

cum praesertim ea aetate naufragia illa, quae Plinius narrat,
longissimi Oceani nota essent. Nam post veterum quietem
collaudatam, adiungit de audacia suorum temporum:

25 Nunc iam cessit pontus et omnes

patitur leges:

Et mox:

quaelibet altum cumba pererrat.

Terminus omnis motus et urbes

30 muros terra posuere (posuerunt) nova

nil qua fuerat sede reliquit

pervius orbis: (Seneca *Medea* 365–369)

Huius itaque audaciae hominum quasi incrementa extrema
connectit.

35 “Venient annis saecula seris,”

et cetera, quae recitata sunt. (Seneca *Medea* 375)

TRANSLATION

But the song (play) of Seneca is accustomed especially to move some, since
in his anapestics he seems to predict matters of the new world. For so the
Medea of that man has:

There will come a time in the long-passing years,
In which Ocean will relax the chains of things
And a great land will lie open,
And Tethys will disclose new worlds
Nor may Thule be the last of the lands. (Seneca *Medea* 375–379)

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We are not able to deny that this has been done (this to have been done).
“We see finally that Ocean relaxed (Ocean to have relaxed) the chains
of things, since it discloses other boundaries of lands, and that it opened

(to have opened) the great land, larger indeed than all Asia and Europe, and finally that it exposed (to have exposed) new worlds,” as that Chorus predicted . . .

Indeed to me it seems that he divined (he seems to have divined) this, but by that kind of divination, which prudent men privately have. For he was seeing already in that time that the sea was disturbed (the sea to be disturbed) by unusual navigations, (and) he had learned from Philosophy that another world existed (to exist), (called) Antichthon (Otherworld). He was able to think that hard work and boldness (was) going to advance somewhat by the right and merit of men so that, the Great Ocean having been crossed by sailing, it would reveal new worlds (literally, new circles of lands), especially since in that age (day), those shipwrecks of (on) the very long (far) Ocean which Pliny mentions were well known. For after praising the ancient (peace) and quiet, he adds about the boldness of his own times:

For now the sea yields and all laws are opened:

And soon:

Whatever ship wanders the deep,
 every end (has been) (re)moved and cities
 have placed walls (in) the new land
 nothing has been left where there had been any refuge
 the earth (lies) open. (Seneca *Medea* 365–369)

Therefore he connects as it were the extreme increases of this daring of men.

“There will come a time in the long-passing years,”
 and the other things which have been recited.

GRAMMAR AND WORD USE QUESTIONS

1. In the first sentence we have a subjunctive clause beginning with *cum* which gives a reason why the main clause is so. Use “since” for *cum* and translate the clause.

“*Since he seems to predict . . .*”

2. In the last line of the first Seneca quote, Seneca uses a potential subjunctive. Find and translate it.

Nec sit Thule ultima “and Thule may not be the last (furthest) land.”