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1. “*Insegna molto bene Cornelio Tacito a chi vive sotto a’ tiranni el modo di vivere e governarsi prudentemente, cosi’ come a’ tiranni e’ modi di fondare la tirannide”* (Guicciardini, *Ricordi* [1530]19).

(Cornelius Tacitus teaches very well the way of living and conducting oneself prudently to those who live under tyrants; in just this way, he teaches tyrants the way of establishing tyranny)

1. *e il dí seguente, che fu il decimo ottavo dí d'agosto, è portato morto secondo l'uso de' pontefici nella chiesa di San Piero,* ***nero enfiato e bruttissimo****,* ***segni manifestissimi******di veleno***.(Guicciardini, *Storia d’Italia*, 6.4)

(And the following day, which was the 18th of August, he [Alessandro] was carried, dead, according to the custom of the popes into the Church of Saint Peter, **black, bloated and absolutely hideous**, **the** **clearest possible signs of poison**.)

* 1. ***Credettesi constantemente che*** *questo accidente fusse proceduto da veleno; e si racconta,* ***secondo la fama più comune,*** *l’ordine della cosa in questo modo**(*Guicciardini, *Storia d’Italia*, 6.4***)***  
     (**It was believed constantly that** this accident was produced by poison; and as the story goes, following **the most common rumor**, the order of events went in this way)
  2. *In tradenda morte Drusi quae plurimis maximaeque fidei auctoribus memorata sunt rettuli:* ***set non omiserim eorundem temporum rumorem validum adeo ut nondum exolescat***(*Ann*. 4.10.1).

*(*In relating the death of Drusus, the things which are recorded by the most authors and those of the highest credibility, I have related: **but I am not inclined to omit a rumor of those same times, so strong in fact, that it not yet passes away**.*)*

* 1. *Haec vulgo iactata super id quod nullo auctore certo firmantur prompte refutaveris (Ann*. 4.11.1)*.*

*(*These things tossed about in public, besides the fact that they are confirmed by no reliable authority, you can readily refute*)*

* 1. *narrasi adunque che avendo il Valentino mandate innanzi certi fiaschi di vino infetti di veleno, e avendogli fatti consegnare a* ***un ministro non consapevole della cosa*** *…* (Guicciardini, *Storia d’Italia*, 6.4)

(It is said that Valentino had sent certain jugs of wine laced with poison in advance, and having consigned them **to a steward unaware of the situation …)**

* 1. ***interque primores ministros*** *erat; deinde* ***inter conscios*** *ubi locus veneficii tempusque composita sint* (*Ann*. 4.10.2).  
       
     (He was among the foremost ministers; from that point when, among those who were knowledgeable, the place and time of the poisoning was established.)
  2. *atque* ***illo ignaro*** *et inveniliter hauriente auctam suspicionem, tamquam metu et pudore sibimet inrogaret mortem quam patri struxerat.* (*Ann*. 4.10.3)

(And **with that one being unaware** and gulping it down like a young person, the suspicion was increased, just as if death either because of fear or shame, he called for the death for he himself, that he had constructed for his father.)

1. *[il pontefice] dimando’ gli fusse dato da bere, ma perché’ non erano arrivate ancora di palazzo le provisioni per la cena, gli fu* ***da quel ministro****, che credeva riservarsi come vino più prezioso, dato da bere del vino che aveva mandato innanzi Valentino; il quale, sopragiugnendo mentre il padre beeva, si messe similmente a bere del medesimo vino.* (Guicciardini, Storia *d’Italia* 6.4)  
     
   ([The Pope] ordered that he be given something to drink. Because the provisions for the dinner had not yet arrived from the palace**, that same steward**, who thought the reserved wine was more precious, gave him the wine to drink that Valentino had sent earlier; who [Valentino], arriving while his father was drinking, similarly began to drink the same wine.)
2. *sed quia Seianus facinorum omnium repertor habebatur, ex nimia caritate in eum Caesaris et ceterorum in utrumque odio quamvis fabulosa et immania credebantur, atrociore semper fama erga dominantium exitus. (Ann.* 4.11.2*)*

(But because Sejanus was held as the devisor of all crimes, on account of Caesar’s excessive affection towards him and the hatred of everyone else towards both of them, even the fantastical and monstrous things were believed, with a more heinous report with regard to the deaths of masters.)

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