

Latin Text, DĒ BELLŌ GALLICŌ 5.29.8–12, p. 99

10 *Nōn hostem auctōrem, sed rem spectāre: subesse Rhēnum;
magnō esse Germānīs dolōrī Ariovistī mortem et superiōrēs
nostrās victōriās; ārdere Galliam tot contumēliis acceptīs sub
populī Rōmānī imperium redāctam superiōre glōriā reī militāris
extinctā.*

Literal Translation Molinarius

[He did] not [consider] the enemy [as an] authority, but [he] considered the thing [i.e., the current situation]: the Rhine was close; Ariovistus's death and our previous victories were for the Germans for [the purpose of producing] great grief; having been reduced below the rule of the Roman people, Gaul burned [with indignation], so many insults having been sustained, and [their] previous glory for the military thing [i.e., military prowess] having been extinguished.

Literal Translation McDevitte

that he did not regard the enemy, but the fact, as the authority; that the Rhine was near; that the death of Ariovistus and our previous victories were subjects of great indignation to the Germans; that Gaul was inflamed, that after having received so many defeats she was reduced under the sway of the Roman people, her pristine glory in military matters being extinguished.”

Discussion Questions

1. Titurius Sabinus, whom we just saw shouting, claimed to stake his argument on the basis of logic and military considerations. How convincing is his argument? Why?
2. Titurius Sabinus outlines reasons why Germans and Gauls might have resented Rome. What were these reasons? Were the Gauls and Germans justified in resenting the Romans? Why or why not?