

personal reason. It actually happened that the accidental falling of a tree deprived myself and two senior brothers, all of us as yet immature youths, of a father whose earnest care for the moral and mental culture of his sons resembled that of Horace's father for Horace himself. Hear his testimony—"And yet if the faults and defects of my nature are moderate ones, if my life is pure and simple, I owe it all to my father." To this day these words do not fail to recall in one's own mind memories of a conscientious and wise parent. A more detailed picture of the hardy rural life to which Horace in his boyhood was accustomed is the following ; it is included in the description which he gives of the hardy training requisite for the production of a brave militia, such as our own Canada has on more than one occasion shown itself capable of sending to the front. "Such soldiers," he says, "were the manly offspring of rustic warriors, trained to turn up the clods with Sabine hoes and to carry in logs hewn according to the will of an austere mother, when the sun was changing the shadows of the hills, and taking off the yoke from the weary oxen, as he brought with parting car the welcome hour." Again we have another picture of the rough rural life to which Horace in his boyhood was familiar in the mountainous region round his native Venusia, all seeming familiar enough to the pioneer backwoodsman, where once more he brings upon the scene the "Sabine matron and sun-burnt wife of industrious Apulian swain, as she piles up on the sacred hearth logs of seasoned wood to greet the return of the tired master, or as she pens up within the close-woven hurdles the joyous flock, or prepares the unbought evening meal." One more familiar sketch may be added—a graphic vernal scene. "Keen winter is melting away beneath the welcome change to spring and the western breeze, and the herd no more delights in its stall or the ploughman in his fire, and with hoar frosts the meadows are no longer white, and disused sailing craft are once again hauled down from the shore to the water."

Furthermore, the maxims and views of life set forth in the details of Horace's young days agree well with ideas widely entertained among our forefathers during the primitive period of our history ; for example where he says, "the more that each man denies himself, the more he shall receive from Heaven ; I seek the camps of those who covet nothing, and as a deserter rejoice to quit the side of the wealthy ; a more illustrious possessor of a contemptible fortune than if I could be said to treasure up in my granaries all that the toiling Apulian cultivates, poor amidst abundance of wealth," and again where he quotes the words of his own father, "Whenever my father would exhort me to live a thrifty and prudent life, contented with what he had saved for me, he would say, 'Do you not see how hard it is for