





Fig. 4 - Coin featuring shrine of Venus Cloacina on the reverse (Crawford, M H, Roman Republican Coinage, Cambridge, CUP, 1974 - 494/43a).

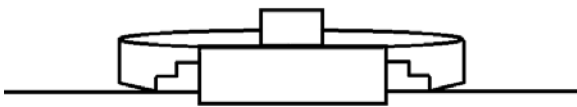


Fig. 5 - Reconstructed view of the northwest face of the shrine of Venus Cloacina, without the statues and balustrade.

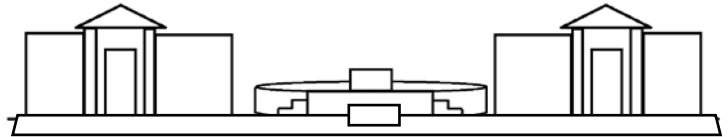


Fig. 6 - . Reconstructed view of the shrine of Venus Cloacina with a temporary stage constructed around it and a stage altar placed in front of the actual altar.

**Passage 1 – *Rudens* 253-62 (Loeb)**

**PAL.** sed quid hoc, obsecro, est? **AMP.** quid? **PAL.**  
viden, amabo,  
fanum [videsne] hoc? **AMP.** ubi est? **PAL.** ad dexteram.  
**AMP.** video decorum dis locum  
viderier. 255  
**PAL.** haud longe abesse oportet homines hinc, ita hic  
lepidus locus.  
quisquis est deus, veneror ut nos ex hac aerumna eximat,  
miseras inopis aerumnosas ut aliquo auxilio adiuvet.  
**PTOL.** qui sunt qui a patrona preces mea expetessunt?  
nam vox me precantum huc foras  
excitavit. 260  
bonam atque obsequentem deam atque haud gravatam  
patronam exsequuntur benignamque multum.

**PAL.** But what's this, please? **AMP.** What? **PAL.** Can  
you see  
this temple, please? **AMP.** Where is it? **PAL.** To the  
right.  
**AMP.** I can see that the place seems worthy of the  
gods. 255  
**PAL.** There ought to be people not far from here, given  
how pleasant this place is (*loudly*) I  
entreat whichever god it is to relieve us from this toil and  
to support us wretched,  
destitute, miserable women with some help.  
*Enter PTOLEMOCRATIA from the temple of Venus*  
**PTOL.** Who are the people who seek favor from my  
patroness with prayers? Yes the voices of people praying  
have called me out here. They're applying to a good and  
obliging goddess 260  
and not a grudging patroness, but one who is very kind.

**Passage 2 – *Rudens* 691-699 (Loeb)**

**TRACH.** Sedete hic modo, ego hinc vos tamen tutabor.  
aram habete hanc  
vobis pro castris, moenia <haec>, hinc ego vos defensabo;  
praesidio Veneris malitiae lenonis contra incedam.  
**PAL.** Tibi auscultamus et, Venus alma, ambae te  
obsecramus,  
aram amplexantes hanc tuam lacrumantes, genibus  
nixae, 695  
in custodelam nos tuam ut recipias et tutere;  
illos scelestos, qui tuom fecerunt fanum parvi,  
fac ut ulciscare nosque ut hanc tua pace aram obsidere  
patiari:

**Passage 3 – *Rudens* 1334-49**

**GRIP.** per Venerem hanc iurandum est tibi. **LAB.** quid  
iurem? **GRIP.** quod iubebo.  
**LAB.** praei verbis quidvis. id quod domi est, numquam ulli  
supplicabo  
**GRIP.** Tene aram hanc. **LAB.** Teneo. **GRIP.** Deiera te mi  
argentum daturum  
eodem die, tui viduli ubi sis potitus. **LAB.** Fiat.  
**GRIP.** Venus Cyrenensis, testem te testor mihi,  
si vidulum illum, quem ego in navi perdididi,  
cum auro atque argento salvom investigavero  
isque in potestatem meam pervenerit,  
tum ego huic Gripo, inquito et me tangito —  
**LAB.** Tum ego huic Gripo (dico, Venus, ut tu audias)  
talentum argenti magnum continuo dabo.  
**GRIP.** Si fraudassis, dic ut te in quaestu tuo  
Venus eradicet, caput atque aetatem tuam.  
tecum hoc habeto tamen, ubi iuraveris.  
**LAB.** Illaec advorsum si quid peccasso, Venus,  
veneror te ut omnes miseri lenones sient.

**Passage 4 – *Livy* 3.48 (Loeb)**

Data venia seducit filiam ac nutricem prope Cloacinae ad  
tabernas quibus nunc no vis est nomen atque ibi ab lanio  
cultro arrepto, "Hoc te uno quo possum" ait "modo, filia, in  
libertatem vindico." Pectus deinde puellae transfigit  
respectansque ad tribunal "Te" inquit, "Appi, tuumque  
caput sanguine hunc consecro."

**TRACH.** Just sit here, you two, I'll protect you from here.  
Have this  
altar as your camp, and this as your ramparts; from here I'll  
defend you. Under Venus' protection I'll defy the pimp's  
wickedness  
**PAL.** We'll obey you and, kind Venus, we both entreat  
you, clinging  
to this altar of yours in tears and kneeling, that you may  
695  
receive us into your protection and guard us. Do take  
revenge  
on those criminals who have slighted your temple and do  
allow  
us to sit by your altar by your leave.

**GRIP.** You have to swear an oath to Venus here. **LAB.**  
What should I swear? **GRIP.** What I tell you to.  
**LAB.** Dictate whatever you want. (*aside*) I've got a whole  
stockpile of empty words at home.  
**GRIP.** Touch this altar. **LAB.** I'm touching it. **GRIP.** Say  
that you will give the silver to me  
on the same day that you get the trunk. **LAB.** May it be so  
**GRIP.** Cyrenian Venus, I call you as a witness for me,  
if that trunk that I lost on the ship,  
if I shall find it safe with its gold and silver intact  
and if it should come into my possession,  
then I to this Gripus - speak up and touch me!  
**LAB.** Then I to this Gripus - I say it so you, Venus, can  
hear me -  
will immediately give a big talent of silver.  
**GRIP.** If you should lie, say that Venus will destroy you,  
your business,  
your person, and your life. (*aside*) I hope you get that  
anyway after you've made your oath  
**LAB.** If I commit some wrong against these things, Venus,  
I...um...pray to you that all pimps might be miserable.

Permission being granted, he led his daughter and the nurse  
apart, to the booths near the shrine of Cloacina, now known  
as the "New Booths," and there, snatching a knife from a  
butcher, he exclaimed, "Thus, my daughter, in the only way  
I can, do I assert your freedom!" He then stabbed her to the  
heart, and, looking back to the tribunal, cried, "'Tis you,  
Appius, and your life I devote to destruction with this  
blood!"

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