

Sallust *Bellum Iugurthinum* 82.1-3

*As the Roman general Metellus was getting ready for battle against Jugurtha, king of Numidia, and Bocchus, king of Mauretania, who had formed a new alliance, he was informed that his personal enemy, the consul Marius, was to be given his province. Sallust discusses Metellus' reaction to the news that he was losing his province, and he notes what others said about it and what he himself supposed. He concludes that Metellus was upset because it was Marius who was taking his place.*

Imperātor postquam dē rēgum societāte cognōvit, nōn temerē neque, uti saepe iam victō Iugurthā cōnsuēverat, omnibus locīs pugrandī cōpiam facit. Cēterum haud procul ab Cirtā castrīs mūnītīs rēgēs opperītur, melius esse ratus cognitīs Maurīs, quoniam is novōs hostis accesserat, ex commodō pugnam facere. Interim Rōmā per litterās certior fit prōvinciam Numidiam Mariō datam; nam cōnsulem factum ante accēperat. Quibus rēbus suprā bonum aut honestum percussus neque lacrimās tenēre neque moderārī linguam, vir ēgregius in aliīs artibus nimis molliter aegritūdinem patī. Quam rem aliī in superbiam vertēbant, aliī bonum ingenium contumēliā accēsum esse, multī quod iam parta victōria ex manibus ēriperētur. Nōbīs satis cognitum est illum magis honōre Marī quam iniūriā suā excruciatum, neque tam ānxiē lātūrum fuisse, sī adēpta prōvincia aliī quam Mariō trāderētur.

**Vocabulary**

accēdo, -ere, -essī, -essum, approach

aegritūdo, -inis, distress

ex commodō, to his advantage

excruciāre, to torture

novōs = novus

pariō, -ere, perperī, -tum, procure

opperior, -īrī, -tus, wait for

utī = ut

vertō, -tere, -tī, -sum, ascribe