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VALERIUS MAXIMUS
MEMORABLE DOINGS
AND SAYINGS
BOOKS VI-IX



Edited and Translated by
D. R. SHACKLETON BAILEY

VALERIUS MAXIMUS

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MEMORABLE SOUNDS
AND SAYINGS

藏书章

EDITED AND TRANSLATED BY
D. B. SHACKLETON BAILEY..



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**MEMORABLE DOINGS
AND SAYINGS**

LIBER SEXTUS

1. DE PUDICITIA

praef. Unde te virorum pariter ac feminarum praecipuum firmamentum, Pudicitia, invocem? tu enim prisca religione consecratos Vestae focos incolis, tu Capitolinae Iunonis pulvinaribus incubas, tu Palatii columnen Augustos penates sanctissimumque Iuliae genialem torum adsidua statione celebras, tuo praesidio puerilis aetatis insignia munita sunt, tui numinis respectu sincerus iuventae flos permanet, te custode matronalis stola censetur: ades igitur et <re>cognosce quae fieri ipsa voluisti.

1 Dux Romanae pudicitiae Lucretia, cuius virilis animus maligno errore Fortunae muliebri corpus sortitus est, a <Sex.>¹ Tarquinio, regis Superbi filio, per vim stuprum pati coacta, cum gravissimis verbis iniuriam suam in concilio necessariorum deplorasset, ferro se, quod veste tectum attulerat, interemit, causamque tam animoso interitu imperium consulare pro regio permutandi populo Romano praebuit.

2 Atque haec illatam iniuriam non tulit: Verginius, plebeii generis, sed patricii vir spiritus, ne probro contamina-

¹ *add. P*

BOOK VI

1. OF CHASTITY

Whence should I invoke you, Chastity, chief buttress of men and women alike? You dwell in the hearth consecrated to Vesta by ancient religion, you watch over the sacred couch of Capitoline Juno, you never leave your post on the pinnacle of the Palatine, the august habitation, and the most holy marriage bed of Julia. By your protection the emblems of boyhood are defended, by reverence for your divinity the flower of youth remains intact, under your guardianship the matron's robe is appraised. Come therefore, and hear of things that yourself ordained.

Lucretia, model of Roman chastity, whose manly spirit by Fortune's malignant error was allotted a woman's body, was forcibly raped by Sex. Tarquinius, son of king Superbus. In a family council, after bitterly bemoaning her injury, she killed herself with a sword she had brought concealed in her clothing and by so courageous a death gave the Roman people reason to change the authority of kings for that of Consuls.¹

Lucretia did not brook the injury done to her. Verginius, a man of plebian family but patrician spirit, in order to

¹ 509: Livy 1.57.6–59.3 etc.

retur domus sua, proprio sanguini non pepercit: nam cum Ap. Claudius decemvir filiae eius virginis stuprum, potestatis viribus fretus, pertinacius expeteret, deductam in forum puellam occidit, pudicaeque interemptor quam corruptae pater esse maluit.

3 Nec alio robore animi praeditus fuit Pontius Aufidianus eques Romanus. qui, postquam comperit filiae suae virginitatem a paedagogo proditam Fannio² Saturnino, non contentus sceleratum servum adfecisse supplicio, etiam ipsam puellam necavit. ita ne turpes eius nuptias celebraret, acerbis exsequias duxit.

4 Quid? P. Maenius quam severum pudicitiae custodem egit! in libertum namque gratum admodum sibi animadvertit, quia eum nubilis iam aetatis filiae suae osculum dedisse cognoverat, cum praesertim non libidine sed errore lapsus videri posset. ceterum amaritudine poenae teneris adhuc puellae sensibus castitatis disciplinam ingenerari magni aestimavit, eique tam tristi exemplo praecepit ut non solum virginitatem illibatam sed etiam oscula ad virum sincera perferret.

5 Q. vero Fabius Maximus Servilianus, honoribus, quos splendidissime gesserat, censurae gravitate consummatis, exegit poenas a filio dubiae castitatis, et punito pependit voluntario secessu conspectum patriae vitando.

² *anne Annio* (cf. *SB Onomasticon to Cicero's Letters*, p. 15)?

² 449: Livy 3.44–48.5 etc.
story is not found elsewhere.

³ First century (mid?). The

⁴ Not found elsewhere. ⁵ *Ca.* 104: Ps.-Quint. *Decl. mai.* 3.17, Oros. 5.16.8; cf. Cic. *Balb.* 28. This Fabius is probably Q. Fabius Maximus Eburnus, Censor in 108 (cf. Broughton I.550

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keep from his house the stain of outrage, did not spare his own flesh and blood. For when the Decemvir Ap. Claudius, relying on the power of his office, persistently sought to ravish his daughter, he brought the girl to the Forum and killed her, preferring to be the slayer of a chaste daughter than the father of a defiled one.²

No less strong-minded was Pontius Aufidianus, a Roman knight. Learning that his daughter's virginity had been betrayed to Fannius Saturninus by her tutor, he was not content to punish the rascally slave, he also killed the girl herself. Rather than celebrate a disgraceful marriage, he gave her an untimely funeral.³

Again, how stern a guardian of chastity did P. Maenius prove! He put to death a freedman, a great favourite of his, on learning that he had given a kiss to his daughter, a girl of marriageable age, even though he could seem to have done it in error, not lust. But Maenius thought it important that the discipline of chastity be implanted in the girl's still tender feelings by the harshness of the punishment; and by so terrible an example he taught her that she must bring to her husband not only unsullied virginity but pure kisses.⁴

Q. Fabius Maximus Servilianus, who consummated offices which he had filled with the utmost distinction by the grave function of Censor, exacted punishment from a son of dubious chastity and paid penalty to him he punished, shunning the sight of his country in voluntary retirement.⁵

n.3), whose father, Q. Fabius Maximus Servilianus, never held that office. Valerius has them confused, unless he wrote *Serviliani* f.; cf. Münzer, *RE* VI.1797. Orosius says that the father ("Q. Fabius Maximus") was prosecuted and condemned, which is confirmed against Valerius by Cicero, *Balb.* 28.

- 6 Dicerem censorium virum nimis atrocem exstitisse, nisi P. Atilium Philiscum, in pueritia corpore quaestum a domino facere coactum, tam severum postea patrem cernerem: filiam enim suam, quia³ stupri se crimine coinquinaverat, interemit. quam sanctam igitur in civitate nostra pudicitiam fuisse existimare debemus, in qua etiam institores libidinis tam severos eius vindices evasisse animadvertimus?
- 7 Sequitur excellentis nominis ac memorabilis facti exemplum. M. Claudius Marcellus aedilis curulis C. Scantinius Capitolino tribuno plebis diem ad populum dixit quod filium suum de stupro appellasset, eoque adseverante se cogi non posse ut adesset quia sacrosanctam potestatem haberet, et ob id tribunicium auxilium implorante, totum collegium tribunorum negavit se intercedere quo minus pudicitiae quaestio perageretur. citatus itaque Scantinius reus uno teste qui temptatus erat damnatus est. constat iuvenem productum in rostra defixo in terram vultu perseveranter tacuisse, verecundoque silentio plurimum in ultionem suam valuisse.
- 8 Metellus quoque Celer stuprosae mentis acer poenitor exstitit, Cn. Sergio Silo promissorum matri familiae numerorum gratia diem ad populum dicendo eumque hoc uno crimine damnando: non enim factum tunc sed animus in

³ quia *Gertz*: quod ita* *AG*: quo dita *L*

⁶ Not found elsewhere.

⁷ 226 (?): *Plut. Marc. 2*, who makes Scantinius a colleague of Marcellus. He may have been Plebeian Aedile (*Broughton I.230 n.1*).

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I would say the ex-Censor showed himself too harsh if I did not see what a severe parent P. Atilius Philiscus was in later life, who as a boy had been forced by his master to earn money by prostitution. For he put his daughter to death because she had defiled herself with the guilt of illicit intercourse.⁶ How sacred then should we think chastity was in our community, in which we see even the hucksters of lust becoming such severe chastisers of it!

There follows an example excellent in name and memorable in deed. Curule Aedile M. Claudius Marcellus summoned Tribune of the Plebs C. Scantinius Capitolinus to trial before the people on a charge of having tried to seduce his son. Scantinius asserted that as a holder of a sacrosanct power he could not be forced to attend and on that account asked the Tribunes for aid. But the entire board of Tribunes refused to intervene to prevent an inquiry concerning chastity from taking its course. Scantinius therefore was cited as defendant and convicted on the sole evidence of the person who had been solicited. We are told that when the young man was brought to the rostra he fixed his eyes on the ground and persistently kept mute, by which modest silence he contributed powerfully to his own avenging.⁷

Metellus Celer too showed himself a stern chastiser of lascivious intent by summoning C. Sergius Silus to trial before the people on account of money promised to a housewife and convicting him on this sole charge.⁸ It was not an act but a state of mind that was then brought to the

⁶ Probably as Aedile, perhaps in 88; or if Valerius means his adopted son, Consul in 60, perhaps in 67 (Broughton II.45 n.5 and 144).

quaestionem deductus est, plusque voluisse peccare nocuit quam non peccasse profuit.

9 Contionis haec, illa curiae gravitas. T. Veturius, filius eius Veturii qui in consulatu suo Samnitibus ob turpiter ictum foedus deditus fuerat, cum propter domesticam ruinam et grave aes alienum P.⁴ Plotio nexum se dare adulescentulus admodum coactus esset, servilibus ab eo verberibus, quia stuprum pati noluerat, adfectus, querellam ad consules detulit. a quibus hac de re certior factus senatus Plotium in carcerem duci iussit: in qualicumque enim statu positam Romano sanguini pudicitiam tutam esse voluit.

10 Et quid mirum si hoc universi patres conscripti censuerunt? C. Fescenninus⁵ triumvir capitalis C. Cornelium, fortissimae militiae stipendia emeritum virtutisque nomine quater honore primi pili ab imperatoribus donatum, quod cum ingenuo adulescentulo stupri commercium habuisset, publicis vinculis oneravit. a quo appellati tribuni, cum de stupro nihil negaret, sed sponsionem se facere paratum diceret quod adulescens ille palam atque aperte corpore quaestum factitasset, intercessionem suam interponere noluerunt. itaque Cornelius in carcere mori coactus est: non putarunt enim tribuni plebis rem publicam nostram cum fortibus viris pacisci oportere ut externis

⁴ P. AP: C. LG

⁵ Fescenninus A: Fescennius A *corr.*, LP: Pesc- *Pighius*, *edd.*

⁹ In 321 (Caudine Forks). But Livy (8.28) calls the abuser L. Papirius and the victim C. Publilius, whereas Dionysius (16.5), not naming the former, makes the latter son of Ποπλίλιος, "one of

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enquiry, and the wish to do wrong hurt more than the absence of wrongdoing helped.

That was severity in the popular assembly, this in the senate house. T. Veturius, son of the Veturius who in his Consulship had been surrendered to the Samnites because of a treaty dishonourably concluded,⁹ as a very young man was forced by domestic ruin and a load of debt to give himself as bondman to P. Plotius. Plotius flogged him like a slave because he refused to submit to sexual advances and he made complaint to the Consuls. Informed of the matter by them, the senate ordered Plotius to be put in gaol. For it wished that chastity be secure to Roman blood in whatever condition that might be placed.

Is it surprising that the Conscript Fathers as a body thus decreed? C. Fescenninus,¹⁰ Triumvir Capitalis, put public chains on C. Cornelius for having sexual intercourse with a freeborn youth, though Cornelius had served as a soldier with great bravery and had four times received from his commanders the honour of the First Spear¹¹ for his valour. He appealed to the Tribunes, not denying the act but declaring his readiness to wager that the young man in question had openly and without concealment practised prostitution. The Tribunes refused their intervention and Cornelius had to die in prison. For the Tribunes of the Plebs thought it wrong that our commonwealth should strike bargains with brave men for them to

the Military Tribunes who surrendered the army to the Samnites." Cicero (*Rep.* 2.59) alludes to the story but gives no names.

¹⁰ The conjecture Pescennius is usually read.

¹¹ He was promoted Chief Centurion. Apparently the rank might lapse after a campaign. He is noticed only here.

periculis domesticas delicias emerent.

- 11 Libidinosi centurionis supplicium M. Laetorii Mergi tribuni militaris aequ[e] [similis]⁶ foedus exitus sequitur. cui Cominius tribunus plebis diem ad populum dixit quod cornicularium suum stupri causa appellasset. nec sustinuit eius rei <con>scientiam⁷ Laetorius sed se ipse ante iudicii tempus fuga prius, deinde etiam <morte punivit>.⁸ poenae⁹ modum expleverat, fato tamen functus universae plebis sententia crimine impudicitiae damnatus est. signa illum militaria, sacratae aquilae, et certissima Romani imperii custos, severa castrorum disciplina, ad inferos usque persecuta est, quoniam cuius virtutis magister esse debuerat, sanctitatis corruptor temptarat¹⁰ existere.

- 12 Hoc movit C. Marium imperatorem, tum cum Lusium sororis suae filium, tribunum militum, a C. Plotio manipulari¹¹ milite iure caesum pronuntiavit, quia eum de stupro compellare ausus fuerat.

- 13 Sed ut eos quoque qui in vindicanda pudicitia dolore suo pro publica lege usi sunt strictim percurram, Sempronius Musca C. Gallium¹² deprehensum in adulterio flagellis cecidit, C. Memmius L. Octavium similiter deprehensum pernisi¹³ contudit, Carbo Attienus a Vibieno item Pontius a P. Cerennio deprehensi castrati sunt. Cn. etiam Furium Brocchum qui deprehenderat familiae stupran-

⁶ aequ[e] similis* AL: aequ[e] *Lipsius* ⁷ add. *Torr.*

⁸ add. *Halm ex P*

⁹ poenae *SB*³: naturae AL

¹⁰ temptarat *Halm*: -abat et AL: -abat A *corr.*, L *corr.*, G

¹¹ manipulari *Kempf*: -rio AL: -re P

¹² Gellium P

¹³ pernisi* *sine causa suspectum*

buy luxuries at home with perils abroad.

To the punishment of a lustful Centurion succeeds the equally ignominious end of Military Tribune M. Laetorius Mergus. Tribune of the Plebs Cominius summoned him to trial before the people for having tried to seduce his adjutant. Laetorius could not bear his conscience in the matter, and before the trial date penalized himself, first by flight and then by suicide as well. He had fulfilled the limit of punishment, but after death was nonetheless convicted of unchastity by vote of the whole people.¹² The military standards, the sacred eagles, and the severe discipline of the camp, that surest guardian of Roman empire, pursued him even to the underworld, since he had tried to become corrupter of the purity of one of whose valour he should have been preceptor.

This counselled general C. Marius when he pronounced Military Tribune C. Lusius, his sister's son, justifiably killed by C. Plotius, a private soldier, because the Tribune had dared to solicit him sexually.¹³

But to run briefly over those who in avenging chastity made their own hurt stand for public law: Sempronius Musca scourged C. Gallius, whom he had caught in adultery, with lashes, C. Memmius¹⁴ beat L. Octavius, similarly caught, with thigh bones, Carbo Attienus and Pontius were caught and castrated by Vibienus and P. Cerennius respectively, the man who caught Cn. Furius Brocchus gave him

¹² 292–290 (?): Broughton I.160. Dionysius (16.4) and the Suda give his praenomen as Gaius.

¹³ 104: Cic. *Mil.* 9 etc.

¹⁴ Divorced his wife Fausta, daughter of Sulla, in 55.

dum obiecit. quibus irae suae indulsisse fraudi non fuit.

ext. 1 Atque ut domesticis externa subnectam, Graeca femina, nomine Hippo, cum hostium classe esset excepta, in mare se, ut morte pudicitiam tueretur, abiecit. cuius corpus Erythraeo litori appulsum proxima undis humus sepulturae mandatum ad hoc tempus tumulo contegit: sanctitatis vero gloriam aeternae traditam memoriae Graecia laudibus suis celebrando cotidie florentiorem efficit.

ext. 2 Vehementius hoc, illud consideratius exemplum pudicitiae. exercitu et copiis Gallograecorum a Cn. Manlio consule in Olympo monte ex parte deletis, ex parte captis, Ortiagontis¹⁴ reguli uxor mirae pulchritudinis a centurione, cui custodienda tradita erat, stuprum pati coacta, postquam ventum est in eum locum in quem centurio misso nuntio necessarios mulieris pretium quo eam redimerent adferre iusserat, aurum expendente centurione et in eius pondus animo oculisque intento, Gallograecis lingua gentis suae imperavit ut eum occiderent. interfecti deinde caput abscisum manibus retinens ad coniugem venit, abiectoque ante pedes eius iniuriae et ultionis suae ordinem exposuit. huius feminae quid aliud quisquam quam corpus in potestatem hostium venisse dicat? nam neque animus vinci nec pudicitia capi potuit.

ext. 3 Teutonorum vero coniuges Marium victorem orarunt ut ab eo virginibus Vestalibus dono mitterentur, adfirman-

¹⁴ Orti- *Briscoe*: Orgi- AL

¹⁵ Further information on these incidents is lacking.

¹⁶ Not found elsewhere.

¹⁷ 189: Livy 38.24 etc.