

Cicero's orations against Cataline

p. 176 The discovery of Catiline's long-suspected conspiracy moved him <sup>(Cicero)</sup> (~~Caesar~~) to action as energetic as it was tactful. He got rid of Catiline himself by telling him, in detail, before the whole senate, what he knew of the plot. This is the first speech in Catilinam. The next day he delivered the second oration of this series, to the assembled citizens in the Forum, explaining the situation to them. The third was again addressed to the people, and set forth the information given by the Allobrogian envoys to the government, which had put all the most important facts in his hands. The fourth speech was his contribution to the discussion in the senate as to what they should do with the arrested confederates of Catiline. All of these are preserved, doubtless not exactly as they were delivered, but in the form in which Cicero afterwards sent them to Atticus for publication.<sup>68</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> Ad Att., ii, I, 3, a list of the speeches in question. The passage has been strangely suspected by critics. But if it is a spurious addition, either it is a gloss accidentally incorporated in the text from the margin, and the glossator would not use the first person (Catilinam emisi), but the third; or it is a forgery, and one can hardly imagine a forger posing as Cicero who should be able to refrain from rhetorical flourishes in such a context, whereas the language is as perfectly simple and straightforward as a mere list ought to be.