

VI

Tall are the oaks whose acorns
 Drop in dark Ausser's⁹ rill ;
 Fat are the stags that champ the boughs
 Of the Ciminian hill ;¹⁰ 45
 Beyond all streams Clitumnus¹¹
 Is to the herdsman dear ;
 Best of all pools the fowler loves
 The great Volsinian mere.¹²

VII

But now no stroke of woodman 50
 Is heard by Ausser's rill ;
 No hunter tracks the stag's green path
 Up the Ciminian hill ;
 Unwatched along Clitumnus
 Grazes the milk-white steer ; 55
 Unharmed the waterfowl may dip
 In the Volsinian mere.

VIII

The harvests of Arretium,¹³
 This year, old men shall reap,
 This year, young boys in Umbro¹⁴ 60
 Shall plunge the struggling sheep ;
 And in the vats of Luna,
 This year, the must¹⁵ shall foam
 Round the white feet of laughing girls
 Whose sires have marched to Rome. 65

⁹ Ausser. A tributary of the Arno.

¹⁰ Ciminian hill. A lofty mountain in the northern Apennines.

¹¹ Clitumnus. The river Clitumno.

¹² Volsinian mere. A lake which took its name from the town of Volsinii (modern Bolsena) situated on its banks.

¹³ Arretinum. Arezzo.

¹⁴ Umbro. A river in Etruria,—the modern Ombrone.

¹⁵ must. new wine.