Cicero In Verrem II 5



Cum iste nihilo remissius atque etiam multo vehementius instaret cotidie, res agitur in senatu: vehementer ab omnibus reclamatur. Itaque illo tempore ac primo istius adventu pernegatur. Postea, quidquid erat oneris in nautis remigibusque exigendis, in frumento imperando, Segestanis praeter ceteros imponebat, aliquanto amplius quam ferre possent. Praeterea magistratus eorum evocabat, optimum quemque et nobilissimum ad se arcessebat, circum omnia provinciae fora rapiebat, singillatim uni cuique calamitati fore se denuntiabat, universis se funditus eversurum esse illam civitatem minabatur.

Notice the two passive verbs – and notice their tense. Notice *iste* again. Remember that *agere* is very elastic in its meaning.

Cum iste nihilo remissius atque etiam multo vehementius instaret cotidie, nihilo 'by no means" remissius "more relaxed" vehementius "more furious", "more insistent" instare "insist", "threaten" res agitur in senatu:

vehementer ab omnibus reclamatur: *Reclamare* "to protest against loudly" "to contradict loudly."

When he, by no means more relaxed and even more furious every day, insisted, the matter is taken to/brought before the senate: it is loudly contradicted by everyone violently.

Cicero is making this point more vivid by his use of the present tense. Note that the senate here is not the Roman Senate at Rome itself but a local one at Segesta.

Look out for another passive verb – and *iste* again but this time in the genitive case.

Itaque illo tempore ac primo istius adventu pernegatur.

Adventus "arrival" "visit" Pernegere is an emphatic version of negere. "To deny/refuse completely/absolutely".

And so at that time and at the first visit of that man it was refused absolutely.

Postea,

quidquid **erat** oneris in nautis remigibusque exigendis, quidquid "whatever" remex "oarsman" exigendis erat "was demanded" in frumento imperando, Frumentum "corn" imperando [erat] "was demanded" Segestanis praeter ceteros imponebat, praeter here means "beyond" imponere "to put on" "to inflict on" aliquanto amplius quam ferre possent. Aliquanto "considerably" amplius "more" "beyond"

Afterwards, whatever burden of sailors and oarsmen was demanded or corn was commanded, he inflicted on the Segestians beyond the others (i.e. other cities), considerably more than they could bear.

Here is a list of four things that Verres did. Watch out for a deponent verb.

Praeterea magistratus eorum evocabat, Evocare "to send for" optimum quemque et nobilissimum ad se arcessebat, arcesse "to summon" quemque "each of them" optimun "best" circum omnia provinciae fora rapiebat, rapere "to carry off" singillatim uni cuique calamitati fore se denuntiabat, he gave notice to them one by one that he would ruin them. universis se funditus eversurum esse illam civitatem minabatur. Universi "all together", funditus "utterly" eversum "destroyed" "swept away" minari "to threaten".

Furthermore he sent for their magistrates, he summoned each of the best and most noble of them, he carried them off around all the provincial fora/forums, he gave notice to them one by one that he would ruin them, he threatened that those citizens would be utterly swept away altogether.

(The courts were held in the forums of several large towns in Sicily. Verres put the magistrates to maximum expense and inconvenience by making them remain on call and on tour all the time. If this continued they would be financially ruined.)

I found Latin words relating to all these English words in this lessons lines from Cicero. Can you find them?

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