

ODE XIV.

TO POSTUMUS.

EHEU! Postume, Postume! fugaces anni
Alas! Postumus, Postumus! the fleeting years
 labuntur; nec pietas afferet moram rugis
glide by; nor will piety cause any delay to wrinkles
 et instanti senectæ, indomitæque morti. Non,
and approaching age, and invincible death. No,
 amice, si places illacrimabilem
my friend, (even) though thou mayest appease inexorable
 Plutona trecentis tauris quot quot dies
Pluto with three hundred bulls for every day
 eunt;— qui compescit ter amplum Geryonen,
that passes;— who imprisons three bodied Geryon,
 Tityonque tristi
(a monster of triple size,) and Tityus, by (that) gloomy

unda scilicet enaviganda omnibus
stream, that must undoubtedly be crossed by all
 quicumque vescimur munere terræ,
of us who are nourished by (enjoy) the bounty of the earth,
 sive erimus reges sive inopes coloni. Frustra
whether we be kings or needy husbandmen. In vain
 carebimus cruento Marte, fractisque
shall we avoid bloodstained (warlike) Mars, and the broken
 fluctibus rauci Adriæ; frustra metuemus
waves of the hoarse Adriatic; in vain shall we dread
 Austrum, nocentem corporibus per
the south wind, injurious to our persons during the
 auctumnos; ater Cocytos errans
Autumn months; the gloomy Cocytus flowing with
 languido flumine, et infame genus Danaï,
its languid current, and the notorious race of Danaïis
 Sisyphus, Æolides, damnatusque longi
and Sisyphus, son of Æolus, condemned to everlasting

laboris, visendus. Tellus et domus et
labor, must be visited. Thy land, and mansion, and
 placens uxor linquenda; neque ulla harum
pleasing wife must be forsaken; nor shall any of those
 arborum, quas colis, præter invisas
trees which thou art rearing, except the odious
 cypressos, sequetur te, brevem dominum.
cypresses, follow thee, (their) short-lived master.
 Dignior hæres absumet Cæcuba servata
A worthier heir shall consume thy Cæcuban preserved
 centum clavibus, et tinget pavementum
under a hundred keys, and shall stain the pavement
 superbo mero potiore
with generous wine superior to (that quaffed at)
 cœnis pontificum.
the banquets of the pontiffs.

ODE 4.7 – 123-4

ODE VII.

TO TORQUATUS.

NIVES diffugere; gramina jam redeunt
The snows have fled; their verdure is now returning
 campis, que comæ arboribus. Terra
to the fields, and their foliage to the trees. The earth is
 mutat vices, et decrescientia flumina
changing its appearance, and the sinking rivers
 prætereunt ripas; Gratia nuda audet
glide within their banks; a Grace unclad (now) ventures
 ducere choros cum Nymphis que geminis
to lead the dance with the Nymphs and her twin-
 sororibus. Annus et hora quæ rapit
sisters. The year and the hour which hurries away
 alnum diem, monet ne speres immortalia.
the cheerful day, warn (thee) not to expect everlasting bliss.

Frigora mitescunt zephyris; æstas
The cold seasons are mitigated by the zephyrs; the summer
 proterit ver, peritura simul
follows close upon spring, (itself) doomed to perish as soon as
 pomifer autumnus effuderit fruges, et mox
fruitful autumn sheds its stores, and immediately
 iners bruma recurrit. Tamen, celeres lunæ
inactive winter returns. However, the rapid months
 reparant damna cœlestia ubi nos decidimus
repair the losses of the firmament; when we descend
 quo pius Æneas, quo dives Tullus
to whither dutiful Æneas, whither the wealthy Tullus
 et Ancus sumus pulvis et umbra.
and Ancus (have preceded us,) we are dust and shade
 Quis scit an di superi adjiciant tempora
Who knows whether the gods above will add the hours
 crastinæ summæ hodiernæ? Cuncta quæ
of to-morrow to the sum of to-day? Everything which

dederis amico animo fugient
thou shalt have given to thy genial soul will escape
 avidas manus hæredis. Quum semel occideris,
the grasping hands of thy heir. When once thou shalt be dead,
 Torquate, et Minos fecit splendida arbitria
Torquatus, and Minos has passed his impartial sentence
 de te, non genus, non facundia, non pietas
on thee, not birth, nor eloquence, nor filial affection
 restituet te, te! Enim neque Diana liberat
shall restore thee, thee! For neither can Diana release
 pudicum Hippolytum tenebris infernis,
the chaste Hippolytus from the darkness of the lower world
 nec Theseus vatet arumpere Lethæa vincula
nor is Theseus able to tear off the Lethæan bonds
 caro Pirithoo.
from his beloved Pirithous.