

De Bellum Gallico V

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1

Subductīs nāvibus conciliōque Gallōrum Samarobrīvae perāctō, quod eō annō frūmentum in Galliā propter siccitatēs angustius prōvēnerat, coāctus est aliter ac superiōribus annīs exercitum in hibernīs collocāre legiōnēsque in plūrēs civitatēs distribuere; **With the ships having been led up with the council of the Gauls at S. having been completed, because in the year grain had arrived in Gaul more scantily on account of the drought, he [Caesar] was forced differently than in previous years to place the army in winter quarters and to distribute his legions his legions to many parts of Gaul**

2

ex quibus ūnam in Morinōs ducendam Gaiō Fabiō lēgātō dedit, alteram in Nerviōs Quintō Cicerōnī, tertiam in Esubiōs Lucio Rōsciō; quartam in Rēmīs cum Titō Labienō in confiniō Trēverōrum hiemāre iussit. Trēs in Belgīs collocāvit: **from which legions he gave one needing to be lead against the Morini to Gaius Fabius the Legate, another against the Nervii to Quintius Cicero, a third against Asubii to Lucius Doscus, the forth to spend the winter the Remii with Titus Labienus in the confines of the Trevii. He collected three in Belgae:**

3

eīs Marcum Crassum quaestorem et Lucium Munātium Plancum et Gaium Trebōnium lēgātōs praefēcit. **He put M. Crassus Quaestor and L Munatus Plancum and G. Trebonus legate over them.**

4

Ūnam legiōnem, quam proximē trāns Padum cōscripserat, et cohortēs V in Eburōnēs, quōrum pars maxima est inter Mosam ac Rhēnum, quī sub imperiō Ambiorīgis et Catuvolcī erant, mīsīt. **He sent one legion, whom he enlisted near accross the Po River and five cohorts among Mosa and Roscius River among the Eburnini, who was under command of Ambiorix and Catvoli.**

5

Eīs mīlitibus Quintum Titūrium Sabīnum et Lucium Aurunculēium Cottam lēgātōs praeesse iussit. **He ordered Q Titurnus Sabinus and L Aurunculaeus Cottus to preside over these soldiers**

6

Ad hunc modum distribūtīs legiōnibus, facillimē inopiae frūmentāriae sēsē medērī posse exīstimāvit. **For that manner with distributed legions, it is estimated himself to be able to without difficulty alleviate want of grain.**

7

Atque hārum tamen omnium legiōnum hiberna praeter eam, quam Lucio Rōsciō in pācātissimam et quiētissimam partem dūcendam dederat, mīlibus passuum centum continēbantur. **And of this all legions winter camps beyond it, than that was give to L Roscius, were held in most peaceful and most quiet parts needing to be led. There were held together with soldiers per 100 steps.**

8

Ipsa interea, quoad legionēs collocatās munitaque hiberna cognovisset, in Galliā morārī cōstituit.

Himself meanwhile, delayed until it might become acquainted, legions having been collected and with fortified camp, it was laid to linger in Gaul.

25

1

Erat in Carnūtibus summō locō nātus Tasgetius, cuius maiōrēs in suā civitatē regnum obtinuerant.

Tasgetius was born in highest places [e.g, Royally] of Carnutes, of whose ancestors obtained greatest kingdom in their own states.

2

Huic Caesar prō eius virtūte atque in sē benevolentia, quod in omnibus bellis singulārī eius operā fuerat ūsus, maiōrum locum restituerat.

To this place Caesar for his [Tasgetius's] virtue and benevolence to himself [Caesar], because in all wars he had used his singular hard work, he restored him to place of his ancestors

3

Tertium iam hunc annum regnantem inimicī, multis palam ex civitatē eius auctoribus, eum interfecērunt.

Enemies killed him ruling his third year, with many instigators from his own state

4

Defertur ea rēs ad Caesarem. Ille veritus, quod ad plūrēs pertinēbat, nē civitās eōrum impulsū dēficeret, Lucium Plancum cum legione ex Belgio celeriter in Carnūtēs proficisci iubet ibique hiemare quōrumque operā cognoverat Tasgetium interfectum, hōs comprehēnsos ad sē mittere.

These things were spoken to Caesar. He fearing, because it might pertain to many, lest the state fail because of this incitement, he ordered L Plancus with a legion from Belgium swiftly into Carnutes and he orders him to spend the winter there and send those whose effort Tasgetes had been killed to himself.

5

Interim ab omnibus lēgātīs quaestoreque, quibus legionēs trādiderat, certior factus est in hiberna perventum locumque hibernis esse munitum.

Meanwhile Caesar was made more certain by his legates and quaestor to whom he had handed over his legions that they had arrived in winter quarters and fortified for winter.

26

1

Diebus circiter XV, quibus in hiberna ventum est, initium repentinū tumultūs ac defectionis ortum est ab Ambiorige et Catuvolcō;

With days around 15, with which them having been coming into winter camp, there began a sudden and tumultuous defection, arising from Ambiorix and Catevolus.

2

quī, cum ad finēs regnī suī Sabīnō Cottaeque praestō fuissent frumentumque in hiberna comportāvissent, Indūtiomārī Trēverī nūntiis impulsī, suos concitāverunt subitoque oppressis lignatōribus magnā manū ad castra oppugnatum vēnerunt.

Who, although to boundaries of their kingdom were Sabinus and Cottus were on hand and were carrying together grain to winter camp having been compelled with messages of Indūtiomārius of Trevii, stirred their own people and immediately came to attack out camp with our wood cutters having been oppressed with great band of troops.

3

Cum celeriter nostrī arma cepissent vallumque adscendissent atque ūnā ex parte Hispānīs equitibus ēmissīs equestri proeliō superiōrēs fuissent, dēspērātā rē hostēs suōs ab oppugnātiōne redūxērunt.

Because swiftly we siezed arms we siezed the entrenchments and Spaniard calvary having been sent away to equestrians from battle were greater, with hope having been [lost] enemies brought back their men from desparate affairs from battle.

4

Tum suō mōre conclāmāvērunt utī aliquī ex nostrīs ad colloquium prōdiret: habēre sēsē, quae dē rē commūnī dicere vellent, quibus rēbus contrōversiās minūī posse spērārent.

Then they shouted according to their custom that someone go forth from our soldiers so that they might advance to converse and that they had, of which they wanted to speak regarding common affairs, by these they hoped to be without arguement.

27

1

Mittitur ad eōs colloquendī causā Gaius Arpīnēius, eques Rōmānus, familiāris Quintī Titūrī, et Quintus Iūnius ex Hispāniā quīdam, quī iam ante missū Caesaris ad Ambiorīgem ventitāre cōsuērat; apud quōs Ambiorīx ad hunc modum locūtus est: **G. Alpernus, Roman Equestrian, was sent there for discussing the cause, a close friend of Q. Titurnuus, and a certain Q. Junius from Spain, who already before accoustomed to go to Ambiorix having been given consent from Caesar; among them Ambiorix in this manner was speaking**

2

sēsē prō Caesaris in sē beneficiīs plūrimū eī cōfiterī debēre, quod eius operā stīpendiō liberātus esset, quod Aduatucīs, finitimīs suīs, pendere cōsuēset, quodque eī et filius et fratris filius ab Caesare remissī essent, quōs Aduatucī obsidum numerō missōs apud sē in servitūte et catēnīs tenuissent;

I myself confess to owe on account of Caesar, in his own many benefits to myself, because his liberation by his [Caesar] from work and payments, which he had been accoustomed to pay to the Advati, his neighbors, and because son and brothers sons were sent to him who the Advati were holding as hostages having been sent with many among themselves in servitude and chains.

3

neque id, quod fēcerit de oppugnātiōne castrōrum, aut iūdicīo aut voluntāte suā fēcisse, sed coāctū civitātis, suaque esse eiusmodī imperia, ut nōn minus haberet iūris in sē multitudō quam ipse in multitudinem.

And not it, which made from the attack of the camps, with his own design or wish, but compulsion of the state and the powers of the sate were such of a kind that he had not without justice over his own multitude than they had power over him.

4

Cīvitātī porrō hanc fuisse bellī causam, quod repentīnae Gallōrum coniūrātiōnī resistere nōn potuerit. Id sē facile ex humilitāte suā probāre posse, quod nōn adeō sit imperītus rērum ut suīs copiīs populum Rōmānum superārī posse cōnfīdat.

State furthermore was this cause of this battle, because they were not able to resist the sudden union of the Gauls. It to be probably to be able to prove this easily from his own humility, which not for a long time he was unskilled of these affairs so that he might confess [he Thought] Roman people to be able to be overpowered by his own troops.

5

Sed esse Galliae commūne cōnsilium: omnibus hibernīs Caesaris oppugnandis hunc esse dictum diem, nē qua legiō alterae legiōnī subsidiō venīre posset;

But that is public council of Gauls that this day was appointed for attacking all of Caesar's winter camps, lest any legions be able to come help another legion

6

nōn facile Gallōs Gallīs negāre potuisse, praesertim cum dē recuperandā commūnī libertāte cōsiliū initum vidēretur.
Gauls could not easily deny Gauls, especially when plan seems to beginning to recover shared freedom.

7

Quibus quoniam prō pietāte satisfecerit, habēre nunc sē ratiōnem officiī prō beneficiīs Caesaris: monēre, orāre Titūrium prō hospitio, ut suae ac militum salutī cōsulat.

Since he accomplished enough on account of piety [for the Gauls], he now had his own regard of duty for benefits of Caesar, he warned, he bleared with Titurnus [Sabinus] on behalf of their hospitality, so that he might consider the safety of his own and of his own soldiers.

8

Magnam manum Germānōrum conductam Rhēnum trānsisse; hanc adfore bīduō.

Great military band of Germans were going having been conducted accross the Rhine, these will arrive before two days.

9

Ipsōrum esse cōsiliū velintne priusquam finitimī sentiant ēductōs ex hibernīs milites aut ad Cicerōnem aut ad Labiēnum dēducere, quōrum alter milia passuum circiter quinquaginta, alter paulō amplius ab eis absit.

Of itself council considering afterwards to force soldiers from winter quarters and to lead to Cicero or to Labienus before neighboring Gauls percieved of, one of who 50 thousand Roman steps, the other rather more from them.

10

Illud sē pollicērī et iūreiurandō cōfirmāre tūtum iter per finēs datūrum;

That himself, to promise and to confirm with an oath safe journey through bounds that will have been given to him;

11

quod cum faciat, et civitātī sēsē cōsulere, quod hibernīs levētur, et Caesarī prō eius meritis grātiā referre. Hāc orātiōne habitā discēdit Ambiorix.

And consulted, for his state because state, because it alleviated of winter quarters, and to repay to Caesar on account of his grace and merit. Ambiorix departed this with oration having been held.

28

1

Arpinēius et Iūnius, quae audierunt, ad lēgātōs dēferunt. Illī repentinā rē perturbātī, etsi ab hoste ea dicēbantur, tamen nōn neglegenda exīstimābant maximēque hāc rē permovēbantur, quod civitātem ignōbilem atque humilem Eburōnum suā sponte populō Rōmānō bellum facere ausam vix erat crēdendum.

Arpenius and Junius brought what they heard to them having been perturbed with unexpected affair, although these things were spoken by the enemy, that they nonetheless were thinking that these things might not be neglected they arose and they were greatly moved through this with things, because it was barely needing to be believed that ignoble state and humble Eburnes dared to make war by their own will against the Roman people.

2

Itaque ad cōsiliū rem dēferunt magnaue inter eōs existit contrōversia.

And thus they spoke affairs to the council and great controversy arose about them

3

Lucius Aurunculēius complūrēque tribūnī mīlitum et prīmōrum ōrdinum centuriōnēs nihil temerē agendum neque ex hibernīs iniūssū Caesaris discēdendum existimābant: quantāsvīs magnās etiam cōpiās Germānōrum sustinērī posse mūnītīs hibernīs docēbant: rem esse testimōniō, quod prīmum hostium impetum multis ultrō vulneribus illātis fortissimē sustinuerint: rē frumentāriā non premī; intereā et ex proximīs hibernīs et ā Caesare conventūra subsidia: postrēmō quid esse levius aut turpius quam, auctōre hoste, dē summīs rēbus capere cōsiliū?

L Aurunculaeus and many tribunes of soldiers and centurions of the first order estimated that nothing is needing to be done heedlessly, and no one must set forth from winter camps without orders of Caesar: they also taught that with however many great troops of Germans to be able to be sustained with fortified winter camps: that the matter served as evidence, because first enemy attack they already sustained with wounds having been given voluntarily with bravery that covering grain supply they were not pressed meanwhile, both from neighboring winter camp and from Caesar aid convent, at last what is lighter or uglier, than to take up a plant about more important things when enemy is the author?

29

1

Contrā ea Titūrius sērō factūrōs clāmitābat, cum māiōrēs manūs hostium adiūctīs Germānīs convēnissent, aut cum aliquid calamitātis in proximīs hibernīs esset acceptum. Brevem cōsulendī esse occāsiōnem. Caesarem arbitrārī profectum in Ītaliā;

In reply to these things Titurnus [Sabinus] kept shouting that they will be late, when they would after be by great enemy band arrival of troops from Germans having been joined, or after some calamity in neighboring winter camps was accepted. That occasion for the purpose of consulting was to be short, that he thought that Caesar set forth to Italy;

2

neque aliter Carnūtēs interficiendī Tasgetī cōsiliū fuisse captūrōs, neque Eburōnēs, sī ille adesset, tantā contemptiōne nostrī ad castra ventūrōs esse.

and not other Carnutes would have adopted an arguement for the purpose of killing Tasgetius, and if they [Caesar] were present, would with great contempt Eburnes would have come to our camp.

3

Nōn hostem auctōrem, sed rem spectāre: subesse Rhēnum; magnō esse Germānīs dolōrī Ariovistī mortem et superiōrēs nostrās victōriās;

He saw the enemy was not the author, but the situation to be: to be below Rhine served as great grief for the Germans, for the death of german Ariovisti and own greater victory;

4

ardere Galliam, tot contumēliis acceptis sub populī Rōmānī imperium redāctam, superiōre glōriā reī militāris exstīctā. that Gaul is on fire, so much outrage having been accepted under driven back command of the Roman people, with greater glory of things from military having been made extinct

5

Postrēmō quis hoc sibi persuādēret, sine certā rē Ambiorīgem ad eiusmodī cōsiliū dēscendisse?

At last who might persuade this to themselves, would Ambiorix descend without credible affairs to their council?

6

Suam sententiam in utramque partem esse tūtā: sī nihil esset dūrius, nullō cum periculō ad proximam legiōnem perventūrōs; sī Gallia omnis cum Germānīs cōsentiret, ūnam esse in celeritāte positam salutem.

that in his opinion in each side was safety: if no danger, indeed they would be nearer to legion, but if all of Gaul was conspiring with the Germans, the only hope of safety was in speed.

7

Cottae quidem atque eorum, quī dissentirent, cōsiliū quem habere exitum, in quō sī praesēns periculum nōn, at certē longinquā obsidiōne famēs esset timenda?

morever, Cotta and others, who disagreed, destruction had council, in which if present danger would not arrive, truly from long siege hunger must be feared.

30

1

Hāc in utramque partem disputatiōne habitā, cum ā Cottā prīmisque ordinibus ācriter resisteretur, ‘Vincite,’ inquit, ‘sī ita vultis,’ Sabinus, et id clārīore vōce, ut magna pars mīlitum exaudiret;

With these disputed in either part having been hard, when from Cotta and first ranks it was bitterly being resisted, ‘Conquer,’ Sabinus said, “if you want,” in a rather loud voice, so that greater part of soldiers could hear,

2

‘neque is sum,’ inquit, ‘quī gravissimē ex vōbīs mortis periculō terrear: hī sapient; sī gravius quid acciderit, abs tē ratiōnem reposcent;

”I am not he,” he said, ”who is terrified most gravely from your danger od death. These soldiers are wise; if what is graver occurs, from they knowledge from you.

3

quī, sī per tē liceat, perendinō diē cum proximīs hibernīs coniūctī communem cum reliquīs bellī cāsum sustineant, nōn, reiectī et relēgātī longē ab ceterīs, aut ferrō aut fame intereant.’

Whom, if it was allowed through you, would be sustained within a day after tommorrow with neighbors communally joined winter camps, with share chance with winter soldiers, with not driven away long removed from others, go from either sword or fame.

31

1

Cōnsurgitur ex cōsiliō; comprehendunt utrumque et ōrant nē suā dissēnsiōne et pertināciā rem in summum periculum dēducant:

It was rising from the plan, they took hold of each other, and beg that they dont lead by their own dissent and stubbornness lead things from greatest danger

2

facilem esse rem, seu maneant, seu proficiscantur, sī modo ūnum omnēs sentiant ac probent; contrā in dissēnsiōne nūllam sē salūtem perspicere. Rēs disputatiōne ad mediam noctem perducitur.

that the affair is easy, either they remain, or they go, if only they all feel and approve one thing, against dissent they percieve no safety. This affair was led from dispute to middle of the night.

3

Tandem dat Cotta permōtus manūs: superat sententia Sabīnī. Prōnūntiātur primā lūce itūrōs.

Finally Cotta having been moved gave hand; knowledge of Sabinus conquered. It is pronounced they will go out first light.

4

Cōnsūmitur vigiliīs reliqua pars noctis, cum sua quisque mīles circumspiceret, quid sēcum portāre posset, quid ex īnstrūmentō hibernōrum relinquere cōgeretur.

The remaining part of night was consumed by night watch, when each soldier looks around at his own stuff, what can they carry with them, what is forced to leave from instruments of winter quarters.

5

Omnia excogitantur, quārē nec sine periculō maneātur et languōre mīlitum et vigiliīs periculum augeātur.

Everything is thought through, why there is no remaing without danger and why danger inreases by weariness of soldiers and night watches.

6

Prīmā lūce sīc ex castrīs proficiscuntur, ut quibus esset persuāsum nōn ab hoste, sed ab homine amīcissimo Ambiorige cōsiliū datum, longissimō agmine maximisque impedimentīs.

At first light they set out from the camps, so that in this way they were persuaded not by enemy but rather plan given by man most friendly named Ambiorix, with battle line and great baggage.

32

1

At hostēs, posteaquam ex nocturnō fremitū vigiliisque dē profectiōne eōrum sensērunt, collocātīs īnsidiīs bipertītō in silvīs, opportunō atque occultō locō, ā mīlibus passuum circiter duōbus Rōmānōrum adventum expectābant

But the enemies, after sensing from the roars at night and night watch concerning their departure, with ambus having been put together collected into two parts in the forest, and hving been hidden in a fit place, they looked out waiting about two thousands of paces away for arrival of Romans,

2

et, cum sē maior pars agminis in magnam convallem dēmīssisset, ex utrāque parte eius vallis subitō sē ostendērunt novissimōsque premere et primōs prohibēre ascensū atque inīquissimō nostrīs locō proelium committere coepērunt. **and when its own greater part of battle line is dropped in great valley, suddenly from both this of part of this valley they will show and begin to press newest and will prevent first from acending, and in place most unfavorable to our men begin to commence a battle.**