

Adsunt Heraclienses legati, nobilissimi homines, huius iudici causa cum mandatis et cum publico testimonio venerunt, qui hunc ascriptum Heracleae esse dicunt. Hic tu tabulas desideras Heracliensium publicas, quas Italico bello
 100 incenso tabulario interisse scimus omnes? Est ridiculum ad ea quae habemus nihil dicere, quaerere quae habere non possumus, et de hominum memoria tacere, litterarum memoriam flagitare et, cum habeas amplissimi viri religionem, integerrimi municipi ius iurandum fidemque,
 105 ea quae depravari nullo modo possunt repudiare, tabulas quas idem dicis solere corrumpi desiderare.

96–97. **Adsunt Heraclienses legati**: the embassy from Heraclea. The CHIASTIC structure of this sentence (*adsunt...legati...qui...dicunt*) mirrors that of the previous (*adest vir...qui...dicit*). **huius iudici causa**: “for the sake of this trial” (*causa* = ablative of cause, B 198.1; 219). **cum mandatis et...publico testimonio**: “with official orders and public testimony,” the exact nature of which Cicero does not disclose.

98–106. Cicero’s response to the first charge of the prosecution: the absence of any documentation to confirm Archias’ citizenship at Heraclea.

98–100. **Hic**: the adverb, “at this point.” **tu**: Grattius, the prosecutor. **tabulas...publicas**: the public records of Heraclea, where Archias’ citizenship would have been recorded. **Italico bello**: ablative of time during which, B 231.1. The reference is to the Social War (90–89 B.C.), when the allied cities of Rome revolted over the issue of citizenship. **incenso tabulario**: ablative absolute, “with the burning of the records office.”

100–106. Cicero ridicules the prosecution for demanding records that everyone (including the prosecution) knows were destroyed when the *tabularium* at Heraclea burned during the Social War. **Est ridiculum**: the predicate of the main clause whose subjects are a TRICOLON of antithetical pairs of infinitives arranged in ASYNDETON (*nihil dicere...quaerere :: tacere... flagitare :: repudiare...desiderare*).

101–102. **ad ea**: construe with *nihil dicere*, “to say nothing in contradiction to those things which we have” (*est ridiculum ad ea [quae habemus] nihil dicere*; *ea* = evidence). **quae habemus**: antecedent = *ea*. **quae habere non possumus**: object clause of *quaerere*. **de...memoria**: construe with *tacere*, “to remain silent with regard to the memory of men.”

103–106. **cum habeas...**: “although you have,” subject = Grattius. **amplissimi viri**: i.e., M. Lucullus. **integerrimi municipi**: i.e., Heraclea, whose citizens were granted Roman citizenship after the Social War. **ea**: object of *repudiare* and antecedent of *quae...possunt*. **nullo modo**: “in no way.” **tabulas**: object of *desiderare* and antecedent of *quas...corrumpi*. **idem**: i.e., Grattius, subject pronoun of *dicis* (“the self-same you says”); it conveys more emphatically (rather than *ipse* as “you yourself”) the irony of Grattius’ demand for the records in the first place.