

§ 4. *per*, 'in various quarters in.' *hibernavit*: the winter would be that of 62-63 A. D. Cf. ch. 8, 3.

detraheret = 'diruere.'

§ 5. *diversis*, 'hostilibus.' Cf. xiii 57, 3; xiv 30, 1.

expostulabat = 'postulabat.' For infinitive cf. *Intr II 31*.

sine arbitro, 'without interference.'

CH. 18, § 1. *arcus*: cf. xiii 41, 5.

integro adhuc, 'while the war was still undecided.'

neque tum, &c., 'and not even then abandoned, out of regard for appearances, despite knowledge of the truth.' This criticism is unfair, as the Roman authorities were acting in accordance with *Pactus*' despatches, '*litteras quasi confecto bello*,' ch. 8, 3, and would not get the news of his subsequent failure till the following spring.

§ 2. *dissimulandis*, &c.: dative of purpose, 'to hide his anxiety about foreign affairs.' The imputation of this motive is wholly gratuitous.

frumentum plebis: stored for sale at a low price. It was part of the '*cura annonae*' to regulate prices by sale from public stores, and by compensating merchants for selling below market value in times of scarcity (cf. ch. 39, 2). Costs connected with the '*frumentum publicum*' were formerly borne by the '*aerarium*,' especially from the revenues of the senatorial provinces, but under *Claudius* or *Nero* were transferred to the '*fiscus*' (*Intr. III 25*).

quo, &c., 'to keep up confidence in the abundance of supplies' (by producing an impression that there must be ample stores in reserve).

§ 3. *portu*: *Ostia*.

Tiberi subvectas, 'which had passed up the Tiber' (to the city).

§ 4. *tris*, &c.: *Augustus* had appointed a similar commission in 6 A. D.

L. Pisonem: cf. xiii 28, 3.

Ducenium Geminus was '*praefectus urbis*' under *Galba*.

Paulinum: cf. xiii 53, 2.

vectigalibus publicis: strictly = the indirect taxes payable to the '*aerarium publicum*,' see xiii 50, 1; but possibly the term is here used in a wider sense and includes the tribute of the senatorial provinces, and in fact the whole revenue of the '*aerarium*.'

priorum: this would best apply to *Gaius*.

qui, &c., 'who by their extravagant expenditure had exceeded the proper revenue.'

se, &c., 'whereas he annually made a present of sixty million sesterces to the state.' This may refer to the transference of the '*cura annonae*' to the '*fiscus*,' or perhaps *Nero* meant more generally that the state expenditure came annually to that amount in excess of his revenues from public sources, and that he made up the deficit from his own '*res privata*.'

CH. 19, § 1. *plerique* = '*permulti*.' This chapter deals with a common device for evading by means of temporary adoptions one

of the provisions of the '*lex Papia Poppaea*' (so called from the names of the consuls of the year 9 A. D., when it was carried). The law dealt comprehensively with the whole question of marriages and wills, and, with the object of encouraging matrimony, contained various regulations to the disadvantage of the unmarried and childless; thus, in elections, a candidate who had children was to be preferred to one who had none, and, in the matter of wills, the unmarried ('*caelibes*') could not succeed to property, and married but childless persons ('*orbi*') could only receive half of what was left them, unless related to the testator within the sixth degree. (The measure failed in its main object, cf. *Ann. iii 25, 2*, and even the ruling authorities set it aside from time to time; thus, '*orbi*' in many cases received exemption from disabilities, by obtaining '*ius liberorum*' by special favour from the senate and later, from the Emperor. The disabilities of '*orbitas*' and '*caelibatus*' were abolished by *Constantine*.)

inter patres, 'among those who were (really) fathers.'

sortiti: applied, by zeugma, to '*praeturas*' in the general sense of being elected. Election to other magistracies as well as to the praetorship took place in the senate, but the praetorship is specially mentioned here as being the most important, as it was the natural step to the government of a senatorial province—except *Asia* and *Africa*, which went to consulars—while the consulship was filled up at the will of the princeps (by his '*nomination*') rather than by the free choice of the senate.

§ 2. *magna cum invidia*, 'with loud reproaches.' Cf. '*precibus et invidiae*,' xvi 10, 5.

adeunt: the subject is missing; the complainants however are evidently real parents who suffered by the fictitious adoptions of their rivals.

ius naturae, &c., 'the right they gained by nature . . . as opposed to the fraudulent trick of a short-lived adoption.'

§ 3. *honores*: here = 'marks of respect' rather than 'the higher magistracies.'

§ 4. *sine*, &c., 'becoming a father without the cares of paternity, and childless without the grief of bereavement, attained what had long been the aspiration of parents.'

§ 5. *in ulla*, &c., 'in anything partaking of the nature of a public office,' or 'in any branch of the public service.'

hereditatibus: cf. note on § 1.

CH. 20, § 1. *Cretensis*: *Crete* (with *Cyrene*) was a senatorial province, and the senate would try cases too important to be settled by the proconsul on the spot.

ut solent: in sense = '*qualibus obnoxii esse solent*.'

ad iniurias, &c., 'so uplifted as to oppress their inferiors.'

penetraverat, 'had gone to the length of insulting the senate' (in the person of the proconsul).

grates agerentur: this was done by a deputation sent to Rome on the motion of a '*concilium sociorum*' (cf. ch. 22, 2).

§ 2. *Thrasæa*: cf. xiii 49, 1.

exempla = 'deeds worthy of being taken as an example,' hence, as here, 'punishments,' 'honourable measures of exemplary retribution.' Cf. xiv 44, 7.

§ 3. *licentia*, 'wickedness,' 'corruption.' For the Cincian law cf. xiii 42, 2.

Iulias: passed by Augustus, 18 and 8 B. C.

Calpurnia: the 'lex Calpurnia de repetundis,' passed by the tribune L. Calpurnius Piso Frugi, in 149 B. C., is remarkable as the first constitution of a 'quaestio publica.' The variation of terms here employed ('rogationem,' 'leges,' 'scita') is only rhetorical: the enactments named were probably all in form 'plebiscita.'

nam, &c., 'for the sin precedes its penalty, correction is subsequent to wrong-doing.' A similar sentiment is attributed to Cato in Livy xxxiv 4, 8.

§ 4. *fide*, 'honour' (in dealing with provincials).

constantia, 'dignity,' 'self-respect,' the feeling that should keep Romans from courting the praise of their inferiors.

nobis, &c., 'while we may be relieved of any idea that the estimation of a man's character depends on anything else than the verdict of his fellow-citizens.'

CH. 21, § 1. *privati, &c.*: referring to the senatorial privilege of travelling on a 'libera legatio.'

quid, &c. 'to report what was their impression of the loyalty of various provincials, and the subject-peoples were anxious as to the opinion of individual Romans.'

§ 3. *ostentandi*: as the text stands, the idea of 'custom,' 'habit' must be supplied with this gerund, in the same way that a substantive is supplied with the gerundial genitives in xiii 26, 4 and xv 5, 3, though in these latter cases a neuter adjective in the clause suggests the requisite word. A good correction proposed is that of Madvig, who suggests that 'potentiam' is a corruption of 'potestas sententiam.'

laus falsa: on the part of the subjects. *malitia, crudelitas*, 'wrong-doing,' 'cruelty,' on the part of the governor.

§ 4. *demeremur*, 'seek to oblige.'

§ 5. *inclinat*, 'declines,' 'deteriorates.'

aequabilis atque constantius, 'with more uniformity and consistency.'

§ 6. *repetundarum*: sc. 'quaestionis.'

ambitio, 'intrigue to win favour.'

CH. 22, § 1. *perfici*: cf. xiv 49, 1 and xiii 49, 2.

abnuentibus . . . relatum: sc. 'esse.' 'Abnuere' has the force of 'negare.' (It is possible also that 'relatum' is a substantive; cf. *Intr. II* 51 a.) The consuls were naturally anxious to consult the princeps on this question, as it affected his 'legati' as well as senatorial governors.

§ 2. *saxere, &c.*: Augustus had in 11 A. D. forbidden such votes of thanks to be passed by provincials till sixty days had elapsed

from the governor's retirement. The practice does not appear to have been ended by Nero's edict.

concilium sociorum: the 'diet' of the province, which met annually, known also as 'commune' and τὸ κοινόν.

pro praetoribus = the 'legati Augusti propraetore,' in the Caesarian provinces.

pro consulibus: the proper title of all governors of senatorial provinces, whether of praetorian or consular rank.

§ 3. *gymnasium*: see xiv 47, 3.

§ 4. *motu terrae, &c.*: this earthquake took place sixteen years before the eruption which destroyed the town.

Cossorum: possibly she was a daughter of the consul of 60 A. D., xiv 20, 1.

capta est: the word is appropriate, as in the ritual of her dedication the pontifex maximus took the new vestal by the hand, with the words 'te (Cornelia), capio.' A vestal virgin was presented by her father for the service of Vesta between the age of six and ten, and might retire and marry after thirty years. The vestals usually however continued in their office till death.

CH. 23, § 1. *Memmio Regulo*: son of the person mentioned xiv 47, §§ 1, 2.

Verginius Rufus was prominent in the events at the end of Nero's reign, when he was governor of Upper Germany. He received a second consulship from Vitellius, and a third from Nerva, in 97 A. D., when he died, and was succeeded by Tacitus, who spoke his 'laudatio.'

Augustam: she was called 'Claudia Augusta.'

dato et Poppaëae, &c.: the title of 'Augusta,' conferred on Livia after Augustus' death according to his will, was taken by Agrippina in the lifetime of Claudius, and, from Domitian onwards, was usually borne by emperors' wives.

§ 2. *Antium*: see xiv 3, 1.

§ 3. *supplicationes*: i. e. a general thanksgiving to all the gods, not to be taken with 'Fecunditati.'

ad exemplar, &c.: i. e. following the pattern of the quinquennial festival instituted by Augustus at Nicopolis in commemoration of the battle of Actium.

Fortunarum: the deity Fortune was specially worshipped at Antium in the form of two sister goddesses, thought to represent the fortune of war and peace respectively.

apud Bovillas: Bovillae was situated on the Appian Way about ten miles from Rome. The cult of the 'gens Julia' was maintained here because the town claimed to be a daughter-city of Alba Longa, which referred its origin to Iulus the founder of that 'gens.'

§ 4. *divae*: dative, 'to the (now) divine (infant).' 'And again rose the voice of flattery, voting her the honour of deification,' &c.

pulvinar: a sacred couch on which her statue would be laid when a 'lectisternium' was celebrated.

§ 5. *Inmodicus*: with genitive of reference; so '*voluptatum modicus*,' ii 73, 3 (Intr. II 24 c).

effuso, 'poured out to Antium' to offer congratulations. *prohibitum*, 'forbidden to present himself.' This occurred again, xvi 24, 1, and amounted practically to '*renuntiatio amicitiae*,' preliminary to a sentence of banishment or execution.

§ 6. *iactaverit*, &c.: Nero vaunted this as a proof of clemency; the answer of Seneca implied that the friendship of Thræsea was worth more to Nero than Nero's to him.

egregiis viris: Thræsea and Seneca.

CH. 24, § 1. *legati Parthorum*: cf. ch. 14, 5.

mandata, 'message.'

super = 'de,' Intr. II 46.

quamvis potentium, 'however powerful.'

§ 2. *satis*, &c., 'his strength had been sufficiently demonstrated; proof had also been given of his clemency.'

§ 3. *recusaturum*: sc. '*fuisse*' (Intr. II 27).

sacerdotii religione: Pliny says he was a Magian and that it was one of his tenets not to pollute the sea by travelling upon it (cf. the reluctance of Brahmins to cross the 'black water').

iturum, &c.: i.e. he would go to some neighbouring camp. in Cappadocia or Syria, and there do homage to the eagles and effigy of the 'princes' in the principia. Cf. ch. 29, 5.

regnum auspicaretur, 'duly solemnize his accession to the throne.' Cf. '*auspicis*' xiii 6, 5.

CH. 25, § 1. *Paetus diversa*... *scribebat*, 'letters were coming from Paetus to an opposite effect.'

integris, 'undecided.'

§ 2. *barbarum*: cf. xiv 39, 1.

primores civitatis = those forming his usual privy council.

§ 4. *inriti*, 'without effecting their purpose,' because Nero refused the modified offer which they brought, ch. 24, 3.

§ 5. *exsecutio*: for Med. '*excutio*.' The civil government is meant.

C. *Cestio*: Med. '*citio*.' C. *Cestius Gallus* is known from other sources as *legatus* of Syria in 65 A. D.

Marius Celsus is frequently mentioned in the *Histories* as true to Galba, and afterwards to Otho, and as allowed nevertheless by *Vitellius* to hold a consulship to which he had been designated.

§ 6. *tetrarchis*: this word had by now lost its original etymological significance, and was used generally for such oriental princes as were below the dignity of *βασιλεύς*.

regibus: cf. xiii 7.

praefectis: officers commanding 'cohortes' or 'alae' in the lesser provinces.

procuratoribus: governors of minor provinces.

praetorum: used generally for provincial governors.

obsequi: Intr. II 31.

Cn. *Pompeio*: by the '*lex Gabinia*,' 67 B. C. The parallel is

not exact, as *Pompeius*' power under this law was '*imperium aequum* in omnibus provinciis cum proconsulibus usque ad quinquagesimum miliarium a mari.' The powers conferred upon him by the '*lex Manilia*,' giving him the command against *Mithridates*, would be a more apt comparison.

§ 7. *ignoscere*, &c., 'that he pardoned him at once, lest one so quick to take fright might fall ill, were his anxiety protracted.'

CH. 26, § 1. *quarta et duodecima*: blockaded under *Paetus*, ch. 10, 1.

sextam ac tertiam: cf. ch. 6, 5. Mention is not made of the 10th legion, which presumably was left in Syria.

exercitum: this participle which in earlier classic usage = 'harassed,' is used by Tacitus in the sense of '*exercitatus*,' 'practised.' The sixth and third legions had served with *Corbulo* in his previous campaigns, xiii 38, 6 and 40, 3.

§ 2. *quintam*: cf. chs. 6, 5 and 9, 2.

quintadecumanos: ch. 25, 5. *recens*, adverb, so ch. 6, 5.

vexilla delectorum, 'detachments of picked troops.' Similarly ii 78, 3 '*vexillum tironum*.' (Not = '*veterani sub vexillo*,' 'reservists.') *Illyricum* is taken in a wide sense as including *Pannonia* as well as *Delmatia*.

quodque, &c., 'and what he had of auxiliary horse and foot,' cf. xiii 35, 4. (For omission of '*fuit*,' Intr. II 27.)

regum: ch. xxv, 6.

Melitene was a town in Cappadocia near the *Euphrates*, important as a station commanding the passage of that river, and made in consequence the headquarters of the 12th legion, in 70 A. D.; now '*Malatia*.'

§ 3. *Iustratum*: by sacrifice of pig, sheep, and ox ('*suovetaurilia*'), as the '*piaculum Marti*.'

imperatoris = Nero's. (The campaign would be '*ductu Corbulonis*, *auspicis Caesaris*.)

declinans, 'turning off upon,' 'attributing.'

multa auctoritate, &c.: i.e. he convinced his hearers by his personality as a successful general, as another might by eloquent reasoning.

CH. 27, § 1. *Lucullo*: in 69 B. C. *Lucullus* crossed the *Euphrates* and marched through *Sophene* and over *Mount Taurus*, and thence, after crossing the *Tigris*, to *Tigranocerta*.

penetratum: the phrase is composed on the analogy of '*pergere iter*.'

vetustas, 'the lapse of time,' 132 years.

nec enim: introducing the substance of *Corbulo*'s message.

extremo, 'an internecine conflict.'

2. *documento*, 'so as to be a lesson' (Intr. II 12).

3. *scire*: understand '*se*' (Intr. II 3).

4. *megistanas*, '*magnatas*,' from the Persian '*mehestan*,' containing the same root as *μέγας*, '*magnus*': called also '*primores gentium*,' ch. 1, 2.

§ 2. *externae superbiae*, 'barbaric pomp' (dative after 'sueto').
vis, 'reality.' *tramittuntur*, 'are passed over,' 'disregarded.'
 With this sentence closes the account of Eastern affairs in the
 extant books of the *Annals*.

CH. 32, § 1. *nationes Alpium maritimarum*: hitherto (with
 the exception of the tribes close to the coast) constituting a small
 province under an equestrian procurator, formed by Augustus,
 14 B. C.

ius Latii: conferring on its possessors 'commercium,' i.e. the
 right of commercial dealing with Roman citizens under Roman
 civil law, and also the privilege of obtaining full Roman citizenship
 by holding a magistracy in their own town; cf. the phrase in
 Pliny, 'per Latium in civitatem venire.'

§ 2. *equitum*, &c.: the *lex Roscia*, 67 B. C., which reserved for
 the 'equites' the 'quattuordecim ordines' next above the orchestra
 (where the senators sat), only applied to the theatre. It appears
 that special seats in the Circus were reserved for the senate
 under Claudius, and since 4 A. D. equites had also had better seats
 than the populace as a matter of custom; the arrangement was
 now made law for the first time.

§ 3. *plures*, 'more than before.' Hitherto Tacitus has only
 recorded the appearance of knights in the arena, and of women
 and members of the great senatorial families on the pantomimic
 stage, xiv, chs. 14 and 15; but this passage gives support to
 the statements of Dio and Suetonius, who mention senators,
 knights, and women appearing in the amphitheatre as early as
 59 A. D.

per arenam: i.e. by their appearance in it.

CH. 33, § 1. *M. Licinio*: his father was consul in 27 A. D.;
 his full name was M. Licinius Crassus Frugi, and he was descended
 through his mother from Pompeius.

promiscas, 'open to the public'; cf. xiv 14, 4.

Iuvenalibus: cf. xiv 15, 1, whence also it appears that this
 festival was held in a private theatre.

parum celebres, 'not sufficiently well attended.'

angustos, &c., '(a) narrow (sphere) for so grand a voice.' Nero's
 courtiers spoke of his 'caelestis vox' (xvi 22, 1), but tradition
 makes it feeble and hoarse, 'exiguæ vocis et fuscae' (Suetonius),
 Βραχὴ καὶ μέλαν φωνήμα (Dio).

§ 2. *Romæ*: for his appearance there see xvi 4.

quasi, 'as being': cf. Intr. II 50. Neapolis was a colony from
 Cumæ, which had itself been colonized from Chalcis, and hence
 Greek institutions were maintained there.

coronas: those of the great Greek games.

civium: i.e. the Romans, in contrast with the Neapolitans, who
 were 'oppidani'; cf. § 3.

§ 3. *per honorem*, &c., 'by way of respect or service of various
 kinds.' (For this use of 'honor' cf. ch. 19, 3.)

militum: praetorians.

CH. 34, § 1. *triste . . . providum*: the neuter adjectives are
 used substantivally; cf. Intr. II 2 b. The meaning of 'pro-
 vidum' is made clear by 'secundis numinibus,' 'a providential
 circumstance, rather, due to the favour of heaven.'

§ 2. *compositos*, 'carefully elaborated.'

grates: supply 'agens' from 'celebrans,' which is applied here
 by zeugma to 'grates' as well as to 'fortunam'; cf. xiii
 35, 7.

traiectus: substantive, 'a place of crossing.'

Beneventum: on the Appian way, by which he was journeying
 to Brundisium. It was Vatinus' birthplace.

§ 3. *ostenta*, 'monstrosities.'

sutrinæ tabernæ: part of his trade appears to have been the
 manufacture of cheap drinking cups (or else his name was given
 to cups in common use, as boots and bags have been called after
 Wellington and Gladstone); cf. Juv. v 46 'tu Beneventani sutoris
 nomen habentem | siccabis calicem.'

in contumelias, 'as a butt for jests'; 'scurrae,' often selected,
 like the jesters in mediaeval times, for some physical deformity,
 were a regular institution of the Roman imperial court.

CH. 35, § 1. *frequentanti*: so also with accusative, xiv
 4, 1.

§ 2. *Silanus*: his full name was Decimus Junius Torquatus
 Silanus; he was brother of the Silanus killed in the first year of
 Nero's reign (xiii 1), and had been consul in 53 A. D., the year
 of Nero's marriage with Octavia.

abavum: Silanus was grandson of Julia the grand-daughter of
 Augustus. Intr. VI (1) A.

ferēbat, 'displayed,' 'claimed.'

§ 3. *prodigum*, 'that he had wasted his fortune.'

quin, &c.: corrected from Med. 'qui ne Innobiles,' which some
 have altered into 'quin eum nobiles'; however as the appoint-
 ments mentioned were still even in the imperial household only
 held by 'liberti,' it is unlikely that 'nobiles' would have accepted
 such posts from a private citizen. The charge against Silanus is
 that he dared to give persons in his household the titles borne by
 the chief freedmen of Caesar.

a libellis: the freedman who dealt with memorials, reports, and
 petitions made to the Emperor.

nomina, &c., 'titles of the highest (i.e. imperial) duties, and
 a preparation for them' (i.e. the prelude to an attempt to seize
 the principate).

§ 4. *cum damnatio instaret*: for the reasons for thus anti-
 cipating a sentence by suicide cf. xiii 30, 2.

interscidit: very rare, but natural as a variant for 'abscindere,'
 the more regular verb in this phrase; cf. ch. 69, 3, and xvi 11, 4.

§ 5. *ex more*: cf. Nero's letter about Antistius, xiv 49, 4.

iudicis: as Nero applies this term to himself, Silanus had
 probably been tried before him 'intra cubiculum' (for a similar

case cf. xiii 23); if before the Senate, Nero could have modified the sentence by his tribunician power.

CH. 36, § 1. *omissa* . . . *Achaia*: his intention to go there is mentioned in ch. 33: he actually went there towards the end of 66 A. D. See Appendix to bk. xvi.

provincias, &c., 'contemplating in his inmost thoughts (a visit to) the provinces of the East.' 'Imaginatio' is used only here in Tacitus, and is not found earlier than Pliny (*N. H.*); Tacitus however uses 'imago,' like Ovid's 'illius tristissima noctis imago,' and has a verb 'imaginari' in ch. 69, 4 of this book.

§ 2. *super* = 'de,' 'on the subject of' (cf. ch. 5, 5), i.e. to pray for a safe journey.

§ 3. *Vestae templum*: near the Forum. He probably went there to bid farewell to the Penates of Rome.

cunctas . . . curas, 'all his interests.'

dictitans, 'giving out,' in another edict.

§ 4. *fortuita*, 'chance misfortunes.'

§ 5. *ut*, &c., 'just as in a man's family ties his nearest and dearest counted for most.'

§ 6. *volentia* = 'quae volebant,' 'welcome.' (So 'volentia plebi,' Sall. *H.* 4, 31.)

voluptatum, &c.: i.e. they were anxious that the Emperor should be there to attend to their requirements, 'panem et Circenses.'

§ 7. *in incerto*, &c., 'were doubtful whether he was to be regarded as more terrible when far off or when near at hand.'

CH. 37, § 1. *nihil*, &c., 'that he enjoyed no place so much as Rome.'

§ 2. *et celeberrimae*, &c., 'most notorious for its excesses and the talk caused thereby was the feast,' &c.

§ 3. *stagno Agrippae*: thought to have been in a part of the Campus Martius called the 'Campus Agrippae,' lying at the foot of the Quirinal or of the Pincian.

navium aliarum tractu for 'navibus aliis trahentibus.' Cf. Infr. II 57.

§ 5. *diversis*: here = 'distant,' after Vergil (*Aen.* iii 4).

abusue: cf. xiii 47, 2.

CH. 38, § 1. *incertum*: Tacitus is the only author known to us who mentions any doubt as to Nero's guilt. Suetonius gives as Nero's motive for the crime the desire to rebuild Rome on a grand scale, and Dio charges him with firing Rome in the craze for realizing the scene that was witnessed at the fall of Troy. (For 'incertum' see Infr. II 59.)

omnibus: the most famous was the conflagration caused by the Gauls after the battle of the Allia, 390 B. C.

§ 2. *in ea parte*: the north-eastern corner of the Circus.

tabernas: standing in a colonnade running round the outer face of the Circus.

mercimonium: an archaic word.

citus: participle, 'impelled,' 'fanned.'

§ 3. *domus*, 'palaces,' 'mansions,' with substantial boundary walls ('munimenta'), opposed to 'insulae,' ch. 41, 1. Temples also would have outer walls ('muri') round the precinct in which the actual building stood.

quid: Infr. II 3 b.

§ 4. *impetu* modal, 'impetuously,' 'with fury.' (Infr. II 17.)

plana: governed by 'pervagatum.'

populando: cf. xiii 47, 1 'interpretando,' and xiv 31, 5 'servos appellando.' (Infr. II 22 b.)

obnoxia, 'from the fact that the city lay at its mercy owing to the narrowness of the streets, which bent this way and that.' (*urbe*, ablative absolute; *itineribus*, ablative of cause.)

enormibus, 'built on no regular plan.' In Quintilian, 'enormis toga' = a badly cut toga.

vici = the groups of houses forming streets.

§ 5. *ad hoc*, 'besides.'

fessa aetate, &c.: the reading in Med. is 'fessa aetate aut rudis pueritiae aetas,' which as it stands is doubtless a corruption of what Tacitus wrote. In the text adopted, 'aetas' is cut out, as a gloss, and the remaining four words are taken as qualifying 'feminarum,' 'both those of feeble age and those of helpless childhood.' Others remove 'aetate,' regarding 'fessa' as nominative and keeping 'aetas'; then the words form another subject to the verb at the end of the sentence, 'advanced age or helpless childhood'; for 'aetas' in collective sense cf. xiii 54, 2.

§ 6. *lateribus aut fronte*: local ablative; Infr. II 14.

si . . . evaserant: pluperfect in subordinate clause expressing frequent occurrence; cf. ch. 10, 4.

§ 7. *ambigui*, 'uncertain.'

diurni, &c., 'and even (the means of earning) their daily bread'; supplying this idea from 'fortunis.' (Infr. II 25.)

§ 8. *esse sibi auctorem*, 'that they had orders.' Tacitus leaves it open whether this was an invention or not. Suetonius states positively that several consulars found slaves of Nero spreading the flames, and dared not check them.

CH. 39, § 1. *Antii*: cf. xiv 4, 2.

domui, &c.: a building ('domus transitoria,' Suet.) carried from the Palatium to the gardens of Maecenas (bequeathed by him to Augustus) on the Esquiline, and rebuilt as the 'domus aurea,' ch. 42, 1. *continuaverat*, 'had connected together.'

haurirentur: so 'Pompei theatrum igne haustum,' iii 74, 4.

§ 2. *monumenta Agrippae*: such as the 'septa' in which the tribes voted, the 'diribitorium' in which the votes were counted, the 'Thermae,' the 'porticus Vipsania,' and his family tomb, all of which were constructed by Agrippa in the Campus Martius.

hortos: on the Vatican, xiv 14, 4.

quin etiam: second in its clause by anastrophe, Infr. II 55 b.

utensilia, 'necessaries,' 'food.'

pretium frumenti: the price here quoted (=about 6*l.*), which evidently was much below the average, was the regular price of the 'modius' (about a peck) in the time of Cicero. Pliny (*N. H.*) gives forty asses as the average price of a 'modius' of flour or meal (equivalent to two 'modii' of corn), though not of the finest quality.

§ 3. *domesticam scaenam*: cf. ch. 33, 1.

cecinisse, &c.: what he sang probably formed part of his 'Troica.'

CH. 40, § 1. *sexto*: a votive inscription has the words 'urbs per novem dies arsit,' from which it may be taken that the second outbreak of § 2 lasted three days.

prorutis, 'having been demolished.'

ut, &c., 'so that to its continued raging there might be opposed a level space and, so to speak, open sky,' there being no more high buildings for the fire to feed on.

§ 2. *necdum*: the text here is corrected from Med. 'necdum p' (=post) 'metus aut rediebat lebis rursus.'

§ 3. *plus infamiae habuit*, 'caused greater scandal,' because people thought Tigellinus had caused this second outbreak to please Nero. 'Aemiliana' appears to be the name of a poor quarter of Rome.

§ 4. *tres solo tenus defectae*: these were probably the districts including the Palatine, the Circus, and the Subura. It seems that many temples and large buildings escaped, or were capable of speedy restoration, even in districts where the private houses were totally destroyed. The Circus itself was used in the following year, and the 'aedes Cereris' near it is spoken of at the same date, ch. 53, 1 and 4. On the Palatine the temple of Apollo, where the Sibylline books were kept (ch. 44, 1), and the library seem to have been preserved.

CH. 41, § 1. *domuum*: palaces or mansions of the rich. *insularum* = blocks of buildings let out in flats or single rooms to the poorer classes.

fuert: potential subjunctive of modest assertion. (Intr. II 39.)

vetustissima religione: ablative of quality; supply 'templā.'

quod . . . Lunae: this temple was on the Aventine, on the part nearest to the Circus, and contained some of the bronze statues brought from Corinth by Mummius.

ara: situated near the northern end or 'carceres' of the Circus, and known as 'Ara Maxima.' Probably it was originally erected to the true Italian Hercules, the spirit presiding over the homestead and property, the god of good faith, 'dius fidius,' but came to be attributed to a Greek worship instituted by Evander to commemorate the slaying of Cacus, the stealer of the oxen of Geryon. (Verg. *Aen.* viii 179 and following; Ovid, *Fast.* i 543 and following.)

Statoris: for the story of Romulus' vow to Jupiter, if he would 'stay' the flight of the Romans from the Sabines, see Livy i 12, 6. The temple was on the Palatine, close to the 'summa sacra via.'

Numae regia et delubrum Vestae: for the site of the latter cf. ch. 36, 3. The two buildings were close together, and are often mentioned in association; cf. Ovid, *Tr.* iii 1, 29 'hic locus est Vestae, qui Pallada servat et ignem: hic fuit antiqui regia parva Numae.' The 'regia,' long the official residence of the Pontifex Maximus, was given over to the vestals by Augustus.

cum Penatibus: images believed to have been brought, with the 'Palladium,' from Troy by Aeneas; preserved in the 'Penetralia Vestae.' (Cf. the lines from Ovid above.)

§ 2. *opes*: precious objects, dedicated by vow or otherwise.

decora, &c., 'masterpieces of Greek art,' like the Corinthian bronzes.

monumenta ingeniorum, 'records of genius' (works of great authors): 'incorrupta,' free from interpolation or falsification. The words seem to refer to losses sustained by the Palatine library, which however was not totally destroyed till 363 A. D.

§ 3. XIII Kal. Sext.: July 19, the day following the 'dies Alliensis.'

§ 4. *totidem annos, &c.*: the space of time would be 454 years (reckoned inclusively) = 418 years + 418 months + 418 days.

CH. 42, § 1. *usus est*, 'profited by,' i.e. he appropriated what he wanted of the vacant space caused by the fire; hence his palace is called 'spolii civium exstructa domus,' ch. 52, 2. So Martial, 'abstulerat miseris tecta superbus ager.'

domum: the 'domus aurea' of Suetonius, who mentions the colossal statue of Nero, 120 feet high, at its vestibule, and adds the remark of Nero, 'se quasi hominem tandem habitare coepisse.' The palace must have occupied the greater portion of the Palatine and Esquiline and of the intermediate valley, the pleasure grounds stretching away towards the 'agger Servii.' Presumably a thoroughfare was left through the grounds so as not to cut off the Via Sacra. Part of the site of the palace was subsequently occupied by the Flavian amphitheatre (the 'Coliseum') constructed under Vespasian and Titus, and by the baths of Titus.

ingenium et audacia: Intr. II 54.

includere, 'to fool away the resources of an emperor.'

§ 2. *Averno*: it seems that there existed a passage to this lake through the Lucrine from the bay of Baiae. (The Lucrine lake had been connected with the sea and deepened for a naval basin by Agrippa, under Augustus.)

depressuros, 'that they would dig out.'

squalenti litore, 'along the barren shore.'

§ 3. *neque enim*: giving the reason for the folly of the attempt. *gignendis*: to give water to feed the canal (dative of Purpose).

nec satis causae: the object suggested was to facilitate the corn transport by providing a safe passage from the principal Campanian harbours (for the dangers of this coast cf. ch. 46, 3), as well as to drain the Pomptine marshes into the canal.

CH. 43, § 1. *quae domui supererant*, 'such parts of the city as

the palace left space for,' an ironical reference to the huge size of the 'domus aurea' described in the last ch., in the same vein as a contemporary epigram quoted by Suetonius, 'Roma domus fiet; Veios migrate, Quirites, | si non et Veios occupet illa domus,' and Martial's 'Unaque iam tota stabat in urbe domus.'

dimensis, &c., 'with rows of streets regularly measured out.'
oohibita: the limit fixed is not known. The height of buildings in Rome generally seems nevertheless to have still been regarded as excessive; cf. Juv. iii 269. Under Trajan a limit of sixty feet was fixed. (Such regulations would presumably apply only to new buildings.)

areis: court-yards inside the 'insulae,' which would help to prevent the spread of fire from one portion to another.

§ 2. purgatas areas, 'the building-sites, cleared of rubbish.' ('Sua pecunia' applies to 'purgatas' as well as to 'exstructurum.')

With 'exstructurum' and 'traditurum,' 'se' is to be understood.
§ 3. intra quod: to be taken with the ablative absolute effectis; 'a time within which they must finish the mansions or blocks of buildings to claim the grant.' 'Cf. 'unde hausta,' &c., ch. 44, 1.

§ 4. ruderi: here = 'rubbish,' 'débris.'
aedificiaque, &c., 'and that the buildings themselves should in certain specified parts' (probably the foundations and supports to the different floors), 'avoiding timber, be strongly constructed out of Gabine or Alban stone.'

aqua: that flowing into Rome by the aqueducts.
custodes, 'keepers,' 'conservators.' The force of 'destinabat' extending over the whole passage, 'custodes' may be (1) direct object, co-ordinated with the subjunctive clause 'et... haberet,' as 'paludes' above is co-ordinated with the subjunctive clause immediately following it (cf. Intr. II 64 g); or (2) nominative, 'essent' having been lost from the MS. in copying or boldly omitted by Tacitus himself.

communione parietum: abstract for concrete = 'communibus parietibus' (cf. 'libidines principis' = 'principem libidinosum,' xiii 22, 3 and Intr. II 57).

quaeque: sc. 'aedificia.' Common walls had always been forbidden; the Twelve Tables enjoined a space of 2½ feet round each 'domus' or 'insula' ('ambitus parietum sestertius pes esto').

§ 5. ex utilitate accepta, 'approved of as practically advantageous.'

vapore, 'heat.' Cf. xiv 64, 3.
CH. 44, § 1. dis, 'for the gods,' i.e. to win their favour; cf. 'deum placamentis' below.

Sibullae libri: kept in the temple of Apollo on the Palatine.
Volcano, &c.: he was naturally propitiated as being the fire-god. The temple of Ceres and Proserpina was near the spot where the fire had broken out, but the supplication to them may well have rested on some more general reason, as at other times the Sibylline

books ordered special sacrifices to them to expiate prodigies. e. g. Livy xxxvi 37, 4.

apud proximum mare: i.e. at Ostia, where invocation was made and whence lustral water was brought to wash her 'cella' and statue in the Capitol.

sellisternia: these answer in the case of goddesses to the 'lectisternia' in honour of gods, the distinction being founded on the Roman custom, by which women sat on 'sellae' at dinner, while men reclined on couches. (The word is very rare, 'lectisternium' being commonly used for this mode of honouring goddesses as well as gods.)

pervigilia: nightly festivals (παννυχίδες) were an ancient custom in Greece, but a late introduction at Rome, though common under the Empire.

§ 2. quin... crederetur, 'so that it was not believed,' epexegetic to 'infamia decedebat.' Freely, 'could the scandal be removed by securing disbelief that the fire had been commanded.'

§ 3. subdidit: used of fraudulent substitution, or false suggestion; cf. xiv 40, 2 'subdidit testamentum.' This expression, and the words 'forte, an dolo principis' ch. 38, 1, show that Tacitus did not consider the Christians really guilty of the fire.

quaesitissimis, &c., 'punished with a refinement of cruelty.'
per flagitia, 'by reason of their abominations.' So the younger Pliny, writing from his province to Trajan about the Christians, speaks of 'flagitia cohaerentia nomini.' Crimes such as infanticide, cannibalism, and incest were attributed by the pagan world to the early Christians.

Christianos: the term is said to have originated at Antioch, Acts xi 26. The formation is in accordance with silver Latin usage, cf. 'Augustiani' from 'Augustus,' xiv 15, 8, but may equally well be attributed to the Greek of the Asiatics of that time.

§ 4. Christus: given by Tacitus, and also by Pliny (in the letter mentioned above) as a proper name, probably the only name of our Lord known to them, and here of course appropriate as explaining 'Christianos.' This passage is the earliest record of the Crucifixion in any non-Christian writer.

Pontium Pilatum: not mentioned elsewhere by any Roman historian. Josephus says he was procurator of Judaea, 27-37 A. D., and was recalled by Vitellius, legatus of Syria.

superstitio: any foreign religion, not Greek, would be so termed. exitiabilis = 'pernicious,' because of the 'flagitia' supposed to be involved in it: so Christianity is called by the younger Pliny 'superstitio prava immodica,' and by Suetonius 'malefica.'

quo, &c., 'into which pour all the horrible and foul rites from every land and there find a following.' The reference is to foreign orgies such as those of Isis.

§ 5. igitur: returning to the main subject.
qui fatebantur, 'who admitted (their Christianity)'; not of course that they had caused the fire.

multitudo ingens: a rhetorical expression which we have no means of reducing to a numerical estimate.

odio humani generis: this impression was probably produced on the pagan world by the Christians' abstinence from social gatherings and popular amusements, in which of course they could not participate without taking part in some act of pagan worship. The ablative may be regarded as following 'in'; cf. 'in hoc scelere convictus,' Cic. *pro Sull.* 30, 83.

§ 6. **tergis**, 'hides.'

aut . . . atque: the Med. text is here given as it stands, but is not satisfactory. Either 'interirent' must be supplied after 'adfixi' and 'flammandi,' or these words are attributes to the subject of 'urerentur.' For the burning of criminals in the 'tunica molesta,' a covering of inflammable materials, cf. Juv. i 159 and viii 235.

§ 7. **hortos suos**: on the Vatican. These included a circus; cf. xiv 14, 4.

curriculo: cf. xiv 14, 1.

§ 8. **sontes**: guilty of the 'flagitia' practised by Christians, or perhaps guilty of incendiarism in the spectators', not Tacitus' opinion.

novissima, &c., 'deserving exemplary punishment of the utmost severity.' So 'exemplum' = 'punishment,' in Caes. *B. G.* i 31, 12, 'omnia exempla cruciatusque edere' (cf. ch. 20, 2).

tamquam, 'from the feeling that.' Cf. Intr. II 50.

utilitate publica: Intr. II 19.

in saevitiam unius, 'to gratify a single man's ferocity.'

CH. 45, § 1. **conferendis pecuniis**: dative, 'for contributions of money'; i. e. for the new palace and the work described in ch. 43, §§ 2-3.

provinciae, &c.: in this enumeration we may regard 'provinciae' as = the tribute-paying provinces ('stipendiarii'); 'socii populi' = the 'civitates foederatae'; and 'quae . . . vocantur' = the 'civitates liberae' and those called 'liberae et immunes': or else 'socii populi' and 'liberae civitates' may be taken as a specific description of 'provinciae,' referring respectively to the unprivileged and privileged peoples.

eversae, 'were ruined.'

§ 2. **inque eam**, &c., 'to this plundering even the gods must submit.'

triumphis . . . votis, 'on occasions of triumphs or vows.' The ablative here is the simple ablative of time; Intr. II 15.

prosperare aut in metu, 'in success or panic,' as though it were 'rebus prosperis aut in metu.'

§ 3. **simulacra**: Pausanias says that Nero took 500 statues from Delphi alone, and specifies others taken by him from Olympia. Pliny also gives a long list of statues, the finest of which had been pillaged by Nero for the Golden House, and were afterwards given by Vespasian to various temples built by him.

Acrato: mentioned also in xvi 23, 1.

Secundo Carrinate: probably son of the rhetorician of that name who was exiled by Gaius (Juv. vii 207).

§ 4. **oro tenus** (cf. ch. 6, 6 'nomine tenus'), 'an adept in the verbal profession of Greek philosophy.'

§ 5. **oravisse**: this passage implies that his former request for retirement from the court had not been granted (xiv 52-56) and that he was still one of Nero's 'concilium.'

aeger nervis, 'having a muscular complaint' (rheumatism or gout). (**egressus**: the use of the accus. governed transitively by this verb originates with Caesar and Livy.)

§ 6. **dum . . . tolerat**: see Intr. II 37.

persimpliciter: *ἀπ. εἰρ.* Intr. II 51, c.

agrestibus pomis, 'fruit growing wild,' as distinct from highly cultivated garden produce: see *Germ.* 23, 1 'cibi simplices, agrestia poma.'

profuente, 'from a running stream.'

CH. 46, § 1. **gladiatores**: evidently kept at Praeneste in a training-school. Praeneste = Palaestrina, about twenty-three miles east of Rome.

adesset: so Med., but the subjunctive is inexplicable without supplying some such participle as 'ibi locato' or 'existente' to 'praesidio,' 'a military force being stationed there to be a guard on the spot.' Such an ellipsis would be exceedingly harsh. An inferior MS. reads 'aderat,' and 'adest' has been suggested for 'adesset.'

Spartacum: the war of Spartacus, B. C. 73-71, began with the outbreak of only seventy-four gladiators from the school of Capua.

§ 2. **immota pax**: the war in the East was virtually over.

classem: the 'classis praetoria' which had Misenum as its station. **non exceptis**, 'without making any allowance for.'

§ 3. **Formiis**: on the coast of Latium.

movere: intransitive, see Intr. II 29.

Afrioo: 'creber procellis Africus,' Verg. *Aen.* i 86.

Cumanis: Cumae lay some six miles north of Cape Misenum.

passim: cf. xiv 15, 1.

CH. 47, § 1. **vis**: so in ch. 5, 4, &c.

semper expiatum: a rhetorical exaggeration (like 'saepe' in xiii 6, 1), only one other comet having been mentioned by Tacitus before this, viz. that of xiv 22, 1. **sanguine industri** applies in this case to the executions following the detection of the conspiracy of Piso, and in the case of the previous comet to the exile and death of Rubellius Plautus and Cornelius Sulla.

§ 2. **abiecti in publicum**, 'were publicly exposed.'

gravidas hostias: such sacrifices were called 'hordicidia' ('horda' = 'praegnans vacca'), and are mentioned in Ovid as paid to Tellus and to Faunus.

§ 3. **Placentino**: of Placentia, on the Padus, a colony founded 220 B. C. after the conquest of the Insubres.

esset: the subjunctive is variously explained (1) as practically