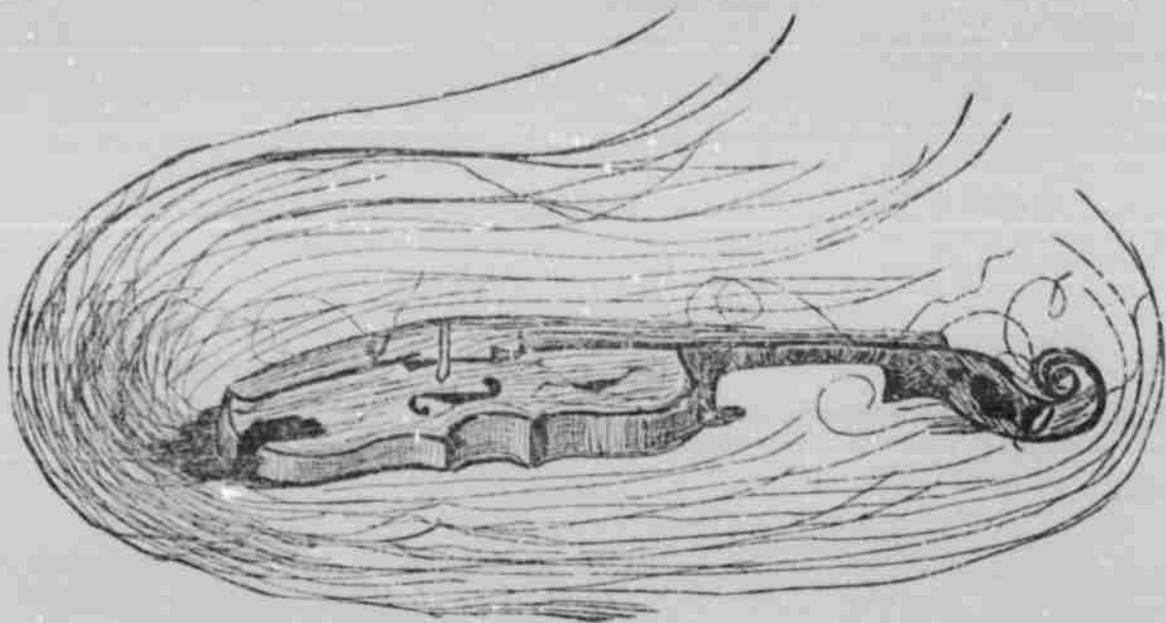


so they buried him in a pine box. Before the funeral Antone carried to town the fiddle-bow which Peter had forgotten to break.

Antone was very thrifty, and a better man than his father had been.



HORACE.

BOOK I, ODE XXXVIII.

"PERSICOS ODI"

"Boy, eastern luxury I hate,
Then cease my crown with flowers to plait,
Nor gather me the rose, that late
Withers, shrinking.
For naught but simple wreaths I care,
With thee, my lad, to serve me there:
Under my shady myrtles fair,
Lightly drinking.

W. CATHER.

A Fable for Politicians.

Now, it came to pass in those days, that the land of the Office-seekers was grievously stricken with the pestilence which is called the Febris Politicus and the people were sore afflicted.

And the prophets were all stricken with the plague. But nevertheless they walked abroad in the land crying with loud voices, and spreading the pestilence from Atlantic to Pacific, and they spake unto all people, each one, crying: "Repent ye, repent ye, and follow me, and me only."

And the people hearkened, and many thousands of them were smitten with the

plague, so that their tongues were no longer still, but grew large, and wagged unceasingly. Even so, the tongue is a little member, but the Febris Politicus causes it to become an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

Now the number of the prophets was very great, and some of them cried: "Behold ye, how good and joyful a land is this! Ye have but to reach out your hand for what ye would, and it is yours. Give thanks, ye people, to us, your benefactors. For have we not protected you from the wicked on the other side of the Atlantic? Behold, how small the tax ye must carry to Jerusalem. For we cause your enemies who dwell on the other side of the Atlantic to fill the strong vaults of Jerusalem with great tributes. Therefore, beloved people, is your tax exceeding small. Much thanks we deserve of you, for we have prophesied these things, and therefore have they come to pass."

And the number of these prophets was greatest of all, and they were greatly afflicted with the plague. For they belonged to the tribe of the Boodleites.

Now, there were other prophets and soothsayers who hated these, and they cried: