Pharnaces gave the beaten a year to hope again. Cassius went where he could share in counsels, while Cicero, hurrying to meet Caesar, is far from him amid Italy's groans. He asks Cassius' views, wishing he had heeded his first letter from Luceria.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Cassio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Cassius

Etsi uterque nostrum spe pacis et odio civilis 1

Although each of-us by-hope of-peace and by-hatred of-civil

sanguinis abesse a belli pertinacia voluit, tamen

bloodshed to-keep-away from of-war persistence wished still

quoniam eius consili princeps ego fuisse videor, plus

since of-that plan the-leader I to-have-been seem more

fortasse tibi praestare ipse debeo quam a te exspectare;

perhaps to-you to-make-good myself I-ought than from you to-expect

etsi ut saepe soleo mecum recordari, sermo familiaris

although as often I-am-wont with-myself to-recall talk intimate

meus tecum et item mecum tuus adduxit utrumque

mine with-you and likewise with-me yours brought each

nostrum ad id consilium, ut uno proelio putaremus, si

of-us to that plan that by-one battle we-should-think if

non totam causam, at certe nostrum iudicium definiri

not the-whole cause yet certainly our decision to-be-determined

convenire. Neque quisquam hanc nostram sententiam vere

to-be-fitting Nor anyone this our opinion truly

umquam reprehendit praeter eos qui arbitrantur melius

ever has-censured except those who think better

esse deleri omnino rem p. quam imminutam et

to-be to-be-destroyed altogether the-thing public than diminished and

debilitatam manere; ego autem ex interitu eius nullam
weakened to-remain I however from the-destruction of-it no
spem scilicet mihi proponebam, ex reliquiis magnam.
hope of-course to-myself I-was-setting-before from the-remnants great
2 Sed ea sunt consecuta, ut magis mirum sit accidere
But those-things have followed that more wonderful it-is to-happen
illa potuisse quam nos non vidisse ea futura nec,
they to-have-been-able than that-we not to-have-seen them going-to-be nor
homines cum essemus, divinare potuisse. Equidem fateor
men since we-were to-divine to-have-been-able For-my-part I-confess
meam coniecturam hanc fuisse, ut illo quasi quodam
my conjecture this to-have-been that that as-it-were certain
fatali proelio facto et victores communi saluti consuli
fated battle fought both the-victors for-the-common safety to-be-provided
vellent et victi suae; utrumque autem positum
would-wish and the-vanquished for-their-own each however placed
esse arbitrabar in celeritate victoris. Quae si fuisset,
to-be I-thought in the-speed of-the-victor Which if there-had-been
eandem clementiam experta esset Africa quam cognovit
the-same clemency experienced would-have Africa which came-to-know
Asia, quam etiam Achaia te, ut opinor, ipso legato ac
Asia which also Achaea you as I-suppose yourself as-envoy and
deprecatore. Amissis autem temporibus, quae plurimum
intercessor With-lost however the-moments which the-most
valent, praesertim in bellis civilibus, interpositus annus alios
avail especially in wars civil an-intervening year some
induxit ut victoriam sperarent, alios ut ipsum vinci
has-led that victory they-should-hope others that the-very being-defeated
contemnerent. Atque horum malorum omnium culpam
they-should-despise And of-these evils all the-blame
fortuna sustinet; quis enim aut Alexandrini belli tantam
fortune bears who for either of-the-Alexandrian war such-great

moram huic bello adiunctum iri aut nescio quem
delay to-this war joined going-to-be or I-know-not what
istum Pharnacem Asiae terrorem inlaturum putaret?
that Pharnaces to-Asia terror going-to-bring would-have-thought
Nos tamen in consilio pari casu dissimili usi sumus. 3
We still in plan equal chance unlike experienced have
Tu enim eam partem petisti, ut et consiliis interesses
You for that part sought that both in-counsels you-might-take-part
et, quod maxime curam levat, futura animo prospicere
and what most care lightens the-future in-mind to-foresee
posses; ego qui festinavi ut Caesarem in Italia viderem
you-might-be-able I who hastened that Caesar in Italy I-might-see
(sic enim arbitrabamur) eumque multis honestissimis viris
so for we-were-thinking and-him many most-honorable men
conservatis redeuntem ad pacem 'currentem,' ut aiunt,
having-been-spared returning to peace running as they-say
'incitarem,' ab illo longissime et absum et afui.
I-might-spur from him farthest both I-am-away and have-been-away
Versor autem in gemitu Italiae et in urbis miserrimis
I-move however in the-groaning of-Italy and in of-the-city most-wretched
querelis; quibus aliquid opis fortasse ego pro mea, tu pro tua,
complaints to-which some help perhaps I for my-part you for yours
pro sua quisque parte ferre potuisset, si auctor adfuisset.
for his each part to-bring could-have if a-leader had-been-present
Qua re velim pro tua perpetua erga me 4
By-which thing I-would-wish in-view-of your perpetual toward me
benevolentia scribas ad me quid videas, quid sentias, quid
goodwill you-write to me what you-see what you-feel what
exspectandum, quid agendum nobis existimes. Magni
to-be-expected what to-be-done by-us you-think Of-great-weight
erunt mihi tuae litterae; atque utinam primis illis quas
will-be to-me your letter and would-that the-first those which

Luceria miseras paruissem! sine ulla enim molestia
from-Luceria you-had-sent I-had-obeyed without any for trouble
dignitatem meam retinuissem.
dignity my I-would-have-kept

XV.16 · THE SPECTERS OF CATIUS

Cicero teases Cassius with a third letter unanswered. When he writes, Cassius seems present, not by Epicurean images, which Catius the Insubrian called specters; Cassius must explain whether such a specter comes at will, and whether Britain's would fly to him. If Cassius is vexed, Cicero will claim him back for virtue from his school; he writes this because he cannot write of the commonwealth.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Cassio.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Cassius
1 Puto te iam suppudere, quem haec tertia iam epistula
I-think that-you now to-be-a-little-ashamed whom this third already letter
ante oppressit quam tu scidam aut litteram. Sed non urgeo;
before has-overtaken than you a-scrap or a-letter But not I-press
longiores enim exspectabo vel potius exigam. Ego si semper
longer-ones for I-will-await or rather I-will-demand I if always
haberem cui darem, vel ternas in hora darem;
I-had someone-to-whom I-might-give even three in an-hour I-would-give
fit enim nescio qui ut quasi coram adesse videare
it-happens for I-know-not how that as-it-were face-to-face to-be-present you-seem
cum scribo aliquid ad te, neque id κατ' εἰδώλων φαντασίας, ut
when I-write something to you nor that by of-images appearances as
dicunt tui amici novi, qui putant etiam διανοητικὰς φαντασίας
say your friends new who think even mental appearances
spectris Catianis excitari; nam ne te fugiat, Catius Insuber,
by-specters Catian to-be-roused for lest you it-escape Catius the-Insubrian

Ἐπικούρειος, qui nuper est mortuus, quae ille Gargettius
Epicurean who lately has died what-things that-man of-Gargettius
et iam ante Democritus εἴδωλα, hic 'spectra' nominat.
and already before Democritus images this-man specters names
His autem spectris etiam si oculi possent feriri, quod 2
By-these however specters even if the-eyes could be-struck because
quae velis ipsa incurrunt, animus qui possit ego non
what-things you-wish themselves run-in the-mind how could I not
video. Doceas tu me oportebit, cum salvus veneris,
see Teach you me it-will-be-needful when safe you-will-have-come
in meane potestate sit spectrum tuum, ut, simul ac mihi
in whether-my power be specter your that as-soon as to-me
conlibitum sit de te cogitare, illud occurrat; neque
pleased it-has-been about you to-think it should-run-up nor
solum de te, qui mihi haeres in medullis, sed si insulam
only about you who to-me cling in the-marrow but if the-island
Britanniam coepero cogitare, eius εἴδωλον mihi advolabit
Britain I-shall-begin to-think its image to-me will-fly
ad pectus?
to the-breast
Sed haec posterius; tempto enim te quo animo 3
But these-things later I-am-testing for you with-what mind
accipias. Si enim stomachabere et moleste feres, plura
you-take-it If for you-will-be-vexed and with-annoyance will-bear more
dicemus postulabimusque, ex qua αἱρέσει 'vi hominibus
we-shall-say and-shall-claim from which school by-force with-men
armatis' deiectus sis, in eam restituare. In hoc interdicto
armed thrown-out you-have into it you-be-restored In this injunction
non solet addi 'in hoc anno.' Qua re si iam
not is-wont to-be-added within this year By-which thing if now
biennium aut triennium est cum virtuti nuntium remisisti
two-years or three-years it-is since to-virtue notice you-sent-back

delenitus inlecebris voluptatis, in integro res nobis
soothed by-the-allurements of-pleasure in untouched-state the-case for-us
erit. Quamquam quicum loquor? Cum uno fortissimo
will-be Although with-whom do-I-speak With one most-brave
viro qui, postea quam forum attigisti, nihil fecisti nisi
man who after that the-forum you-touched nothing have-done except
plenissimum amplissimae dignitatis. In ista ipsa αἱρέσει metuo
most-full of-most-ample dignity In that very school I-fear
ne plus nervorum sit quam ego putarim, si modo eam
lest more of-sinews there-be than I would-have-thought if only it
tu probas. 'Qui id tibi in mentem venit?' inquies. Quia
you approve How that to-you into mind came you-will-say Because
nihil habebam aliud quod scriberem; de re p. enim
nothing I-had else which I-might-write about the-thing public for
nihil scribere possum; nec enim quod sentio libet scribere.
nothing to-write I-can nor for what I-feel it-pleases to-write

XV.17 · TOPSY-TURVY COURIERS

Cassius' couriers come empty and leave demanding letters. The news: Publius Sulla is dead, by robbers or indigestion; the people do not care, Caesar is thought to fear for his auctions, and Sulla's rival dealers rejoice. Spain is uncertain. Pansa has set out amid the goodwill of good men, showing that the good is to be chosen for itself. Cicero approves of Cassius' stay at Brundisium.

M. Cicero C. Cassio s.
Marcus Cicero to-Gaius Cassius greeting
1 Praeposteros habes tabellarios; etsi me quidem non
Topsy-turvy you-have letter-carriers although me indeed not
offendunt; sed tamen, cum a me discedunt, flagitant
they-offend but still when from me they-depart they-demand

litteras, cum ad me veniunt, nullas adferunt. Atque id
letters when to me they-come none they-bring And that
ipsum facerent commodius, si mihi aliquid spati ad
itself they-would-do more-conveniently if to-me some of-space for
scribendum darent; sed petasati veniunt, comites
writing they-gave but in-traveling-hats they-come their-companions
ad portam exspectare dicunt. Ergo ignosces; alteras iam
at the-gate to-wait they-say So you-will-pardon another now
habebis has brevis; sed exspecta πάντα περὶ πάντων.
you-will-have this short but expect all-things about all-things
Etsi quid ego me tibi purgo, cum tui ad me
Although why I myself to-you excuse when your-people to me
inanes veniant, ad te cum epistulis revertantur?
empty-handed come to you with letters return
Nos hic, ut tamen ad te scribam aliquid, P. Sullam 2
We here that still to you I-may-write something Publius Sulla
patrem mortuum habebamus; alii a latronibus, alii cruditate
the-father dead we-had some by robbers others by-indigestion
dicebant; populus non curabat, combustum enim esse
were-saying the-people not cared burned for to-be
constabat. Hoc tu pro tua sapientia feres aequo
it-was-agreed This you in-accordance-with your wisdom will-bear with-even
animo; quamquam πρόσωπον πόλεως amisimus. Caesarem
mind although the-face of-the-city we-have-lost Caesar
putabant moleste laturum verentem ne hasta
they-thought with-annoyance going-to-bear fearing lest the-auction-spear
refrixisset; Mindius macellarius et Attius pigmentarius
had-grown-cold Mindius the-provisions-dealer and Attius the-paint-seller
valde gaudebant se adversarium perdidisse.
greatly rejoiced that-they a-rival to-have-lost

3 De Hispania novi nihil, sed exspectatio valde magna;
About Spain new nothing but the-expectation very great
rumores tristiores sed ἀδέσποτοι. Pansa noster paludatus
rumors gloomier but ownerless Pansa our in-the-general's-cloak
a. d. iii K. Ian. profectus est, ut quivis
on-the day third before-the-Kalends of-January set-out has that anyone
intellegere posset, id quod tu nuper dubitare coepisti, τὸ
to-understand could that which you lately to-doubt began the
καλὸν δι' αὑτὸ αἱρετόν esse; nam quod multos miseriis
good for itself choiceworthy to-be for because many from-miseries
levavit et quod se in his malis hominem praebuit,
he-relieved and because himself in these evils a-man he-showed
mirabilis eum virorum bonorum benevolentia prosecuta est.
wonderful him of-men good goodwill escorted has
4 Tu quod adhuc Brundisi moratus es valde probo et
You that so-far at-Brundisium stayed have greatly I-approve and
gaudeo et me hercule puto te sapienter facturum, si
rejoice and so-help-me Hercules I-think that-you wisely going-to-act if
ἀκενόσπουδος fueris; nobis quidem qui te amamus
not-zealous-for-empty-things you-will-have-been to-us indeed who you love
erit gratum. Et amabo te, cum dabis posthac aliquid
it-will-be pleasing And I-will-love you when you-will-give hereafter something
domum litterarum, mei memineris. Ego numquam quemquam
home of-letters me remember I never anyone
ad te, cum sciam, sine meis litteris ire patiar. Vale.
to you when I-know without my letter to-go will-allow Farewell

The courier cuts the letter short; serious writing is dangerous, so they laugh, though not easily. Cassius' philosophy lives in the kitchen, Cicero's is a burden, and he keeps busy to escape Plato's reproach. Spain sends no news.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Cassio.

Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Cassius

Longior epistula fuisset, nisi eo ipso tempore petita 1

Longer the-letter would-have-been unless at-that very time requested

esset a me, cum iam iretur ad te; longior autem

it-had-been from me when now there-was-going to you longer however

φλύαρον aliquem habuisset; nam σπουδάζειν sine periculo

nonsense some it-would-have-had for to-be-serious without danger

vix possumus. 'Ridere igitur,' inquies, 'possumus?' Non

scarcely we-can To-laugh then you-will-say we-can Not

me hercule facillime; verum tamen aliam aberrationem a

so-help-me Hercules most-easily but still other diversion from

molestiis nullam habemus. 'Ubi igitur,' inquies, 'philosophia?'

vexations none we-have Where then you-will-say philosophy

Tua quidem in culina, mea molesta est; pudet enim servire;

Yours indeed in the-kitchen mine troublesome is it-shames for to-be-a-slave

itaque facio me alias res agere, ne convicium Platonis audiam.

and-so I-make myself other things to-do lest the-reproach of-Plato I-hear

De Hispania nihil adhuc certi, nihil omnino novi. 2

About Spain nothing yet of-certain nothing at-all new

Te abesse mea causa moleste fero, tua gaudeo.

That-you to-be-away my for-the-sake with-annoyance I-bear yours I-rejoice

Sed flagitat tabellarius. Valebis igitur meque, ut a

But demands the-letter-carrier You-will-be-well therefore and-me as from

puero fecisti, amabis.

a-boy you-have-done will-love

Cassius writes for the pleasure of talking with Cicero, not by specters, and threatens him with Stoics. He hopes Pansa's departure will show that cruelty is hated and mercy loved; pleasure and tranquility come from virtue and justice, as Epicurus says, so the so-called pleasure-lovers love the good. Sulla is dead, who bought up all goods. Cassius fears young Gnaeus Pompey's cruelty and prefers the old, clement master; he asks for news from Spain.

C. Cassius s. d. M. Ciceroni.

Gaius Cassius greeting says to-Marcus Cicero

1 S. v. b. Non me hercule in hac mea

If you-are-well it-is-well Not so-help-me Hercules in this my

peregrinatione quicquam libentius facio quam scribo ad te;

travel anything more-gladly I-do than I-write to you

videor enim cum praesente loqui et iocari. Nec tamen

I-seem for with-you present to-speak and to-joke Nor still

hoc usu venit propter 'spectra Catiana'; pro quo

this in-experience comes on-account-of specters Catian for which

tibi proxima epistula tot rusticos Stoicos regeram,

to-you in-the-next letter so-many boorish Stoics I-will-throw-back

ut Catium Athenis natum esse dicas.

that Catius at-Athens born to-have-been you-say

2 Pansam nostrum secunda voluntate hominum

That-Pansa our with-the-favorable goodwill of-men

paludatum ex urbe exisse cum ipsius causa

in-the-general's-cloak from the-city to-have-gone-out both of-himself for-the-sake

gaudeo tum me hercule etiam omnium nostrorum;

I-rejoice and so-help-me Hercules also of-all of-us

spero enim homines intellecturos quanto sit omnibus

I-hope for men going-to-understand how-great be to-all

odio crudelitas et quanto amori probitas et clementia,

for-hatred cruelty and how-great for-love uprightness and clemency

atque ea, quae maxime mali petant et concupiscant,
and those-things which most the-wicked seek and covet
ad bonos pervenire. Difficile est enim persuadere hominibus
to the-good to-come Difficult it-is for to-persuade men
τὸ καλὸν δι' αὐτὸ αἱρετόν esse; ἡδονήν vero et ἀταραξίαν
the good for itself choiceworthy to-be pleasure indeed and tranquility
virtute, iustitia, τῷ καλῷ parari et verum et probabile
by-virtue by-justice by-the good to-be-procured both true and plausible
est; ipse enim Epicurus, a quo omnes Catii et
is himself for Epicurus from whom all the-Catiuses and
Amafinii, mali verborum interpretes, proficiscuntur, dicit:
Amafiniuses bad of-words interpreters proceed says
Οὐκ ἔστιν ἡδέως ἄνευ τοῦ καλῶς καὶ δικαίως ζῆν.
Not it-is-possible pleasantly without the honorably and justly to-live
Itaque et Pansa, qui ἡδονήν sequitur, virtutem retinet, et 3
And-so both Pansa who pleasure follows virtue keeps and
ii, qui a vobis φιλήδονοι vocantur, sunt φιλόκαλοι et
those who by you pleasure-lovers are-called are lovers-of-the-good and
φιλοδίκαιοι omnisque virtutes et colunt et retinent. Itaque
lovers-of-justice and-all virtues both cultivate and keep And-so
Sulla, cuius iudicium probare debemus, cum dissentire
Sulla whose judgment to-approve we-ought when to-disagree
philosophos videret, non quaesiit quid bonum esset sed omnia
the-philosophers he-saw not he-asked what good was but all
bona coemit. Cuius ego mortem forti me hercules
goods bought-up Whose I death with-brave so-help-me Hercules
animo tuli. Nec tamen Caesar diutius nos eum desiderare
mind I-bore Nor still Caesar longer us him to-miss
patietur; nam habet damnatos quos pro illo nobis restituat,
will-allow for he-has condemned-men whom for him to-us he-may-restore
nec ipse sectorem desiderabit, cum filium viderit.
nor himself the-buyer will-miss when the-son he-will-have-seen

4 Nunc ut ad rem p. redeam, quid in Hispaniis
Now that to the-thing public I-may-return what in the-Spains
geratur rescribe. Peream nisi sollicitus sum ac malo
is-being-done write-back May-I-perish unless anxious I-am and I-prefer
veterem et clementem dominum habere quam novum et
an-old and clement master to-have than a-new and
crudelem experiri. Scis Gnaeus quam sit fatuus; scis
cruel to-try You-know Gnaeus how he-is foolish you-know
quo modo crudelitatem virtutem putet; scis quam
in-what way cruelty virtue he-thinks you-know how
se semper a nobis derisum putet; vereor ne nos rustice
himself always by us mocked he-thinks I-fear lest us boorishly
gladio velit ἀντιμυκτηρίσαι. Quid fiat, si me diligis,
with-the-sword he-may-wish to-sneer-back-at What happens if me you-esteem
rescribe. Hui, quam velim scire utrum ista sollicito
write-back Oh how I-would-wish to-know whether these-things with-anxious
animo an soluto legas! sciam enim eodem tempore
mind or relaxed you-read I-shall-know for at-the-same time
quid me facere oporteat. Ne longior sim, vale; me, ut
what me to-do it-behooves Lest longer I-be farewell me as
facis, ama. Si Caesar vicit, celeriter me exspecta.
you-do love If Caesar has-conquered quickly me expect

Cicero gave his Orator to Trebonius' friend Sabinus, a Sabine by name and look. He asks Trebonius for frequent letters, now that the commonwealth is where Trebonius is, and for news of his journey, of Brutus, and of the war.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Trebonio.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Trebonius

'Oratorem' meum (sic enim inscripsi) Sabino tuo 1
Orator my so for I-have-entitled-it to-Sabinus your
commendavi. Natio me hominis impulit ut ei recte
I-commended The-nation me of-the-man impelled that him rightly
putarem; nisi forte candidatorum licentia hic quoque
I-should-think unless perhaps of-candidates by-the-license here also
usus hoc subito cognomen arripuit; etsi modestus
having-used this suddenly surname he-has-seized although modest
eius vultus sermoque constans habere quiddam a Curibus
his face and-speech steady to-have something from Cures
videbatur. Sed de Sabino satis.
seemed But about Sabinus enough

Tu, mi Treboni, quoniam ad amorem meum aliquantum 2
You my Trebonius since to love my a-good-deal
olei discedens addidisti, quo tolerabilius feramus igniculum
of-oil departing you-have-added that more-tolerably we-may-bear the-little-flame
desideri tui, crebris nos litteris appellato, atque ita, si
of-longing for-you with-frequent us letters address and so if
idem fiet a nobis. Quamquam duae causae sunt cur
the-same will-be-done by us Although two reasons there-are why
tu frequentior in isto officio esse debeas quam nos, primum
you more-frequent in that duty to-be ought than we first
quod olim solebant qui Romae erant ad provincialis
because formerly were-wont those-who at-Rome were to provincial

amicos de re p. scribere, nunc tu nobis scribas
friends about the-thing public to-write now you to-us should-write
oportet (res enim publica istic est); deinde quod nos
it-is-needful the-thing for public there is next because we
aliis officiis tibi absenti satis facere possumus, tu nobis
by-other services to-you absent satisfaction to-make can you to-us
nisi litteris non video qua re alia satis facere possis.
except by-letters not I-see by-what thing other satisfaction to-make you-could
3 Sed cetera scribes ad nos postea; nunc haec primo
But the-rest you-will-write to us afterward now these-things first
cupio cognoscere iter tuum cuius modi sit, ubi Brutum
I-desire to-learn the-journey your of-what kind it-is where Brutus
nostrum videris, quam diu simul fueris; deinde cum
our you-saw how long together you-were then when
processeris longius, de bellicis rebus, de toto negotio,
you-will-have-gone-on farther about warlike matters about the-whole business
ut existimare possimus quo statu simus. Ego tantum me
that to-judge we-may-be-able in-what state we-are I only that-I
scire putabo quantum ex tuis litteris habebo cognitum.
to-know will-think as-much-as from your letters I-shall-have learned
Cura ut valeas meque ames amore illo tuo singulari.
Take-care that you-are-well and-me you-love with-love that your singular

Trebonius' letter and his book of Cicero's sayings delight Cicero, but grieve him at his departure. Cicero recalls Trebonius' services as quaestor, his concern in the war, and his joy at Cicero's return, and reads the book as a declaration of love that makes his jokes funnier. He did not expect his letter to Calvus to circulate, and praised him to spur him on. He asks Trebonius to write often.

M. Cicero s. d. C. Trebonio.
Marcus Cicero greeting says to-Gaius Trebonius

Et epistulam tuam legi libenter et librum libentissime; 1
Both letter your I-read gladly and the-book most-gladly

sed tamen in ea voluptate hunc accepi dolorem, quod,
but still in that pleasure this I-received grief that

cum incendisses cupiditatem meam consuetudinis augendae
when you-had-kindled desire my of-intimacy to-be-increased

nostrae (nam ad amorem quidem nihil poterat accedere),
our for to love indeed nothing could be-added

tum discedis a nobis meque tanto desiderio adficis, ut
then you-depart from us and-me with-so-great longing you-affect that

unam mihi consolationem relinquas, fore ut utriusque
one to-me consolation you-leave going-to-be that of-each

nostrum absentis desiderium crebris et longis epistulis
of-us absent the-longing by-frequent and long letters

leniatur; quod ego non modo de me tibi spondere
be-soothed which I not only about me to-you to-pledge

possum sed de te etiam mihi; nullam enim apud me
can but about you also to-me no for with me

reliquisti dubitationem quantum me amares.
you-have-left doubt how-much me you-loved

2 Nam ut illa omittam quae civitate teste fecisti,
For that those-things I-may-pass-over which with-the-state as-witness you-did
cum mecum inimicitias communicavisti, cum me contionibus
when with-me enmities you-shared when me in-assemblies
tuis defendisti, cum quaestor in mea atque in publica causa
your you-defended when as-quaestor in my and in the-public cause
consulum partis suscepisti, cum tribuno plebis quaestor
of-the-consuls the-part you-took-up when to-a-tribune of-the-plebs as-quaestor
non paruisti, cui tuus praesertim conlega pareret,
not you-submitted to-whom your especially colleague was-submitting
ut haec recentia quae meminero semper obliviscar, quae
that these recent-things which I-shall-remember always I-may-forget what
tua sollicitudo de me in armis, quae laetitia in reditu,
your anxiety about me in arms what joy at my-return
quae cura, qui dolor, quom ad te curae et dolores mei
what care what grief when to you cares and griefs my
perferrentur, Brundisium denique te ad me venturum
were-carried to-Brundisium finally that-you to me going-to-come
fuisse, nisi subito in Hispaniam missus esses —
to-have-been unless suddenly into Spain sent you-had-been
ut haec igitur omittam quae mihi tanti aestimanda
that these-things then I-may-pass-over which by-me at-so-much to-be-valued
sunt quanti vitam aestimo et salutem meam, liber iste,
are at-how-much life I-value and safety my book that
quem mihi misisti, quantam habet declarationem amoris tui!
which to-me you-sent how-great has a-declaration of-love your
primum quod tibi facetum videtur, quicquid ego dixi, quod
first because to-you witty seems whatever I have-said which
aliis fortasse non item; deinde quod illa, sive faceta
to-others perhaps not likewise next because those-things either witty

sunt sive sic, fiunt narrante te venustissima; quin etiam ante
are or so become narrating you most-charming nay even before
quam ad me veniatur, risus omnis paene consumitur.
that to me one-comes the-laughter all almost is-used-up
Quod si in iis scribendis nihil aliud nisi quod necesse 3
But if in those-things writing nothing else except what necessary
fuit de uno me tam diu cogitavisses, ferreus essem si te
it-was about one me so long you-had-thought of-iron I-would-be if you
non amarem; cum vero ea quae scriptura persecutus
not I-loved since indeed those-things which in-writing pursued
es sine summo amore cogitare non potueris, non
you-have without the-highest love to-think not you-could not
possum existimare plus quemquam a se ipso quam
I-can judge more anyone by himself his-own than
me a te amari. Cui quidem ego amori utinam ceteris
me by you to-be-loved To-which indeed I love would-that in-other
rebus possem! amore certe respondebo, quo tamen ipso
things I-could with-love certainly I-will-answer with-which still itself
tibi confido futurum satis.
for-you I-trust going-to-be enough
Nunc ad epistulam venio, cui copiose et suaviter scriptae 4
Now to the-letter I-come to-which abundantly and charmingly written
nihil est quod multa respondeam. Primum enim ego illas
nothing is that much I-should-reply First for I that
Calvo litteras misi non plus quam has, quas nunc legis,
to-Calvus letter sent not more than this which now you-read
existimans exituras; aliter enim scribimus quod eos solos
thinking going-to-get-out otherwise for we-write what those alone
quibus mittimus, aliter quod multos lecturos putamus; deinde
to-whom we-send otherwise what many going-to-read we-think next
ingenium eius melioribus extuli laudibus quam tu id vere
the-talent his with-better I-extolled praises than you that truly

potuisse fieri putas, primum quod ita iudicabam: Acute
to-have-been-able to-be-done think first because so I-was-judging Keenly
movebatur, genus quoddam sequebatur, in quo iudicio lapsus,
he-was-moved a-kind certain he-was-following in which judgment slipping
quo valebat, tamen adsequebatur quod probaret; multae
what he-was-strong-in still he-was-attaining what he-approved many
erant et reconditae litterae, vis non erat; ad eam igitur
were and recondite learning force not there-was to it therefore
adhortabar; in excitando autem et in acuendo plurimum valet,
I-was-urging-him in rousing however and in sharpening the-most it-avails
si laudes eum quem cohortere. Habes de Calvo iudicium et
if you-praise him whom you-exhort You-have about Calvus judgment and
consilium meum, consilium, quod hortandi causa laudavi,
counsel my counsel because of-exhorting for-the-sake I-praised
iudicium, quod de ingenio eius valde existimavi bene.
judgment because about talent his greatly I-thought well
5 Reliquum est tuam profectionem amore prosequar, reditum
Remaining it-is your departure with-love I-may-attend the-return
spe exspectem, absentem memoria colam, omne
with-hope I-may-await absent with-memory I-may-cherish all
desiderium litteris mittendis accipiendisque leniam. Tu
longing by-letters sending and-receiving I-may-soothe You
velim tua in me studia et officia multum tecum
I-would-wish your toward me efforts and services much with-yourself
recordere. Quae cum tibi liceat, mihi nefas sit oblivisci,
you-recall Which since to-you it-is-allowed to-me wrong it-be to-forget
non modo virum bonum me existimabis verum etiam
not only a-man good me you-will-think but even
te a me amari plurimum iudicabis. Vale.
that-you by me to-be-loved most you-will-judge Farewell

BOOK XVI

XVI.1 · TIRO LEFT AT PATRAE

Cicero misses Tiro more than he expected, though he must hurry to Rome, and approves Tiro's wish not to sail until he is strong. If Tiro feels able after eating, he may follow; Mario will bring him or come back. He should sail only with good companions, weather, and ship, and stay at Patrae if his health requires.

Tullius Tironi suo s. p. d. et Cicero meus et
Tullius to-Tiro his-own greeting very-much says and Cicero my and
frater et fratris f.
brother and of-brother son
Paulo facilius putavi posse me ferre desiderium tui, 1
A-little more-easily I-thought to-be-able that-I to-bear the-longing for-you
sed plane non fero et, quamquam magni ad honorem
but plainly not I-bear-it and although greatly to honor
nostrum interest quam primum ad urbem me venire,
our it-matters as first to the-city that-I to-come
tamen peccasse mihi videor qui a te discesserim;
still to-have-erred to-myself I-seem who from you departed
sed quia tua voluntas ea videbatur esse, ut prorsus
but because your wish that seemed to-be that absolutely
nisi confirmato corpore nolles navigare, approbavi
unless with-strengthened the-body you-were-unwilling to-sail I-approved
tuum consilium neque nunc muto, si tu in eadem es
your plan nor now do-I-change-it if you in the-same are
sententia; sin autem, postea quam cibum cepisti, videris
opinion but-if however after that food you-have-taken you-seem
tibi posse me consequi, tuum consilium est. Marionem
to-yourself to-be-able me to-overtake your decision it-is Mario

ad te eo misi, ut aut tecum ad me quam primum
to you for-this-reason I-sent that either with-you to me as first
veniret aut, si tu morarere, statim ad me rediret.
he-should-come or if you should-delay at-once to me he-should-return
2 Tu autem hoc tibi persuade, si commodo valetudinis
You however this yourself persuade if with-convenience of-health
tuae fieri possit, nihil me malle quam te esse mecum;
your to-be-done it-can nothing that-I to-prefer than you to-be with-me
si autem intelleges opus esse te Patris convalescendi
if however you-will-understand needful to-be that-you at-Patrae of-recovering
causa paulum commorari, nihil me malle quam te
for-the-sake a-little to-stay nothing that-I to-prefer than you
valere. Si statim navigas, nos Leucade consequere; sin
to-be-well If at-once you-sail us at-Leucas you-will-overtake but-if
te confirmare vis, et comites et tempestates et
yourself to-strengthen you-wish both companions and weather and
navem idoneam ut habeas diligenter videbis. Unum illud,
a-ship suitable that you-have carefully you-will-see One-thing that
mi Tiro, videto, si me amas, ne te Marionis adventus et
my Tiro see-to if me you-love lest you of-Mario the-arrival and
hae litterae moveant. Quod valetudini tuae maxime conducet
this letter should-move What to-health your most will-conduce
si feceris, maxime obtemperaris voluntati meae.
if you-will-have-done most you-will-have-complied-with wish my
3 Haec pro tuo ingenio considera. Nos ita te
These-things in-accordance-with your good-sense consider We so you
desideramus, ut amemus; amor ut valentem videamus
miss that we-love love that well we-may-see-you
hortatur, desiderium ut quam primum; illud igitur potius.
urges longing that as first that therefore rather

Cura ergo potissimum ut valeas. De tuis innumerabilibus
Take-care then above-all that you-are-well Of your innumerable
in me officiis erit hoc gratissimum. iii Non. Nov.
toward me services will-be this most-pleasing third before-the-Nones of-November

XVI.2 · FROM ALYZIA

Cicero cannot say how he feels; nothing will please him more than to see Tiro strong. He reached Alyzia, and expects Tiro or his letter from Mario at Leucas.

Tullius Tironi suo s.
Tullius to-Tiro his-own greeting
Non queo ad te nec libet scribere quo animo 1
Not I-can to you nor does-it-please to-write in-what mind
sim adfectus; tantum scribo et tibi et mihi maximae
I-am affected only I-write both to-you and to-me for-the-greatest
voluptati fore, si te firmum quam primum videro.
pleasure going-to-be if you strong as first I-shall-see
Tertio die abs te ad Alyziam accesseramus (is locus est
On-the-third day from you to Alyzia we-had-come that place is
citra Leucadem stadia cxx); Leucade aut te ipsum
this-side-of Leucas furlongs a-hundred-twenty At-Leucas either you yourself
aut tuas litteras a Marione putabam me accepturum.
or your letter from Mario I-was-thinking that-I going-to-receive
Quantum me diligis, tantum fac ut valeas, vel quantum
As-much-as me you-esteem so-much see that you-are-well or as-much-as
te a me scis diligi. Non. Nov. Alyzia.
that-you by me you-know to-be-esteemed On-the-Nones of-November at-Alyzia

The family waited a day at Alyzia for Quintus. Cicero, Tiro's master, bids him get strong, and would rather see him well than soon.

Tullius et Cicero Tironi suo s. d. et Q. pater
Tullius and Cicero to-Tiro their-own greeting say and Quintus father
et filius.
and son

1 Nos apud Alyziam, ex quo loco tibi litteras ante
We at Alyzia from which place to-you a-letter before
dederamus, unum diem commorati sumus, quod Quintus
we-had-given one day stayed we-have because Quintus
nos consecutus non erat. Is dies fuit Non. Nov.
us overtaken not had That day was on-the-Nones of-November
Inde ante lucem proficiscentes ante diem viii Idus
Thence before light setting-out on-the day eighth before-the-Ides
Nov. has litteras dedimus. Tu si nos omnis amas et
of-November this letter we-gave You if us all you-love and
praecipue me, magistrum tuum, confirma te.
especially me master your strengthen yourself

2 Ego valde suspenso animo exspecto primum te scilicet,
I with-very anxious mind await first you of-course
deinde Marionem cum tuis litteris. Omnes cupimus, ego
then Mario with your letter All desire I
in primis, quam primum te videre sed, mi Tiro,
among the-first as first you to-see but my Tiro
valentem. Qua re nihil properaris; satis cito te videro,
well By-which thing not-at-all hurry quite soon you I-shall-see

si valebis. Utilitatibus tuis possum carere; te valere
if you-will-be-well Services your I-can do-without that-you to-be-well
tua causa primum volo, tum mea, mi Tiro. Vale.
your for-the-sake first I-wish then mine my Tiro Farewell

XVI.4 · FROM LEUCAS

Tiro's letter first alarmed, then revived Cicero. Tiro should not travel until he is well; the physician's broth was wrong for a weak stomach. Cicero has written to Lyso and Curius, asks Tiro to spare no expense, and counts his countless services; let him serve his body now.

Tullius Tironi suo s. p. d. et Cicero et Q.
Tullius to-Tiro his-own greeting very-much says and Cicero and Quintus
frater et Q. f.
brother and Quintus son
Varie sum adfectus tuis litteris, valde priore pagina 1
Variously I-have been-affected by-your letter greatly by-the-first page
perturbatus, paulum altera recreatus. Qua re nunc
disturbed a-little by-the-second restored By-which thing now
quidem non dubito quin, quoad plane valeas, te neque
indeed not I-doubt that until wholly you-are-well yourself neither
navigationi neque viae committas. Satis te mature videro, si
to-the-voyage nor to-the-road you-will-entrust Quite you early I-shall-see if
plane confirmatum videro. De medico et tu bene existimari
wholly strengthened I-shall-see About the-physician both you well to-be-thought
scribis et ego sic audio; sed plane curationes eius non probo;
you-write and I so hear but plainly treatments his not I-approve
ius enim dandum tibi non fuit, quom κακοστόμαχος esses.
broth for to-be-given to-you not was since with-a-bad-stomach you-were
Sed tamen et ad illum scripsi accurate et ad Lysonem.
But still both to him I-wrote carefully and to Lyso

2 Ad Curium vero, suavissimum hominem et summi offici
To Curius indeed a-most-charming man and of-highest dutifulness
summaeque humanitatis, multa scripsi, in his etiam ut, si
and-of-highest kindness many-things I-wrote among these also that if
tibi videretur, te ad se traferret; Lyso enim noster vereor
to-you it-seemed you to himself he-should-move Lyso for our I-fear
ne neglegentior sit, primum quia omnes Graeci, deinde quod,
lest rather-careless he-be first because all Greeks then because
cum a me litteras accepisset, mihi nullas remisit. Sed eum
when from me a-letter he-had-received to-me none he-sent-back But him
tu laudas; tu igitur quid faciendum sit iudicabis. Illud, mi Tiro,
you praise you then what to-be-done is will-judge That my Tiro
te rogo sumptu ne parcas ulla in re, quod ad valetudinem
you I-ask expense that-not you-spare any in matter which for health
opus sit. Scripsi ad Curium quod dixisses daret. Medico
needful be I-wrote to Curius what you-said he-should-give To-the-physician
ipsi puto aliquid dandum esse, quo sit studiosior.
himself I-think something to-be-given to-be by-which he-be more-zealous
3 Innumerabilia tua sunt in me officia domestica, forensia,
Innumerable your are toward me services domestic forensic
urbana, provincialia, in re privata, in publica, in studiis, in
urban provincial in affairs private in public in studies in
litteris nostris; omnia viceris, si, ut spero, te validum
letters our all you-will-have-surpassed if as I-hope you strong
videro. Ego puto te bellissime, si recte erit, cum
I-shall-see I think that-you most-nicely if well it-will-be with
quaestore Mescinio decursurum. Non inhumanus est teque, ut
the-quaestor Mescinius going-to-run-down Not unkind he-is and-you as
mihi visus est, diligit. Et cum valetudini tuae diligentissime
to-me seemed has he-esteems And when for-health your most-carefully

consulueris, tum, mi Tiro, consulito navigationi. Nulla in
you-will-have-provided then my Tiro provide for-the-voyage No in
re iam te festinare volo; nihil laboro, nisi ut salvus sis.
matter now you to-hurry I-wish nothing I-care-about except that safe you-be
Sic habeto, mi Tiro, neminem esse qui me amet quin 4
So hold my Tiro no-one to-be who me loves but-that
idem te amet, et cum tua et mea maxime interest
the-same you loves and since to-you and to-me most it-matters
te valere, tum multis est curae. Adhuc dum mihi
that-you to-be-well so to-many it-is for-a-concern So-far while to-me
nullo loco deesse vis, numquam te confirmare potuisti;
in-no place to-fail you-wish never yourself to-strengthen you-could
nunc te nihil impedit; omnia depone, corpori servi.
now you nothing binders all-things lay-aside to-body be-a-slave
Quantam diligentiam in valetudinem tuam contuleris,
How-much diligence upon health your you-will-have-bestowed
tanti me fieri a te iudicabo. Vale, mi Tiro, vale,
at-so-much me to-be-valued by you I-shall-judge Farewell my Tiro farewell
vale et salve. Lepta tibi salutem dicit et omnes. Vale.
farewell and be-well Lepta to-you greeting says and all Farewell
vii Id. Nov. Leucade.
seventh before-the-Ides of-November at-Leucas

At Thyrreum their host Xenomenes loves Tiro and promises everything. Tiro should keep Acastus at the harbor to send letters, and trust himself wholly to Curius, preferring health later to weakness now.

Tullius et Cicero et Q. Q. Tironi humanissimo et
Tullius and Cicero and Quintus Quintus to-Tiro most-kind and
optimo s. p. d.
best greeting very-much say

1 Vide quanta sit in te suavitas. Duas horas Thyrrei fuimus.
See how-great is in you the-charm Two hours at-Thyrreum we-were
Xenomenes hospes tam te diligit quam si vixerit tecum.
Xenomenes our-host as-much you esteems as if he-had-lived with-you
Is omnia pollicitus est quae tibi essent opus; facturum
He all-things promised has which to-you should-be needful going-to-do
puto. Mihi placebat, si firmior esses, ut te Leucadem
I-think To-me it-was-pleasing if stronger you-were that you to-Leucas
deportaret, ut ibi te plane confirmares. Videbis quid
he-should-carry that there yourself wholly you-should-strengthen You-will-see what
Curio, quid Lysoni, quid medico placeat. Volebam ad
to-Curius what to-Lyso what to-the-physician may-please I-was-wishing to
te Marionem remittere quem, cum meliuscule tibi esset,
you Mario to-send-back whom when a-little-better to-you it-should-be
ad me mitteres; sed cogitavi unas litteras Marionem
to me you-should-send but I-reflected one letter Mario
adferre posse, me autem crebras exspectare.
to-bring to-be-able me however frequent-ones to-expect

2 Poteris igitur et facies, si me diligis, ut cotidie sit
You-will-be-able then and you-will-do if me you-esteem that daily be
Acastus in portu. Multi erunt quibus recte litteras dare
Acastus in the-harbor Many there-will-be to-whom safely letters to-give

possis, qui ad me libenter perferant; equidem Patras euntem
you-can who to me gladly may-carry-them I-for-my-part to-Patrae going
neminem praetermittam. Ego omnem spem tui diligenter
no-one will-let-pass I all hope of-you carefully
curandi in Curio habeo. Nihil potest illo fieri humanius,
being-cared-for in Curius have Nothing can than-him to-be more-kind
nihil nostri amantius. Ei te totum trade. Malo te paulo
nothing of-us more-loving To-him yourself whole hand-over I-prefer you a-little
post valentem quam statim imbecillum videre. Cura igitur
later well than at-once weak to-see Take-care then
nihil aliud nisi ut valeas; cetera ego curabo. Etiam atque
nothing else except that you-are-well the-rest I will-attend-to Again and
etiam vale. Leucade proficiscens vii Id. Nov.
again farewell from-Leucas setting-out seventh before-the-Ides of-November

XVI.6 · FROM ACTIUM

A third letter the same day: Tiro should care for his health and his voyage, write by every traveler to Italy, and not hurry, since he could not sail with them.

Tullius et Cicero et Q. Q. Tironi s. p. d.
Tullius and Cicero and Quintus Quintus to-Tiro greeting very-much say
Tertiam ad te hanc epistulam scripsi eodem die magis 1
The-third to you this letter I-have-written on-the-same day more
instituti mei tenendi causa, quia nactus eram cui
of-practice my keeping for-the-sake because found I-had someone-to-whom
darem, quam quo haberem quid scriberem. Igitur illa:
I-might-give than because I-had what I-might-write Therefore that
Quantum me diligis, tantum adhibe in te diligentiae;
As-much-as me you-esteem so-much apply on yourself of-diligence

ad tua innumerabilia in me officia adde hoc, quod mihi
to your innumerable toward me services add this which to-me
erit gratissimum omnium; cum valetudinis rationem, ut
will-be most-pleasing of-all when of-health account as
spero, habueris, habeto etiam navigationis;
I-hope you-will-have-had have also of-the-voyage
2 in Italiam euntibus omnibus ad me litteras dabis, ut
into Italy going to-all to me letters you-will-give as
ego euntem Patras neminem praetermitto; cura, cura
I going to-Patrae no-one let-pass take-care take-care
te, mi Tiro. Quoniam non contigit ut simul navigares,
yourself my Tiro Since not it-has-happened that together you-should-sail
nihil est quod festines nec quicquam cures
nothing is that you-should-hurry nor anything should-care-about
nisi ut valeas. Etiam atque etiam vale. vii Idus
except that you-are-well Again and again farewell seventh before-the-Ides
Nov. Actio vesperi.
of-November at-Actium in-the-evening

XVI.7 · HELD AT CORCYRA

Cicero has been held seven days at Corcyra, and no letter has come from Tiro, since the wind that would bring one would also have let Cicero sail; he asks Tiro to come when his health and the season allow.

Tullius et Cicero s. d. Tironi suo.
Tullius and Cicero greeting say to-Tiro their-own
1 Septimum iam diem Corcyrae tenebamur, Quintus autem
The-seventh now day at-Corcyra we-were-held Quintus however
pater et filius Buthroti. Solliciti eramus de tua valetudine
the-father and son at-Buthrotum Anxious we-were about your health

mirum in modum nec mirabamur nihil a te litterarum;
wonderful in measure nor did-we-wonder nothing from you of-letters
iis enim ventis istim navigatur, qui si essent, nos
by-those for winds from-there one-sails which if there-were we
Corcyrae non sederemus. Cura igitur te et confirma et,
at-Corcyra not would-be-sitting Take-care then yourself and strengthen and
cum commode et per valetudinem et per anni tempus
when conveniently both by health and by of-the-year the-season
navigare poteris, ad nos amantissimos tui veni. Nemo
to-sail you-will-be-able to us most-loving of-you come No-one
nos amat qui te non diligat; carus omnibus exspectatusque
us loves who you not esteems dear to-all and-awaited
venies. Cura ut valeas. Etiam atque etiam, Tiro
you-will-come Take-care that you-are-well Again and again Tiro
noster, vale. xv K. Dec. Corcyra.
our farewell fifteenth before-the-Kalends of-December at-Corcyra

XVI.8 · QUINTUS TO TIRO

Quintus Cicero is anxious at Tiro's lingering illness and begs him not to travel by sea or road in winter unless he is strong; cold, says Euripides, is the enemy of thin skin.

Q. Cicero Tironi s. d.
Quintus Cicero to-Tiro greeting says
Magnae nobis est sollicitudini valetudo tua. Nam tametsi 1
For-great to-us is anxiety health your For although
qui veniunt ἀκίνδυνα μὲν χρονιώτερα δέ
those-who come not-dangerous on-the-one-hand rather-lingering on-the-other
nuntiant, tamen in magna consolatione ingens inest
report still in great consolation huge is-present

sollicitudo, si diutius a nobis afuturus es is, cuius usum
anxiety if longer from us going-to-be-away are he whose service
et suavitatem desiderando sentimus. At tamen quamquam
and charm by-missing we-feel But still although
videre te tota cogitatione cupio, tamen te penitus rogo
to-see you with-whole thought I-desire still you earnestly I-ask
ne te tam longae navigationi et viae per hiemem
that-not yourself to-so long voyage and road through winter
nisi bene firmum committas neve naviges nisi explorate.
unless well strong you-entrust nor you-sail unless with-certainty
2 Vix in ipsis tectis et oppidis frigus infirma valetudine
Scarcely in the-very houses and towns cold with-weak health
vitatur, nedum in mari et via sit facile abesse ab
is-avoided much-less on the-sea and road it-be easy to-be-away from
iniuria temporis.
the-harm of-the-weather

Ψῦχος δὲ λεπτῷ χρωτὶ πολεμιώτατον,
Cold and to-thin skin most-hostile

inquit Euripides; cui tu quantum credas nescio; ego
says Euripides whom you how-much you-believe I-know-not I
certe singulos eius versus singula testimonia puto. Effice,
certainly single his verses single testimonies think See
si me diligis, ut valeas et ut ad nos firmus ac valens
if me you-esteem that you-are-well and that to us strong and well
quam primum venias. Ama nos et vale. Quintus f.
as first you-come Love us and farewell Quintus the-son
tibi salutem dicit.
to-you greeting says

Cicero recounts the voyage: to Leucas, Actium, and Corcyra, where storms held them, then a gentle south wind to Hydrus and Brundisium, where Terentia arrived with him. Tiro's letter came at last, and Asclapo says he will soon be well. Cicero urges diligence: Tiro should have skipped Lyso's concert. Curius will pay the physician, a horse and mule await him at Brundisium, and he must not sail rashly but wait for a good escort.

Tullius et Cicero Tironi suo s. p. d.
Tullius and Cicero to-Tiro their-own greeting very-much say

Nos a te, ut scis, discessimus a. d. iiii Non. 1
We from you as you-know departed on-the day fourth before-the-Nones

Nov. Leucadem venimus a. d. viii Id. Nov.,
of-November to-Leucas we-came on-the day eighth before-the-Ides of-November

a. d. vii Actium. Ibi propter tempestatem a. d.
on-the day seventh to-Actium There on-account-of the-weather on-the day

vi Id. morati sumus. Inde a. d. v Id.
sixth before-the-Ides stayed we-have Thence on-the day fifth before-the-Ides

Corcyram bellissime navigavimus. Corcyrae fuimus usque
to-Corcyra most-pleasantly we-sailed At-Corcyra we-were right

ad a. d. xvi K. Dec. tempestatibus
up-to on-the day sixteenth before-the-Kalends of-December by-storms

retenti. A. d. xv K. in portum Corcyraeorum
held-back On-the day fifteenth before-the-Kalends into the-harbor of-the-Corcyraeans

ad Cassiopen stadia cxx processimus. Ibi retenti
at Cassiope furlongs a-hundred-twenty we-advanced There held-back

ventis sumus usque ad a. d. viiii K. Interea,
by-winds we-were right up-to on-the day ninth before-the-Kalends Meanwhile

qui cupide profecti sunt, multi naufragia fecerunt.
who eagerly set-out have many shipwrecks have-made

2 Nos eo die cenati solvimus; inde austro lenissimo
We on-that day having-dined set-sail thence with-the-south-wind most-gentle
caelo sereno nocte illa et die postero in Italiam ad
sky clear in-night that and on-day following into Italy at
Hydruntem ludibundi pervenimus eodemque vento postridie
Hydrus playfully we-arrived and-with-the-same wind the-day-after
(id erat a. d. vii K. Dec.) hora iiii
that was on-the day seventh before-the-Kalends of-December at-the-hour fourth
Brundisium venimus, eodemque tempore simul nobiscum
to-Brundisium we-came and-at-the-same time together with-us
in oppidum introiit Terentia, quae te facit plurimi. A.
into the-town entered Terentia who you values at-the-highest On-the
d. v K. Dec. servus Cn. Planci Brundisi
day fifth before-the-Kalends of-December the-slave of-Gnaeus Plancius at-Brundisium
tandem aliquando mihi a te exspectatissimas litteras
at-last at-length to-me from you the-most-awaited letter
reddidit datas Idibus Nov., quae me molestia valde
delivered dated on-the-Ides of-November which me of-vexation greatly
levarunt; utinam omnino liberassent! Sed tamen Asclapo
relieved would-that wholly it-had-freed But still Asclapo
medicus plane confirmat propediem te valentem fore.
the-physician plainly affirms shortly that-you well going-to-be
3 Nunc quid ego te horter ut omnem diligentiam adhibeas
Now why I you should-urge that all diligence you-apply
ad convalescendum? Tuam prudentiam, temperantiam,
for recovering Your prudence self-control
amorem erga me novi; scio te omnia facturum ut
love toward me I-know I-know that-you all-things going-to-do that
nobiscum quam primum sis, sed tamen ita velim, ut ne
with-us as first you-be but still so I-would-wish that not
quid properes. Symphoniam Lysonis vellem vitasses, ne
at-all you-hurry The-concert of-Lyso I-would-wish you-had-avoided lest

in quartam hebdomada incideres; sed quoniam pudori tuo
into the-fourth week you-should-fall but since to-modesty your
maluisti obsequi quam valetudini, reliqua cura. Curio
you-preferred to-defer than to-health the-rest take-care-of to-Curius
misi ut medico honos haberetur et tibi daret quod
I-sent that to-the-physician a-fee be-given and to-you he-should-give what
opus esset; me cui iussisset curaturum. Ecum et
needful be that-I to-whom he-should-order going-to-pay A-horse and
mulum Brundisi tibi reliqui. Romae vereor ne ex K.
a-mule at-Brundisium for-you I-have-left At-Rome I-fear lest from the-Kalends
Ian. magni tumultus sint. Nos agemus omnia modice.
of-January great commotions there-be We will-do all-things moderately
Reliquum est ut te hoc rogem et a te petam ne temere 4
Remaining it-is that you this I-ask and from you I-beg that-not rashly
naviges (solent nautae festinare quaestus sui causa), cautus
you-sail are-wont sailors to-hurry of-gain their for-the-sake cautious
sis, mi Tiro (mare magnum et difficile tibi restat), si
you-be my Tiro a-sea great and difficult for-you remains if
poteris, cum Mescinio (caute is solet navigare), si minus,
you-will-be-able with Mescinius cautiously he is-wont to-sail if not
cum honesto aliquo homine, cuius auctoritate navicularius
with an-honorable some man by-whose authority the-shipmaster
moveatur. In hoc omnem diligentiam si adhibueris
may-be-moved On this all diligence if you-will-have-applied
teque nobis incolumem steteris, omnia a te habebo.
and-yourself to-us unharmed you-will-have-set all-things from you I-shall-have
Etiam atque etiam, noster Tiro, vale. Medico, Curio,
Again and again our Tiro farewell To-the-physician to-Curius
Lysoni de te scripsi diligentissime. Vale, salve.
to-Lyso about you I-have-written most-carefully Farewell be-well

Cicero wants Tiro with him but fears the road after his grave illness. His little writings have languished without Tiro; Pompey, visiting, heard that Cicero's muses are dumb without him.

Tullius Tironi s.

Tullius to-Tiro greeting

1 Ego vero cupio te ad me venire, sed viam timeo.

I indeed desire that-you to me to-come but the-road I-fear

Gravissime aegrotasti, inedia et purgationibus et vi

Most-gravely you-have-been-ill by-fasting and purgings and by-the-force

ipsius morbi consumptus es; graves solent offensiones

of-the-very disease worn-out you-have-been serious are-wont relapses

esse ex gravibus morbis, si quae culpa commissa est;

to-be from serious diseases if any fault committed has-been

iam ad id biduum, quod fueris in via, dum

now to that two-days which you-will-have-been on the-road while

in Cumanum venis, accedent continuo ad reditum dies

to the-Cuman you-come will-be-added at-once for the-return days

quinque. Ego in Formiano a. d. iii K. esse

five I in the-Formian on-the day third before-the-Kalends to-be

volo. Ibi te ut firmum offendam, mi Tiro, effice.

I-wish There you that strong I-may-find my Tiro bring-about

2 Litterulae meae sive nostrae tui desiderio oblanguerunt,

Little-letters my or ours for-you with-longing have-languished

hac tamen epistula, quam Acastus attulit, oculos paulum

by-this still letter which Acastus brought their-eyes a-little

sustulerunt. Pompeius erat apud me, cum haec scribebam,

they-have-raised Pompey was with me when these-things I-was-writing

hilare et libenter. Ei cupienti audire nostra dixi sine

cheerfully and gladly To-him desiring to-hear our-things I-said without

te omnia mea muta esse. Tu Musis nostris para ut
you all my-things dumb to-be You for-Muses our prepare that
operas reddas. Nostra ad diem dictam fient; docui
services you-may-render Our-things on the-day appointed will-be-done I-taught
enim te fides ἔτυμον quod haberet. Fac plane ut
for you of-good-faith the-etymology what it-had See plainly that
valeas. Nos adsumus. Vale. xiiii K.
you-are-well We are-at-hand Farewell fourteenth before-the-Kalends

XVI.11 · THE FLAME OF CIVIL WAR

Tiro's quartan fever grieves Cicero for Tiro's sake. Cicero reached Rome to a splendid welcome but fell into the flame of civil war: Caesar sent a threatening letter, Curio urged him on, and after the senate charged the magistrates to defend the state, the tribunes fled to Caesar. Pompey is preparing, the senate asked a triumph for Cicero, Italy has been divided, and Cicero has Capua.

Tullius et Cicero, Terentia, Tullia, Q. Q. Tironi
Tullius and Cicero Terentia Tullia Quintus Quintus to-Tiro
s. p. d.
greeting very-much say
Etsi opportunitatem operae tuae omnibus locis desidero, 1
Although the-convenience of-service your in-all places I-miss
tamen non tam mea quam tua causa doleo te non
still not so-much my as your for-the-sake I-grieve that-you not
valere; sed quoniam in quartanam conversa vis est
to-be-well but since into a-quartan-fever turned the-force has-been
morbi (sic enim scribit Curius), spero te diligentia
of-the-disease so for writes Curius I-hope that-you with-diligence
adhibita iam firmiorem fore; modo fac, id quod est
applied now stronger going-to-be only do that which is

humanitatis tuae, ne quid aliud cures hoc tempore
of-good-sense your that-not anything else you-care-about at-this time
nisi ut quam commodissime convalescas. Non ignoro
except that as most-comfortably you-recover Not I-am-unaware
quantum ex desiderio labores; sed erunt omnia facilia,
how-much from longing you-labor but will-be all-things easy
si valebis. Festinare te nolo, ne nauseae molestiam
if you-will-be-well To-hurry you I-do-not-wish lest of-seasickness the-trouble
suscipias aeger et periculose hieme naviges. Ego ad urbem
you-take-on sick and dangerously in-winter you-sail I to the-city
accessi pr. Non. Ian.
approached the-day-before the-Nones of-January

2 Obviam mihi sic est proditum, ut nihil possit fieri
To-meet me so has been-come-forth that nothing could be-done
ornatius; sed incidi in ipsam flammam civilis discordiae
more-splendidly but I-fell into the-very flame of-civil discord
vel potius belli. Cui cum cuperem mederi et, ut
or rather of-war To-which when I-desired to-bring-remedy and as
arbitror, possem, cupiditates certorum hominum (nam ex
I-think could the-desires of-certain men for on
utraque parte sunt qui pugnare cupiant) impedimento mihi
each side there-are who to-fight desire for-a-hindrance to-me
fuerunt. Omnino et ipse Caesar, amicus noster, minacis ad
have-been Indeed both himself Caesar friend our threatening to
senatum et acerbas litteras miserat et erat adhuc impudens
the-senate and bitter letter had-sent and was still shameless
qui exercitum et provinciam invito senatu teneret, et
who the-army and province against-the-will-of the-senate held and
Curio meus illum incitabat; Antonius quidem noster et
Curio my him was-spurring-on Antony indeed our and
Q. Cassius nulla vi expulsi ad Caesarem cum Curione
Quintus Cassius by-no force expelled to Caesar with Curio

profecti erant, postea quam senatus consulibus, pr., tr.
set-out had after that the-senate to-the-consuls praetors tribunes
pl. et nobis, qui pro coss. sumus, negotium dederat
of-the-plebs and to-us who as proconsuls are the-task had-given
ut curaremus ne quid res p. detrimenti caperet.
that we-should-take-care lest any the-thing public of-harm should-take
Numquam maiore in periculo civitas fuit, numquam improbi 3
Never greater in danger the-state was never the-wicked
cives habuerunt paratiorem ducem. Omnino ex hac quoque
citizens have-had a-readier leader To-be-sure on this also
parte diligentissime comparatur. Id fit auctoritate
side most-carefully preparation-is-made That is-done by-the-authority
et studio Pompei nostri, qui Caesarem sero coepit
and zeal of-Pompey our who Caesar late began
timere. Nobis inter has turbas senatus tamen frequens
to-fear For-us amid these turmoils the-senate still full
flagitavit triumphum; sed Lentulus consul, quo maius suum
demanded a-triumph but Lentulus the-consul that greater his
beneficium faceret, simul atque expedisset quae
kindness he-might-make as-soon as he-had-dispatched what-things
essent necessaria de re p. dixit se relaturum. Nos
were necessary about the-thing public said that-he going-to-move-it We
agimus nihil cupide eoque est nostra pluris auctoritas.
do nothing eagerly and-by-this is our of-more-weight authority
Italiae regiones discriptae sunt, quam quisque partem
of-Italy the-regions apportioned have-been what each part
tueretur. Nos Capuam sumpsimus. Haec te scire volui.
should-protect We Capua have-taken These-things you to-know I-wished
Tu etiam atque etiam cura ut valeas litterasque ad
You again and again take-care that you-are-well and-letters to

me mittas, quotienscumque habebis cui des.
me send as-often-as you-will-have someone-to-whom you-may-give
Etiam atque etiam vale. D. pr. Idus Ian.
Again and again farewell Dated the-day-before the-Ides of-January

XVI.12 · ROME ABANDONED

Cicero and the good have left Rome to plunder or fire. Caesar has seized towns and offers terms: Pompey to go to Spain, the levies dismissed, Caesar to hand over his Gauls and stand for the consulship in person. They accepted if he withdraws his garrisons; if he refuses, war is ready. Labienus has left him. Cicero commands the coast at Formiae. Varro will care for Tiro, who should not sail sick or in winter.

Tullius s. d. Tironi suo.
Tullius greeting says to-Tiro his-own
1 Quo in discrimine versetur salus mea et bonorum omnium
What in crisis is-placed the-safety my and of-the-good all
atque universae rei p. ex eo scire potes quod domos
and of-the-whole thing public from this to-know you-can that houses
nostras et patriam ipsam vel diripiendam vel inflammandam
our and country itself either to-be-plundered or to-be-burned
reliquimus. In eum locum res deducta est ut, nisi qui
we-have-left Into that place the-matter brought has-been that unless some
deus vel casus aliquis subvenerit, salvi esse nequeamus.
god or chance some will-have-come-to-help safe to-be we-cannot
2 Equidem ut veni ad urbem, non destiti omnia et sentire et
For-my-part when I-came to the-city not I-ceased all-things both to-feel and
dicere et facere quae ad concordiam pertinerent; sed mirus
to-say and to-do which to concord pertained but a-wonderful
invaserat furor non solum improbis sed etiam iis qui boni
had-seized madness not only the-wicked but also those who good

habentur, ut pugnare cuperent me clamante nihil esse bello
are-held so-that to-fight they-desired me crying-out nothing to-be than-war
civili miserius. Itaque cum Caesar amentia quadam raperetur
civil more-wretched And-so when Caesar by-madness a-certain was-swept-along
et oblitus nominis atque honorum suorum Ariminum,
and forgetful of-name and honors his Ariminum
Pisaurum, Anconam, Arretium occupavisset, urbem reliquimus,
Pisaurum Ancona Arretium had-seized the-city we-left
quam sapienter aut quam fortiter nihil attinet disputari.
how wisely or how bravely nothing matters to-be-argued
Quo quidem in casu simus vides. Feruntur omnino 3
What indeed in plight we-are you-see Are-offered to-be-sure
condiciones ab illo, ut Pompeius eat in Hispaniam, dilectus
terms by him that Pompey go into Spain the-levies
qui sunt habiti et praesidia nostra dimittantur; se
which have been-held and garrisons our be-dismissed that-he
ulteriorem Galliam Domitio, citeriorem Considio Noniano
Farther Gaul to-Domitius Hither to-Considius Nonianus
(his enim obtigerunt) traditurum; ad consulatus petitionem
to-these for they-fell-by-lot going-to-hand-over for of-the-consulship the-candidacy
se venturum, neque se iam velle absente se rationem
that-he going-to-come nor himself now to-wish absent himself account
haberi suam; se praesentem trinum nundinum petiturum.
to-be-taken of-him that-he present for-three market-days going-to-canvass
Accepimus condiciones, sed ita, ut removeat praesidia ex
We-have-accepted the-terms but so that he-remove the-garrisons from
iis locis quae occupavit, ut sine metu de his ipsis
those places which he-has-seized that without fear about these very
condicionibus Romae senatus haberi possit.
terms at-Rome a-senate to-be-held can

4 Id ille si fecerit, spes est pacis, non honestae (leges
That he if will-have-done hope there-is of-peace not honorable laws
enim imponuntur); sed quidvis est melius quam sic esse ut
for are-imposed but anything is better than so to-be as
sumus. Sin autem ille suis condicionibus stare noluerit,
we-are But-if however he by-his terms to-stand will-be-unwilling
bellum paratum est, eius modi tamen quod sustinere ille
war prepared is of-such kind still which to-withstand he
non possit, praesertim cum a suis condicionibus ipse
not can especially since from his terms he-himself
fugerit; tantum modo ut eum intercludamus ne ad urbem
will-have-fled only provided that him we-cut-off lest to the-city
possit accedere, quod sperabamus fieri posse. Dilectus
he-can approach which we-were-hoping to-be-done to-be-able Levies
enim magnos habebamus putabamusque illum metuere, si
for great we-were-holding and-we-thought him to-fear if
ad urbem ire coepisset, ne Gallias amitteret, quas ambas
to the-city to-go he-had-begun lest the-Gauls he-should-lose which both
habet inimicissimas praeter Transpadanos, ex Hispaniaque
he-has most-hostile except the-Transpadanes from and-Spain
sex legiones et magna auxilia Afranio et Petreio ducibus
six legions and great auxiliaries with-Afranius and Petreius as-leaders
habet a tergo. Videtur, si insaniet, posse opprimi, modo
he-has at the-back He-seems if he-will-be-mad to-be-able to-be-crushed only
ut urbe salva. Maximam autem plagam accepit
provided with-the-city safe The-greatest however blow he-has-received
quod, is qui summam auctoritatem in illius exercitu habebat,
that he who the-highest authority in his army had
T. Labienus socius sceleris esse noluit. Reliquit illum
Titus Labienus a-partner of-crime to-be was-unwilling He-has-left him
et est nobiscum multique idem facturi esse dicuntur.
and is with-us and-many the-same going-to-do to-be are-said

Ego adhuc orae maritimae praesum a Formiis. Nullum 5
I so-far over-the-coast maritime preside from Formiae No
maius negotium suscipere volui, quo plus apud illum meae
greater task to-undertake I-wished so-that more with him my
litterae cohortationesque ad pacem valerent. Sin autem
letters and-exhortations to peace might-avail But-if however
erit bellum, video me castris et certis legionibus
there-will-be war I-see that-I over-a-camp and particular legions
praefuturum. Habeo etiam illam molestiam, quod Dolabella
going-to-preside I-have also this vexation that Dolabella
noster apud Caesarem est. Haec tibi nota esse volui;
our with Caesar is These-things to-you known to-be I-wished
quae cave ne te perturbent et impediant valetudinem tuam.
which beware lest you they-disturb and hinder health your
Ego A. Varroni, quem quom amantissimum mei 6
I to-Aulus Varro whom both most-loving of-me
cognovi tum etiam valde tui studiosum, diligentissime te
I-have-found and also very of-you fond most-carefully you
commendavi, ut et valetudinis tuae rationem haberet et
I-have-commended that both of-health your account he-should-have and
navigationis et totum te susciperet ac tueretur. Quem
of-the-voyage and wholly you he-should-take-up and protect Whom
omnia facturum confido; recepit enim et mecum locutus
all-things going-to-do I-trust he-promised for and with-me spoken
est suavissime. Tu quoniam eo tempore mecum esse non
has most-charmingly You since at-that time with-me to-be not
potuisti, quo ego maxime operam et fidelitatem desideravi
you-could when I most service and loyalty missed
tuam, cave festines aut committas ut aut aeger aut
your beware you-hurry or allow that either sick or
hieme naviges. Numquam sero te venisse putabo, si
in-winter you-sail Never late that-you to-have-come I-shall-think if

salvus veneris. Adhuc neminem videram qui te postea
safe you-will-have-come So-far no-one I-had-seen who you after
vidisset quam M. Volusius, a quo tuas litteras accepi.
had-seen than Marcus Volusius from whom your letter I-received
Quod non mirabar; neque enim meas puto ad te litteras
Which not I-wondered nor for my I-think to you letters
tanta hieme perferri. Sed da operam ut valeas et,
in-so-great winter to-be-carried But give effort that you-are-well and
si valebis, cum recte navigari poterit, tum naviges.
if you-will-be-well when safely to-be-sailed it-will-be-possible then you-sail
Cicero meus in Formiano erat, Terentia et Tullia Romae.
Cicero my in the-Formian was Terentia and Tullia at-Rome
Cura ut valeas. iiii K. Febr. Capua.
Take-care that you-are-well fourth before-the-Kalends of-February at-Capua

XVI.13 · MENANDER AWAITED

Cicero will count everything done if he sees Tiro well; he awaits Menander's news.

Tullius Tironi s.
Tullius to-Tiro greeting
1 Omnia a te data mihi putabo, si te valentem videro.
All-things by you given to-me I-shall-think if you well I-shall-see
Summa cura exspectabam adventum Menandri, quem
With-the-greatest anxiety I-was-awaiting the-arrival of-Menander whom
ad te miseram. Cura, si me diligis, ut valeas et, cum
to you I-had-sent Take-care if me you-esteem that you-are-well and when
te bene confirmaris, ad nos venias. Vale. iiii
yourself well you-will-have-strengthened to us you-come Farewell fourth
Id. Apr.
before-the-Ides of-April

Andricus brought no clear news, and Cicero spent a night of fear. Tiro is said to fret, which hinders his recovery; he should rouse his learning, keep Acastus, and come, since the promised day is near.

Tullius Tironi s.

Tullius to-Tiro greeting

Andricus postridie ad me venit quam exspectaram; itaque 1
Andricus the-day-after to me came than I-had-expected and-so
habui noctem plenam timoris ac miseriae. Tuis litteris nihilo
I-had a-night full of-fear and misery By-your letter by-nothing
sum factus certior quo modo te haberes, sed tamen
I-was made more-certain in-what way yourself you-were but still
sum recreatus. Ego omni delectatione litterisque omnibus
I-have-been restored I from-all delight and-letters all
careo, quas ante quam te videro attingere non possum.
am-cut-off which before that you I-shall-see to-touch not I-can
Medico, mercedis quantum poscet, promitti iubeto.
To-the-physician of-fee as-much-as he-will-ask to-be-promised order
Id scripsi ad Ummium. Audio te animo angi et 2
That I-wrote to Ummius I-hear that-you in-mind to-be-distressed and
medicum dicere ex eo te laborare. Si me diligis, excita
the-physician to-say from that you to-suffer If me you-esteem rouse
ex somno tuas litteras humanitatemque, propter quam
from sleep your learning and-kindness on-account-of which
mihi es carissimus. Nunc opus est te animo valere,
to-me you-are dearest Now need is that-you in-mind to-be-well
ut corpore possis. Id cum tua tum mea causa
that in-body you-may-be-able That both your and my for-the-sake
facias a te peto. Acastum retine, quo commodius tibi
you-do from you I-ask Acastus keep that more-conveniently to-you

ministretur. Conserva te mihi. Dies promissorum
it-may-be-ministered Preserve yourself for-me The-day of-the-promises
adest, quem etiam repraesentabo, si adveneris. Etiam
is-at-hand which even I-will-pay-in-advance if you-will-have-come Again
atque etiam vale. iii Idus h. vi.
and again farewell third before-the-Ides at-the-hour sixth

XVI.15 · A SHAKY HAND

Aegypta reported Tiro free of fever but unable to write; then Hermia brought his letter in a shaky hand. Cicero sends Aegypta, and a cook.

Tullius Tironi s.
Tullius to-Tiro greeting
1 Aegypta ad me venit pr. Idus Apr. Is etsi mihi
Aegypta to me came the-day-before the-Ides of-April He although to-me
nuntiavit te plane febri carere et belle habere, tamen,
he-reported that-you wholly of-fever to-be-free and nicely to-be still
quod negavit te potuisse ad me scribere, curam mi
because he-said-not that-you to-have-been-able to me to-write anxiety to-me
attulit, et eo magis, quod Hermia, quem eodem die
he-brought and by-this more because Hermia who on-the-same day
venire oportuerat, non venerat. Incredibili sum sollicitudine
to-come ought not had-come With-incredible I-am anxiety
de tua valetudine; qua si me liberaris, ego te
about your health from-which if me you-will-have-freed I you
omni cura liberabo. Plura scriberem, si iam putarem
from-all care will-free More-things I-would-write if now I-thought
libenter te legere posse. Ingenium tuum, quod ego
gladly that-you to-read to-be-able The-talent your which I

maximi facio, confer ad te mihi tibique conservandum;
at-the-highest value apply to yourself to-me and-to-you to-be-preserved
cura te etiam atque etiam diligenter. Vale.
take-care-of yourself again and again carefully Farewell
Scripta iam epistula Hermia venit. Accepi tuam epistulam 2
Written already the-letter Hermia came I-received your letter
vacillantibus litterulis, nec mirum tam gravi morbo. Ego
with-tottering little-letters nor wonder in-so grave illness I
ad te Aegyptam misi, quod nec inhumanus est et te
to you Aegypta sent because not unkind he-is and you
visus est mihi diligere, ut is tecum esset, et cum eo
seemed he-has to-me to-esteem that he with-you might-be and with him
cocum, quo uterere. Vale.
a-cook whom you-might-use Farewell

XVI.16 · QUINTUS ON TIRO'S FREEDOM

Quintus thanks Marcus for making Tiro a friend rather than a slave: he leapt for joy at their letters, and Tiro's learning and courtesy are worth more even than Statius' loyalty.

Quintus Marco fratri s.
Quintus to-Marcus his-brother greeting
De Tirone, mi Marce, ita te meumque Ciceronem et meam 1
About Tiro my Marcus so you and-my Cicero and my
Tulliolam tuumque filium videam, ut mihi gratissimum
Tulliola and-your son may-I-see as to-me most-pleasing
fecisti, quom eum indignum illa fortuna ac nobis amicum
you-have-done when him unworthy of-that fortune and to-us a-friend

quam servum esse maluisti. Mihi crede, tuis et illius litteris
than a-slave to-be you-preferred Me believe your and his letters
perlectis exsilui gaudio et tibi et ago gratias et gratulor.
read-through I-leapt with-joy and to-you both I-give thanks and I-congratulate
2 Si enim mihi Stati fidelitas est tantae voluptati, quanti
If for to-me of-Statius the-loyalty is for-so-great pleasure how-much
esse in isto haec eadem bona debent additis
to-be in that-man these same good-qualities ought with-the-addition-of
litteris, sermonibus, humanitate, quae sunt his ipsis
letters conversation kindness which are than-these very
commodis potiora! Amo te omnibus equidem de maximis
advantages preferable I-love you for-all for-my-part for greatest
causis, verum etiam propter hanc vel quod mihi sic ut
reasons but also on-account-of this even because to-me so as
debuisti nuntiasti. Te totum in litteris vidi. Sabini
you-ought you-have-announced-it You whole in the-letter I-saw to-Sabinus'
pueris et promisi omnia et faciam.
slaves both I-have-promised all-things and I-will-do-them

XVI.17 · FAITHFULLY SERVING

Cicero sees that Tiro wants his own letters included in the collection, and teases him for writing that he serves his health faithfully, since faithful belongs to duty; Theophrastus allows a modest transfer. Demetrius came. Tiro should serve his health, and Cicero thanks him for helping Cuspius.

Tullius Tironi s.
Tullius to-Tiro greeting
1 Video quid agas; tuas quoque epistulas vis referri
I-see what you-are-at your also letters you-wish to-be-included
in volumina. Sed heus tu, qui κανών esse meorum
in the-rolls But hey you who the-rule to-be of-my

scriptorum soles, unde illud tam ἄκυρον ‘valetudini fideliter
writings are-wont whence that so improper for-health faithfully
inserviendo’? unde in istum locum ‘fideliter’ venit? cui
serving whence into that place faithfully has-come to-which
verbo domicilium est proprium in officio, migrationes in
word the-home is proper in duty migrations into
alienum multae; nam et doctrina et domus et ars et
another's many for both learning and a-house and art and
ager etiam ‘fidelis’ dici potest, ut sit, quo modo
a-field even faithful to-be-called can so-that it-be in-what way
Theophrasto placet, verecunda tralatio. Sed haec coram.
to-Theophrastus it-pleases a-modest transfer But these-things face-to-face
Demetrius venit ad me a quo quidem comitatu ἀφωμίλησα 2
Demetrius came to me from which indeed company I-detached-myself
satis scite. Tu eum videlicet non potuisti videre. Cras
quite cleverly You him of-course not could see Tomorrow
aderit; videbis igitur; nam ego hinc perendie
he-will-be-here you-will-see-him then for I from-here the-day-after-tomorrow
mane cogito. Valetudo tua me valde sollicitat; sed inservi et
early I-intend Health your me greatly troubles but serve and
fac omnia. Tum te mecum esse, tum mihi cumulatissime
do all-things Both you with-me to-be and to-me most-abundantly
satis facere putato. Cuspio quod operam dedisti mihi
satisfaction to-make think for-Cuspius that effort you-gave to-me
gratum est; valde enim eius causa volo. Vale.
pleasing it-is greatly for his for-the-sake I-wish Farewell

Cicero discusses a phrase, rejoices that perspiring helped Tiro, and tells him what health demands: digestion, rest, moderate walking, massage, and easy bowels. The gardener should be stirred, since Helico paid more for a worse garden. Cicero will send a clock and books, and asks whether Tiro is composing something Sophoclean.

Tullius Tironi s.

Tullius to-Tiro greeting

1 Quid igitur? non sic oportet? Equidem censeo sic, addendum
What then not so it-is-proper For-my-part I-think thus to-be-added
etiam ‘suo.’ Sed, si placet, invidia vitetur, quam quidem
also his But if it-pleases ill-will let-it-be-avoided which indeed
ego saepe contempsi. Tibi διαφόρησιν gaudeo profuisse;
I often have-despised That-to-you perspiring I-rejoice to-have-done-good
si vero etiam Tusculanum, dei boni! quanto mihi illud
if indeed also the-Tusculan gods good how-much to-me that
erit amabilius! Sed si me amas, quod quidem aut facis
will-be more-lovable But if me you-love which indeed either you-do
aut perbelle simulas, quod tamen in modum procedit, sed,
or very-prettily you-feign which still into a-way proceeds but
ut ut est, indulge valetudini tuae; cui quidem tu adhuc,
however it is indulge health your which indeed you so-far
dum mihi deservis, servisti non satis. Ea quid
while me you-are-devotedly-serving you-have-served not enough It what
postulet non ignoras, πέψιν, ἀκοπίαν, περίπατον
it-may-demand not you-are-unaware digestion freedom-from-fatigue walking
σύμμετρον, τρῖψιν, εὐλυσίαν κοιλίας. Fac bellus revertare;
moderate massage easy-working of-the-bowels See-that charming you-return
non modo te sed etiam Tusculanum nostrum plus amem.
not only you but also Tusculan our more I-may-love

Parhedrum excita ut hortum ipse conducat; sic holitorem 2
Parhedrus rouse that the-garden himself he-may-lease so the-gardener
ipsum commovebis. Helico nequissimus HS ∞ dabat
himself you-will-stir Helico most-worthless sesterces a-thousand was-giving
nullo aprico horto, nullo emissario, nulla maceria, nulla
with-no sunny garden with-no drain with-no wall with-no
casa. Iste nos tanta impensa derideat? Calface
but That-fellow us at-such-great expense should-be-mock Warm-up
hominem ut ego Mothonem; itaque abutor coronis.
the-man as I Motho and-so I-am-using-up garlands
De Crabra quid agatur, etsi nunc quidem etiam 3
About the-Crabra what is-being-done although now indeed even
nimium est aquae, tamen velim scire. Horologium
too-much there-is of-water still I-would-wish to-know A-clock
mittam et libros, si erit sudum. Sed tu nullosne tecum
I-will-send and books if it-will-be fine But you no with-you
libellos? an pangis aliquid Sophocleum? Fac opus
little-books or are-you-composing something Sophoclean See-that the-work
appareat. A. Ligurius, Caesaris familiaris, mortuus est,
appear Aulus Ligurius of-Caesar intimate died has
bonus homo et nobis amicus. Te quando exspectemus fac
a-good man and to-us a-friend You when should-we-expect see
ut sciam. Cura te diligenter. Vale.
that I-know Take-care-of yourself carefully Farewell

XVI.19 · THE AUFIDIAN DEBT

Cicero awaits Tiro's letters and Tiro himself; he should finish the Aufidian business, or fly to Cicero if it does not hold him.

Tullius Tironi suo s.
Tullius to-Tiro his-own greeting
1 Exspecto tuas litteras de multis rebus, te ipsum multo magis.
I-await your letter about many things you yourself much more
Demetrium redde nostrum et aliud, si quid potest boni. De
Demetrius render ours and other if any can-be of-good About
Aufidiano nomine nihil te hortor; scio tibi curae esse; sed
the-Aufidian debt not-at-all you I-urge I-know to-you a-concern to-be but
confice. Et, si ob eam rem moraris, accipio causam;
finish-it And if on-account-of that matter you-are-delaying I-accept the-reason
si id te non tenet, advola. Litteras tuas valde exspecto. Vale.
if that you not holds fly-here Letter your greatly I-await Farewell

XVI.20 · ARRANGE THE BOOKS

Tiro's health troubles Cicero, who trusts he will soon be strong. Tiro should arrange the books, the catalog when Metrodorus pleases; he may watch the gladiators on the Kalends and return the next day.

Tullius Tironi s.
Tullius to-Tiro greeting
1 Sollicitat, ita vivam, me tua, mi Tiro, valetudo; sed
Troubles so may-I-live me your my Tiro health but
confido, si diligentiam quam instituisti adhibueris, cito
I-trust if diligence which you-have-begun you-will-have-applied quickly

te firmum fore. Libros compone; indicem, cum
that-you strong going-to-be The-books arrange the-catalog when
Metrodoro libebit, quoniam eius arbitratu vivendum est.
to-Metrodorus it-will-please since by-his decision to-be-lived it-is
Cum holitore, ut videtur. Tu potes Kalendis spectare
With the-gardener as it-seems You can on-the-Kalends to-watch
gladiatores, postridie redire, et ita censeo; verum, ut
the-gladiators the-day-after to-return and so I-think but as
videbitur. Cura te, si me amas, diligenter. Vale.
it-will-seem Take-care-of yourself if me you-love carefully Farewell

XVI.21 · YOUNG CICERO AT ATHENS

Young Cicero thanks Tiro for his letter after a long wait and for accepting his excuse. He regrets the errors of his youth and promises better reports. Cratippus treats him as a son; Bruttius is his companion; he declaims in Greek with Cassius and in Latin with Bruttius. He dismissed Gorgias at his father's order, rejoices at Tiro's new farm, and asks for a copyist.

Cicero f. Tironi suo dulcissimo s.
Cicero the-son to-Tiro his-own sweetest greeting
Cum vehementer tabellarios exspectarem cotidie, aliquando 1
When vehemently the-letter-carriers I-was-awaiting daily at-last
venerunt post diem quadragesimum et sextum quam a
they-came after day the-fortieth and sixth than from
vobis discesserant. Quorum mihi fuit adventus exoptatissimus;
you they-had-departed Whose to-me was arrival most-longed-for
nam cum maximam cepissem laetitiam ex humanissimi
for both the-greatest I-had-taken joy from of-the-kindest
et carissimi patris epistula, tum vero iucundissimae tuae
and dearest father the-letter and indeed most-delightful your

litterae cumulum mihi gaudi attulerunt. Itaque me iam non
letter a-crown to-me of-joy brought And-so me now not
paenitebat intercapedinem scribendi fecisse sed potius
it-was-repenting a-pause of-writing to-have-made but rather
laetabar; fructum enim magnum humanitatis tuae capiebam
I-was-rejoicing fruit for great of-kindness your I-was-reaping
ex silentio mearum litterarum. Vehementer igitur gaudeo
from the-silence of-my letters Vehemently therefore I-rejoice
te meam sine dubitatione accepisse excusationem.
that-you my without hesitation to-have-accepted excuse

2 Gratos tibi optatosque esse qui de me rumores adferuntur
Welcome to-you and-longed-for to-be which about me rumors are-brought
non dubito, mi dulcissime Tiro, praestaboque et enitar
not I-doubt my sweetest Tiro and-I-will-make-good and I-will-strive
ut in dies magis magisque haec nascens de me duplicetur
that into days more and-more this growing about me may-be-doubled
opinio. Qua re, quod polliceris te bucinatorem
opinion By-which thing as-for-what you-promise that-you trumpeter
fore existimationis meae, firmo id constantique animo
going-to-be of-reputation my with-firm it and-steady mind
facias licet; tantum enim mihi dolorem cruciatumque
you-may-do it-is-allowed so-much for to-me grief and-torment
attulerunt errata aetatis meae, ut non solum animus a
have-brought the-errors of-age my that not only mind from
factis sed aures quoque a commemoratione abhorreant.
the-deeds but ears also from the-mention shrink
Cuius te sollicitudinis et doloris participem fuisse
Of-which that-you anxiety and grief sharer to-have-been
notum exploratumque est mihi, nec id mirum; nam cum
known and-assured is to-me nor that wonderful for both

omnia mea causa velles mihi successa tum etiam tua;
all-things my for-the-sake you-wished to-me succeeded and also yours
socium enim te meorum commodorum semper esse volui.
partner for you of-my advantages always to-be I-have-wished
Quoniam igitur tum ex me doluisti, nunc ut duplicetur 3
Since therefore then from me you-grieved now that may-be-doubled
tuum ex me gaudium praestabo. Cratippo me scito
your from me joy I-will-make-sure to-Cratippus me know
non ut discipulum sed ut filium esse coniunctissimum;
not as a-pupil but as a-son to-be most-closely-joined
nam cum audio illum libenter tum etiam propriam eius
for both I-hear him gladly and also own his
suavitatem vehementer amplector. Sum totos dies cum eo
charm vehemently I-embrace I-am whole days with him
noctisque saepe numero partem; exoro enim ut mecum
and-of-the-night often in-number part I-beg for that with-me
quam saepissime cenet. Hac introducta consuetudine
as most-often he-may-dine With-this introduced habit
saepe inscientibus nobis et cenantibus obrepit sublataque
often unawares us and dining he-creeps-up and-removed
severitate philosophiae humanissime nobiscum iocatur. Qua
the-severity of-philosophy most-kindly with-us he-jokes By-which
re da operam ut hunc talem, tam iucundum, tam
thing give effort that this such so delightful so
excellentem virum videas quam primum.
excellent man you-may-see as first
Nam quid ego de Bruttio dicam? quem nullo tempore 4
For what I about Bruttius should-say whom at-no time
a me patior discedere; cuius cum frugi severaque est vita
from me I-allow to-depart whose both frugal and-strict is life
tum etiam iucundissima convictio; non est enim seiunctus
and also most-delightful companionship not is for separated

iocus a φιλολογίᾳ et cotidiana συζητήσει. Huic ego
joking from learned-talk and daily joint-inquiry For-him I
locum in proximo conduxi et, ut possum, ex meis
a-place in the-neighborhood have-hired and as I-can from my
angustiis illius sustento tenuitatem.
narrow-means his I-support poverty
5 Praeterea declamitare Graece apud Cassium institui, Latine
Besides to-declaim in-Greek with Cassius I-have-begun in-Latin
autem apud Bruttium exerceri volo. Utor familiaribus et
however with Bruttius to-be-exercised I-wish I-use as-intimate and
cotidianis convictoribus, quos secum Mitylenis Cratippus
daily companions those-whom with-himself from-Mytilene Cratippus
adduxit, hominibus et doctis et illi probatissimis.
brought men both learned and to-him most-approved
Multum etiam mecum est Epicrates, princeps Atheniensium,
Much also with-me is Epicrates the-chief of-the-Athenians
et Leonides et horum ceteri similes. Τὰ μὲν οὖν
and Leonides and of-these the-rest like-ones The-things indeed then
καθ' ἡμᾶς τάδε.
concerning us these
6 De Gorgia autem quod mihi scribis, erat quidem
About Gorgias however as-for-what to-me you-write he-was indeed
ille in cotidiana declamatione utilis, sed omnia postposui,
he in daily declamation useful but all-things I-put-after
dum modo praeceptis patris parerem; διαρρήδην
provided only to-the-instructions of-my-father I-might-comply expressly
enim scripserat ut eum dimitterem statim. Tergiversari
for he-had-written that him I-should-dismiss at-once To-shuffle
nolui, ne mea nimia σπουδὴ suspicionem ei aliquam
I-was-unwilling lest my excessive zeal suspicion to-him some

importaret; deinde illud etiam mihi succurrebat, grave esse
might-bring then this also to-me was-occurring serious to-be
me de iudicio patris iudicare.
that-I about the-judgment of-my-father to-judge
Tuum tamen studium et consilium gratum acceptumque 7
Your still zeal and counsel pleasing and-acceptable
est mihi. Excusationem angustiarum tui temporis accipio;
is to-me The-excuse of-the-straits of-your time I-accept
scio enim quam soleas esse occupatus. Emisse te
I-know for how you-are-wont to-be busy To-have-bought that-you
praedium vehementer gaudeo feliciterque tibi rem istam
an-estate vehemently I-rejoice and-happily for-you the-matter that
evenire cupio (hoc loco me tibi gratulari noli mirari;
to-turn-out I-desire At-this place that-I you to-congratulate do-not wonder
eodem enim fere loco tu quoque emisse te fecisti
at-the-same for almost place you also to-have-bought that-you made
me certiorem). Habes; deponendae tibi sunt urbanitates;
me more-certain You-have-it to-be-laid-aside by-you are city-ways
rusticus Romanus factus es, quo modo ego mihi
a-rustic Roman made you-have-been in-what way I to-myself
nunc ante oculos tuum iucundissimum conspectum propono;
now before the-eyes your most-delightful appearance set
videor enim videre ementem te rusticas res, cum vilico
I-seem for to-see buying you rustic things with the-steward
loquentem, in lacinia servantem ex mensa secunda semina.
speaking in the-skirt keeping from the-table second seeds
Sed quod ad rem pertinet, me tum tibi defuisse
But as to the-matter pertains that-I then to-you to-have-failed
aeque ac tu doleo. Sed noli dubitare, mi Tiro, quin te
equally as you I-grieve But do-not doubt my Tiro that you

sublevaturus sim, si modo fortuna me, praesertim cum
going-to-help I-am if only fortune me especially since
sciam communem nobis emptum esse istum fundum.
I-know common to-us bought to-have-been that farm
8 De mandatis quod tibi curae fuit est mihi gratum;
About the-commissions that to-you a-concern it-was is to-me pleasing
sed peto a te ut quam celerrime mihi librarius mittatur,
but I-ask from you that as most-quickly to-me a-copyist be-sent
maxime quidem Graecus; multum enim mihi eripitur
most indeed a-Greek much for from-me is-snatched-away
operae in exscribendis hypomnematis. Tu velim in
of-labor in copying-out notes You I-would-wish among
primis cures ut valeas, ut una συμφιλολογεῖν possimus.
the-first take-care that you-are-well that together to-study-together we-may-be-able
Anterum tibi commendo.
Anterus to-you I-commend

XVI.22 · GET WELL, NOT HERE

Cicero would rather Tiro served his health than Cicero's eyes and ears. He reads rather than writes, and Tiro can explain any insertion the copyists cannot read. Demetrius was never a Phalerean but is now plainly a Billienus; Tiro should watch him.

Tullius Tironi suo s.
Tullius to-Tiro his-own greeting
1 Spero ex tuis litteris tibi melius esse, cupio certe.
I-hope from your letter for-you better to-be I-desire-it certainly
Cui quidem rei omni ratione cura ut inservias et
To-which indeed thing by-every means take-care that you-attend and
cave suspiceris contra meam voluntatem te facere quod
beware you-suspect against my wish that-you to-do because

non sis mecum. Mecum es, si te curas. Qua
not you-are with-me With-me you-are if yourself you-care-for By-which
re malo te valetudini tuae servire quam meis oculis et
thing I-prefer you to-health your to-be-a-slave than to-my eyes and
auribus. Etsi enim et audio te et video libenter, tamen
ears Although for both I-hear you and I-see gladly still
hoc multo erit, si valebis, iucundius. Ego hic cesso, quia
this much will-be if you-will-be-well more-delightful I here idle because
ipse nihil scribo, lego autem libentissime. Tu istic si quid
myself nothing I-write I-read however most-gladly You there if anything
librarii mea manu non intellegent monstrabis. Una omnino
the-copyists in-my hand not will-understand will-show One altogether
interpositio difficilior est, quam ne ipse quidem facile legere
insertion more-difficult is which not myself even easily to-read
soleo, de quadrimo Catone. De triclinio cura, ut
I-am-wont about the-four-year-old Cato About the-dining-room take-care as
facis. Tertia aderit, modo ne Publius rogatus sit.
you-do Tertia will-be-present provided not Publius invited be
Demetrius iste numquam omnino Phalereus fuit sed nunc 2
Demetrius that never at-all a-Phalerean was but now
plane Billienus est. Itaque te do vicarium; tu eum
plainly a-Billienus is And-so you I-give as-deputy you him
observabis. Etsi — verum tamen de illis — nosti
you-will-watch Although but still about those you-know
cetera. Sed tamen si quem cum eo sermonem habueris
the-rest But still if any with him conversation you-will-have-had
scribes ad me, ut mihi nascatur epistulae argumentum et
you-will-write to me that for-me may-arise of-a-letter a-subject and
ut tuas quam longissimas litteras legam. Cura, mi Tiro,
that your as longest letters I-may-read Take-care my Tiro
ut valeas; hoc gratius mihi facere nihil potes. Vale.
that you-are-well this more-pleasing to-me to-do nothing you-can Farewell

Tiro should complete the declaration if he can. Balbus has a catarrh; Antony may do as he likes with the law, if only Cicero can stay in the country. Atticus, who once saw Cicero panic, thinks he still does, but philosophy fences him; Cicero will keep Antony's friendship and write to him.

Cicero Tironi s.

Cicero to-Tiro greeting

1 Tu vero confice professionem, si potes; etsi haec pecunia
You indeed complete the-declaration if you-can although this money
ex eo genere est, ut professione non egeat. Verum tamen—.
of that kind is that declaration not it-need But still
Balbus ad me scripsit tanta se ἐπιφορᾷ oppressum, ut
Balbus to me has-written by-so-great himself a-catarrh overwhelmed that
loqui non possit. Antonius de lege quod egerit —
to-speak not he-can Antony about the-law what he-will-have-done
liceat modo rusticari. Ad Bithynicum scripsi.
let-it-be-allowed only to-live-in-the-country To Bithynicus I-have-written
2 De Servilio tu videris, qui senectutem non contemnis.
About Servilius you will-have-seen who old-age not despise
Etsi Atticus noster, quia quondam me commoveri πανικοῖς
Although Atticus our because once me to-be-shaken by-panics
intellexit, idem semper putat nec videt quibus praesidiis
perceived the-same always thinks nor sees with-what defenses
philosophiae saeptus sim; et hercle, quod timidus ipse
of-philosophy fenced I-am and by-Hercules because timid himself
est, θορυβοποιεῖ. Ego tamen Antoni inveteratam sine ulla
he-is he-makes-an-uproar I still of-Antony long-established without any
offensione amicitiam retinere sane volo scribamque ad eum,
offense the-friendship to-keep truly I-wish and-I-will-write to him

sed non ante quam te videro. Nec tamen te avoco
but not before than you I-shall-see Nor still you do-I-call-away
a syngrapha; γόνυ κνήμης. Cras exspecto Leptam
from the-bond the-knee than-the-shin Tomorrow I-expect Lepta
et n. ad cuius rutam puleio mihi tui sermonis
and So-and-so to whose rue with-pennyroyal by-me of-your talk
utendum est. Vale.
to-be-used is Farewell

XVI.24 · PROW AND STERN

Cicero writes again, for the weight of the matter: Tiro's chief task is to settle the accounts, satisfy Ofilius and Aurelius, wring something from Flamma, and have the Kalends payment ready. He asks for news of Octavianus and Antony.

Tullius Tironi s.
Tullius to-Tiro greeting
Etsi mane Harpalum miseram, tamen cum haberem 1
Although in-the-morning Harpalus I-had-sent still since I-had
cui recte darem litteras, etsi novi nihil erat,
someone-to-whom safely I-might-give a-letter although of-new nothing there-was
isdem de rebus volui ad te saepius scribere, non quin
the-same about matters I-wished to you more-often to-write not but-that
confiderem diligentiae tuae, sed rei me magnitudo
I-trusted diligence your but of-the-matter me the-greatness
movebat. Mihi 'prora et puppis,' ut Graecorum proverbium
was-moving To-me prow and stern as of-the-Greeks the-proverb
est, fuit a me tui dimittendi ut rationes nostras
is was from me of-you sending-away that accounts our
explicares. Ofilio et Aurelio utique satis fiat.
you-might-straighten-out to-Ofilius and Aurelius by-all-means satisfaction be-made

A Flamma, si non potes omne, partem aliquam velim
From Flamma if not you-can all part some I-would-wish
extorqueas, in primisque ut expedita sit pensio K.
you-wrest among and-the-first that ready be the-payment of-the-Kalends
Ian. De attributione conficies, de repraesentatione videbis.
of-January About the-assignment you-will-settle about the-cash-payment you-will-see
2 De domesticis rebus hactenus, de publicis omnia mihi certa,
About domestic matters so-far about public all-things to-me certain
quid Octavianus, quid Antonius, quae hominum opinio, quid
what Octavianus what Antony what of-men the-opinion what
futurum putes. Ego vix teneor quin accurram; sed litteras
going-to-be you-think I scarcely am-held from running-up but letter
tuas exspecto. Et scito Balbum tum fuisse Aquini cum
your I-await And know that-Balbus then to-have-been at-Aquinum when
tibi est dictum, et postridie Hirtium. Puto utrumque
to-you it-was said and the-day-after Hirtius I-think each
ad aquas; sed quod egerint—. Dolabellae procuratores
to the-waters but whatever they-may-have-done of-Dolabella the-agents
fac ut admoneantur. Appellabis etiam Papiam. Vale.
see that they-be-reminded You-will-dun also Papia Farewell

XVI.25 · WRITE MORE OFTEN

Young Cicero accepts Tiro's excuse but asks him not to repeat it; even a trifle written by Tiro is most welcome.

Cicero f. Tironi suo s.
Cicero the-son to-Tiro his-own greeting
Etsi iusta et idonea usus es excusatione intermissionis 1
Although a-just and suitable used you-have excuse of-the-interruption
litterarum tuarum, tamen id ne saepius facias rogo. Nam
of-letters your still that not more-often you-do I-ask For
etsi de re p. rumoribus et nuntiis certior fio
although about the-thing public by-rumors and messages more-certain I-am-made
et de sua in me voluntate semper ad me perscribit
and about his toward me goodwill always to me writes-in-full
pater, tamen de quavis minima re scripta a te ad me
my-father still about any-whatever smallest matter written by you to me
epistula semper fuit gratissima. Qua re cum in primis
a-letter always has-been most-pleasing By-which thing since among the-first
tuas desiderem litteras, noli committere ut excusatione potius
your I-miss letters do-not allow that by-excuse rather
expleas officium scribendi quam assiduitate epistularum. Vale.
you-fill-out the-duty of-writing than by-constancy of-letters Farewell

XVI.26 · QUINTUS SCOLDS

Quintus scolds Tiro for a second packet without his letter; Marcus must defend him. As their mother sealed even empty jars, Tiro should write even with nothing to say.

Quintus Tironi suo p. s. d.
Quintus to-Tiro his-own very-much greeting says
Verberavi te cogitationis tacito dumtaxat convicio, quod 1
I-have-flogged you of-thought with-silent at-least reproach because
fasciculus alter ad me iam sine tuis litteris perlatus est. Non
a-packet second to me now without your letter delivered has-been Not

potes effugere huius culpae poenam te patrono; Marcus est
you-can to-escape of-this fault the-penalty you as-patron Marcus is
adhibendus, isque diu et multis lucubrationibus commentata
to-be-employed and-he long and with-many night-labors with-a-studied
oratione vide ut probare possit te non peccasse.
speech see that to-prove he-can that-you not to-have-erred

2 Plane te rogo, sic ut olim matrem nostram facere memini,
Plainly you I-ask so as formerly mother our to-do I-remember
quae lagonas etiam inanis obsignabat, ne dicerentur inanes
who flasks even empty used-to-seal lest they-should-be-said empty
aliquae fuisse quae furtim essent exsiccatae, sic tu etiam
some to-have-been which secretly had-been drained so you even
si quod scribas non habebis, scribito tamen, ne furtum
if what you-may-write not you-will-have write still lest a-theft
cessationis quaesivisse videaris. Valde enim mi semper et
of-idleness to-have-sought you-may-seem Greatly for to-me always both
vera et dulcia tuis epistulis nuntiantur. Ama nos et vale.
true and sweet-things by-your letters are-reported Love us and farewell

XVI.27 · THE CONSULS-ELECT

Quintus thanks Tiro for writing plainly of the consuls-elect, effeminate men who will wreck the state unless they leave the helm; Antony, that brigand, will win them over unless the commonwealth is defended. He will see Tiro on the third day before the Kalends.

Q. Cicero Tironi suo s. p. d.
Quintus Cicero to-Tiro his-own greeting very-much says

1 Mirificam mi verberationem cessationis epistula dedisti;
A-wonderful to-me flogging of-idleness by-letter you-have-given
nam quae parcius frater perscripserat verecundia
for what-things more-sparingly my-brother had-written by-modesty

videlicet et properatione, ea tu sine adsentatione ut
of-course and haste those you without flattery as
erant ad me scripsisti, et maxime de coss. designatis,
they-were to me have-written and most about the-consuls elect
quos ego penitus novi libidinum et languoris effeminatissimi
whom I thoroughly know of-lusts and languor of-most-effeminate
animi plenos; qui nisi a gubernaculis recesserint,
mind full who unless from the-helm they-will-have-withdrawn
maximum ab universo naufragio periculum est.
the-greatest from universal shipwreck danger there-is
Incredibile est, quae ego illos scio oppositis Gallorum 2
Incredible it-is what-things I them know with-opposed of-the-Gauls
castris in aestivis fecisse, quos ille latro, nisi aliquid
camps in summer-quarters to-have-done whom that brigand unless something
firmius fuerit, societate vitiorum deleniet. Res est
firmer will-have-been by-partnership of-vices will-win-over The-thing is
aut tribuniciis aut privatis consiliis munienda; nam isti
either by-tribunician or private counsels to-be-fortified for those
duo vix sunt digni quibus alteri Caesenam, alteri
two scarcely are worthy to-whom to-the-one Caesena to-the-other
Cossutianarum tabernarum fundamenta credas. Te, ut
of-the-Cossutian taverns the-foundations you-would-entrust You as
dixi, fero in oculis. Ego vos a. d. iii K.
I-said I-carry in the-eyes I you on-the day third before-the-Kalends
videbo tuosque oculos, etiam si te veniens in medio foro
will-see and-your eyes even if you coming in the-middle forum
videro, dissaviabor. Me ama. Vale.
I-shall-see I-will-kiss Me love Farewell
