

*In Book 8 of his Aeneid Vergil famously describes Aeneas' shield. Having given a number of rather brief sketches of other scenes from Roman history, the poet now turns to the event for which he has reserved pride of place: the Battle of Actium.*

haec inter tumidi late maris ibat imago  
aurea, sed fluctu spumabant caerulea cano,  
et circum argento clari delphines in orbem  
aequora uerberant caudis aestumque secabant.  
in medio classis aeratas, Actia bella, 675  
cernere erat, totumque instructo Marte uideres  
feruere Leucaten auroque effulgere fluctus.  
hinc Augustus agens Italos in proelia Caesar  
cum patribus populoque, penatibus et magnis dis,  
stans celsa in puppi, geminas cui tempora flammas 680  
laeta uomunt patriumque aperitur uertice sidus.  
parte alia uentis et dis Agrippa secundis  
arduus agmen agens, cui, belli insigne superbum,  
tempora nauali fulgent rostrata corona.  
hinc ope barbarica uariisque Antonius armis, 685  
uictor ab Aurorae populis et litore rubro,  
Aegyptum uirisque Orientis et ultima secum  
Bactra uehit, sequiturque (nefas) Aegyptia coniunx.  
una omnes ruere ac totum spumare reductis  
conuulsum remis rostrisque tridentibus aequor. 690  
alta petunt; pelago credas innare reuulsas  
Cycladas aut montis concurrere montibus altos,  
tanta mole uiri turritis puppibus instant.  
stuppea flamma manu telisque uolatile ferrum  
spargitur, arua noua Neptunia caede rubescunt. 695



(“The Battle of Actium”, Lorenzo A. Castro, 1672)

## GLOSSES

- 672: caeruleus, caerulea, caeruleum = caeruleus, caerulea, caeruleum: *supply* “maria”  
 canus, cana, canum: “white”
- 673: argentum, argenti, n.: “silver”  
 delphin, delphinis, m. *infer*
- 674: cauda, caudae, f. “tail”
- 675: aeratus, aerata, aeratum < aes, aeris, n. *infer*  
 Actium, Actii n.: name of a town
- 677: Leucate: *a location, declined as a Greek noun* gen. Leucates, acc. Leucaten  
 effulgo, effulgere, effulsi, --- < ex + fulgo, fulgere, fulsi, fulsum *infer*
- 680: tempus, temporis, n.: here the body’s timepiece, i.e. “temple, side of the head”
- 681: vomo, vomere, vomui, vomitum (cf. “to vomit”) *infer*  
 patrius, patria, patrium < pater, patris, m. *infer*
- 684: navalis, navale < navis, navis, f. (cf. “naval”, “navy”) *infer*  
 rostratus, rostrata, rostratum “decorated with miniature beaks of ships”
- 685: barbaricus, barbarica, barbaricum = barbarus, barbara, barbarum
- 687: Aegyptus, Aegypti, f.: “Egypt”
- 688: Bactra, Bactrorum, n.: *a city*
- 689: reduco, reducere, reduxi, reductum < re + duco, ducere, duxi, ductum *infer*
- 690: convello, convellere, convelli, consulsum < con + vello, vellere, velli/vulsi, vulsum (cf. convulsion) *infer*  
 rostrum, rostri, n.: “ship’s beak”  
 tridens, tridentis, m. < tres, tria + dens, dentis, m. *infer*
- 691: inno, innare, ---, --- < in + no, nare, navi, --- *infer*  
 revello, revellere, revelli/revulsi, revulsum < re + vello, vellere, vulsi, vulsum  
 Cyclades, Cycladum, f.: *a group of islands, declined as a Greek noun* acc. pl. Cycladas
- 693: turrus, turris, f. *infer*
- 694: stuppeus, stuppea, stuppeum: “feeding on tow”  
 volatilis, volatile < volo, volare, volavi, volatum (cf. volatile) *infer*
- 695: rubesco, rubescere, rubescui, --- < ruber, rubra, rubrum *infer, noting that verbs in “-sco” often express the beginning of an action*