GERGOVIA

Caesar's *Gallic War* VII 29–62



John Lanier
Ella Blanco
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GERGOVIA: A Latin Text of Caesar's *Gallic War* VII 29-62

with Running Vocabulary and Commentary

First Edition

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Back: an anthropomorphic Celtic sword type ca. 60 BCE in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Accession Number 1999.94a-d

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ABOUT THIS EDITION

This book is the culmination of student work in the advanced Latin course at Stanford Online High School in the academic year 2023-2024. It is the second of three planned books covering Caesar's *dē bellō Gallicō* VII. The content of Pixelia volumes is generated primarily by the students and is meant to aid intermediate Latin learners in reading texts without the need to constantly consult separate dictionaries and commentaries. John Lanier taught the course and devised the division of Book VII into three parts, such that each part was of the appropriate length for the students to complete in one academic year and roughly equivalent in content. The first volume, AVARICVM, includes chapters 1-28, covering the events of Book VII up to the fall of Avaricum, while this second volume, GERGOVIA, covers chapters 29-62. Both are available as open access pdfs on pixeliapublishing.org. The third volume (ALESIA, chapters 63-90) will follow in 2025.

The student editors of GERGOVIA were Ella Blanco, Suran Gao, Kabir Blake Gupta, Sabine Mazzeo, Khensa Musaddequr Rahman, April Wen, and Mattia Gianluca Worster. We subdivided the text of Chapters 29-62 such that each student was the editor of their own section of around 500 words. As a first task, the students developed working translations of their sections in order to get a sense of the Latin and the basic narrative; they next developed and edited the on-page vocabulary glosses; then added and revised macrons[1] for all Latin text and vocabulary; and, finally,

[1] The macrons were added through a web app (alatius.com/macronizer), which is highly accurate but does require occasional corrections.

each student wrote explanatory commentary. The students were peer reviewers for each other at each step of the process, with Lanier as advisor, final revisor, cartographer, and Introduction author.

Caesar has been a staple of Latin classrooms for centuries. His language is relatively straight-forward for beginners, and even in his own day it was a model for good Latin style (Cicero *Brutus* 262). Yet we should not take canonical status for granted, and in Caesar's case re-examination is particularly warranted. The *Gallic War*, for all its good style, was written as a justification for imperialism; or at least, the book was written about an imperial conquest, by the general carrying out that conquest, who presumably wrote it in a way that he thought would resonate with his audience back home. As for the book's traditional place in Latin classrooms over the last few centuries: it might well have had a certain appeal in early modern nations, like Britain and France, which had their own ambitions of imperial expansion. These same reasons might make Caesar less appealing today. And yet, *Gallic War* is an interesting and important text for students not despite this history but because of it.

Gallic War is a valuable witness to imperial expansion and its justification. In the space of a few hundred years, Rome grew from a village in central Italy to an empire encompassing nearly the whole Mediterranean world. What did Romans think of this expansion? How did Roman leaders justify it? Caesar's *Gallic War* provides a glimpse. Interestingly, it is not a text that downplays the violence of empire, nor does it show conquest to be an unalloyed good. It is Caesar himself who writes that at the sack of Avaricum, his troops massacred 40,000 inhabitants, sparing "not the elderly, nor women, nor children" (7.28.4). Though Caesar's

commentaries are sometimes dismissed as self-aggrandizing propaganda, he often presents a Gallic perspective which is sympathetic and complex:

Book VII is filled with Caesar's observations about his opponents' motivations, and he frequently presents Gallic speech, or at least what he supposes Gallic speeches to contain: the Gauls are cunning, creative, brave, tenacious, patriotic, but also self-serving, greedy, fractious, and impetuous—in other words, very much like Caesar's peers back in Rome.

This complexity is particularly evident in Book VII, which narrates the final attempt of the Gauls to fight for their freedom under the leadership of the Gallic chieftain Vercingetorix. He is, for Caesar, the Gallic Hannibal or Mithridates, a brilliant and charismatic leader who is able, for perhaps the first time, to fully marshal the latent strength of a united Gaul and oppose Caesar on something like equal footing. He rallies the Gauls with impassioned calls for *lībertās*, a value which Romans held dearly (7.4.4). *Gallic War* Book VII is an ideal text for students because it allows them to experience, in Latin, a pivotal moment in history from the complex perspective of one of its chief actors.

The current project was born out of Lanier's wish to read Caesar's *Gallic War* VII selections with students in the advanced Latin course at Stanford Online High School. At that time (2022), options for a modern edition of *Gallic War* VII with running commentary (in English) were quite limited. As of 2024, there is a new full Cambridge commentary[2] by Stanford's Christopher Krebs, the first major new commentary since

[2] C. Krebs, *Caesar: Bellum Gallicum Book VII* (Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics)(Cambridge University Press, 2023)

Whiteley's "blue" Bristol edition.[3] The new Cambridge commentary is excellent, but is meant for advanced undergraduates and graduate students, and the notes, while comprehensive, are beyond what a typical early Latin reader requires or can easily parse. Whiteley's Bristol book is sometimes difficult to acquire new, and the price of secondary copies is often prohibitive. In addition, Lanier felt Whiteley's commentary to be somewhat sparse for early Latin readers, and he wanted same-page vocabulary and commentary. Geoffrey Steadman has put out an edition of *Gallic War* I and an edition of selections of Caesar in his *College Caesar* (though the latter does not draw from *BG* VII).[4] It is our hope that this book, along with the two related volumes, will serve as an accessible and useful guide in reading the lengthy and often difficult seventh book of Caesar's *Gallic War*.

Because Pixelia volumes are student-focused and truly collaborative, we have always felt that a shared byline of authors was most appropriate (even if unwieldy), and we continue that practice here. All the work in this volume was collaborative. We give special thanks to Tom Hendrickson for developing the idea of Pixelia, designing the class, and supervising Pixelia's first two Latin volumes (*The Passion of Perpetua* and *Isotta Nogarola's Defense of Eve*). We are indebted to OHS student Suran Gao for the illustrations both of GERGOVIA and also the preceding AVARICVM. OHS instructors Tom Hendrickson, Caedmon Haas, Ben Wiebracht, and Anna Pisarello provided valuable grammatical insight and editorial advice. We would also like to thank Tomohiro Hoshi (Head of School, Stanford Online High School), Josh Carlson (Director of

[3] J.L.Whiteley, *Caesar: Gallic War VII* (Bristol Classical Press, 2001)
[4] Both available on his website, geoffreysteadman.com

Business Operations), and Christine Van Winkle (Associate Director of Business Operations) for their continued support of the Pixelia project.

The Latin text in this volume is in the public domain and comes from the Loeb edition of 1917,[5] in consultation with the Oxford Classical Text and its *apparatus criticus*.[6] We have made no substantial changes to the text, and have generally chosen the simplest or most readable option in disputed or corrupted sections. We have sometimes altered punctuation to facilitate easier reading. Finally, again for better readability, we use the *-ēs* ending for i-stem third declension nouns in the accusative plural, whereas OCT prints *-īs*.

[5] H. J. Edwards. translator. *Caesar. The Gallic War*, Loeb Classical Library 72 (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1917).
[6] R. L. A. Du Pontet, ed. *C. Iuli Caesaris: Commentariorum, Vol. 1: Libri VII de Bello Gallico* (Oxford Classical Texts)(Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1900)



INTRODUCTION

Gallic War Book VII in context

In the winter of 53 BCE, Caesar crossed the Alps back into northern Italy with a sense that Gaul was finally *quiēta,* if not *pācāta*. He had been waging war there for over five years already. The conflict had begun as a swift preventative action against the Helvetii as they attempted to move their entire tribe through the territory of the Roman province of *Gallia Trānsalpīna*. Caesar's defensive action, at the very beginning of his tenure in *Gallia Trānsalpīna*, steadily transformed into a campaign of conquest and subjugation which stretched far beyond the boundaries of his province. During those five years his force had grown to ten legions, some 50,000 soldiers all told. They had battled across Gaul numerous times on land and sea, ventured to Britain, bridged the Rhine twice, and withstood several serious challenges to the incremental establishment of Roman domination.

A year earlier, in 54 BCE, the most recent of these "rebellions," a surprise attack by the Gallic champion Ambiorix, had killed thousands of Roman soldiers and two of Caesar's most trusted lieutenants. He responded swiftly and severely with the widespread devastation of the lands of those he held responsible, as well as the summary execution of the Gallic leader Acco (*BG* 6.44; 7.1). He hoped that these harsh measures would finally end Gallic resistance to what must have seemed to him to be inevitable: the organization of the vast Gallic territory he had seized into Roman provincial possessions. As he returned to northern Italy to attend to his gubernatorial tasks at the end of 53, his attention was surely already turning to the details of this process, and also to the simmering political

turmoil back in Rome, about which he makes brief mention in the opening chapter of Book VII. He had no way of knowing, as the new year began and as the miles grew between himself and his legions back in winter camps in central Gaul, that the Gallic tribes were not *quiētī* by any means and would soon explode with their final and most desperate bid for *lībertās*.

Book VII of *Gallic War* chronicles this final struggle of the Gauls against Roman domination. It begins, as was typical for these Gallic uprisings, with the leaders of the tribes holding a secret meeting. In past years, many had instigated uprisings and had been cast down by Caesar's reprisal: the Belgae in 57, the Veneti in 56, the Morini in 55, Ambiorix and his Eburones and then Indutiomarus and his Treveri in 54, Acco and the Senones in 53. This time, the instigator is the Carnutes tribe, and the epicenter is their chief town, Cenabum, where they slaughter a number of unsuspecting Roman businessmen. These *negōtiātōrēs* had no doubt been busy with the various tasks of converting Gaul into a productive Roman possession: organizing slave routes, assessing mining potential, surveying arable land. Now their slaying became Caesar's justification for the wrathful campaign which follows. Cenabum's inhabitants would experience Roman retribution, but not before the uprising begun by the Carnutes had spread to a powerful coalition of tribes led by the Arverni and their electric and effective new leader, Vercingetorix, who promises *lībertās commūnis* from Roman *servitūs* for all the Gauls (*BG* 7.4.4).

This volume, being the middle of a trilogy, is best experienced after working through the first 28 chapters of *BG* VII (covered in our AVARICVM). This book begins in chapter 29, as Vercingetorix attempts to rally his assembled Gallic contingents after the disastrous and

demoralizing defeat at Avaricum. In these pages, Caesar describes the teetering loyalties of the Aedui, his most important Gallic ally and the most powerful polity in all of Gaul. By his own admission, the loss of these allies would be a calamity for Roman efforts in Gaul, and many of these chapters are devoted to that ever-developing problem. Meanwhile, the Gauls under Vercingetorix again find themselves on the defensive against Caesar's legions, this time at the Arvernian *oppidum* of Gergovia. These chapters conclude by detailing the brief campaign of Caesar's trusted legate Titus Labienus as he leads Roman forces deep into north-central Gaul along the Seine to the *oppidum of* Lutetia (modern Paris).

For a detailed introduction to Gaul, Caesar, and *Gallic War*, consult the excellent open-access Web Essays[7] provided as part of the *Landmark Julius Caesar*, edited and translated by Kurt A. Raaflaub (New York: Pantheon Books, 2017). In particular, students new to *Gallic War* will find useful: *Gaul in Caesar's Time* by O. Büchsenschütz; Oppida: *Towns in Caesar's World* by I. Ralston; *Late Republican Provincial Administration* by N. Rosenstein; *The Roman Army Camp* by D.B. Campbell; *Military Engineering and Sieges* by D.B. Campbell; *Military Logistics* by N. Rosenstein; *Caesar the General and Leader* by L. De Blois; and *The Roman* Commentarius *and Caesar's Commentaries* by K.A. Raaflaub. For those who wish to go deeper on linguistic, literary, and historical issues in the text, the Christopher Krebs commentary of 2023 will prove invaluable.

[7] Visit thelandmarkcaesar.com

Timeline of events for *Gallic War* I–VII (all dates are BCE)

BOOK I

1.1–5 (61–Spring 58): The Helvetii are persuaded by Orgetorix, an ambitious Helvetian leader, to migrate from their country. They burn their homes and prepare for a long journey.

1.6–9 (Mar–April 58): The Helvetii try to pass through the Roman Province on their migration, but Caesar prevents them. They instead pass through the territory of the Sequani.

1.10–15 (April–June 58): Caesar grows concerned about the Helvetian migration and decides to intervene, pursuing the Helvetii on their march. The Helvetii harass the Romans.

1.16–20 (June 58): Caesar learns from Liscus, the chief official of the Aedui, that Dumnorix has been building an opposing faction within the Aedui to undermine Roman influence. Caesar places him under guard.

1.21–29 (June–July 58): Caesar launches an attack against the Helvetii. After a difficult battle, the Helvetii surrender, and Caesar pursues and captures a group of Helvetian runaways.

1.30–36 (July–Aug 58): Gallic emissaries come to thank Caesar and hold a Gallic council, led by the druid Diviciacus. He informs Caesar that the German king, Ariovistus, has settled in Sequani territory, and the Gauls need Roman assistance. Caesar promises his help and exchanges messages with the hostile Ariovistus, who does not respond to his warnings.

1.37–45 (Aug–Sep 58): The Romans advance towards Ariovistus. Caesar and Ariovistus meet, each with a group of cavalry; Caesar reiterates his demands, which Ariovistus again refuses.

1.46–50 (Sep 58): After the German horsemen attack Caesar during the parley, hostilities ensue. Caesar leaves his forces in battle formation, but Ariovistus declines to fight a decisive battle.

1.51–54 (Sep–Oct 58): Caesar forces the Germans to react by closely approaching their camp. The two armies clash, and the Germans flee to the Rhine; Ariovistus escapes. Caesar leads his army to winter quarters among the Sequani.

BOOK II

2.1–4 (Winter 58–July 57): Caesar learns that the Belgae are plotting against the Romans and joins his army at Vesontio, an *oppidum* of the Sequani. The Remi, one of the Belgae tribes, surrender to Caesar.

2.5–11 (July–Aug 57): Caesar saves the Remi *oppidum* of Bibrax from an attack by the Belgae and they make a camp nearby. The Romans and Belgae do battle, and after suffering heavy losses, the Belgae decide to return home; the Romans pursue and slaughter them.

2.12–14 (Aug 57): Caesar leads his army to Noviodunum, the capital of the Suessiones. The Suessiones surrender, followed by the Bellovaci and the Ambiani.

2.15–18 (Aug 57): The Nervii, neighbors of the Ambiani, resent the other Belgae for surrendering, and lie in wait for the Romans across the Sabis River.

2.19–28 (Aug–Sep 57): Caesar leads a difficult battle against the courageous Nervii. Following a decisive Roman victory, the Nervii women and elders surrender, and Caesar treats them with mercy.

2.29–33 (Sep–Oct 57): The Atuatuci, who were on their way to assist the Nervii, move everything to a single fortified town, where they are besieged by the Romans. Caesar agrees to spare them if they give up their weapons; they agree, but only give up two-thirds of their weapons. After a failed sortie, they are defeated and sold into slavery.

2.34–35 (Oct–Nov 57): Caesar learns that the maritime Gauls have surrendered to his legate, Crassus. He declares that all of Gaul has been pacified and sends his legions to winter quarters; the Roman Senate decrees a fifteen-day public thanksgiving.

BOOK III

3.1–6 (Sep–Nov 57): After the legate Galba opens a safe route through the Alps, the Gauls attack at Octodorus. The Romans kill a third of the 30,000 Gauls with a final charge.

3.7–16 (Dec 57–Sep 56): The maritime Veneti tribe takes Roman officials hostage; other tribes follow suit. After a meeting with the other triumvirs Pompey and Crassus in northern Italy, Caesar hurries to the western Gallic coast. He orders a fleet to be built and sends legates with forces to stop the troubles from spreading. He then defeats the Veneti on the sea and punishes them.

3.17–19 (July–Sep 56): Caesar sends the legate Sabinus against the Venelli. He defeats them after baiting them to attack by feigning cowardice. The entire region surrenders.

3.20–22 (Aug–Sep 56): The Sotiates attack the legate Crassus, but quickly surrender. The enemy commander Adiatunnus attacks separately but he soon surrenders as well.

3.23–27 (Sep 56): Crassus then sets out against the Vocates and Tarusates, and after storming their camp kills many. Most of Aquitania surrenders to Crassus.

3.28–29 (Oct–Nov 56): Caesar is unsuccessful in catching the last remaining tribes, the Morini and Menapii. He burns their crops and buildings before sending the legions to their winter camps.

BOOK IV

4.1–11 (Dec–Jun 55)**:** Caesar responds to German incursions into Gaul; he attempts negotiations.

4.12–15 (May–Jun 55): The Germans attack Caesar's unsuspecting army. Caesar leads the legions to the enemy camp and slaughters them.

4.16–19 (Jun–Jul 55): Caesar builds a bridge across the Rhine, then crosses into Germania to destroy Sugambri territory and help the Ubii. After eighteen days he returns and dismantles the bridge.

4.20–27 (Jul–Sep 55): Caesar decides to cross to Britain and gives his reasons. He assembles two legions and cavalry, but the cavalry get separated and do not arrive in Britain. The Romans force a landing against the resistance of the Britons on a beach overlooked by cliffs; though they struggle in the deep water at first, the legions quickly defeat the Britons once they are able to assemble on the beach.

4.28–36 (Sep–Oct 55): The Roman ships are destroyed in a storm. Seeing this, the Britons violate their surrender terms and launch a surprise attack. Caesar is prepared and defeats them again. His soldiers manage to salvage some of the wrecked ships and the Romans limp back to Gaul.

4.37–38 (Oct 55): Roman cavalry saves some errant legionnaires from the Morini, then the legate Labienus defeats the Morini and ravages their territory. The legions go into winter camps and the Roman Senate decrees a twenty-day thanksgiving for the exploits of the year.

BOOK V

5.1–7 (Jan–July 54): Caesar resolves to return to Britain in force. He deals with Gallic factional strife while his legions build ships at his instruction. The fleet's departure from Portus Itius is delayed by bad weather; meanwhile he orders many of the Gallic *principēs* to accompany him to Britain. Dumnorix the Aeduan refuses, flees, and is killed.

5.8–11 (July–Aug 54): The fleet lands in Britain and again a storm wrecks the ships. They are rebuilt and the Romans fortify a camp.

5.12–14 (July–Aug 54): Caesar provides a brief ethnography of the Britons.

5.15–22 (Aug–Sep 54): Caesar leads the Romans across the Thames into the territories of the British king Cassivellaunus, who launches sporadic attacks against the incoming armies. Caesar locates and seizes the stronghold of Cassivellaunus, who then fails to storm the Roman camp; he surrenders

5.23–25 (Sep–Oct 54): The Romans return to Gaul. Caesar explains that due to a poor harvest the previous year, he is required to divide up his legions into more scattered winter camps than usual.

5.26–31 (Nov 54): The legates Sabinus and Cotta command a winter camp of fifteen cohorts among the Eburones. Ambiorix, their king, gives them warning of a coming pan-Gallic attack. In a debate, Sabinus suggests they evacuate the camp before the attack arrives,

while Cotta advises that they remain and wait for Caesar's commands. Sabinus prevails, and the army leaves the camp at dawn.

5.32–39 (Nov 54): The departing Romans are ambushed by Ambiorix and are destroyed, despite their pleas for mercy. Emboldened by this success, the Nervii join the Eburones and they attack the legate Q. Cicero's camp of one legion in their territory.

5.40–48 (Nov 54): Q. Cicero rejects the Gauls' invitations to negotiate; in response, they surround the Roman camp and set it on fire. Refusing to submit, the Romans' numbers dwindle until word of the attack finally reaches Caesar, who quickly sends reinforcements.

5.49–53 (Dec 54): The Gauls move to face the approaching reinforcements. The Romans pretend to be afraid and unprepared; the Gauls fall for the trap and are chased away. Caesar joins Cicero and offers praise for his level-headed conduct. Word of this victory spreads, delighting the Romans and discouraging the Gauls.

5.54–58 (Winter 54–53): Hearing word of rebellions, Caesar subdues the Gauls with threats and entreaties. Indutiomarus of the Treveri gathers troops and attacks the legate Labienus, who feigns fear until his cavalry is dispatched. Indutiomarus is killed and peace returns to Gaul.

BOOK VI

6.1–8 (Mar–June 53): Continued signs of trouble in Gaul and from beyond the Rhine compel Caesar to launch a campaign early in the year. He begins with the Nervii, quickly subdues them, and calls all the leaders of Gaul to him. Those that do not show up are assumed to be hostile. The Gallic chief Acco begins an uprising among the Senones. Caesar plans to isolate Ambiorix by denying him support from other Gallic tribes, and defeats the Senones, Carnutes, and Menapii in swift

succession. The Romans ravage the territory of the Menapii. The Treveri are then subdued.

6.9–10 (July–Aug 53): Caesar bridges the Rhine for a second time and discovers that the Suebi have mobilized, but will not face the Romans in battle.

6.11–28 (Summer 53): Caesar provides a lengthy ethnographic description of the Gauls and Germans.

6.30–34 (Sep 53): Caesar returns to Gaul, destroys the bridge, and attempts to apprehend Ambiorix in the Ardennes with cavalry. Ambiorix eludes capture and instructs the Eburones to scatter and hide. Caesar splits the legions into three forces and leaves their baggage train with the legate Q. Cicero at Atuatuca, an *oppidum* of the Eburones. The legions devastate the lands of the absent Eburones and invite the neighboring Gallic tribes to do likewise.

6.35–42 (Sep–Oct 53): The Germanic Sugambri cross the Rhine to join in the plunder, but are enticed by the prospect of looting the Roman baggage stored at Q. Cicero's camp. Unaware, Cicero sends out foraging parties which are ambushed, resulting in many casualties. Despite this, the camp manages to fend off the attack and the Sugambri return to Germania empty-handed. Caesar returns to the camp and criticizes Q. Cicero for not following his instructions.

6.43–44 (Oct–Dec 53): Frustrated by his inability to apprehend Ambiorix, Caesar orders the legions to continue their campaign of scorched earth. At the close of the year he returns to Durocortum, an *oppidum* of the Remi, and orders Acco to be executed. He then sends the legions into their winter camps and returns to Cisalpine Gaul.

BOOK VII

7.1–3 (Jan–Feb 52): As the 7th year of the Gallic War begins, the Gauls begin to plan a rebellion. The Carnutes take the first steps by massacring the Roman traders at Cenabum.

7.4–5 (March 52): Vercingetorix begins his rebellion among the Arverni. He raises a large force of supporters and sends some to threaten the Roman Province, while others move against the Bituriges.

7.6–8 (March–April 52): Caesar, separated from his army, leads a makeshift force into Arvernian territory. Vercingetorix is forced to move to confront him.

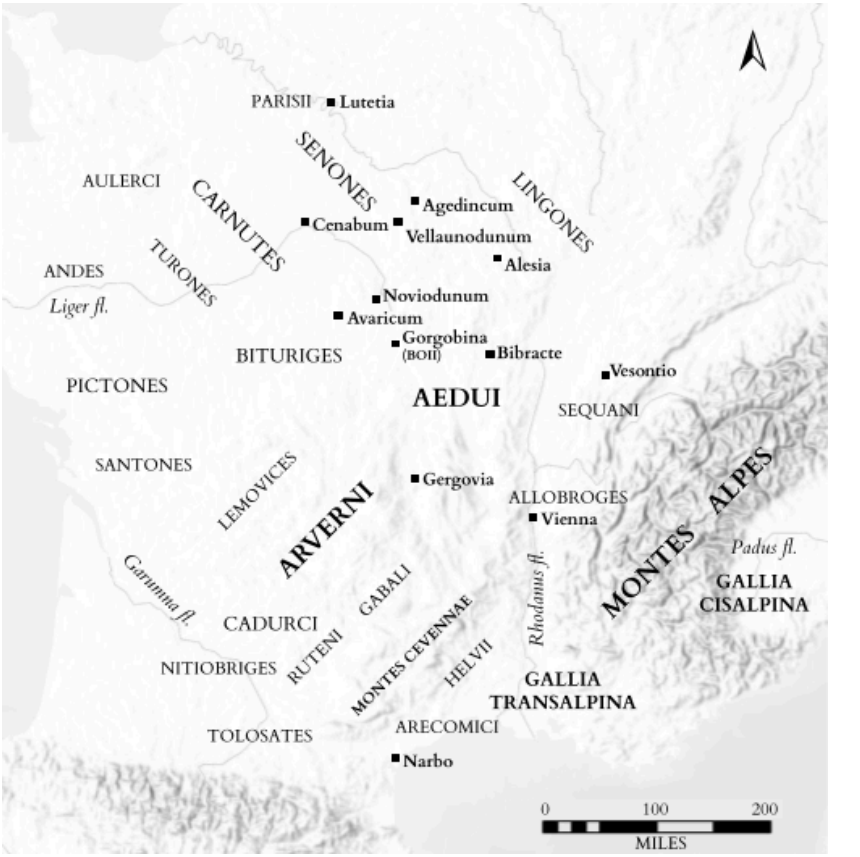
7.9 (April 52): With only a small cavalry escort, Caesar races through Aeduan lands and quietly rejoins his main force.

7.10–13 (May 52) Caesar moves to counter the maneuvers of Vercingetorix, capturing Vellaunodunum, Cenabum, and Noviodunum in quick succession. He moves against Avaricum.

7.14–17 (May 52): Vercingetorix enacts a scorched-earth policy in an attempt to cut off Roman resupply, but the other Gallic *principes* convince him to spare the large *oppidum* Avaricum. He establishes a defensive position and the Romans begin the siege, despite lacking supplies.

7.18–22 (June 52): Caesar attempts a surprise attack, but withdraws due to the difficult terrain. Vercingetorix meanwhile must defend himself in a long oration against Gallic accusations of malfeasance.

7.23–28 (June 52): The Gauls defend Avaricum with tenacity and ingenuity, but the Romans eventually complete construction of an *agger* and breach the impressive walls. The legions plunder the town and massacre everyone they find. The few survivors make their way to the camp of Vercingetorix.



The major tribes and towns of Gaul in the mid-1st century BCE

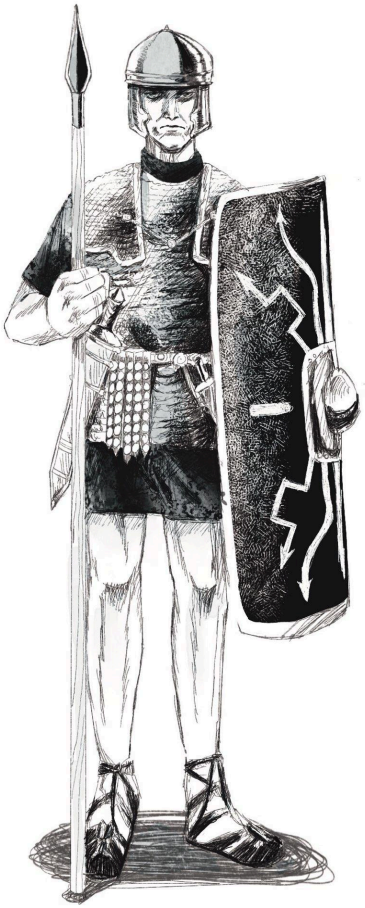
ABBREVIATIONS

abl.: ablative
abs.: absolute
acc.: accusative
act.: active
Caes.: Caesar
dat.: dative
gen.: genitive
pass.: passive
peri.: periphrastic
impers.: impersonal
impf.: imperfect
infin.: infinitive
lit.: literally
nom.: nominative
PAP: present active participle
pl.: plural
PPP: perfect passive participle
prep.: preposition
pres.: present
rel.: relative
sg.: singular
subj.: subject
Verc.: Vercingetorix

GERGOVIA

dē bellō Gallicō VII 29-62

with Running Vocabulary and Commentary



[29] *The Gauls come together after the destruction of Avaricum*

1 Posterō diē conciliō convocātō cōnsōlātus cohortātusque est nē sē admodum animō dēmitterent, nē perturbārentur incommodō.

---

admodum: wholly, very much, quite
concilium, -iī n.: meeting
cohortor, -ārī, -ātus: exhort, encourage
cōnsōlor, -ārī, -ātus: comfort, encourage
convocō (1): assemble, call together
dēmittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: descend; lower, drop
incommodum, -ī n.: inconvenience, misfortune
perturbō (1): confuse, confound, be in disorder
posterus, -a, -um: next

Posterō diē: *On the next day*; abl. of time when; it is the following day after the Roman destruction of the *oppidum* of Avaricum; for proper names of Gauls, Romans, tribes, towns, rivers, etc. in this text, please see Appendix B
cōnsōlātus cohortātusque est: the subject is Verc.
sē…dēmitterent: *let themselves sink*; idiomatic
incommodō: *by the inconvenience*; an abl. of means referring to the slaughter of Avaricum's inhabitants; the term might seem inappropriate for this event, but previously Caes. used it to refer to: a humiliating defeat inflicted on the Romans (*BG* 1.13.4); extremely unfavorable battle conditions for a legion (5.35.5); and the destruction of the legion and the aftermath (5.52.6; 5.53.4)

2 Nōn virtūte neque in aciē vīcisse Rōmānōs, sed artificiō quōdam et scientiā oppugnātiōnis, cuius reī fuerint ipsī imperītī. 3 Errāre, sī quī in bellō omnēs secundōs rērum prōventūs exspectent.

---

aciēs, -eī f.: edge; line of battle
artificium, -iī n.: art; ingenuity, cunning
errō (1): wander; err
expectō (1): wait for, anticipate
imperītus, -a, -um: unskilled, inexperienced
oppugnātiō, -ōnis f.: assault, siege
prōventus, -ūs m.: a produce, yield; result, outcome
quīdam, quaedam, quoddam: a certain, a particular
scientia, -ae f.: knowledge, skill
secundus, -a, -um: (here) favorable, fortunate

---

vīcisse Rōmānōs: *that the Romans had been victorious*; Verc.'s words were reported in indirect commands governed by *cohortātus* in the previous sentence, but now Caes. switches to indirect statements with an implied "he says (that)." This is common in *BG*, especially for extended speeches
ipsī: that is, the Gauls (nom.)
errāre: *that (they) were wrong*; continue to supply "he [Verc.] says that" for an indirect statement with verb *errāre* and an understood accusative subject *[eōs]*
sī quī: with *sī*, "aliquī" drops "ali-" and becomes *quī*
quī…exspectent: use *omnēs secundōs prōventūs* ("all favorable outcomes") as the subject of indirect statement introduced by *expectent*, with an implied *esse*; that is, it would be wrong to expect only victories in war—not every battle will be won

4 Sibi numquam placuisse Avaricum dēfendī, cuius reī testēs ipsōs habēret; sed factum imprūdentiā Biturigum et nimiā obsequentiā reliquōrum utī hoc incommodum acciperētur. 5 Id tamen sē celeriter maiōribus commodīs sānātūrum.

---

commodum, -ī n.: opportunity; advantage, profit
dēfendō, -ere, -ī, -defensus: defend, ward off
imprūdentia, -ae f.: lack of knowledge, ignorance; lack of foresight
incommodum, -ī n.: inconvenience, misfortune
nimius, -a, -um: excessive
numquam: never
obsequentia, -ae f.: compliance, yielding
placeō, -ēre, placuī, -citus: please, be pleasing; agree
sānō (1): heal, restore
testis, -is m.: witness

Sibi numquam placuisse: *It had never been pleasing to him*; that is, he (Verc.) had never thought it was a good idea; continue to supply "he says that" for an indirect command; *placuisse* is impersonal
cuius reī: *of which opinion*
cuius…habēret: Verc. is showing that he is not just saying this now that the situation has passed, but that he has always thought this
factum: *that it had happened*; implicit *esse*; the subject is the following noun clause *utī incommodum acciperētur*
Biturigum: *Biturigis, -is m.*; see Appendix B
imprūdentiā…obsequentiā: ablatives of cause
utī: conjunction, a common variation of *ut*
Id: that is, this current situation for the Gauls
maiōribus commodīs: *superior advantages*; Verc. now turns away from the *incommoda* of the past and looks to the *commoda maiōra* of the future
sānātūrum: *that he himself would heal*; implicit *esse*; future active infinitive continuing the indirect statement of the passage with the subject *sē*

6 Nam quae ab reliquīs Gallīs cīvitātēs dissentīrent, hās suā dīligentiā adiūnctūrum atque ūnum cōnsilium tōtīus Galliae effectūrum, cuius cōnsēnsuī nē orbis quidem terrārum possit obsistere; idque sē prope iam effectum habēre.

---

adiungō, -ere, adiūnxī, -ūnctus: join to, connect
cīvitās, -tātis f.: (in Caes.) tribe
cōnsēnsus, -ūs m.: agreement, harmony, unanimity
dīligentia, -ae f.: thriftiness; attentiveness
dissentiō, -īre, –sēnsī, -sēnsus: disagree; differ, be unlike
efficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: (here) bring about, produce; complete
obsistō, -ere, -ī: stand in the way; withstand
orbis, -is m.: circle, orb
prope: nearly, almost

---

cīvitātēs: Caes. uses this term (here and hereafter) to refer to Gallic tribes or states, rather than cities or citizenship
quae…dissentīrent: use *cīvitātēs* as the antecedent of *quae*; these are the tribes not yet supporting Verc.
adiūnctūrum, effectūrum: with an implied *esse*; the subject is an implied *sē* (Verc.) in continuation of this long indirect statement
ūnum cōnsilium tōtīus Galliae: Although *Gallia* consisted of many individual tribes, the idea of a collective "all Gaul" appears several times in Caes.: see for example *BG* 1.2.2, where the Helvetian nobleman Orgetorix intended to seize control of all Gaul, or *BG* 7.4.1, where we learn that Celtillus, father of Verc., had held supremacy over all Gaul, but was killed for that ambition
cōnsēnsuī: 4th decl. dative, object of *obsistere*
nē…quidem: *not even*
orbis terrārum: *the world*, idiomatic
prope iam effectum habēre: *he considered it nearly already to be completed*

7 Intereā aequum esse ab eīs commūnis salūtis causā impetrārī ut castra mūnīre īnstituerent, quō facilius repentīnōs hostium impetūs sustinērent.

---

aequus, -a, -um: (here) reasonable
commūnis, -e: common, general
facilis, -e: easy, without difficulty
impetus, -ūs m.: attack, assault
impetrō (1): accomplish; obtain
īnstituō, -ere, -ī, -tūtus: undertake; decide
intereā: meanwhile
mūniō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: build, fortify
repentīnus, -a, -um: sudden, unexpected
salūs, -ūtis f.: health, safety
sustineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) endure, withstand

---

aequum esse ab eīs…impetrārī ut: *it was reasonable that it [cooperation] be obtained from them [the Gauls] that*; in other words, that he prevail upon the Gauls (+ indirect command)
commūnis salūtis causā: *for the sake of their common safety*
castra mūnīre: see note below, *BG* 7.30.4
quō: *so that*; rel. clause of purpose



[30] *The Gauls are bolstered by the example of Vercingetorix*

1 Fuit haec ōrātiō nōn ingrāta Gallīs, et maximē, quod ipse animō nōn dēfēcerat tantō acceptō incommodō neque sē in occultum abdiderat et cōnspectum multitūdinis fūgerat;

---

abdō, -ere, -didī, -ditus: conceal
cōnspectus, -ūs m.: look, sight, view
dēficiō, -ere, -ī, dēfectus: be wanting, be lackin (+ abl.)
incommodum, -ī n.: inconvenience, misfortune
ingrātus, -a, -um: unpleasant, unwelcome
maximē: especially
occultus, -a, -um: hidden; (here, as substantive) a secret place

---

quod…incommodō: *because this man [Verc.] had not faltered in his own soul with so great a setback taken*
animō: ablative of separation with *dēficere*
in occultum…fūgerat: that is, in part since Verc. did hide himself away, he showed himself as a courageous man, deserving of their continued support

2 plūsque animō prōvidēre et praesentīre exīstimābātur, quod rē integrā prīmō incendendum Avaricum, post dēserendum cēnsuerat. 3 Itaque ut reliquōrum imperātōrum rēs adversae auctōritātem minuunt, sīc huius ex contrāriō dignitās incommodō acceptō in diēs augēbātur.

---

adversus, -a, -um: opposite; adverse
augeō, -ēre, auxī, auctus: increase
cēnseō, -ēre, -uī, -us: assess, judge
dēserō, -ere, -uī, -tus: leave, abandon
dignitās, -tātis f.: worth, reputation
exīstimō (1): consider, think, judge
imperātor, -ōris m.: commander
incendō, -ere, -ī, -census: set on fire, burn
incommodum, -ī n.: inconvenience, misfortune
integer, -gra, -grum: (here) undecided
itaque: and so, therefore
minuō, -ere, -uī, -ūtus: lessen
praesentiō, -īre, -sēnsī, -sēnsus: feel or perceive beforehand
prīmō: first, at first
prōvideō, -ēre, -ī, prōvīsus: foresee

---

exīstimābātur: *he [Verc.] was thought*; use Verc. as unexpressed subject introducing an indirect statement
prōvidēre…praesentīre: indirect statement with verb *exīstimābātur*; use Verc. as subject of the infinitives
rē integrā: *with the matter still undecided (lit. "when the thing was whole")*
prīmō incendendum Avaricum, post dēserendum: *at first that Avaricum ought to be burned, and then afterwards that it ought to be deserted;* the gerundives here express obligation
cēnsuerat: verb of both what happened *prīmō* and *post*
ut…sīc: *as…so*
ex contrāriō: *on the other hand*; this phrase is found only here in Caes., but appears frequently in Cicero and thence in Quintillian and Seneca
in diēs: *day by day*

4 Simul in spem veniēbant eius adfirmātiōne dē reliquīs adiungendīs cīvitātibus; prīmumque eō tempore Gallī castra mūnīre īnstituērunt et sīc sunt animō cōnfirmātī, hominēs īnsuētī labōris, ut omnia quae imperārentur sibi patienda exīstimārent.

---

adiungō, -ere, adiūnxī, -ūnctus: join to, connect
adfirmātiō, -ōnis f.: assurance; declaration
cōnfirmō (1): strengthen
īnstituō, -ere, -ī, -tūtus: undertake; decide
īnsuētus, -a, -um: unaccustomed, inexperienced (+ gen.)
mūniō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: build, fortify
patior, -ī, passus: permit; endure
simul: at the same time
spēs, speī f.: hope

---

dē reliquīs adiungendīs cīvitātibus: *about adding the remaining states*; idiomatic use of the gerundive for the gerund
castra mūnīre: *to fortify their camp;* the Romans routinely constructed a fortified *castra* each night for protection, and this often contributed to their successes in war. The Gauls, by contrast, often seemed much more disorganized about this, especially when it came to the organized fortification of their nightly bivouac; here they follow Verc.'s assertion that, as it has been a significant help to the Romans, they should attempt to replicate the Romans' strongly fortified camp; see *BG* 7.29.7 for Verc.'s initial proposal of this change in tactics
sīc sunt animō cōnfirmātī…ut…existmārent: *they were so encouraged…that they judged;* result clause
sibi patienda (esse): *must be endured by them;* passive periphrastic with a dative of agent

[31] *Vercingetorix rebuilds his army and expands his alliance*

1 Nec minus quam est pollicitus Vercingetorīx animō labōrābat ut reliquās cīvitātēs adiungeret, atque eās dōnīs pollicitātiōnibusque alliciēbat. Huic reī idōneōs hominēs dēligēbat, 2 quōrum quisque aut ōrātiōne subdolā aut amīcitiā facillimē capere posset. Quī Avaricō expugnātō refūgerant, 3 armandōs vestiendōsque cūrat;

---

alliciō, -ere, -lēxī, -lectus: entice
amīcitia, -ae f.: friendship
armō (1): equip, arm
dēligō, -ere, dēlēgī, -lēctus: choose from; select
dōnum, -ī n.: gift
expūgnō (1): assault, capture
facilis, -e: easy, without difficulty
idōneus, –a, –um: appropriate
labōrō (1): work
polliceor, -cērī, -citus: promise
pollicitātiō, -ōnis f.: promise
quisque, quidque: each
refugiō, -ere, -fūgī: flee back
subdolus, -a, -um: cunning
vestiō, -īre, -iī/-īvī, -ītum: clothe

---

minus quam est pollicitus: *less than what he promised*; the *minus* is adverbial with *labōrābat*
animō labōrābat: *he worked his heart out*
huic reī: *for this task (of recruiting the remaining tribes)*
aut…aut: either…or
quōrum quisque…capere posset: *each of whom…could win (them over);* a relative clause of either characteristic or purpose; here *capere* has a special sense of "to win (someone) over"
Quī: *(those) who;* the antecedent is an understood *eōs* with *armandōs vestiendōsque*
armandōs vestiendōsque cūrat: *he takes care (that they) be armed and clothed*

4 simul, ut dēminūtae cōpiae redintegrārentur, imperat certum numerum mīlitum cīvitātibus, quem et quam ante diem in castra addūcī velit, sagittāriōsque omnēs, quōrum erat permagnus numerus in Galliā, conquīrī et ad sē mittī iubet. Hīs rēbus celeriter id quod Avaricī dēperierat explētur.

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addūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead to
certus, -a, -um: fixed, certain
conquīrō, -ere, -quīsīvī, -quīsītus: collect, procure, seek
dēminuō, -ere, –ī, –nūtus: make smaller, lessen; impair
dēpereō, –perīre, –periī: destroy completely, perish
expleō, -ēre, -ēvī, -ētus: fill up, fulfill
permagnus, -a, -um: immense
redintegrō (1): restore, renew
sagittārius, -iī m.: archer, bowman
simul: at the same time
volō, velle, voluī: wish, want

---

cīvitātibus: either dative after *imperat*, or ablative in the sense of "*from* the tribes"
quem et quam ante diem: *what (number) and before what day;* the *quem* is an interrogative adjective modifying an implicitly repeated *numerum*
sagittāriōs: direct object after *iubet*, with the passive infinitives *conquīrī* and *mittī*; Caes. infrequently mentions archers at all, and only his own bowmen *auxilia* twice (*BG* 2.7.1ff, and separately at 4.25.1). Gallic archers do not appear before this point, but Gallic use of other missile weapons is not uncommon in the commentaries (*BG* 5.35.8, for example, when the legate Cotta is sorely wounded by a slingstone). The Gallic archers will appear again at 7.41.3 and then several times in 7.80-81
Avaricī: *at Avaricum*; locative

5 Interim Teutomatus, Ollovicōnis fīlius, rēx Nitiobrigum, cuius pater ab senātū nostrō amīcus erat appellātus, cum magnō equitum suōrum numerō et quōs ex Aquītāniā condūxerat ad eum pervēnit.

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amīcus, -ī m.: friend
appello (1): name, call
Aquītānia: a region of southwestern Gaul
condūcō, -ere, -ūxī, -ductus: bring together, hire
eques, equitis m.: horseman
fīlius, -iī m.: son
interim: meanwhile
perveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: reach, arrive at

Teutomatus: nothing beyond what Caes. says here is known about him or his father
Nitiobrigum: genitive plural of the tribe *Nitiobrigēs, -um*
senātū nostrō: *our senate;* this refers to the Roman senate, not the various councils of Gauls mentioned elsewhere
equitum suōrum numero et [eīs] quōs: *of his own cavalry…and those whom;* that is, Teutomatus is bringing both his own horsemen and those whom he had hired
ad eum: *to him [Verc.]*

[32] *The Aedui seek Caesar's aid in a political crisis*

1 Caesar, Avaricī complūrēs diēs commorātus, summamque ibi cōpiam frūmentī et reliquī commeātūs nactus, exercitum ex labōre atque inopiā refēcit.

---

commeātus, -ūs m.: commerce; provisions
commoror, -ārī, -ātus: linger
complūrēs, -ium: many
frūmentum, -ī n.: grain, crops
inopia, -ae f.: need; scarcity; famine
nancīscor, -ī, nactus: obtain
reficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: (here) reinforce; restore; refit

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complūrēs diēs: *for many days;* acc. of duration of time
ex labōre atque inopiā: *from hard work and hunger;* the legions had suffered from severe lack of provisions during the siege of Avaricum for several weeks; they were in part able to recuperate because they had a secure camp while Caes. "lingered," and because the sacked town had been full of supplies

2 Iam prope hieme cōnfectā cum ipsō annī tempore ad gerendum bellum vocārētur et ad hostem proficīscī cōnstituisset, sīve eum ex palūdibus silvīsque ēlicere sīve obsidiōne premere posset, lēgātī ad eum prīncipēs Aeduōrum veniunt ōrātum ut maximē necessāriō tempore cīvitātī subveniat;

---

annus, -ī m.: year
cōnficiō, -ere, -fēcī, fectus: finish
cōnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -tūtus: (here) decide
ēliciō, -ere, -uī: allure, entice, lure out
hiems, -is f.: winter
lēgātus, -ī m.: (here) ambassador
necessārius, –a, –um: necessary, essential
obsidiō, -ōnis f.: siege, blockade
palūs, -ūdis f.: swamp
prīnceps, -cipis m.: (here) leader
proficīscor, -ī, profectus: depart
prope: nearly, almost
silva, -ae f.: forest
subveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: come to the aid of (+ dat)
vocō (1): call, summon

Iam prope: here this phrase has a sense of "almost"
iam…vocārētur: Roman military campaigns were typically done according to the seasons, and the legions went into semi-permanent camps (*castra*) during the winter months. Here, Caes. is saying that time is over, and the weather is lending itself to the start of a new campaign season
cum…vocārētur et…cōnstituisset: *when…he was being called…and had decided*
ipsō annī tempore: *by the very time of year*; the circumstances called him to wage war
sīve…sīve: *if…or if*
veniunt orātum: *come to beg;* acc. supine expressing purpose
ut…subveniat: *that he help;* indirect command, introduced by the supine *ōrātum*
maximē necessāriō tempore: *especially in a time of need;* abl. of time when

3 summō esse in perīculō rem, quod, cum singulī magistrātūs antīquitus creārī atque rēgiam potestātem annum obtinēre cōnsuēssent, duo magistrātum gerant et sē uterque eōrum lēgibus creātum esse dīcat.

---

antīquitus: formerly, in ancient times
cōnsuēscō, -ere, -suēvī, -suētus: be accustomed to
creō (1): create; elect
magistratus, -ūs m.: leader, public official
obtineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) acquire
perīculum, -ī n.: danger
potestās, -tātis f.: power
rēgius, –a, –um: royal, kingly
singulus, -a, -um: (here) individual
uterque, utraque, utrumque: each; either

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esse: the sentence turns to indirect statement with accusative and infinitive when relating the content of the message
rem: that is, the political situation of the Aeduan state
quod…duo…gerant et…uterque…dīcat: *because…two…were carrying out…and…each…were saying;* the causal *quod* clause is subjunctive because it is a subordinate clause within indirect statement
cum…cōnsuēssent: *although they had been accustomed;* adversative cum-clause
singulī magistrātūs: *individual magistrates;* The term is plural because Caes. is speaking of the continual practice: each year there was only a single magistrate with royal power. The term for the position among the Aedui (and other tribes) was *vergobret* (*BG* 1.16.5)
cōnsuēssent: *cōnsuēvissent*; syncopation
annum: *for one year*; accusative of duration of time
sē uterque eōrum lēgibus creātum esse dīcat: *each one (uterque) was saying (dīcat) that he (sē) had been elected (creātum esse) according to their laws (lēgibus eōrum)*

4 Hōrum esse alterum Convictolitavem, flōrentem et inlūstrem adulēscentem, alterum Cotum, antīquissimā familiā nātum atque ipsum hominem summae potentiae et magnae cognātiōnis, cuius frāter Valetiacus proximō annō eundem magistrātum gesserit.

---

antīquus, –a, –um: ancient, old
cognātiō, –ōnis f.: kindred, connections
inlūstris, -e: bright; distinguished
flōreō, -ēre, -uī: bloom; flourish
nāscor, -ī, nātus: be born
potentia, -ae f.: power

Convictolitavis, -is: he is mentioned by no other sources, and Caes. has not mentioned him before now
Cotus: nothing further is known about him
alterum…alterum: *the one…the other;* they are accusative in the continued indirect statement
antīquissimā familiā: *from a most ancient family;* abl. of origin
proximō annō: *the previous year*; literally "in the nearest year" (abl. of time when)
Valetiacus: nothing further is known of him

5 Cīvitātem esse omnem in armīs; dīvīsum senātum, dīvīsum populum, suās cuiusque eōrum clientēlās. Quod sī diūtius alātur contrōversia, fore utī pars cum parte cīvitātis cōnflīgat. Id nē accidat, positum in eius dīligentiā atque auctōritāte.

---

accidō, -ere, -cidī: happen
alō, -ere, -uī, altus: support; promote, increase
cliēntēla, -ae f.: (here) supporter
cōnflīgō, -ere, -flixī, -flīctus: combat; strike together violently
dīligentia, -ae f.: thriftiness; attentiveness
diū: for a long time
dīvidō, -ere, -vīsī, -vīsus: divide, separate
quisque, quidque: each

---

cīvitātem esse: the indirect statement begun in 32.3 continues
dīvīsum…dīvīsum: perf. pass. infin. with implied *esse*
suās cuiusque eōrum clientēlās: *each has his own followers*; the Roman term *clientēla* refers to free men who have formed reciprocal social agreements with powerful patrons. They made a promise of loyalty and support (in political, social, and war-related services) in exchange for support in financial, legal, and other matters. Caes. identifies their rough equivalent in Gallic society, called *soldurīī* at *BG* 3.22.1
Quod sī…alātur: *but if…is increased;* the subjunctive here does not indicate a future-less-vivid condition, but is rather due to the fact that it is a subordinate clause within an indirect statement
fore utī: *it would come about that, it would come to pass that;* the phrase *fore ut* with a subjunctive can replace a future infinitive in indirect statement
Id nē accidat: *nē* signals a negative purpose clause
positum (esse): *that it was placed;* this perfect passive infinitive marks the final clause of the indirect statement that makes up the plea of the Aedui
eius: that is, Caesar's

[33] *Caesar intervenes in an Aeduan factional dispute*

1 Caesar, etsī ā bellō atque hoste discēdere dētrīmentōsum esse exīstimābat, tamen nōn īgnōrāns quanta ex dissēnsiōnibus incommoda orīrī cōnsuēssent, nē tanta et tam coniūncta populō Rōmānō cīvitās, quam ipse semper aluisset omnibusque rēbus ōrnāsset, ad vim atque arma dēscenderet,

---

alō, -ere, aluī, altus: support; promote
coniungō, -ere, -iūnxī, -iūnctus: unite
cōnsuēscō, -ere, -suēvī, -suētus: be accustomed to
dētrīmentōsus, -a, -um: hurtful, detrimental
discēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: go away
dissēnsiō, -ōnis f.: disagreement
etsī: although
īgnōrō (1): not know, not understand; disregard
incommodum, -ī n.: inconvenience, misfortune
orior, orīrī, ortus: arise, be born; appear; begin
ornō (1): equip; decorate; dignify
quantus, -a, -um: how much, how great
vīs, acc. **vim f.**: force, violence

Caesar…exīstimāvit et...statuit…senātumque…ēvocāvit: *Caesar…judged and…decided…and summoned…the council;* this long sentence has three coordinated main verbs, which are separated by numerous dependent clauses
dētrīmentōsum: neuter singular modifying the infinitive *discēdere*
quanta…incommoda…cōnsuēssent (= cōnsuēvissent): *how great (of) inconveniences are accustomed;* indirect question introduced by *ignōrāns*
ex dissēnsiōnibus: in this instance, specifically political strife
nē…cīvitās…dēscenderet: purpose clause, which will be coordinated with *atque ea pars…arcesseret* below
ōrnāsset: *ōrnāvisset*; syncopation

atque ea pars quae minus sibi cōnfīderet auxilia ā Vercingetorīge arcesseret, 2 huic reī praevertendum exīstimāvit et, quod lēgibus Aeduōrum eīs quī summum magistrātum obtinērent excēdere ex fīnibus nōn licēret, nē quid dē iūre aut dē lēgibus eōrum dēminuisse vidērētur,

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arcessō, -ere, -īvī, -ītus: invite, summon
dēminuō, -ere, –ī, –nūtus: make smaller, lessen; impair
excēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: depart
fīnis, -is m.: (here) borders, territory
iūs, iūris n.: right, justice, law
licet, -ēre, licuit: be permitted, be lawful (impers.)
obtineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) acquire
praevertō, -ere, -vertī, -versus: turn attention to first; prevent (+ dat.)

---

quae minus sibi cōnfīderet: *which trusted less in him (Caes.);* the verb of the relative clause has been attracted into the subjunctive from the clause it is dependent on; the *sibi* refers back to the subject of the main clause (Caes.) rather than the subject of this particular clause
quod…eīs, quī…nōn liceret: *because…it was not allowed for those who;* the clause explains why Caes. could not summon them to come to him
nē quid: *nē aliquid*

ipse in Aeduōs proficīscī statuit senātumque omnem et quōs inter contrōversia esset ad sē Decetiam ēvocāvit. 3 Cum prope omnis cīvitās eō convēnisset, docērēturque paucīs clam convocātīs aliō locō aliō tempore atque oportuerit frātrem ā frātre renūntiātum,

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aliquis, aliquid: someone, something
clam: secretly
doceō, -ēre, -uī, doctus: teach, inform, show
eō: there, to that place
ēvocō (1): call out, summon
oportet, -ēre, oportuīt: is proper (impers.)
proficīscor, -ī, profectus: depart
prope: nearly, almost
renūntiō (1): announce, declare
statuō, -ere, -uī, -ūtus: (here) decide, determine, choose

---

senātumque omnem: the council of elders of the Aedui

quōs inter: *(those) among whom;* the antecedent is an implicit *eōs*, and the preposition follows the word it governs

ad sē Decetiam: *to Decetia to him;* there is no preposition before *Decetiam* because it is the name of a town; it was one of the *oppida* of the Aedui in the north of their territory and therefore close to his current location near Avaricum

aliō locō aliō tempore atque oportuerit: *at another place and another time than was appropriate*; a rare use of *atque* (or its equivalent *ac*, *et*, or even more rarely *nisi* or *quam*) following *alius* in formal prose; in colloquial prose or in poetry, it is typically followed by an ablative of comparison instead; cf. *BG* 7.14.2; A&G §407d

frātrem ā frātre renūntiātum (esse): *that (one) brother had been declared by (another) brother;* an indirect statement set up by *docerētur*; the previous year's magistrate, Valetiacus, had declared his brother Cotus to have been elected, contrary to the proper procedures

cum lēgēs duo ex ūnā familiā vīvō utrōque nōn sōlum magistrātūs creārī vetārent, sed etiam in senātū esse prohibērent, Cotum imperium dēpōnere coēgit; Convictolitavem, 4 quī per sacerdōtēs mōre cīvitātis intermissīs magistrātibus esset creātus, potestātem obtinēre iussit.

---

cōgō, -ere, coēgī, coāctus: (here) compel, force
creō (1): create; elect
dēpōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: put down; resign
imperium, -iī n.: power, command
intermittō, -ere, -mīsī, -mīssus: interrupt, omit, cease
mōs, mōris m.: custom, habit
obtineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) acquire
potestās, -tātis f.: power
prohibeō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: prevent
sacerdōs, -dōtis m.: priest; druid
uterque, utraque, utrumque: each; either
vetō, –are, -uī, -itus: forbid
vīvus, -a, -um: living

---

cum lēgēs duo…magistrātūs creārī vetārent: *although the laws…forbid two magistrates to be chosen; duo…magistrātūs* is the acc. subject of *creārī*
vīvō utrōque: *while each (is) alive;* the phrase is an ablative absolute, although it is modifying the accusative *duo…magistrātūs*
in senātū: the council of elders of the Aedui
coēgit: the subject is Caes.
intermissīs magistrātibus: *with the magistracy being vacant*; the Druids had initially appointed Convictolitavis to fill the post which they considered to be occupied improperly by Cotus; there had been similar incidents in Rome in recent years, in 55 and 52, when the Roman senate had appointed an *interrēx* after the interruption of the normal consular elections

[34] *Caesar splits the legions for two campaigns*

1 Hōc dēcrētō interpositō cohortātus Aeduōs ut contrōversiārum ac dissēnsiōnis oblīvīscerentur atque omnibus omissīs hīs rēbus huic bellō servīrent eaque quae meruissent praemia ab sē dēvictā Galliā exspectārent equitātumque omnem et peditum mīlia decem sibi celeriter mitterent, quae in praesidiīs reī frūmentāriae causā dispōneret, exercitum in duās partēs dīvīsit:

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cohortor, -ārī, -ātus: exhort, encourage
dēcrētum, dēcrētī n.: decision
dēvincō, –ere, –vīcī, –victus: conquer completely, subdue
dispōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: arrange, set in order; distribute
dissēnsiō, –ōnis f.: disagreement
dīvidō, -ere, -vīsī, -vīsus: separate
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
frūmentārius, –a, –um: relating to the grain supply
interpōnō, -ere, -posuī, -posītus: put between, insert; introduce
mereō, -ēre, meruī, meritus: earn, deserve
oblīvīscor, -ī, oblītus: forget, put out of mind (+ gen.)
omittō, -ere, omīsī, omissus: let go, lay aside
pedes, -itis m.: infantry soldier
serviō, -īre, -vīvī, -vītus: serve, be devoted to, comply with

---

cohortātus Aeduōs: *having urged the Aedui;* this participial phrase sets up a series of dependent clauses; the main verb is *dīvīsit*
peditum mīlia decem: *ten thousand (of) foot soldiers;* the number 1,000 is always neuter in the plural and takes a genitive
reī frūmentāriae causā: *for the sake of [securing] the grain supply situation*; Caes. stockpiled supplies in central depots and guarded them, when possible

2 quattuor legiōnēs in Senonēs Parīsiōsque Labiēnō dūcendās dedit, sex ipse in Arvernōs ad oppidum Gergoviam secundum flūmen Elaver dūxit; equitātūs partem illī attribuit, partem sibi relīquit. 3 Quā rē cognitā Vercingetorīx omnibus interruptīs eius flūminis pontibus ab alterā flūminis parte iter facere coepit.

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attribuō, -ere, -ī, -ūtus: assign
coepī, coepisse, coeptus: begin
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
interrumpō, –ere, –rūpī, –ruptus: break asunder; interrupt
pōns, pontis m.: bridge
quattuor: four
secundum: next to, along (+ acc.)
sex: six

Senonēs Parīsiōsque: two Gallic tribes of central-northern Gaul, in the Seine river basin; see Appendix B
Labiēnō: Titus Labiēnus, Caesar's most trusted and capable lieutenant in Gaul; Caes. will return to the separate account of Labienus and these four legions at *BG* 7.57-62
dūcendās: *to be led*; after *dare, cūrāre, tradere*, the future passive participle is used in agreement with a direct object to indicate that something is caused to be done
Elaver: the Allier river, which flows generally north from the Massif Central to join the Loire west of Nevers (Noviodunum)
illī: *to Labienus*
Quā rē cognitā: *When this thing was known;* referring to the entire previous sentence
omnibus interruptīs…pontibus: *because all the bridges…were broken;* ablative absolute with a causal sense
ab alterā flūminis parte: *on the opposite bank of the river*

[35] *Caesar gets the legions across the Elaver river by a ruse*

1 Cum uterque utrimque exīsset exercitus, in cōnspectū ferēque ē regiōne castrīs castra pōnēbant, dispositīs explōrātōribus, nēcubī effectō ponte Rōmānī cōpiās trādūcerent. Erat in magnīs Caesarī difficultātibus rēs, nē maiōrem aestātis partem flūmine impedīrētur, quod nōn ferē ante autumnum Elaver vadō trānsīrī solet.

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aestās, -tātis f.: summer
autumnus, -ī m.: the autumn season
cōnspectus, -ūs m.: sight, view
difficultās, -tātis f.: difficulty, trouble
dispōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: arrange, set in order; distribute
efficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: (here) bring about, produce; complete
exeō, -īre, -iī, -itus: depart
explōrātor, -ōris m.: spy, scout
impediō, -īre, -iī, -ītus: hinder, delay
nēcubī: that nowhere, lest nowhere
pōns, pontis m.: bridge
regiō, -ōnis f.: (here) line, direction
trādūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead across
uterque, utraque, utrumque: each; either
utrimque: on each/either side
vadum, -ī n.: ford; shallows

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uterque…exercitus: *each army*
ē regiōne castrīs: *directly opposite to the (other) camp;* the phrase *ē regiōne* is an idiom for "in a straight line," "directly," or "opposite/facing;" it can take a dative (as here) or a genitive (as just below)
Erat…rēs: *The situation was in serious difficulty for Caesar*
maiōrem aestātis partem: *for the greater portion of the summer;* acc. of duration of time
quod nōn…solet: *because (the Allier) is not accustomed;* the *quod* here is causal

2 Itaque, nē id accideret, silvestrī locō castrīs positīs ē regiōne ūnīus eōrum pontium quōs Vercingetorīx rescindendōs cūrāverat, posterō diē cum duābus legiōnibus in occultō restitit;

---

accidō, -ere, -cidī: happen
cūrō (1): (here) cause to be done, take care (that something be done)
occultus, -a, -um: hidden; (here, as substantive) a secret place
pōns, pontis m.: bridge
posterus, -a, -um: next
rescindō, –ere, –scidī –scissus: cut down; destroy
resistō, -ere, restitī: (here) halt, stay behind
silvestris, -e: wooded

---

nē id accideret: *so that this would not happen;* the *id* is referring to Caes. being blocked all summer by the river
silvestrī locō: *in a wooded place;* the preposition *in* is regularly omitted with the word *locus*
ē regiōne ūnīus eōrum pontium: *directly opposite of one of those bridges;* here again, *ē regiōne* idiomatically meaning "directly opposite"
rescindendōs: *to be destroyed*; see note on *dūcendās* at 7.34.2

3 reliquās cōpiās cum omnibus impedīmentīs, ut cōnsuēverat, mīsit, apertīs quibusdam cohortibus, utī numerus legiōnum cōnstāre vidērētur.

---

apertus, -a, -um: open, uncovered
cohors, cohortis f.: a unit of 6 *centuriae*, about 480 soldiers
cōnstō, -āre, -stitī: (here) be consistent
cōnsuēscō, -ere, -suēvī, -suētus: be accustomed to
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: army baggage
quīdam, quaedam, quoddam: a certain, a particular

---

impedīmentīs: the singular of this word simply means "hindrance," but in Caes., usually plural, it means the baggage of the legions—all the matériel which accompanied the army but was not specifically an armament and not required on the battlefield (including pack animals, wagons, supplies, tools, cooking implements, tents, loot, and even captives or slaves)

mīsit: *sent (ahead);* Caes. sends these troops ahead so that the Gauls, watching from across the river, will think that the whole army has moved on

cohortibus: There were ten *cohortēs* per legion, nine of which contained six *centuriae* of 80 men each. The first cohort had five double-sized centuries. Each *centuria* was commanded by a *centuriō*. Thus, six centurions commanded 480 men per cohort, and nine cohorts plus the oversized first cohort made 59 centurions commanding 5100 men per *legiō*. In practice, legions were seldom full-strength, and usually had some vacancies in their *cohortes* due to casualties

apertīs: there are some problems with the text here, but it seems that Caes. means that the cohorts are plainly visible to the Gallic scouts, in order to make the force seem larger than it was

4 Hīs quam longissimē possent ēgredī iussīs, cum iam ex diēī tempore coniectūram cēperat in castra perventum, īsdem sublicīs quārum pars īnferior integra remanēbat pontem reficere coepit.

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coepī, coepisse, coeptus: begin
coniectūra, -ae f.: guess, estimate
ēgredior, -ī, -gressus: go out, come forth, march out
īnferus, -a, -um: lower, below
integer, -gra, -grum: untouched, whole
perveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: reach, arrive at
pōns, pontis m.: bridge
reficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: remake, repair
remaneō, -ēre, -mānsī: remain, be left
sublicia, -ae f.: stake, piling

Hīs…iussīs: *when these men had been ordered;* ablative absolute
quam longissimē possent: *as far away as possible*
in castra perventum (esse): *that [the main legionary force] had arrived at their [new] camp;* the *perventum (esse)* is an impersonal passive, literally "that there had been an arrival"
sublicīs: the wooden pilings in the river upon which the bridge had been supported; the Gauls had destroyed the bridge platform but had not pulled up these pilings, making it relatively simple for the Romans to rebuild it

5 Celeriter effectō opere legiōnibusque trāductīs et locō cāstrīs idōneō dēlēctō reliquās cōpiās revocāvit.
6 Vercingetorīx rē cognitā, nē contrā suam voluntātem dīmicāre cōgerētur, magnīs itineribus antecessit.

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antecēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: go before, precede
dēligō, –ere, –lēgī, –lēctus: choose from; select
dīmicō (1): struggle, fight
efficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: (here) complete
idōneus, -a, -um: suitable
opus, operis n.: work, labor
revocō (1): call back
trādūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead across
voluntās, -tātis f.: wish, inclination

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effectō opere legiōnibusque trāductīs et locō…dēlēctō: *when the work was done, the legions led across, and a place…selected;* three ablative absolutes
magnīs itineribus: *by long marches;* the word *iter* ("journey") can also refer specifically to a military march
antecessit: Verc. hurried on into Arvernian territory ahead of the Romans, having failed in his bid to delay them at the river; unlike many preceding Gallic commanders, Verc. is very careful to avoid being pressed into a battle which is unfavorable to his forces

[36] *The Romans and Gauls take their positions at Gergovia*

1 Caesar ex eō locō quīntīs castrīs Gergoviam pervēnit equestrīque eō diē proeliō levī factō perspectō urbis sitū, quae posita in altissimō monte omnēs aditūs difficilēs habēbat, dē expugnātiōne dēspērāvit, dē obsessiōne nōn prius agendum cōnstituit quam rem frūmentāriam expedīsset.

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aditus, -ūs m.: approach; entrance
altus, -a, -um: tall
cōnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -tūtus: (here) decide
dēspērō (1): despair of, have no hope of
difficilis, -e: troublesome; perilous
expediō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: (here) procure, arrange
expugnātiō, -ōnis f.: a seizure by assault, a storming
equester, -tris, -tre: pertaining to cavalry
frūmentārius, -a, -um: relating to the grain supply
levis, -e: light; inconsequential
obsessiō, -ōnis f.: siege
perspiciō, -ere, -spexī, -spectus: examine; see through; discern, observe
perveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: reach, arrive at
situs, -ūs m.: site, location

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quintīs castrīs: *in five-days time*; lit. "upon the fifth camp;" this temporal use of *castra* appears first in Latin here
equestrīque…proeliō levī factō (et) perspectō urbis sitū: *when a light cavalry battle had happened (and) the location of the city had been observed;* two ablative absolutes
eō diē: *on that day;* abl. of time when
nōn prius agendum…quam: *that it must not be undertaken before*
expedīsset: *expedīvisset*; syncopation

2 At Vercingetorīx, castrīs prope oppidum positīs, mediocribus circum sē intervāllīs sēparātim singulārum cīvitātum cōpiās collocāverat atque omnibus eius iugī collibus occupātīs, quā dēspicī poterat, 3 horribilem speciem praebēbat;

---

circum: around, surrounding (+ acc.)
collis, -is m.: hill
collocō (1): station, arrange, set up
dēspiciō, -ere, -spēxī, -spectus: look down upon
horribilis, -e: dreadful; astonishing
intervāllum, -ī n.: space, distance
iugum, -ī n.: ridge, summit
mediocris, -e: of medium size
occupō (1): seize, occupy
praebeō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: offer, grant; render
prope: near, next to (+ acc.)
quā: where
separatim: separately, individually
singulāris, -e: one at a time, one by one
speciēs, -eī f.: appearance, image, likeness

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omnibus eius iugī collibus occupātīs: *with all the heights of this summit occupied*; Gergovia was situated atop a high plateau in a hilly area; Caes. means here that Verc.'s forces have occupied all the strategic high ground and approaches in the vicinity, not just the plateau

quā dēspicī poterat: *where it could be seen*; that is, the ridges were occupied as far as Caes. could see

prīncipēsque eārum cīvitātum, quōs sibi ad cōnsilium capiendum dēlēgerat, prīmā lūce cotīdiē ad sē convenīre iubēbat, seu quid commūnicandum, seu quid administrandum vidērētur; 4 neque ūllum ferē diem intermittēbat quīn equestrī proeliō, interiectīs sagittāriīs, quid in quōque esset animī ac virtūtis suōrum perspiceret.

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administrō (1): manage, execute
commūnicō (1): communicate, share
cotīdiē: every day, daily
dēligō, -ere, -lēgī, -lēctus: choose from; select
equester, -tris, -tre: pertaining to cavalry
intermittō, -ere, -mīsī, -mīssus: (here) let pass
lūx, lūcis f.: light; daylight
perspiciō, -ere, -spēxī, -spectus: examine; see through; discern
prīnceps, -cipis m.: (here) leader
sagittārius, -ī m.: archer, bowman
ūllus, -a, -um: any, some

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ad cōnsilium capiendum: *to make plans;* the preposition *ad* + gerund indicates purpose, and *cōnsilium capere* is an idiom for "to make a plan"
primā lūce: *at first light*, *at dawn*
cotīdiē…iubēbat: *he would daily order*; an imperfect with habitual aspect
seu quid…vidērētur: *[informing them] if anything seemed necessary (to him) to be reported or carried out*
quīn…perspiceret: *without him (Verc.) observing*; the *quīn* introduces a subordinate clause with the impf. subjunctive *perspiceret*
equestrī proeliō: abl. of means, by which method he observes *quid…esset animī ac virtūtis suōrum*
sagittariīs: for the Gallic bowmen, see the note at 7.31.4
quid in quōque esset animī ac virtūtis: *what there was of vigor and courage in each (person)*; the genitives are partitive with *quid* and the *quōque* is from *quisque, quidque* ("each")

5 Erat ē regiōne oppidī collis sub ipsīs rādīcibus montis, ēgregiē mūnītus atque ex omnī parte circumcīsus; quem sī tenērent nostrī, et aquae magnā parte et pābulātiōne līberā prohibitūrī hostēs vidēbantur. 6 Sed is locus praesidiō ab hīs, nōn nimis firmō tamen, tenēbātur.

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circumcīsus, -a, -um: steep, inaccessible
collis, -is m.: hill
ēgregiē: exceedingly, excellently
līber, -era, -erum: (here) unrestricted
mūniō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: build, fortify
pābulātiō, -ōnis f.: foraging
prohibeō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: prevent
rādīx, rādīcis f.: root; base, foot

ē regiōne oppidī: *directly opposite the town;* the phrase *ē regiōne* is idiomatic for "directly opposite" and can take a dative or (as here) genitive
nostrī: with implied *mīlitēs*
et aquae magnā parte et pābulātiōne līberā: *both from a great portion of the water and from unrestricted foraging;* abl. of separation with *prohibitūrī*; the *et…et* with a sense of "both…and"
līberā: this adjective appears with *pābulātiō* only here in Latin, and Caesar's intended meaning is not completely clear; he seems to mean "free" in the sense of "free from harassment" or "unrestricted" foraging
hostēs: here accusative, as the object of *prohibitūrī*
nōn nimis firmō: *not very strongly*

7 Silentiō noctis Caesar ex castrīs ēgressus, priusquam subsidiō ex oppidō venīrī posset, dēiectō praesidiō potītus locō duās ibi legiōnēs collocāvit fossamque duplicem duodēnum pedum ā maiōribus castrīs ad minōra perdūxit, ut tūtō ab repentīnō hostium incursū etiam singulī commeāre possent.

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collocō (1): station, arrange, set up
commeō (1): come and go
dēiciō, -ere, -iēcī, -ectus: throw down, eject
duodēnum: twelve (each)
duplex, -plicis: double
ēgredior, -ī, -gressus: go out, come forth, march out
fossa, -ae f.: ditch, trench
incursus, -ūs m.: attack, assault
perdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: bring through, lead through, draw out
potior, -ī, potītus: obtain, take possession of, acquire (+ abl.)
repentīnus, -a, -um: sudden
singulus, -a, -um: one at a time
tūtō: safely (adv.)

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priusquam…venīrī posset: *before there could be an arrival with aid from the town*
dēiectō praesidiō: *with the garrison ejected;* that is, with the Gauls guarding the place having been driven out (ablative absolute)
fossamque duplicem duodēnum pedum: *and double ditches of 12 feet each;* two long trenches separated by an internal area of 12 feet; the earth excavated from the trenches would have been piled up on the outside of the ditches, creating ramparts facing each direction
ad minora: implicit *castra*; Caes. has used the two legions to rapidly construct a second, smaller *castra* on the hill

[37] *Vercingetorix bribes Convictolitavis the Aeduan*

1 Dum haec ad Gergoviam geruntur, Convictolitavis Aeduus, cui magistrātum adiūdicātum ā Caesare dēmōnstrāvimus, sollicitātus ab Arvernīs pecūniā cum quibusdam adulēscentibus colloquitur; quōrum erat prīnceps Litaviccus atque eius frātrēs, amplissimā familiā nātī adulēscentēs.

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adiūdicō (1): award, judge
amplus, -a, -um: esteemed, noble
colloquor, -ī, collocūtus: converse, hold a discussion
nāscor, -ī, nātus: be born, come into being
quīdam, quaedam, quoddam: a certain, a particular
sollicitō (1): solicit, tempt; stir up

Convictolitavis: see Appendix B
cui: *to/for whom;* dative with *adiūdicāre*
adiūdicātum: with implied *esse* in indirect statement after *dēmonstāvimus*; Caes. is referring to the events treated above at *BG* 7.32-33
sollicitātus ab Arvernīs pecūniā: Verc. had coerced cooperation with his cause both by rewards and punishments (*BG* 7.4.9)
cum quibusdam adulēscentibus: ablative of accompaniment
quōrum: the antecedent is the preceding *adulēscentibus*; partitive genitive with *prīnceps*
amplissimā familiā: ablative of origin
nātī: modifies *adulēscentēs*

2 Cum hīs praemium commūnicat hortāturque ut sē līberōs et imperiō nātōs meminerint. 3 Ūnam esse Aeduōrum cīvitātem quae certissimam Galliae victōriam distineat; eius auctōritāte reliquās continērī; quā trāductā locum cōnsistendī Rōmānīs in Galliā nōn fore.

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certus, -a, -um: certain
cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: (here) dwell, settle, stick around
commūnicō (1): communicate, share
contineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: restrain, detain; limit, comprise
distineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: hold back, hinder, detain
hortor, -ārī, -ātus: urge
imperium, -iī n.: power, command
meminī, meminisse: remember
nāscor, -ī, nātus: be born, come into being
trādūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) bring over, convert
victor, -ōris m.: conqueror

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cum hīs: *with these (men);* that is, with Litaviccus and the young men from the Arverni
commūnicat: the subject is Convictolitavis
hortāturque ut…meminerint: indirect command introducing an indirect statement with accusative subject *sē*
līberōs et imperiō nātōs (esse): *that they were born free men and born for dominion*
Ūnam esse Aeduōrum cīvitātem quae: *that the state of the Aedui was the one which*: the further content of his speech now switches to indirect statement
auctōritāte: ablative of means
reliquās: with implied *cīvitātēs*
quā trāductā: *with which (tribe) having been brought over (to Verc.'s side)*
locum cōnsistendī: *the option of remaining;* lit, "a place for staying"
Rōmānīs…nōn fore: *the Romans would not have;* literally, "there would not be for the Romans," a dative of possession with *fore* (= *futūrum esse*)

4 Esse nōnnūllō sē Caesaris beneficiō adfectum, sīc tamen ut iūstissimam apud eum causam obtinuerit; sed plūs commūnī lībertātī tribuere. 5 Cūr enim potius Aeduī dē suō iūre et dē lēgibus ad Caesarem disceptātōrem, quam Rōmānī ad Aeduōs veniant?

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adsum, -esse, -fuī, -futūrus: be present
afficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: (here) affect with, influence by
apud: near, in the presence of
beneficium, -ī n.: service, kindness
commūnis, -e: common, general
disceptātor, -ōris m.: arbitrator
iūs, iuris n.: right, justice, law
iūstus, -a, -um: just, fair
lībertās, -tātis f.: freedom
nōnnūllus, -a, -um: some, several
obtineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) acquire
plūs: more
potius: rather, more
tribuō, -uere, -uī, -ūtus: assign

Esse…adfectum: the indirect statement continues with a scrambled word order; read as: (he says that) *sē beneficiō Caesaris nōnnūllō adfectum esse*
nōnnūllō: litotes, lit. "not none"
sīc tamen: *(but) nevertheless (only) to the extent that*; he acknowledges that he has received some measure of *beneficium* from Caes., but would not have needed it anyway, since his actions were fully legitimate
tribuere: with implied *sē*
commūnī lībertātī: the phrase appears at *BG* 7.4.4, and again at 7.71.3 and 7.89.2
Cūr…veniant: the deliberative subjunctive, here expressing incredulity, is repeated for both *Aeduī* and *Rōmānī*
potius…quam: *rather…than*
Rōmānī ad Aeduōs: this assertion of equal footing is an echo of the sentiment expressed by Ariovistus in *BG* 1.36

6 Celeriter adulēscentibus et ōrātiōne magistrātūs et praemiō dēductīs, cum sē vel prīncipēs eius cōnsiliī fore profitērentur, ratiō perficiendī quaerēbātur, quod cīvitātem temerē ad suscipiendum bellum addūcī posse nōn cōnfīdēbant.

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cōnfīdō, -ere, cōnfīsus: be assured, trust
dēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) draw out, lead astray; divert
perficiō, -ere, -fēcī, perfectus: complete, accomplish
prīnceps, -cipis m.: (here) leader
profiteor, -ērī, professus: confess, announce, declare, propose
quaerō, -ere, -sīvī, -sītus: seek, require
ratiō, -ōnis f.: method
suscipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptus: take up, undertake, begin
temerē: at random, heedlessly, rashly
vel: (here) even, indeed

---

et ōrātiōne magistrātūs et praemiō: *both by the magistrate's speech and by the bribe;* the *magistratus* is Convictolitavis
sē vel prīncipēs eius cōnsilī fore: *that they would even be leaders of this plan/plot*
ratiō perficiendī quaerēbātur: *they searched for a method of bringing [the plot] about*; lit. "there was a searching for a method of completing [the plot]"
quod…nōn cōnfīdēbant: *because they were not confident;* causal quod-clause
ad suscipiendum bellum: *to begin a war;* expresses purpose with the gerundive *suscipiendum*
addūcī: complementary present passive infinitive with *posse*

7 Placuit ut Litaviccus decem illīs mīlibus, quae Caesarī ad bellum mitterentur, praeficerētur atque ea dūcenda cūrāret, frātrēsque eius ad Caesarem praecurrerent. Reliqua quā ratiōne agī placeat cōnstituunt.

---

cōnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -tūtus: (here) decide
placeō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: please, be pleasing; be agreed on
praecurrō, -ere, -cucurrī, -cursus: run before, precede
praficiō, -ere, -ī, praefectus: put in charge (+dat.)
ratiō, -ōnis f.: method

Placuit: *it was decided;* lit. "it pleased (them);" the subject of this verb is the noun clause *ut Litaviccus…praeficerētur atque…cūrāret, fratrēsque…praecurrerent* ("that Litaviccus…be put in charge and take care…and his brothers run ahead")
decem illīs mīlibus: *those ten thousand [soldiers]*; dative with *praeficerētur*
ea dūcenda cūrāret: *he should attend to these [thousands of soldiers] on the march*
Reliqua: *The remaining (things);* this substantive adjective has been drawn out of its clause; it is the subject of the passive infinitive *agī* ("as for the remaining things, by what method it was pleasing that they be done")
quā ratiōne: *by what method;* ablative of manner, setting up an indirect question

[38] *Litaviccus lies to the Aedui to turn them against the Romans*

1 Litaviccus acceptō exercitū, cum mīlia passuum circiter XXX ab Gergoviā abesset, convocātīs subitō mīlitibus lacrimāns, "Quō proficīscimur," inquit, "mīlitēs? 2 Omnis noster equitātus, omnis nōbilitās interiit; prīncipēs cīvitātis, Eporedorix et Viridomarus, īnsimulātī prōditiōnis ab Rōmānīs indictā causā interfectī sunt.

---

absum, -esse, āfuī, āfutūrus: be away from, be absent
circiter: near; about, approximately
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
indictus, -a, -um: not said, unspoken
intereō, -īre, -īvī, -itus: perish, die
lacrimor, -ārī, -ātus: cry, weep
prīnceps, -cipis m.: (here) leader
prōditiō, -ōnis f.: betrayal, abandonment (of a cause)
proficīscor, -ī, profectus: depart

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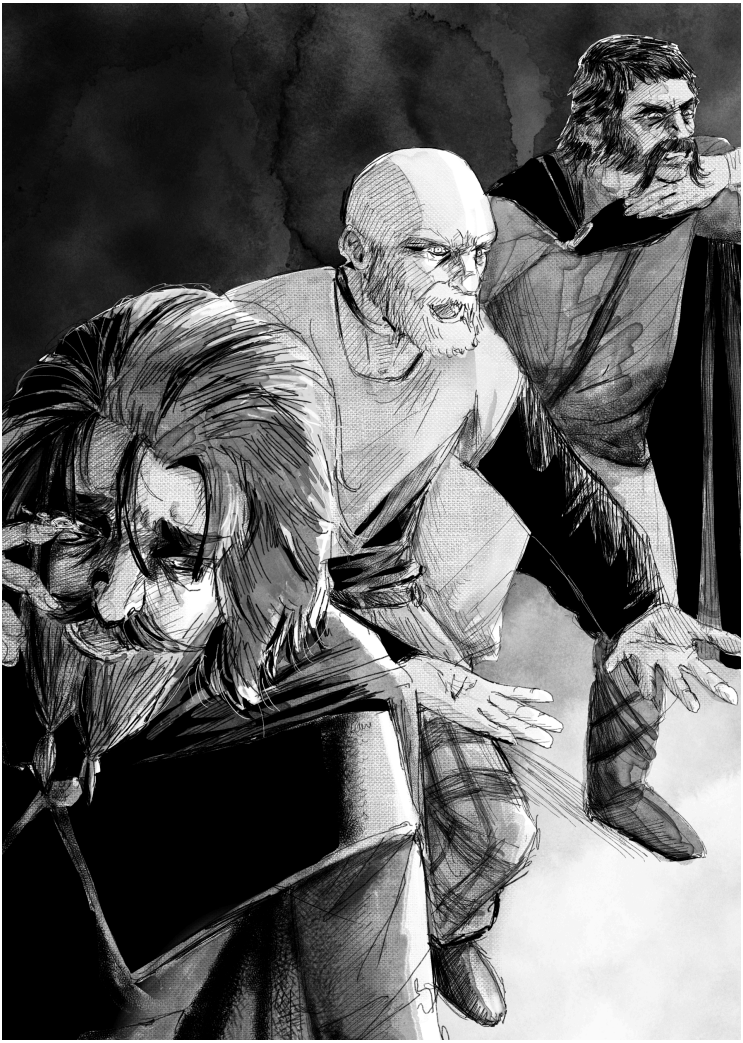
acceptō exercitū: ablative absolute
mīlia passuum circiter XXX: *around 300 thousands of paces;* 30 Roman miles, since a "mile" was a thousand (*mille*) paces
lacrimāns: present active participle, modifying *Litaviccus*
Quō: *(to) where*
Omnis…omnis: anaphora; asyndeton between *equitātus* and *nōbilitās*
cīvitātis: partitive genitive with *prīncipēs*
indictā causā: *with their case not said*, as if no legal defense was delivered for their case

3 Haec ab ipsīs cognōscite quī ex ipsā caede fūgērunt: nam ego frātribus atque omnibus meīs propinquīs interfectīs dolōre prohibeor 4 quae gesta sunt prōnūntiāre."
Prōdūcuntur eī quōs ille ēdocuerat quae dīcī vellet, atque eadem quae Litaviccus prōnūntiāverat multitūdinī expōnunt:

---

caedēs, –is f.: killing, slaughter
ēdoceō, –ēre, –uī, –tus: teach completely
expōnō, –ere, –posuī, –positus: set forth, exhibit
prōdūcō, –ere, prōdūxī, –tus: bring forward
prōnūntiō (1): pronounce, announce, speak
prohibeō, –ēre, –uī, –itus: prevent
prōnūntiō (1): pronounce, announce, speak
propinquus, –a, –um: near, related

Haec…cognōscite: *Learn these (things)*; referring to the alleged killing of Eporedorix, Viridomarus, and the rest of the Aeduan horsemen purportedly killed by the Romans
frātribus…interfectīs: ablative absolute
dolōre: ablative of cause
quae gesta sunt: *(the acts) which were carried out*
quae dīcī vellet: *the kinds of things he wanted to be said;* relative clause of characteristic
eadem: *the same things*



multōs equitēs Aeduōrum interfectōs 5 quod collocūtī cum Arvernīs dīcerentur; ipsōs sē inter multitūdinem mīlitum occultāsse atque ex mediā caede fūgisse. 6 Conclāmant Aeduī et Litavīccum obsecrant ut sibi cōnsulat. "Quasi vērō," inquit ille, "cōnsiliī sit rēs, ac nōn necesse sit, nōbīs Gergoviam contendere et cum Arvernīs nōsmet coniungere.

---

caedēs, -is f.: killing, slaughter
colloquor, -ī, -locūtus: converse, hold a discussion
conclāmō (1): shout
coniungō, -ere, -iūnxī, -iūnctus: unite
cōnsulō, -ere, -uī, -tus: consult, plan; look out for (+ dat.)
contendō, -ere, -ī, contentus: strain, exert; hurry; march
eques, equitis m.: horseman
necesse: necessary (indeclinable)
obsecrō (1): beseech, beg
occultō (1): hide, conceal
quasi: as if
vērō: certainly

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interfectōs: *had been killed;* implicit *esse* in indirect statement
quod…dīcerentur: causal; subjunctive verb due to the indirect construction
collocūtī: implicit *esse*; deponent perfect infinitive
occultāsse: *had hidden;* syncopated from *occultāvisse*
mediā caede: *from the midst of the slaughter;* the adjective *medius* agrees with the noun it modifies rather than taking a genitive
ipsōs…fūgisse: *that they themselves…had fled;* the indirect statement continues
ut sibi cōnsulat: *that he look out for them;* indirect command, with the *sibi* referring back to the subject of the main verb (the Aedui)
quasi…necesse sit: *as if indeed this were a matter of consultation and not necessity*
Gergoviam contendere: subject of *necesse sit*
nōsmet: *ourselves;* the suffix *-met* is an uncommon intensifier for pronouns

7 An dubitāmus quīn nefāriō facinore admissō Rōmānī iam ad nōs interficiendōs concurrant? Proinde, sī quid in nōbīs animī est, 8 persequāmur eōrum mortem quī indignissimē interiērunt, atque hōs latrōnēs interficiāmus." Ostendit cīvēs Rōmānōs quī eius praesidiī fīdūciā ūnā erant;

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admittō, -ere, -mīsī, -mīssus: send to, admit; commit
an: or, whether, if
concurrō, -ere, -currī, concursus: rush; assemble
dubitō (1): hesitate, doubt
facinus, -oris n.: deed, crime
fīdūcia, -ae f.: trust
indignus, -a, -um: undeserving
intereō, -īre, -īvī, -itus: perish, die
latrō, -ōnis m.: robber, brigand
nefārius, -a, -um: impious, abominable
ostendō, -ere, -ī, ostensum: show
persequor, -ī, persecūtus: pursue; avenge
proinde: hence, accordingly
ūnā: together, along with

An: particle that introduces direct questions with an exclamatory tone
quīn…concurrant: *that the Romans assemble;* doubting clause
nefāriō facinore admissō: *after such a nefarious crime has been committed;* ablative absolute
sī quid…animī est: *if there is any spirit*; the *animī* is a partitive genitive, lit. "anything (of) spirit"
sī…interficiāmus: simple fact present conditional, with jussive present subjunctives in the apodosis
indignissimē: superlative adverb
fīdūciā: *due to their trust in* (+ genitive)

9 magnum numerum frūmentī commeātūsque dīripit, ipsōs crūdēliter excruciātōs interficit. 10 Nūntiōs tōtā cīvitāte Aeduōrum dīmittit, eōdem mendāciō dē caede equitum et prīncipum permovet; hortātur ut similī ratiōne atque ipse fēcerit suās iniūriās persequantur.

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caedēs, -is f.: killing, slaughter
cīvis, -is m/f.: citizen
commeātus, -ūs m.: (here) provisions, supplies
crūdēliter: cruelly
dīmittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: send away
dīripiō, -ere, -uī, -reptus: tear apart, tear off; snatch
eques, equitis m.: horseman
excruciō (1): torment, torture
frūmentum, -ī n.: grain, crops
hortor, -ārī, -ātus: urge
iniūria, -ae f.: injustice, wrong
mendācium, -ī n.: lie
nūntius, -ī m.: messenger, or the news brought
permoveō, -ēre, -ī, permōtus: influence; stir up
persequor, -ī, persecūtus: pursue; avenge
prīnceps, -cipis m.: (here) leader
ratiō, -ōnis f.: method
similis, -e: similar

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frūmentī commeātusque: partitive genitives with *numerum*
excruciātōs: perfect passive participle, agreeing with *ipsōs* (the Romans)
tōtā cīvitāte: *throughout the whole tribe*
ut…persequantur: indirect command
atque:…fēcerit: *as he himself did*
ipse: *he himself;* that is, Litaviccus

[39] *Eporedorix tells Caesar about the lies of Litaviccus*

1 Eporedorix Aeduus, summō locō nātus adulēscēns et summae domī potentiae, et ūnā Viridomarus, parī aetāte et grātiā, sed genere disparī, quem Caesar ab Dīviciācō sibi trāditum ex humilī locō ad summam dignitātem perdūxerat, in equitum numerō convēnerant nōminātim ab eō ēvocātī.

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dīgnitās, -tātis f.: worth, reputation
dispār, -paris: different, unequal
eques, equitis m.: horseman
ēvocō (1): call out, summon
grātia, -ae f.: (here) esteem
humilis, -e: humble
nāscor, -ī, nātus: be born, come into being
nōminātim: by name
pār, paris: equal, like (+dat.)
perdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: bring, guide, lead
potentia, -ae f.: power
summa, -ae f.: peak, sum
trādō, -ere, tradidī, traditus: (here) hand over, entrust
ūnā: together (with)

Eporedorix…Viridomarus: these are the two youth whom Litaviccus claimed had been falsely accused and killed by the Romans in the previous chapter
summō locō nātus: *born in the highest station;* abl. of origin
summae…potentiae: *(a man) of the highest power;* gen. of description
domī: *at home*; locative; that is, among the Aedui
parī, disparī: ablatives of description
genere disparī: *of unequal birth* (compared to Eporedorix)
Dīviciācō: Diviciacus was a pro-Roman Druid among the Aedui; he is mentioned by Caes. several times in *BG* 1-2, but not again until here, perhaps suggesting his influence had declined in the intervening years; see also the note at *BG* 7.54.3
ab eō: Caes.

2 Hīs erat inter sē dē prīncipātū contentiō, et in illā magistrātuum contrōversiā alter prō Convictolitavī, alter prō Cotō summīs opibus pugnāverant. 3 Ex eīs Eporedorix cognitō Litavīccī cōnsiliō mediā ferē nocte rem ad Caesarem dēfert; ōrat nē patiātur cīvitātem prāvīs adulēscentium cōnsiliīs ab amīcitiā populī Rōmānī dēficere;

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amīcitia, -ae f.: friendship
dēferō, -ere, -tulī, -lātus: carry away; report
dēficiō, -ere, dēfēcī, dēfectus: fail; revolt from
ops, opis f.: power; (pl.) resources
orō (1): pray, plead
prīncipātus, -ūs m.: leadership
patior, -ī, passus: permit; endure
prāvus, -a, -um: improper, crooked

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inter sē: *with each other*
alter…alter: *the former…the latter;* that is, Eporedix favored Convictolitavis and Viridomarus favored Cotus
cognitō Litavīccī cōnsiliō: *when the plan of Litaviccus was known;* ablative absolute
mediā ferē nocte: *about the middle of the night;* ablative of time when; the adjective *medius* agrees with its noun rather than taking a genitive
nē: indirect command after *ōrat*
cīvitātem: the state of the Aeduī
prāvīs adulēscentium cōnsiliīs: *because of the crooked plans of (some) young men;* ablative of cause

quod futūrum prōvideat, sī sē tot hominum mīlia cum hostibus coniūnxerint, quōrum salūtem neque propinquī neglegere, neque cīvitās levī mōmentō aestimāre posset.

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aestimō (1): appraise, value
coniungō, -ere, -iūnxī, -iūnctus: unite
levis, -e: light; inconsequential
momentum, -ī n.: (here) importance
neglegō, -ere, neglēxī, neglēctus: disregard, neglect
propinquus, -a, -um: near, related
prōvideō, -ēre, -ī, prōvīsus: foresee
salūs, -ūtis f.: health, safety
tot: so many

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quod futūrum provideat: *(the thing) will happen which he foresees;* the future infinitive *futūrum (esse)* is in indirect statement, and the *quod* is a relative pronoun with an implicit *id* as antecedent; that is, Eporedorix foresees the state of the Aedui defecting from Rome

sī…coniūnxerint: this is the protasis of the future-more-vivid conditional statement (the apodosis is the future infinitive *futūrum* [*esse*]); the verb here is a perfect subjunctive, as regularly happens in place of a future perfect verb when the condition is within an indirect statement in primary sequence

quōrum…posset: a tricky section; read as if: *neque propinquī neglegere [possent], neque cīvitās aestimāre posset*; the object of both complementary infinitives is the *quōrum salūtem*, "the wellbeing of which (thousands of Aeduan) men;" Eporedorix feels that the Aedui as a whole will act to protect these thousands of Aeduan soldiers at all costs, even if it means turning against the Romans

levī mōmentō aestimāre: *to consider of little importance* or *to value lightly;* abl. of price

[40] *Caesar moves his men to confront the Aedui*

1 Magnā adfectus sollicitūdine hōc nūntiō Caesar, quod semper Aeduōrum cīvitātī praecipuē indulserat, nūllā interpositā dubitātiōne legiōnēs expedītās quattuor equitātumque omnem ex castrīs ēdūcit;

---

adficiō, -ere, adfēcī, adfectus: affect, visit with
dubitātiō, –ōnis f.: uncertainty, doubt; hesitation
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
expedītus, -a, -um: unencumbered; lightened, as for action or travel
indulgeō, -ēre, indulsī, indultus: gratify, indulge in
interpōnō, -ere, -posuī, -posītus: put between, insert; introduce; let pass
nūntius, -ī m.: messenger, or the news brought
praecipuē: especially, particularly
quattuor: four
sollicitūdō, -inis f.: anxiety

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hōc nūntiō: ablative of cause
quod semper…indulserat: *because he had always indulged;* causal quod-clause
cīvitātī: dative with a compound verb
nūllā interpositā dubitātiōne: ablative absolute
expedītās: from *expedīre* "extricate, disengage, let loose," used in Latin to describe soldiers or their legions when they are moving *sine impedimentīs* (cf. *BG* 2.19.2, 7.11.8, etc.)
legiōnēs…quattuor equitātumque omnem: *four legions and all his cavalry;* a sizable force, indicative both that Caes. has acknowledged that he might have to fight, and that he regards this Aedui force as a formidable opponent

2 nec fuit spatium tālī tempore ad contrahenda castra quod rēs posita in celeritāte vidēbātur; Gāium Fabium lēgātum cum legiōnibus duābus castrīs praesidiō relinquit. 3 Frātrēs Litaviccī cum comprehendī iussisset, paulō ante reperit ad hostēs fūgisse.

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celeritās, -tātis f.: swiftness, speed
comprehendō, -ere, -hendī, -hensus: seize, arrest
contrahō, -ere, -trāxī, -tractus: (here) make smaller, draw in
lēgātus, ī m.: (here) lieutenant
paulō: slightly, a little
reperiō, -īre, -perī, -pertus: find out
spatium, -iī n.: (here) opportunity
tālis, tāle: such

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tālī tempore: *at such a moment;* ablative of time when
ad contrahenda castra: with four legions departing, Caes. would normally reduce the footprint of the *castra* so that the smaller remaining force could defend the perimeter (cf. Livy 7.37.8); that he mentions this here foreshadows a later incident
rēs posita (esse) in celeritāte vidēbātur: *the matter seemed to depend on swiftness*; causal quod-clause; the *posita (esse)* is a perfect passive infinitive, in the nominative to agree with the subject (*rēs*)
Fabium: one of Caesar's lieutenants; see Appendix B; as governor, Caes. held *imperium prōconsulāre*, but delegated command to chosen advisors called *lēgātī*; Caes. had at least twelve with him in 52 BCE, including Labienus, Fabius, and Sextius
castrīs praesidiō: *as a garrison for the camp*; double dat. construction
comprehendī: present passive infinitive; the acc. *frātrēs* is the subject
fūgisse: perfect active infinitive in indirect statement; the subject of this infinitive is still *frātrēs* (the brothers of Litaviccus)

4 Adhortātus mīlitēs nē necessāriō tempore itineris labōre permoveantur, cupidissimīs omnibus prōgressus mīlia passuum XXV agmen Aeduōrum cōnspicātus immissō equitātū iter eōrum morātur atque impedit interdīcitque omnibus nē quemquam interficiant.

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adhortor, -ārī, -ātus: to urge on
agmen, -minis n.: line of march, formation
cōnspicor, -ārī, -ātus: catch sight of
cupidus, -a, -um: desirous
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
immittō, -ere, immīsī, immissus: send in, despatch
impediō, -īre, -iī, -ītus: hinder, delay
interdīcō, -ere, interdīxī, interdictum: forbid
moror, morārī, morātus: delay
necessārius, -a, -um: necessary, essential, critical
permoveō, -ēre, -ī, permōtus: influence, agitate, excite
prōgredior, -ī, -gressus: advance, proceed
quisquam, quidquam: anyone, anything

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nē…permoveantur: indirect command; Caesar's legions were no strangers to long and/or rapid marches, but this one promises to be extra taxing, as he warns them
itineris labōre: *by the burden of the coming march*
cupidissimīs omnibus: *with all the soldiers being very eager*; ablative absolute
mīlia passuum XXV: *25 thousand (of) paces;* 25 Roman miles; a Roman legion typically covered about 20 Roman miles per day on ordinary terrain
iter…morātur atque impedit: *he delays and hinders their march*
interdīcitque omnibus: *and forbids all;* that is, all his own soldiers; dat. with *interdīcit*
nē…interficiant: indirect command

5 Eporedorēgem et Viridomarum, quōs illī interfectōs exīstimābant, inter equitēs versārī suōsque appellāre iubet. 6 Hīs cognitīs et Litaviccī fraude perspectā, Aeduī manūs tendere et dēditiōnem significāre et prōiectīs armīs mortem dēprecārī incipiunt.

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appellō (1): speak to, call upon
dēditiō, -ōnis f.: surrender, capitulation
dēprecor, -ārī, -ātus: ward off (from one's self or others) by earnest prayer
eques, equitis m.: horseman
fraus, fraudis f.: deceit
incipiō, -ere, incēpī, inceptus: to begin
perspiciō, -ere,-spexī, -spectus: examine; see through; discern
prōiciō, –ere, -iēcī, –iectus: cast forth, throw out, fling down
significō (1): indicate
tendō, -ere, tetendī, tentus: stretch, extend
versor, -ārī, -ātus: to be involved

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illī: the Aeduan soldiers
interfectōs: with an implied *esse*
equitēs versārī suōsque appellāre: *to mingle among the (Aeduan) horsemen and to address their own [acquaintances]*
manūs tendere: *to extend their hands;* a typical gesture of surrender (cf. Livy 44.42.4)
dēditiōnem significāre: the phrase is quite redundant with *manūs tendere* and *prōiectīs armīs,* both the hallmark gestures of surrender; the phrase is otherwise unknown in Latin and might be an example of interpolation, a post-ancient gloss that made its way into the text

7 Litaviccus cum suīs clientibus, quibus mōre Gallōrum nefās est etiam in extrēmā fortūnā dēserere patrōnōs, Gergoviam profūgit.

---

cliēns, -ntis m.: client (of a patron), dependent
dēserō, -ere, -uī, -tus: desert, abandon
extrēmus, a, um: utmost, last
mōs, mōris m.: custom, habit
nefās n.: a divine crime; impious deed; abomination (indeclinable)
profugiō, -ere, -fūgī: flee to, take refuge at

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clientibus: see note at *BG* 7.32.5
quibus…nefās…dēserere patrōnōs: *for whom…it is a crime…to desert a patron;* according to Caes., the warband of Litaviccus must not desert him (as their patron) or risk offending the gods; Caes. borrows the term *patronus* as a rough equivalent to the familiar relationship in Roman society, and the term appears only here in *BG*
mōre Gallōrum: *according to the custom of the Gallic people*; abl. of specification

[41] *Troubling news arrives from the legions back at Gergovia*

1 Caesar nūntiīs ad cīvitātem Aeduōrum missīs quī suō beneficiō cōnservātōs docērent, quōs iūre bellī interficere potuisset, tribusque hōrīs noctis exercituī ad quiētem datīs, castra ad Gergoviam mōvit.

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beneficium, -ī n.: service, kindness
cōnservō (1): preserve, save
doceō, -ēre, -uī, doctus: (here) inform
hōra, -ae f.: hour
iūs, iūris n.: right, justice, law
nocturnus, -a, -um: by night, in the night
nūntius, -ī m.: messenger, or the news brought
quiēs, quiētis f.: sleep, rest

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nūntiīs…missīs quī: abl. abs. followed by a relative clause of purpose
quī…docērent: *in order that they might inform (them);* relative clause of purpose
cōnservātōs (esse)…quōs: *that they had been…saved, (they) whom*; the *cōnservātōs (esse)* is an indirect statement after *docērent*; the relative pronoun refers back to the implicit subject of *cōnservātōs (esse)*
iūre bellī: *by right of war*
potuisset: the subject is Caes.
tribus: abl. plural of *trēs* "three," not the noun meaning "tribe"
castra…mōvit: though Caes. does not mention it, these four legions would have constructed a *castra* in the vicinity of the Aedui here, even if very basic, and would have utilized it for their hours of rest

2 Mediō ferē itinere equitēs ā Fabiō missī quantō rēs in perīculō fuerit expōnunt. Summīs cōpiīs castra oppugnāta dēmōnstrant, cum crēbrō integrī dēfessīs succēderent nostrōsque assiduō labōre dēfatīgārent, quibus propter magnitūdinem castrōrum perpetuō esset īsdem in vāllō permanendum.

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assiduus, –a, –um: unceasing
crēbrō: in quick succession, repeatedly, many times (adv.)
dēfatīgō (1): tire, exhaust
dēfessus, -a, -um: exhausted
eques, equitis m.: horseman
integer, -gra, -grum: unhurt, uninjured; whole
magnitūdō, -inis f.: greatness
perīculum, -ī n.: danger
permaneō, -ēre, -mānsī, -mānsus: remain
perpetuō: constantly, uninterruptedly (adv.)
oppugnātiō, -ōnis f.: assault, siege
succēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: (here) take the place of (+ dat.)
summus, -a, -um: highest; greatest
quantus, -a, -um: how much, how great
vallum, vallī n.: fortification

Mediō ferē itinere: *at about the middle of the journey;* ablative of time when; the adjective *medius* agrees with its noun rather than taking a genitive
quantō rēs in perīculō fuerit: *in how much danger the situation was [at the main camp at Gergovia];* perfect subjunctive in an indirect question
oppugnāta: implicit *esse* in indirect statement
integrī dēfessīs succēderent: *rested [Gallic soldiers] were relieving those tired out*
quibus…īsdem: *who, the same men, had to remain;* literally, "by whom it had to be remained," dative of agent with impersonal passive periphrastic; because the camp's perimeter is so large, the two guarding legions are not able to defend in shifts as they would normally

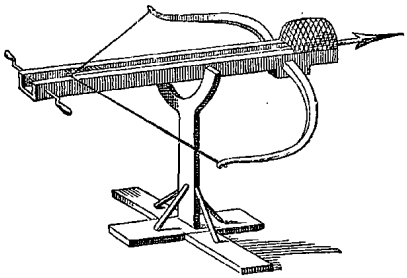
3 Multitūdine sagittārum atque omnis generis tēlōrum multōs vulnerātōs; ad haec sustinenda magnō ūsuī fuisse tormenta.

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sagitta, -ae f.: arrow
sustineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) endure, withstand
tēlum, tēlī n.: spear; javelin
tormentum, -ī n.: a projectile weapon
ūsus, ūsūs m.: use
vulnerō (1): wound, injure, damage

---

sagittārum...tēlōrum: partitive genitives
multōs vulnerātōs: *that many had been wounded;* implicit *esse* in continuation of the message of the *equitēs ā Fabiō missī*
sustinenda: gerundive
tormenta: a generic term for any large Roman torsion-powered weapons; here the *scorpio* is probably meant: a large crossbow which launched a bolt at extreme velocity; it was very accurate, could pierce armor and shields, and inflicted terrible carnage
magnō ūsuī fuisse: *were of great use*; a dative of purpose



A Roman *scorpio* (Judson 1888)

4 Fabium discessū eōrum duābus relictīs portīs obstruere cēterās pluteōsque vāllō addere et sē in posterum diem similemque cāsum apparāre. 5 Hīs rēbus cognitīs Caesar summō studiō mīlitum ante ortum sōlis in castra pervēnit.

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addō, -ere, -didī, -ditus: put in place, add to, increase
apparō (1): make ready
cāsus, cāsūs m.: (here) occurrence, event, outcome
cēterus, -a, -um: the rest; the remaining
discessus, -ūs m.: departure
obstruō, -ere, -strūxī, -strūctus: stop up, obstruct
ortus, -ūs m.: rising; beginning
pluteus, -eī m.: covering, shed
porta, -ae f.: gate
posterus, -a, -um: next
similis, -e: similar
sōl, sōlis m.: sun
vallum, vallī n.: fortification

Fabium…obstruere: the indirect statement continues; the *castra* was square-shaped and had a gate on each side, but here Fabius has ordered two of the gates to be blocked up, since he does not have enough men to defend the entire perimeter of the huge camp
discessū eōrum: *by their departure*; that is, Caesar's legions
cēterās: implicit *portās*
pluteōs: probably affixed to the outer edge of the ramparts as shelter against the many Gallic projectiles

[42] *The Aedui are incited to violence by Litaviccus*

1 Dum haec ad Gergoviam geruntur, Aeduī prīmīs nūntiīs ab Litaviccō acceptīs nūllum sibi ad cognōscendum spatium relinquunt. 2 Impellit aliōs avāritia, aliōs īrācundia et temeritās, quae maximē illī hominum generī est innāta ut levem audītiōnem habeant prō rē compertā.

---

auditiō, –ōnis f.: rumor, talk
avāritia, –ae f.: greed
compertus, –a, –um: clearly known
habeō, –ēre, –uī, –itum: (here) consider
impellō, –ere, –pulī, –pulsum: push, strike; propel, set in motion; incite
innātus, –a, –um: inherent, native
īrācundia, –ae f.: hasty temper, wrath
levis, –e: light; inconsequential
nūntius, –ī m.: messenger, or the news brought
spatium, –iī n.: space, extent; interval, distance
temeritās, –tātis f.: (here) lack of consideration, thoughtlessness, foolhardiness

---

nūllum…relinquunt: *left themselves no room to learn about the message*
sibi: dat. of reference
cognōscendum: gerundive
aliōs…aliōs: *some…others*
maximē…innāta ut: *so greatly inherent that*; result clause
levem audītiōnem habeant prō rē compertā: *consider mere talk as a thing clearly known*; Caes. claims that the Gauls were susceptible to flimsy rumor

3 Bona cīvium Rōmānōrum dīripiunt, caedēs faciunt, in servitūtem abstrahunt. 4 Adiuvat rem prōclīnātam Convictolitāvis plēbemque ad furōrem impellit ut facinore admissō ad sānitātem revertī pudeat.

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abstrahō, -ere, -trāxī, -tractus: drag away
adiuvō, -āre, -ī, adiūtus: (here) intensify; sustain
admittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: (here) perpetrate, commit
caedēs, -is f.: killing, slaughter
dīripiō, –ere, -uī, dīreptus: tear apart, tear off; snatch, plunder
facinus, -oris n.: deed, crime
furor, furōris m.: fury, madness
impellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsum: push, strike; propel, set in motion; incite
plēbs, plēbis f.: common people
prōclīnō (1): bend, incline
pudeō, -ēre: feel shame
revertor, -ī, -versus sum: return
sānitās, -tātis f.: health, soundness; right reason, good sense
servitūs, -tūtis f.: slavery

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bona: a substantive adjective for the material possessions (the "goods") of the Romans living among the Aedui, of whom there were no doubt many
dīripiunt...faciunt...abstrahunt: the asyndeton heightens the drama
faciunt: *they cause*
Adiuvat...Convictolitāvis: *Convictolitāvis* is nominative
rem prōclīnātam: *the situation, which was at a bend;* the sense is of a situation that is on the brink or tottering; Caes. is the first to use this verb, and will use it again in a letter to Cicero when describing the precariousness of the first few months of the Civil War of 49 BCE (Cic. *ad Att.* 10.8B.1)
ut…pudeat: *so that it would be shameful to return to sanity*
sānitātem: Caes. here begins an extended deployment of medical vocabulary, in which he portrays the Aedui as being infected by an insidious disease

5 Marcum Aristium, tribūnum mīlitum, iter ad legiōnem facientem fidē datā ex oppidō Cabillonō ēdūcunt: idem facere cōgunt eōs quī negōtiandī causā ibi cōnstiterant.

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cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: (here) dwell, settle

fidēs, fideī f.: (here) assurance

negōtior, -ārī, -ātus: conduct business

Marcum Aristium, tribūnum mīlitum: nothing more is known of this tribune. By the mid-1st century, those chosen as tribunes of the soldiers were typically young and inexperienced (*BG* 1.39.2) and were expected to observe and learn. They had no *imperium* but could be designated as temporary commanders (*BG* 2.26.1; 4.23.5; 5.52.4) or perform other tasks (3.7.3). Despite this junior role, the tribunes were often included in strategy discussions (5.28.3, for example)

fidē datā: *with assurance of safety having been given (from the Aedui to Aristius)*

Cabillonō: Cabillonum or Cavillonum, modern Chalon-sur-Saône north of Lyon

ēdūcunt: here with a sense of *draw/lure out*

negōtiandī causā: *for the sake of doing business;* Roman citizens could be found well beyond the borders of the provinces, engaged in all manner of business, such as banking, money-lending, procuring slaves and supplies, arranging mining ventures, etc; see *BG* 7.3.1

6 Hōs continuō in itinere adortī omnibus impedīmentīs exuunt; repūgnantēs diem noctemque obsident; multīs utrimque interfectīs maiōrem multitūdinem ad arma concitant.

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adorior, -īrī, -ortus: attack; attempt
armātus, -a, -um: armed; (as subst.) soldier
concitō (1): incite
continuō: immediately, continuously
exuō, -ere, -uī, -ūtus: take off, strip
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: army baggage
obsideō, -ēre, obsēdī, obsessus: beset, blockade
repūgnō (1): fight back, oppose, resist
utrimque: on either side

Hōs, repūgnantēs: Aristius and the *negōtiatōrēs Rōmānī*
multīs utrimque interfectīs: though Caes. does not specify, the Roman contingent seems to be a larger and more capable group than some civilian *negōtiatōrēs* and a lone tribune



[43] *The Aedui attempt to apologize, but Caesar plots his retreat*

1 Interim nūntiō allātō omnēs eōrum mīlitēs in potestāte Caesaris tenērī, concurrunt ad Aristium, nihil pūblicō factum cōnsiliō dēmōnstrant, quaestiōnem dē bonīs dīreptīs dēcernunt, 2 Litaviccī frātrumque bona pūblicant, lēgātōs ad Caesarem suī pūrgandī grātiā mittunt.

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afferō, -ferre, attulī, allātus: convey
concurrō, -ere, -ī, concursus: assemble, come together; rush
dēcernō, -ere, -crēvī, -crētus: determine, decide
dēmōnstrō (1): indicate, show
dīripiō, -ere, -uī, -reptus: tear apart, tear off; snatch, plunder
interim: meanwhile
nūntius, -ī m.: messenger, or the news brought
potestās, -tātis f.: power
pūblicō (1): make public; confiscate
pūblicus, -a, -um: common, collective
pūrgō (1): cleanse; exculpate
quaestiō, -ōnis f.: inquiry

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omnēs…tenērī: indirect statement after *allātō*
eōrum mīlitēs: *their soldiers;* the 10,000 Aeduan soldiers sent towards Gergovia *in potestāte Caesaris* and now in danger of Roman reprisal
ad Aristium: though only a tribune, Aristius was the highest-ranking Roman military officer in the vicinity
nihil…factum: *that nothing was done*
quaestiōnem: Caes. employs Roman legal terms (*cōnsilium pūblicum, quaestiō, dēcernere, pūblicāre*) to approximate and legitimize the Aeduan response in the face of the illegitimate behavior of the *contāminātī* (see next section)
suī pūrgandī grātiā: *for the purpose of clearing themselves [of blame]*; the verb *purgāre* continues the medical theme

3 Haec faciunt reciperandōrum suōrum causā; sed contāminātī facinore et captī compendiō ex dīreptīs bonīs, quod ea rēs ad multōs pertinēbat, timōre poenae exterritī cōnsilia clam dē bellō inīre incipiunt cīvitātēsque reliquās lēgātiōnibus sollicitant.

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clam: secretly
compendium, –iī n.: gain, profit
contāminō (1): corrupt, defile
exterreō, –ēre, –uī, –itus: frighten
facinus, –oris n.: deed, crime
incipiō, –ere, –cēpī, –ceptus: begin
ineō, inīre, iniī/inīvī, initus: enter; undertake, engage in
lēgātiō, –ōnis f.: diplomatic visit
pertineō, –ēre, –uī, –tentus: extend to; concern, be applicable to; be suitable to
poena, –ae f.: punishment
recipiō, –ere, –cēpī, –ceptus: withdraw; take back
sollicitō (1): solicit, tempt; stir up

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reciperandōrum suōrum causā: *for the purpose of recovering their own (men)*; this term also evokes medical terminology, followed by the overt *contāminātī*
ea rēs: *this affair*; that is, the seizing of Roman goods

4 Quae tametsī Caesar intellegēbat, tamen quam mītissimē potest lēgātōs appellat: nihil sē propter īnscientiam levitātemque vulgī gravius dē cīvitāte iūdicāre neque dē suā in Aeduōs benevolentiā dēminuere.

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appellō (1): address, speak to
benevolentia, -ae f.: goodwill, favor, friendship
dēminuō, -ere, -ī, -ūtus: make smaller, lessen, diminish
iūdicō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus: judge, decide
īnscientia, -ae f.: ignorance, inexperience
intellegō, -ere, intellēxī, intellēctus: understand
lēvitās, -tātis f.: lightness; (here) fickleness, inconstancy
mītis, mīte: mild, mellow; ripe
tametsī: although
vulgus, -ī n.: common people

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quae: *which [preceding] events*; a connecting relative
quam mītissimē potest: *as gently as possible*; another term borrowed from medical vocabulary, appearing only here in Caes.
nihil…gravius dē cīvitāte iudicāre: *that he in no way judged the (Aedui) tribe more harshly [in light of these recent troubles]*; indirect statement with subject *sē*
īnscientiam levitātemque: perhaps hendiadys, "fickle ignorance"
vulgī: Caes. here seems to provide a scapegoat for the Aeduan elite. The *vulgī Aeduōrum* were not responsible for betraying the Romans—it was instigated by Convictolitavis, *adulescēns inlustris* (7.32.4) and one of the disputed candidates for the magistracy of the state. Litaviccus, *amplissimā familiā nātus adulēscēns* (7.27.1) and the leader of the Aeduan auxiliary force, furthered the trouble with his falsehoods (7.38)
neque…deminuere: *and that it does not take away from his goodwill towards the Aedui*

5 Ipse maiōrem Galliae mōtum exspectāns, nē ab omnibus cīvitātibus circumsisterētur, cōnsilia inībat quemadmodum ab Gergoviā discēderet ac rūrsus omnem exercitum contraheret, 6 nē profectiō nāta ab timōre dēfectiōnis similis fugae vidērētur.

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circumsistō, -ere, -stetī: surround
contrahō, -ere, -trāxī, -tractus: collect, draw together, assemble
discēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: go away
fuga, -ae f.: flight, retreat
ineō, inīre, iniī/inīvī, initus: enter; undertake, engage in
mōtus, -ūs m.: motion, movement; disturbance
nāscor, -ī, nātus: be born, come into being
profectiō, -ōnis f.: departure
rūrsus: back; again
quemadmodum: in what way, as to how

Ipse…exspectāns: the intensifying pronoun serves to alert the reader that we are now privy to Caesar's true thoughts, not the performative message delivered to the Aeduan envoys: the prospect of a full "rebellion" of the Aedui, who had been Rome's most reliable and powerful allies in Gaul, must have been deeply troubling to Caes., and represented perhaps the most dangerous threat to the Roman presence there since the Gallic wars began in 58

nē…circumsisterētur: probably both a negative purpose cause dependent on *cōnsilia inībat*, and a fear clause following a hint of *timor* in his term *exspectāns*; he suddenly realizes the potential to be surrounded by a much larger *mōtus* of the Gauls and must act to avoid it

quemadmodum…discēderet: *as to how…he might depart;* indirect question

nē…vidērētur: *in such a way that their departure initiated from a fear of rebellion might not seem similar to a retreat*; Caes. is concerned with the optics of a withdrawal from Gergovia, and not just because of pride: if it appears that Verc. has bested the Romans strategically, it might further embolden the Aedui and encourage still further tribes to join his cause

[44] *Caesar realizes a tactical opportunity*

1 Haec cōgitantī accidere vīsa est facultās bene reī gerendae. Nam cum in minōra castra operis perspiciendī causā vēnisset, animadvertit collem, quī ab hostibus tenēbātur, nūdātum hominibus, quī superiōribus diēbus vix prae multitūdine cernī poterat.

---

accidō, -ere, -cidī: (here) occur
animadvertō, -ere, -ī, -versus: notice
cernō, -ere, crēvī, crētus: distinguish, decide
cōgitō (1): think, consider; intend
collis, -is m.: hill
facultās, -tātis f.: ability, capability, opportunity; supply, abundance
nūdō (1): expose, strip bare
opus, operis n.: work, labor; fortification; deed
perspiciō, -ere, -spēxī, -spectus: examine; see through; discern, observe
prae: on account of (+ abl.)
superior, -ius: higher; earlier, preceding; older; stronger, greater
vix: scarcely, hardly

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haec…gerendae: *while pondering these things, an opportunity to manage the situation favorably seemed to occur to him*; lit. "an opportunity of managing the situation well seemed to arrive to [him] pondering these things"
vīsa est: the verb *vidēre* often has a sense of "seem" in the passive
causā: *for the purpose of* (with gerund/gerundive + gen.)
tenēbātur: *was [previously] being held continuously*; an iterative imperfect
cernī: present passive infinitive

2 Admīrātus quaerit ex perfugīs causam, quōrum magnus ad eum cotīdiē numerus cōnfluēbat. 3 Cōnstābat inter omnēs quod iam ipse Caesar per explōrātōrēs cognōverat: dorsum esse eius iugī prope aequum, sed hunc silvestrem et angustum, quā esset aditus ad alteram partem oppidī;

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aditus, -ūs m.: approach; entrance
admīror, -ārī, -ātus: regard with wonder; be astonished at
angustus, -a, -um: narrow
cōnfluō, -ere, -flūxī: flow together; crowd, throng
cōnstō (1): agree, determine; stand firm, be consistent
cotīdiē: every day, daily
dorsum, -ī n.: back; ridge
explōrātor, -ōris m.: spy, scout
iugum, -ī n.: ridge, summit
perfuga, -ae m.: deserter, traitor
prope: nearly, almost
quaerō, -ere, -sīvī, -sītus: seek, require
silvestris, -e: wooded

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quaerit causam: *he asks the cause* (of the hill now being unoccupied, when before it was so filled with Gallic soldiers)
Cōnstābat: *was in agreement / was consistent* (with what the *perfugae* said); the subject is an understood *hoc*, the antecedent of *quod*
quod: *that which*
prope aequum: *nearly level*; that is, the back slope of the hill was not precipitous, but sloped gently, and was therefore a potential weak point in the defense of the town
quā esset: *at which (part) there existed*

huic locō vehementer illōs timēre nec iam aliter sentīre, ūnō colle ab Rōmānīs occupātō, sī alterum āmīsissent, quīn paene circumvāllātī atque omnī exitū et pābulātiōne interclūsī vidērentur: ad hunc mūniendum omnēs ā Vercingetorīge ēvocātōs.

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aliter: otherwise, differently
āmittō, -ere, -mīsī, -mīssus: send away; let go of, lose
circumvallō (1): surround with walls, hem in
collis, -is m.: hill
ēvocō (1): call out, summon
exitus, -ūs m.: exit, departure
interclūdō, -ere, -clūsī, -clūsus: cut off, hinder, block; separate
mūniō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: build, fortify
occupō (1): seize, occupy
pābulātiō, -ōnis f.: foraging
paene: almost
timeō, -ere, -uī: fear
vehementer: eagerly; violently; strongly

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huic locō: *in reference to this spot*
timēre, sentīre: the infinitives continue the indirect statement from the previous sentence, further explaining the contents of what Caes. had learned; the subject of both is *illōs [Gallōs]*
unō colle: the hill already seized by Caes. upon which he built the *castra minora*
alterum: implicit *collem*
quīn: typically after a verb of doubting, here with the slightly more assertive *nec iam aliter sentīre*; so, "nor did [the Gauls] feel differently but that they seem…"

[45] *Caesar employs another ruse and the legions attack*

1 Hāc rē cognitā Caesar mittit complūrēs equitum turmās eō dē mediā nocte. Imperat hīs ut paulō tumultuōsius omnibus locīs pervagentur.

---

complūrēs, -ium: many
eō: there, to that place (adv.)
eques, equitis m.: horseman
paulō: slightly, a little
tumultuōsus, -a, -um: disorderly, confused; (here) noisily
turma, -ae f.: group, band, company, squadron
pervagor, -ārī, -ātus: wander over, range through

Hāc rē: that is, the Gauls' efforts to fortify the back side of this particular hill
dē mediā nocte: *at midnight*; the *dē* here is idiomatic
tumultuōsius: *more noisily (than usual for them)*; comparative adverb; Caes. intends for his cavalry to make so much obvious commotion that the Gauls cannot possibly neglect to notice, and then conclude that the Romans are making an attempt on the hill's vulnerable back ridge

2 Prīmā lūce magnum numerum impedīmentōrum ex castrīs mūlōrumque prōdūcī dēque hīs strāmenta dētrahī mūliōnēsque cum cassidibus equitum speciē ac simulātiōne collibus circumvehī iubet.

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cassis, -idis f.: metal helmet (of the cavalry)
circumvehor, -ī, -vectus: ride or sail around
collis, -is m.: hill
dētrahō, -ere, -trāxī, -tractus: take away from
eques, equitis m.: horseman
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: (here) pack-horses or other beasts of burden
lūx, lūcis f.: light; daylight
mūlus, -ī m.: mule
mūliō, -ōnis m.: mule-driver
prōdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead forward
simulātiō, -ōnis f.: imitation, likeness
speciēs, -eī f.: appearance, image, likeness
strāmentum, -ī n.: (here) pack-saddle

---

impedīmentōrum…mūlōrumque: Caes. wishes to trick the Gauls into believing that a large force of cavalry is leaving his camp
prōdūcī, dētrahī, circumvehī: present passive infinitives after *iubet*
equitum speciē ac simulātiōne: *in the appearance and likeness of cavalry;* the mule-drivers wear cavalry helmets as part of the ruse
collibus: dative with *circumvehī*, "be ridden all around the hills in question"

3 Hīs paucōs addit equitēs quī lātius ostentātiōnis causā vagārentur. Longō circuitū eāsdem omnēs iubet petere regiōnēs. 4 Haec procul ex oppidō vidēbantur, ut erat ā Gergoviā dēspectus in castra, neque tantō spatiō certī quid esset explōrārī poterat.

---

addō, -ere, -didī, -ditus: put in place, add to, increase
certus, -a, -um: fixed, certain
circuitus, -ūs m.: circuit, way around
dēspectus, -ūs m.: vantage point
eques, equitis m.: horseman
explōrō (1): investigate; ascertain
lātus, -a, -um: broad, wide
ostentātiō, -ōnis f.: display; false pretense, deception
paucī, -ōrum: a few
procul: at a distance
spatium, -iī n.: space, interval
vagor, -ārī, -ātus: wander; spread

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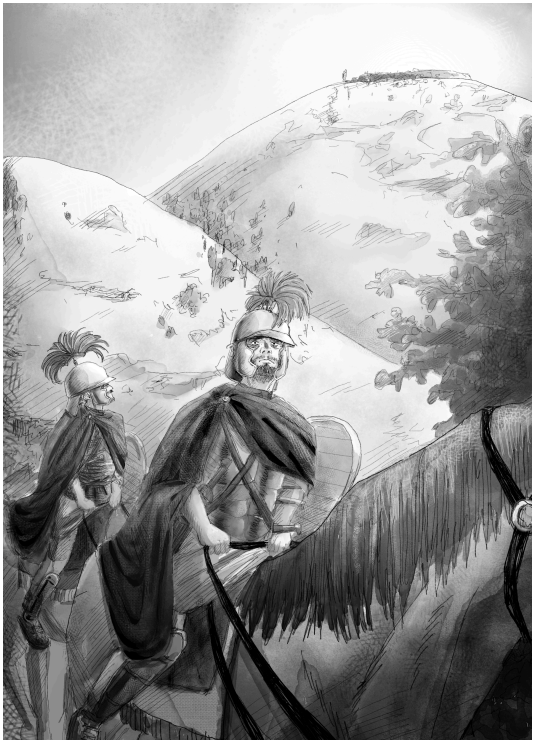
hīs…addit: *to these [disguised mule-drivers] he (Caes.) adds*
lātius: *more widely;* comparative adverb
eāsdem regiōnēs: he orders the disguised baggage drivers with their mules, along with a small amount of actual cavalry, to make it very noisy and obvious that they are headed towards the hill he describes in 7.44.1–3; he hopes that this will convince the Gauls that an attack on this strategic point is imminent from the southwest or west, and draw away a portion of those camped in front of Gergovia
ut erat…dēspectus in castra: *since there was…a view into the camp;* the *oppidum* was situated on the top of a plateau and had a sweeping view of Caesar's main camp, the small camp on the hill, and the trenchworks connecting the two
neque…poterat: a difficult section; loosely, "but at such a distance there was no certainty as to what was able to be ascertained;" in other words, those at the *oppidum* were able to see that a commotion was happening at the Roman camps, but could not discern what exactly

5 Legiōnem ūnam eōdem iugō mittit et paulum prōgressam īnferiōre cōnstituit locō silvīsque occultat.

---

cōnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -tūtus: (here) establish, station
īnferus, -a, -um: below, lower, underneath
iugum, -ī n.: ridge, summit
occultō (1): hide, conceal
paulum: a little, somewhat
prōgredior, -ī, -gressus: advance, proceed
silva, -ae f.: forest

īnferiōre cōnstituit locō: *he stationed [the legion] on the lower ground*; this area is presumably to the south beyond the sight of the *oppidum*



6 Augētur Gallīs suspīciō, atque omnēs illō ad mūnītiōnem cōpiae trādūcuntur. 7 Vacua castra hostium Caesar cōnspicātus tēctīs īnsignibus suōrum occultātīsque signīs mīlitāribus rārōs mīlitēs, nē ex oppidō animadverterentur, ex maiōribus castrīs in minōra trādūcit, lēgātīsque, quōs singulīs legiōnibus praefēcerat, quid fierī velit ostendit:

---

animadvertō, -ere, -ī, -versus: notice
augeō, -ēre, auxī, auctus: increase
cōnspicor, -ārī, -ātus: catch sight of
īnsigne, -is n.: mark, sign, badge of office
mīlitāris, -e: of a soldier, military
mūniō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: build, fortify
occultō (1): hide, conceal
praeficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: set over, put in charge of (+ dat.)
rārus, -a, -um: (of soldiers) scattered, dispersed
singulus, -a, -um: (here) individual
suspīciō, -ōnis f.: mistrust, suspicion
tegō, -ere, tēxī, tēctus: cover
trādūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) bring over
vacuus, -a, -um: vacant, unoccupied, empty (+ gen.)
volō, velle, voluī: wish, want

---

illō: *to that place;* directional adverb
ad mūnītiōnem: *to fortify it*, with a noun instead the expected gerundive *mūniendum*
īnsignibus, signīs mīlitāribus: the *īnsignia* here seem to be the plumed crests on officers' helmets; the *signa mīlitāria* are the legionary standards; both are hidden so that Gallic spotters from afar cannot clearly see that the legions are moving within the narrow trenchworks
in minōra: implicit *castra*
quid fierī velit: *what he wishes to be done*

8 in prīmīs monet ut contineant mīlitēs nē studiō pugnandī aut spē praedae longius prōgrediantur; 9 quid inīquitās locī habeat incommodī prōpōnit: hoc ūnā celeritāte posse mūtārī; occāsiōnis esse rem, nōn proeliī. 10 Hīs rēbus expositīs signum dat et ab dextrā parte aliō ascēnsū eōdem tempore Aeduōs mittit.

---

ascēnsus, -ūs m.: climb, ascent
celeritās, -tātis f.: swiftness, speed
contineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: restrain, detain; limit, comprise
dexter, -tra, -trum: right, right-hand
incommodum, -ī n.: inconvenience, misfortune
inīquitās, -tātis f.: unevenness
mūtō (1): change
occāsiō, -ōnis f.: opportunity, favorable moment
praeda, -ae f.: plunder, spoils of war
prōgredior, -ī, -gressus: advance, proceed
prōpōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: set forth, display; report
signum, -ī n.: signal, sign
spēs, speī f.: hope
studium, -iī n.: eagerness, zeal

---

in prīmīs: *in particular;* literally, "among the first things"
longius: *too far;* comparative adverb
quid…incommodī: *what (of) disadvantage;* partitive genitive
hoc…mūtārī: *that this (situation) is able to be changed by speed alone*
occāsiōnis…nōn proelī: *that it is a matter of the right moment, not of fighting*; Caes. does not wish to fight a battle, given the legions will be advancing uphill into prepared fortifications—this is not an assault on the town, or so he tells us
ab dextrā parte aliō ascēnsū: *from the right flank by another ascent route*; the Aedui auxiliaries are merely a diversion on the eastern flank of the *oppidum*, and though he does not say it, it seems clear that Caes. does not now trust them enough to play an integral part in the plan

[46] *The legions storm the Gallic camps*

1 Oppidī mūrus ab plānitiē atque initiō ascēnsūs rēctā
regiōne, sī nūllus ānfrāctus intercēderet, mille CC passūs
aberat: 2 quidquid hūc circuitūs ad molliendum clīvum
accesserat, id spatium itineris augēbat.

---

absum, -esse, āfuī, āfutūrus: be absent, be away
accēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: go to, approach; be added, be included
ānfrāctus, -ūs m.: turn, bend
ascēnsus, -ūs m.: climb, ascent
augeō, -ēre, auxī, auctus: increase
circuitus, –ūs m.: circle, way around
clīvus, –ī m.: slope
initium, -iī n.: beginning
intercēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: come between, intervene; occur
molliō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: ease, lighten; soften
plānitiēs, -eī f.: level ground
quisquis, quidquid: who/whatever
rēctus, -a, -um: straight, direct
regiō, -ōnis f.: (here) line
spatium, -iī n.: space, extent; interval, distance

---

rēctā regiōne: *in a straight line*
mille CC passūs: 1,200 paces
quidquid hūc circuitūs: *whatever detour was added (to get) here*; the *circuitūs* is a partitive genitive and *hūc* is the directional adverb; Caes. means that going in a straight line up the slope was shortest, but not easiest to ascend
ad molliendum clīvum: *for reducing the difficulty of the incline;* literally "to soften the slope"

3 Ā mediō ferē colle in longitūdinem, ut nātūra montis ferēbat, ex grandibus saxīs sex pedum mūrum quī nostrōrum impetum tardāret praedūxerant Gallī, atque īnferiōre omnī spatiō vacuō relictō superiōrem partem collis ūsque ad mūrum oppidī dēnsissimīs castrīs complēverant.

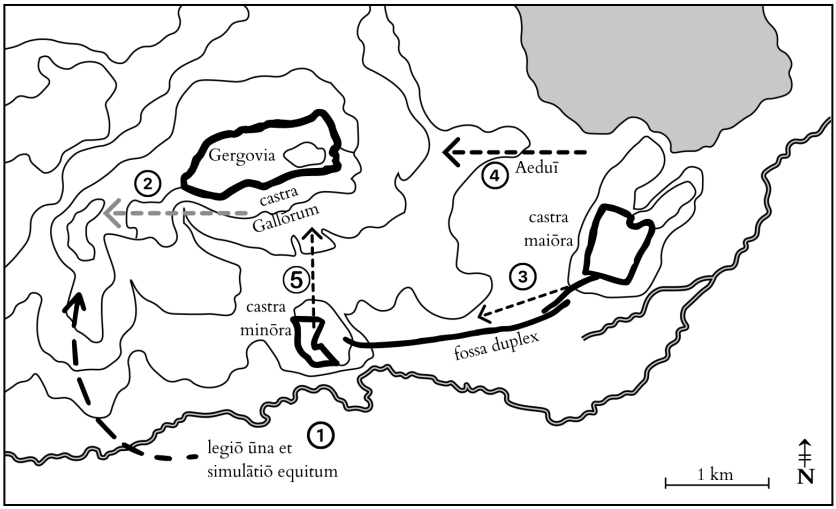
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collis, -is m.: hill
compleō, -ēre, -ēvī, -ētus: fill up, crowd
dēnsus, -a, -um: thick, compact, crowded, close-packed
grandis, -e: great, large; strong
impetus, -ūs m.: attack, assault; rush
īnferus, -a, -um: below, lower, underneath
longitūdō, -inis f.: length
pēs, pedis m.: foot
praedūcō, -cere, -xī, -ductus: draw out in front
saxum, -ī n.: rock, boulder, stone
sex: six
spatium, -iī n.: space, extent; interval, distance
superior, -ius: higher; earlier, preceding; older; stronger, greater
tardō (1): hinder, delay, impede
ūsque: all the way, up to; continuously
vacuus, -a, -um: vacant, unoccupied, empty

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in logitūdinem: *along the length [of the hill]*
ut…ferēbat: *as much as the shape of the hill was permitting*
sex pedum mūrum: *a wall of six feet*; *mūrum* here is the direct object of *praedūxerat*; the Gauls have constructed a fortification beyond their camps on the upper slope of the hill; do not confuse this smaller wall with the larger town wall of the *oppidum* Gergovia mentioned later in this sentence (*ad mūrum oppidī*)
quī…tardāret: *to impede the attack of our soldiers*; relative clause of purpose
superiōrem partem collis: that is, behind the six-foot wall
dēnsissimīs castrīs: in contrast to the neat and straight-sided Roman *castra*, the Gauls have scattered numerous smaller camps in a line along the length of the *oppidum* wall, with a bit of open space left between them and the six-foot wall

The Battle of Gergovia, adapted from Harper and Tolman 1891, Kelsey 1895



1. One legion, some cavalry, and the disguised mule-drivers move noisily
2. The Gauls take the bait and move their forces towards the vulnerable hill
3. Caesar quietly transfers the legions from the *castra maiōra* to the *castra minōra*
4. Caesar sends the Aedui auxiliaries up a different ascent to the east
5. The legions attack from the *castra minōra* up the hill and over the low wall

4 Mīlitēs datō signō celeriter ad mūnītiōnem perveniunt eamque trānsgressī trīnīs castrīs potiuntur; 5 ac tanta fuit in castrīs capiendīs celeritās ut Teutomatus, rēx Nitiobrigum, subitō in tabernāculō oppressus, ut merīdiē conquiēverat, superiōre corporis parte nūdātā vulnerātō equō vix sē ex manibus praedantium mīlitum ēriperet.

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celeritās, -tātis f.: swiftness, speed
conquiēscō, -ere, -ēvī, -ētus: rest
corpus, -oris n.: body
ēripiō, -ere, -uī, ēreptus: (w/ reflex. pron.) break away, escape
merīdiēs, -ēī m.: midday, noon
mūniō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: build, fortify
nūdō (1): expose, strip bare
opprimō, -ere, -pressī, -pressus: overwhelm, press down; surprise
perveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: reach, arrive at
potior, -tirī, -tus: obtain, take possession of, acquire (+ abl.)
praedor, -ārī, -ātus: plunder, rob
signum, -ī n.: signal, sign
superior, -ius: higher, upper
tabernāculum, -ī n.: tent
trānsgredior, -gredī, -gressus: cross, step over, pass over
trīnus -a -um: triple
vix: barely, with difficulty
vulnerō (1): wound, injure, damage

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datō signō: *when the signal was given;* ablative absolute
mūnitiōnem: *the fortification;* that is, the six-foot wall
eamque trānsgressī: *and having crossed it;* Caes. is frustratingly vague on how exactly the soldiers overcame the six-foot wall which, though not nearly as massive as the *oppidum* wall, was still rather formidable for a Roman soldier averaging five feet, six inches tall and carrying a four-foot shield
tanta: modifies *celeritās*
ut merīdiē conquiēverat: *as he had rested at midday*

[47] *The Roman soldiers are excessively enthusiastic*

1 Cōnsecūtus id quod animō prōposuerat, Caesar receptuī canī iussit legiōnisque decimae, quācum erat, continuō signa cōnstitērunt.

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canō, -ere, cecinī, cantus: be sounded, be played; sing
cōnsequor, -quī, -cūtus: overtake, attain; follow, pursue
constituō, -ere, -tuī, -tūtus: (here) establish, station
continuō: immediately
prōpōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: set forth, display; report; offer
receptus, -ūs m.: retreat, withdrawal; retraction, recantation
signum, -ī n.: signal, sign

---

cōnsecūtus…prōposuerat: *Having attained (the goal) which he had set forth*; a participle modifying the following *Caesar*

receptuī canī iussit: *he ordered a withdrawal to be sounded*; lit. "he ordered that it be sounded for a withdrawal;" the legions used large trumpets (*tubae*) for signals (cf. *BG* 2.20.1)

legiōnisque decimae: genitive with following *signa*. The 10th legion was enlisted by Caes. in *Hispānia Ulterior* (modern Andalusia) in 61 BCE, when he was governor *prō cōnsule* after his praetorship of 62. Along with the 7th, 8th, and 9th legions, Caes. brought the 10th to Gaul when he became governor there in 58

erat: subject is *Caes.*

signa cōnstitērunt: *the standards halted*; that is, those carrying the standards obeyed the order of the *receptus* and halted, which stopped the legion from moving forward

2 Ac reliquārum legiōnum mīlitēs nōn exaudītō sonō tubae, quod satis magna vallēs intercēdēbat, tamen ab tribūnīs mīlitum lēgātīsque, ut erat ā Caesare praeceptum, retinēbantur.

---

exaudiō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: perceive, discern, hear clearly
intercēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: come between, intervene; occur
praecipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptus: order, warn, advise; anticipate, obtain beforehand
retineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: hold back, restrain, repress
satis: (here) sufficiently
sonus, -ī m.: sound, noise
tribūnus, -ī m.: commander, tribune
tuba, -ae f.: war-trumpet
vallēs, -is f.: valley

---

quod: *because*
satis magna vallēs: a curious observation, since from Caesar's own description it does not seem that the legions were in a particularly uncommon configuration, and the distances between the legions and the signalling *tubae* were no greater than would seem normal
tribūnīs…lēgātīsque: Caes. is very motivated to establish here that his officers did as he had instructed, so that in the following section he can better highlight what he considers to be the disobedience and/or lack of discretion of the soldiers
ut erat…praeceptum: *as had been ordered;* that is, Caes. had ordered that the soldiers be held back

3 Sed ēlātī spē celeris victōriae et hostium fugā et superiōrum temporum secundīs proeliīs nihil adeō arduum sibi esse exīstimāvērunt quod nōn virtūte cōnsequī possent, neque fīnem prius sequendī fēcērunt quam mūrō oppidī portīsque appropinquārunt.

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adeō: so, so much; to this, thus far
appropinquō (1): approach, reach (+ dat.)
arduus, -a, -um: steep; difficult
celer, -is, -e: quick, swift
cōnsequor, -sequī, -secūtus: overtake, attain; follow, pursue
efferō, efferre, extulī, ēlātus: (here) excite
fuga, -ae f.: flight, retreat
spēs, speī f.: hope
superior, -ius: higher; earlier, preceding; older; stronger, greater

---

spē…fugā…secundīs proeliīs: *by the hope…by the flight…by the favorable battles;* three ablatives of means with *ēlatī* ("elated")
superiōrum temporum: *of prior times*
quod nōn…possent: *that they could not*; relative clause of characteristic; antecedent is *nihil*
prius…quam: *earlier…than* or *before*
sequendī: *of following (the enemy);* gerund

4 Tum vērō ex omnibus urbis partibus ortō clāmōre, quī longius aberant repentīnō tumultū perterritī, cum hostem intrā portās esse exīstimārent, sēsē ex oppidō ēiēcērunt.

---

absum, -esse, āfuī, āfutūrus: be away, be absent
clāmor, -ōris m.: shout, cry
ēiciō, -ere, ēiēcī, ēiectus: expel, throw out, drive away; banish
intrā: within (+ acc.)
orior, orīrī, ortus: appear; arise, be born; begin
perterreō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: frighten, terrify
repentīnus, -a, -um: sudden, unexpected
tumultus, -ūs m.: commotion, disturbance, panic
vērō: certainly, truly; (postpositive) but, however

---

ortō clāmōre: *with a clamor having arisen;* ablative absolute
quī: the antecedent is an implicit *iī* (subject of *ēiēcērunt*), referring to the Gallic inhabitants of the town
ex oppidō ēiēcērunt: Caes. takes care to describe the sheer chaos of the scene with these and the following details. The legions are advancing when he does not wish it, and the inhabitants of the town are thoroughly terrified and panicking, probably thinking that they will suffer the same fate as those at Cenabum and Avaricum

5 Mātrēs familiae dē mūrō vestem argentumque iactābant et pectore nūdō prōminentēs passīs manibus obtestābantur Rōmānōs ut sibi parcerent neu, sīcut Avaricī fēcissent, nē ā mulieribus quidem atque īnfantibus abstinērent: 6 nōnnūllae dē mūrō per manūs dēmissae sēsē mīlitibus trādēbant.

---

abstineō, -ēre, -uī, -tus: keep off, hold back; refrain
argentum, -ī n.: silver; money
dēmittō, -ēre, -mīsī, -missus: descend; let down
iactō (1): throw, hurl
īnfāns, -antis m/f.: child, baby
manus, -ūs f.: hand
mulier, -is f.: woman
neu/nēve: or not, nor, and not
nūdus, -a, -um: bare, exposed
obtestor, -ārī, -ātus: appeal to
pandō, -ere, -ī, passus: extend
parcō, -ere, pepercī, parsus: spare
prōmineō, -ēre, -uī: overhang, jut out, reach out
sīcut: just as, as, like
trādō, -ere, -didī, -itus: hand over
vestis, -is f.: clothing, garment

Mātrēs familiae: *mothers-of-the-household;* for more on women in *BG* see our note at 7.26.3

pectore nūdō: *with chest(s) bare;* the gesture is meant to evoke sympathy by highlighting their role as mothers who nurse and nourish

sibi parcerent: *that they (the Romans) spare them (the women);* the *sibi* references the subject of the main verb (*obtestābantur*) rather than the verb of this clause

Avaricī: *at Avaricum;* see *BG* 7.28

neu…nē…abstinērent: the difficult anacoluthon perhaps suggests their distressed state; *and that [the Romans] not do what they had done at Avaricum, (that is) that they were not holding back even from the women and children*

mulieribus…īnfantibus: ablatives of separation

sēsē mīlitibus trādēbant: a grim reminder of the reality of ancient warfare; these women are reckoning that they have a better chance of survival as a Roman soldier's slave than as a survivor of an *oppidum* taken by the Romans by force

7 Lūcius Fabius, centuriō legiōnis VIII, quem inter suōs eō diē dīxisse cōnstābat excitārī sē Avaricēnsibus praemiīs neque commissūrum ut prius quisquam mūrum ascenderet, trēs suōs nactus manipulārēs atque ab eīs sublevātus mūrum ascendit: hōs ipse rūrsus singulōs exceptāns in mūrum extulit.

---

ascendō, -ere, -ī, ascēnsus: climb
centuriō, -ōnis m.: captain of a *centuria*, about 80 soldiers
committō, -ere, -mīsī, -mīssus: (here, with *ut*) be at fault; give occasion that
cōnstō, -āre, -stitī, -stātus: agree
efferō, efferre, extulī, ēlātus: (here) elevate, carry up
exceptō (1): take up
excitō (1): stir up, rouse, inspire; call out, summon
manipulāris, -is m.: fellow soldier
nancīscor, -ī, nactus: obtain, find
praemium, -iī n.: reward; loot,
prius: sooner, before
quisquam, quidquam: anyone, anything
rūrsus: back; in turn
singulus, -a, -um: one at a time
sublevō (1): lift up from beneath
trēs, tria: three

---

centuriō: named centurions are mentioned several times in *BG*, usually as *exempla*

suōs: *the soldiers*

dīxisse: perfect active infinitive in an indirect statement; subject is *quem*, with antecedent *Lūcius Fabius*

cōnstābat: *it was agreed*; impersonal; main verb of an indirect statement that ends at *ascenderet*

neque commissūrum ut…ascenderet: *(and he had said that) he would not give occasion* (that is, "permit") *that anyone climb the wall before (him)*; a very convoluted way of saying: Caes. heard that he had said that he was determined to be the first atop the wall

[48] *The Aeduan auxiliary force appears*

1 Interim eī quī ad alteram partem oppidī, ut suprā dēmōnstrāvimus, mūnītiōnis causā convēnerant, prīmō exaudītō clāmōre, inde etiam crēbrīs nūntiīs incitātī oppidum ā Rōmānīs tenērī, praemissīs equitibus magnō concursū eō contendērunt.

---

clāmor, -ōris m.: shout, cry
concursus, -ūs m.: throng, mob
contendō, -ere, -ī, -tentus: march, hurry; strain, exert; stretch, bend
crēber, crēbra, crēbrum: crowded; numerous
dēmōnstrō (1): indicate, show
eō: there, to that place (adv.)
eques, equitis m.: horseman
exaudiō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: perceive, discern, hear clearly
incitō (1): arouse, excite
inde: from there; then
interim: meanwhile
mūnītiō, -ōnis f.: fortification
nūntius, -ī m.: messenger, or the news brought
praemittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: send ahead, send in advance
prīmō: first, at first
suprā: above, over

---

eī quī: that is, the bulk of the Gallic forces who had been fooled by the Roman ruse and had rushed to the hill described in 7.44.1
prīmō…inde etiam: *first…then also;* the Gauls first heard the clamor of the city being taken, then received messengers
oppidum…tenērī: indirect statement introduced by the "speech" implied by *nūntiīs*, "by messages [that]"
magnō concursū: *in a great thronging charge*; Caes. portrays the response of Verc.'s forces as unorganized compared to a typical Roman maneuver, but also powerful in sheer numbers

2 Eōrum ut quisque prīmus vēnerat, sub mūrō cōnsistēbat suōrumque pugnantium numerum augēbat. 3 Quōrum cum magna multitūdō convēnisset, mātrēs familiae, quae paulō ante Rōmānīs dē mūrō manūs tendēbant, suōs obtestārī et mōre Gallicō passum capillum ostentāre līberōsque in cōnspectum prōferre coepērunt.

---

augeō, -ēre, auxī, auctus: increase
capillus, -ī m.: hair
coepī, coepisse, coeptus: begin
cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: take position; halt
cōnspectus, -ūs m.: look, sight, view
līberī, -ōrum m. pl.: children
manus, -ūs f.: hand
mōs, mōris m.: custom, habit
obtestor, -ārī, -ātus: appeal to, beseech, implore
ostentō (1): present, show, display
pandō, -ere, -ī, passus: spread out; unfold
paulō: slightly, a little
prōferō, -ferre, -tulī, -lātus: bring forth, produce
quisque, quidque: each
tendō, -ere, -ī, tentus: stretch, extend

Eōrum…vēnerat: *As soon as each of them arrived*; lit. "Of these (*Eōrum*), as (*ut*) each (*quisque*) first (*prīmus*) had arrived (*vēnerat*)"
suōrum pugnantium: *of their fighting men*; genitive pres. act. participle of *pugnāre*
obtestārī…ostentāre…prōferre: complementary infinitives governed by *coepērunt*
passum capillum: *hair (having been) let down;* direct object of *ostentāre*

4 Erat Rōmānīs nec locō nec numerō aequa contentiō; simul et cursū et spatiō pugnae dēfatīgātī nōn facile recentēs atque integrōs sustinēbant.

---

contentiō, -ōnis f.: contest, fight
cursus, -ūs m.: running, march
dēfatīgō (1): tire, exhaust
facile: easily (adv.)
integer, -ra, -rum: unhurt, uninjured; whole
recēns, -tis: fresh, rested
simul: at the same time
spatium, -iī n.: space, extent; interval, distance
sustineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) endure, withstand

Erat Rōmānīs…aequa contentiō: *for the Romans it was a fair contest neither as far as the terrain nor the number (of combatants)*; dative of possession with ablatives of respect
spatiō pugnae: *length of battle*
recentēs: *fresh, rested;* accusative (object of *sustinēbant*)

[49] *Caesar repositions his remaining legions*

1 Caesar, cum inīquō locō pugnārī hostiumque augērī cōpiās vidēret, praemetuēns suīs ad Titum Sextium lēgātum, quem minōribus castrīs praesidiō relīquerat, mīsit ut cohortēs ex castrīs celeriter ēdūceret et sub īnfimō colle ab dextrō latere hostium cōnstitueret,

---

augeō, -ēre, auxī, auctus: increase
cohors, cohortis f.: a unit of 6 centuries, about 480 soldiers
collis, -is m.: hill
cōnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -tūtus: (here) establish, station
dexter, -tra, -trum: right, right-hand
ēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead out
īnfimus, -a, -um: lowest; lowest part, bottom
inīquus, -a, -um: uneven; unequal, unfavorable, disadvantageous
latus, -eris n.: side, flank
minor, minus: less, smaller
praemetuō, -ere: fear for ahead of time; be apprehensive for (+ dat.)

---

inīquō locō pugnārī: *that it was being fought in an unfavorable spot*; impersonal construction in indirect statement; the word *in* is typically omitted with *locus* in ablative of means
suīs: *for his own (men);* substantive adjective
ad Titum Sextium…mīsit ut: *sends (word) to Titus Sextius…that* (+ ind. command)
minōribus castrīs praesidiō: *as a protector for the smaller camp*; double dative construction
ab dextrō latere hostium: *on the right flank of the enemies*, and therefore the left flank of the Roman forces, on the western end of the valley

2 ut, sī nostrōs locō dēpulsōs vīdisset, quō minus līberē hostēs īnsequerentur terrēret. 3 Ipse paulum ex eō locō cum legiōne prōgressus, ubi cōnstiterat, ēventum pugnae exspectābat.

---

cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: take position; halt
dēpellō, -pellere, -pulī, -pulsus: drive off, expel
ēventus, -ūs m.: occurrence, event; result
īnsequor, -sequī, -secūtus: follow after, pursue
līberē: freely; boldly
paulum: a little, somewhat
prōgredior, -ī, -gressus: advance, proceed
terreō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: (here) deter by frightening

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ut…quō minus…hostēs īnsequerentur terrēret: *so that he (Sextius) might deter the enemies from pursuing*; the purpose clause contains a hindering verb, which is commonly followed by *quō minus* clause and a subjunctive
Ipse: *He himself;* referring to Caes.
eō locō: the place where Caes. had ordered a halt

[50] *The confusion of the battle mounts*

1 Cum ācerrimē comminus pugnārētur, hostēs locō et numerō, nostrī virtūte cōnfīderent, subitō sunt Aeduī vīsī ab latere nostrīs apertō, quōs Caesar ab dextrā parte aliō ascēnsū manūs distinendae causā mīserat.

ācer, ācris, ācre: sharp; fierce
aperiō, -īre, -uī, -tus: open, uncover; display, reveal
ascēnsus, -ūs m.: climb, ascent
comminus: at close quarters
cōnfīdō, -ere, —, cōnfīsus: rely upon, depend on (+ dat.)
dexter, -tra, -trum: right, right-hand
distineō, -ēre, -uī, distentus: separate, keep back; hinder, delay
latus, -eris n.: side, flank
manus, -ūs f.: (here) group of armed men

---

pugnārētur: *they were fighting*, lit. "it was being fought;" impersonal passive
sunt Aeduī vīsī: *the Aedui were seen;* here *vidēre* in the passive has a true passive sense (rather than meaning "seem")
ab latere…apertō: *on the exposed flank (of the legions)*
ab dextrā parte aliō ascēnsū: that is, on the right "side" of the battle, towards the east of the town, and coming up by a different ascent
manūs distinendae causā: *for the sake of delaying (Gallic) forces*; the term *manus* is quite vague, though it would make sense that the job of the Aedui was to delay any Gallic cavalry that might attempt to sweep around from the north and east

2 Hī similitūdine armōrum vehementer nostrōs perterruērunt, ac tametsī dextrīs umerīs exsertīs animadvertēbantur, quod īnsigne pāctum esse cōnsuērat, tamen id ipsum suī fallendī causā mīlitēs ab hostibus factum exīstimābant.

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animadvertō, -ere, -ī, -versus: notice, turn attention to
cōnsuēscō, -escere, -evī, -ētus: be accustomed to
dexter, -tra, -trum: right
exserō, -ere, -uī, -tus: uncover
fallō, -ere, fefellī, falsus: trick, deceive, betray; trip
īnsigne, -is n.: sign, indication
pangō, -ere, pepigī, pāctus: (here) agree upon, determine, stipulate
perterreō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: frighten
similitūdō, -inis f.: resemblance
tametsī: although
umerus, -ī m.: shoulder, upper arm
vehementer: violently; strongly

---

dextrīs umerīs exsertīs: *with their right shoulders uncovered (by their cloaks)*
quod…cōnsuērat: *which had been accustomed to be the agreed-upon indication*; the Romans relied upon this differentiation of dress to help them distinguish friendly Aedui forces from hostile ones
id ipsum…factum (esse): *that very thing…had been done;* that is, the Roman soldiers thought that hostile Aedui were keeping their shoulders uncovered to appear friendly
suī fallendī causā: *for the sake of deceiving [the soldiers]*; Caes. is interested in emphasizing the general atmosphere of fear and mistrust

3 Eōdem tempore Lūcius Fabius centuriō quīque ūnā mūrum ascenderant circumventī atque interfectī mūrō praecipitābantur. 4 Mārcus Petrōnius, eiusdem legiōnis centuriō, cum portam excīdere cōnātus esset, ā multitūdine oppressus ac sibi dēspērāns multīs iam vulneribus acceptīs manipulāribus suīs quī illum secūtī erant,

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ascendō, -ere, -ī, -cēnsus: climb, scale
centuriō, -ōnis m.: captain of a *centuria*, about 80 soldiers
conor, -ārī, -ātus: attempt
circumveniō, -īre, -ī, -tus: surround
dēspērō (1): have no hope for, despair for (+ dat.)
excīdō, -ere, -cīdī, -cīsus: destroy
interficio, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: kill
manipulāris, -is m.: fellow soldier
murus, -ī m.: wall
opprimō, -ere, oppressī, oppressus: overwhelm, press down; surprise
porta, -ae f.: gate
praecipitō (1): throw down
sequor, -ī, secūtus: follow
ūnā: together
vulnus, -eris n.: wound

Lūcius Fabius: one of Caesar's centurions (see above, *BG* 47.7)
quīque: *and those who*; the relative *quī* with the enclitic *-que*, not a form of *quisque*
mūrō: ablative of separation
sibi dēspērāns: that is, realizing that he will not survive or escape this situation
multīs iam…acceptīs: *with many wounds already received;* ablative absolute
manipulāribus suīs: *(says) to his men*; dative with *inquit* of following section

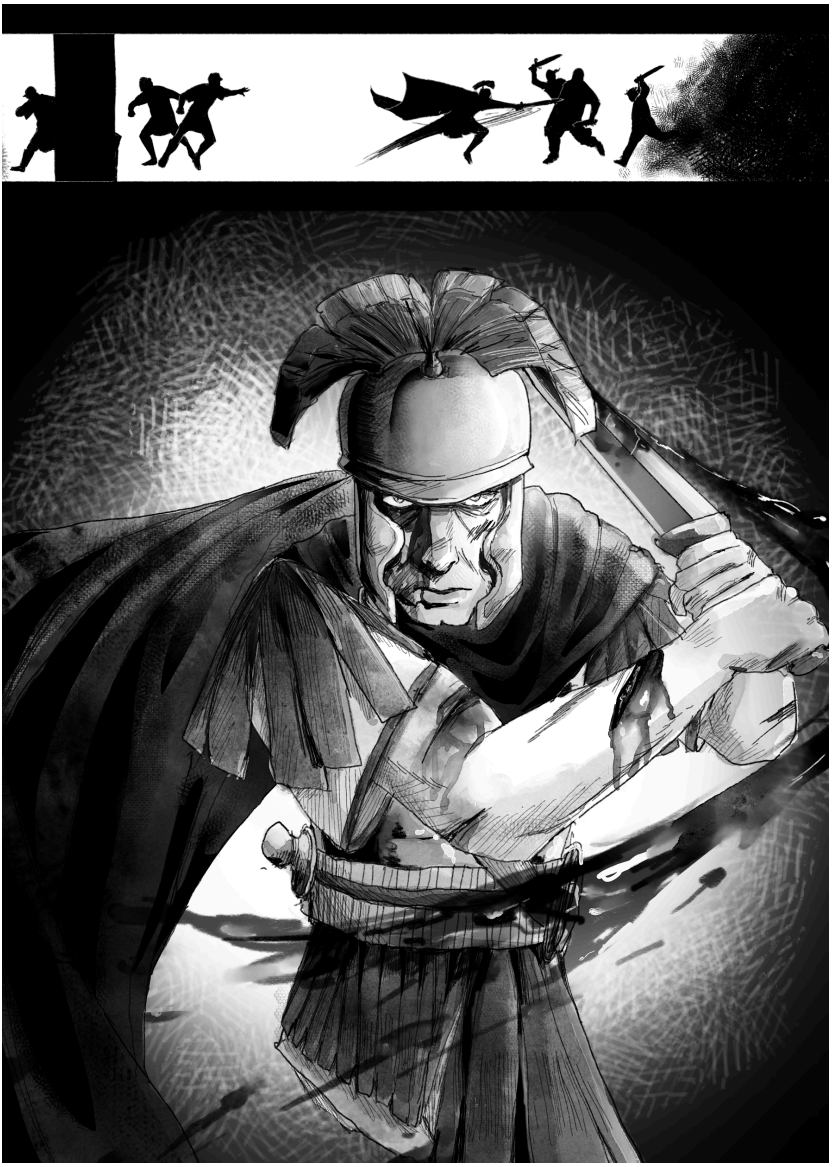
"Quoniam," inquit, "mē ūnā vōbīscum servāre nōn possum, vestrae quidem certē vītae prōspiciam, quōs cupiditāte glōriae adductus in perīculum dēdūxī. 5 Vōs datā facultāte vōbīs cōnsulite." Simul in mediōs hostēs irrūpit duōbusque interfectīs reliquōs ā portā paulum summōvit.

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certē: without doubt, certainly
cōnsulō, -ere, -uī, -tus: (here) look out for (+ dat.)
cupiditās, -tātis f.: eager desire
dēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) lead into; lead astray
facultās, -tātis f.: (here) possibility, means
glōria, -ae f.: renown, glory
irrumpō, -ere, irrūpī, irruptus: burst in
paulum: a little bit
perīculum, -ī n.: danger
prōspiciō, -ere, -spexī, -spectus: look out for, take care of (+ dat.)
quoniam: since
simul: at the same time, at once
summoveō, -ēre, -mōvī, -mōtus: drive back, drive off
ūnā: together
vester, -tra, -trum: your (plural)

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prōspiciam: As a centurion, Petronius's responsibility is for the safety of his men. Having brought them into this danger, he now executes his *officium*, even though he was *cupiditāte glōriae adductus*. In this way, Petronius stands as a proxy for the hastiness of all the Roman soldiers in this battle. Caes. perhaps includes the brave but ultimately reckless actions of the centurions Fabius and Petronius to soften the blow of the casualties he must next record
Vōs: nominative; the emphatic pronoun underscores his vehemence
datā facultāte: *with the means given*; ablative absolute
cōnsulite: *look out for;* plural imperative
duōbusque interfectīs: *with two men having been killed*; ablative absolute
reliquōs: *the rest (of the enemies)*, object of *summōvit*



6 Cōnantibus auxiliārī suīs "Frūstrā," inquit, "meae vītae subvenīre cōnāminī, quem iam sanguis vīrēsque dēficiunt. Proinde abīte, dum est facultās, vōsque ad legiōnem recipite." Ita pugnāns post paulum concidit ac suīs salūtī fuit.

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abeō, -īre, -iī, -itus: go away
auxilior, -ārī, -ātus: aid, help
concidō, -ere, -cidī: fall dead
conor, -ārī, -ātus: attempt
dēficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: fail
facultās, -tātis f.: (here) possibility, means
frūstrā: in vain
paulum: a little
proinde: hence, therefore
recipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptus: take back
salūs, -ūtis f.: health, safety; salvation
sanguis, -inis m.: blood
subveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: come to the aid of (+ dat.)
vīrēs, vīrium f.: (in plural) strength of body

Cōnantibus…suīs: dative with *inquit*
inquit: Direct quotations are rare in Caesar's writings. Compare these two short speeches of Petronius to the speech of the *aquilifer* at *BG* 4.25.3, also a moment of danger and personal sacrifice
quem: *(I) whom*; that is, Petronius
abīte…vōsque…recipite: *go away…and take yourselves back;* plural imperatives
suīs salūtī fuit: *was a source of salvation for his own men*; a double dative construction

[51] *Caesar employs his reserves to extricate the legions*

1 Nostrī, cum undique premerentur, XLVI centuriōnibus āmissīs dēiectī sunt locō. Sed intolerantius Gallōs īnsequentēs legiō decima tardāvit, quae prō subsidiō paulō aequiōre locō cōnstiterat.

āmittō, -ere, āmīsī, āmissus: send away; let go of, lose
centuriō, -ōnis m.: captain of a *centuria*, about 80 soldiers
cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: take position; halt
dēiciō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectus: throw down, eject
īnsequor, -ī, īnsecūtus: follow after, pursue
intolerāns, -antis: impatient
paulō: slightly, by a little
premō, -ere, pressī, pressus: press; pursue
subsidium, -iī n.: help, reinforcement
tardō (1): hinder, delay, impede
undique: from all sides

Nostrī: *Our (men);* substantive
XLVI centuriōnibus: *46 centurions*, a substantial and serious tally; Caes. represents the devastating defeat by counting the centurions rather than the soldiers (compare to *BG* 7.51.4 below)
locō: abl. of separation with *dēiectī sunt*
intolerantius: *rather too impatiently*; comparative adverb with *insequentēs;* the Gauls were eager to seize upon the opportunity and did not maintain good order in the pursuit
legiō decima: for this legion, see note at *BG* 7.47.1
paulō aequiōre locō: *on ground a bit more level*
prō subsidiō: *as a guard force*; Caes. often held back a portion of his forces to use as an emergency reserve force, as here

2 Hanc rūrsus XIII legiōnis cohortēs excēpērunt, quae ex castrīs minōribus ēductae cum Titō Sextiō lēgātō cēperant locum superiōrem.

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cohors, cohortis f.: a unit of 6 *centuriae*, about 480 soldiers
ēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead out
excipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptus: (here) follow after (in support)
rūrsus: (here) in turn
superior, -ius: higher

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hanc: implicit *legiōnem*; that is, the *legiō decima* of the previous sentence
XIII legiōnis cohortēs: *cohorts of the 13th legion*; Caes. had recruited the 13th and 14th legions in *Gallia Citerior* in 57 BCE, in the second year of the war
Sextiō: he had been left as commander of the *castra minora* (see above, *BG* 7.49.1)
ex castrīs minōribus: *from the smaller camp*; the secondary base that Caes. built on a hill nearer to Gergovia

3 Legiōnēs, ubi prīmum plānitiem attigērunt, īnfēstīs contrā hostēs signīs cōnstitērunt. 4 Vercingetorīx ab rādīcibus collis suōs intrā mūnītiōnēs redūxit. Eō diē mīlitēs sunt paulō minus septingentī dēsīderātī.

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attingō, -ere, attigī, attāctus: touch, reach
collis, -is m.: hill
cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: take position; halt
dēsīderō (1): (here) be missing, be lost
īnfestus, -a, -um: hostile, aggressive
intrā: within (+ acc.)
mūnitiō, -ōnis f.: fortification
paulō: slightly, by a little
plānitiēs, -eī f.: level ground
septingentī, -ae, -a: 700
signum, -ī n.: (here) legionary standard
rādīx, rādīcis f.: root; base, foot
redūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead back, bring back

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ubi prīmum: *as soon as;* literally, "when first"
plānitiem: *level ground*; similar in function to *aequiōre locō* (cf. note on 51.1)
īnfestīs…signīs: lit. "with hostile standards;" an idiom which evokes battle standards turning to face the enemy and moving towards them, and thus "hostile" or "dangerous," the typical meaning of *īnfestus*; cf. *BG* 6.8.6, *BC* 3.93.6
mīlitēs: with an implied *Rōmānī*
redūxit: Verc., much like Caes. describes himself doing in *BG* 52.2, refuses to fight on even ground, where he has no advantage
sunt…dēsīderātī: *a little less than 700 were lost*; it is the equivalent of roughly two cohorts and, while not a catastrophic defeat, this was nevertheless a significant loss

[52] *Caesar reprehends the soldiers for their conduct*

1 Posterō diē Caesar cōntiōne advocātā temeritātem cupiditātemque mīlitum reprehendit, quod sibi ipsī iūdicāvissent quō prōcēdendum aut quid agendum vidērētur, neque signō recipiendī datō cōnstitissent neque ab tribūnīs mīlitum lēgātīsque retinērī potuissent.

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advocō (1): summon, call
cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: take position; halt
cōntiō, -ōnis f.: assembly, meeting
cupiditās, -tātis f.: eager desire
iūdicō (1): judge, decide
posterus, -a, -um: next
prōcēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: advance
recipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptus: withdraw; take back
reprehendō, -ere, -ī, -ēnsus: (here) blame, rebuke
quō: to where
retineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: hold back, restrain, repress
signum, -ī n.: signal, sign
temeritās, -tātis f.: rashness
tribūnus, -ī m.: commander, tribune

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cōntiōne advocātā: *with an assembly having been summoned;* a *cōntiō* is a general assembly where the commander addresses the soldiers as a group; after the disastrous loss of the forces under the legates Sabinus and Cotta in 54 BCE, Caes. held a similar *cōntiō*, where he similarly encouraged the soldiery, pointed out mistakes, and commended individuals for bravery (*BG* 5.52.5; 6.42.1)
quod: *because*, followed by three subjunctives in quoted causal clauses
quō prōcēdendum aut quid agendum: *where it seemed (to the soldiers) there needed to be an advance, or what (it seemed to them) needed to be done*; implicit *esse* in pass. periphrastic infinitives in indirect statement after *vidērētur*
signō recipiendī datō: *the signal for withdrawing being given*; abl. abs.

2 Exposuit quid inīquitās locī posset, quid ipse ad Avaricum sēnsisset, cum sine duce et sine equitātū dēprehēnsīs hostibus explōrātam victōriam dīmīsisset nē parvum modo dētrīmentum in contentiōne propter inīquitātem locī accideret.

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accidō, -ere, -cidī: happen
contentiō, -iōnis f.: struggle, fight
dēprehendō, -ere, -ī, -hensus: (here) surprise
dētrīmentum, -ī n.: harm, damage
dīmittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: (here) put down, lay aside
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
explōrātus, -a, -um: certain, sure
inīquitās, -tātis f.: unevenness
modo: (here) even
sentiō, -īre, sēnsī, sēnsus: understand, discern, judge
sine: without (+ abl.)

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quid inīquitās locī posset: *what the unevenness of a place could (do)*

ad Avaricum: *at Avaricum;* the preposition *ad* has a sense of "at" with city names. On the situation at Avaricum, see *BG* 7.19.4-6; Caes. had declined to fight it out on terrain he found too unfavorable despite a military advantage, to the dismay of his eager soldiers

nē: introduces a fear clause

inīquitātem locī: Here Caes. identifies the folly of an attack uphill against a fortified position, but he does not elaborate on what his actual objectives might have been in this attack. In the accounts which he provides, the two centurions certainly seem keen on breaching the town's walls and gate. If the legions seized or destroyed a substantial amount of materiél in the Gallic camps or otherwise accomplished some detriment to the Gauls, Caes. curiously does not mention it. For a detailed discussion of Caesar's possible intentions in his account of this battle, see C. Krebs, ed., *Caesar* Bellum Gallicum *Book VII* (Cambridge 2023), 212-214 and 230-232

3 Quantō opere eōrum animī magnitūdinem admīrārētur, quōs nōn castrōrum mūnītiōnēs, nōn altitūdō montis, nōn mūrus oppidī tardāre potuisset, tantō opere licentiam arrogantiamque reprehendere, quod plūs sē quam imperātōrem dē victōriā atque exitū rērum sentīre exīstimārent; 4 nec minus sē ab mīlite modestiam et continentiam quam virtūtem atque animī magnitūdinem dēsīderāre.

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admīror, -ārī, -ātus: be astonished
altitūdō, -dinis f.: height
arrogantia, -ae f.: arrogance; gall
continentia, -ae f.: restraint
dēsīderō (1): long for, desire greatly
exitus, -ūs m.: (here) outcome
imperātor, -ōris m.: commander
licentia, -ae f.: license
modestia, -ae f.: moderation
mūnītiō, -ōnis f.: fortification
reprehendō, -ere, -ī, -hensus: seize, reprehend
tardō (1): hinder, delay, impede

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quantō opere…tantō opere: an adverbial correlative construction, sometimes written *quantopere…tantopere*; "as much as…so much also"
admīrārētur: imperfect subjunctive inside the *quantō opere* subordinate clause; the main clause begins with *tantō opere*
reprehendere: infinitive continuing the indirect discourse of Caesar's *cōntiō*
quod…sentīre exīstimārent: *because…they thought they knew*; the two verbs together convey an emphasis on the unfounded nature of this belief
nec minus…quam: *and no less…than*
sē…dēsīderāre: *that he desired;* Caesar's indirect statement continues
ab mīlite: *from a soldier;* that is, from his soldiers in general
animī magnutūdinem: Caes. uses the repetition of the phrase at the beginning of the previous clause and the end of this one to frame his periodic arrangement

[53] *Caesar departs Gergovia and heads toward Aeduan land*

1 Hāc habitā cōntiōne et ad extrēmam ōrātiōnem cōnfirmātīs mīlitibus nē ob hanc causam animō permovērentur neu quod inīquitās locī attulisset id virtūtī hostium tribuerent, eadem dē profectiōne cōgitāns quae ante sēnserat legiōnēs ex castrīs ēdūxit aciemque idōneō locō cōnstituit.

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afferō, -ferre, attulī, allātus: convey, carry to
aciēs, -eī f.: edge; line of battle
cōnfirmō (1): strengthen
cōnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -tūtus: (here) establish, station
cōntiō, -ōnis f.: assembly
extrēmus, -a, -um: utmost, last
idōneus, -a, -um: appropriate
inīquitās, -tātis f.: unevenness
neu: or not, nor, and not
ob: on account of (+ acc.)
permoveō, -ēre, -mōvī, -mōtus: influence, agitate
profectiō, -ōnis f.: departure
tribuō, -ere, -buī, -būtus: assign

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ad extrēmam ōrātiōnem: *at/by the ending of the speech*; though he did not end on a particularly praising note, his *ōrātiō* has had the intended effect on the soldiers
nē…permovērentur: *so that they may not be agitated in their spirit on account of that reason*
quod…tribuerent: *nor attribute to the bravery of the enemy that which the unevenness of the terrain had brought*
eadem dē profectiōne cōgitāns quae: *thinking the same things about a withdrawal (from Gergovia) as…*
aciemque…cōnstituit: *drew up the line of battle*

2 Cum Vercingetorīx nihilō minus in aequum locum dēscenderet, levī factō equestrī proeliō atque secundō in castra exercitum redūxit. 3 Cum hoc idem posterō diē fēcisset, satis ad Gallicam ostentātiōnem minuendam mīlitumque animōs cōnfirmandōs factum exīstimāns in Aeduōs mōvit castra.

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cōnfirmō (1): strengthen
equester, -tris, -tre: pertaining to cavalry
dēscendō, -ere, -ī, -cēnsus: descend
levis, -e: light; inconsequential
minuō, -ere, -uī, -ūtus: lessen
ostentātiō, -ōnis f.: (here) vain display; pomp, parade
posterus, -a, -um: next
redūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead back, bring back
satis: enough, sufficiently

---

nihilō minus: *by no means*
in aequum locum: Caes. invites Verc. to commit to a pitched infantry battle, but this time on flat terrain. He knows that Verc. is far too savvy to commit to such an engagement, given that the Gauls had usually failed against Roman infantry in such situations in past years. By drawing up his legions for a battle here and getting no response except a minor cavalry skirmish, he maintains the assertion (both for the Gauls and his own men) that the Romans are not retreating
levī…atque secundō: *a minor and indeed favorable (to the Romans) cavalry skirmish*
redūxit: the subject is an understood *Caesar*
satis…factum exīstimāns: *thinking that enough had been accomplished*
in Aeduōs [fīnēs]: *into Aeduan territory*, to the north and east, away from Gergovia and thus abandoning his original main camp and also the smaller hill camp connected to it by the *fossa duplex*

4 Nē tum quidem īnsecūtīs hostibus, tertiō diē ad flūmen Elaver pontem refēcit exercitumque trādūxit.

īnsequor, -sequī, īnsecūtus: follow after, pursue
pōns, pontis m.: bridge
reficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: repair
tertius, -a, -um: third
trādūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead across

Nē tum quidem īnsecūtīs hostibus: *since the enemy had not pursued even at that time;* the *ne…quidem* here has the sense of *not even*, and the ablative absolute has a causal sense in relation to the following clause
Elaver: see note at 34.2
pontem refēcit: Caes. must mean one of the bridges previously destroyed by Verc. to prevent Caes. from approaching Arverni territory (*BG* 7.34.3)



[54] *Caesar reminds the Aedui of their ties to the Romans*

1 Ibi ā Viridomarō atque Eporedorēge Aeduīs appellātus discit cum omnī equitātū Litaviccum ad sollicitandōs Aeduōs prōfectum: opus esse ipsōs antecēdere ad cōnfirmandam cīvitātem.

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antecēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessum: go before, precede
appello (1): speak to, call upon
cōnfīrmō (1): (here) reassure
discō, -ere, didicī: learn
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
opus, operis n.: work, labor; fortification; deed
proficīscor, -ī, profectus: depart
sollicitō (1): solicit, tempt; stir up

ā Viridomarō atque Eporedorēge Aeduīs: the phrase *Aeduīs* is in apposition to the two names, and the whole phrase is an ablative of agent with the passive participle *appellātus* ("summoned"); these were the two young men whom Caes. had favored and whom Litaviccus had claimed were killed by the Romans (see *BG* 7.39.1)
Litaviccum…profectum (esse): *that Litaviccus…has departed;* indirect statement
opus esse: *that it is necessary that;* the phrase *opus est* typically takes a noun in the ablative, but here sets up a further indirect statement
ipsōs: that is, Viridomarus and Eporedorix, to counter the actions of Litaviccus

2 Etsī multīs iam rēbus perfidiam Aeduōrum perspectam habēbat atque hōrum discessū admātūrārī dēfectiōnem cīvitātis exīstimābat, tamen eōs retinendōs nōn cōnstituit, nē aut īnferre iniūriam vidērētur aut dare timōris aliquam suspīciōnem.

---

admātūrō (1): progress towards
aliquī, -qua, -quod: some, any
cōnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -tūtus: (here) decide, determine
dēfectiō, -ōnis f.: desertion, revolt
discessus, -ūs m.: departure
īnferō, -ferre, -tulī, -lātus: inflict, introduce
iniūria, -ae f.: injustice, wrong
perfidia, perfidiae f.: treachery
perspectus, -a, -um: evident, clearly perceived
suspīciō, -ōnis f.: (here) notion, suggestion

---

multīs iam rēbus: *due to many factors at this point*; ablative of cause
habēbat: *he was considering*
admātūrārī: this verb appears only once in Latin (called a *hapax legomenon*, Greek for "read only once")
hōrum discessū…retinendōs: Caes. does not explain why he seems suspicious of Eporedorix and Viridomarus, aside from the fact that they were young Aeduan *prīncipēs*. They have done nothing contrary to Roman interests thus far, and in fact Eporedorix informed Caes. of the activities of Litaviccus (7.39.2). The *perfidia* of this sentence belongs to the Aedui as a whole, not specifically to Eporedorix and Viridomarus
timōris aliquam suspīciōnem: *some notion of (his) fear*; that is, his apprehension about the defection of the Aedui and the very precarious position in which that would leave the Romans

Discēdentibus hīs breviter sua in Aeduōs merita exposuit:
3 quōs et quam humilēs accēpisset, compulsōs in oppida,
multātōs agrīs, omnibus ēreptīs sociīs, impositō stīpendiō,
obsidibus summā cum contumēliā extortīs,

---

ager, agrī m.: field
breviter: briefly
compellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsus: drive
contumēlia, -ae f.: insult
discēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: go away
ēripiō, -ere, -uī, ēreptus: tear away
expōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: set forth, exhibit, explain
extorqueō, -ēre, -torsī, -tortus: twist out, wrench away
humilis, -e: humble
impōnō, -ere, -pōsuī, -pōsitus: put on, impose
meritum, -ī n.: service, kindness
multō (1): punish
obses, -idis m/f.: hostage
stīpendium, -iī n.: (here) tribute payment

Discēdentibus hīs: *to these two men, as they depart*; dative with *exposuit*
in Aeduōs: *for/towards the Aedui*, with *merita*
quōs et quam humilēs accēpisset: *in what circumstances and how humble he had first found them* (literally, "who they were, and how humble"); 11 years prior to this, in 63 BCE, the Aedui had been defeated by a coalition of the Arverni, the Sequani, and 15,000 Germans led by Ariovistus at the Battle of Magetobriga. The Aedui had been massacred and suffered greatly, prompting Diviciacus, an Aeduan druid, to go to Rome to petition the Senate for aid (*BG* 1.31.1-9; 6.12.1-7). They had been "friends" of Rome, as referenced by Cicero, who hosted Diviciacus in his home (*ad Att.* 1.19.2). Despite this, the Romans had taken no real action until Caesar's intervention in 58
multātōs agrīs: *deprived of their farmlands*; a rare Latin legal phrase which suggests the fields were taken from Aedui control as a punitive measure

4 et quam in fortūnam quamque in amplitūdinem dēdūxisset, ut nōn sōlum in prīstinum statum redīssent, sed omnium temporum dignitātem et grātiam antecessisse vidērentur. Hīs datīs mandātīs eōs ab sē dīmīsit.

---

amplitūdō, -inis f.: (here) greatness, grandeur
antecēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: (here) excel, surpass
dēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) lead to, conduct
dignitās, -tātis f.: worth, reputation
grātia, -ae f.: favor; gratitude
prīstinus, -a, -um: former
redeō, -īre, -iī, -itus: return
status, -ūs m.: position, station

---

dēduxisset: the understood direct object is the Aedui
ut: introducing a result clause
mandātīs: not "orders" here, but "messages" or perhaps "sentiments"
eōs ab sē dīmīsit: *he sent them away from him*; the imperious phrasing, along with the word choice in *mandātīs*, suggests Caes. is attempting to convince us that he is still in control of the situation

[55] *Eporedorix and Viridomarus betray Caesar*

1 Noviodūnum erat oppidum Aeduōrum ad rīpās Ligeris opportūnō locō positum. 2 Hūc Caesar omnēs obsidēs Galliae, frūmentum, pecūniam pūblicam, suōrum atque exercitūs impedīmentōrum magnam partem contulerat; 3 hūc magnum numerum equōrum huius bellī causā in Ītaliā atque Hispāniā coēmptum mīserat.

---

coemō, -ere, coēmī, coēmptus: purchase together
cōnferō, -ferre, contulī, collātus: collect, transfer, move
frūmentum, -ī n.: grain, crops
hūc: to here, hither (adv.)
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: army baggage
Liger, -eris m.: the Loire river
obses, obsidis m/f.: hostage
opportūnus, -a, -um: suitable
rīpa, -ae f.: bank

Noviodūnum: not the *oppidum* of the Bituriges of the same name (*BG* 7.12), which is further north; this one was near modern Nevers, near the confluence of the Loire (*Liger*) and Allier (*Elaver*); the Celtic name means "new fort"
ad rīpās: *at* or *near the banks*; the preposition *ad* here works more like *apud* in conveying proximity of location (as opposed to *ab* which conveys distance)
opportūnō locō: *in a convenient location*; the preposition *in* is regularly omitted with the word *locus*
obsidēs: all the hundreds of hostages which Caes. had accumulated from Gallic tribes as surety for agreements over the course of the past seven years of conflict
pecūniam pūblicam: all the Roman money controlled by Caes. in Gaul (could include money given to the army by the Senate for governing purposes, as well as taxes or tributes collected from Gallic tribes)
suōrum atque exercitūs impedīmentōrum: *of his own baggage, and (that) of the army*

4 Eō cum Eporedorix Viridomarusque vēnissent et dē statū cīvitātis cognōvissent—Litaviccum Bibracte ab Aeduīs receptum, quod est oppidum apud eōs maximae auctōritātis, Convictolitavem magistrātum magnamque partem senātūs ad eum convēnisse, lēgātōs ad Vercingetorīgem dē pāce et amīcitiā conciliandā pūblicē missōs—nōn praetermittendum tantum commodum exīstimāvērunt.

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amīcitia, -ae f.: friendship
apud: near, in the presence of
cōgnōscō, -ere, -nōvī, -nītus: (here) learn
commodum, -ī n.: opportunity; advantage, profit
conciliō (1): advise, reconcile
eō: there, to that place (adv.)
lēgātus, -ī m.: (here) envoy
pāx, pācis f.: peace; favor
praetermittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: let pass; neglect, overlook
pūblicē: officially; universally
recipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptus: take back
status, -ūs m.: position

Litaviccum…missōs: three indirect statements in parallel convey what Eporedorix and Viridomarus learned *dē statū cīvitātis*: that is, *Litaviccum…receptum* [*esse*], *Convictolitavem…convēnisse*, and *lēgātōs…missōs* [*esse*]

Bibracte: locative; Bibracte, near modern Autun in Burgundy, was the largest *oppidum* of the Aedui, and a major depot for the Romans in the Gallic War

quod: the antecedent is *Bibracte*

eum: Litaviccus

conciliandā: gerundive with *pāce* and *amīcitiā*

nōn…commodum: *that so great an opportunity must not be neglected*; this indirect statement is separate from the preceding ones and follows *exīstimāvērunt*, the main verb of the whole sentence

5 Itaque interfectīs Noviodūnī cūstōdibus quīque eō negōtiandī causā convēnerant pecūniam atque equōs inter sē partītī sunt; 6 obsidēs cīvitātum Bibracte ad magistrātum dēdūcendōs cūrāvērunt;

---

cūrō (1): have a care for, see to it that
custōs, custōdis m.: guard, watch
dēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) lead away, divert
eō: there, to that place (adv.)
itaque: and so, therefore
negōtior, -ārī, -ātus: be in business
obses, obsidis m/f.: hostage
partior, -īrī, -ītus: divide, share
pecūnia, pecūniae f.: money

Noviodūnī: *at Noviodūnum*; locative
custōdibus: soldiers stationed there by the Romans to guard their supplies
quīque: *and those who*; a relative pronoun and the enclitic *-que*, not the indefinite pronoun *quisque*; the antecedent of *quī* is an understood *eīs* in parallel with *cūstōdibus* in the ablative absolute
negōtiandī causā: *for the sake of doing business*; for these *negōtiātōrēs Rōmānī*, see note above at *BG* 7.42.5
magistrātum: Convictolitavis, the leader of the Aeduī at Bibracte
obsidēs…dēdūcendōs cūrāvērunt: *they took care that the hostages be led away*; the gerundive expresses purpose with *cūrāvērunt*

oppidum, 7 quod ā sē tenērī nōn posse iūdicābant, nē cui esset ūsuī Rōmānīs, incendērunt; 8 frūmentī quod subitō potuērunt nāvibus avexērunt, reliquum flūmine atque incendiō corrūpērunt.

āvehō, -ere, -vexī, -vectus: carry off, bear away
corrumpō, -ere, -rūpī, -ruptus: destroy, ruin
frūmentum, -ī n.: grain, crops
incendium, -ī n.: fire
incendō, -ere, -ī, -census: set on fire, burn
iūdicō (1): judge, decide
nāvis, -is f.: ship, boat
ūsus, ūsūs m.: use

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tenērī: complementary to *posse*, which in turn is complementary to *iūdicābant*
nē cui…Rōmānīs: *so that it might not be any use for the Romans*; a double dative construction in a purpose clause
frūmentī…potuērunt: *that of the grain which they were able to carry off at once*; supply *id* as the antecedent of *quod*, with the partitive genitive *frūmentī*
nāvibus: abl. of means with *avexērunt*

9 Ipsī ex fīnitimīs regiōnibus cōpiās cōgere, praesidia cūstōdiāsque ad rīpās Ligeris dispōnere equitātumque omnibus locīs iniciendī timōris causā ostentāre coepērunt, sī ab rē frūmentāriā Rōmānōs exclūdere aut adductōs inopiā in prōvinciam expellere possent.

---

adducō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) induce, compel
coepī, coepisse, coeptus: begin
cōgō, -ere, coēgī, coāctus: drive together, collect
custōdia, -ae f.: a watching, watch, guard
dispōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: arrange, set in order; distribute
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
exclūdō, -ere, -clūsī, -clūsus: cut off, separate; exclude
expellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsus: propel, drive out, expel
fīnitimus, -a, -um: bordering
frūmentārius, -a, -um: relating to the grain supply
iniciō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectus: (here) inspire, suggest
inopia, -ae f.: need; scarcity; famine
ostentō (1): present, show, display
rīpa, rīpae f.: bank

---

ad rīpās: *at the banks*; see above *BG* 7.55.1 for this usage of *ad*
coepērunt: main verb; takes the infinitives *cōgere*, *dispōnere*, and *ostentāre*
iniciendī timōris causā: *for the sake of inspiring fear*
ab rē frūmentāriā: *from stocks of grain*; abl. of separation with *exclūdere*
sī…possent: *if perhaps they might be able to*; this sort of construction with *sī* to denote purpose can occur after *conor, -ārī* "attempt" to suggest an element of contingency or potentiality, which is implied here in the actions they are taking (see a similar usage in *BG* 1.8)
in prōvinciam: that is, back within the boundaries of the Roman province of Transalpine Gaul, around Marseilles, and therefore completely expelled from all Gallic territory

10 Quam ad spem multum eōs adiuvābat quod Liger ex nivibus crēverat, ut omnīnō vadō nōn posse trānsīrī vidērētur.

---

adiuvō, -āre, adiūvī, adiūtus: help, assist, support
crēscō, -ere, crēvī, crētus: grow, increase
multum: very much, greatly (adv.)
nix, nivis f.: snow
omnīnō: entirely (adv.)
spēs, speī f.: hope
trānseō, -īre, -īvī, -itus: go across, cross over
vadum, -ī n.: ford; shallow crossing

Quam ad spem: *And to this hope*; connective relative; that is, the hope of cutting the Romans off from their grain
quod…crēverat: *the fact that…*; this clause serves as the subject of *adiuvābat*
Liger…crēverat: the Liger was swollen as a result of the snow melting, making it even harder to cross
ut…vidērētur: *so that…it seemed*; result clause

[56] *Despite Aeduan efforts, the Romans cross the Liger*

1 Quibus rēbus cognitīs Caesar mātūrandum sibi cēnsuit, sī esset in perficiendīs pontibus perīclitandum, ut prius quam essent maiōrēs eō coāctae cōpiae dīmicāret.

---

cēnseō, -ēre, cēnsuī, cēnsus: assess, estimate; value
cōgō, -ere, coēgī, coāctus: drive together, collect
dīmicō (1): struggle, fight
eō: there, to that place (adv.)
mātūrō (1): (here) hasten, quicken
perficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: complete, accomplish
perīclitor (1): (here) take a risk, be bold
pōns, pontis m.: bridge

Quibus rēbus cognitīs: abl. abs.
mātūrandum sibi: *that he must hurry*; literally, "that there must be a hurrying-up by him"; *cēnsuit* introduces an indirect statement with the impersonal pass. periphrastic *mātūrandum*, literally "it must be hastened"; *sibi* is dat. of agent
sī esset…perīclitandum: *even if risks must be taken*; pass. periphrastic in a concessive conditional
perficiendīs pontibus: *in building bridges*; the noun is the object of the gerundive
ut…dīmicāret: purpose clause
essent…cōpiae: word order is tricky, but can be read as *prius quam maiōrēs cōpiae coāctae essent eō*

2 Nam ut commūtātō cōnsiliō iter in prōvinciam converteret—id nē metū quidem necessāriō faciendum exīstimābat—cum īnfāmia atque indignitās reī et oppositus mōns Cevenna viārumque difficultās impediēbat, tum maximē quod abiūnctō Labiēnō atque eīs legiōnibus quās ūnā mīserat vehementer timēbat.

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abiungō, -ere, -iūnxī, -iūnctus: separate, detach
commūtō (1): change
convertō, -ere, -ī, -versus: turn round, cause to turn, turn back
difficultās, -tātis f.: trouble
impediō, -īre, -iī, -ītus: hinder
indignitās, -tātis f.: shamefulness
īnfāmia, -ae f.: disgrace
maximē: especially
metus, -ūs m.: fear
nēmō, nēminis m.: no one
necessāriō: inevitably, unavoidably
oppōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: set against, place opposite, oppose
timeō, -ēre, -uī: fear
vehementer: strongly, violently
via, viae f.: (here) way, path

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ut…converteret: *as to turning his line of march, via an altered plan, towards the Province (Transalpine Gaul)*; a substantive noun clause. The full defection of the Aedui is so disastrous that it might compel Caes. to completely depart Gaul

nē metū…exīstimābat: *as he was judging [it] must be done not even due to fear*; the understood "it" is the preceding noun clause (the notion of returning to the Province)

cum…impediēbat…tum: *not only…was hindering [it], but also…*

mōns Cevenna: the Cévennes range, which lies between Gergovia and the Province

impediēbat: takes four subjects: *īnfāmia*, *indignitās*, *mōns* and *difficultās*

Labiēnō…legiōnibus…timēbat: *he was fearing…for Labienus…and those legions*; datives with *timēbat*; Caes. had sent Labienus with four legions into the territory of the Senones and Parisii, some 200 miles to the north of Gergovia (7.34.2)

3 Itaque admodum magnīs diurnīs nocturnīsque itineribus
cōnfectīs contrā omnium opīniōnem ad Ligerem vēnit
4 vadōque per equitēs inventō prō reī necessitāte opportūnō,
ut brāchia modo atque umerī ad sustinenda arma līberī ab
aquā esse possent,

---

admodum: (here) very
brachium, brachiī n.: arm
cōnficiō, -ere, -fēcī, fectus: finish
diurnus, -a, -um: by day; daily
eques, equitis m.: horseman
inveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: find, discover
modo: (here) only
necessitās, -tātis f.: necessity, need
nocturnus, -a, -um: by night
opīniō, -ōnis f.: (here) expectation
opportūnus, -a, -um: suitable
sustineō, -ēre, -tinuī, -tentus: (here) hold up, support
umerus, umerī m.: shoulder
vadum, -ī n.: shallow crossing

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itineribus: *by marches*; the noun *iter* can have a specific sense of a military march; Caes. often makes *itinera magna* in Gaul, but he emphasizes here that this march to the river was extraordinary in its speed and distance; one of the key weapons of Caesar's legions was the sheer physical conditioning required to move so fast, and therefore arrive at a place *contrā omnium opīniōnem*

contrā omnium opīniōnem: rather than suggesting disagreement/disbelief among the Romans, Caes. is likely using *omnēs* to indicate the Gauls who think he won't make it (*BG* 7.55.10)

per equitēs: *through (the work of) the cavalry*; *per* + acc. can be roughly equivalent in meaning to an ablative of agent

prō reī necessitāte opportūnō: *suitable enough given the exigency of the situation*; the *opportūnō* is abl. agreeing with *vadō*

ad sustinenda arma: *for holding up weapons (above the water)*

dispositō equitātū quī vim flūminis refringeret, atque hostibus prīmō aspectū perturbātīs, 5 incolumem exercitum trādūxit frūmentumque in agrīs et pecoris cōpiam nactus replētō hīs rēbus exercitū iter in Senonēs facere īnstituit.

---

ager, agrī m.: field
aspectus, -ūs m.: sight
copia, -ae f.: supply, abundance
dispōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: arrange, set in order; distribute
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
frūmentum, -ī n.: grain, crops
incolumis, -e: uninjured, unharmed
īnstituō, -ere, -stituī, -stitūtus: undertake; decide
nancīscor, -ī, nactus: obtain, find
pecus, -oris n.: farm animals, herd
perturbō (1): confuse, confound, be in disorder
refringō, -ere, -frēgī, -frāctus: break back; break off
repleō, -ēre, -plēvī, -plētus: fill up; replenish; supply
trādūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead across
vīs, acc. **vim f.**: force, violence

---

quī…refringeret: rel. clause of purpose; the cavalry are stationed in a line across the river upstream such that the horses' bodies disrupt the swiftness of the current

prīmō aspectū: *at the first sight*; that is, when the Aedui first realized that the legions had improbably crossed the river despite their efforts

frūmentum…cōpiam: objects of *nactus*; until this point in the war, the *agrī* of the Aedui have remained relatively undamaged because they were allies of and protected by the Romans, in contrast to the rest of Gaul. After their recent betrayal, Caes. now treats them the same as every other hostile tribe

in [fīnēs] Senonēs: that is, northward towards Labienus and his four legions

[57] *Meanwhile, Labienus marches towards the Parisii*

1 Dum haec apud Caesarem geruntur, Labiēnus eō supplēmentō quod nūper ex Ītaliā vēnerat relictō Agedincī, ut esset impedīmentīs praesidiō, cum quattuor legiōnibus Lutētiam proficīscitur. Id est oppidum Parīsiōrum, quod positum est in īnsulā flūminis Sēquanae. 2 Cuius adventū ab hostibus cognitō magnae ex fīnitimīs cīvitātibus cōpiae convēnērunt.

---

adventus, -ūs m.: an arrival
apud: near
fīnitimus, -a, -um: bordering
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: army baggage
īnsula, -ae f.: island
nūper: not long ago
proficīscor, -ī, profectus: depart
quattuor: four
Sēquana, -ae f.: the Seine river
supplēmentum, -ī n.: reinforcement

Labiēnus: Caes. had sent Labienus, his most trusted lieutenant, north with four legions (above *BG* 7.34); see Appendix B
Agedincī: *at Agedincum*, locative; Agedincum was the chief *oppidum* of the Senones, in the vicinity of modern Sens on the Yonne river
esset impedīmentīs praesidiō: *be a guard for the baggage [of the legions]*; double dat. construction
Lutētiam: *towards Lutetia*; the preposition *ad* is dropped before city names; Lutetia is now Paris
Cuius: *of him*; that is, of Labienus, a connective relative
magnae: modifies *cōpiae*

3 Summa imperiī trāditur Camulogenō Aulercō, quī prope cōnfectus aetāte tamen propter singulārem scientiam reī mīlitāris ad eum est honōrem ēvocātus. 4 Is cum animadvertisset perpetuam esse palūdem quae īnflueret in Sēquanam atque illum omnem locum magnopere impedīret, hīc cōnsēdit nostrōsque trānsitū prohibēre īnstituit.

---

aetās, -tātis f.: age
animadvertō, -ere, -ī, -versus: notice
cōnficiō, -ere, -fēcī, fectus: (here) weaken, consume
cōnsīdō, -ere, -sēdī, -sessus: sit down, settle; encamp; take post
ēvocō (1): call out, summon
honor, honōris m.: honor; office
impediō, -īre, -iī, -ītus: obstruct
imperium, -iī n.: power, command
īnfluō, -fluere, -flūxī, -flūxus: flow in
īnstituō, -ere, -ī, -tūtus: undertake
magnopere: greatly
palūs, palūdis f.: swamp, marsh
perpetuus, -a, -um: continuous
prohibeō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: prevent
prope: nearly, almost
scientia, -ae f.: knowledge, skill
singulāris, -e: unique, extraordinary
summa, -ae f.: peak, sum
trādō, -ere, tradidī, traditus: hand over
transitus, -ūs m.: crossing, passage

---

summa imperiī: *the head leadership*
Camulogenō: In a perfect instance of nominative determinism, his name means "son of Camulus," a Celtic god of war. Nothing further is known about him
Aulercō: *the Aulercan*; the Aulercī were a federation of tribes dwelling in the modern Normandy region between the Seine and the Loire
prope cōnfectus aetāte: *all but worn out by old age*
ad eum…honōrem: *for this distinction*
impedīret: the subject is *quae* (*palūs*)

[58] *Labienus crosses the Sequana, but the Gauls burn Lutetia*

1 Labiēnus prīmō vīneās agere, crātibus atque aggere palūdem explēre atque iter mūnīre cōnābātur.

---

agger, aggeris m.: dirt, rubble; mound, rampart
conor, -ārī, -ātus: attempt
crātis, -is f.: brushwood structure
expleō, -ēre, -ēvī, -ētus: fill up, fulfil
mūniō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: build, fortify
prīmō: first, at first
vīnea, -ae f.: (here) shelter

---

agere: in this case, "build" or "assemble"
vīneās: these temporary shelters were assembled to protect soldiers from projectiles while they were working on a construction job; they were made from wood or wicker and covered in hides or brush
crātibus: *crātēs* were frames of bundled brushwood, now usually called fascines, which provided a temporary flat surface on marshy ground. They distributed the weight of those walking upon them and prevented their feet from sinking into the muck. This technique dates back to Neolithic times and was still employed by armies as recently as World War II
iter mūnīre: presumably using the *vīneae* again; the legionnaires are fortifying and reinforcing the pathway through the marsh so that they can get across without being attacked by enemy projectiles on all sides

2 Postquam id difficilius cōnfierī animadvertit, silentiō ē castrīs tertiā vigiliā ēgressus eōdem quō vēnerat itinere Metiōsēdum pervēnit. 3 Id est oppidum Senonum in īnsulā Sēquanae positum, ut paulō ante dē Lutētiā dīximus.

---

animadvertō, -ere, -ī, -versus: notice
ante: before, earlier
cōnfīō, cōnfierī, cōnfectus: be arranged, accomplished
ēgredior, ēgredī, ēgressus: go out, come forth, march out
īnsula, -ae f.: island
paulō: slightly, a little
perveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: reach, arrive at
pōnō, -ere, posuī, positus: place
tertius, -a, -um: third
vigilia, -ae f.: watch, guard duty

---

difficilius: *with great difficulty*; comparative adv.
tertiā vigiliā: roughly 3:00 A.M.; a *vigilia* was one shift of guard duty in the legions, beginning at dusk; there were four *vigiliae* per night
eōdem…itenere: *by the same route, through which he had come*
Metiōsēdum: also called Meclodunum; slightly east of Paris along the Seine
Senonum: gen. plural of the tribe name *Senonēs*; see Appendix B
ut: *as* (*dīximus* is indicative)

4 Dēprēnsīs nāvibus circiter quīnquāgintā celeriterque coniūnctīs atque eō mīlitibus iniectīs et reī novitāte perterritīs oppidānīs, quōrum magna pars erat ad bellum ēvocāta, sine contentiōne oppidō potītur.

---

circiter: near; about, approximately
coniungō, -ere, -iūnxī, -iūnctus: fasten together, connect
contentiō, -ōnis f.: contest, fight
dēprehendō, -ere, -prehendī, -prehensus: catch, seize
eō: there, to that place (adv.)
ēvocō (1): call out, summon
iniciō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectus: (here) put in, put on
nāvis, -is f.: ship, boat
novitās, -tātis f.: newness, novelty
oppidānus, -ī m.: townsperson
perterreō, -ēre, -uī, -itus: terrify
potior, potīrī, potītus: obtain, take possession of, acquire (+ abl.)
quīnquāgintā: fifty

Dēprēnsīs nāvibus…coniūnctīs: *with about 50 ships seized and connected;* one abl. abs. with two participles; *dēprēnsīs* is a syncopated form of *dēprehensīs*
coniūnctīs: these ships are laid out in a row, connected end-to-end, to form the floating base of a temporary bridge
mīlitibus iniectīs: a few soldiers are put on the boat-bridge to go across to the *oppidum* to secure it so that the rest of the army might be brought across
reī novitāte: *by the strangeness of the affair*
erat ad bellum ēvocāta: *had been called to war*; many of the inhabitants were not there to defend the *oppidum* because they had been recruited into the Gallic armies



5 Refectō ponte quem superiōribus diēbus hostēs resciderant, exercitum trādūcit et secundō flūmine ad Lutētiam iter facere coepit. 6 Hostēs, rē cognitā ab eīs quī Metiōsēdō fūgerant, Lutētiam incendī pontēsque eius oppidī rescindī iubent; ipsī profectī ā palūde ad rīpās Sēquanae ē regiōne Lutētiae contrā Labiēnī castra cōnsīdunt.

---

coepī, coepisse, coeptus: begin
cōnsīdō, -ere, -sēdī, -sessus: sit down, settle; encamp; take post
fugiō, -ere, fūgī: flee, escape
incendō, -ere, -ī, -census: set on fire, burn
palūs, palūdis f.: swamp
pōns, pontis m.: bridge
proficīscor, -ī, profectus: depart
reficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: repair
rescindō, -ere, -scidī, -scissus: cut down; destroy
rīpa, -ae f.: bank
trādūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead across

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superiōribus diēbus: *on a previous day*
secundō flūmine: *downstream*, to the west, on the northern (right) bank of the river; lit. "with the river following"
rē cognitā ab eīs: *with the matters having been known by the men*
quī…fūgerant: relative clause with antecedent *eīs*
Metiōsēdō: *from Metiosedum*; the preposition *ab* is omitted before city names
incendī…resindī: *to be burned…to be cut*; passive infinitives in an indirect statement introduced by *iubent*
ē regiōne Lutētiae: *facing Lutetia*; the phrase *ē regiōne* is idiomatic for "directly opposite" and can take a dative or genitive

[59] *News from Gergovia reaches Labienus and he changes tack*

1 Iam Caesar ā Gergoviā discessisse audiēbātur, iam dē Aeduōrum dēfectiōne et secundō Galliae mōtū rūmōrēs adferēbantur; Gallīque in colloquiīs interclūsum itinere et Ligere Caesarem, inopiā frūmentī coāctum, in prōvinciam contendisse cōnfirmābant.

---

adferō, -ferre, -tulī, -latus: (here) convey, deliver
cōgō, -ere, coēgī, coāctus: (here) compel, force
confirmō (1): (here) assert
colloquium, -ī n.: conversation
contendō, -ere, -tendī, -tentus: (here) press toward, hasten to
discēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: go away
frūmentum, -ī n.: grain, crops
inopia, -ae f.: need; scarcity
interclūdō, -ere, -clūsī, -clūsus: cut off; hinder
mōtus, -ūs m.: movement; disturbance, uprising
rūmor, -ōris m.: gossip, report, common talk
secundus, -a, -um: (here) successful

---

iam…iam: *now…now*
discessisse audiēbātur: *was heard to have departed*
dē: modifies *dēfectiōne* and *secundō…mōtū*
secundō Galliae mōtū: *concerning the successful upheaval of Gaul*
interclūsum…coāctum: PPPs with *Caesarem*; these are understood (by Labienus via rumors) to be subsequent to the *iam…iam*
itinere…Ligere: *from his (intended) route and from the Loire*; ablatives of separation; understand with *interclūsum* ("cut off")
in prōvinciam: into Transalpine Gaul; see notes above at *BG* 7.55.9 and 7.56.2; this disastrous outcome did not happen, but Labienus could not know that at this point

2 Bellovacī autem dēfectiōne Aeduōrum cōgnitā, quī ante erant per sē īnfidēlēs, manūs cōgere atque apertē bellum parāre coepērunt.

---

ante: previously, before
apertē: frankly, openly
coepī, coepisse, coeptus: begin
cōgō, -ere, coēgī, coāctus: drive together, collect
īnfidēlis, -e: unfaithful, treacherous, disloyal
manus, -ūs f.: (here) group of armed men
parō (1): prepare

Bellovacī: a medium-sized Belgic tribe living north of the Seine, around modern Picardy, and therefore adjacent to the area into which Labienus is pushing
dēfectiōne…cōgnitā: an abl. abs. with circumstantial force
per sē: *by nature*
īnfidēlēs: the Bellovaci, a powerful tribe among the Belgae, had already independently considered a new uprising against Roman hegemony

3 Tum Labiēnus tantā rērum commūtātiōne longē aliud sibi capiendum cōnsilium atque anteā sēnserat intellegēbat,
4 neque iam ut aliquid adquīreret proeliōque hostēs lacēsseret, sed ut incolumem exercitum Agedincum redūceret cōgitābat.

---

adquīrō, -ere, -quīsīvī, -quīsītus: acquire; obtain
aliquis, aliquid: someone, something
anteā: before, formerly
cōgitō (1): (here) plan, intend
commūtatiō, -onis f.: change
incolumis, -e: unharmed
intellegō, -ere, -ēxī, -ēctus: understand
lacēssō, -ere, -īvī, -ītus: provoke
redūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead back
sentiō, -īre, sēnsī, sēnsus: (here) think, judge, imagine, suppose

---

tantā rērum commūtātiōne: abl. of cause
longē aliud…atque anteā sēnserat: *quite different…than what he had imagined earlier*; a use of *atque* (or its equivalent *ac*, *et*, or even more rarely *nisi*) following *alius*; in colloquial prose or in poetry, it is typically followed by an ablative of comparison instead
aliud…capiendum cōnsilium: *another…plan must be made*; pass. periphrastic in indirect statement with *intellegēbat*
neque iam ut…sed ut: *nor was he any longer planning that…but was planning (rather) that*; the verb *cōgitāre* here governs the two preceding *ut*-clauses

5 Namque alterā ex parte Bellovacī, quae cīvitās in Galliā maximam habet opīniōnem virtūtis, īnstābant; alteram Camulogenus parātō atque īnstrūctō exercitū tenēbat; tum legiōnēs ā praesidiō atque impedīmentīs interclūsās maximum flūmen distinēbat. 6 Tantīs subitō difficultātibus obiectīs ab animī virtūte auxilium petendum vidēbat.

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auxilium, -ī n.: aid, help
difficultās, -tātis f.: difficulty, trouble
distineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: separate, keep back; hinder, delay
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: army baggage
interclūdō –ere –clūsī –clūsus: hinder, block; separate
īnstō, -āre, -institī: stand upon, take position at; press, menace
īnstrūctus, -a, -um: supplied, prepared
namque: for in fact
ōbiciō, -ere, –iēci, -iectus: (here) occur; inflict
opīniō, -ōnis f.: (here) reputation

---

ex alterā parte…alteram (partem): *on one side…the other side*; a balanced construction
opīniōnem virtūtis: at *BG* 2.4.5, the Bellovaci are described as "being strong in courage, and authority, and population" (*et virtūte et auctoritāte et hominum numerō valeant*)
parātō atque īnstrūctō exercitū: *with a supplied and prepared army*
praesidiō: not "*from the protection (of Agedincum)*," which the legions did not need due to their nightly *castra*, but rather from the soldiers left there as the *praesidium*
petendum: with an implied *esse*; passive periphrastic in indirect statement after *vidēbat*
ab animī virtūte: *from the fortitude of his mind*, with *petendum*

[60] *Labienus executes a Caesarian plan of misdirection*

1 Sub vesperum cōnsiliō convocātō, cohortātus ut ea quae imperāsset dīligenter industriēque administrārent, nāvēs quās Metiōsēdō dēdūxerat singulās equitibus Rōmānīs attribuit, et prīmā cōnfectā vigiliā quattuor mīlia passuum secundō flūmine silentiō prōgredī ibique sē exspectārī iubet.

---

administrō (1): manage, execute
attribuō, -ere, -buī, -būtus: assign, give
cohortor, -ārī, -ātūs: exhort, encourage
cōnficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: finish
convocō (1): assemble, call together
dēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: (here) lead out, bring down from
dīligēns, -ntis: careful, diligent
ibi: there
eques, equitis m.: horseman
industrius, –a, –um: assiduous, active
prōgredior, -ī, -gressus: proceed
quattuor: four
singulus, -a, -um: one at a time, individual
vesper, -ī m.: evening
vigilia, -ae f.: one shift of guard duty in the Roman system; there were four *vigiliae* per night

---

Sub vesperum: *towards evening*; literally, "to (just) below evening"
equitibus Rōmānīs: here not horsemen, but rather men in the army of the *eques* social rank—tribunes of the soldiers, prefects, cavalry commanders, etc.
prīmā cōnfectā vigiliā: *with the first watch complete*; roughly three hours after sunset
quattuor mīlia passuum: *for four (Roman) miles*; literally, "for four thousands of paces"; acc. of extent of space
secundō flūmine: *downstream*; literally, "with the river following", which would be to the west; see map at 7.62.9

2 Quīnque cohortēs, quās minimē firmās ad dīmicandum esse exīstimābat, castrīs praesidiō relinquit; 3 quīnque eiusdem legiōnis reliquās dē mediā nocte cum omnibus impedīmentīs adversō flūmine magnō tumultū proficīscī imperat.

---

adversus, -a, -um: toward; opposed; against
cohors, cohortis f.: a unit of 6 *centuriae*, about 480 soldiers
dīmicō (1): fight, struggle
fīrmus, -a, -um: firm, strong
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: army baggage
medius, -a, -um: middle
proficīscor, -ī, profectus: depart
tumultus, -ūs m.: commotion
quīnque: five

---

minimē firmās ad dīmicandum: *least capable at fighting*; not as pejorative as it seems to us—these would have been the most junior troops, who were often held back in reserve behind the veteran cohorts (*BG* 1.24, for example)
castrīs praesidiō: *as a guard for the camp*; double dative construction
reliquās: *(cohortēs)*
dē mediā nocte: *at midnight*; the *dē* here is idiomatic
adversō flūmine: *upstream*; lit. "with the river against (them)", which would be back to the east towards Metiosedum
magnō tumultū: just like Caesar's ruse at Gergovia in *BG* 7.45

4 Conquīrit etiam lintrēs; hās magnō sonitū rēmōrum incitātās in eandem partem mittit. Ipse post paulō silentiō ēgressus cum tribus legiōnibus eum locum petit quō nāvēs appellī iusserat.

---

appellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsus: drive to
conquīrō, -ere, -sīvī, -sītus: collect
ēgredior, ēgredī, ēgressus: (here) land
incitō (1): set in rapid motion
linter, -tris f.: boat
paulō: slightly, by a little
rēmus, -ī m.: oar
trēs, trium: (abl. *tribus*) three
sonitus, -ūs m.: noise, sound

---

lintrēs: smaller boats than *nāvēs*; a skiff or a rowboat
in eandem partem: that is, upstream to the east with the *quīnque cohortēs*; see map at 7.62.9
post paulō: *a little later*; *post* is an adverb here, not a preposition
quō: *(to) where*



[61] *The diversion works and the legions cross the river*

1 Eō cum esset ventum, explōrātōrēs hostium, ut omnī flūminis parte erant dispositī, inopīnantēs, quod magna subitō erat coorta tempestās, ab nostrīs opprimuntur;
2 exercitus equitātusque equitibus Rōmānīs administrantibus, quōs eī negōtiō praefēcerat, celeriter trānsmittitur.

---

administrō (1): manage, execute
coorior, -īrī, coortus: arise
dispōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: arrange, set in order; distribute
eō: there, to that place (adv.)
eques, equitis m.: horseman
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
explōrātor, -ōris m.: spy, scout
inopīnāns, -ntis: not expecting, taken by surprise
negōtium, -ī n.: occupation
opprimō, -ere, -pressī, -pressus: overwhelm, press down; surprise
praeficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: put in charge of (+ dat.)
tempestās, -tātis f.: storm
trānsmittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: send across

---

esset ventum: *they had arrived*, lit. "there had been an arriving", an impersonal passive
ut…erant dispositī: *since they had been stationed at every part of the river*; the *ut* ("since") is just explaining the presence of the scouts there
inopīnantēs: modifies *explōrātōrēs*
quod…tempestās: causal; Caes. seems to be suggesting that the sudden bad weather made the *explōrātōrēs inopīnantēs*
administrantibus: pres. act. participle agreeing with *equitibus Rōmānīs*, for whom see just above, *BG* 7.60.1
quōs: antecedent is *equitibus Rōmānīs*



3 Ūnō ferē tempore sub lūcem hostibus nūntiātur in castrīs Rōmānōrum praeter cōnsuētūdinem tumultuārī et magnum īre agmen adversō flūmine sonitumque rēmōrum in eādem parte exaudīrī et paulō īnfrā mīlitēs nāvibus trānsportārī.

---

agmen, -minis n.: line of march, formation
cōnsuētūdō, -inis f.: custom, habit
exaudiō, -īre, -īvī, -ītus: perceive, discern, hear clearly
īnfrā: below (adv.)
lūx, lūcis f.: light; daylight
nāvis, -is f.: ship, boat
nūntiō (1): announce
paulō: slightly, by a little
praeter: (here) contrary to (+ acc.)
rēmus, -ī m.: oar
trānsportō (1): carry across or over
tumultuor, -ārī, -ātus: be in confusion

Ūnō ferē tempore: *at nearly the same time*
sub lūcem: *towards daybreak*; lit. "to (just) under daylight"
hostibus nūntiātur: *it is announced to the enemies (that)*; this phrase governs an indirect statement with four infinitives (*tumultuārī*, *īre*, *exaudīrī*, *trānsportārī*)
tumultuārī: *that there is confusion*; impersonal passive in indirect statement
adversō flūmine: *upstream*; lit. "with the river against (them)"; to the east
sonitumque rēmōrum: the sound of the oars would be coming from the *lintrēs* Labienus sent as part of the diversion
paulō īnfrā: that is, downstream to the west; the Gauls are hearing about activity in multiple places at once, and cannot determine where the main force is moving

4 Quibus rēbus audītīs, quod exīstimābant tribus locīs trānsīre legiōnēs atque omnēs perturbātōs dēfectiōne Aeduōrum fugam parāre, suās quoque cōpiās in trēs partēs distribuērunt. 5 Nam praesidiō ē regiōne castrōrum relictō et parvā manū Metiōsēdum versus missā quae tantum prōgrediātur quantum nāvēs prōcessissent, reliquās cōpiās contrā Labiēnum dūxērunt.

---

distribuō, -ere, -ī, -ūtus: distribute, divide
dūcō, -ere, dūxī, ductus: (here) consider
fuga, -ae f.: flight, retreat
manus, -ūs f.: (here) a group of armed men
perturbō (1): confuse, be in disorder
prōcēdō, -ere, -cessī, -cessus: advance
prōgredior, -ī, -gressus: advance, proceed
quoque: also
transeō, -īre, -īvī, -itus: go across, cross over
trēs, trium: (abl. *tribus*) three
versus: toward (+ acc.)

---

quod exīstimābant: *because they judged*; causal *quod*-clause; the subject is the Aedui
trānsīre…parāre: ind. statement with subject *legiōnēs* after *exīstimābant*
omnēs perturbātōs: *all, in disorder*; the *omnēs* here refers to the Romans
trēs partēs: see map at 7.62.9
ē regiōne: *opposite/facing the camp*; the phrase *ē regiōne* is an idiom for "opposite/facing;" it can take a dative or a genitive (as here, *castrōrum*)
Metiōsēdum versus: *toward Mediosedum*; the preposition *versus* follows the noun that it governs
quae…prōgrediātur: *who might proceed*; rel. clause of characteristic
tantum…quantum: *only as far as*; a correlative construction
nāvēs: Caes. means the *lintrēs*, which were detected to the east, upriver

[62] *Victorious in battle, the legions withdraw to Agedincum*

1 Prīmā lūce et nostrī omnēs erant trānsportātī et hostium aciēs cernēbātur. 2 Labiēnus mīlitēs cohortātus ut suae prīstinae virtūtis et secundissimōrum proeliōrum retinērent memoriam atque ipsum Caesarem, cuius ductū saepenumerō hostēs superāssent, praesentem adesse exīstimārent, dat signum proelī.

---

aciēs, -eī f.: edge; line of battle
adsum, -esse, -fuī, -futūrus: be present
cernō, -ere, crēvī, crētus: distinguish, discern
cohortor, -ārī, -ātus: exhort, encourage
ductus, -ūs m.: leadership, command
lūx, lūcis f.: light; daylight
memoria, -ae f.: memory
praesēns, -ntis: in person
prīstinus, -a, -um: former
retineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) keep possession of, hold fast to
saepenumerō: again and again
secundus, -a, -um: favorable
signum, -ī n.: signal, sign
superō (1): overcome
trānsportō (1): take across, transport

---

prīmā lūce: *at daybreak*; lit. "at first light"
et…et: *both…and*
nostrī omnēs: *all our (men)*; the *nostrī* here is substantive
erant trānsportātī: pluperfect passive
ipsum Caesarem…adesse exīstimārent: *that they consider Caesar himself to be present*
hostēs superāssent: *they (the soldiers) had overcome the enemy*; *hostēs* here is acc.

3 Prīmō concursū ab dextrō cornū, ubi septima legiō cōnstiterat, hostēs pelluntur atque in fugam coniciuntur; 4 ab sinistrō, quem locum duodecima legiō tenēbat, cum prīmī ōrdinēs hostium trānsfīxī pīlīs concidissent, tamen ācerrimē reliquī resistēbant, nec dabat suspīciōnem fugae quisquam.

ācer, ācris, ācre: sharp; fierce
concidō, -ere, -ī: fall dead, be slain
concursus, -ūs m.: assault
cōniciō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectus: throw
cōnsistō, -ere, -stitī, -stitus: take position; halt
cornū, -ūs n.: wing of army; horn
duodecimus, -a, -um: twelfth
fuga, -ae f.: flight, retreat
ōrdō, -dinis m.: rank, troop
pellō, -ere, pepulī, pulsus: drive (off), strike
pīlum, -ī n.: a Roman javelin
prīmō: first, at first (adv.)
quisquam, quidquam: anyone, anything
resistō, -ere, -stitī: (here) oppose
septimus, -a, -um: seventh
sinister, -tra, -trum: left
suspīciō, -ōnis f.: suggestion, idea
trānsfigō, -ere, -fīxī, -fīxus: pierce through

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ab dextrō cornū: *on the right wing*, or the right side of the Roman formation from the perspective of the commander; see map at 7.62.9
ubi: *where*
septima legiō: one of four veteran legions brought to Gaul by Caes. in 58 BCE from Hispania (see 7.47.1 note)
ab sinistrō: *on the left wing*
duodecima legiō: recruited by Caes. in 58 BCE (along with the eleventh) to supplement his forces against the Helvetii; though green recruits then, the twelfth were now hardened veterans of seven years of fighting in Gaul
trānsfīxī pīlīs: the legions typically waited until the charging bulk of the enemy were in range, then hurled their javelins *en masse*, to devastating effect

5 Ipse dux hostium Camulogenus suīs aderat atque eōs cohortābātur. 6 Incertō nunc etiam exitū victōriae, cum septimae legiōnis tribūnīs esset nūntiātum quae in sinistrō cornū gererentur, post tergum hostium legiōnem ostendērunt signaque intulērunt.

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adsum, -esse, -fuī, -futūrus: be present
cohortor, -ārī, -ātus: exhort, encourage
exitus, -ūs m.: end; outcome
incertus, -a, -um: uncertain, undetermined
īnferō, -ferre, -tulī, -lātus: bring upon/against, carry
nūntiō (1): announce; give orders, carry commands
ostendō, -ere, -tendī, -tentus: show, exhibit
post: after, behind (+ acc.)
tergum, -ī n.: back, back part

Ipse dux: modifies Camulogenus; subject
suīs: *for his men*
esset nūntiātum: *there was an announcement*; impersonal passive
quae…gerentur: *what things were happening on the left wing*
post tergum hostium: the seventh legion breaks off from pursuing their routed opponents on the right flank and wheels around across the line of formation towards the back of the enemy still engaged with the twelfth legion on the left flank (see map)
legiōnem ostendērunt: *they showed/stretched out the legion*; that is, the tribunes moved the legion around and turned it to face the back of the Gauls
signaque intulērunt: *they brought forward the standards*; that is, they attacked

7 Nē eō quidem tempore quisquam locō cessit, sed circumventī omnēs interfectīque sunt. 8 Eandem fortūnam tulit Camulogenus. At eī quī praesidiō contrā castra Labiēnī erant relictī, cum proelium commissum audīssent, subsidiō suīs iērunt collemque cēpērunt, neque nostrōrum mīlitum victōrum impetum sustinēre potuērunt. 9 Sīc cum suīs fugientibus permixtī, quōs nōn silvae montēsque tēxērunt ab equitātū sunt interfectī.

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cēdō, -ere, cessī, cessus: go; yield
circumveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: surround
collis, -is m.: hill
committō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: join, unite; enter upon
equitātus, -ūs m.: cavalry
impetus, -ūs m.: attack, assault
permisceō, -ēre, -miscuī, -mixtus: mix completely
quisquam, quidquam: anyone, anything
subsidium, -iī n.: aid
sustineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentus: (here) endure, withstand
tegō, -ere, tēxī, tēctus: conceal

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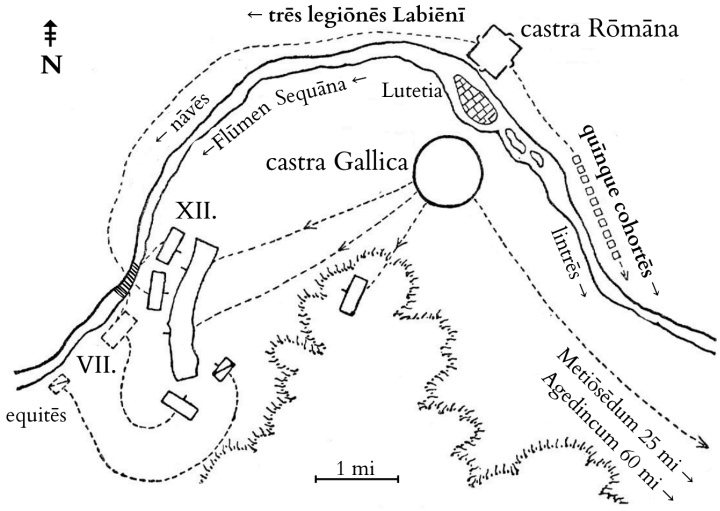
nē…cessit: *not even at that time did any (Gaul) move from their spot*
Eandem fortūnam tulit: *met the same fate*
praesidiō: *as a guard force*; dative of purpose
audīssent: audīvissent; syncopation
subidiō suīs: *as support for their men*; double dative construction
neque…potuērunt: *but were not able*; here *neque* has adversative force
victōrum: *victorious*; the noun *victor* in apposition behaves as an English adjective

10 Hōc negōtiō cōnfectō Labiēnus revertitur Agedincum, ubi impedīmenta tōtīus exercitūs relicta erant; inde cum omnibus cōpiīs ad Caesarem pervēnit.

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cōnficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectus: finish
impedīmenta, -ōrum n.: army baggage
inde: from there
negōtium, -iī n.: (here) affair
perveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventus: reach, arrive at
revertor, -ī, -versus: return

Agedincum: *to Agedincum*
ad Caesarem pervēnit: though he does not specify, Caes. was likely now in the territory of the Lingones, east of the territory of the Senones and north of Aeduan territory around Bibracte; the ten total legions were now reunited



The Battle of Lutetia, adapted from T.A. Dodge 1900

APPENDIX A

Supplemental Sentence Diagrams

7.31.4

simul, ut dēminūtae cōpiae redintegrārentur, imperat certum numerum mīlitum cīvitātibus, quem et quam ante diem in castra addūcī velit, sagittāriōsque omnēs, quōrum erat permagnus numerus in Galliā, conquīrī et ad sē mittī iubet.

ut cōpiae redintegrārentur

[Verc.] (1) imperat (a) numerum mīlitum

(b) quem [numerum] et ante quam diem velit

(2) iubet sagittāriōs omnēs conquīrī et mittī

quōrum erat permagnus numerus

7.32.2

Iam prope hieme cōnfectā cum ipsō annī tempore ad gerendum bellum vocārētur et ad hostem proficīscī cōnstituisset, sīve eum ex palūdibus silvīsque ēlicere sīve obsidiōne premere posset, lēgātī ad eum prīncipēs Aeduōrum veniunt ōrātum ut maximē necessāriō tempore cīvitātī subveniat[.]

hieme cōnfectā, cum [Caes.] (1) ad gerendum bellum vocārētur

(2) et proficīscī cōnsituisset

lēgātī prīncipēs Aeduōrum veniunt

ōrātum ut [Caes.] subveniat

7.33.1–2

Caesar, etsī ā bellō atque hoste discēdere dētrīmentōsum esse exīstimābat, tamen nōn īgnōrāns quanta ex dissēnsiōnibus incommoda orīrī cōnsuēssent, nē tanta et tam coniūncta populō Rōmānō cīvitās, quam ipse semper aluisset omnibusque rēbus ōrnāsset, ad vim atque arma dēscenderet, atque ea pars quae minus sibi cōnfīderet auxilia ā Vercingetorīge arcesseret, huic reī praevertendum exīstimāvit et, quod lēgibus Aeduōrum eīs quī summum magistrātum obtinērent excēdere ex fīnibus nōn licēret, nē quid dē iūre aut dē lēgibus eōrum dēminuisse vidērētur, ipse in Aeduōs proficīscī statuit senātumque omnem et quōs inter contrōversia esset ad sē Decetiam ēvocāvit.

etsī exīstimābat discēdere esse dētrīmentōsum

Caesar tamen

nōn īgnōrāns quanta incommoda orīrī cōnsuēssent

(1) exīstimāvit (that) praevertendum [esse]

nē (a) dēscenderet cīvitās (quam ipse aluisset (et) ōrnāsset)

(b) arcesseret ea pars (quae minus cōnfīderet)

(2) et ipse proficīscī statuit

quod nōn licēret ex fīnibus excēdere eīs

quī obtinērent

nē vidērētur [ali]quid dēminuisse

(3) (et) senātum et ēvocāvit ad sē [eōs]

quōs inter contrōversia esset

7.34.1

Hōc dēcrētō interpositō cohortātus Aeduōs ut contrōversiārum ac dissēnsiōnis oblīvīscerentur atque omnibus omissīs hīs rēbus huic bellō servīrent eaque quae meruissent praemia ab sē dēvictā Galliā exspectārent equitātumque omnem et peditum mīlia decem sibi celeriter mitterent, quae in praesidiīs reī frūmentāriae causā dispōneret, exercitum in duās partēs dīvīsit[.]

dēcrētō interpositō

[Caes.] exercitum in duās partēs dīvīsit

cohortātus Aeduōs

ut (a) contrōversiārum ac dissēnsiōnis oblīvīscerentur

(b) omnibus rēbus omissīs, bellō servīrent

(c) dēvictā Galliā, ea praemia exspectārent

quae ab sē meruissent

(d) mīlia decem peditum et omnem equitātum mitterent

quae in praesidiīs [Caes.] dispōneret

7.36.1

Caesar ex eō locō quīntīs castrīs Gergoviam pervēnit equestrīque eō diē proeliō levī factō perspectō urbis sitū, quae posita in altissimō monte omnēs aditūs difficilēs habēbat, dē expugnātiōne dēspērāvit, dē obsessiōne nōn prius agendum cōnstituit quam rem frūmentāriam expedīsset.

Caesar, quīntīs castrīs,

(a) Gergoviam pervēnit

(et) (b) dē expugnātiōne dēspērāvit

proeliō levī equestrī factō

urbis sitū perspectō

quae aditūs difficilēs habēbat

(c) dē obsessiōne cōnstituit nōn agendum [esse]

prius quam rem frūmentāriam expedīsset

7.45.2

Prīmā lūce magnum numerum impedīmentōrum ex castrīs mūlōrumque prōdūcī dēque hīs strāmenta dētrahī mūliōnēsque cum cassidibus equitum speciē ac simulātiōne collibus circumvehī iubet.

[Caes.] iubet (1) numerum impedīmentōrum prōdūcī

(2a) dē hīs strāmenta dētrahī

(2b) mūliōnēs cum cassidibus circumvehī

7.45.7

Vacua castra hostium Caesar cōnspicātus tēctīs īnsignibus suōrum occultātīsque signīs mīlitāribus rārōs mīlitēs, nē ex oppidō animadverterentur, ex maiōribus castrīs in minōra trādūcit, lēgātīsque, quōs singulīs legiōnibus praefēcerat, quid fierī velit ostendit

cōnspicātus vacua castra hostium

Caesar (1) mīlitēs trādūcit

tēctīs īnsignibus (et) occultātīs signīs

nē ex oppidō animadverterentur

(2) lēgātīs ostendit quid fierī velit

quōs singulīs legiōnibus praefēcerat

7.55.4

Eō cum Eporedorix Viridomarusque vēnissent et dē statū cīvitātis cognōvissent—Litaviccum Bibracte ab Aeduīs receptum, quod est oppidum apud eōs maximae auctōritātis, Convictolitavem magistrātum magnamque partem senātūs ad eum convēnisse, lēgātōs ad Vercingetorigem dē pāce et amīcitiā conciliandā pūblicē missōs—nōn praetermittendum tantum commodum exīstimāvērunt.

(Eporedorix Viridomarusque) exīstimāvērunt

(that) commodum nōn praetermittendum [esse]

cum Eporedorix Viridomarusque

(1) eō vēnissent

(2) de statū cīvitātis cognōvissent

(a) (that) Bibracte Litaviccum receptum [esse]

quod est oppidum maximae auctōritātis

(b) (that) Convict. (et) senat[um] ad eum convēnisse

(c) (that) lēgātōs ad Verc. missōs [esse]

7.55.9

Ipsī ex fīnitimīs regiōnibus cōpiās cōgere, praesidia cūstōdiāsque ad rīpās Ligeris dispōnere equitātumque omnibus locīs iniciendī timōris causā ostentāre coepērunt, sī ab rē frūmentāriā Rōmānōs exclūdere aut adductōs inopiā in prōvinciam expellere possent.

Ipsī coepērunt

(1) ex fīnitimīs regiōnibus cōpiās cōgere

(2) praesidia cūstōdiāsque ad rīpās Ligeris dispōnere

(3) equitātum ostentāre

iniciendī timōris causā

sī (ipsī) possent

(a) ab rē frūmentāriā Rōmānōs exclūdere

(b) aut (Rōmānōs) adductōs inopiā expellere

7.56.3–5

Itaque admodum magnīs diurnīs nocturnīsque itineribus cōnfectīs contrā omnium opīniōnem ad Ligerem vēnit vadōque per equitēs inventō prō reī necessitāte opportūnō, ut brāchia modo atque umerī ad sustinenda arma līberī ab aquā esse possent, dispositō equitātū quī vim flūminis refringeret, atque hostibus prīmō aspectū perturbātīs, incolumem exercitum trādūxit frūmentumque in agrīs et pecoris cōpiam nactus replētō hīs rēbus exercitū iter in Senōnēs facere īnstituit.

magnīs diurnīs nocturnīsque itineribus cōnfectīs

[Caes.] (1) ad Ligerem contrā omnium opinionem vēnit

(2) incolumem exercitum trādūxit

(a) vadō opportunō per equitēs inventō

ut brāchia atque umerī līberī esse possent

ad sustinenda arma

(b) equitātū dispositō

quī vim flūminis refringeret

(c) hostibus prīmō aspectū perturbātīs

(3) iter in Senōnēs facere īnstituit

APPENDIX B
Proper Nouns in the Text

Aeduī (-ōrum): A powerful tribe situated in modern Burgundy, between the Saône and Loire rivers. They were reluctant allies of the Romans throughout the first six years of the war. Caesar sometimes used their chief *oppidum* (Bibracte, at Mont Beuvray) as a central depot and fortress. The question of Aeduan loyalty to Caesar and the Romans in Gaul plays a major role in the events of this volume, *BG* 7.29-62. The important Aeduan figures mentioned by Caesar in *BG* VII are Convictolitavis, Cotus, Litaviccus, Eporedorix, and Viridomarus.

Agedincum (-ī): The chief oppidum of the Senones, in the vicinity of modern Sens on the Yonne river.

Avaricum (-ī): The chief *oppidum* of the Bituriges, near Bourges. The town is a focal point in the first 28 chapters of *BG* book VII.

Arvernī (-ōrum): A powerful tribe situated in the modern Auvergne region. In the 3rd and 2nd centuries BCE they had enjoyed a hegemony over Gaul from the Atlantic to the Rhine, but were defeated by the Romans in 121 BCE, after which their influence was reduced. By the time of the events of the Gallic War, there were two main *factiōnēs* in Gaul: the Aedui were the unofficial leaders of one, and the Arverni the other (*BG* 1.31). Their chief *oppidum* was Gergovia, near modern Clermont-Ferrand, and Vercingetorix was their most famous member.

Aquitania (-ae): A region of southwestern Gaul, from the slopes of the Pyrannees mountains in the south to the Loire river in the north. The major Gallic tribes of the region included the Arverni, Bituriges, Cadurci, Nitiobriges, and Ruteni.

Bellovacī (-ōrum): A Belgic tribe whose territory straddled the main routes between the Seine and Somme valleys, in the Picardy region near modern Beauvais.

Biturigēs (-um): A tribe of central Gaul, whose chief *oppidum* was Avaricum.

Convictolitavis (-is): A young Aeduan nobleman who was seeking to become magistrate of the Aedui. He was involved in a dispute over the position with Cotus, and was chosen by Caesar to take the role. He later acted to support Vercingetorix in the Gallic uprising.

Cotus (-ī): A young Aeduan nobleman who was seeking to become magistrate of the Aedui. He was involved in a dispute over the position with Convictolitavis, whose bid Caesar supported over that of Cotus. His brother was Valetiacus, the Aeduan magistrate of the previous year.

Elaver (-eris): The Allier river, which flows generally north from the Massif Central to join the Loire west of Nevers (Noviodunum).

Eporedorix (-ēgis): A promising young Aeduan nobleman and cavalry commander, whose actions feature prominently in this volume.

Fabius, Gāius: Tribune of the plebs in 55 BCE, and one of Caesar's legates from 54 to 49.

Gauls: A group of Celtic-speaking peoples of western and central Europe. The Gauls of Caesar's time were in their *La Tène* cultural epoch, which began about 450 BCE and stretched over what is now France, Belgium, and Switzerland. The boundaries of the territory were approximately defined by the Roman province of *Gallia Trānsalpīna* in the south (modern Provence) and the Rhine river in the northeast. The *La Tène* Gallic tribes were increasingly urbanized by the middle of the 1st century BCE, and many had established one or more *oppida* within their territories. The Gauls had a long history of contact with the Romans. In the 4th century BCE Gallic tribes crossed the Alps and settled the rich farmlands of the Po river in northern Italy, and in 390 BCE they sacked Rome (see *Senonēs*). Gallic forces fought with the Carthiginians against Rome in the Punic Wars, most notably with Hannibal's army at Cannae. Roman intervention in Gallic territory intensified in the mid to late 2nd century BCE, resulting in the successive defeats of the Arverni and the Allobroges and the creation of the Roman province stretching from the maritime Alps to the Pyrannees via the city of Narbo. Caesar's arrival in 58 and the events of his subsequent campaigns led to the ultimate incorporation of Gaul as a Roman province.

Gergovia (-ae): The chief *oppidum* of the Arverni, near modern Clermont-Ferrand.

Labiēnus, Titus: Caesar's most trusted legate throughout the Gallic campaigns, and frequently mentioned in *BG*. He was born about 100 BCE, possibly in Cingulum (in Picenum, northern Italy), to a family of equestrian rank. He was tribune of the plebs in 63, the year of Cicero's consulship. He first met Caesar during this time, cooperating with him as he worked under Pompey. Throughout the Gallic wars, he commanded the winter quarters in Vesontio in 58 BC, led the 9th and 10th legions

in the Belgian campaign, defeated the Treveri, and won the Battle of Lutetia. As leader, he gained the reputation of a skilled cavalry commander and expert tactician. After having success in the Gallic campaigns, Caesar made him the governor of Cisalpine Gaul in 51 BC. After the Gallic wars, Labienus would eventually defect from Caesar and join Pompey for the Civil War. After the death of Pompey, he traveled to Africa, and was eventually killed in the Battle of Munda while fighting against Caesar's army.

Liger (-eris): The modern Loire river, originating in the mountains of the Massif Central in the territory of the Helvii. It flows north into Central Gaul between the lands of the Arverni and Aedui, then turns west through the territory of the Carnutes and Andes, reaching the Atlantic at Condevincum (modern Nantes), an *oppidum* of the Namnetes.

Litaviccus (-ī): An Aeduan nobleman whose actions play a major part in the wavering loyalties of the Aedui. He was the commander of the 10,000 Aeduan auxiliary soldiers who accompanied the legions to Gergovia. He and his brothers joined Vercingetorix in the Gallic uprising and acted to foment rebellion among the Aedui against Roman interests. An Aeduan coin on the cover of this volume depicts him.

Lutētia (-ae): An *oppidum* of the Parisii on an island in the Seine river, either the Île de la Cité or at nearby Nanterre.

Nitiobrigēs (-um): A Gallic tribe of southwestern Gaul, near the Garonne river near modern Agen. Their king at the time of Gergovia was Teutomatus.

Parisiī (-ōrum): a tribe of Central Gaul, located on the Seine river near modern Paris. Their chief *oppidum* was Lutetia.

Senonēs (-um): A tribe of central Gaul. A group bearing the same name, probably related, had led the invasion of Italy and defeated the Romans at the battle of the Allia in 390 BCE, after which they sacked Rome. They then settled in northern Italy and remained there until ousted by the Romans in 283. It is not known what became of them in the centuries after this. By the time of Caesar's *Gallic War*, the tribe he calls the Senones are dwelling in the Seine basin south and east of modern Paris. These Senones had a long history of resistance to Caesar, and had most recently incurred his wrath back in the spring of 53. Their chief *oppida* were Agedincum (modern Sens) and Vellaunodunum.

Sextius, Titus: A lieutenant (*lēgātus*) under Caesar in Gaul from 53 to 50 BCE. Nothing is known about him prior to Caesar's first mention of him at the start of *BG* book VI, where he is conducting levies for the army as legate. He is not mentioned in the Civil War accounts, but went to govern *Africa Nova* in 44 and would subsequently support M. Antonius.

Vercingetorīx (-īgis): A nobleman of the Arverni and the leader of the Gallic movement of 52 BCE. He is Caesar's chief adversary in the seventh book of *Gallic War*.

Viridomarus (-ī): A promising young Aeduan youth, though not from a prominent family like his compatriot Eporedorix. The Aeduan druid Diviciacus had entrusted Viridomarus to Caesar for tutelage, and Caesar had supported his rise in influence (*BG* 7.39.1).



GLOSSARY

This list contains: (1) the 250 most commonly occurring words in Latin, drawn from the Dickinson College Commentaries Latin Core Vocabulary, which also appear in the text of this book; (2) other words which appear frequently in the text

ā/ab: away from; by (+ abl.)
ac: and; (after comparatives) than; *simul ac*, as
accidō, accidere, accidī: fall; happen, occur, take place (frequently impersonal)
accipiō, accipere, accēpī, acceptus: receive, get; take
ad: to, up to, towards (+ acc.)
addūcō, addūcere, addūxī, adductus: bring/lead to; induce, persuade, incite
adulēscēns, adulēscentis: young; (as substantive) young person
Aeduus, Aedua, Aeduum: of or from the Aedui
aequus, aequa, aequum: even; equal; reasonable
agō, agere, ēgī, āctus: drive, lead; do; act
aliquis, aliquid: someone, something
aliquī, aliqua, aliquod: some, any
alius, alia, aliud: some, other; another
alter, altera, alterum: other (of two)
altus, alta, altum: high; deep
an: or, whether, if
animadvertō, -ere, -vertī, -versus: notice, observe, discern
animus, animī m.: soul, spirit, mind; (in pl.) high spirits, courage
annus, annī m.: year
ante: before, in front of (adv. and prep. + acc.)
appellō, appellāre, appellāvī, appellātus: speak to, call upon; name
apud: near, in the presence of (+ acc.)
arma, armōrum n. pl.: arms, weapons
Arvernus, Arverna, Arnevum: of the Arverni
at: but, but indeed
atque: and; (after comparatives) than; *simul atque*, as

auctōritās, auctōritātis f.: authority
audiō, audīre, audīvī, audītus: hear, listen to
augeō, augēre, auxī, auctus: increase
aut: or; *aut … aut*: either ... or
autem: however; moreover, but
bellum, bellī n.: war
bene: well
beneficium, beneficiī n.: service, kindness
bonum, bonī n.: good thing; (in pl.) goods
bonus, bona, bonum: good
caedēs, caedis f.: killing, slaughter
capiō, capere, cēpī, captus: take, seize
castra, castrōrum n. pl.: camp
causa, causae f.: cause, reason; *causā* + preceding genitive, for the sake of
celeriter, celerius, celerrime: swiftly (adv.)
centuriō, centuriōnis m.: centurion
cīvitās, cīvitātis f.: (in Caes.) a tribe, community; (elsewhere) state, citizenship
coepī, coepisse, coeptus sum: begin
cōgitō, cōgitāre, cōgitāvī, cōgitātus: think about; learn, understand, inquire
cōgō, cogere, coēgī, coāctus: drive together, collect; compel, urge
cohors, cohortis f.: cohort: a unit of 6 *centuriae*, about 480 soldiers
cohortor, cohortārī, cohortātus sum: exhort, encourage
collis, collis m.: hill
concilium, conciliī n.: council, group of advisors
cōnficiō, cōnficere, cōnfēcī, cōnfectus: finish; prepare; diminish
cōnfirmō, cōnfirmāre, cōnfirmāvī, cōnfirmātus: strengthen; assert
coniungō, coniungere, coniūnxī, coniūnctus: join together, unite; gather
cōnor, cōnārī, cōnātus sum: try, attempt
cōnsilium, cōnsiliī n.: plan
cōnsistō, cōnsistere, cōnstitī, cōnstitus: take position; halt
cōnstituō, cōnstituere, cōnstituī, cōnstitūtus: establish; decide
cōnsuēscō, cōnsuescere, cōnsuēvī, cōnsuētus: accustom; be accustomed to
contentiō, contentiōnis f.: contest, fight, struggle; exertion, effort; tension

contrā: against, opposite (adv. and prep. + acc.)
contrōversia, contrōversiae f.: dispute
conveniō, convenīre, convēnī, conventus: assemble, gather
convocō, convocāre, convocāvī, convocātus: summon, call together
cōpia, cōpiae f.: abundance; (in pl.) troops, forces
corpus, corporis n.: body
creō, creāre, creāvī, creātus: create; elect
cum: with (prep. + abl.); when, since, although (conjunction + subj.)
cūrō, cūrāre, cūrāvī, cūrātus: care for, attend to
dē: about; concerning; down from (+ abl)
decem: 10
decimus, decima, decimum: 10th
dēfectiō, dēfectiōnis f.: defection, rebellion
dēmōnstrō, dēmōnstrāre, dēmōnstrāvī, dēmōnstrātus: indicate, show
dexter, dextra, dextrum: right, on the right side
dīcō, dīcere, dīxī, dictus: say, name, designate
diēs, diēī, m./f.: day
dīripiō, dīripere, dīripuī, dīreptus: tear apart, tear off; snatch
discēdō, discēdere, discessī, discessum: depart, go away; abandon
dispōnō, dispōnere, disposuī, dispositus: arrange, set in order; distribute
dō, dare, dedī, datus: give
dolor, dolōris m.: pain, grief
domus, domī/domūs f.: house, home
dūcō, dūcere, dūxī, ductus: lead; consider
dum: while (+ indic.); until (+ subj.); provided that (+ subj.)
duo, duae, duo: two
dux, ducis m./f.: leader, general
ē/ex: out of, from (+ abl.)
ēdūcō, ēdūcere, ēdūxī, ēductus: lead forth; draw out
efficiō, efficere, effēcī, effectus: carry out, accomplish, bring about
ego, meī, mihi, mē: I, me
enim: in fact, for, indeed
eō, īre, iī/īvī, itus: go

eō: there, to that place (adv.)
eques, equitis m.: horseman
equitātus, equitātūs m.: cavalry
equus, equī m.: horse
etiam: also; even
ēvocō, ēvocāre, ēvocāvī, ēvocātus: call out, summon
exercitus, exercitūs m.: army
exīstimō (1): consider, think, judge; value, reckon, esteem
expōnō, expōnere, exposuī, expositus: put out, set forth, expose, exhibit
exspectō, exspectāre, exspectāvī, exspectātus: wait for, anticipate
faciō, facere, fēcī, factus: do, make, accomplish
familia, familiae f.: household, family
ferē: almost, about, approximately
ferō, ferre, tulī, lātus: bear, carry, support, endure
fidēs, fideī f.: trust, faith; assurance
fīnis, fīnis m.: end, stop; border, limit, bound
fiō, fierī, factus sum: become, happen, be done
flūmen, flūminis n.: river
fortūna, fortūnae f.: fate, fortune
frāter, frātris m.: brother
frūmentum frūmentī, n.: grain; crops
fuga, fugae f.: flight, escape
fugiō, fugere, fūgī, fugitus: flee, escape
Gallia, Galliae f.: Gaul
Gallus, Galla, Gallum: pertaining to Gaul; Gallic
gēns, gentis f.: family, clan
genus, generis n.: origin, lineage, kind
gerō, gerere, gessī, gestus: carry; manage, conduct, perform; wage
gravis, grave: heavy, serious
habeō, habēre, habuī, habitus: have, hold; consider
hic, haec, hoc: this, these
hīc: here (adv.); *hinc*: from here
homō, hominis m.: human being, man

hostis, hostis m./f.: (public) enemy
iam: now; already
ibi: there; then
īdem, eadem, idem: same
ille, illa, illud: that
impedīmenta, impedīmentōrum n.: army baggage
impediō, impedīre, impedīvī/impediī, impedītus: hinder, delay
imperium, imperiī n.: command, power
imperō, imperāre, imperāvī, imperātus: command, control
in: in, on (+ abl); into, onto (+ acc)
incommodum, incommodī n.: inconvenience, misfortune, detriment
inīquitās, inīquitātis f.: injustice, mischief
inquam, inquis, inquit, inquiunt: say (used with direct speech)
īnstituō, īnstituere, īnstituī, īnstitūtus: undertake; decide
inter: between, among; during (+ acc.)
interficiō, interficere, interfēcī, interfectus: kill
ipse, ipsa, ipsum: himself, herself, itself (intensive)
is, ea, id: he, she, it
ita: in this way, so, thus, so
itaque: and so, therefore
iter, itineris n.: journey, route; a march (military)
iubeō, iubēre, iussī, iussus: order, command
labor, labōris m.: work, toil, exertion
lēgātus, lēgātī m.: lieutenant; envoy
legiō, legiōnis f.: legion
levis, leve: light, trivial
lēx, lēgis, f.: law
līber, lībera, līberum: free; līberī (m. pl.): children
licet, licēre, licuit, licitus est: it is permitted (+ dat. + infin.)
Liger, Ligeris m.: the Loire (river)
locus, locī m. (loca, locōrum, n. pl.): place, region; *loca* (n. pl.) region
longus, longa, longum: long, far
lūx, lūcis f.: light; daylight

magis: more
magistrātus, magistrātūs m.: office (position of civic authority); officer
magnus, magna, mangum: great
maior, maius (comp. adj.): larger, better, older
manus, manūs f.: hand; band of men
māter, mātris f.: mother
maximē: especially, exceedingly
medius, media, medium: middle, in the middle, in half, central
metus, metūs m.: fear, dread, anxiety
meus, mea, meum: my, mine
mīles, mīlitis m.: soldier
mīlle, pl. mīlia: a thousand
mittō, mittere, mīsī, missus: send; release, let go
modo: even; only, just now, just
mōns, montis m.: mountain
mors, mortis f.: death
mōs, mōris m.: custom, habit; (pl.) character
moveō, movēre, mōvī, mōtus: move
multitūdō, multitūdinis f.: multitude, number
multus, multa, multum: much, many; *multō*, by far
mūniō, mūnīre, mūnīvī, mūnītus: build, fortify
mūnītiō, muniōnis f.: fortification, intrenchment; defense
mūrus, mūrī m.: wall
nam: for, indeed, really
namque: for in fact, indeed, really
nāscor, nascī, nātus: be born, come into being
nātūra, nātūrae f.: character, quality, nature
nāvis, nāvis f.: ship
nē: not; that ... not; that, lest, that not; *nē…quidem* not…even
nec: nor; and not; *nec…nec*: neither...nor
nēmō, nēminis m.: no one
neque: and not, nor; *neque…neque*: neither...nor
nihil (indecl.) n.: nothing; not at all

nōn: not
nōs: we; (gen.) *nostrum/nostrī*, (dat./abl.) *nōbīs*, (acc.) *nōs*
noster, nostra, nostrum: our, ours
nox, noctis f.: night
nūllus, nūlla, nūllum: not any, no one
numerus, numerī m.: number, amount
nunc: now
nūntius, nūntiī n.: messenger, or the news brought
obtineō, obtinēre, obtinuī, obtentus: possess, occupy; acquire, bring to pass
omnis, omne: all, every
oppidum, oppidī n.: town
ōrātiō, ōrātiōnis f.: oration, speech
palūs, palūdis f.: swamp
parō, parāre, parāvī, parātus: prepare, acquire
pars, partis f.: part, portion
parum: too little; (comp.) *minus*, (superl.) *minimē*
parvus, parva, parvum: small; (comp.) *minor, minus*, (superl.) *minimus, -a, -um*
passus, passūs m.: pace, footstep; *milia passuum*: a Roman mile
pater, patris m.: father, ancestor
patior, patī, passus sum: permit; endure
paulō / paulum: slightly, a little
pectus, pectoris n.: chest, breast; heart
per: through (+ acc.)
perspiciō, perspicere, perspexī, perspectus: examine; see through; discern
perveniō, pervenīre, pervēnī, perventus: reach, arrive at
pēs, pedis m.: foot; (pl.) foot soldier, infantry
petō, petere, petiī/petīvī, petītus: seek, go towards, aim at
poena, poenae f.: punishment, penalty
pōnō, pōnere, posuī, positus: place, place; put aside
pōns, pontis m.: bridge
populus, populī m.: people, nation
porta, portae f: gate

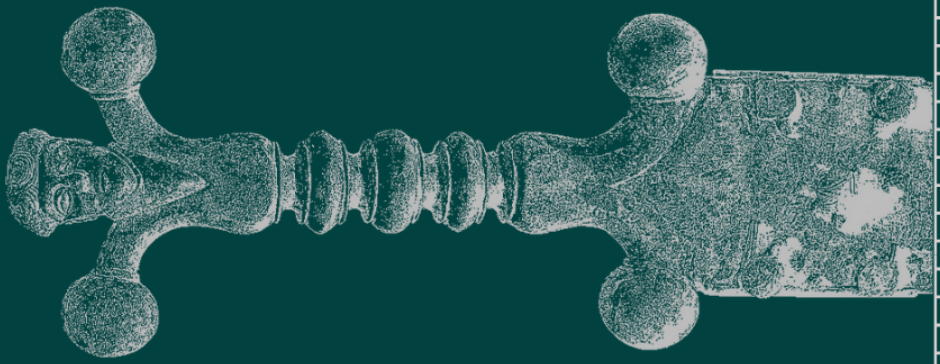
possum, posse, potuī: be able
post: after (adv. and prep. +acc.)
posterus, postera, posterum: next
praemium, praemiī n.: reward; loot, plunder
praesidium, praesidiī n.: protection; guard, fortification
premō, premere, pressī, pressus: press; pursue, overwhelm
prīmus, prima, primum: first (adj.); *prīmō*/*prīmum* first (adv.)
prīnceps, prīncipis: foremost, leading; (as subst.) chief
priusquam or prius quam: before
prō: on behalf of, instead of, in accordance with, in proportion to (+ abl.)
proelium, proeliī n.: battle
proficīscor, proficīscī, profectus sum: set out, depart
prōgredior, progredī, prgressus sum: go forward, advance, proceed
prohibeō, prohibēre, prohibuī, prohibitus: prevent
prope: nearly, almost, about (adv.); near to, next to (prep. + acc.)
propter: because of (+ acc.)
prōvincia, prōvincae f.: province
proximus, proxima, proximum: nearest
pugnō, pugnāre, pugnāvī, pugnātus: fight
quaerō, quaerere, quaesīvī, quaesītus: seek, require
quam: how?; (after comparative) that; as
quantus, quanta, quantum: how much, how great
quattuor: four
-que: and (postpositive enclitic)
quī, quae, quod: who, which, what
quīdam, quaedam, quoddam: a certain, a particular, someone
quidem: certainly, at least
quīn: that not, without; introduces clauses of doubting and prevention
quīnque: five
quis, quid: who? what? which?
quis, quid (after sī nisī ne or num): anyone/thing, someone/thing
quisquam, quicquam: someone, anyone, each one, everyone

quisque, quidque: each, every
quisquis, quidquid: whoever, whichever
quod: because
quoque: also, too
reficiō, reficere, refēcī, refectus: remake, repair
regiō, regiōnis f.: line; direction; region
relinquō, relinquere, relīquī, relictus: leave, leave behind, abandon
reliquus, reliqua, reliquum: remaining
rēmus, rēmī m.: an oar
rēs, reī f.: matter, business, affair, thing (*rēs pūblica*, commonwealth; *rēs familiāris*, family property, estate; *rēs mīlitāris*, art of war; *rēs novae*, revolution)
retineō, retinēre, retinuī, retentus: hold back, restrain, repress
rēx, rēgis m.: king
Rōmānus, Rōmāna, Rōmānum: Roman
rūmor, rumōris m.: rumor, report, common talk
saepe: often
sanguis, sanguinis m.: blood
secundus, secunda, secundum: following, second; favorable, fortunate
sed: but
semper: always, ever
senātus, senātū, m.: senate; council; body of elders
sentiō, sentīre, sēnsī, sēnsus: perceive
Sēquana, Sēquanae f.: the Seine (river)
sequor, sequī, secūtus sum: follow, come after; chase, pursue
sī: if
sīc: so, in this way, in this manner, thus; *sīc ... ut*: in the same way as
signum, signī n.: mark, sign; standard (military)
silentium, silentiī n.: silence; *silentiō* (adv.)
silva, silvae f.: forest
simul: at the same time
sine: without (+ abl.)
singulī, singulae, singula: individual, separate
sīve or seu: whether; or if

soleō, solēre, solitus sum: be accustomed
sōlus, sola, solum: only, alone
sonitus, sonitūs m.: noise, sound
spatium, spatiī n.: space, extent; interval, distance
spēs, speī f.: hope
sub: under, close to (+ acc. or abl.)
subitō: suddenly
suī, sibi, sē/sēsē: him-/her-/itself; themselves
sum, esse, fuī, futūrum: be, exist
summus, summa, summum: highest; final; greatest; top
superior, superius: higher; earlier, preceding; older; stronger, greater
superus, supera, superum: above, situated above, upper
sustineō, sustinēre, sustinuī, sustentus: withstand, endure; hold up, support
suus, sua, suum: his own, her own, its own
tālis, tāle: such
tam: so, so much
tamen: nevertheless, however, still
tantum: only (adv.)
tantus, tanta, tantum: so great, so much; (as pronoun) such a quantity, so much
tempus, temporis n.: time
teneō, tenēre, tenuī, tentus: hold, keep
terra, terrae f.: land
tertius, tertia, tertium: third
timeō, timēre, timuī: fear, dread
timor, timōris m.: fear
tōtus, tōta, tōtum: whole, entire
trādūcō, trādūcere, trādūxī, trāductus: lead across; transfer
trēs, tria: three
tum: then, at that time
tunc: then, at that time
ubi: where, when
ūllus, ūlla, ūllum: some; any, anyone
ūnā: together

ūnus, ūna, ūnum: one
urbs, urbis f.: city
ut or utī: as (+ indic.); so that, with the result that (+ subj.); how
uterque, utraque, utrumque: each of two
vel: or else, or; even
veniō, venīre, vēnī, ventus: come, arrive
via, viae f.: way, path; journey; street
victōria, victōriae f.: victory
videō, vidēre, vīdī, vīsus: see
vincō, vincere, vīcī, victus: defeat, overcome; be victorious, conquer
virtūs, virtūtis f.: manliness, courage, valor, virtue
vīs, vīs f.: force, violence; (in pl.) strength
vīta, vītae f.: life
vīvō, vīvere, vīxī, vīctus: live
vocō, vocāre, vocāvī, vocātus: call, summon
volō, velle, voluī: wish, want, be willing
vōs: you (pl.); (gen.) *vestrum/vestrī*, (dat./abl.) *vōbīs*, (acc.) *vōs*

Julius Caesar's Gallic War chronicles his nine-year conquest of Gaul (modern France and Belgium) from 58 to 50 BCE. This edition presents Book VII (Chapters 29-62) with Latin text, same-page vocabulary, and explanatory commentary. Within these pages the Roman *imperator* describes the aftermath of the destruction of Avaricum, the battle against the forces of Vercingetorix at the Gallic town of Gergovia, the revolt of the Aedui against Rome, and the precarious situation of the Roman commander Labienus near Lutetia (Paris).



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