**Virgil: Priam’s last words**

Hīc Priamus, quamquam in mediā iam morte tenētur,

nōn tamen abstinuit nec vōcī īraeque pepercit:

'At tibi prō scelere,' exclāmat, 'prō tālibus ausīs

dī, sī qua est caelō pietās quae tālia cūret,

persolvant grātēs dignās et praemia reddant

dēbita, quī nātī cōram mē cernere lētum

fēcistī et patriōs foedāstī fūnere vultūs.

At nōn ille, satum quō tē mentīris, Achillēs

tālis in hoste fuit Priamō; sed iūra fidemque

supplicis ērubuit corpusque exsangue sepulcrō

reddidit Hectoreum mēque in mea rēgna remīsit.'

Sīc fātus senior tēlumque imbelle sine ictū

coniēcit, raucō quod prōtinus aere repulsum,

et summō clipeī nēquīquam umbōne pependit.

Here Priam, although he is now held in the midst of death, nevertheless did not hold back nor spare the anger of his voice: “But for your crime,” he exclaims, “for such daring deeds, if there is any sense of duty in heaven which cares for such things, may the gods pay you worthy thanks and return due rewards to you who have made me see the death of my son before my eyes and have defiled the face of a father with death. But not even that Achilles, from whom you falsely claim that you are born, was like this in the case of his enemy Priam; but he respected the rights and faith of a suppliant and returned the lifeless body of Hector for burial and sent me back into my kingdom.” Having spoken thus, the old man hurled his useless weapon without any force, which was immediately stopped by the noisy bronze and hung uselessly from the top of the boss of the shield.